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Volume 134 Number 48

HomeTown



INSIDE

Briefs **Head style**

Raising money for Thornton Creek's PTA paid dividends for a select group of students, were who rewarded for

their salesmanship with a limo ride to the Golden Arches for lunch. — Page 12A

Weather or not

Rod Bisher brought his portable planetarium to

Winchester Elementary School, and along with it. informa-

tion students needed to get a better appreciation for atmospheric conditions on Earth and in space. - Page 18A





Briefs Head style

If you're looking for a place to get away, Scappare might be just the place for you. Restful and luxurious, the South Lyon salon and spa has what you need to unwind. - Page 21A

SPORTS

Time of their lives Northville High School



Northville District Library staffers picket outside the library Sunday, bringing attention to their request for wages they say are presently well below average for Wayne and Oakland County library employees,

employees stage picket

By Pauline Lupercio STAFF WRITER

Northville District Library employees took place in an informational picket Sunday in the hopes of informing residents of their desires to negotiate what they refer to as a "fair wage."

Lynne Hirschelman, a library employee and member of the Northville District library association, said that fellow employees - excluding administration are seeking to be paid in the middle range for library employees in Wayne and Oakland counties.

Hirschelman said all employees are currently at the low end of the pay scale.

We didn't think the citizens know that we are as underpaid as we are, and we are hoping that we can better ourselves," she said. Both library administration and

employees confirm that negotiations have been taking place since December of 2001 but that is the agreement ends.

Library director Julie Herrin said that the library offered the union a three-year package that constituted an 11-percent raise beginning in December 2001 that would have been paid retroactively, and a 3-percent average raise for 2002 and 2003.

"Unfortunately, the union refused this offer and they even refused to allow us to give the

WHAT'S AT STAKE

Here's what Northville District Library administration and its employees are saying about the labor situation:

ADMINISTRATORS:

Offered union employees a three-year, 11-percent pay increase retroactive to 2001 and a 3-percent raise for 2002 and 2003. The union declined the offer.

LIBRARY UNION:

Maintains that Northville library employees are near the low end of the pay scale among library workers in Wayne and Oakland counties; says the library must spend more money on staff than it is presently doing.

raise for the 2001 year while bargaining continues," said Herrin.

Herrin also stated that the library spends a greater percentage of its resources on full-time staffers and benefits than neighboring libraries.

"The library must balance the need for staff with the need for .

Continued on 7 🧃

Twp. keeps clerk's position part-time

Hillebrand still to be paid for 20 hours of work, despite often laboring for 40-plus

By Pauline Lupercio STAFF WRITER

A chance to alter Northville Township clerk Sue Hillebrand's status as part-time to full-time with commensurate pay was tabled during the Nov. 21 board of trustees meeting, but not before some tense discus-Approval of the motion would have granted Hillebrand an annual salary of \$65,000 as opposed to the \$20,000 she is currently earning as a part-time clerk. Hillebrand's knowledge and work ethic

were praised by board members but the focus of concern was possible conflict with the current township manager form of government. As presented to the board in the form of a chart, Hillebrand would have had authority equal to that of the township manager if the motion had been approved.

"First and foremost, the board's comre thoughtful and not inten

operational relationship between the clerk and the manager's office.'

Snider said the organizational chart failed to portray the existing delineation of responsibilities between clerk and manager. All issues concerning elections, records detention, and related activities fall under the clerk's office regardless of full-time or status Personne

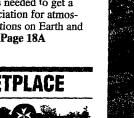
research the fit of a full-time clerk to this township," said Snider.

Hillebrand, who abstained from voting on the matter but was present during the discussion, said later that she agreed with Snider.

"From an administrative standpoint, [Snider] is my boss. It's natural," she said. erated like t ways op

MARKETPLACE







four swimmers to the state finals last weekend

but the

results they brought back were incredible. - Page 1B

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denigrate the clerk in any way," said town-ship manager Chip Snider. "However, the resulting discussion would lead us to understand that the issue under consideration as lacking a detailed analysis on the operations are the manager's responsibility.

"If the full-time issue was premature, then the tabling of this issue indicated no resistance, but a great deal of willingness on the part of the township board to further

a very strong respect for our working relationship and I am not going to change that whether or not I am here 40 hours a week

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Holidays dish up tempting dietkillers

By Pauline Lupercio STAFF WRITER

The good times spent with family and friends at holiday parties come with a price for a majority of Americans. Pumpkin pie, egg nog, and snowman-shaped cookies might be holiday staples, but they are also the motivation for many a New Year's resolution.

According to Chris Klebba, certified fitness trainer and owner of the Water Wheel Health Club in Northville, the average American gains anywhere between five and 10 pounds between Thanksgiving and the end of January. And surprisingly, the pounds can be packed on with just even the smallest bit of holiday indulging.

That is just an average of 200 calories a day more than you usually need," said Klebba, referring to the amount of calories a person would need to maintain a healthy

Continued on 14

Goodbye, hardware; hello, Panama!

By Pauline Lupercio STAFF WRITER

There are smiles on the faces of each and every customer as they pay for their items at Black's Pro Hardware these days, as the store goes through its going-out-ofbusiness sale. But before the customers leave, each will tell owners Bob and Donna Black how much they will be missed.

The Blacks will miss their customers, too. But they looking forward to their retirement in Рапата.

Black's Pro Hardware opened its doors as a family business is 1973 in the city of Northville. The decision was made to move to the current Northville Township location on Seven Mile in the Highland Lakes Shopping Center in the early 1990's due to expansion and space reasons.

"It's been a great business," said Bob Black. "We've had lots of great customers - the best customers in the world really. But after 30 years, it's time to retire."



Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Northville Township's Bob and Donna Black are going to close their shop, Black's Hardware this month after 30 years in the business. The couple's planning on moving to an island off the coast of Panama.

Black called his business "an old-fashioned general store."

"You could find anything from 'A-Z.' You think of it, we probably had it," he said.

Pat Carducci, township resident and long time customer, verified Black's claim.

"If you needed something in a hurry, it was here. Bob and Donna did a good job of having a little bit of everything," said Carducci.

'It's too bad they are leaving.

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Novi prepares to ring in holiday season

By Victoria Sadlocha STAFF WRITER

Holiday spirit is heading to Novi in a new, sparkling package.

The city's annual holiday celebration is scheduled for next week, featuring many enhancements including an electric light parade.

The Thursday, Dec. 5 event, appropriately titled, "Ringing in the Holidays," is a great way to gear up for the season whether you are 5 or 75. "The event will offer something for

everyone," said Randy Auler, director of the City of Novi Parks, Recreation and Forestry Department. "From the young to the old, our hope is for the entire community to come out and kick off the holidays, share the spirit of the season and enjoy some good, old-fashioned fun."

What was once known as the "Main Street Holiday Walk" has evolved into a large-scale production.

Attendees at the Main and Market

"The event will offer something for everyone."

> Randy Auler Novi Parks & Rec

streets event will enjoy plenty of sensory delights inside and outside of the downtown festival area.

The night begins at 6 p.m. with carol-

ing, music and complimentary samples from many of Novi's best restaurants. Food booths lining the Main Street area offering some of their best known stomach fillers will include Mesquite Creek, Lazy Lizard Cantina, Guernsey Farms Dairy, BD's Mongolian BBQ, Red Lobster, Buffalo Wild Wings Grill & Bar, Cottage Inn Pizza, Coffee Trader, Diamond Jim Brady's Bistro, Panera Bread Company and McDonald's

Sheryl Walsh, City of Novi communications manager, said everything from pizza to soups to kettle corn to biscuits to chicken wings to hot fudge sundaes will be available.

At 6:30 p.m., the city's first electric light parade complete with floats and marching bands from Novi schools will begin.

The parade, beginning at Market Street and turning right onto Main Street, will feature self-created luminary floats from many groups and organizations including Schoolcraft College, The Prisoner of War Committee of Michigan, Novi Lions and local Boy Scouts. The city's 25-foot-tall holiday tree

will also begin to glow in a special lighting ceremony at the corner of Main and Market featuring a visit from a very special guest.

'Santa Claus will make an appearance from the North Pole." Auler said.

As the night continues, area residents may enjoy another new feature, horsedrawn carriage rides.

Inside of the Main Street shopping area will be a craft boutique, Girl Scouts bake sale, Kris Kringle workshop and T-Mobile will give all revelers the chance to call their loved ones, wishing them happy holidays for free.

The Kris Kringle workshop will offer children the opportunity to make their own complimentary holiday gift which will be wrapped by elves so the petite crafters may present their treasures as gifts to someone special.

Walsh said the workshop will be supervised in case parents want to drop their children off and hit the craft fair where more than 30 area artists and crafters will display and sell various items including toys, jewelry, clothing, miniature trees and wreaths, gourmet foods and children's books.

Santa Claus will also make his way inside to hear children's wish lists and photos will be taken and given to all who sit on the jolly ol' St. Nick's lap. "It is a lot different than what it was in the past," Auler said. "We're really hoping to have a great turnout."

Other favorite features of event organizers include the appropriateness of the event for residents of all faiths and the event's wide appeal.

"There really is something for every-body," Walsh said. "If dads want to wait in line with their kids to see Santa, moms can to go the craft fair. It will be a first-class, quality event for the community.

The downtown multi-cultural, seasonal event begins at 6 p.m. and will conclude at 9 p.m. in Novi's downtown area

For more information about this free, community event, call (248) 735-5628.

Victoria Sadlocha is a staff writer for the Novi News. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 105 or at vsadlocha@ht homecomm net

Correction

A story in the Oct. 31 edition of Janicki. the Record said that Darlene Denning was the owner of Farmington-based Spiritual Reflections. In reality, the business is owned by Deborah J.

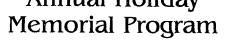


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Annual Holiday





December 17, 2002 at 7:30 pm Novi Civic Center 41575 W. Ten Mile, Novi

Refreshments Provided Please RSVP to the O'brien/Sullivan Funeral Home 248-348-1800 By December 14, 2002







Fantasy of Trees returns for Christmas '02'

By Jennifer Norris STAFF WRITER

O, Christmas Tree!

The Friends of the Northville District Library are making holiday preparations a little easier for a few lucky area residents.

Sally LePla-Perry, president of the Friends organization, said the 2002 Fantasy of Trees fundraising raffle is now underway. The fundraiser is geared to assist the Northville District Library's operation.

"The Friends raised money to be able to buy books and CD's and tapes to add to the library's collection," said LePla-Perry. "It's a lovely way to combine working with the Northville merchants. .creating a holiday tradition and raising funds to enhance the library.

From now until Dec. 14, decorated artificial trees of varying heights and themes will be displayed in the stores of participating merchants and at the Northville District Library, officials said

LePla-Perry said several area businesses have opted to decorate trees for the Friends' fundraiser.

This year, the trees are located inside the library and some are displayed in local shops downtown.

According to LePla-Perry, the Friends have increased the number of trees in response to the requests of merchants.

Fresh attractions to this year's event have been added as well.

"New to the offerings are the three topiaries that could provide year-round elegance to the winners' homes and the gold mesh tree at Orin Jewelers," said LePla-Perry, within a press release. "Each of the trees is different than those decorated in preceding years. Also new, is that the merchants themselves decorated their own trees. Each has its own distinct style, reflecting that merchant's own talents."

A total of 15 trees have been decorated for the fundraiser.

LePla-Perry said a brochure with a map is available for residents to do a walking tour and visit the trees in the library and participating stores. In addition, there are albums in the library with photographs of all of the trees.

On Dec. 14, the Friends are slated to host a Holiday Dessert and Music Gala from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the library to culminate the Fantasy of Trees. The Friends of the Northville District Library will be in attendance when Santa

arrives at 8:30 p.m to draw the tree winners' names. Choral students from Northville High School are expected to perform and lead the guests in song to celebrate the season, officials said.

Tickets for the Fantasy of Trees raffle are on sale at one ticket for \$3.00, two tickets for \$5.00, five tickets for \$10.00 and 25 tickets for \$40.00. Final ticket sales will take place at the Dec. 14 Friends evening gala.

"It's a major fundraiser and the nice thing is that the people that are contributing are supporting literacy," said LePla-Perry.

Officials said in order to win one of the decorated trees, individuals must purchase at least one ticket and include their name, telephone number and desired tree on their ticket stub. Stubs may be returned to any one of the Fantasy bins located at the merchants' stores or the library.

Prior to the drawing on Dec. 14, the ticket stubs will be sorted into separate bins for each tree.

In a press release, Peggy Koppy, chair of the event, said, "This is an important source of funds for the Northville District Library...The Friends are so grateful to the participating merchants for providing the exquisite trees that have made this event possible."

TREE LOCATIONS AND **DESCRIPTIONS:**

A Teacup Bee's Knees: Christmas, Value: \$350. Owner Linda Langston and her friends hand-painted the beautiful ceramic teacups and saucers that adorn the tree. [Located in the Store Front Window on Main Street]

 Fraser Inn: Sugar Plum Visions, Value \$250. This is a beautiful 4-foot topiary of frosted fruits atop a stem wrapped in plaid ribbon and trimmed in gold. [Located at the Library]

· Friends of the Northville District Library: Winter Dance, Value \$230. Mirrored balls and crystal teardrops illuminate this all-silver, 6-foot tree. [Located at the Library]

• Gardenviews: gardenview magic, value \$350. Sugar plum fairies dance in this 5-foot flocked tree in a backdrop of grape clusters, glistening icicles and mauve accents. [Located in the Library]

 Genitti's: Come Home for the Holidays, value \$490." This 7.5 foot tree is loaded with homey decorations and topped with bows and red streamers. [Located in the restaurant.]

Gordon Landscaping of

Linda Langston, owner of Bee's Knees, and Peggy Koppy, Chair of the Friends of the Northville District Library's Fantasy of Trees fundraiser, frame the beautiful tree that Linda decorated with handpainted tea cups and donated to for the Fantasy of Trees raffle.

Plymouth: A Poinsettia Christmas, Value \$265. This beautiful traditional, 7-foot slim tree features red and gold balls, acorn clusters and red poinsettias and ribbon. [Located at the Library]

Helen's Uptown Cafe: Christmas Tea, Value \$200. Crowned with a gold mesh tea cup ornament, this 4-foot tree has hand-colored ornaments, beaded fruit and roping, and tea bags. The tree winner will also take home a teapot and four matching cups.

 Long's Fancy Bath Boutique: Victorian Christmas, value \$500. This 6-foot Victorian tree is graced with dainty hats, roses. medallions and feathered boas in a

tearose color theme. · Margo's of Northville (donat-

ed by Helen Mueller): Christmas of Gold, value \$275. Shiny and frosted gold balls, maroon bows and a gold-beaded wreath adorn this 6-foot slim tree. [Located at the Library]

• Northville Pharmacy: A Gardener's Christmas, value \$150. Hand-blown Bronner ornaments and miniature gold balls decorate this 3-foot tree.

• Orin Jewelers: Bejeweled Christmas, value \$50. This 3-foot 'contemporary tree is made'of gold mesh in a pyramid that glitters with gold, red, and teal "gems."

Pamplemousse Crowning

Glory, value \$450. This 2-foot topiary in a red velvet pot is elegantly loaded with jeweled earrings, bobby pins, ponytail hold-ers, barrettes and hair clips. [At the store on Main Street].

• Pear-aphernalia: Christmas Fruit Topiary, value \$175. A lovely vase is topped with frosted fruit arranged in a stylish tree shape. [At the store on Center Street]

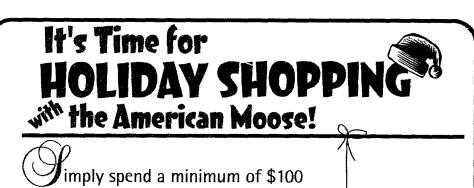
• Plymouth Nursery: Golden Elegance, value \$400. St. Nicholas ornaments are set off with'long icicles and gold berry branches in a tree crowned with a gold bow and streamers. [Located at the Library]

Blue!, value \$175. This is the 3foot tree that every loyal University of Michigan fan craves. [Located in the Store]

submitted photo

Tickets are available at participating merchants' stores, at the library, and at a Friends table on weekends at Great Harvest Bread, among other locations. For more information, call Peggy Koppy at (734) 420-2225 or the library at (248) 349-3020, A date 13

Jennifer Norris is a staff writer for the Northville Record. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700 ext. 107 by or e-mail at • Ultumate Toys & Gifts: Go jnorris@ht.homecomm.net.







Hershey's Shoes Too 47750 Grand River, at Beck Rd. • Novi • (248) 347-7838 In the West Market Square at Beck Rd • M, T, W, Th, S - 9:30 am - 6 pm • Friday - 9:30 am - 8 pm • hersheyshoes@aol.com between November 28-December 24, 2002 at the Novi Town Center and you receive a FREE cuddly American Moose as part of our "Gift with Purchase Promotion" at the Novi Town Center.

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Store Directory

Allstate Billiards American Home Fitness Athenian Coney Inn AT&T Wireless **Bally's Total Fitness** Banks Vacuum Bath & Body Works **Bodies in Motion** Borders Books & Music **Boyne Country** Sports

Casual Male Premier **Charisma Salon Charles Schwab Christopher &** Banks Comp USA **Diamond Jim** Brady's Divers, Inc. **Edward Jones** Flowers & More **Heslop's China**

LA Weight Loss Lane Bryant Linens 'N' Things **Mattress & Futon** Shoppe **Men's Wearhouse** Mervyn's **Music Go Round** Novi Town Center 8 **NNDJ Diamond** Brokers **Olan Mills** Old Navy

Oreck Floor Care Pier 1 Imports Pita Café Rainbow Signs. Ready, Set, Paint! **Running Fit** Sally Beauty Supply Salon Nadwa **The Right Start** T.J. Maxx TWC Surf & Sport Workbench **Your Toybox**

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Grief During the Holidays

Part I - WHY DO THE HOLIDAYS MAKE LOSS SEEM ESPECIALLY DIF-FICULT?

Holidays are a time when the world seems to slow down. We concentrate on what is important. Time is typically centered on relaxing and enjoying ourselves with family and dear friends. We nurture and celebrate our relationships, undistracted by everyday life. Consequently, any losses are felt more acutely during this time. If the pain is related to the loss of a relationship, the holidays can make the hurt more painful. It is not unusual to feel as if we are

It is not unusual to reel as if we are "going crazy," especially if we have lost someone we love. However, any loss may turn our world upside down: that of a pet, a job, or a physical ability; any kind of broken relationship; possessions; or a sense of safety and security. Other occurrences can cause upheaval, including miscarriage or abortion; life plans gone awry; missing an important event; or the loss of hope, freedom, or even sobriety. Missing anything that has become familiar to us, even alcohol, cigarettes or an unhealthy relationship, can be very painful.

Loss causes many changes in our lives and can alter how we perceive the roles we play. If my child is dead, am I still a mother? Am I half a person without my life's partner? If I have lost my job, am I still a valuable member of society? Our selfesteen may plummet and we may question our identity.

If we are mourning the death of someone we love, the circumstances surrounding the death have an important effect on our grief experience. If the death was due to an illness, we may have watched the one we love suffer many debilitating changes. Terminal illness typically steals bodily functions as well as the ability to move, swallow, and communicate. It is not uncommon to have difficulty at first recalling what our loved one looked like when they were healthy.

. If the death was sudden, unexpected, traumatic or violent, we are wrenched into a new reality. How can we ever feel normal again? How can anything, including the holidays, ever feel special once more? If we believe we were somehow responsible for the death, every morning is a painful reminder. While we may not be truly suicidal, we may wish for an end to our pain, because we cannot imagine ever feeling differently than we feel right now.

As we struggle to find meaning connected to our loss, we may find our faith battered. Why is it that something so unfair has happened to us? How could our God let something this painful occur? If we feel this way during a holiday that is set up around our faith, bitterness and anger may build.

Holidays are often a time of great beauty. Everything glitters with the nchness of light and love. When we are in the depths of anguish and despair, we may find it hard to

experience beauty. It seems that everyone around us can enjoy the festivities and this magnifies how alone we feel.

Our experience with grief is unique to us. No one else can feel exactly what we feel. Also, as individuals, every loss we have will be a different experience from all our other losses. Another person cannot completely understand how we feel.

When we lose a loved one or abilities, dreams or possessions, we must eventually learn how to move on. Somehow, we must get through our everyday routines despite the absence of this person or this thing. Similarly, the holidays make us revisit the mourning process. We must adjust, once again, to this "hole in our lives" at what previously may have been a very special time.

Food, the centerpiece of many holiday gatherings, is a nurturing, life- sustaining celebration of our relationships. But in the wake of a great loss, even if we can taste the food we eat, we may have neither the appetite nor the energy to come to the table.

Just as we cannot anticipate the extent of a loss, we cannot be completely prepared for how fragile we may feel during the holidays. However, just knowing it may happen and not being surprised by this can help.

We must be gentle with ourselves and with each other. We may have lost a piece of ourselves, but chances are that, in that death or change, we have been given something as well. If we can find out what that is, we can honor it. It is our own priceless holiday gift to ourselves.

Part II - WHAT CAN I DO TO GET THROUGH THE HOLIDAYS?

We have suffered a major loss of a loved one or something special in our lives. How do we get through the holidays, when we are still grieving? First, do nothing. Simply feel what you feel. It is a simple notion, but not necessarily an easy one. It may be the very last thing we want to do. If we are surrounded by people who want to distract us, because our pain makes them uncomfortable, it can also be a very lonely time. They may want us to return to being our happy selves again as soon as possible, but we cannot be exactly the same persons we were before this happened. And so we need to feel. Actually feeling and even exploring that feeling are the best ways to reach the point when we are not overwhelmed by our emotions.

Second, express what you feel. This is called mourning and it is absolutely critical. If we bottle up and try to ignore our feelings, they will come out in other, perhaps unhealthy or even dangerous, ways. Our pain is real and deserves a voice. There are many ways to express grief: talking, crying, writing, praying, singing, living with intentional awareness, or expressing appreciation for what we have. Expressing grief can be done privately -- in a journal or in a silent prayer. It can occur in a more public fashion -- support group meetings, remembrance services, or visiting memorials. Some of our world's most memorable music and works of art were created during a time of incredible loss in an artist's life. We give ourselves a gift when we create space in our lives to allow our feelings to surface, whatever those feelings may be. If we stay busy or numb our feelings with drugs and alcohol, it only delays the inevitable.

It is also very important to take care of our physical selves during this time. Our immune system can be affected by grief and we are more vulnerable to illness and accidents. As much as we are able, we need to eat balanced meals and drink plenty of fluids, especially water. We need rest and may find ourselves sleeping more than usual. We should try to stay away from alcohol and other substances that numb our pain.

Sometimes grief counseling is suggested for someone who seems to be having a difficult time coping with a significant loss. Keep in mind that grief is not a problem to be fixed, nor is it a disease to be cured. Grief is not the same as depression and cannot be permanently alleviated with medication. We may or may not need a grief counselor. What we can mostly likely benefit from are having companions during our grief. Those individuals can listen with their whole being. Lt. Col. Dave Grossman, U.S. Army (Ret.), puts this concept into an easy-to-remember formula: "Pain Shared = Pain Divided. Joy Shared = Joy When and however we Multiplied." express and share grief, we benefit from its gifts and experience growth.

Ideally, families are a built-in support system. When a death occurs in the family, everyone mourns the loss of the same person. However, the relationships between the person who died and the remaining family members were different for each of them, and their manifestation of grief is different. A display of emotion – or lack of it – can cause misunderstandings and hurt feelings, even in well-adjusted families.

Sometime we want our pain to remain private. Having a place to be where no one knows what we are going through can be a haven. But, what about those times we do not want to be alone in our grief? Can we say to another person, "I'm hurting. I'm having a really hard time." We need to look for support from those who can give it. We should find a support group, or a trusted individual who will be a companion and give us their quiet presence during this difficult time.

If we're mourning the death of someone we love during the holidays, there are many special ways we can acknowledge our loss. Here are a few.

* Change some holiday traditions; keep some of the old ones and create new ones.

* Develop a special ritual that remembers the loss/person who is gone.

- * Light a candle daily and spend a few minutes in quiet reflection.
 * Hang an ornament that represents what
- was lost.
- * Set your missing loved one a place at the table.
- * Say a special prayer in memory of the relationship you are missing.
- * Give a gift your loved one would have liked to someone in a nursing home.
- * Create something that has special meaning to you.

Perhaps the most valuable holiday gift we can give ourselves is that of preparation. Whom do or don't we want to spend time with during the holidays? What do we want to be sure to do or not do during this time? Perhaps we can overlook some of our traditions this year, if they feel too painful or simply too tiring. We can always resume next year.

The best gift we can give others during this time is to take good care of ourselves.

Part III - HOW CAN I HELP SOMEONE WHO IS GRIEVING DURING THE HOLI-DAY SEASON?

It can be difficult to see someone we care about in pain, because they are mourning a loss. It can be uncomfortable and make us want to do something to ease that person's suffering. It is important to be aware of the difference between our experience of someone else's pain and how they really feel. It is one thing to want to help, but it is quite another to initiate action because we want to relieve our own discomfort. It may not be helpful, or even desired, by the grieving individual.

Grieving individuals want and need space, both literal and figurative, in which to grieve and mourn their loss. Create for them a "healing environment" in which they will not be the inevitable distraction of noise, activity and daily life.

Maintain a calm and peaceful presence. Be available as an understanding, non-judgmental and listening companion should they choose to talk. Or simply sit with them in silence. If we fill the space with words, we may exhaust them further.

Try not to have expectations of how long a person's grief will last. They are forever changed by their loss and may never completely "get over" it. They will have good days and bad days. Even years later, the memory of a loved one may be traggered by a song or a smell, and there may be a period of reliving some of that more intense grief.

It is also not helpful to compare losses. Pain cannot be measured, and nothing is gained by saying one loss is greater or less than another.

Be willing to talk about the person who

died, or listen to the grieving person reminiscing.

When in doubt, ask the individual what he or she needs at that time. We must recognize we do not have all the answers and that we cannot "fix" this for them.

Loss is part of the human experience and grief is a normal reaction. We cannot know the meaning or purpose behind the loss and the grief. Do not try to take that away from anyone. Just witness their pain and simply be a grief companion.

Part IV - DOES GRIEF GIVE GIFTS DURING THE HOLIDAY SEASON?

Sometimes I wonder if all the technological advances our society has made have not actually arrested us emotionally and spiritually. How many of us, in the wake of a great loss, keep up the frantic pace of our lives, distracting ourselves with activity and sound? Do we fill every waking moment with something in order to avoid feeling?

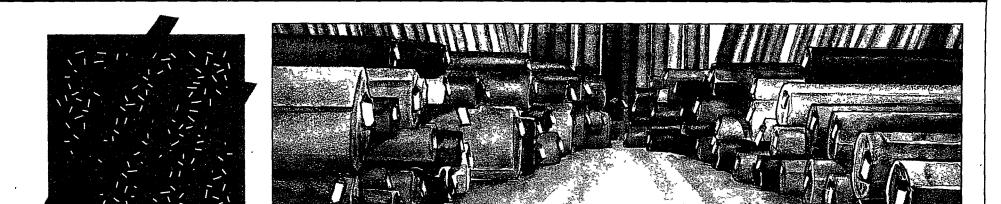
What did our ancestors do after dark before the discovery of electricity? I imagine a small band of people of all ages sitting around a fire. In times of great loss and sadness, they perform rituals, make music and sit together in wordless silence, staring into the fire, perhaps wondering about their own ancestors. The coming of the night provided a natural and regular time and space to celebrate their relationships and connectedness to each other and the world in which they lived.

Grief is often a time of great darkness. The holiday season is typically a time when we slow down and live with more reflective awareness, appreciating the people around us. Is it possible that this could be a gift?

We do not enjoy feeling pain, especially the deep throbbing ache of the absence of someone we love. However, grief is something we cannot outrun. Regardless of the distractions we arrange, be they activity, passive entertainment or substance abuse, when we look over our shoulders, grief is still there.

What if, like our ancestors, we recognized our cycles of living in darkness? Perhaps we cannot see a future of hope and brightness. What if we sat very still and listened? What if we trusted that something greater is at work and we do not need to control everything? Can we imagine simply feeling?

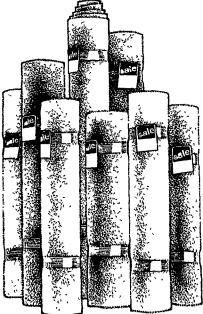
Sometimes our families and friends who cannot understand our grief are, out of ignorance, not supportive of the journey on which we find ourselves. This can make holiday time especially difficult. There are, however, others who can give us what we need. They are strangers only because we have not met them yet. Their own journeys may be more simular to ours than the people with whom we regularly share our lives. Their friendship and support can be gifts to us.





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Expo Center given go-ahead by Novi officials

By Victoria Sadlocha STAFF WRITER

Comic book heroes, pro golfers and championship chihuahuas will be only some of the attractions coming to a brand new Novi Expo Center in years to come.

The recently revamped design, including the addition of a circular drive with covered main entrance, was approved by members of the city council last week, giving Novi Expo Center President Blair Bowman the long-awaited site-plan approval and wetlands permit he needed to move forward with his plan to relocate the existing Novi Road business.

Bowman said the center's current plan has struck the delicate balance of accommodating community concern, economic feasibility and appearance considerations.

"It's a much better project for the longterm," he said.

Other changes from the original plan include more accessible handicapped parking, a landscaped parking lot, an improved wetland mitigation area and a progressive facade.

The split-face block exterior comprised of concrete masonry units planned for the center has been used to construct many prominent buildings including the headquarters for The Gap, the St. Louis Rams and the upcoming buildings for the Atlanta Falcons and the Baltimore Ravens.

Locally, the type of exterior may be seen on the Budco building in Highland Park.

Chris Cedargreen from Forum Studios said the material offers a tremendous capability when forming and shaping the center.

The facade material was one of the many project details listed out in a document issued by the Novi Planning Commission with its recommendation to deny Bowman's approval request.

Other items on the list include:

• The west drive proposed angle is 73 degrees versus the required 90 degree angle; The front entrance to the building

should be enhanced; · Provide for lower lighting poles realizing there is an excess of 25 parking

spaces: and Explore the alternative of a parking structure to preserve additional woodlands and wetlands on the east side of the building.

Former commissioner Robert Churella disagrees with the commission's current negative recommendation, saying the exposition center is a very successful business that will increase the city's tax base, bring in auxiliary businesses and offer all the benefits of an exposition center without the city paying the bill.

Churella said most exposition centers are municipally owned.

Current planning commissioner David Ruyle also denounced the negative recommendation, appearing before members

of the council on Nov. 12, reminding them the planning commission decision was not unanimous.

"I hope we get overturned tonight," Ruvle said.

Novi City Councilman Craig DeRoche said he is in favor of the new center and feels comfortable giving his approval.

The councilman said the process has been going on for three years and he knows other cities have made offers.

He also said he feels placing too many council-mandated restrictions is not always the right way to go, stating he feels James Chen, developer of the city's downtown project, lost some opportunity along the approval process.

"I want to see that (Expo Center) there for a very long time," DeRoche said.

City of Novi Mayor Pro-Tem Michelle Bononi and councilwoman Laura Lorenzo voted against approval on Nov.

12 stating traffic concerns as their primary reason. The one thing I can not compromise on in good conscience is traffic flow and traffic safety, Lorenzo said.

Bononi agreed traffic is a concern stating she does not feel someone needs to be a rocket scientist to see the bottleneck that may be created in front of the center. "This is the opportunity to get it right," she said.

Bowman said even without any changes to his current plan, the traffic situation would be better than the current Novi Road site.

The about 319,000-square-foot complex will house exposition halls, banquet facilities, administrative offices and warehouse space on the 55-acre site located at Grand River Avenue west of Taft Road.

Construction is scheduled to commence next year.

Victoria Sadlocha is a staff writer for the Novi News. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 105 or at vsadlocha@ht.homecomm.net.

Stat: Novi boasts 93.1% college-bound

By Ramez Khuri STAFF WRITER

How's this for an impressive statistic: 93.1 percent of Novi High School's Class of 2002 graduates were college bound this fall?

That's just one of many facts revealed in the Novi Community School District's 2001-02 Public Information Report issued on Oct. 17. It contains vital information about each school in the district, including a profile for each school, school improvement, goals, staff development core curriculum, parent involvement, SAT and ACT results for the high school and MEAP results.

The class of 2002 highlights also include:

• one White House Presidential Scholar Semifinalist

seven National Merit Scholarship Finalists and eight Letters of Commendation • 175 Michigan Competitive

Scholarship qualifiers • 52 valedictorians and 16 saluta-

torians 68 students graduating summa

cum laude, 58 magna cum laude and 63 cum laude • the average ACT Composite

was 23.1 and the average SAT was 565 for the verbal section and 602 for the math section.

"Each school in the district is expected to do a report of what's been happening in their schools," Dr. Rita Traynor, assistant superintendent for Instructional Services said. "We had to do one for the district which includes a report from each of the individual schools."

According to the report, the dropout rate of students in Novi who left school during the past three years, adjusting for those who have moved in or out of the district, has averaged .06 percent. The breakdown for the last three years is, 1999 = .01 percent, 2000 = .003

averages about 70 percent for the two yearly conferences and the high school averages about 54 percent parent attendance at two yearly conferences.

We certainly want to follow our core curriculum and state standards benchmark," Traynor said. "Parent involvement in Novi is very high at conferences and also in volunteers. It's probably one of the highest in volunteers and in parent involvement in the county. You can see that if you look at parent involvement in the district - the average attendance and parent/teacher conference in elementary K-6 was 96.7 percent, which is fabulous."

Although the MEAP test will change come this January, Coordinator of Curriculum and Assessment Jane Hesse is happy with the 2002 scores. She explained the difference between the MEAP test and the SAT and

ACT tests. "The ACT and SAT tests are national tests and the MEAP test is just in Michigan," Hesse said. "Even though we went up very minute degrees in the scores, we have improved, and that's important to us. If you were to look at the SAT and the ACT, they look pretty much the same as they did many years ago, except a few changes perhaps. The MEAP on the other hand, has had a lot of changes. We know that you can't compare one year's scores to the other because you're comparing different children."

Hesse said that instead of measuring the reading and writing sections of the test separately, as it was done in the past, in January it will measure reading and writing together.

"There won't be a year-to-year measurement," Hesse said. "There is no MEAP test in kindergarten, first, second or third grades. They geared it to where there might be

Warding off family violence at heart of Novi's 2003 CDBG

By Victoria Sadlocha STAFF WRITER

The City of Novi 2003 Community Development Block Grant spending program has been allocated, placing the focus on city services including fighting family violence.

Once again, HAVEN will receive a portion of the \$109,749 federal funds Novi will allocate for the upcoming year.

The organization, dedicated to building violence-free communities one family at a time, will receive \$12,000, an increase of \$1,000 from the 2002 program year.

"We're very pleased that they will be continuing to utilize a porof the Community tion Development Block Grant funds to support the victims of domestic violence and child abuse that so desperately need HAVEN's help, said Hedy Nuriel, HAVEN president and CEO.

HAVEN started receiving funds from the city during fiscal year 1994-1995.

According to data provided by Nuriel, from July 1, 2001 through July 20, 2002, 126 individuals from families in the City of Novi sought assistance from the organization.

Nuriel said Novi is about the sixth largest community utilizing HAVEN's services and within the top ten of all communities in Oakland County. The total CDBG funds alloca-

tion for the new year including HAVEN includes: • \$9,000 to OLSHA for the manager of the city's senior cen-

\$6,000 to Novi Youth Assistance for the benefit of specialized counseling and camp scholarships

• \$20,000 to the Senior Van Program for senior transportation services

• \$62,749 to the Minor Home Repair program for residential

home repairs • \$12,000 to Haven for the benefit of battered and abused, spous-

The organizations chosen to receive money remained the same from last year, with some changes in the dollar amounts.

This year, Novi Youth Assistance and HAVEN will receive \$1,000 more than last year while the city's senior center manager will receive the same amount in 2003.

The senior van program will receive close to \$10,000 less than last year's amount and Novi's minor home repair program will receive close to \$8,000 more in the 2003 program year.

"The Minor Home Repair Program reflects an increase over the money that was funded last year because the committee is very pleased with the success of that program and there is a reduction to the senior van program, which was not based on the merit of the program, but on the fact that they had to find the money to increase the minor home repair program, said Craig Klaver, program liaison and City of Novi chief operating officer.

The city received 31 requests for assistance through the city's minor home program and the senior van program serviced 10,069 passengers last year.

Representatives of Novi Youth Assistance said they have received CDBG funds for moderate to low income and 'special needs youth since 1994..

According to information provided by Claudia L. Walter, M.S.W., a Novi Youth

Assistance youth and family caseworker, this year 44 families benefited from specialized scholarships to send children to Summer camps and by offering skill building activities and supportive programming.

The youth organization is pleased to be chosen again for further funding.

Oakland County serves as the initial recipient of the grant money and provides financial oversight for the expenditure of the allocated funds.

The allocation along with organization choice was submitted to the city by the Housing and Community Development Advisory Committee, a group comprised of five members of the community.

Victoria Sadlocha is a staff writer for the Novi News. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 105 or at vsadlocha@ht.homecomm.net.



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percent and 2001 = 004 percent. It also states that the average attendance at parent-teacher conferences in the elementary (K-6) is 96.7 percent. The middle school

some curriculum changes and growth and comprehension, so it usually starts closer to the fourth grade and the end of third grade."

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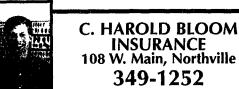
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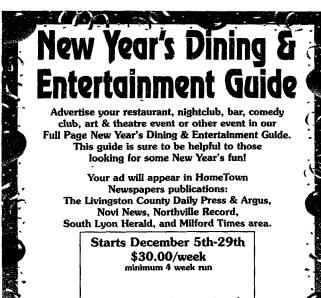






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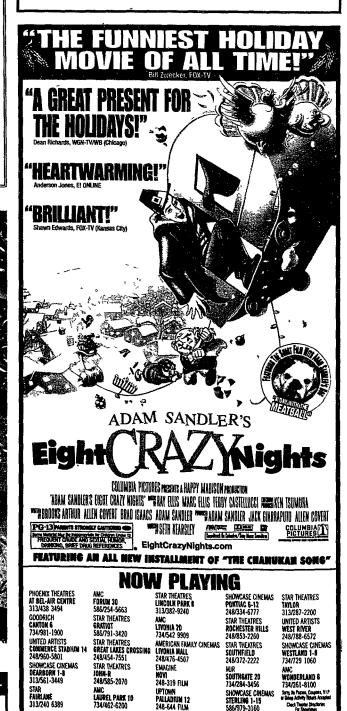
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Novi recoils after murder-suicide at business

By Victoria Sadlocha STAFF WRITER

Police are wrapping up their investigation into the tragic events unraveling last week when a confrontational employee killed his supervisor and then turned the gun he was carrying on himself shortly after being fired from his job.

Novi police said they are wrapping up some details, but the investigation of the crime rare to this communtiy is coming to an end.

"We've had confrontations of disgruntled employees before," said Police Chief Douglas Shaeffer, "but nothing that raises to this type of magnitude."

On Nov. 21 at about 4 p.m., ValleyCrest Landscape Management employee Michael Henley walked into the Trans X Drive trailer office and shot 24-yearold Bryan Bowden of Madison Heights before killing himself with a single gunshot wound to the head, police said.

Shaeffer said it appears the 36year-old Westland landscape employee was fired from his job about one hour before the shooting occurred.

"Apparently [Henley] confronted two of the supervisors when asked to perform a particular activity,' Shaeffer said. "He became very trate and confrontational and it was decided then he needed to be dismissed."

Murder/Suicide

Shaeffer said Henley dictated a letter to the woman talking very despairingly about a couple of other employees not in the office at the time.

There is no doubt in my mind we would have a much greater tragedy if the other employees would have been at the scene," Shaeffer said. "It could have been much worse.'

Police said the gunman let the woman leave after the note was complete because he told her she had been nice to him.

"We've been in business for 53 years, and we hope this is the first and last time our company ever experiences anything like this," said Renu Nallicheri, ValleyCrest Landscape Management assistant chief operating officer. "We're just trying to help out in any way possi-

Nallicheri said the president of the company along with a corporate safety officer were flying from the company's Calabasas, Calif. headquarters to be with employees during the difficult time. Counselors were also scheduled to arrive at the office

Henley had been with the company less than four months and Bowman, an account manager, had been with the company for more than two-and-a-half years.

Police did not believe Henley has any related prior incidents.

The Novi police dispatch center

originally received two 911 calls reporting the shooting. When officers arrived at the scene,

it was unknown where Henley was. According the city's press release, officers established a secure perimeter around the trailer and a tactical

team was assembled before approaching the trailer. Police said they could see two

people through the windows, neither

of whom were moving, with blood around them.

Before police confirmed Henley's whereabouts, ValleyCrest employees and nearby workers were kept inside Fifth Avenue Ballroom and Billiards, around the corner from the location.

Investigators at the scene had management lock the doors to the bar, only allowing patrons to enter

and exit with assistance from a member of the staff.

Doors were reopened around 6 p.m. after Henley's body was found. The trailer was released back to ValleyCrest before 10 p.m.

Victoria Sadlocha is a staff writer for the Novi News. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 105 or at vsadlocha@ht.homecomm.net.

GOT A SPORTS STORY?

As your hometown newspaper, we want to give the best, most comprehensive coverage to sports in our neighborhoods. If there's an event or activity you know of, call us. We want to hear about it. We also welcome submitted

photos, statistics and results from clubs and leagues in Novi and Northville. If you've got materials you'd like to see in print, don't wait - get them to us. We'll gladly accept such items and publish them as quickly as possible. For more information, contact

sports reporter Sam Eggleston at extension 104



Continued from 1

library materials, access to technology, the maintenance of the building and other needs," said Herrin. "Nevertheless, the library has made very generous proposals to the union, including establishment of additional insurance benefits.'

Hirschelman said she and her fellow employees know the library has the funds available to pay them the wage they are asking and are looking forward to the state's Fact Finding sessions scheduled for Feb. 27 and 28. "They admitted to us early in

negotiations that they knew we are underpaid but they said that they couldn't afford to pay us in the middle range," said Hirschelman. "We expect to accept whatever the fact finder

recommends and we are hoping that the library board will do so also. We know that they have the money. It is a matter of them choosing to see us as a priority."

Pauline Lupercio is a staff writer for the Northville Record. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700 ext. 109 or by email pluperoio@ht.homecomm.net



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Bowden, he pointed the gun at the secretary," Shaeffer said. "He was very agitated at the time."

12 Mile Rd. Grand River Ave. Valley Crest Landscape Maintenance Co 10 Mile Rd.

SOURCE. Novi Police Dept

ic rifle, witnesses told police.

Henley later returned to the trailer

According to a press release

carrying a .22 caliber semi-automat-

issued by the city, a female employ-

ee of ValleyCrest was standing with

her back to the door when she heard

loud noises believed to be gunshots.

Bowden into an office, heard gunshots

and saw the man fall to the floor.

She then saw Henley chase

"As soon as he finished shooting

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Library Lines

LIBRARY HOURS:

The Northville District Library is open Monday through Thursday from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., Friday and Saturday from 10 am. to 5 p.m., and open Sundays from 1 to 5 p.m. The library will be closed on Nov. 28 for Thanksgiving. Located at 212 W. Cady St., near Northville city hall, with parking off Cady St. For detailed information about programs or services, or to request or renew library materials, call 349-3020.

THE GIFT OF READING

The library is now collecting books for distribution to children for whom books are not readily available through the Detroit Free Press annual Gift of Reading campaign Please bring in new, unwrapped books suitable for children up to six years of age. Some bookstores offer discounts on books for this project. The deadline for donating books is Dec. 16. Forms are also available for monetary contributions.

LEARN A TEST ONLINE

A new online source, "Learn a Test", is now available for all Michigan residents who have a computer with Internet access. Provided by state funds, this online database includes a wide variety of standard tests for practice, including the SAT, ACT, AP, GMAT, and ASVAB. Anyone wishing to take a practice test should begin at the library by setting up an individual account After that, they may access the database from their home or office. For more information, call the library or go to the library's home page at http://northville.lib.mi.us

SO MANY OPTIONS: GETTING CONNECTED TO THE INTERNET

Richard Truxall, Internet consultant, will provide an overview of how to find an Internet Service Provider on December 5 at 7 p.m. Please call the library at 349-3020 or stop in to register for this free program.

FRIENDS ANNUAL FANTASY OF TREES RAFFLE

Tickets are now on sale at the Library for the Friends annual fundraiser, the "Fantasy of Trees". Six beautifully decorated theme trees are on display at the library, with 9 others in downtown shops, where tickets are also available. The drawing will be held on Sat. Dec. 14, during a special Friends Holiday Gala in the library after hours.

EVENING DROP-IN STORYTIME

Families are welcome to come with little ones in pajamas to this monthly program, next offered on Dec. 11 at 7 p.m. Designed for preschool children and older with their caregivers, this half hour program does not require any pre-registration-just drop in!

LITTLE ME CLUB STORYTIME FOR LITTLE ONES

Join us on December 12 from 10:30 to 11:15 a.m. for this special storytime geared to little ones from 10 months to 2 years old, along with their caregivers. Just drop in to enjoy music, beanbag fun, and simple stories. Infants and older children are also welcome to attend.

WINTER STORYTIMES

Schedules for the upcoming Winter Storytimes will be available at the library starting December 1. Programs include Little Me Storytimes for the very young, TOT storytimes for children ages 2 and 3, and a series of Storytimes for children ages 4 and 5. In addition, the library offers Kids Club for first and second graders, and drop-in evening sto-rytimes for the whole family once a month. Registration for winter Storytime programs will begin in January 2003.

LIBRARY BOARD MEETING

The next meeting of the Northville District Library Board of Trustees will be Dec. 19 at 7:30 p.m. The public is welcome to attend these monthly meetings, which are typically scheduled on the fourth Thursday of the month

Consigning Women • Ladies clothing and accessories • Children's clothing, toys & furniture • Maternity wear • Home decor & furniture pieces

Township grants abatement to Japanese auto supplier

By Pauline Lupercio STAFF WRITER

Another tax abatement was granted by the Northville Township board of trustees at its Nov. 21 meeting in the hopes of bringing more research and development to the community

"The benefit to the township would be an increase in research and development which would help diversity our tax base," assistant township manager and finance director Thelma Kubitskey said, referring to the decision to grant the abatement.

The board approved a tax abatement to ZF Technologies earlier this year. This month's abatement was granted to the Japanese-based Akebono Corporation for a period of eight years. The company, which currently has a Michigan location in Farmington Hills, reported more than \$570 million in brake comporent sales in North America and \$1.4 billion worldwide.

But unlike the ZF abatement, which included all taxing entities, Akebono representatives requested that their abatement not include the school tax base due to the company's belief of the importance of education.

According to Akebono director of administration Alan Scwiech, the company is in need of expanding its North American operations and the former Nanovations facility located at Beck and Five Mile Road is in competition for consideration with a location in Kentucky.

Nanovations, a Florida-based firm, set up shop in Northville Township, but quietly shut down its operations only two years after start-

"We like to think of ourselves as good cooperate citizens and having supportive community leadership makes it that much easier."

Based on the cross-state competition, the

Corporation may decide to offer Akebono a

Michigan Economic Growth Authority Grant,

otherwise known as a 'MEGA' grant, in order

to secure the Northville Township expansion.

The township will not know until then if

Akebono will move its 163 employees to

Northville and hire an additional 190 new

engineering, administrative, and technical

professionals with personal projected annual

wages and benefits averaging \$76,000 over

According to Akebono representatives, a

presentation will soon be made to the mem-

bers of the Akebono board in Japan. The deci-

sion between Kentucky and Michigan will be

The decision will be made on Dec. 17

Economic

Alan Scwiech Akebono

Development

made contingent upon the approval for the MEGA grant.

'A property tax abatement together with a Michigan Economic Growth Authority (MEGA) award will provide support to convince Akebono parent in Japan to move from Farmington Hills and locate the project here, and not in an out-of-state lower cost alternative location," read information presented to board members.

Kubitskey was confident that the grant will be awarded.

"The MEGA grant is contingent upon local government participation. Now that they have the local participation then the state will probably step in as well," she said.

Although the local decision may have been unanimous, township manager Chip Snider said that board members considered all aspects of the abatement.

Trustees looked at the financial impacts on the community as well as the health and longevity of the organization," said Snider. 'The board was also adamant that Akebono become a good community neighbor.'

Scwiech said that they have every intention of following though.

"Everyone seemed supportive which is extremely important to us," Scwiech said. We like to think of ourselves as good cooperate citizens and having supportive community leadership makes it that much easier.'

Pauline Lupercio is a staff writer for the Northville Record. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700 ext. 109 or by e-mail at plupercio@ht.homecomm.net.

Police Reports

CHILD NEGLECT: Police responded to the First United Methodist Church in Northville on a report of a possibly intox1cated female picking her twoyear-old child up from the daycare facility on Nov. 22. The female subject's husband, who had been observing his wife's unoccupied vehicle in the parking lot, met officers when they arrived at the church. Officers proceeded to speak with the woman who initially denied hav-

ing

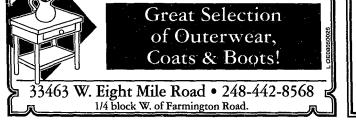
Michigan

the next eight years.

ing consumed any alcohol but hol comsumption. The husband eventually agreed to a PBT test. Results of 0.198 percent were obtained. Officers spoke with the husband again, who stated his wife was currently having problems with excessive alco-

was allowed to transport his wife and child to the family's South Lyon home. Officers reported the incident to the Oakland County Family Independence Agency.







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Community Events

• THIS WEEK •

Friends of Northville District Library Fantasy of Trees DATE: Ongoing through Dec.

LOCATION: Various locations through Northville

TIME: Call for info **DETAILS:** Artfully-decorated artificial trees will be displayed at various merchants in Northville (Bee's Knees, Genitti's Hole-In-The-Wall, Helen's Uptown Cafe, Long's Plumbing, Orin Jewelers, Pamplemousse, Pear-aphernalia, Ultimate Toys & Gifts, Great Harvest Bread, Northville District Library). The trees will be raffled. Tickets for the raffle are \$3 each, two for \$5, five for \$10 or 25 for \$40. On Dec. 14, a holiday desert and music gala will be held. Winners will be drawn at 8:30 p.m. that night. Proceeds benefit the Northville District Library.

PHONE: (734) 420-2225

Youth winter basketball league signup

DATE: Ongoing through Nov. 29

LOCATION: Northville Parks & Recreation (303 W. Main) TIME: Call for info

DETAILS: Girls groups are broken down into grades 6-8 ad 9-12. Boys are browken into grades 8-9 and 10-12. A 10game schedule will be played. beginning on Jan. 18. Registration afer Nov. 29 will incur a \$10 late fee. Volunteer head coaches are also needed. PHONE: (248) 349-0203, ext. 1405

Stage performance -

"Christmas On Main Street" DATE: Various dates; Nov. 29 through Dec. 21

LOCATION: Marguis Theatre (135 E, Main Street)

TIME: 7 p.m.

DETAILS: The musical performance takes on a Christmas theme

heme. • **PHONE:** (248) 349-8110

i Northville High School Class



Members of the Mother's Club of Northville induct their new members. The club is sponsoring its anual All Aglow event to sponsor Northville education, which culminates with a Dec. 13 lighting of the All Aglow tree in downtown Northville.

of 1997 5-Year Reunion

DATE: Nov. 29 LOCATION: Local Color Brewing Company (42705 Grand River, Novi) TIME: 8 p.m. DETAILS: Admission is \$30 per person, which includes food all night and drinks between 8 p.m. and 9 p.m. **PHONE**: (248) 767-9080

Handel's "The Messiah" DATE: Dec. 1

LOCATION: First Presbyterian Church of Northville (200 E. Main Street)

TIME: 7 p.m.

DETAILS: The Northville Concert Chorale will be featured in this holiday oratio. The chorus will be joined by the Michigan Sinfonietta Orchestra of Ann Arbor and professional guest soloists. Tickets are \$12 for adults, \$10 for seniors age 65 and up and \$10 for students and children under 18. All tickets sold at the door are \$15. PHONE: (248) 349-0911

Adult holiday grief workshop DATE: Dec. 2

LOCATION: Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church (40000 Six Mile Road); Room E515 TIME: 7 p.m_A- 8:30 p.m.

DETAILS: Adults who have

one are welcome to aftend the free workshop. The evening will end with a special time of remembrance. Registration is not necessary. The event is sponsored by New Hope Center for Grief Support. PHONE: (248) 348-0115

Leadership in Life Seminar

DATE: Dec. 3 " LOCATION: Call for info TIME: 7 p.m. - 9 p.m. **DETAILS:** Seminar leaders will focus on professional and personal interaction enhancement and learning to relate to life with confidence, calmness and personal success. Concepts from the book "A Course in Miracles" will be integrated into the discussion. Registration is required.

PHONE: (734) 420-2935

• COMING UP •

Free financial education seminar

DATE: Dec. 5 LOCATION: Call for info TIME: 6:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. DETAILS: The workshop will teach people how to have a good working relationship with money and with their own finances, Couples are encourexperienced the loss of a loved is limited to 10 persons per

Got a non-profit or community event coming up you'd like people to know about? We'd be happy to help you. Send basic information (date, time, cost, overview and a contact telephone number) to:

The Northville Record 104 W. Main Street, Northville, Mich. 48167 or fax to (248) 349-9832

Listings can be publicized for up four weeks in advance of the event. Promotional may also be submitted and will be published, space permitting.

session. The event does not entail solicitation. Registration is required.

PHONE: (248) 347-1852

Basic skiing / snowboarding clinic DATE: Dec. 5

LOCATION: REI (17559 Haggerty)

TIME: 7 p.m. DETAILS: Ski expert Justin Hamborsky will present the basicsof selecting skiing or snowboarding equipment and clothing. No advance registration is necessary, but seating is on a first-come, first-serve basis.

PHONE: (248) 347-2100

Northville Woman's Club meeting (Guest Day) DATE: Dec. 6 LOCATION: First Presbyterian Church of Northville (200 E. Main Street) TIME: 1:30 p.m.

DETAILS: Lisa Reed Tucker of Michael's Angel Attic will be the featured speaker of the event. The event chairperson is Rigmor Cuolohan. PHONE: (248) 349-3064

Holiday open house to bene-Support 5.75 5

LOCATION: NorthVIIle Hills

Golf Club model home (call for info)

TIME: 6 p.m. - 9 p.m. DETAILS: The evening will include a walking tour of the model home, hors tl'oeuvres, entertainment, silent auction, complimentary valet parking and the Angel of Hope memorial tree. Admission is \$25 per person, along with an item from New Hope's Kidz Program wish list.

PHONE: (248) 348-0115

Stage presentation ----"Ebenezer"

DATE: Dec. 12-14 LOCATION: Northville Christian Assembly (41355 Six

Mile Road) TIME: 7 p.m. (Dec 12, 13); 3

p.m. (Dec. 14) **DETAILS**: The play is an

adaptation of Charles Dickens' "A Christmas Carol.' PHONE: (248) 348-9030

Mothers Club All Aglow 2002 enrichment support for Northville schools

DATE: Dec. 13 (special designation given for donations made by Dec. 1)

LOCATION: Downtown Northville bandshell

TIME: 6 p.m. DETAILS: The Mothers' Club of Northville fundraiser provides additional funding to Northville school children.

Donations may be made in amounts of \$5 ("sapphire"), \$10 ("emerald"), \$25 ("ruby") and \$50 ("diamond.") Those making contributions by Dec. 1 will have their names placed on an illuminated board in front of the bandshell. The All Aglow tree will be illuminated on Dec.

PHONE: (248) 344-4982

Snowmobile safety class DATE: Dec. 17, 19 LOCATION: Northville Community Center (303 W.

Main Street) TIME: 6 p.m. - 9 p.m.

DETAILS: Students age 12 and up who wish to be certified in snowmobile operation are eli-

gible to participate. (Certification is required for persons age 12 to 16 who wish to operate a snowmobile on public land.) Students should bring \$10, pencil and paper to

PHONE: (248) 349-0203, ext. 1411

Northville Woman's Club Meeting

DATE: Dec. 20 LOCATION: First Presbyterian Church of Northville (200 E. Main Street)

TIME: 1:30 p.m. **DETAILS:** The annual

Christmas tea will welcome new members. The meeting's theme is "Christmas Music with Darlene.'

PHONE: (248) 349-3064

Northville Nite 2003 DATE: Dec. 31

LOCATION: Northville Recreation Center at Hillside (700 W. Baseline Road)

TIME: 5 p.m. - 9 p.m.

DETAILS: Tickets to the family-style New Year's Eve event are \$14 for adults and \$9 for children ages 10 and younger. Food, entertainment, a carnival, a magic show and swimming will be part of the evening.

PHONE: (248) 349-0203, ext. 1411

38th annual Northville-In-Florida Reunion

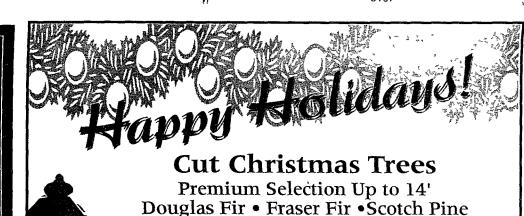
DATE: Feb. 21 (reservations due by Jan. 30)

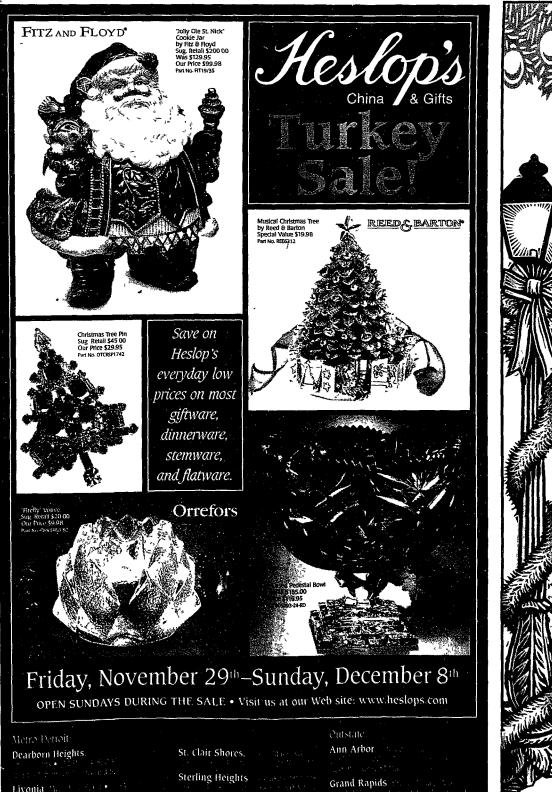
LOCATION: Hotel Jacaranda (19 E. Main Street; Avon Park, Fla.)

TIME: Call for info

DETAILS: The annual reunion of persons with ties to Northville will take place in a private dining area at Hotel Jacaranda. Tax and gratuity for lunch is \$12.50 per person. Accommodations can be arranged with the assistance of the reunion organizers. (Avon Park is located about 75 miles south of Orlando, Fla)

PHONE: (863) 453-4696 / (863) 385-7181 / (863) 471-6107





fit New Hope Center for Grief

DATE: Dec. 12

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Northville School Briefs

THORNTON CREEK TURKEY TROT

Thornton Creek Elementary will be hosting the ninth annual Thornton Creek Turkey Trot today. Participants will be trotting from 9 a.m. until approximately 11:30 a.m. This activity is designed to promote physical fitness and school spir-

In conjunction with the Turkey Trot this year, Thornton Creek is also working to sponsor a a canned food drive for the Northville Civic Concern.

The course is slated to proceed through the Royal Crown subdivision and conclude at Thornton Creek. Upon returning

to the gymnasium, the students will be provided with hot chocolate and have a chance to visit with a turkey from Maybury State Park.

MEADS MILL TURKEY TROT

The 10th annual Meads Mill Turkey Trot to fight breast cancer is scheduled to take place today at 1:40 p.m. on the school soccer field

The trot/walk is geared to promote fitness and family togetherness. The students, teachers and families of Meads Mill are invited to join in a one-mile jog around the area of Meads Mill Middle School.

Following the turkey trot, a drawing for prizes will take place in the cafeteria.

Donations will be accepted for the Josephine Ford Cancer Center on behalf

of Cheryl Walro.

CHECK SCHOOL CLOSINGS ONLINE

Center for Educational The Performance and Information (CEPI) announced the launch of new on-line services at www.michigan.gov/scm that allow citizens to look up school contact information and temporary school closings

CEPI developed the School Closings

(weather and other delays) application as part of the newest version of the School Code Master, the state's repository for official data about schools and other educational facilities. The School Closings application, previously known as the Michigan School Closing System, is the state's system for managing announcements about temporary school closings, including those due to inclement weather.

NHS ALL-NIGHT PARTY

Tickets to Northville High School's 2003 Senior All Night Party are on sale through Dec. 31 at the price of \$55. Send your check payable to Linda Temple,

46023 Northvalley, Northville, Mich. 48167. Please write your student's first and last name on the memo line. If you wish to drop off your check at the school there is a 2003 Senior All Night party box in the office.

Ticket prices for this night of activities for graduating seniors will increase to \$65 beginning Jan. 1.

A variety of assignments are still available for parent volunteers who would like to assist with the party. To find our how you can be involved in the NHS senior tradition, contact Senior All Night Party organizer Jeri Johnson at (248) 349-6294.

Legos yield trophies for Amerman students

By Jennifer Norris STAFF WRITER

Students at Amerman Elementary School earned two trophies at the recent FIRST Lego League Robotics Challenge and earned the right to contend at the state level competition early next month.

Steve Anderson, principal of Amerman Elementary, said the school was invited to participate in the state meet after Amerman's team-built robot earned the top score in a portion of the contest.

During the competition, each team's robot is required to perform certain tasks and maneuvers.

'There's various sections to the whole competition," said Anderson. "Their robot got the highest score in the board challenge.

In addition, participating students were also required to give a presentation to judges on design and programming principles along with a presentation on the team's research project.

Anderson said the group's study project is centered on the ecology and water quality of the Rouge River.

Although the group from

Amerman was not the top scorer overall, participants did take home two trophies --- one for a first place finish in the board challenge and the other for programming design.

"I'll have to get my trophy case started here," said Anderson.

The Nov. 16 contest in Monroe marked the team's first attempt in competing in a regional competition

The state tournament competition is slated to take place Dec. 7 from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Novi Expo Center.

Anderson said teams from Michigan and Ontario are expected to attend.

Amerman students were elated when they learned they had qualified to proceed to the next level of competition.

"I think it's a pleasant surprise and it's a wonderful experience for my kids," said Anderson. "They were higher than a kite. We learned a lot of things. There's a lot of team spint.'

The team has also received plenty of support from parent volunteers.

"They got very lucky," said Sharon Darga, one of five team

coaches. "On their very first round of competition, they scored the highest score of the day. That earned them the right to go to the state competition."

"I think it's exceptional for the kids. They're very excited about this. I think we've got a lot of work to do to beef up our technical and research presentations."

Darga said the research project asks team members to look at a problem and design a solution based on robotic technology.

In addition, Darga said when the team competes at the state level competition, they will be contending against an estimated 60 teams.

"It'll be a lot of fun," she said. 'They've worked very hard on this. They're very excited to be representing Amerman. It has definitely been a team effort Everyone has contributed specific and unique skills. The kids will be better prepared and they'll know what to expect."

Jennifer Norris is a staff writer for the Northville Record. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700 ext. 107 or by e-mail at inoiris@ht.homecomm.net.

Sing a song of the season



Photo by JOHN HEIDER Students of Northville's Marquis Theatre sing Christmas Carols after Friday nights



Exotic animals pay visit to Winchester

By Jennifer Norris STAFF WRITER

A South American boa constructor was spotted at Winchester Elementary Monday, and she brought a few friends with her.

During a special assembly, first grade students at Winchester Elementary were visited by some four-legged critters and some without legs.

The presentation, entitled "Animals and Our Environment" was conducted by Jon Oliver, an educator

affiliated " It with Mobile Ed helps Productions. Students' them be eyes grew wide as more Oliver pulled out several aware of animals from their cages what's including a legless going on lizard, a around chinchılla, an iguana, a them." boa constrictor, a hedgehog and an uncommon animal called cavy. The

assembly, which was part of the school Junior Enrichment Series, was geared to help students understand the delicate balance between humans and animals.

Diane

teacher

Borman

Diane Borman, a first grade teacher, said the presentation 1s aligned with science coursework and was well-received by the students.

"It's great," she said. "They love this. It helps them be more aware of what's going on around them."

Borman said the students have been studying organisms, woodland creatures and plants.

Students were also eager to pet the various animals, when permitted to do so.

Junior enrichment series coordinator Carol Taylor said the program provided an ideal way to teach students about the interactions of people, animals and the environment.

"Each animal has a special place? babe said. A ratio more? Taylor also lauded Oliver's man2

ner with the first grade students. "He's wonderful with the kids." he said. "[The students] really have interacted with him and the animals.'

Jennifer Norris is a staff writer for the Northville Record. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700 ext. 107 or by e-mail at jnorris@ht.homecomm.net.





Hardware couple heads to retirement

Continued from 1

They are nice people." The husband and wife team have decided to close the doors to this chapter of their lives on Dec. 15. They will be moving to the Republic of Panama in mid-January. The may not know any Spanish, but they do know that they love the country that will soon become their home.

"Panama is great. It's good weather and low cost-of-living," said Black, adding that he and his wife are having a house built that is almost completed. "The Caribbean Sea is our front yard"

Married in 1974, the Blacks are parents of three grown daughters. They said they business is closing and not being passed on to the next generation partially because their children don't have an interest in the business.

But Bob's wife Donna said it is not the business itself that will be missed — it's the customers they have come to know over the many years in the community.

"Since we have announced the retirement, there has really been an outpouring of support from our customers. We didn't expect that," she said. "We just thought we were a business of convenience but we obviously had an impact we were not even aware of on our customers. And knowing that feels good.'

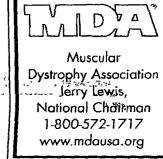
Pauline Lupercio is a staff writer for the Northville Record. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700 ext. 109 or by e-mail at plupercio@ht.homecomm.net

first graders.

photos by JESSICA VOOGT

Monday morning. The snake was brought in by Jon Oliver, a presentor with Mobile Ed Productions. LEFT: Olver shows off a baby iguana to the Winchester





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ABOVE: First grade students at Winchester Elementary inspect and touch a South American boa constrictor

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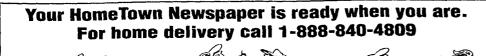
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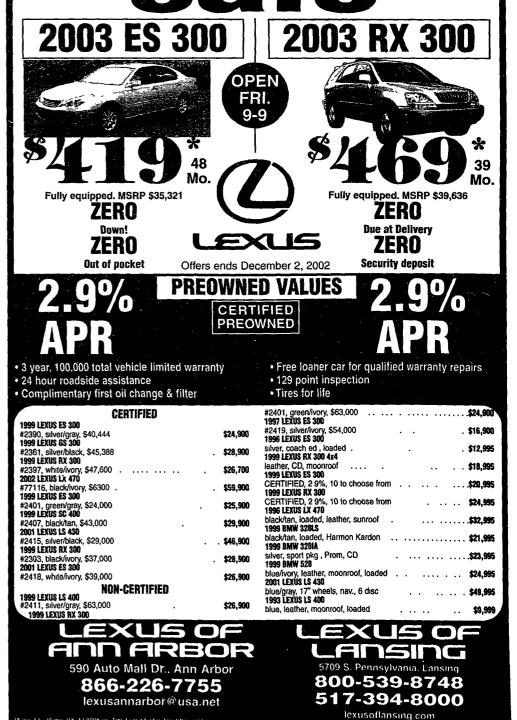
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Fundraiser gives students **McIncentives**

By Jennifer Norris STAFF WRITER

Thornton Creek Elementary students were rewarded with a limousine ride to McDonald's last week as a result of selling a large amount of merchandise to promote a school fundraiser.

Thornton Creek PTA vice-president Donna MacDonald, said 74 students qualified for the prize of taking a limousine ride to lunch.

The special student outing took place over a two-day period, in order to accommodate all participating students.

MacDonald said the fundraiser is geared to support educational assemblies, teacher grants and various gifts to the elementary school.

"It was a record-breaking year for us," she said. "This is the only money-making project that we do at this school.'

In order to qualify for the limousine ride award, students were required to sell \$200 worth of merchandise.

The students were transported from Thornton Creek Elementary School to the McDonald's located near the Five Mile and Beck Road intersection. Two white stretch limousines а Lincoln -----Navigator and a Ford Excursion - were supplied by A-One Limousine. The two limousines were driven by Mark Radford and Mike Furlong.

The fundraising event was sponsored by the school PTA organization.

Third grade Thornton Creek student, Eric Johnson, and second grade student, Bianca Sarrecchia, sold the highest amount of merchandise for the school fundraiser. The student's final sales totalled \$502 each

Judy Johnson, mother of Eric Johnson, said her son set his sights

"It was a recordbreaking year for us. This is the only money-making project that we do at this school."

Donna MacDonald Thornton Creek PTA vice-president

on winning the chauffered lunch-

"This year, he wanted to win this hmo ride," she said. "He went to people at our church. They were more than happy to help."

Johnson's final total was further assisted by generous family members and friends.

In addition, Judy Johnson said her son received a \$100 gift certificate and commended the event organizers.

"They did a very nice job put-ting it all together," she said.

Florence Sarrecchia, mother of Bianca Sarrecchia, said her daughter was also determined to secure a seat on the luncheon outing.

"[Bianca] was highly motivated to get the lumo ride," she said. "She's very competitive."

MacDonald thanked the work crew at the McDonald's restaurant and the many participants who contributed to the fundraiser's strong success.

"I'm just so shocked our school did so well," she said.

Jennifer Norris is a staff writer for the Northville Record. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700 ext. 107 by e-mail or jnorris@ht.homecomm net.



photo by JENNIFER NORAIS Lauren Evasic, a fifth grader at Thornton Creek Elementary School, gets out of the limousine that brought her and her classmates to McDonald's for a special promotional lunch.





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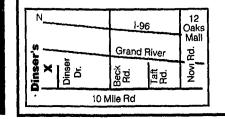
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Theater time

Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Genitti's Hole in the Wall Theater presents their kids' show: Shirley Holmes, Girl Detective to a packed house last Friday morning. Actors are Jamle Dietsch, Joel Mitchell, Lindsey Pyrkosz, and Millie Debenedict.



Milennium Park moves ahead

By Pauline Lupercio STAFF WRITER

Northville Township board members authorized the professional services of Russel Design of Northville for future improvements to Millennium Park at their Nov. 21 meeting. The approval comes on the heels of the passage of the land acquisition renewal proposal, which voters OKd last month.

"The direction from the township board after notification of the successful millage to this office was to immediately work in conjunction with the recreation director to formulate a plan which will take into consideration our funding to heighten the quality of recreational amenities ìn Millennium Park and surrounding parks," said township manager Chip Shider. "The consultant selected will evaluate the best uses, given the land available and immediate needs of the recreation community."

A focus of immediate need is that of the Soccer Association. The parks and recreation commission has already endorsed the concept of constructing replacement soccer fields on the six extra acres available at Millennium

Soccer gets wish for practice fields

said to McGuirk, who was present

The Millennium Park improve-

"Once approved by the town-

ship board, this plan would facili-

tate a strategic plan to accommo-

Bv Pauline Lupercio STAFF WRITER

The Northville Soccer Association will soon have the much-needed practice space after approval was given by the township board to allow for construction of temporary practice fields at Fairweather Center. The cost of development and operation is to be covered by the Soccer Association

"The township board is anxious to try and facilitate soccer's needs as it relates to additional fields and improving those existing fields," said township manager Chip Snider. "Allowing practice fields on the Fairweather property will be one rapid, shortterm solution to their ongoing problem to help them with the shortage of fields. The only concern that I have is that soccer understands clearly that this short-term solution promises no expectations of permanency."

The township currently owns the 16 acres of

Park. Supervisor Mark Abbo also at the meeting. publicly thanked Northville ment plan will also look at path-Soccer Association president Steve McGuirk for his work and way and parking lot development, support in the recent passage of landscaping, and a possible irrigathe land acquisition millage tion system. renewal.

"We are working on getting those soccer fields for you," Abbo

property at the northeast corner of Five Mile and Sheldon Roads, referred to as the Fairweather property. The site is not currently in use and there are no immediate plans for development. According to Northville parks and recreation director Tracı Sincock, the terrain is fairly level and could accommodate three larger or six smaller practice soccer fields.

Although board members commented on the possibility of creating permanent soccer areas as opposed to the temporary solution at Fairweather, Abbo suggested the motion be approved as presented. Northville Township supervisor Mark Abbo believed it was important to wait for next month's recommendation on permanent soccer field possibilities from the parks and recreation department.

Pauline Lupercio is a staff writer for the Northville Record. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700 ext. 109 or by e-mail at plupercio@ht.homecomm.net.

> date the needs of recreation and would take into consideration the terms of the recent millage renewal passed by the residents," said Snider.

Pauline Lupercio is a staff writer for the Northville Record. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700 ext. 109 e-mail or by at plupercio@ht.homecomm.net.

City / Township Briefs

DECORATOR AWARD: Peggy Robison and Kay Scafidi of Preferences on Main Street were recently selected for hav-ing decorated the "favorite" house during the Northville Community Foundation's Holiday Home Tour. Robison and Scafidi delighted guests of the tour with special touches such as snow decorations in the laundry room and crystal in the bathroom.

INCREASED BOND RAT-ING: Northville Township recently received notification from Standard and Poors that their bond rating was increased from a 'Double A minus' to a 'Double A.' The increase resulted from the annual review by the rating agency. Reasons cited for the upgrade are rapid growing tax base, strong financial performance, manageable tax base, and professional administrative and legislative management of the township. Finance director Thelma Kubitskey believed the increased rating will result in lower borrowing costs the township for any future debt issuance.

GOOD WISHES: The Northville Township board of trustees approved a resolution honoring Joseph Nosel at its Nov. 21 meeting. Nosel was honored for 12 and one half years of service to the township as a plumbing and mechanical inspector in the building department.

EAGLE SCOUT HON-**ORED:** Mark Andrew Schovers was honored with a resolution approved by the board of trustees on Nov. 21 for achieving the rank of Eagle Scout. Schovers was recognized for organizing and leading a group of 46 volunteers in building a bridge at Veteran's Park to enable the community to enjoy the nature trails for years to come. The project entailed more than 264 man-hours of labor. The rank of Eagle Scout is obtained by only 2 percent of all Scouts.

CORPORATE CITIZEN OF THE YEAR: David Spivey, CEO of St. Mary Mercy Hospital, was honored with a resolution approved by board members in recognition of being named corporate citizen of the year. The resolution offered Spivey congratulations and thanks for "giving so much back to the community.'

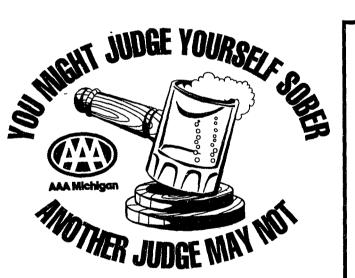
LOOKING FOR BELL **RINGERS:** The Salvation Army is looking for a few good bell ringers for its Christmas Kettle Campaign. Ringers are particularly needed during the weekday hours. The campaign begins Nov. 22 and continues until Dec. 24. The four sites in Northville for bell ringing are the Northville Post Office, Hiller's on Center Street, the Great Harvest Bread Company and Farmer Jack on Haggerty Road at Six Mile. All funds raised during this campaign will remain in the Northville/Plymouth area. Anyone interested in participating is asked to contact call (248) 348-2678.

CHRISTMAS TEA: Meadowbrook Congregational Church will be hosting "Tables, Tea, and Thee: A Christmas Celebration" on Dec. 3 at 7 p.m. Twenty holiday-themed tables will include styling and decorations by Changing Seasons, Kitchen Witch, Preferences, and gardenviews. Desserts, coffee, and tea will be provided as well as musical entertainment by Heartstrings. Carols will be performed by the women of the Meadowbrook Chancel Choir under the direction of Minister of Music Patrick Kuhl. Tickets are \$12 each and are available at Meadowbrook Congregational Church (21355 Meadowbrook Road) and Kitchen Witch (134 East Main Street).

BELL IINGLE RUN/WALK: The Jingle Bell Run & Walk will take place on Dec. 15 at Northville, Downs. The registrations fee is \$20 until Nov. 26 and \$25 thereafter. Interested residents can register online at www.arthritis.org or call (800) 968-3030 ext. 233. Proceeds from the event benefit Arthritis Foundation. the Michigan Chapter.

YEAR'S NEW **VOLUNTEERS:** Northville Parks and Recreation is looking for volunteers 18 and over to donate their time to work at the sixth annual New Year's Eve event. Job assignments include ticket taking, games, family photos, food service, and other activities.

Volunteers are needed Dec. 31 from 4:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. at Recreation Center at Hillside, 700 W. Baseline Road. Volunteers may also purchase a specially discounted dinner ticket for \$8. For more information. please contact Sue Taylor at (248) 349-0203, ext. 1411.



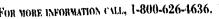
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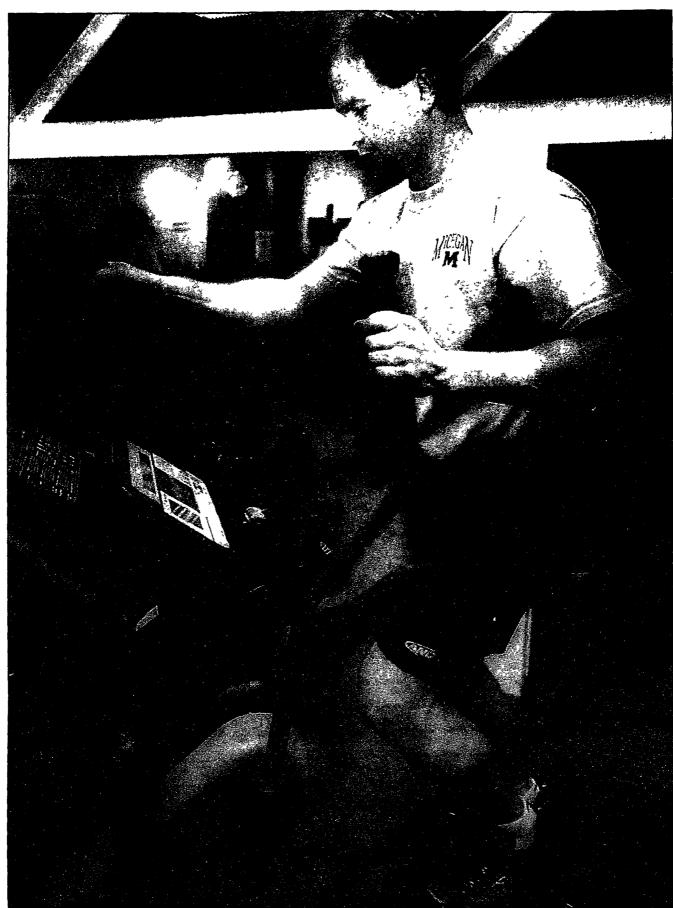
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Plymouth • Canton





Exercise, moderate eating key to avoiding weight gain

Continued from 1

body weight. "And that can be done with easily with a spoon of fudge here, a serving of gravy there or even a tiny sliver of pecan pie. It adds up."

Klebba suggests sticking to a long range plan in order to fight the pounds before they appear.

"The holidays typically encourage people to indulge in high-fat, high-calorie foods that are low in nutrients," he said. "This combined with the most likely time to skip exercise contributes the average weight gain every holiday season."

But stick to the exercise, said Klebba, and odds are better the numbers on the scale will stay closer to where they should.

Klebba also suggests moderate consumption.

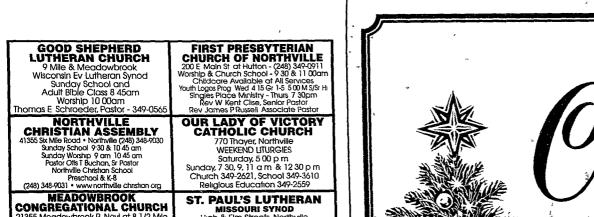
"Don't pass up favorite holiday foods or deprive yourself completely," he said. "Moderate consumption is the key. If you overdo it at the main holiday meal just make sure you go back to your regular plan the next day and increase your activity"

Moderation should also be followed when it comes to favorite adult holiday beverages.

"Alcoholic beverages pack on the calories, so stick to a light beer or a champagne spritzer. And watch the egg nog," Klebba said. "It is high in calories and fat. But most importantly, make sure you enjoy the season, and not just the food."

Pauline Lupercio is a staff writer for the Northville Record. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700 ext. 109 or by e-mail at plupercio@ht.homecomm.net.







\$.

file photo by JOHN HEIDER Joe Rodes works out at the Water Wheel Health Club in Northville. Experts say eating in moderation and continuing to exercise during the holidays are key to avoiding packing on unwanted pounds.

MEADOWBROOK CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH	ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN MISSOURI SYNOD	
21355 Meadowbrook R Novi at 8 1/2 Mile Morning Worship 10 a m	High & Elm Streets, Northville T Lubeck, Pastor	
Church School 10 a m 248-348-7757 Minister Rev Dr E Neil Hunt	Church 349-3140 School 349-3146 Sunday Worship 8 30 a m & 11 30 a m Contemporary Service at 11 00 a m	Over 50 different styles of natural-looking
Minister of Music Patrick Kuhl	Sunday School & Bible Classes 9 45 a m FIRST UNITED METHODIST	artificial Christmas trees from 2-12 ft.
CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS EPISCOPAL	CHURCH OF NORTHVILLE	• Hundreds of tree trimmings in a
10 Mile between Taff & Beck, Novi Phone 349-1175	349-1144* 8 Mile & Taft Roads	
Sunday 7 45 a m Holy Eucharist Sunday 11 a m Holy Eucharist 11 a m Sunday School & Nursery	Worship Services 8 00am 9:15am 11 00am Rev John Hice Rev Jennifer Bixby	variety of themes
FAITH COMMUNITY	FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH	• Fantastic selection of indoor and
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 44400 W 10 Mile Novi, 248-349-2345	NOVI 453011 11 Mile at ĭaft Rd Davcare Infant-5 vis including pre school	outdoor lights
1/2 mile west of Novi Rd Dr Richard J Henderson Pastor Rev Anne Scheiber, Associate Pastor	Daycare Infant-5 yrs including pre school Dayschool K 12. Home School K-12 Sun School 945 am • Warship 11 00 am & 600	• A variety of beautiful wreaths
Worship & Church School 9:00 & 10:30 am Sunday	Dr Gary Elfner Pastor 349 3477 • 349-9441	CANADA AND and garlands
ST. JAMES ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH	FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF NORTHVILLE	• Large selection of collectible Santas
NOVI 46325 10 Mile Rd	217 N Wing 348-1020 Sunday Worship, 10 45a m & 6 30 p m	Nativity sets and Dept. 56 Villages
Novi Mi 48374 Saturday 5 00 p m Sunday 8,9 30 & 11.30 a m	Wed Youth Meetings 7.00 p m. Boys Brigade 7 p m , Pioneer Girls 7 p m	• Pre-lighted Christmas trees
Reverend James F Crank Pastor Parish Office 347-7778	Sunday School 9 30 a m	• Pic-ingined Chilistinas trees
24505 Meadowbrook Rd Novi MI 48375 Masses Sat 6 pm, Sun 7 30 p m	OAK POINTE CHURCH Northville High School on 6 Mile	Come check for our in
8 45 am, 10 30 am 12 15 pm Holy Days 9 am, 5 30 pm, 7 30 pm	Sunday 9 30 a m and 11 00 a m	Come check for our in
Fr John G Budde, Pastor Fr Paul Ballien, Associate Pastor Pansh Office 349-8847	Casual, contemporary live band (248) 615-7050	store specials and see
WORLDWIDE HARVEST CHURCH	CHURCH OF TODAY WEST	what else is new this
"A Place To Grow" Postor Keith J McAra	(Unity) New Location Meadowbrook Elementary School Novi	
Sunday Worship Service, 11 00 AM The Baymount Inn, Wixom, MI (1-96 and Wixom Rd east)	(South of 13 Mile on Meadowbrook Road) (248) 449-8900	Christmas at
More Info ⁻ (248) 926-8105 E-mail: ReapingHarvest@aol.com	Services at 10 AM Minister Barbara Clevenger	
WARD EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH	CHURCH DIRECTORY For information regarding rates	SX GXXX OF 2CX X OF DEVE
Dr. Jornes N. McGuire Senior Pastor 40000 Sk Mile Road - Northville Mi 248 374 7400 Services 8 30 10 00 11 30 g m	for church listings call	CORNWELL
Sunday School & Nursery Provided	The Northville Record or Novi News	Christmas World
Sunday Evening Service 7 00 p m Live Service Broadcast WMUZ 560AM 11 00 a m	(248) 349-1700	Civiliand Volue
CHU	RCH	
		874 W. Ann Arbor Road
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The Northville Record or	Novi News (248) 349-1700	Hours Mon Thurs. Fri 10-8;
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Holiday sweaters and vests from Ambra Reg 44 00-58.00, doorbuster. 29.99, after doorbuster price 34 99 IN LADIES SEORTSWEAR SELECTION WARDED BY

DOORBUSTER 179.99 Great sciection of ladies' leather jackets, including blazers, scubastyle-and-more Orig 325.00-395 00, doorbuster 179.99, after doorbuster price 199.99 IN LADIES' SPORTSWEAR SELECTION VARIES BY STORE

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DOORBUSTER 50% OFF

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Cotton knit pajamas and gowns from Carole Hochman and more. Reg 28 00-60 00, doorbuster DOORBUSTER 60% OFF 14.00-30.00, after doorbuster price 16 80-36 00 IN INTIMATE APPAREI

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Large selection of ladies' boots from Nine West. Enzo, Rampage, relativity, Parisian Signature and Steve Madden Reg 59.00-130 00, doorbuster 23.60-52.00, after doorbuster price 29 50-65 00 IN WOMEN'S SHOES

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Selected Donald J Pliner ladies' boots and shoes Reg 140 00-280 00, doorbuster 70.00-140.00, after doorbuster price 98 00-196 00 IN WOMEN'S SHOES SELECTION VARIES BY STORE

Doorbuster 50% off

Selected ladies' designer shoes and bools from Sesto Meucci, Via Spiga, Cole Haan, Coach, Bebe, Anne Klein New York, BCBG, Hype, Phyllis Poland, Martinez Valero and more. Reg 110 00-145.00, doorbuster 55.00-72.50, after doorbuster price 66 00-87 00 IN WOMEN'S SHOES SELECTION VARIES BY STORE

DOORBUSTER 60% OFF

Large selection of boys' and girls' shoes and boots from Esprit, Stride Rife, Parisian Kids and more Reg 40 00-50 00, doorbuster 9.60-12.00, after doorbuster price 18 00-25 00 IN CHILDREN'S SHOES

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Large selection of men's shoes from Clarks. Timberland, Johnston & Murphy and more Reg 75 00-148 00, doorbuster 37.50-74.00, after doorbuster price 45 00-88 00 IN MEN'S SHOES

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CHILDREN'S

DOORBUSTER 50% OFF

Entire stock of Buffalo jeans Reg 22 00-48 00, doorbuster 11.00-24.00, after doorbuster price 14 99-48 00 IN CHILDREN'S

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Selected sleepwear, slippers and robes from Carter's, Jonathon Martin, Parisian Kids, Mudd and more. Reg. 10 00-36.00, doorbuster 5.00-18.00, after_doorbuster.price:6 00-21.60 IN CHILDRENS

DOORBUSTER 50% OFF

Selected boys' and girls' outerwear from Hype, London Fog, Parisian Bebé, Goodlad, Weatherproof and Nicky Jay Reg 24 00-125 00, doorbuster 12.00-62.50, after doorbuster price 14 40-75 00 IN CHILDREN S

DOORBUSTER 50% OFF

Holiday dresswear from Parisian Bebé, Goodlad, Baby Togs, Bonnie Jean, Hype and more Reg 25 00-82 00, doorbuster 12.50-41.00, after doorbuster price 15 00-49.20 IN CHILDREN'S

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Novelty tops for girls from Great Escape Reg. 24 00-32.00, doorbuster 11.99. after doorbuster price 14 99 IN CHILDRENS

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Great selection of ladies' suits Orig 229 00-299 00, doorbuster 99.99, after doorbuster price 114 50-149 00 IN DRESSES

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Microsuede big shirts in a great selection of fall colors Reg. 40.00, doorbuster 19.99, after doorbuster DFICE 24 99 IN LADIES SPORTSWEAR

DOORBUSTER 50% OFF

Large selection of novelty pants and skirts from relativity Reg 40 00-48 00, doorbuster 20.00-24.00, after doorbuster price 29 99 IN LADIES SPORTSWEAR

DOORBUSTER 50% OFF

Large selection of relativity sweaters in striped, marled and cable styles Reg 40 00, doorbuster 20.00, after doorbuster price 24 99-29 99 IN LADIES SPORTSWEAR

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Preswick & Moore dress slacks Reg 54 00-65 00, doorbuster 24.99-29.99, after doorbuster price 34 99-39 99 IN MENS

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Leather jackets from Preswick & Moore and Perry Ellis Reg 395 00, doorbuster 159.99, after doorbuster price 179 99 IN MENS

DOORBUSTER 99.99

Leather tackets from William Barry. Reg 300 00, doorbuster 99.99, after doorbuster price 129 99 IN MENS

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Entire stock of sweaters from Preswick & Moore and Cezani Orig 48 00-54 00, doorbuster 24.00-27.00, after doorbuster price 28 80-32 40 IN MENS

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Great selection of Preswick & Moore woven sport shirts Reg 34 00, doorbuster 14.99, after doorbuster price 17 99 IN MENS

DOORBUSTER 50% OFF

Selected boys' and girls' sweaters from PK Clothing, Parisian Bebé, Baby Needs, Tiara and CXS-21 Reg 18 00-32.00, doorbuster 9.00-16.00, after doorbuster price 10 80-19 20. IN CHILDRENS

DOORBUSTER 50% OFF

Play sets from Parisian Bebé and Parisian Kids Reg 24.00-40 00, doorbuster 12.00-20.00, after doorbuster price 14.40-24.00 IN CHILDREN'S

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Selected OshKosh items. Reg. 14.50-39.50, doorbuster 7.25-19.75, after doorbuster price 8 70-23.70. IN CHILDRENS

DOORBUSTER 9.99 Parisian Bebé

jogging sets Reg 22 00, doorbuster 9.99, after doorbuster price 12 99 IN CHILDRENS

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Your choice of Gorham Lady Anne crystal hurricane or footed cake plate. Reg. 36 00, doorbuster 15.99, after doorbuster price 19 99 IN GIFTS

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OPINION

PAGE 16A

Northville Record

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Our fundamental purposes are to enhance the lives of our readers, nurture the home towns we serve and contribute to the business success of our customers.

Full-time work, full-time salary

Four years ago, we advocated Northville Township's hiring a township manager, for the simple reason that having part-time leadership in a community that hums 24-7 was no longer sufficient. After months of costly searches and surveys, the township finally found a suitable candidate in former public safety director Chip Snider. We were relieved and happy

Now comes the matter of the township clerk — a position held by Sue Hillebrand for several years, during which time Northville Township has transformed itself from a western Wayne County speck on the map to a vibrant bedroom community of 25,000.

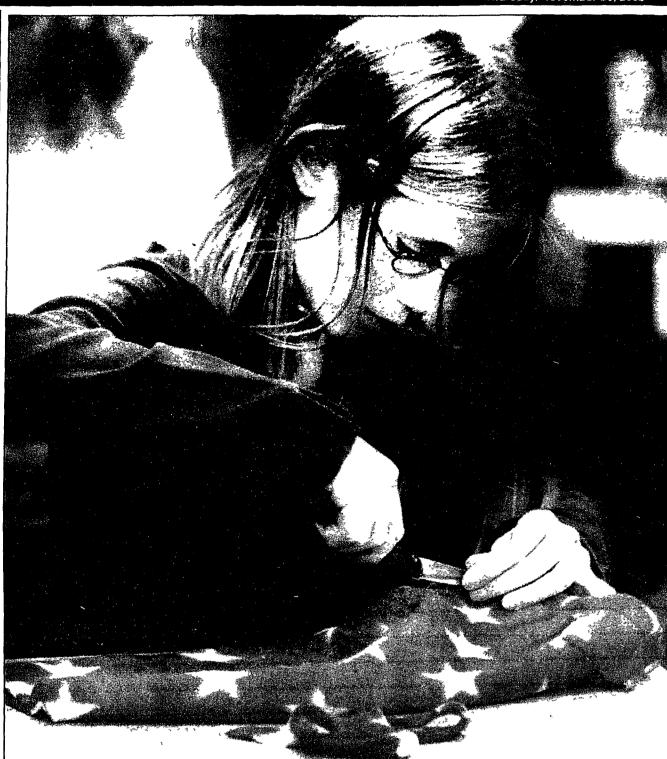
Unfortunately, Ms. Hillebrand's official status as a part-time clerk hasn't changed, and neither has her salary. as the board tabled a, motion to make alterations to the job description. This, we feel isn't consistent with all other aspects of township life and business, which have (thankfully) taken decisive steps forward into the 21st Century.

"If the full-time issue was premature, then the tabling of this issue indicated no resistance, but a great deal of willingness on the part of the township board to further research the fit of a full-time clerk to this township," said Mr. Snider after the township

division of power between the clerk's and manager's office is ungrounded. Both Ms. Hillebrand and Mr. Snider have proven themselves to be mature and stable leaders who have established themselves through years of hard work, during which time they have no doubt forged a respect for each other. In the unlikely event a dispute would arise, we have every bit of confidence it could be worked out quickly and professionally.

Ms. Hillebrand hasn't worked a bona fide part-time week for years on end, and her paychecks reflect that fact. To be realistic, her workload regularly goes over the 40-hour hump. Nearly anyone employed under similar circumstances in the private sector would have thrown in the towel a long time ago. What motivates Ms. Hillebrand, to carry on, we can't say, but we could hardly blame her if she wakes up one morning simply out of patience.

We hope the Northville Township board of trustees moves quickly to make the clerk's position a legitimate full-time job with pay commensurate with the responsibilities. With companies beating a path to the township's door and new families unloading their U-Hauls on a daily basis, the need for stable, educated, and yes — full-time leadership is going to be all the more necessary.



Novi Meadows' student Nicole Woodruff puts the finishing touches on her hat that school was to donate to Neinas Elementary School in Detroit. Behind Woodruff is student Lisa Copeland.



Winchester fall social was smashing success

The weather couldn't have been better and the crowds couldn't have been bigger. The Fall Social had plenty of entertainment for everyone including a moonwalk, slide, D.J., games, food and the Silent Auction. Just seeMarnmoth Video, Sam's Club, Costco, Hiller's Market, Northville Parks and Recreation, Oasis Golf, Margo's of Northville, On The Border, Border Cantina, Little Italy, Novi Hilton, P.C. Information Technologies, The Kitchen Witch, Carl's Golf Land, Rocky's of Northville, Susan B. Ashley Co., the Whalers and Novi Bowl. It is truly businesses like yours that make this such an enjoyable night out for the Winchester fami-

Sheryl Chomiuk for helping the girls in the car accident. She was truly an angel that knew what to do. But what about the next time? Will she be able to be there also?

I think that by the time they decide about what to do up at [Northville High] school, for a light, crossing guard, etc. there will be another accident. I was at the Novi Ice Rink last Monday and they have a light there It is a long light and there are not half as many people that enter and exit that rink and health center as there are at the Northville high school five days a week. Come on --- it doesn't take a brain surgeon to figure out what to do at the school, even if they do put a light in, they can keep it blinking on and off when school is not in session. The kids have the right idea to put a petition together for a light. They know that it can work. It is better then nothing there

board meeting last week where the issue was raised.

We hope Mr. Snider is correct, and that this issue will be resolved...and sooner than later.

In our opinion, worries of

Township leaders often comment about the growth and development of the community around them. It only makes sense that the government of such a community reflect that growth.

GOVERNMENT

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COUNTY COMMISSIONS Lyn Bankes (Wayne County)† 600 Randolph Ste. 450 Detroit, MI 48226 (313) 224-0946 Ibankes @co.wayne.mi.us

Hugh Crawford (Oakland County)* 1200 N. Telegraph Pontiac, MI 48341 (248) 858-0100

* Oakland County portion of Northville † Wayne County portion of Northville

ing the smiles and feeling the excitement in the air made this event worthwhile.

We are very thankful to all of the parents and staff that volunteered their time to help out with the activities of the evening. It is always a pleasure to see the terrific support we have in the Winchester community.

With over 55 beautifully decorated baskets, the Silent Auction was full of winners. Congratulations to all of you! The Fall Social Committee would like to sincerely thank all of the Winchester families and Staff for their wonderful donations. We would also like to give special recognition to the following local businesses for their generous donations: Bahamma Breeze, Papa Vino's, Northville Hills Country Club, Walter's Home Appliance, Target, Meijers, Busch's, Al's Party Rental, M-Den, MacKinnon's, Office Depot, Justin York Salon, Country Fare Home Store, Mothers Pizzeria, Novi Sports Club, have given us to make this possible.

Thanks to all of you for making this another fun and successful Fall Social.

Laura Kronner

Linda Zalewski

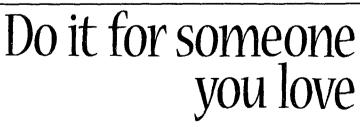
Donna MacDonald Fall Social Co-Chairs

Honor is great, but protection is better

That's great to see that Northville honored

Don't look for the negatives of a hght. Just go ahead and do it, for the rest of the parents that have kids at NHS. We don't need another nightmare at the school. This time we were lucky.

> Ginny Engelland Northville



As athletes, we pay close attention to what we eat. But whether you're an athlete or not, foods can help you win. And the more vegetarian meals you eat, the better your chances for the very best of health.

Alexandra Paul and Ian Murray actors and athletes

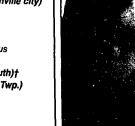
Tonight, make it vegetarian

For more information, contact: Physicians Committee for Responsible Medicine 5100 Wisconsin Ave., Suite 404 · Washington, DC 20016 (202) 686-2210, ext. 300 · www.pcrm.org

Share your opinions

We welcome your letters to the editor. Please include your name, address and phone number for verification. We ask that your letters be 400 words or less. We may edit for clarity, space and content. *Mall:* Letters to the Editor, Chris C. Davis, Northville Record, 104 W. Main, Northville, MI 48167 *E-mall:* cdavis@ht.homecomm.net Fax:(248) 349-9832





OTHER OPINIONS

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hursday. November 28, 2002

Time to get DTW really flyin'

"Vision without action is a daydream, but action without a vision is a nightmare."

Nearly 100 heavy hitters from Southeastern Michigan gathered last week at the University of Michigan-Dearborn's Henry Ford estate to listen to John Kasarda, Director of

the

economic

develop

ment.

North

the Institute of Private Enterprise at University of Carolina and the world's leading authority on the ways airport complexes drive

Phil Power

Kasarda posed fundamental questions that go to the heart of economic policy for Michigan:

• Will our economy remain rooted in traditional manufacturing or will it evolve into the "new economy" of high-tech, R&D and information-intensive business services?

· How can both our manufacturing base and emerging high-tech and white-collar service industries compete effectively worldwide?

• Will Michigan's job creation in the 21st century match in quantity and quality what we did in the first half of the 20th century, when the state was the envy of the nation?

His answer was simple. By treating the combined resources of Detroit Metropolitan Airport and Willow Run as an 'aerotropolis," an integrated passenger and freight transit facility linked to a variety of business clusters, the region could successfully meet each of these challenges. Kenan

Kasarda has a history lesson in mind. Seaports were the great economic drivers in the 18th century, railroads in the 19th century and highways in the 20th century. With aviation, globalization and time-intensive competition all characterizing today's economic competition and business location, airports will be the key growth engines of the 21st century.

This isn't an academic fantasy. Consider some emerging "aerotropoli" around the world:

• Los Angeles International Airport is responsible for 400,000 jobs in a five-county region and \$60 billion annually in, regional economic activity.

 Las Colinas, a development just east of the Dallas-Ft. Worth Airport has attracted 2,000 companies into 21 million square feet of office space, 8.5 million feet of light industrial space, 1.3 million feet of retail space and 3,700 high class hotel rooms.

• Along the 26-mile corridor between Dulles International Airport and Reagan National Airport, employment grew from 50,000 jobs in 1970 to 600,000 in 1996, a 1,100 percent increase compared to 59 percent average U.S. suburban employment growth over the same period.

Other similar developments are now taking shape near Sao Paulo, Brazil, in Hong Kong, near Seoul, Korea and Paris, France. Kasarda ranks the potential of Detroit Metro/Willow Run "as equal to or better than any place else on earth.'

Within the proposed ring road - running along I-94 and Ecorse Road to the north and Eureka Road to the south --- lie 25,000 acres of development potential. The Pinnacle Aeropark, a 1,300-acre development just south of Detroit Metro, could over a 10-year period produce a total of 25,000 full-time jobs in office, research, technology, transportation, logistics and retail - a payroll in excess of \$500 million.

One of the hidden but fundamentally important aspects of the newly created Wayne County Airport Authority was that it oversees both Detroit Metro and Willow Run airports. This allows the authority to manage both in a coherent manner to maximize the region's development potential 'inside the airport fence.'

So what needs to happen now? Kasarda recommends creating a regional authority to coordinate development "outside the fence." All kinds of things need to be put together in an integrated way: land use planning, zoning, road and rail transit links, design, branding and promotion.

Kasarda is right. Vision without action is pointless, but action without an informing vision is chaos. The time is now to start planning for what could be the future of Michigan.

Phil Power is the Chairman of the Board of the company that owns this newspaper. He would be pleased to get your reactions to this column either at (734) 953-2047 or at ppower@homecomm_net

Time to check up on my resolutions

Never let it be said I'm not a man of my word.

Back in January, I hammered my New Year's Resolution column. I committed myself to make four changes in my life during 2002, and - here's the hot tamale' — I said I'd file a report on how I did at the end of the year.

Okay...so it's not Dec. 31. It's not the end of the year — quite. Even so, It's time for me

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Chris C. Davis

during the year - and keep it off. I'm in pretty **me.** This may come as a complete shock, but there have been moments in my career when I haven't exactly been Mr. Rogers in dealing with the public. I know that's not right, so I'm going to put readers first and me second.

I'm not batting 1.000 in this department, either. I know I was probably something less-than-cordial with a few folks who were catching me in a foul mood. I can only hoperany tone on the phone or in person didn't convey annoyance. On the other hand, I surprised myself along the way, too. Thoughts of having to fess up at the end of the year for being curt kept a smile on my face, even when I was a split-second away from blowing a fuse.

3. I will purchase a good or service from one Northville merchant every week. Maybe it won't be a Rolex watch or a new car, but a Northville business will have a bit of my money each and every

In this area, I've been faithful. I've made it a point to head out to the stores at least once every seven days to pick up a bite to eat, a new CD, a book or a gift thing. I guess Lady Luck was continuing to smile on me, as I continued dodging cataclysmic scheduling snafus, but I won't be chancing it any longer. According to the planner, I have exactly 13 minutes left to finish this column,

So in the end...was it worth it? Yeah — it was. think making the resolutions kept me on track, if only mildly. It was certainly more difficult conthe end of the tentiously doing year. things that were going to interfere with my succeeding

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF NORTHVILLE NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING AMENDMENT TO THE ZONING ORDINANCE

CHAPTER 170 **ARTICLE 6 ONE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL DISTRICTS** (R-1 THROUGH R-3)

Date: December 3, 2002

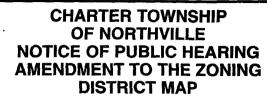
Time: Immediately following the public hearing at 7:00 p.m. Northville Township Čivic Center. Place: 41600 Six Mile Road

A public hearing will be held on December 3, 2002 immediately following the public hearing at 7:00 p.m. at the Northville Township Civic Center, 41600 Six Mile Road, Northville, MI 48167. The Planning Commission will consider an amendment to the Zoning Ordinance,

Article 6 One Family Residential Districts (R-1 through R-3). The public is invited to attend this hearing and express their com-ments and questions. Written comments regarding the proposed changes will be received by the Township Planning Commission, 41600 Six Mile Road, Northville, MI 48167.

(11-14 & 11-28-02 NR HT00024370)

LISA ANDERSON, CHAIR PLANNING COMMISSION



December 3, 2002

7:00 p.m. Northville Township Civic Center 41600 Six Mile Road

A public hearing will be held on December 3, 2002 at 7:00 p.m. at the Northville Township Civic Center, 41600 Six Mile Road, Northville, MI 48167. The Planning Commission will consider amendments to the Zoning District Map. The following parcels are under consideration by the Planning Commission for rezoning: 77-066-99-0001-001 Southeast corner of 6 Mile and Ridge Roads

from B-1 to R-3, a portion of this parcel to remain B-1 The public is invited to attend this hearing and express their com-

ments and questions. Written comments regarding the proposed changes will be received by the Township Planning Commission, 41600 Six Mile Road, Northville, Mi 48167.

(11-14,28-02 NR HT00024373)

Date:

Time: Place:

LISA ANDERSON, CHAIR PLANNING COMMISSION

Western Townships Utilities Authority **Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting Synopsis** 3:00 p.m. Monday, November 18, 2002

Regular meeting called to order at 3:02 p.m. Present: Terry Bennett, Steve Mann, Richard Henningsen

Agenda - adopted as presented: Minutes of regular meeting of October 28, 2002 - approved. Minutes of regular meeting of October 31, 2002 - approved. Schedule of operating expenses totaling \$2,102,491.16 - approved. Operations & Maintenance Report for October 2002 - received and filed.

Director's Report for November 2002 - received and filed. Lower Rouge Pump Station; Bar Screen Replacement - approved. Accountant Position Recruitment - approved.

Construction Management Observer - approval to amend the budget to reflect wages and benefits for the position of Construction Management Observer.

YCUA Plant Expansion Update - received and filed. The regular meeting was adjourned at 3:52 p m Chairperson Alternate,

TERRY BENNETT

· · ·

his is a synopsis. A complete copy of the minutes may be reviewed at the WTUA offices ocated at 40905 Joy Road, Canton, MI 48187 Publish. November 28, 2002

BABIES OF THE MONTH Congratulations to

the proud parents! It's official. The waiting is over. Congratulations and good luck to all of our newest area families.

> Babies of the Month publishes the last Thursday of each month at the cost of \$25. — Pictures welcome -

before it's on to Item

where I didn't ever open the doggone

12. · - - + > L committed

myself to make four changes in my life during 2002, and here's the hot

tamale' — I said I'd file a report on how I did at

good shape for a 28-year-old guy with a stressful job, but I could stand to peel off some weight, just the same. By Christmas 2002, look for a leaner Northville Record editor.

Well, it wasn't 15 pounds. It was more like 10. I'll blame this one on tailgate parties and my getting a little too crazy with the barbecue. I think I'll overdose on the salad and pass on the stuffing and gravy later today.

2. I will be friendly and more businesslike to everyone who contacts for a friend. I'd like to think I've done my part to help out the Northville and Northville Township economies.

4. I will use my daily planner in a more diligent manner. I've managed to avoid most catastrophes so far, but I know I can stay on top of my own life much more effectively if I utilize that black book on my desk the way it's supposed to be used. Watch for greater productivity and fewer dropped balls.

I'm gonna fry for this one. Until the last few days, there have been weeks in sticking to the resolutions. What will I resolve in 2003? Probably

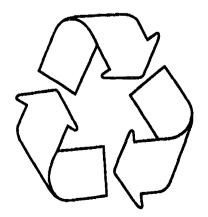
to improve on my 2002 resolutions. See you next year. Same time, same

Chris C. Davis is the editor of the Northville Record. He can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 114, or at cdavis@ht.homecomm.net.

The Livingston County Daily Press & Argus, Milford Times, Novi News, Northville Record, South Lyon Herold

> For more information call Lori @ (517) 548-7398 e-mail ldraheim@ht.homecomm.net

Now is the time to think about the future generation



PLEASE RECYCLE

.am I listening? I've been warned.

from so many different people in the community. And thanks to Chris Klebba, owner and operator of the Water

Wheel

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Health



Pauline Lupercio

Happy holidays, good will towards men, and egg nog are not exactly low in calories, if ya know what I mean.

According to Klebba, the average American gains between five and 10 pounds between Thanksgiving and the end of January. (And then I spend the rest of the year trying to lose it ... it's a vicious cycle.)

Hence the ever-popular and often

I gotta love my job. I learn so much comical New Year's resolution to lose weight! (It's one of my favorites.)

Klebba had some really good suggestions for a fun and healthy holiday season.

"The holidays typically encourage people to indulge in high-fat, high-I . calorie foods that are low in nutrients," he told me. "This combined with the now know most likely time to skip exercise con-I am tributes the average weight gain every the holiday season." per-

Makes sense. But I'm famous for in doing what I want anyway and crying about it later. wondering

I'm not saying that I'm going to completely abandon my quest for fitness during the holidays. But I will be honest and admit that I am a mere human each and every holiwith little will-power and will most likely be taking a tasty but fattening detour (or five) while celebrating the holidays with family and friends.

Will I follow Klebba's advice and stick to my workout plan? I'd better. Or I'll be hurting while I try to zip the jeans that fit me now after my Thanksgiving meal. Then I will be trying just to get them on after Christmas dinner. Come my birthday the day after Christmas I will have given up on those jeans after a slice of birthday

cake and a nice big cup of egg nog and just slip into some nice jogging pants while I curse

Will I stick to

my workout

plan? I'd bet-

ter, or I'll be

try to zip the

jeans that fit

me now after

hurting while I

the holiday calorie fairies.

Get the picture? I know I will be indulging. This means I either sweat off the consequences or with deal them after they attach themselves to my behind.

Se I will work out. Even if it is only once...I will. And I will be proud.

Pauline

Lupercio is a staff writer for

the Northville Record. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700 ext. 109 or bu e∙mail at plupercio@ht.homecomm.net.

my Thanksgiving meal.

Weather goes indoors for Winchester

By Jennifer Norris STAFF WRITER

Second grade students at Winchester Elementary took a trip to the stars last week without ever leaving the school building.

In order to help students further learn about the affects of weather patterns, Rod Bisher, owner of Star Dogs Astronomy Club, brought a mobile planetarium into the school gymnasium.

Bisher, a Lansing resident, was contracted through Dynamic Assemblies to present the program.

The assembly was hosted within a portable, inflatable dome called Starlab.

Using a combination of humor, various props and lighting techniques Bisher taught students about the relative size of the Earth, sun and moon; the cause of day and night; the motion of Earth and the moon around the sun and how seasonal changes occur.

"Astronomy is becoming more popular," he said. "I'm going to show them how big things are in the universe."

During the presentation, Bisher also discussed constellations and how to locate them in the night sky. Lıllian Knoth, a second grade teacher at Winchester Elementary,

teacher at Winchester Elementary, said this assembly is closely tied to school curriculum. "We do a unit in science, called

'Changes Over Time,''' she said. Within that coursework, she said students study such concepts including how the appearance of the

moon and sun can change. Knoth also praised the caliber of

the student assembly. "I thought it was excellent," she said. "It reviewed things and it was wonderful to have all those visuals to help them."

Jennifer Norris is a staff writer for the Northville Record. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700 ext. 107 or by e-mail at jnorris@ht.homecomm.net.



Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Dynamic Assemblies' Rod Bisher stands inside his portable dome Thursday morning at Winchester Elementary School about to present visuals of weather system to pupils.



Community Groups

ACORD (A Community Organization Recognizing Diversity)

What: A group of Northville residents concerned with fostering harmony and understanding diversity. group believes in actively promoting equality for all people, regardless of race, creed, color, religion, gender, disability, socioeconomic situation or national origin.

Contact: Al Qualman Phone: (248) 349-8437

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF RETIRED PERSONS Phone: (248) 626-0877

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN **NORTHVILLE/NOVI BRANCH**

What: Promotes equity for all women and girls, life-long education and positive societal change.

Contact: Mary Jane Kearns Phone: (248) 449-8693

AMERICAN BUSINESS WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION **NOVI OAKS CHARTER CHAP-**TER

What: Bring together businesswomen of diverse occupations and provide opportunities for them to help themselves and others grow professionally.

Where: Wyndham Garden Hotel, 42100 Crescent Blvd.. Novi.

When: Every third Monday of the month

Contact: Bettie Johnson Phone: (248) 960-9559

AMERICAN LEGION NORTHVILLE - POST 147 Phone: (248) 349-1060

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BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA TROOP No. 755 Where: First Presbyterian

Church of Northville Contact: Alan Bennett Phone: (248) 349-7568

CALLING CART Contact: Sonia Lane Phone: (248) 348-0628

CIVIC CONCERN Contact: Marlene Kunz Phone: (248) 344-1033

COMMUNITY CLOTHES CLOSET

What: Assists with emergency needs and helps lowincome families with clothes and baby items When: Every Monday from 9

a.m. to noon and 6:30-8:30 p.m.; the first two Thursdays from 9 a.m. to noon; and the last two Saturdays from 9 a.m. to noon

Phone: (248) 349-8553

DETROIT/OAKLAND **CHAPTER – GENTLEMEN** SONGSTERS CHORUS Contact: Fran Durham Phone: (248) 344-4613 FRIENDS OF MAYBURY **STATE PARK** Phone: (248) 349-8390

FRIENDS OF NORTHVILLE

PARKS AND RECREATION Phone: (248) 462-4413

FRIENDS OF NORTHVILLE DISTRICT LIBRARY Phone: (248) 348-6023

FRIENDS OF NORTHVILLE MILL POND Phone: (248) 349-0712

GARDENERS OF NORTHVILLE-NOVI What: An evening gardening club which discusses community gardening as well as hosting speakers and seminars on gardening issues. Contact: Yvonne DeMattos Phone: (248) 348-1946

GOODFELLOWS Contact: Bob Peterson Phone: (248) 349-2357

HURON VALLEY GIRL SCOUT COUNCIL Phone: (800) 497-2688

KIWANIS CLUB Phone: (248) 349-0611

KIWANIS EARLY BIRDS Phone: (248) 347-3470

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS Phone: (734) 453-9833

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOT-**ERS OF NOVI/WEST OAKLAND** What: Promotes responsibili-

ty through informed and active participation of citizens in government and action on selected governmental issues Phone: (248) 380-8474

LOYAL ORDER OF MOOSE -LODGE NO. 1190 Phone: (248) 344-0920

MASONIC TEMPLE ASSOCI-ATION Phone: (248) 476-0320

NORTHVILLE ACTION COUN-

CIL Phone: (248) 349-1237

NORTHVILLE ANIMAL AID Phone: (248) 349-3738

NORTHVILLE ARTS COM-MISSION Phone: (248) 349-6104

NORTHVILLE ATHLETIC BOOSTERS Phone: (248) 344-8414

NORTHVILLE BEAUTIFICA-TION COMMISSION **Contact:** Linda Lestock Phone: (248) 349-1300

NORTHVILLE COMMUNITY **CHAMBER OF COMMERCE Contact:** Laurie Marrs Phone: (248) 349-7640

NORTHVILLE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Contact: Shari Peters Phone: (248) 374-0200

NORTHVILLE CO-OP NURS-ERY SCHOOL Phone: (248) 348-1791

NORTHVILLE EAGLES Phone: (248) 349-2479

NORTHVILLE GARDEN CLUB Contact: Marjorie Faessler Phone: (248) 349-7709

NORTHVILLE GENEALOGI-CAL SOCIETY Contact: Pat Allen Phone: (248) 348-1325

NORTHVILLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

What: To discover, collect, observe, advance and disseminate knowledge of history of the Northville Region. The group's focal point is Mill Race Historical Village. Contact: Juliet Culp Phone: (248) 348-1845

NORTHVILLE LIONS CLUB Phone: (248) 348-9075

NORTHVILLE MOTHERS CLUB Phone: (248) 344-1585

NORTHVILLE NEWCOMERS What: To help newcomers to the area as well as current resi-

dents who would like to

become more familiar with the community on a social and civic level. Newcomers hold fund raisers to aid the Northville community.

ų.

When: Once a month, September through May. Meeting dates vary. Social interest groups meet once or twice a month.

Contact: Sally Bettes **Phone:** (248) 735-0192

NORTHVILLE PARKS AND RECREATION

Phone: (248) 349-0203

NORTHVILLE RAINBOWS NO. 29

Phone: (248) 349-1714

NORTHVILLE ROTARY CLUB Phone: (248) 344-8440

NORTHVILLE SENIOR CITI-ZENS CENTER Phone: (248) 349-4140

NORTHVILLE WOMAN'S CLUB

Contact: Virginia Martin Phone: (248) 349-3064

NORTHVILLE YOUTH ASSIS-TANCE Contact: Mary Ellen King Phone: (248) 344-1618

VFW POST NO. 4012 Phone: (248) 348-1490

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Obituaries

Corrine W. Saunders

Corrine Saunders of Howell died Nov. 22 at Alterra Nursing Home of Farmington Hills. She was 89.

Ms. Saunders was born May 29, 1913 in Detroit. She later married Harold A. Saunders, who preceded her in death. Ms. Saunders worked as a bookeeper and was a member of First United Methodist Church of Howell.

Ms. Saunders is survived by her children, Michael (Diane) Saunders of Northville, John (Nancy) Saunders and Marilyn (Jerry) Davis; 10 grandchildren and 18 great-grandchildren.

A funeral service for Ms. Saunders was held Nov. 25 at Heeney-Sundquist Funeral Home of Farmington, which handled funeral arrangements. Pastor Charles Jacobs officiated the service. Interment will be at Grand Lawn Cemetery in Detroit. Memorial contributions may be made to the Alzheimer's Association of Michigan.

Virginia B. Humphrey

Virginia Humphrey died at her home on Nov. 22. She was 90.

Ms. Humphrey, a long-time resident of Northville, was born in Walnut, Ill., to Joseph and Edith (Little) Stonebreaker on May 2, 1912. An employee of Northville State Hospital, 'Ms. Humphrey was a mother to five children and worked at NPH for more than 20 years.

Ms. Humphrey is survived by her children, James (Barbara) Fulkerson of Northville, David (Darlene) Fulkerson of Northville, Ruth Cole of Northville, Jane (Stanley) Barker of South Lyon, and Dorothy

Township keeps clerk at part-time

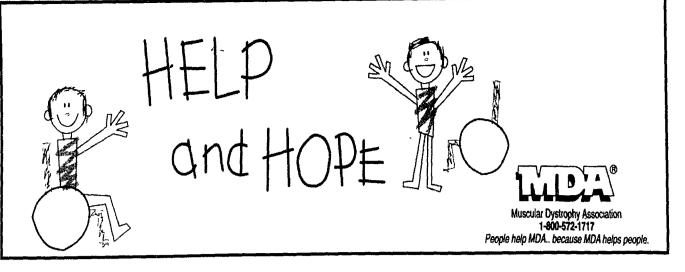
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or 10, since that is what my pay is based on."

Although Hillebrand said she understood it was a business decision and had no problem if the board did not support her move to full-time status, she did say that she would have preferred to have been notified prior to the meeting.

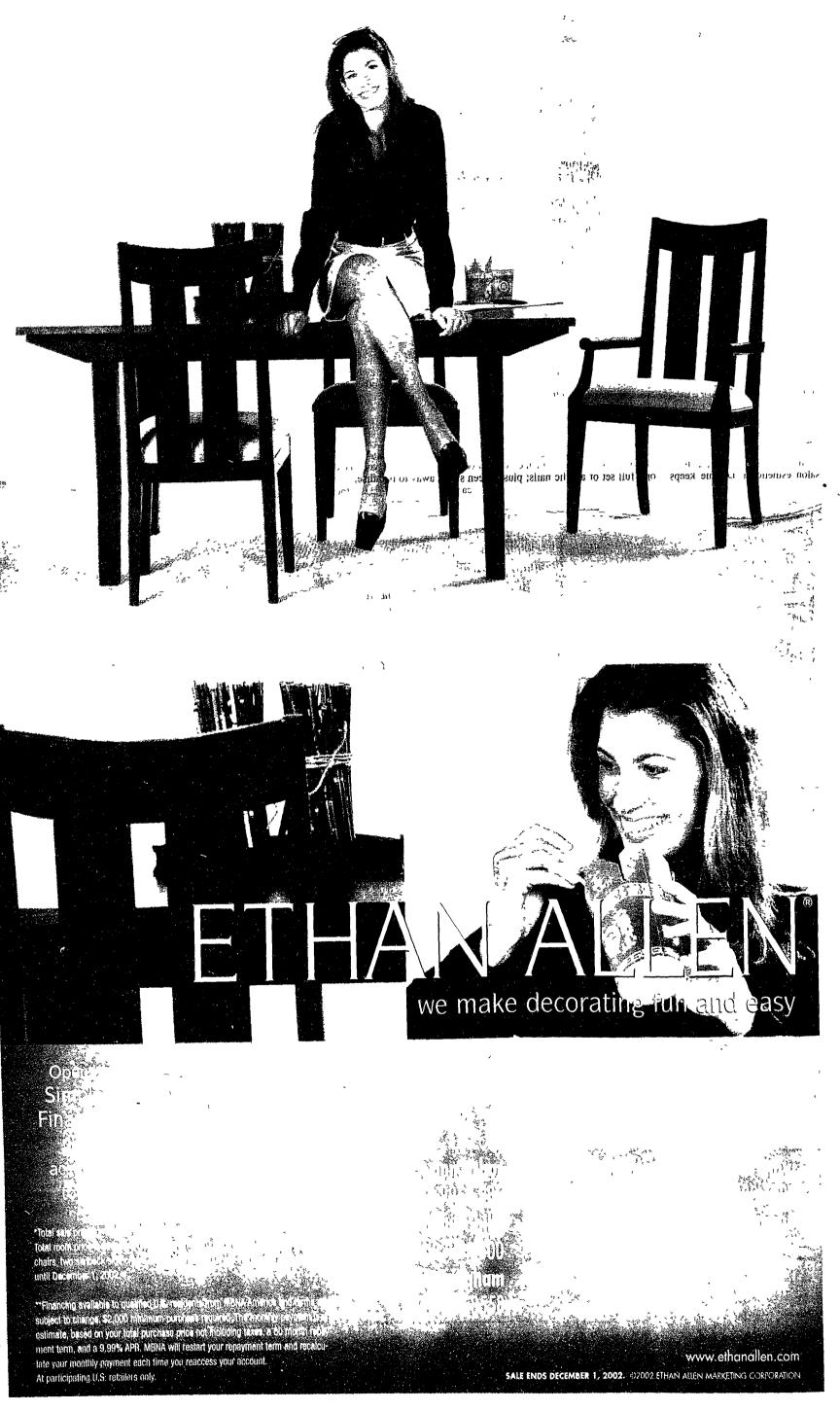
"I was hoping to put in place the things needed to be done in the township to make the clerk's office successful and efficient in (Trev) Zander of St. Louis, Mo.; 17 grandchildren, 28 greatgrandchildren, and five greatgreat grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her grandson, Jared Cole.

A memorial service for Ms. Humphrey was held Nov. 25 at Northrop-Sassaman Funeral Home of Northville, which handled funeral arrangements. Rev. Lance Rubringer of Salem Bible Church officiated the service. Interment was at Washtenmog Cemetery in Ann Arbor



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final 4 days of fall sale!



order to the township's needs. I was under the impression that the board was more in support of it," she said. "I do wish they would have spoken to me prior to the meeting as to their decision. They had this information for a week. I thought at the very least that they could have given me the consideration of calling me and letting me know."

The board may have decided not to make any decision at this time, but that doesn't mean that Hillebrand will stop working the extra 23 hours over what she is actually paid for as township clerk each week or the 40 to 50 she puts in during elections.

"It's just not possible to do all I need to do in a 10 hour time span. And I can't just stand back and let the clerk's office fall apart," said Hillebrand.

With an ever-growing population and a staff that has not increased in size in over 20 years, Hillebrand believes something will eventually need to change.

"There are close to 1,300 townships in Michigan and a huge percentage have full-time clerks. We are not reinventing the wheel here," Hillebrand said. "But it is a decision of the board and I respect that. If they don't want to mov^{*} that way than that's fine."

Supervisor Mark Abbo, who had been in support of the motion, also stated his belief that the issue was brought before the board prematurely.

"Something clearly needs to be done. If we want to stay compliant with the requirements of the state of Michigan and statutory requirements, we need more resources in the clerk's office," he said. "I believe that this was a good resolution. But there are some issues that need to be vetted before we make a decision."

Pauline Lupercio is a staff writer for the Northville Record. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700 ext. 109 or by e-mail at plupercio@ht.homecomm.net.

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REGIONAL MARKETPLACE

Escape from the stresses of life, head to Scappare

Nestled off of Pontiac Trail just south of downtown South Lyon, Scappare (pronounced ska-paray, meaning: escape to) appears to be an ordinary salon at first glance. Upon entering the large building, however, you'll soon realize it is anything but.

This 6,000-square-foot salon combines a feel of Beverly Hills with the look of Old-World Europe. Scappare has only been open since December.

"We base our business on cus-tomer service," said owners Lindsay and Chris Cortis. "We want people to experience Scappare and leave happily planning what they will treat themselves to during their next visit to our salon. We aim to please."

Scappare is a full-service Aveda "A" family salon, which means it carries a full line of Aveda products. Scappare also carries Álterna and TiGi hair care products as well as a line of Repechage skin care products.

As you enter Scappare salon coordinator, Michael, will greet you. He will assist with your check-in and escort you to the coffee and Danish buffet. This is where Scappare tempts your taste buds with muffins, pastries and other delights. Next, you will be seated in a spacious waiting area, and if the timing is right, you may hear sounds of our 19th century piano being beautifully played by Michael.

Continuing on with the tour, Scappare has assembled a team of world-class stylists who will keep you looking beautiful through the seasons. They offer all hair treatments for women, men and children, including color, highlights, perms and precision cuts. In order to offer their clientele the most current, as well as the classic in hair design, the stylists continuously expand their techniques by attending training offered by platform artists from around the world.

Scappare went even further by recruiting Repechage Skin Care District Trainer, Delanie, as their salon esthetician. Delanie keeps



The staff of Scappare of South Lyon are waiting to help you ease the worries of daily life.

your skin in perfect condition with your choice of an exclusive four-layer facial, seasonal facial or mini facial. Your face will never look or feel better. Delanie can also assist with any of your waxing or makeup needs. There's more.

Scappare has the best nail technicians available, whether you're thinking about a simple manicure

ever dreamed of. Kelly and Susan K. have a delightful strawberryand-sugar scrub to soothe and massage away the aches. Scappage also provides a fullbodv therapeutic massage. Whether it be a 15-minute chair massage or a one-to-two-hour full-body massage, Susan W. will leave you feeling like you have or still set of any lic nails; plus state or stigat away to paradise. Scappare would suggest the

best way to experience the salon is with one of its many packages. The Madagascar is a three-hour experience with haircut, seasonal facial, manicure and lunch. Or try the Rain Forest, a four-to-five hour luxury experience with a one-hour massage, seasonal facial, haircut, pedicure and lunch. Day packages include a private sitting area to relax and reflect on life in tranquility. You will find yourself surrounded by exotic artwork by local artist Tim Sabados, all of which are on consignment and available to the public for purchase.

These are just a few of the wonderful packages to choose

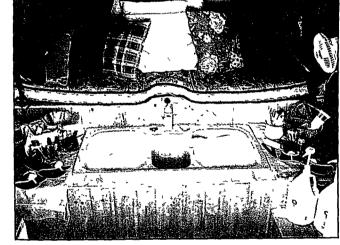
the best pedicure your feet have age from children to adults, and is Basic manicures, \$25; eyebrow Nine Mile roads. Business hours



hursday, November 28, 2002



The atmosphere at Scappare is relaxing, complete with the beautiful sounds of a baby grand piano.



if you need a sanctuary for your feet, it can be found at Scappare.

from, whether it's a special treat for yourself or a very special gift for a person in your life who deserves it.

truly focused on making each and every visit a relaxing, rejuvenating, positive experience.

Haircuts range from \$25 to Scappare serves clients of any \$50, depending on the service.

waxing, \$15; massages, \$65 per hour.

Scappare is located at 21190 Pontiac Trail, just north of Eight Mile Road between Eight and

are 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Wednesdays and Fridays, and 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturdays; closed Sundays and Mondays.

Faris on Business

Putting Unfair Competition Out of Business

By Jack Faris

Americans love competition. We'thrive on it. It sparks our elections, generates pride in virtually every national sport and is recognized as the bedrock of our free enterprise system.

No one loves competition more than small-business owners do. That's why there are more than 22 million of them operating today. Their confidence and their ability to find the right business niche drives our economy to greater heights each year. They love going head-to-head with competitors and testing their mettle.

But some competitors of small business don't share those ideals of fair play. For example, federal prisons. They had a sweet deal with the Department of Defense. Their labor was provided by convicts, their overhead was paid by tax dollars and, most importantly, they didn't have to worry about competition.

That is, until the small-business group NFIB challenged their unfair practices and won the right for small firms to compete for contracts that had been automatically handed over to the prisoners.

Government is not the only place where unfair competition exists. Last year, NFIB raised the specter of anti-competitive practices going on among Rural Electric Cooperatives (RECs). Yes, those good old co-ops created in 1914 to help bring electricity to

rural areas.

Determined to shed light on the chicanery among RECs, NFIB alerted the IRS that some were using their tax-free status to compete against small businesses by selling appliances, satellite TV receivers, propane gas, heat pumps, water heaters, natural gas, Internet services, credit cards, personal computers, digital cameras, electric and gas grills, fireplaces and landscaping services. In one southern state, a co-op even had the arrogance to offer customers an electric water heater for 99 cents a month, with service and installation, and a replacement when needed. No small business could compete against that.

In a study for the Tax

Foundation, economist William Orzechowski reported that REC business operations created serious problems for the propane industry. He described how the co-ops use the substantial assets they have acquired, such as a huge customer base, for low-cost marketing.

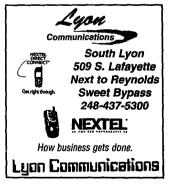
They engage in "crafty cross-subsidization," taking advantage of federal and state income tax exemptions, loan guarantees and interest rate subsidies. Orzechowski found that the coops used preferential access to federal power, and monopoly franchises "to enter the propane market and drive out private companies.

Clearly, the competition from co-ops and other tax-exempt organizations is a threat to tax paying, free-market entrepreneurs. NFIB, along with eight other

organizations, took their case directly to the Commissioner of the IRS, Charles Rossotti, appealing for him to reverse previous IRS rulings that allowed electric co-ops to sell propane under their tax-exempt status. He agreed and on Aug. 30, the agency made propane sales by co-ops subject to taxation.

That and a companion ruling against a telephone co-op are the first steps toward forcing nonprofit organizations to compete fairly or stay out of such businesses. This is not the end of the story; it's another chapter in the continuing effort to keep unfair competition out of business.

Jack Faris is president of NFIB (the National Federation of Independent Business), the nation's largest small-business advocacy group. A non-profit, non-partisan organization founded in 1943, NFIB represents the consensus views of its 600.000 members in Washington, D.C., and all 50 state capitals. More information is available on-line at www.nfib.com.





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Mill Race Matters

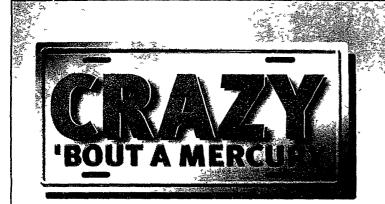
Mill Race Village is an 11-acre collection of 19th century buildings along the Mill Pond operated by the Northville Historical Society. The Village is open dawn to dusk seven days a week and is located on the west side of Griswold north of Main Street in downtown Northville. The office, located at the Cady Inn, is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. The Archives are open on Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. or by appointment. The 1st Sunday in June through the 3rd Sunday in October the buildings are open from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. with docents (hosts/hostesses) in each to share the history of that building. For detailed information about special programs or renting the facilities call the office at (248) 348-1845.

Nov. 28	9 a.m1 p.m	Thanksgiving-office closed	
Nov. 29	9 a.m1 p.m. 7 p.m8 p.m.	Office Closed Rehearsal	Church
Nov. 30	5 p.m7 p.m.	Wedding Church	
Dec. 1	10 a.m12 p.m.	Mill Creek Community Church	Church
Dec. 2	4:30 p.m6 p.m.	Brownie Scout Meeting	Cady Inn
Dec. 3	9 a.m12 p.m.	Stone Gang	Village & Cady Inn
Dec. 4	9 a.m1 p.m. 7 p.m9 p.m	Mill Race Basket Guild Mill Creek Community Church Prayer Service	Cady Inn Church
Dec. 5	9 a.m1 p.m. 7 p.m8 p.m.	Archives Open to the Public Tiger Cub Scout Meeting	Cady Inn Cady Inn

Come to Mill Race Village on Dec. 8 to take a stroll back in time and enjoy An Ol' Fashion American Christmas. From 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. you can enjoy caroloers, cookie and cider, carriage rides, live reindeer, crafts, the blacksmith, music and pictures with Santa. Admission is \$10 for adults, children 12 and under are free. Proceeds to benefit Grace Centers of Hope a rehabilitation center for addicted and abused men, women and their children. For more information call "Friends of Grace" comittee member Shannon Clark (248) 334-2187 ext. 23.







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Sports northvillerecord.com And then there were four

Four tankers take ninth in state finals and set four school records; Shannon Hogan proves to be the best of the best in the 50 free

By Sam Eggleston SPORTS WRITER

Now that's simply impressive.

The Northville Mustangs had only four swimmers hitting the pool in the state finals held at Eastern Michigan University last weekend, but that wasn't going to stop them from having the times of their careers.

Seniors Jenny Carr, Erin Schubert and Shannon Hogan along with freshman Sarah Carr swam their way to a ninth-place finish in the states with both of their relay competitions placing as well as Hogan taking two impressive finishes in the 50 and 100 free.

"I am ecstatic," Hogan said of her first-place 50-yard freestyle finish in a time of 23.48. "It was just so exciting. I honestly think that was the best day of my life.

It was just amazing and it was a wonderful thing. It might have been the best meet I have ever had."

Hogan wasn't finished with that for her individual performances as she managed to take fourth in the 100 free with her time of 51.62.

"Shannon swam amazing, like she always does," Schubert said. "I thought all of us did well. It was a great meet."

The Mustangs, all four of them, took fourth in the 200 freestyle with a great time of 1:38.85 before packing together for an impressive run of 1:50.88 for their ninth-place 200 medley relay finish.

"We had our best times ever," Jenny Carr said. "It was a big surprise for us in the 200 freestyle relay. We wanted to swim our best and we did."

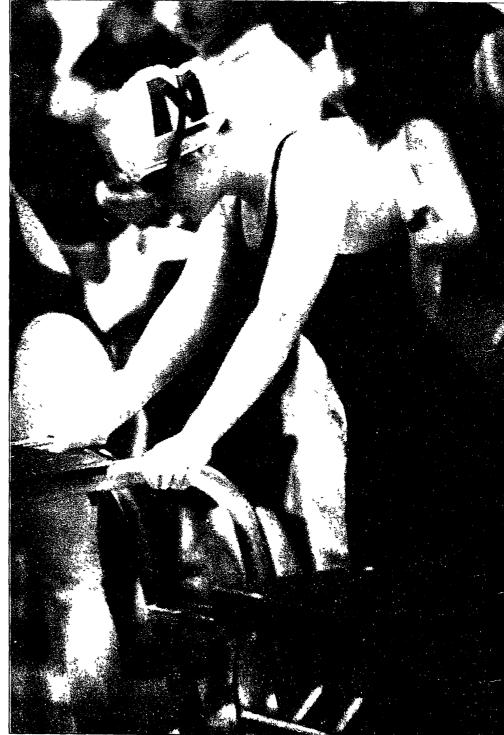
Not only did the Mustangs set their personal best times with the swims, but all four of the events also set school records. And, for all of those sitting down out there, they did even more than that. The 200 free relay time was good enough for an automatic All-American mark while the 200 medley swim was an All-American consideration mark. Hogan also notched automatic All-American times with both of her individual swims as well as making the cut for the Senior

Nationals. "The Senior Nationals are pretty much the highest level (of competition) before the Olympics," Hogan said. "I was just as excited about my time as I was about winning." Though all three seniors had made the trip to compete in the state finals before, this was Sarah Carr's first, hopefully of many, treks to the finals. "It was pretty exciting, getting to go with three seniors,' Carr said. "I thought it was a lot of fun.' And not only fun, but Sarah's first state meet and the final swim of her first varsity year coincided with older sister Jenny's last state meet and the final swim of her last year. "I do think that it's cool," Jenny Carr said. "We'll have both of our names up on the board since we broke the record together." For Schubert and Jenny Carr, this culminated approximately eight years of swimming together. "We used to be neighbors," Schubert said. "We've pretty much been swimming together since we were nine. It was great to end it this way." The Mustangs, who sported what was probably the largest team in school history this season, will be losing their top three swimmers to graduation and only Sarah Carr will have state experience come next season - but that's not going to deter the Northville tankers any. "I think they still have a lot of potential," Jenny Carr said. "The younger swimmers, especially the sophomores, improved a lot this season." Hogan agreed. "They are a talented group of girls," she said. "I have no

stellar senior tanker Amanda Smith making waves in the state finals.

the 50 and 100 freestyle events. Hogan finished first in the 50 free in the state finals.

Her time in the 100 freestyle earned Smith a 15th-place finish as she competed the sprint in a time of 54.28 seconds.





Northville's Shannon Hogan (above and below)not only set the mark as a member of two relays for Northville, but also broke her own marks in

always does. I thought all of us did well. It was a great meet."

"Shannon

(Hogan) swam

amazing, like she

Erin Schubert Northville swimming and diving captain

doubt that they will be just as strong next year as we were this year. They have a lot of growing to do and a lot of room for improvements, but they have the talent.'

Schubert, who was one of the captains this year as was Hogan and Carr, said she thought the Mustangs were going to be competitive no matter their graduation loss.

"I definitely think they have what it takes to continue winning," she said. "They have lots of potential, but hopefully they can get some girls to step up into leadership roles. They have a lot of girls swimming yearround now, and that will help them a lot."

And, no doubt, thanks to Sarah Carr's experience with her trip to the states, she will have to take on a leadership role even as a sophomore - a role that she is going to be willing to take in stride.

Yeah, I think they will (look to me for some leadership)," she said. "I hope that there are some girls that will get their state times and swim with me. There are some that have really moved up this year and a bunch that are really close to (Jenny, Erin and Shannon's) times."

The Novi Wildcats were also represented at the meet, with

Smith also managed to get a good mark in the 50 free as she collected a 14th-place finish with her time of 24.63 in the very highly competitive event.

Though only sporting a sin-gle swimmer in the final day of the state finals meet, the Wildcats managed to walk away with a 35th place finish out of the best teams in the state as Smith collected five points for her team and her coaches.

TEAM SCORES: 1. Ann Arbor Pioneer 476; Farmington Hills Mercy 201; 3. Zeeland 165.5; 4. Grand Haven 149; 5. Monroe 139; 6. Livonia Stevenson 127; 7. Holland West Ottawa 125; 8. Saginaw Heritage 87; 9. Northville 83; 10. Okemos 69; 11. Saline 61.5; 12. Rockford 61; 13. Portage Central 52; 14. Grosse Pointe South 45; 15. Troy 39; 16. Grosse Pointe North 34; 17. East Kentwood 31; 18. (tie) Rochester Adams, Holt 30; 20. Ann Arbor Huron 29; 21. Dearborn 27; 22. Kalamazoo Central 26; 23. Howell 25; 24. North Farmington 24; 25. Jenison 21; 26. Forest Hills Central 19; 27. Walled Lake Western 18; 28. Walled Lake Central 17; 29. Hudsonville 30.(tie) Southgate 15: Anderson, Midland Dow 13; 32. (tie) Rochester, Grand Ledge 12; 34. Lake Orion 6; 35. Novi 5: 36. Plymouth Salem 4; 37. (tie) Pinckney, Grand Blanc, Brighton 3; 40. Troy Athens 1.

Sam Eggleston is the sports writer for the Northville Record and the Novi News. He can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 104 or at seggleston@ht.homecomm.net.

Sam Eggleston, Sports Writer 248-349-1700

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Justangs take fall versus Canton ame of two halfs as Chiefs pull away from cagers late

Sam Eggleston

was the fitting ending to a tough year for the hville Mustangs.

ey came out of the gates as strong as they ever have ist a Canton Chiefs team ough and managed to keep game down to a 19-14 it heading into the locker s — unfortunately it was there on out that the fs controlled the game. e Mustangs did what they

but found that the eventuistrict champion Chiefs not the kind of team to let tory slip through their finas they walked away with ame and a 55-20 victory. was a tough game,"

Northville coach Pete Wright said. "They are a talented team with a lot of things going for them. I am really proud of the way our girls played today, but we just didn't have what it takes

to beat a team like Canton." The Mustangs had the game right where they wanted it heading into the half, having given the Chiefs the lead off of a couple of shots that shouldn't have fell, but when they came out of the locker room it seemed like a different team had emerged.

"We came out flat in the sec-ond half," Wright said. "You can't do that against a team like this and expect to win'

The Mustangs were the first to score in the quarter with six minutes, 15 seconds remaining in the third, but didn't get

"It was a tough game. They are a talented team with a lot of things going for them. I am really proud of the way our girls played today, but we just didn't have what it takes to beat a team like Canton."

> Pete Wright Northville Coach

another score until over four minutes later -- during which time the chiefs put up eight points. The next two minutes found Northville going scoreless and the Canton squad adding eight more points to their lead.

"Their defense was very solid," Wright said. "We didn't get the looks at the basket that we wanted and when we tried to move the ball around it would end up in their hands."

The fourth quarter was one the Mustangs will try to soon forget as they failed to get a bucket until there was only 2:55 left in the game. In the minutes leading up to that. Canton added 11 more points to their victory margin before tacking on 10 more in the final three minutes of the contest.

"This group of kids have hung in there all year," Wright said. "They were right there with us while we tried new things and did a lot of changing right from the beginning." The Mustangs will graduate a

slew of seniors, including Nicole Cauzillo, Lauren Temple and Laura Lemasters.

"We are going to miss all of the seniors," Wright said. "You are around them for so long, it's tough to see them go after they graduate.'

But the Mustangs will be looking to bounce back even tougher come next year.

'We have a lot of talented kids that were underclassmen this year as well as on the J.V. team," Wright said. "We have a lot of confidence that we will be able to play at a higher level and that we will be able to compete."

The Mustangs, whooi feller before Novi ended up/beatingum, Salem, weren't the only team to fall to the Chiefs The Wildcats felt the sting of their wrath as well as Canton stomped over them with a 60-29 victory to take the title November 22.

San

Sam Eggleston is the sports writer for the Northville Record and the Novi News. He can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 104 or seggleston@ht.homecomm.ne



Northville's Andrea Watts goes up against a Canton high School defenser in last week's district playoff game.

2002 ALL-WLAA GIRLS BASKETBALL TEAMS

ALL-CONFERENCE			
Kristen Lake	Senior	Canton	
Katie Cezat	Sophomore	Canton	
Dianna Houghton	Junior	Walled Lake Western	
Lauren Talbot	Junior	Walled Lake Western	
Stephanie Philips	Senior	Plymouth Salem	
Brit Coram	Senior	Walled Lake Central	
Katie Radamacher	Senior	Walled Lake Central	

ALL-WESTERN DIVISION

Nicole Cauzillo	Senior	Northville	
Briana Wolcott	Senior	Canton	
Ashley McCall	Senior	Livonia Franklin	
Tracey Winkler	Junior	Walled Lake Western	
Christina Redd	···· Senior	Canton aw JAOD93	
, Robyn Johnson 👝	an "Sophomore	Livonia Churchill	a
Karen Anger	Junior	Livonia Churchill	
-			

ALL-LAKES DIVISION

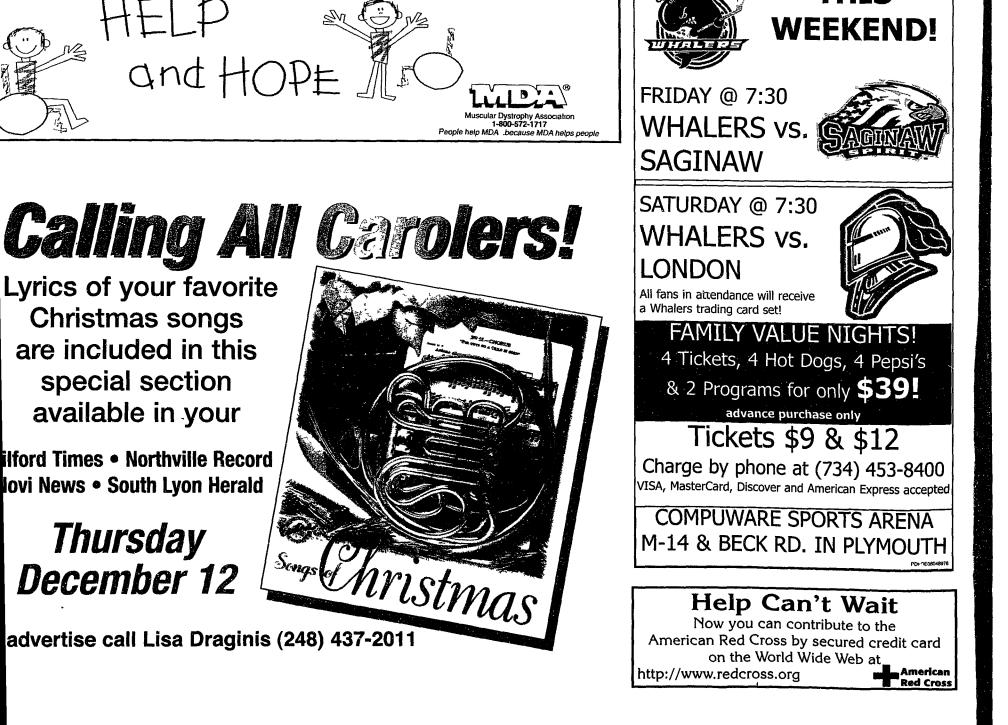
Sara Tyree	Senior	Westland John Glenn
Katie Harkness	Senior	Walled Lake Central
Tracy Taylor	Senior	Livonia Stevenson
Ellen Canale	Sophomore	Salem
Michelle White	Junior	Walled Lake Central
Alyssa Guerin	Sophomore	Salem

	HONORABLE MENTION	
Laura Lemasters	Senior	Northville

Photo by John Heider

ng Dominique Derisa, right, consoles teammate Nicole Cauzillo during their seading loss in the district playoffs last week to Canton High School.

THIS



More to Kheir than just team spirit Love for school, cheer and God has helped forge this athlete

By Tyler Carter SPECIAL WRITER

Alexis Kheir is a charismatic Northville senior that most Northville students are proud to know

She is involved in extracurricular activities and youth group as well as being a strong senior leader on the Northville High School cheerleading team.

Kheir has cheered on the varsity squad since sophomore year. Each year, the team has had a new coach, but this year's coach, Melanie Obrigkeit is getting great results, as well as connecting with the girls.

Having a coach who works at the school has been a convenient change this year," the senior said. "Mrs. Obrigkeit has gone above and beyond the demands of her coaching position. The time that she has sacrificed for our team is greatly appreciated."

Kheir began her illustrious cheerleading career as an 8th grader at Meads Mill. Since then, she has endured season after season of year-round conditioning. The cheerleading season begins with tryouts in the spring. The summer is spent practicing, followed by a camp. This year, the Northville team went to Michigan State University for camp. Out of all the varsity seniors attending the camp, Kheir was one of five who were selected to try out for Cheerleaders Universal (UCA) Association staff. Northville senior Sarah Proper also received this honor. Tryouts will be held at the University of Toledo on December 7, and if selected, Kheir will be given the opportunity to work next year at the



Alexis Kheir

same camps she has attended for the last few years.

After camp, the team is ready to cheer throughout the football season. Following the football season, preparation for regional

competition begins. The competition takes place on December 8th this year. Basketball season followed by the WLAA League competition accounts for the balance of the cheerleading season. The NHS squad looks to extend their streak of two consecutive WLAA titles this year. Anyone who thinks cheerleading 1s a cakewalk needs to think again.

Despite the rigorous schedule that cheerleading demands, Kheir ran on the varsity track team sophomore year. Junior year, she gave up track to take part in the school musical, and she plans to do the same in her senior year.

Kheir's family has been very supportive throughout her cheerleading career:

"They are very understanding of the time commitment that I have to give," Kheir said. "My

family tends to stay very busy, so it's always really exciting when they have a chance to come watch me cheer."

Kheir is a student leader this year in Young Life. She co-led a cabin of freshman for the recent Fall Weekend Young Life retreat.

"Young Life has had a huge impact on me throughout high school," she said. "It has helped me to never put God second in my life.'

Kheir is unsure whether or not she will pursue a collegiate cheerleading career. Her college search includes Michigan State University and Purdue (both of which she has been accepted to) along with University of California and University of Michigan. Although not yet decided on a major, Kheir looks forward to a possible career in law.

On her way to and from school, you find Kheir and her friend Katie Abbo "jamming" to Tim McGraw or the Dixie Chicks, two of their favorite country artists. Abbo and Kheir look forward to attending a Dixie Chicks concert together this spring.

Even with the demanding schedule of cheerleading, Kheir manages to be the well rounded senior that so many strive to be. Her mix of athletics, extracurriculars, and friends has made Kheir a popular friend at Northville High School. Her helpful and fun loving attitude will take her places in life.

Tyler Carter is an intern for the Northville Record and the Novi News. Comments can be directed to the sports department at (248) 349-1700, ext. 104.

Next Level Athletes

The Next Level Athletes portion of the sports section is dedicated to the men and women who have taken the next step in their athletic careers by participating in sports at the collegiate level and beyond.

It is here that we are able to applaud them for their efforts and for their abilities. Though they have left our communities and our schools, we are able to let them know that they are still in our thoughts by their placement in this section.

Nick Moroz, Freshman, College Albion Former Northville runner and first-year Briton harrier Nick Moroz has been making quite the impression on his collegiate teammates and foes. Most recently, he finished 48th place in the Ohio Northern Invitational October 19, finishing just three places off teammate Rick Straughen. Moroz finished course in 27:17. On the September 28, Moroz finished 36th in a time of 28:04 as he competed in the Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic

Association Jamboree.

Dan McKeown, Sophomore, Adrian College Dan McKeown earned himself Coaches' Honorable Mention Honors this season as a defensive back for the Adrian College Bulldogs. A former Walled Lake Central Vikings, McKeown has made his presence felt with the Bulldogs in numerous ways including his dedication and willingness to fight to the finish in every play, practice being no exception.

Icers get two huge wins

Sophomore skaters are blazing hot in early victories

By Kita Mason SPECIAL WRITER

The Northville Mustangs varsity hockey team started their season off in the right fashion as they followed the lead of a multitude of players to score 12 goals against two opponents.

The Mustangs, led by secondyear coach Jeff Bond, blasted Dewitt St. Johns 9-0 November 20 before blanking New Boston-Huron 3-0 just three days later.

Against Dewitt St. Johns, the Mustangs faithful watched as the young pups on the squad showed that you don't have to be a veteran varsity player to score goals. Sophomore Joe Vitale led the charge with a hat trick in the first period before fellow sophomore added a goal in the period as well to take a 4-0 lead.

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Not to be outdone, the Northville seniors capitalized on their chances to score too. Mike Marquardt scored on a powerplay with goalie Dave Ely-Bond getting the assist, before multi-sport athlete Kellen Smetana found the back of the net in the closing seconds of the second period for a 6-0 advantage with assists going to Kris Kojian and Rob Ward.

The third period of play opened up with junior Troy Engelland taking the puck off a pass from captain Jimmy Riehl and juking the goalie for the score (second assist to Max Lenn). McKinnon and Presley capped the scoring on the night with a goal each to seal the victory over Dewitt St. Johns 9-0.

Northville 3, New Boston 0 The Mustangs weren't slowing down any when they took on and

defeated the Chiefs of New Boston-Huron. Aaron Bernstein opened the scoring early in the first period as he picked up a pass from Marquardt and slapped a hard shot to the top shelf and over the New Boston goalie's right shoulder.

The second period found blazing sophomore Vitale putting a one-timer, set up by Andy Minielly, into the back of the net, before Minielly managed to score a goal of his own as he blasted home a cross-ice pass from Riehl.

Kita Mason is an intern for the Northville Record and the Novi News. Comments can be directed to the sports department at (248) 349-1700, ext. 104. Sports writer, Sam Eggleston, contributed to this story.

Family is important for Amanda LaRiche

By Roger Garfield

SPECIAL WRITER Churchull

Versatile senior Amanda LaRiche has always been a basketball player; this year, she decided to take on another challenge: hockey.

The Northville Mustangs girls' hockey team is not sponsored by the high school, so it is a club sport. The team, which is in its first year, has only one girl with hockey experience. Head coach Bill Holden has influenced the girls positively.

"He has been unbelievably encouraging," said LaRiche. "He makes it fun."

LaRiche, who is a good skater but has not played much hockey, thought joining the team

deadly outside shooter and posin itive team leader. LaRiche had loved and the state in the second state is a second state is a second state is a second state in the second state is a second state in the second state is a secon out in her mind.

"Senior night was awesome," she said. "I got a chance to show the coaches I could score." LaRiche scored 11 points on the night as the Mustangs beat

Livonia Franklin in a rout. LaRiche looked past the team's unsuccessful record this season and concentrated on the great friendships and memories.

"We had so much fun togeth-er," she said. "The girls kept me going. If we weren't as encouraging, it wouldn't have been as fun.

Next year, LaRiche may attend the University of Colorado, Arizona State

At home, LaRiche is very said.

Supporting LaRiche every step of the way have been herparents, Dawn and Scott. She also has two brothers. Steve, 20, graduated from Northville in 2000.

"We have a lot of the same interests, and we go to concerts together," LaRiche said.

Joey, 14, is a freshman. "Whenever I see him, he brightens my day."

In her free time, LaRiche enjoys playing the guitar, writing, and going to concerts.

'I love music," she said.

LaRiche's genuine and wellrounded personality makes her



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able, spontaneous, sincere

SWM, 45, 6', 185lbs , brown

hair and eyes, easygoing

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enjoy the outdoors, golf, hockey, motorcycles and more I'm seeking a SWF,

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good-looking SWF, 20-30,

who is romantic and fun to

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would be very enjoyable. "My older brother (Steve)

always played," said LaRiche, "and that made me want to get into it."

LaRiche plays defense for the Mustangs, who have won two and lost three so far this season. "I hope it will eventually become a varsity team,

LaRiche stated. "There are a lot of younger girls on the team." Basketball is LaRiche's other

sport. As a two-vear varsity player, she contributed as a

University, or Boston College. Colorado is her number one choice. She described the scene there as "relaxed, welcoming, and beautiful."

LaRiche is unsure of what she would like to study, but she knows she enjoys helping people. She is currently working at Cooke School with students that have communication disorders. She helps teach them sign language and vocabulary. Business Internship, a class at Northville, makes the job possible to her.

an extremely likable girl. She is sure to succeed in life, regardless of the path she chooses. Expect her to go on to great things next year at college as well as to help the hockey team fare well in their opening season

Roger Garfield is an intern for the Northville Record and the Novi News. Comments can be directed to the sports department at (248) 349-1700, ext. 104.

Team banquet marks the end for Mustang soccer seniors

The Northville High School boys' soccer banquet, held on November 12, marked the end of the 2002 season. Sixty players and their families honored the Varsity, Junior Varsity, and Freshman teams along with their coaches Matt Gold, Mike Presley, Andy Cosenza and Henry Klimes.

Varsity head coach Henry Klimes, praised all the teams for a successful season. Of his 20 varsity players, 11 of them are graduating. The varsity team had a winning season record of 12-4-3, including a division litle for the first time in over 14 years. The team continued playing until a 1-0 loss to Stevenson in the District Championship Finals.

At the banquet various awards were given. Awards presented to the Varsity players by Coach Klimes included the senior scholar athlete award for maintaining a minimum 3.5 grade point average throughout their high school careers. There awards were earned by: Avis Dorsey, Justin Ferriman, Alex Richard, Patrick Kelleher, Andy Fielhauser, Michael Hagedorn, Alfonso Acevedo, and ben Sherman. Sophomore James Hannah earned most valuable forward award. Senior captain Patrick Kelleher collected the most valuable midfielder and the MVP awards. The most improved player award went to Avis Dorsey. Senior captain Nick Schoendorf and Rob Czarniecki were named co-most valuable defender. The players voted most spirited were senior captain Justin Ferriman and Alex Richard. Justin Ferriman also received the Academic award for the highest GPA and Justin and Andy Fielhauser were co-recipients of the Coach's trophy. Varsity captains Pat, Justin and Nick, also received their captain plaques. entire varsity squad The received certificates and patches for winning the division title.

Mike Presley, the JV coach, acknowledged the outstanding JV season that concluded with an overall record of 10-1-4. The JV team outscored their oppo-

nents by netting 54 goals and only allowing 6 goals. In their 15 games they recorded 11 shutouts. Awards given for the most valuable player went to co-winners Scott Hammerle and Captain Andrew Wendland. The coach's trophy was presented to Ryan Cameron. Captains Matt Melonio, Andrew Wendland and brad Lempke 'also collected their captain's plaques.

In only their second season, Freshman coach Matt Gold and the team posted an impressive winning season with an overall record of 6-4-1. Highlighting their season were victories over cross town rivals Plymouth and Canton. Award recipients for the freshman team included comost valuable forwards Hiroki Morioka and Justin Lockwood. The most improved player award went to Clay Paciorek. Vinnie Ciampa received the valuable defender award and Ben Hawksford took home the coach's trophy.

The banquet ended with a video tribute to the departing seniors.

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Thanksgiving is one of the biggest games in town

When it comes down to what is the game of the week this week. I have to say it's definitely --Thanksgiving.

To me, eating might as well be a sport, and I might even have a chance at the

state title, which would be my first ever. Heck, I would just be happy with a conference or maybe even a district title. When it

comes time to Sam sit down and Eggleston inhale the love-

ly aroma of turkey, mashed taters, carrots, deviled eggs, hammy rollups, cranberry sauce and all the other delicious fixings, I'm in the mind set for victory. Don't worry, I do all the pre-contest stretches and stuff before I dive in too. You see, Thanksgiving dinner at my house can almost be compared to a track meet.

There are so many different events; you just have to concentrate on the ones you are really good at. For me, it's definitely the white-meat rush and the hammy roll-up dash. For my dad, Mark, who happens to be my biggest white meat competition, it's more along the lines of the pickle throw (down his throat) and the green olive grab.

You have to be fast in this household. If you're not, you end up skinny and looking like barebones like my little sister, Jennifer (who's packing on the pounds now thanks to the future John Marc Edward that is due in April). My wife, Christie, fares well in the grab and munch, as she manages to get her fair share of prizes in the carrot chomp and the mashed potato pile-on. There have been more times than once that my wife, who weighs in at 120 pounds and stands 5-foot-2, has out-eaten me at my own game.

Not all my family is in the rush for the gold pumpkin pie victory dessert though. My mom, though. She settles with a few bits , a movie or even the Detroit 401and pieces of this and that and is satisfied, but me - I have to have the good stuff.

This year, I have my grandmas, Shirley Werstein and Winefred Eggleston, to contend with as well as my Uncle Scott Dawson. That just ups the stakes I guess. And let's not forget my daughter, Shaylyn, has seven teeth now and

starting to practice in the art of keeping up with her daddy at the dinner table.

I guess when all is said and done, it really doesn't matter what place I take in all the good eating that goes on during Thanksgiving.



This year, I'm making the eighthour trek to the Upper Peninsula, as I did last year, to be with my family. More important than any amount of turkey I managed to eat during the meal, I get to be close to those I love. When I sit back and look at all the things I have and that I am grateful for, my family ranks as number one.

I'm lucky, because I know there are a lot of you out there that won't get to spend time with your moms and dads or your sisters and brothers. Others won't have their wives or husbands or even their children nearby during this day, but I will. Just remember to be thankful for the time that you get to spend with them throughout the rest of the year and those other holidays that may not find them so far away or at work. I hope your Thanksgiving is going to be as good as mine, and I hope you have plenty to eat and plenty of love to keep you warm on what seems to be promising to be a chilly and maybe even snowy night.

When the eating is done (my parents eat around 2 p.m. on holidays), I hope that most of you sit back and maybe play a game or Suzette, is bradifferent breedun - 'n two or gather together and watch Lions. Myself, well, I have a strange Thanksgiving tradition. You see, when we're done eating at my parent's house, we have about two hours before we have to jump in the car and drive for an hour to the home of my wife's parents to celebrate Thanksgiving with her family and friends. And thus, like all true competitors, my thirst for victory never ends and I'll be ready to go yet another round.

My prediction? Me winning all the events!

Happy Thanksgiving Novi, Northville and Walled Lake.

Wildcats fall in title contest

But get the best of Salem two days before

By Sam Eggleston SPORTS WRITER

Though the Novi Wildcats basketball team couldn't bring home the district title, they sure made a good run at it.

Falling to an incredibly tough Canton defense, the Wildcats put up as much of fight as they could manage with a 60-29 loss against the Chiefs. Though that was a tough loss for the 'Cats to take, their top-notch performance the game prior was what let them take a shot at the title anyway.

The Wildcats were able to shut down a very strong Salem squad in overtime November 20 as they looked to the leadership of Laura Longo and Jessica Haggerty to help them in their victory.

'I thought both Laura and Jessica had great nights," Novi coach Dennis Cichonski said. "They really came through for us when they had to. Laura managed to stay out of four trouble in the last half of the game. Jessica really came through shooting her free throws in overtime."

Haggerty wished her mom, Judy, a happy birthday in style that night, sinking 7-of-10 in the overtime period to give the Wildcats a 41-32 victo-

"I can't take any of the credit for myself," Haggerty said. "We wouldn't have won tonight if it hadn't been a team effort. I thought as a team we played really well and came back with strong defense in overtime."

The Wildcats had quite the advantage heading into the half, leading the Rocks 20-7 heading into the locker rooms. Salem wouldn't be denied though and managed to the the game up at 29-29 to force the overtime.

They came out a lot stronger than we were expecting in the second half," Longo said. "We relaxed when we shouldn't have and it took us the entire second half to get our defense going again."

Longo, who was key all through the night, found herself with four fouls in the game.

"I learned my lesson this year," she usaid of not fouling out. I played the smart and made sure not to foul. It's no fun when you're watching the game from the bench because of fouls

Haggerty led her squad in scoring,

this thanksgiving, experience the family movie event that's being called: Star Wars' meets 'Treasure Island'

"A rare and amazing film

that both illuminates and improves a classic."

lim Sveida, KNX/CBS RADIO

stunning animation." Paul Climon, CNN

"A truly wonderful tale combined

gathering 17 points on the night as she started at point guard and pretty much played through the entire game

"My confidence in my shooting is up," she said. "It was something we worked on all summer with all of the coaches. I'm really happy that we were able to pick up our game when we had to."

Longo was key inside, drawing much of the defense to her in the second half and the overtime after scoring eight points quickly in the first half.

"We all had a good night," she said. "We only were able to do this because of the team effort."

Against Canton, the team effort was a bit stifled though. Canton's defense smothered the Wildcats, limiting them to 5-of-20 floor shooting in the first half (25 percent) and 4-of-33 in the second (12 percent).

Canton was hot from the floor though, hitting 14-of-27 from the floor in the first half (51.9 percent),

"Canton is a very talented team," Cichonski said. "They have everything it takes to be a championship caliber program. Their defense was very tough to beat, and we weren't able to put together the game that we were hoping to."

Canton went into the game looking to shut down three specific play-- Alison Greulich, Angie Schmitt and Longo. Of the three, only Greulich supplied any offense as she put in 16 points. Other than her performance, no Novi cager notched more than three in the game.

"I thought we played solid today," Canton coach Bob Blohm said. "Our defense was solid, our rebounding was solid."

Canton never trailed in the contest as they went on to beat the 'Cats for the District title.

"We were hoping to stay close," said Cichonski. "We felt if we could keep it less than a double-digit deficit, we could be within range.

"We had a few good-looking shots Some didn't fall, and we got called on some violations. We couldn't get anything going."

الأرب أدرائه أ AULE, SIGHT Sam Eggleston is the sports writer for the Northville Record. He can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext 104 or at seggleston@ht.homecomm.net.

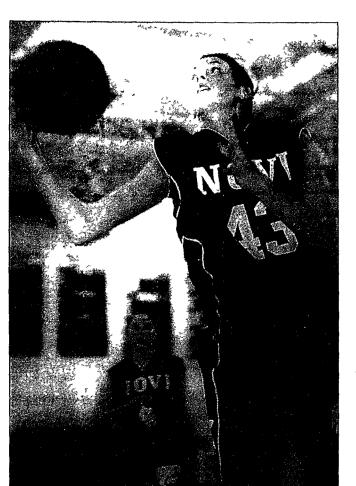


Photo by John Heider

Novi's Laura Longo tries to gather in a rebound during Novi's district playoff game last Wednesday night at Plymouth Salem High School.







Watza is the definition of dedicated player

By Sam Eggleston SPORTS WRITER

Northville senior Matt Watza, quite simply put, is the embodiment of Northville football.

A top-shelf player that found himself adjusting to a role he wasn't quite used to nor expecting as he entered his senior season. Watza still played the game to the best of his ability and to his fullest potential. The thing that is very intriguing about a player like Watza is although his love of the game runs deep into his body and spirit, it's come often with hardship and tough decisions.

In his junior year, one of Watza's biggest fans, his grandfather, died. Always present at his games and always there to push Watza to play his best, his grandfather's funeral fell on the day of a football game.

'I sat down and talked it over with my dad (Mike)," Watza said. "We both decided that there was no doubt about where my grandfather would want me to be. So, I went and I played football. I could feel him there and I knew from that moment on, he would always be with me."

This year, even more problems

arose. Getting prepped to play a very strong Plymouth Salem squad, Watza was informed that his girlfriend, Ashley Morris, was brought to the Children's Hospital in fear she may have cancer.

"Thankfully, she didn't," Watza said. "It was pretty scary and it was tough to go out there and play."

But he did, and with the blessing of Morris. By the end of the season, that wasn't the only thing working against Watza's football season. During a drill in practice, he found himself catching a football and coming down hard and as he hit the ground he felt pain in his shoulder.

We went to the doctors and they told me that I could either take the pain and finish the season or have it scoped out and not play," Watza said. "I chose to play."

And if that weren't enough, he damaged the other shoulder in much of the same fashion just days later in a game — making it a tough year to be the second-leading tackler on the football team and with two blownout shoulders.

'It was tough, but I never want to take a play off," he said.

With hope in his heart, Watza has put together a couple of his game tapes for coaches at the collegiate level to view. Right now, he has talked to both the Albion and Hope College coaches and hopes to speak with the Grand Valley University coaches as well.

"I would love to play college football," Watza said. "It will matter if my shoulders are up to it or not. If they aren't, I might take a year off (from sports) and work at getting them back to the right condition."

Watza's goals at this point are to become a teacher and to one day pass on all of the things he has learned through football to other young men as a coach.

"Football taught me how to carry myself and how to be a man," he said. "I would love to pass that on some day. It's through football that you can learn to face tough situations and come through them just fine.'

Just like this season. Watza, being an All-Conference runner last year as well as and All-Area selection, found himself playing a completely different role in 2002 with the new program brought in by first-year coach Clint Alexander. Instead of pounding the ball between the tackles as the Mustangs have done in

years past, Alexander's program opened up the passing game and brought a more modern approach to the game to the Mustangs - that Watza's complaining. - not

This program is going to win a lot of games once everyone has learned it," he said. "It's tough to figure out in a year, but once it catches on it will do fine."

With his speed and strength, any college would be lucky to have a dedicated player like Watza on their roster --- it just comes down to the shoulders at this point.

"I'm going to the orthopedic surgeon to have them checked out," Watza said. "We'll know a lot more from there and be able to make plans for the future."

Watza isn't all football though. Like every student, he has a personal life --- one that has a lot to do with Morris.

"It's her birthday on Thanksgiving," he said. "I won't be there because I'll be out of town, but I would like to wish her a happy birthday."

Well then - happy birthday Ashley Morris, from Watza and all of us here at HomeTown Newspapers.



Matt Watza

Ryan Ramsay leads Whalers to victory

Ryan Ramsay continued his hot play, and that has been instrumental in fueling the Plymouth Whalers, who collected their fourth-straight victory November 22, defeating Sault Ste. Marie 5-4 in an Ontario Hockey League game at Plymouth's Compuware Arena.

Ramsay scored the Whalers' first two goals in the game and added a third to complete the hat trick near the end of the second period. He also had an assist in the game.

Ramsay has six goals in Plymouth's four-game win streak, which has pushed their record to 15-6-2-1 overall, second in the OHL's West the opening period, both came on the power play. James Wisniewski (from Canton) assisted on both, with Cole Jarrett and Karl Stewart also



getting assists

The Greyhounds battled back to knot it at 2-all in the second period on goals by Bill Krelove and Jeff Doyle before the Whalers again asserted themselves. Chad LaRose recaptured the lead for Division Plymouth, scoring with 4:35 The second (assisted by the second (assisted by the second sec Mike Letizia); Ramsay scored shorthanded with :52 left in the period (from Jarrett) to make it

Stewart's third-period,

power-play goal increased the Whaler lead to 5-2 (from Ramsay and Jarrett). A late flurry by the Greyhounds, with goals coming from Trevor Daley and Brad Staubitz, narrowed the gap but couldn't change the outcome.

Paul Drew made 21 saves in goal for the Whalers. Adam Junro had 20 stops for Sault Ste. Marie.

November 21 found Drew turning away 24 shots to lead the Whalers to a 5-0 shutout of the Saginaw Spirit in Saginaw. Wisniewski, a defenseman,

was offensive-oriented in this game, getting a goal and two assists. Ramsay contributed a goal and an assist, with John Vigilante, Stewart and Jonas Fiedlier scoring goals? Singe in

LaRose and Jarrett each picked up two assists for the Whalers, who led 2-0 after two periods. Tyson Kellerman had 23 saves in goal for the Spirit.

Fall sports were just amazing this year



Sam Eggleston

Wow, what a fall sports season this was. The Northville Mustangs and the Novi Wildcats sure made this year and interesting one right out of the gates as they showed us! " fast-paced offenses, stifling defenses, key putts on the green and surprising runs in the

playoffs. As a collective group, I have to say that this was the best sports season I've ever had the chance to cover from start to finish. The Novi football team brought me nearly as far as I've ever been as a reporter as they blasted one team after another on their way to the first district championship in 14 years. The Northville Mustangs football team has shown me that this level of football can be just as fast paced as the big boys as

And what of tennis? Both squads not only have great seasons this year by winning their leagues and beating some of their oldest foes, but both managed to scrape their way out of the two toughest regional in the state of Michigan and make some noise at the state competitions. Wow. Though another crew that will be losing some great seniors, they always seem to bounce right back with a solid core of talent returning every year.

Let's not forget the soccer teams. Yeah, both the 'Cats and the 'Stangs fell in their district tournaments, but both made one heck of a run through the regular season. Led by some of outhe most talented players and a

their respective conferences, 5 both the Northville and Novi soccer squads have a lot of be proud of from this season. The never let a loss bring them down and they never let wins get to their heads. Simply put, these two squads are what other teams should strive to be.

Cross country was just amaz-ing this year. The Northville girls and boys had strong season with the boys even pounding out a conference victory under the guidance of Christopher Cronin. The girls, on the other hand, just showed that though they didn't win the title this year, they are probably the favorites for it already for next year. The Wildcats girls had a tough year with injuries hampering them, but it never stopped them from running their collective heart out. The boys, on the other hand, followed the lead of some surprising youngsters and pounded out a third-place finish in the state of Michigan. Both girls swim teams had good runs this year as well, qualifying a fine amount of girls for the states. The Novi Wildcats had the strong beat of Amanda Smith to follow this year as she managed to lead

them through a season without a single home meet and even placed in the state finals. The Mustangs followed Erin Schubert, Jenny Carr, Shannon, .; Hogan and Sarah Carr to anothan er top-10 finish in the state with the two relay teams comprised of these four girls placing as well as Hogan taking a first in the 50 free and placing in the 100 free.

The Northville Mustangs had a tough year in golf this season, but they managed to make some noise and show that though they didn't get out of their regional, that isn't a reason not to have fun in a sporting season. A good example to follow, the Mustangs never Agave upinoimatter. wholthe المعالية والمعالية المعالية الم

Now, who could I be forgetting? Just kidding - it's hard to forget a team like the Novi Wildcats golf team. State champions all the way, Jack Tyler and Brandon Cigna combined as a one-two punch all year long as they led their team to the top of the mountain to claim their crown. This was the first state-championship I've had as a reporter in Michigan, and I have to say congrats to the victors and all they accomplished. To tell you the truth, they look to be a tough team come next year as well.

Thanks a ton to all of these

668-0166 or online at www.eteamz.com/totalbaseball.

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All-Star Catchers Camp

Total Baseball will be holding its annual baseball catchers camp, Dec. 7 at Total Baseball in Wixom. This specialized camp will teach baseball catchers the proper mechanics of blocking baseballs, throwing out runners, framing pitches an more. This camp is great for all levels an will be led in instruction by state championship catching coach Dale Rumberger. Spaces will be limited.

Times for camps are: 7-13 years old, 9 .m.-12 p.m.; 14-18 years old, 1-4 p.m. The cost of the camp is \$75 per player. For more information or to register, contact Total Baseball at (248) 668-0166 or online at www.eteamz.com/totalbaseball.

Winter Baseball Leagues

Total Baseball will run its first winter indoor/dome baseball leagues starting January 5-February 23, 2003. Actual live games will be played with official umpires and full-length field all played on Total Baseball's turf field, domed full soccer field and indoor facility.

This eight game season will give trophies to league champions. Spots are limited.

Age divisions include: 10 & under and 12 & Under. Games will be held on Sundays from 4-7 p.m. The cost of joining is \$145 per individual or \$1200 per team (eight teams max). There will also be a division for High School Baseball, which will have the games being held on Saturdays from 8-11 p.m. The cost for that division is \$170 per person or \$1920 per team (six teams max).

For more information or to register, contact Total Baseball at (248)

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1 ne Recreation Department will begin accepting player registrations for it's Youth Winter Basketball leagues Nov. 4-29, or until the leagues are full (after Nov. 29, a \$10 late fee will be charged).

The age groups for girls are 6th-8th grades and 9th-12th grades. The boys' groups consist of 8th-9th grades and 10th-12th grades. The leagues will play a 10 game schedule, primarily on Saturdays beginning January 18, 2003.

Teams will practice two nights each week, beginning January 6. The coaches meeting for all teams will be held Dec. 18.

Adult coaches are needed for our youth basketball program. Your child will play for free if you volunteer to be a head coach. If interest-

lessons and training

Total Baseball will help players, ages 6-18, improve their game. include Oakland Instructors University coaching staff, Big 10/MAC All-Conference softball/baseball players, the Toledo Mudhens manager, former professional players and college/high school coaches.

Pitching, hitting and fielding are the lessons available and are by appointment only. The fees for the lessons start at \$35 per half hour or five private lessons for \$160.

For more information, call (248) 668-0166 or e-mail totalbballwixom@aol.com, or check out the Web site at www.eteamz.com/totalbaseball for more info

they started to build what looks to be a promising offensive scheme under the guidance of Clint Alexander.

The basketball teams made great runs too. A tough Canton squad managed to end both of their seasons, but neither team is the lesser squad for it. Yeah, both teams had their ups and downs and both squads will be losing some very key players that have been with their programs for some time now, but the future looks so bright for these teams that a District Championship could be in the very near future.

teams and all that they managed to accomplish this season. It was my best yet as a writer around here, but I'm sure both the winter and spring teams will be looking to make this year even better. Go Mustangs and go Wildcats!

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Sam Eggleston is the sports writer for the Northville Record and the Novi News. He can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 104 or at seggleston@ht.homecomm.ne



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ENTERTAINMENT

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Something to be thankful for

Newest Bond flick a refreshing addition to dry movie selection

By Sam Eggleston ENTERTAINMENT WRITER

The things that amazes me about the James Bond series is the way it has withstood the test of time. In a day and age where a computer only stands up on the market for about six months, Bond has been a staple in our movie watching since before I was born.

In fact, Bond was part of a booming movie franchise when John F Kennedy was president, when George Lucas was still in high school and "Star Trek" was only a twinkle in the late, great Gene Roddenberry's eye.

The Bond series has weaththe Bond series has recall ered through five major starts, the filming of all the original lan Fleming novels. Vietnam, the end of the Cold War and now September 11. Not only does it blow away all other movies in the case of longevity. it has also given us the most influential formula and aesthetic in curema fastory. The Bond series struggy wrote the book on the contemporary action block-buster. Morrey ice Die Hard. Mission Impossible, and XXX look up to Bond and cell him daddy. And ever more erraning is the way that after 20 Bend movies and 4: years of onscreen action. It will comes off as smooth as butter

Die Another Pay to the first to kick off the fifth decade of Bond domination, and also the first movie in the series to cost over \$100 million to make. Oh yeah — and this Bond girl. which is normally a flake role. is an Oscar-winning actress in the form of Halle Berry as Jinx

When all is said and done, who cares about the plot? A familiar melee with Bond in continent-hopping conflict with a fantastically well-heeled villain out to conquer the world. Something about diamonds and DNA-identity-changing

device and a death-ray satellite are also mixed in there, but who

Like all Bond movies, this one has a flair for the action and the auick-witted humor that viewers have come to love about the British secret agent. This time, his adventures brings him in contact with (gasp!), an **Oscar-winning Bond** girl in Halle Berry.

cares? It's James Bond. I never had the beauty of growing up with Sean Connery as James Bond --- only in reruns - so I have come to love Pierce Brosnan in the role. Yeah, some would say he's too stiff for the character, but he's British, right?

The action is great, the chase scenes are marvelous and the locations are wonderful. And the gadgets? An invisible Aston Martin, a glass-shattering sonic ring. an arsenal of laser weapons - need I say more?

With John Cleese as the new "Q." Judi Dench better than ever as a dowager "M," several evocative London settings and a dandy duel in a Mayfair fencing club, Bond 20 also marks the return of an element that's been sorely lacking from the series for years: its essential Britishness. That's what has made Bond in the past, and that's what will keep in rolling probably far longer than I am wandering about on this planet.



Pierce Brosnan is back again as James Bond in the 20th film of the longest-ever series. There is no drop-off in the quick wit Bond provides, nor his sexual innuendos.

Though probably not the greatest Bond movie ever in the way of writing and such, it's a wonderfully respectful movie that looks to its own past for please. And for those who have

guidance as it builds a future for generations to come. . If you've been a fan of Bond in the past, this movie is sure to

never watched Bond in action? Where you been? Hiding on the moon?

Sam Eggleston is the enter- ston@ht.homecomm.net.

tainment writer for the Northville Record and the Novi News. He can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 104 or at seggle-

Courtesy Photo

B-6

Thursday, November 28, 2002

Rebels without a Claus



By Sam Eggleston ENTERTAINMENT WRITER

Looking back, old-school style, some might remember Run DMC busting a rhyme with "Christmas in Hollis," (1987) that gave us Christmas in the hood — "It's

get by. He lives with his cousin Day-Day (Mike Epps), who is back from the second film Next Friday, in the projects. Early morning on the Eve of Christmas, a burglar dressed as Santa Claus breaks into their apartment and steals the rent money, which is unfortunate for **Screen Beat**

By Brian Renner THE MOVIE INSIDER

Coming to theaters this weekend is the animated holiday comedy "Adam Sandler's Eight Crazy Nights." Davey Stone, a 33-year old party animal, finds himself in trouble with the law The judge gives Davey one last chance at redemption-spend

sky diving, white water rafting, helicopters, motorcycles, and base jumping. "Extreme Ops" is a Paramount Pictures release and rated PG-13 for violence/peril, language and some nudity.

Engrossing, offbeat drama "Ararat" tackles issues of identity, history, and denial as a film-within-

Ice Cube is back in another Friday movie — which is surprisingly energetic and still manages to make you laugh.

Christmas time in Hollis, Queens; Mom's cooking chicken and collard greens."

Fifteen years later. writer/actor/rapper Ice Cube brings us yet another Christmas set in the hood Friday After Next is the third film in Ice Cube's laid-back "Friday" series that reminds some viewers in many ways of the cherished National Lampoon series. This film will probably follow suit, and become a holiday favorite just as Chevy Chase and his family has become a staple of our holiday television watching.

This movie has a way of mixing moments of feel-good Christmas cheer with the fact that real life often doesn't bother to take the holidays off. It opens with a well-done animated title sequence that could remind some viewers of an oldfashioned Christmas cartoon - if that particular cartoon were rather dark and twisted.

Ice Cube is back as Craig Jones, a regular guy that is just trying to them. More unfortunately is that they are already behind paying the rent and a muscle-bound son of the landlady is recently freed from the prison system. If Jones and Day-Day don't come up with the dough by the end of the day, they will get kicked-out as well as just plain kicked.

Well, that forces them to land iobs and, a funny twist of events; they end up working as unarmed security guards for an outdoor strip mall. Their employment lands them guarding establishments such as a disgusting donut shop and the barbecue nb joint owned by Jones' (played John father bv Witherspoon) and Day-Day's father (Don Curry).

Though lacking compared to 1995's original Friday movie, it earns a wealth of respect with the Christmas theme. Writer Ice Cube and director Marcus Raboy manage to get the right mix of Christmas iov and real life and the result is as tasty as eggnog (if you like eggnog).

the holiday performing community service as the assistant referee for the youth basketball league or go to jail. Davey thinks he's gotten off easy until he meets Whitey Duvall, the unusual, elf-like head referee. Adam Sandler voices the three lead characters in the film, Whitey, Davey, and Whitey's fraternal twin sister Eleanore. It is a Sony Pictures release and rated PG-13 for frequent crude and sexual humor, drinking

and brief drug references. Spooky futuristic thriller "Solaris," centers on psychologist Chris Kelvin (George Clooney) who is dispatched to investigate unexplained behavior of key scientists on a space station orbiting the planet Solaris. Once aboard, he too falls victim to the unique world's mysteries, as well as an erotic obsession someone (Natascha with McElhone) he though he had left behind. "Solaris" is a 20th Century Fox release and rated PG-13 for sexuality/nudity, brief language and thematic elements.

Disney's latest animated adventure "Treasure Planet" reinvents the classic novel by Robert Louis Stevenson into outer space with some new sassy cartoon sidekicks. The legendary "loot of a thousand worlds" inspires an intergalactic treasure hunt when fifteen-year-old Jim Hawkins stumbles upon a map to the greatest pirate cove in the universe.""Treasure Planet" is a Walt Disney Pictures release and rated PG for action and peril.

Extreme sports take on a new meaning in "Extreme Ops," when a film crew travels to a mountain top in Europe to film three extreme sports enthusiasts as they outrun an avalanche for a digital video camera commercial. What they don't know, however, is that they're filming near the secret hideout of Slobodan Pavle, a Serbian war criminal. Accidentally catching him on film, they become locked in a life-ordeath chase through the mountains that includes skiing, snowboarding, the-film portraying the WWI-era genocide of Armenians by Ottoman Turks, while in modern-day Toronto the ancestors still wrestle with the event's legacy. "Ararat" is a Miramax release and rated R for violence and nudity.

Next week

"Analyze That" (R) and "Equilibrium" (R).

Video and DVD

The energetic, computer-ani-mated "Ice Age" (PG), comedy 'Juwanna Mann" (PG-13), dysfunctional comedy "Lovely and Amazing" (R), sci-fi action-comedy sequel "Men in Black II" (PG-13) and prison and boxing drama "Undisputed" (R).

DVD

"Audrey Hepburn Collection" (3-DVD Set) (NR), "The Billy Wilder Collection" (3-DVD Set) (NR), "Boxer Shorts" (NR), 'Contempt'' (Criterion) (2-DVD Set) (NR), "Doomed Megalopolis: The Haunting of Tokyo" (NR), "Everything Relative" (Director's Cut) (NR), "Fast Food, Fast Women" (R), "Hello Kitty's Paradise: The Series" (NR), "Hiroshima: Why the Bomb Was Dropped" (NR), "A History of Britain: The Complete Complete Collection" (5-DVD) (NR), "Ice Age" (Special Edition) (2-DVD Set) (PG), "Men in Black II" (Full Frame Special Edition) (Widescreen Special Edition) (2-DVD Set), "MTV Soga" (NR), "Paul McCartney: Back in the U.S." (NR), "Sailor Moon Vol. 11: The Ties That Bind" (NR), "The Saint: Set 7" (2-DVD Set) (NR), "The and "Solaris" (1972) (Criterion) (2-DVD Set) (NR).

For more information, please log on to The Movie Insider at www.themovieinsider.com. Please direct any questions, comments, and/or feedback to brian@themovieinsider.com.

Get over here! Mortal Kombat is back!

By Sam Eggleston ENTERTAINMENT WRITER

The blood and gore is back, though with a lot less complaining from the general public this time Mortal Kombat: Deadly Alliance was recently released for the Playstation 2 and other game systems in hopes of rejuvenating a once prosperous market.

The newest addition to a series that seemed to drop off after Mortal Kombat 3, Deadly Alliance brings back some old faces and some new ones as well, all combined with a game play that is familiar and comfortable to learn.

Everybody's favorite character, Scorpion, is back for another chance to avenge the death of his

family, as well as Johnny Cage, Sonya Blade, Kano and Shang Tsung New faces, as fai as can be told, include Quan Chi, Nitara (a vampire) and a ninja woman named Frost - trained in the cold arts by none other than Sub Zero. Though there are a host of other villains and heroes in this new addition

The story follows the same tale as all the previous installments, with the forces of evil hoping to take over this plane of existence by beating our champions in Mortal Kombat. The first step in that undertaking is the murder of our greatest hero, Liu Kang. Well, that's when good-old Raiden steps down from his position as elder god to lead our forces in Mortal

Kombat in hopes of stopping the overtaking of this realm. That's where you come in. Taking control of your favorite character, you can start out by jumping right into the action via Arcade or Versus mode, or you can hone your skills in the practice rounds. A great addition to this edition of the Kombat games is the Konquest level. Here, you can learn the importance of using both martial arts styles that your fighter employs as well as the use of their deadly weapon. Unlike other games in this series, this Konquest that you undertake eventually even shows you how to use the special attacks like Scorpions spear or Sub Zero's freezing attack. The one thing they don't reveal is your fighter's fatality move, which they suggest you experiment to find.

This game really doesn't bring anything new to the fighting-game genre, but Mortal Kombat: Deadly Alliance manages to bring back a little bit of faith in the game series.

Though not the greatest idea for little Johnny's stocking stuffer, Mortal Kombat: Dark Alliance is a great gift for that fighting video game fan in your life as well as those who grew up with Mortal Kombat being their first major fighting game since Street Fighter.

Sam Eggleston is the entertainment writer for the Northville Record and the Novi News. He can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 104 or at seggleston@ht.homecomm.net.



Summer humidity pools into wintertime woes

By Gene Gary COPLEY NEWS SERVICE

O. I read with interest your column dealing with moisture problems in the bathroom. We need help in combating excessive moisture that is evident during winter throughout the house

It is especially a problem on windows where the water collects and runs down. It can actually pool on the floors beneath. What causes this and is there a reasonable, inexpensive way to correct this condition?

A. Your problem is one that we have addressed before. Since we receive frequent inquiries about condensation, I am happy to repeat the information.

In many climate zones, summer weather is humid and hot and moisture builds up in our homes --- penetrating wood, drywall and concrete. Outdoor humidity drops and moisture begins to dissipate when the first cold days of fall arrive.

Windows are the first place to show condensation that forms when warm, humid air trapped inside meets a cold surface. Windows are usually the coldest part of our homes, having the least insulating value. Consequently, water condenses on windows.

Insulated windows may help, but they don't cure the problem. As we progress from fall into winter, the moisture that has penetrated your home during the summer usually dries out and less condensation is apparent. Overnight condensation is nor-

mal. It forms at night when outside temperatures drop.

Because outside temperatures cool the window glass, your windows will appear foggy or damp in the morning. However, with the return of daylight hours, warming outside. increased interior heating, and added circulation, condensation typically evaporates.

Condensation is harmless when it evaporates. But when it fails to evaporate, condensation is a sign of trouble.

Persistent levels of moisture can damage your home structurally, resulting in dry rot, paint problems and mold and mildew growth. If you have a continual problem with excess condensation on your windows, you are likely to have problems hidden inside your walls and attic, too.

Newer homes are more prone to condensation problems. With efforts to make homes more energy-efficient, we have created interior environments that are too tight and lacking in significant air leaks. There just isn't enough infiltrating air to flush out moisture. The rate of escaping warm interior air is greatly reduced, causing condensation on cooler wood sheathing, framing, attic interiors, etc.

When warm weather arrives, the moisture-laden interior is a breeding ground for fungus. Older homes with air leakage -- cooler air entering that is less humid and warm; humid indoor air flowing out aren't damaged as much. When indoor air flows out, creating an overall warming to interior structural parts, less condensation collects and fungus-nurturing moisture evaporates faster.

Basically, the solution to controlling condensation is to reduce and control indoor humidity. Showering, cooking, laundry, indoor plants, pets, an aquarium, and human population are humidity-producing factors. A back-drafting furnace or water heater is a problem.

Gas- and oil-fired appliances release water vapor. A high level of condensation on these appliances might indicate that they are not vented properly and should be checked.

Many furnaces have a central humidifier designed to keep interior air from getting too dry. Humidifiers can be out of adjust-

ment, releasing too much moisture. Damp basements and crawl spaces are another source of unwanted moisture. Make sure that rain runoff is led away from the foundation. Make sure concrete

basement walls and floors are treat-

ed with a masonry sealer and that crawl spaces are covered with 6-mil plastic.

Limit the number of indoor plants.

Your bathroom, whirlpools, saunas and hot tubs need adequate fans to vent damp air outside. Clothes dryers and combustible device should also vent outdoors.

Staggering activities that produce moisture can help, i.e. no simultaneous showering, cooking or laundry tasks. Often, the solution can be as simple opening a window for five to 10 minutes to air out the house when condensation builds up.

Ceiling fans operating on reverse cycle are helpful in keeping warm air from collecting near the ceiling and circulating down past walls and windows. If excess condensation remains after reducing moisture sources, you will need to install venting fans to force moist air out or use a dehumidifier.

More expensive retrofits to combat the problem would be window replacement with tight-fitting storm windows, insulated windows with two panes, or even a third pane (triple glazing).

With forced-air heat you can use automatic methods. A heating professional can hook up a humidistat (a device that measures relative humidity) to a fresh air vent coupled to your furnace ductwork.

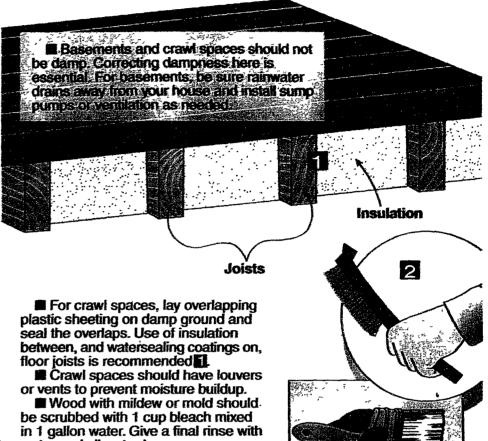
The humidistat opens the vent when humidity rises too high. Or, a ventilating fan automatically switches on, so you don't have to monitor humidity yourself. If your home is relatively new, be aware that new construction contains more moisture in the building materials concrete, wood, paint — that dries out over a year or two.

The bottom line: Control of excess condensation is necessary to protect your home.

Send e-mail to copleysd@copleynews.com or write to Here's How, Copley News Service, P.O. Box 120190, San Diego, CA 92112-0190. Only questions of general interest can be answered in the column.

Reducing interior moisture

Bad air circulation or excessive crawl space moisture can make any room, especially a bathroom, mildewprone and a candidate for structural damage.



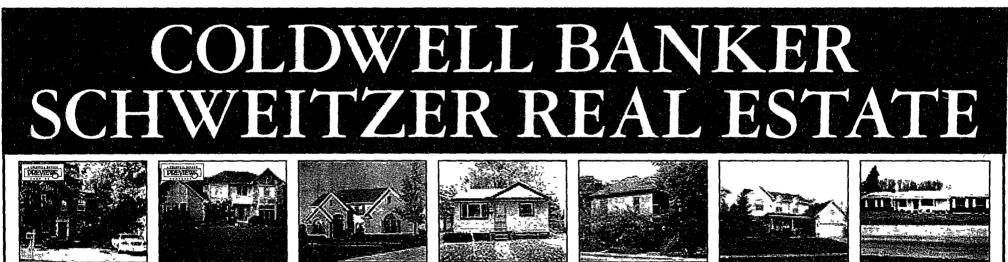
Scrape off loose paint before

Repaint with a paint made for highhumidity areas that contains a

SOURCE: "Fix it Yourself: Brick, Stone & Concrete," Popular Mechanics

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3



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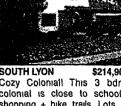
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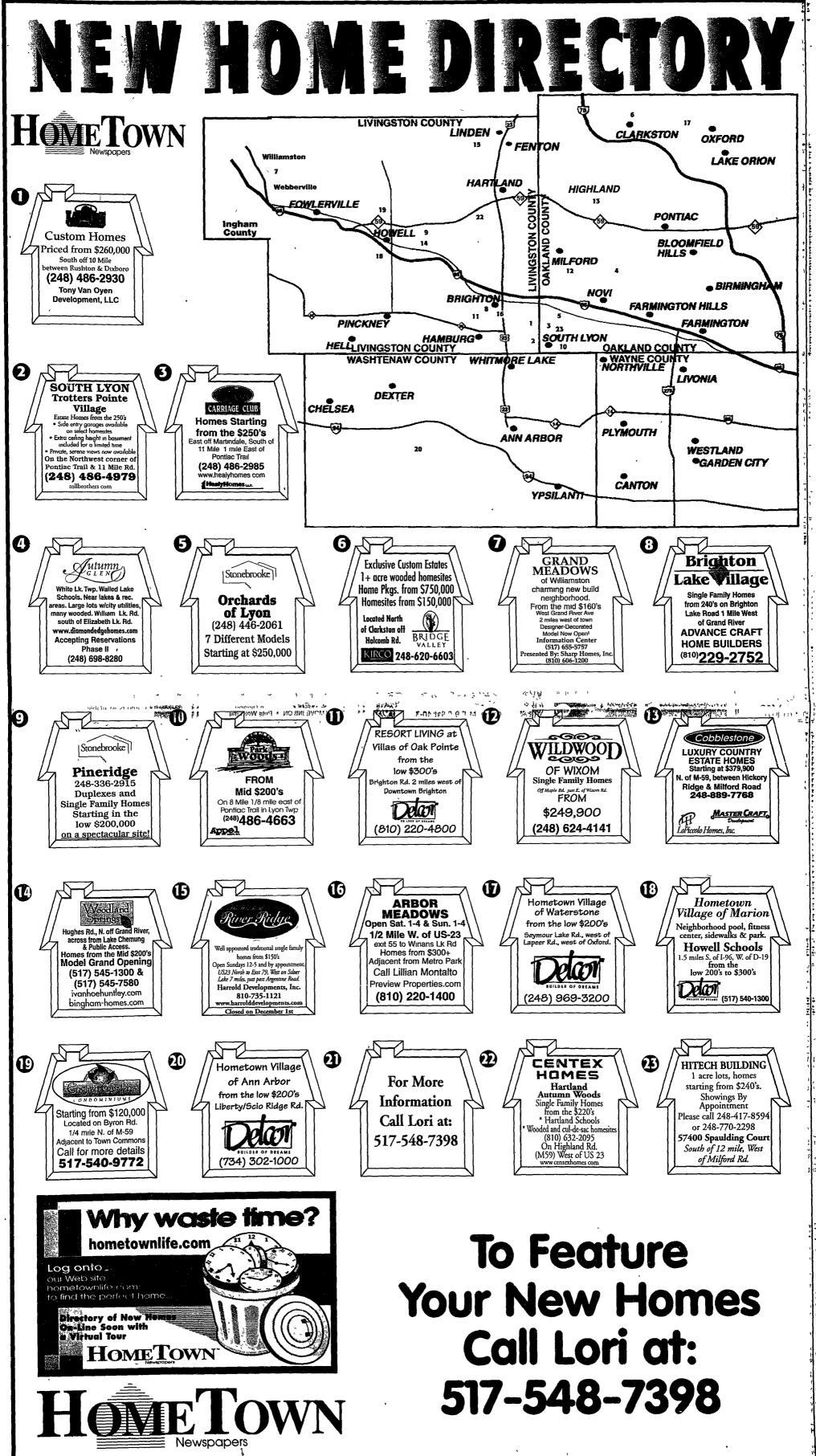




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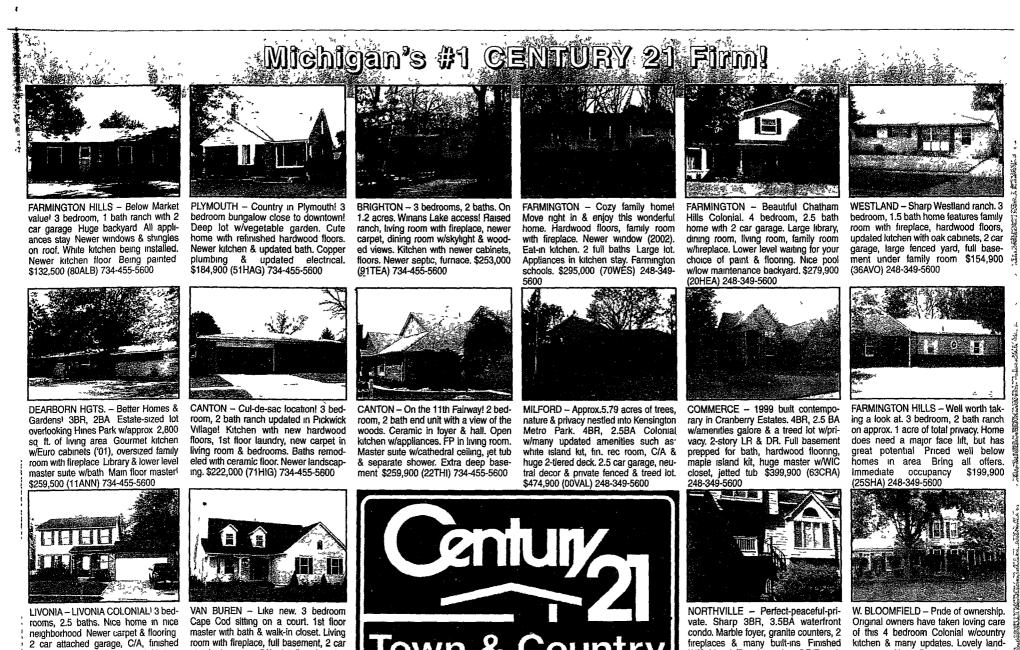
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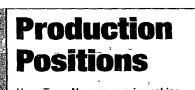
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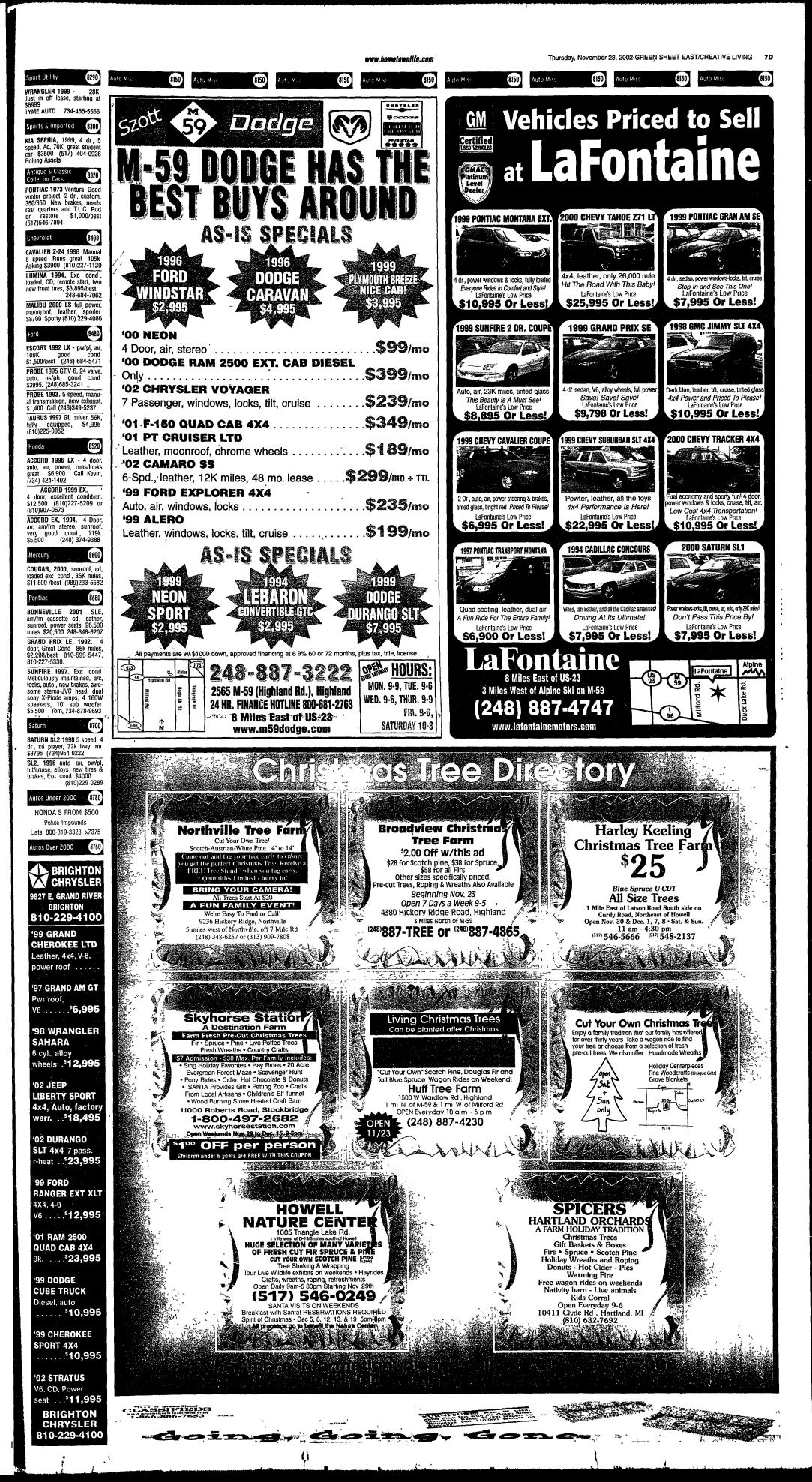
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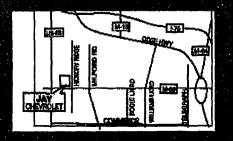
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A supplement to Milford Times • Northville Record • Novi News • South Lyon Herald

o-fuss fitness

By Susan Aschoff ST. PETERSBURG TIMES

She stands almost an inch taller and she can now touch the floor with her fingertips when she squats. After two months on an exercise program designed just for her, 76-year-old Juanita Reynolds is, literally, walking tall.

"I know it's helping. Whether it's doing anything for me physically, it's doing something for me mentally," says Reynolds of Brandon, Fla., one of the first clients in a new program at the Physical Therapy Center of the University of South Florida.

Open to all ages but targeted at older adults who are sedentary or intimidated to visit gyms and health clubs, the Exercise Screening and Prescription program tailors fitness to the individual.

Participants attend two sessions with a therapist. The first is a screening and physical examination to assess the client's condition and goals; at the second screening, a personalized exercise plan and instructions are presented. All for a \$75 fee.

The doctor will look at preventing disease. We will look at staying healthy," says center director Pat Arthur.

The risk of injuries doubles after age 40, statistics show. About 77 million baby boomers will retire in the next 12 years. Physical activity improves joint motion, flexibility, strength and endurance, balance and coordination. It builds strong bones and hearts.

The program at USF is particularly useful for people who, like Reynolds, don't want to fuss with health club fees or super-jock agendas.

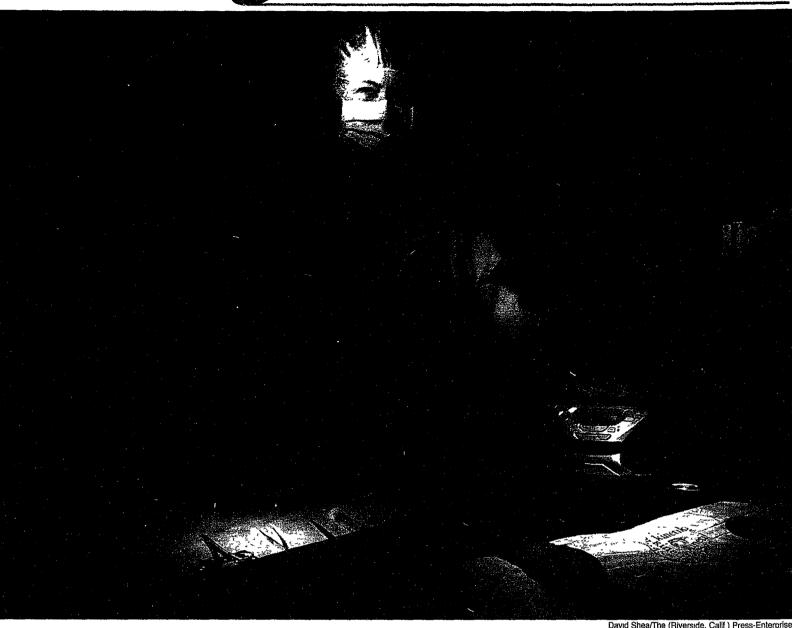
Most of the "middle-age and older adult population (is) not comfortable going to a gym and they don't have a lot of home exercise equipment,' Arthur says. Exercises prescribed by the center can be done at home with a chair, a stretchy cord or in any open space.

Reynolds signed up in June. Her goals are to alleviate arthritis pain and to prevent changes in her posture. A bonus would be lowering high blood pressure. At a minimum, her workouts will help her stay energetic and flexible, she says.

She's no slouch. She also goes to line dancing and tai chi classes every week, but "I dropped the yoga because it was too much for me."

The exercises are real-world fare. No barbells. No pretzel positions. Push-ups are done against a wall while standing. Weight lifting means pulling two ends of a stretchy cord tied to a doorknob.

Each client's prescription varies, depending on his or her condition and goals. But the target will always be movement and function, not bulk or speed, says Arthur. If a client is still exercising three months after the initial appointment, Arthur says he's accomplished his goal. Arthur told Reynolds her workout would take about 10 minutes. "It takes me 30 minutes," she says, laughing.



Dr. Thomas T. Haider is a surgeon who enjoys music during operations. Haider likes listening to soft rock as he works.



By Mike Schwartz THE (RIVERSIDE, CALIF) PRESS ENTERPRISE

calpel." "Sponge." Sutures." "Gipsy Kings." Gipsy what? The traditional commands likely to include requests for favorite tunes — from Bach

From Mozart to Springsteen, many surgeons use music in the operating room to ease pressure and anxiety while they work

Usually, eye operations last 10 (Haider's) soft music slows me of the surgeon at work are minutes to an hour. So, one CD is enough to get Storkersen through a case. cion, a liver surgeon at Loma Conce Linda University Medical Center in Loma Linda, Calif., keeps at least 10 CDs on hand during operations, which can last six hours.

down," Siambanes says jokingly. Some surgeons find vocals too dis-

However, Dr. Waldo tracting and stick to instrumentals. But many such as Stambanes, love

microscope to belt out a tune by Roy Orbison or Elvis.

While portable CD players are ubiquitous, some hospitals pipe music into operating rooms over speakers. Anesthesia equipment also can be purchased with optional stereo system included.

Although most hospitals do not prohibit music during surgery, some are concerned that patients may feel it is unprofessional. Others there's insufficient evidence it's beneficial. There is some research, however, suggesting that music may aid surgery. One study published in the September 1994 Journal of the American Medical Association had surgeons perform stressful tasks in a lab experiment. They performed better while listening to music of their choice than they did in silence.

HEALTH BRIEFS

Low-fat diets and PSA levels

The first study to look closely at the issue casts doubt on the value of a low-fat diet in preventing prostate cancer, at least in the short run.

Researchers at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in New York found that after four years, there was no difference in prostate specific antigen, or PSA, levels among 689 men who ate a diet made up of 20 percent fat and five to eight servings of fruits and vegetables a day and 661 men who were just given written instructions on a healthy diet.

Previous studies had implicated fat in the development of prostate cancer.

Just two beers risky for drivers

Drinking only one or two beers can significantly impair driving skills, especially one's ability to make split-second decisions, a Texas A&M University study has found. The study compared the driving of 19 men and women while they were sober and also at a blood alcohol level of 0.04. half the legal limit in some states. A 120-pound woman can reach that level after only one beer; a 150pound-man after two.

At 0.04, the drivers' ability had declined significantly. So a person doesn't have to appear drunk to be a highway danger. "They can still mess up in a decision-making situation," says Maurice E. Dennis, a Texas A&M researcher.

- PITTSBURGH POST- GAZETTE

ad Beethoven to the Gipsy Kings' Latin rhythms. Many physicians and their

operating-room assistants count portable CD players among their indispensable surgical accessories right up there with cardiac monitors, catheters and latex gloves.

Dr. Kris Storkersen, director of ophthalmology Arrowhead at Regional Medical Center in Colton, Calif., says music and medicine can be a potent combination.

"It has a powerful ability to change mood and alter personality," he says. "Music is not only relaxing to the surgeon, but brings an overall calm to the OR.'

Storkersen has "burned" several CDs filled with his favorites that he jokingly calls "Music to Cut By."

Songs likely to waft through the Arrowhead surgical suite during delicate eye operations include Sting's "Desert Rose," R.E.M.'s "Man in the Moon" and Bruce Springsteen's "Secret Garden."

"If it's a difficult case I'll put something mellow on, like Enya, classical,' instrumentals or Storkersen says. "If it's easier, I'll want something upbeat like the Gipsy Kings, Garth Brooks or Shania Twain.'

In the early stages of surgery, Concepcion enjoys classical music by composers such as Vivaldi, Handel and Mozart. But for his "closing music" he wants something livelier — say the Pointer Sisters or Fleetwood Mac. His taste also runs to Miles Davis and Wynton Marsalis.

"Beautiful music puts you in a zone," Concepcion says. "You can focus It keeps you at peace and in sync with what you're doing without anxiety or pressure. Music gives a cadence to surgery."

Orthopedic surgeons Thomas T. Haider and David Siambanes of Riverside, Calif., are a smooth-functioning team. Yet a slight generation gap ensures they don't always appreciate each other's music.

Haider prefers soft rock. Siambanes' selections range from mellow Coldplay and the Dave Matthews Band to what he calls angry-youth music such as Godsmack, Staind and Powerman 5000.

"If it's upbeat, it keeps you working at a steady pace. But his vocals and sing along as they operate.

Dr. Catalino D. Dureza, a neurosurgeon at Desert Regional Medical Center in Palm Springs, Calif., occasionally leans back from his surgical

Music to cut by

Dr. Kris Storkersen's operating room CD pack:

- Enya, "Watermark"
- Shania Twain, "Come on Over"
- · Garth Brooks, "The Hits"
- Eddie Money, "Unplug it In"
- Gipsy Kings, "Love & Liberte"
- Jackson Browne, "The Next Voice You Hear: The Best of Jackson Browne
- John Mellencamp, "The Best That I Could Do"
- Bruce Springsteen, "Greatest Hits"
- Paul McCartney, "Wingspan"
- Tina Turner, "Simply the Best"
- Good Rockin' Toniaht, "The Legacy of Sun Records"
- Yanni, "Yanni Live at the Acropolis"
- Soundtrack: "Honeymoon in Vegas

Other researchers have found that music has a calming effect during times of stress for doctors and patients alike. And there is evidence that it also aids pain control.

Most of Storkersen's patients, who usually are sedated but awake during surgery, enjoy his selection of tunes. "It also aids them in relaxation," he says "Of course, the narcotics help, too."

Many patients will sing along. "Usually, if we're having a good time, they'll chime in, too," Storkersen says.

Patients sometimes balk at what they hear. One of Siambanes' spine patients awoke after surgery to the strains of Godsmack. "It was so distasteful to her that on her first postoperative visit she brought me a Dixie Chicks CD," he says.

Altered state allows the mind's eye to see what needs to be done

By Molly Rupert SCRIPPS HOWARD NEWS SERVICE

There was no dangling stopwatch. No altering, mind-control tape playing in the background. Just the smooth, lulling voice of the therapist.

"OK, you are standing at the top of a staircase. Notice what you are wearing. What is on your feet? What does the banister feel like? What is it made of?" said Patricia Bay, a licensed marriage and family therapist in Redding, Calif. "Now you're going to

walk down the staircase. Every step you take, you get more and more relaxed. You feel yourself being drawn deeper into the chair.

And just like that, the hypnotic state is reached.

Where you go from there is up to you.

For some, hypnosis leads to cigarettes. from freedom overeating, hypertension and pain. It's a tool used by therapists to overcome these problems and more.

We disconnect the anchors

that are causing the problem," said Bay, who has helped people with a variety of ailments. "Often there are conditioning behaviors paired with some other activity _ like you only smoke during your break at work, when you get stressed, when you're drinking. It's just one therapeutic technique."

One that's worked for many people, including Tim Riley, a Redding businessman.

"I was going through a divorce, some substance abuse issues," said Riley. "I guess my first thought was I didn't want any of that woo-woo stuff. But for me it was a shortcut to releasing a lot of tension and seeing myself more closely. Doors opened up more quickly than in regular sessions."

Robert Grosch, a marriage and family therapist in Redding, has been using hypnosis in his practice for almost 18 years. However, he said he doesn't 'hypnotize" patients but rather "assists people to go into a trance state where they are focused."

Grosch also warned prospective clients to be careful of people who "guarantee" the process and to always look for properly licensed personnel.

"You want to look for certain things," Grosch said. "One: They should be a marriage, family therapist, or a clinical social worker. Two: There is no license called hypnotherapist. Also, check how much training a person's had. Find out if they've had experience in working with people in various ways. Ask if they will work with your physician.

HomeTown

System offers hope for those fighting with personal debt

By Loretta Kalb SACRAMENTO BEE

Dressed smartly, with briefcase and company car keys in hand, no one knew that the woman in San Francisco's financial district was any-

\$1.2

trillion

debt in 1997

trillion

debt in 2002

\$1.7

Total U S. consumer

Total U.S consumer

thing but successful Truth was, Karen

McCall spent every paycheck before it , arrived. She was deeply in debt. And she was perpetually on the lookout for ways to turn plastic into cash.

As money problems threatened to ruin her life, she began a process of profound self-discovery, one that led

14.04% Percentage of U.S. household disposable income used for debt payments

to what she calls a "spiritual connection" that helped her turn her financial life around.

McCall founded the San Anselmo, Calif.-based Financial Recovery Institute in 1988 to train counselors and financial planners to help resolve clients' debts.

And this year she produced the "MoneyMinder Financial Recovery" system aimed at helping consumers permanently shed their debt.

"This process shows you how to save money while you are getting out of debt," said McCall. "It's the key to getting out of debt. Otherwise, the day will come when you have to use that credit card again."

Such insight 1s clearly needed. Consumer debt, \$1.2 trillion five years ago, now exceeds \$1.7 trillion, according to Federal Reserve data Credit card offers have become a staple of consumers' mailboxes. Not surprisingly, buying on credit has become part of the nation's consumer culture.

That culture and the problems that arise from carrying too much debt have, in turn, spawned an entire industry, of get-out-ofdebt books.

McCall's 249-page "MoneyMinder/ Financial Recovery Workbook" and related materials (Financial Recovery Press/\$79 or \$99), are intended to be both inspirational and practical, giving readers the immediate tools and understanding to take action on their own behalf.

The \$79 system has wallet-sized cash trackers and a CD-ROM that includes forms, worksheets and templates to reshape spending priorities month by month and year by year. (For those who can't use a CD-ROM, the institute provides a binder filled with a year's worth of financial ' recovery worksheets in the \$99 system.)

For McCall, recovery means achieving understanding and clarity: Understanding your spending and being clear about what is most important in your life. Each chapter allows readers to decipher their motivations and feelings while digging deeply into or climbing out of debt.



By Doug Kreutz ARIZONA DAILY STAR

A monsoon storm rips through your neighborhood, toppling your prized backyard tree, blowing part of the roof off your house, flooding a family room with runoff and scaring your parakeet literally to death.

What's covered by insurance, and what isn't?

Insurance policies vary, but it's likely you'd be covered only for the damage to the roof. Typical homeowner's policies won't protect you against windstorm damage to trees, the loss of pets or flooding.

Recent destructive storms and a host of other threats, ranging from fire to theft, slam home the importance of having insurance – and knowing exactly what it covers.

Homeowners and renters can benefit from some basic insurance savvy.

"Look very carefully at what you're buying. Don't be pressured and don't hesitate to ask questions about what's covered," says Vista Brown, spokeswoman for the Arizona Department of Insurance.

"The amount of coverage you buy depends on how much risk you want to share with the insurance company,' Brown says. "You have to decide how much risk you'll pay the company to assume, and how much you assume yourself? Brown and other insurance experts emphasize that there's not a fixed slate of coverage for all homeowner's and renter's policies. Your coverage will vary depending on the insurer you choose, the value of your home and such factors as deductibles - the dollar amount of loss for which you assume responsibility. But here's a rundown on what's typically covered for homeowners, renters and dorm residents, according to the Arizona Department of Insurance, industry organizations and the University of Arizona. Most homeowner's policies include four types of coverage: dwelling and personal property, liability; medical payments, and additional living expenses if you must temporarily move out of a damaged house.

you and paying for any damages a court rules you must pay," says the Arizona Department of Insurance's 'Consumer's Guide to Homeowner's Insurance."

"The basic limit is usually \$100,000 for each occurrence, but you may request higher limits, which are normally available for an additional cost," the guide says.

 Medical payments: This coverage kicks in if someone outside your family is injured at your home. It pays for medical expenses, with coverage gen-erally limited to \$1,000 for each person. The coverage doesn't apply to you or members of your household, Brown emphasizes

living Additional expenses:Typical homeowner's insurance policies will pay "reasonable and necessary" living expenses if you must move temporarily into a motel or apartment because of losses covered by your policy.

Now for the small print.

Under a section called "Common Exclusions" on the Arizona Department of Insurance's Web site, you'll get the bad news about what's not covered:

"Most homeowner's policies do not cover loss to animals, birds, fish or automobiles. Damage caused by

MONEY



Smile! It's a mystery shopper

By Devona Wells SCRIPPS HOWARD NEWS SERVICE

Mystery shoppers - people paid by companies to observe and evaluate service in writing have long mingled with consumers. But now this secret army brings along cameras so small they fit inside a shirt button.

The technological leap forward means companies increasingly watch their employees and get a peek at the people hired to shop.

Within a year or two, video shopping equip-ment will become even smaller and lighter and wireless, predicts Charles Tinsley, president of Shadowshopper.com, which sells the cameras. Instead of putting shopping excursions on tape, they'll go on the Internet for download-

ing, he said. "We are a society that loves photo and video technology, and we want to see it now and we want to see everything. It's just the right time for it," he said.

Mystery shopper David Gilstrap contracts with various companies for enough paid shopping to supply him with full-time work. He stays mostly in Southern California but has made trips to Chicago, Seattle and San Francisco, where he conducts at least 10 shopping excursions per trip. Gilstrap, of Murrieta, Calif., started getting

paid to shop in April. He doesn't plan to make a career out of mystery shopping but likes the flexible hours.

When shopping, Gilstrap carries a video recorder and battery on a hidden belt. A micro-phone is punned to hus shirt, which also is outfitted with black buttons - one of which holds a tiny camera taking in arrival to departure.

"It's pretty well-concealed. You need to be aware of where the sales associate is and keep them in your camera's view," he said.

This view allows companies to see their stores and employees just as customers do. Greg Goodwin, president of Friar Tux Shop based in Anaheim, Calif., likes this perspective – from looking at displays to how busy the store is to what goes on when nobody appears to be watching.

For six years or so, Friar Tux has evaluated customer service by phone, assigning a caller to inquire about products from one of its 24 stores. Earlier this year, the company began using in-person video shoppers after a short



insurance policies it comes to what

"The typical homeowner's insurance policy covers you for direct losses due to fire, lightning, tornadoes, windstorms, hail, explosions, smoke, van-dalism and theft," says Jim Frederikson, spokesman for the Information Arizona Insurance Association, a non-profit trade group.

It explains the key concepts in developing a spending plan, including setting money aside for periodic expenses. It gives the strategy behind saving while reducing debts.And it helps individuals achieve their utmost desires so that deprivation isn't the ; focal point of the financial turnaround.

Solutions come to people that they can't even imagine," said McCall. The resulting emotional rewards, she explained, are hard to measure.

A reward might be simple, as in avoiding credit-card interest charges by saving money for a car repair or a vacation.

But the overall gains can be great. "This changes people's lives," she said. The system "gives permission" to meet desires that go beyond life's basic necessities.

McCall said she initially thought the system would be most useful to people in deep financial trouble. But she said many individuals have adopted the plan because of its systematic and organized approach to managing spending.

Dwelling / personal property

Frederikson says the amount of insurance taken out on a home is typically less than its market price. 'That's because people don't need to insure the land on which their home is located," he says. "The best way to determine the amount is to ask: What would it cost to rebuild your home?'

Personal property coverage Brown says, pays for home contents including furniture, clothing and other personal belongings. The amount of insurance is usually 50 percent of the policy limit on your dwelling.

Most policies provide more limited coverage - about 10 percent of the dwelling policy limit - for personal property that's stolen or damaged while you're away from home.

· Liability: Homeowner's insurance provides personal liability coverage applying to non-vehicle accidents if the injury or damage is caused by you, a family member or your pet.

"The liability coverage in your policy pays both for the cost of defending

flood, surface water, overflow of the body of water, or spray from any of these is usually excluded. Water damage due to backed-up sewers or drains also is excluded.

"War, nuclear hazard, neglect, earth movement or power failure damage is not covered.'

Although most insurers don't offer flood insurance, homeowners may be able to purchase it through the National Flood Insurance Program. To qualify, buyers must comply with federal guidelines for flood prevention. Insurance agents can provide details.

Renter's insurance provides similar coverage to a homeowner's policy with one obvious exception: You don't need protection against damage to the building itself.

Rates for homeowner's and renter's insurance vary depending on the value of property and the level of coverage you choose. Renter's policies cost considerably less annually than homeowner's insurance, he says.

stint with written evaluations at its four shops.

"Video shopping has given us assurances we're doing what we should in all these small pods flung about Southern California," he said.

To those who perform well on tape, Friar Tux hands out restaurant gift certificates or cash. Employees are told, Goodwin said, they may be shopped by someone using a video camera.

Video removes the subjectivity from a shopper's written evaluations, said David Russell, president of Texas-based FYI Video Shops. Plus, it allows company executives to pick up on what they might not think to ask a shopper to look for, such as employee coats hanging where merchandise should go.

FYI opened in 1995 with a host of investigation services and got its start in video shopping about five years ago. Now, video shopping comprises easily 75 percent of the company's business, Russell said.

As competition in retail continues heating up, so will the need to stay on top of customer service, said Lars Perner, visiting marketing professor at the University of California at Riverside.

Dominating chain stores particularly like mystery shopping, he said, to assert control over stores often far removed from corporate managers.

"The service component in shopping is very important. People can be very easily turned off," he said.

Hundreds of companies conduct thousands of shopping evaluations weekly at just about every kind of business, including restaurants, apartment buildings and hotels, said John Swinburn, executive director of Mystery Shopping Providers Association in Dallas.

"Typically, companies are not anxious to reveal who they are because competitors would like to know," he said.

Shadowshopper.com began selling tiny video-shopping cameras and accompanying recorders about two months ago. Previously, the company offered larger cameras not as easily hidden, typically part of a large purse, said Tinsley.

Most shopping companies continue to rely on paper-and-pen evaluations. But as the technology catches on, Tinsley expects videotape use will grow from an estimated 3 percent of the country's 500 mystery-shopping companies

"This tool isn't designed to go in and find people messing up. It's to show exactly what's happening on the showroom floor," Tinsley said.

Call center doesn't take morale sitting down

Increased focus on what makes employees happy helps Albuquerque service center keep staff in place

By Shea Andersen SCRIPPS HOWARD NEWS SERVICE

Sometimes it's all about the chair.

When you spend the bulk of your day parked in front of a computer and a phone, a seat can become a mighty important piece of equipment.

Most desk jockeys would pine for the chairs that the workers at PNM's customer service call center ın Albuquerque, NM., have. They've also got a comfortable office with well-decorated cubicles and a fun atmosphere.

It wasn't always this way. Lynn Wood still remembers her first day at the call center of PNM, New Mexico's largest utility. "It was horrible," she says. "It was like working in a

morgue." That was May 2001, and Wood was starting her new job as the center's new supervisor, overseeing 130 customer service representatives.

Except that if you called a year ago, you'd be waiting more than three minutes to actually speak to someone. When you did, that someone might have just gotten the job,

since the center was experiencing a staff turnover rate of between 30 and 50 percent at the time.

Wood describes the staff at the time as "very down, very depressed."

"It was just a slow degradation of service," she says.

On Friday of that first week, Wood took a baby step: she met with each rep and gave each one a pair of movie tickets for the weekend.

Staff members, unaccustomed to seeing a supervisor unless they were going to be fired, were stunned. But Wood had their attention.

More simple steps followed, like new chairs for everyone.

Before Wood came along, staff had to "earn" a new chair. But they didn't know what they

1 74.1

had to do to get one. "It seems like for a call center, a chair is pretty basic equipment," Wood says

Today, callers wait an average of 25 seconds to speak to a rep. Instead of answering just 83 percent of incoming calls (the rest just hung up, frustrated by the wait, presumably) the center gets 96 percent of them. And turnover is down to 7.5 percent for the year so far.

While the chairs are the most visible change, Wood instituted variety of other alterations. There were new procedures, new performance goals and new incentive programs. The pay went up and the recruitment strategy changed.

Wood says she no longer necessarily looks for people with basic math and computer

skills. "We're about to say that might not be important. We can teach that," she says. Instead, she's looking for folks with an interest in helping people.

These changes haven't gone unrecognized; PNM was among three utilities nationwide singled out by a recent study for the high customer satisfaction.

Wood says the best part about the survey was not the way it crunched numbers about minutes, call load or turnaround times. "Our ranking was determined by customers' opinions of us. It had nothing to do with numbers. It's all customer opinion," she says.

And that's what counts, more than anything, she says. That, and maybe a nice chair

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Speech-based software's growing pains By Dave Gussow

ST. PETERSBURG TIMES

Using speech-recognition software is a lot like raising your kids. It doesn't always hear what you say. It doesn't always do what you want. And it requires a lot of time and patience.

"You talk, it types," IBM promi-nently promises on the box for ViaVoice for Windows, Pro USB Edition. Yet until you put many hours into "training" the program in your talking technique, it's more "You talk, it may type" or "You talk, and it asks you to repeat" or "You talk, and it ignores you."

The good news for those waiting for the right speech-recognition soft-ware is that ViaVoice has improved since I last checked it out in early 2000. That's particularly important since the market is down to two major players, IBM and Dragon's Naturally Speaking.

We've checked out such software from time to time for two reasons: It's an interesting gauge of how well, or fitfully, personal technology is advancing for everyday users. And it's also an important alternative to typing for many disabled people.

Installation and setup of the new ViaVoice were easy, taking about 20 minutes. An important part of the setup is reading onscreen text aloud so the program can learn your speech patterns. It was made easier with an included, good-quality Plantronics headset and microphone that connects to a USB port. (The whole package that we tested costs \$189.95.)

Theoretically, you're then ready to go. In reality, you and the program still need more time to learn each other. I didn't have to talk robotically, one word at a time, though I found myself speaking louder and in a clipped rather than natural, conversational tone.

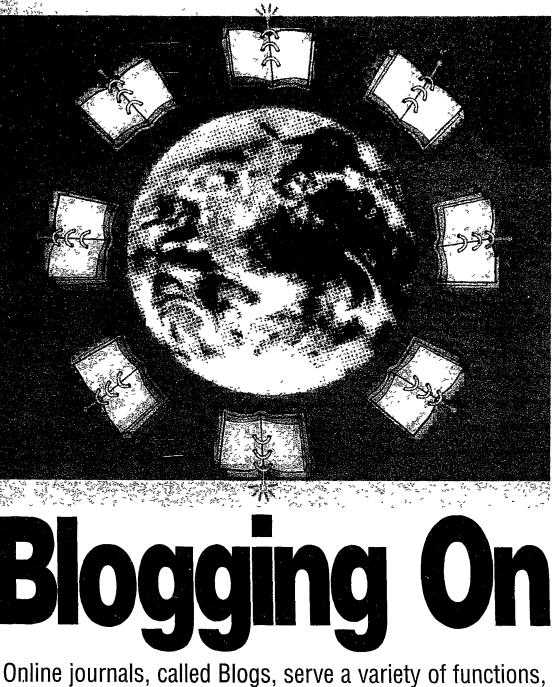
I lost count of the "Remember to speak clearly and try again" and "Pardon me" messages that flashed on the ViaVoice bar at the top of the screen.

As I did in the previous test, I challenged ViaVoice with the well-known "The rain in Spain falls mainly in the plain" lyrics from "My Fair Lady."

Sure, it took six attempts to get it almost right. (In the end, "plane" instead of "plain" was the only error.) Among the first five efforts, the software came up with: "Loraine and Spain stays mainly in the pipeline" and "The rain in Spain stays mainly due bloodshot the plane."

The more I worked with the software, the better it responded, though there are still significant problems to overcome. Among those:

It wouldn't let me dictate into Microsoft Word or the Outlook e-mail program even though it's supposed to be compatible. Instead, I had to use its Speakpad, then cut-and-paste the text into my destination program. Voice command of programs was only partly successful. For example, saying "Surf the Web" opened the Internet Explorer browser. It navigated my Favorites so I could move around the Web. But it wouldn't open a news story on the New York Times site. In addition, it would open some programs, such as Word and Outlook, but wouldn't close them. It still has an annoying cartoon pencil called Woodrow that pops up to give you help, sometimes not so successfully. It's like that irritating animated paper clip that appeared in several generations of Microsoft Office. **Using Help functions also** brought some strange results. Asking "What can you teach me?" brought up my browser's History list. Asking "What can I say?" brought up the time. I want to do more work with the program to see if I can master it well enough to dictate 100 words a minute or more with 95 percent accuracy, as some users have reported. With as much time as I spend on a keyboard, I'd like to give my hands a rest on occasion.



including group therapy and business networking יוי ו ווונוני וו ניויי יוייי הווה אין הוער ומר תוונכיא ייכ דיו ב

By Dave Gussow ST PETERSBURG TIMES

Web logs, or blogs, are the personal pages that some say will change the way we communicate. But the digital diaries can range from insightful to insipid.

RaeAnne Thompson keeps a diary, writing down her most personal and private thoughts almost daily. Then she posts them online for the world to see

"It's a very strange, strange thing," says Thompson, 21. "I had a lot of issues and feelings. I think it's more a form of therapy than anything else."

Her father died in January, and a few days later her fiance broke up with her. Thompson, a University of South Florida student, turned to her lifelong love of writing to share her feelings on her Web log, or blog. A blog is a personal Web page that some say will change the way people communicate online. Maybe so, but there are as many different types of blogs as there are different books on Amazon.com. And the writing can range from inspirational to insipid. Blogs can be personal journals, such as Thompson's. Or they can be someone's opinions on the news of the day. They can be used for business (including sharing notes from meetings written as they happen). Groups with a common interest, such as computer geeks or journalists or fans of particular TV shows, can share information through blogs. Most have links to other blogs, and many have the authors' opinions. While blogs have been around for a few years, Sept. 11 spawned new interest and a group called war bloggers, who share information and opinions about the war on terror. One of the trademarks of the blog is that they are made up mostly of short items, easy to write and supposedly easy to read.

the Internet that they can call their home page, a place where they reside," says John Robb, president and chief operating officer of Userland, which makes blog software called Radio. "It's space controlled by the individual. No one has the ability to publish counterarguments. You won it. You own the space.'

E-mail to groups of people can be cumbersome, not to mention the potential of recipients mistaking it for spam. Bloggers can

choose to invite responses and to post them, but they don't have to deal with the people who disrupt newsgroups with offtopic discussions and

One thing that makes blogs powerful for building a business is the way the popular Google search engine works, zeroing in on Web sites that are updated often. Because blogs are updated frequently and often contain links to other sites, Google's software picks up on the content.

"Let's say I have a client who has a product, and they want to tell the world about the product," Mudd says. "Naturally, I want to get the product in

traditional media, but sometimes that's harder "If people are to do than to get it listed on virtually every interested in blog that's out there. Sometimes just put a reading what little blurb on your blog, and it'll end I'm thinking, in on 50 other blogs."

TECHNOLOGY





Prisoner of War Platform: Microsoft Xbox **Publisher: Codemasters Genre: Action ESRB Rating: Teen**

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So much promise, so little delivery. That pretty much sums up Prisoner of War, a game that manages to make life in a P.O.W. camp look as boring and uneventful as possible."

The pretense is great: escape from a World War II P.O.W. camp where you and other Americans are being held. Working together, you pick up clues and hints, get your hands on valuable contraband and find a way to freedom.

The game plan is to learn the prison routine, then take advantage of breaks in the schedule to accomplish missions to aid your escape. These include climbing fences (be sure to avoid the guard towers) to access forbidden materials, crawling around in the dark after lights out and even hitching a ride on a supply truck.

However, the awful camera work makes moving around unseen impossible. The camera is supposed to center itself behind you at the click of a button, but often refuses to do. As a result, you'll run into guards that could have been avoided.

Each time you get caught or shot, you have to spend a few days in either solitary confinement or the infirmary. Since the goal is to get out of the camp as fast as possible, these little side trips cost you points in the end.

Basically, the game is pretty boring and mundane, with most of your time spent re-doing the same failed attempts to finish objectives until you get them right. Not exactly a thnll a minute, and not exactly like what most of us expect a P.O.W. camp to resemble.

4x4 Evo 2 **Genre: Driving**

Platform: Gamecube Publisher: Universal Interactive ESRB Rating: Everyone



4x4 Evo 2 is not the strongest racing game out there right now. It's just that simple.

The depth of the career mode seems strong, since you start from nothing and have to make a name for yourself in the off-road racing world before being "noticed" by the big-name teams to consider picking you up.

For those unfamiliar with off-road racing, the career mode will come across a bit confusing, since you are given money to buy and upgrade your truck with products that you don't know anything about. So beginners will have a hard time knowing what's worth the price and what's unneeded.

The controls are easy to grasp and smooth most meaningless terrain objects. Trucks should be able to ride over some rocks and other objects. That's why you are nding off-road, not street racing. The mission mode caters more to pickupand-play lovers, as you take your truck into various locales and accomplish tasks like saving stranded hikers in Alaska or deliver food to families who are victims of an earthquake. But beyond these fun missions, this title is more a renter than a buyer.

In short, blogs can be anything bloggers want them to be.

"Everyone truly needs a place on

the often-obscene known as attacks flames.

"If people are interested in reading what come or not." I'm thinking, it's pas-Robb says. sive," "They can come or not.

They can read at their convenience."

it's passive.

They can

Blogs also are a lot easier to set up than a personal Web page used to be, when users had to learn coding and other tricks to set up their page. Most blogs can be set up for free.

Userland's Radio software costs \$40 after a 30-day trial. At Blogger.com, people can set up a basic blog without software and at no cost, or sign up for more elaborate bells and whistles for a \$50 annual subscription.

About 500,000 people have started blogging, according to most estimates.

The power of the blog comes from the fact that anyone can do it and use it for just about any purpose. John Mudd of Pinellas Park, Fla., for example, is trying to build a public relations and marketing business, with his blog as a key mechanism.

"You can easily spread the word very quickly using blogs," says Mudd, 27. "They're a great publicity tool."

Mudd says the site goes beyond business. He says bloggers have developed a sense of community.

"It's almost like electronic gossip," Mudd

says. "Because you can tell your friend about something, then they tell their friend. All of a sudden it's on Web logs all across the world."

Thompson hasn't had quite that reaction. An old friend found her blog and called, but not many people have discovered her writings. Her ex-fiance did, was not amused and threatened to sue. She was undeterred.

"The issue comes up in almost every single diary" online, Thompson "Why am I doing this? It's says. because, at one point, you always tell yourself, ' I'm doing it for me. I'm not doing it for anybody else.' '

She finds it fascinating to read other blogs - "It's definitely a way of seeing what's out there" - and to work on her writing.

"I think it's a very empowering thing," Thompson says. "For someone who wants to be a writer, just to have someone read my stuff, it's an ego boost.'

EX 8 B U C I XIEW Sa

AN EXTRA SET OF EYES

You can track your driving mileage and more with a record-keeping device that attaches to your car. TravelEyes2, a little black box about the size of a pager, uses the satellite-based global positioning system (GPS) to report miles driven, destinations, and other travel information like tax-deductible mileage for medical or charitable activities, all for around \$400.

The gadget can also be used as a spy device since it can track a vehicle to the nearest address and tell how long it remained there. It also has a trip-planning feature that creates custom map routes and directions, and all data can be downloaded to a computer.

A NEW SPIN ON THE MOUSE

Considering the time most people spend clutching a computer mouse, it makes sense that companies are constantly coming out with newer and more ergonomically sound versions. Fellowes' Micro Trac, about \$30, looks like a video-game controller and has a built-in track ball that makes it possible to operate while not in contact with a surface.

On the high end is Logitech's Cordless Presenter, around \$200, which is more like a remote than a mouse and fits in the palm of your hand. A mouse alternative is the No Hands Mouse, which is controlled by foot pedals and costs \$250-\$300.

By Katy Marquardt SCRIPPS HOWARD NEWS SERVICE

KEEPING TABS ON YOUR CAR

LoJack, known for its car-recovery transceiver that emits radio sig-

nals from a stolen vehicle, now offers a product that can notify you when your car is on the

move. The Early Warning Recovery System sends owners an alert by phone, e-mail or page when their vehicle is moved

without permission. The wireless sys- already come out with its mMode Pix, a tem, around \$800, includes a motion sensor as well as a keypass that must be used before operating the car; otherwise the system sends out an alert.

NOKIA ADDS PHOTOS **TO PHONES**

Mobile phone companies, riding the trend of multimedia gadgets, will soon be offering phones with built-in digital cameras.

Nokia is slated to introduce the 3650, which has a camera lens attached to the back and uses its face as a viewfinder, giving it the ability to take still shots as well as short video clips that can be sent as an e-mail attachment. AT&T wireless has

service that lets users attach a lightweight, miniature digital camera accessory to the bottom of the phone.

Freekstyle

Genre: Extreme Sports **Platform: Gamecube Publisher: EA Sports ESRB Rating: Everyone**

 $\star \star$ Freekstyle may have a catchy sounding name, but outside of the look and feel of the

game, not much is to be desired from this title. A personality problem seems to be in place here, as this game wants to draw in the fans of extreme sports games, but does not want to stick to what makes those games successful. Instead, Freekstyle takes motocross racing into the fantasy world, and it falls short here.

The setup is basic: You are a fast rider and you have to race others on different tracks. Fair enough. But there are problems with this game that are too much to overlook.

To start, there are only six tracks, and while you can unlock others, it takes an astounding amount of points to do so, after which the wait is not worth it. And once you ride the tracks a couple of times, you get the right feel on how to win almost every time.

Then there is the speed factor. You can really tear it up on the course. So fast that you are literally leaving flames in your wake. While that is good and all, it almost gets to be too much, as you find yourself losing control and running into invisible barriers.

Lastly is the AI of the game, which could be the most disappointing. No matter how fast you go, your wins or losses will always be close, which is sad. To burn that much trail and still have to fight it out for a chance victory is silly. Extreme G-3 is a better buy and more of what Freekstyle should have avoided trying to imitate.

-By Kelly Martin and Chris Campbell SCRIPPS HOWARD NEWS SERVICE



4 • HOMETOWN PLUS, Thursday, November 28, 2002





Photos by Hal Stoelzle/Scripps Howard News Service Scott and Keyke Campbell enjoy movies in their basement home theater. Scott used his skills as an illustrator in designing his basement.

NDDOWNUNDER

Finishing touches elevate basements to star status

By Jay Dedrick

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SCRIPPS HOWARD NEWS SERVICE

he unfinished basement stores the boxes spot for the cat's litter box or Dad's workbench, a burial ground for yesterday's toys. Not all homeowners limit their lower-level

environs to such ordinary status, though. Many take the downstairs to new heights by refinishing, creating lavish spaces that rival — if not top — the floors above.

The basements in two suburban Denver homes under- neighbors." went dramatic custom finishing treatments

last year. One, at Mark and Debbi Steffensen's Evergreen, Colo., home, echoes the natural terrain of the Rockies, while the other, at J. Scott and Keyke Campbell's place in Golden, Colo., rockets back to the future.

Both are award-winning products of the homeowners' opened since. It provides an inconspicuous---Denver-business that finished 110 basements last-year.

"The biggest thing we've seen since starting up is that people are putting a lot more value on their basements --- period," says Patrick Condon, president of Finished Basement. "We'll have clients who are buying new homes because of the unfinished basements. Then they want to have it finished so it's as nice as - or nicer than - their upstairs. They want to show it off to their



HOME & GARDEN

A new 'method' for cleaning

By Angelica Pence SAN FRANCISCO CHRONICLE

They're gone - the days when Windex blue and Mr. Clean's beaming bald look were icons for cleaning-product fashionistas.

The once-dowdy consumer staples are going upscale, flaunting chic packaging, aromatherapy scents and pricey designers. And at least two companies are leading us down the fragrant path.

Take Method, a company that harvested immeasurable hype last year when its Bamboo Kitchen Cleaner was spotted in the neatly kept kitchen of TV's prettiest clean freak: Monica NBC's Gellar. of "Friends" fame. Started in 1999 by

Eric Ryan and Adam Lowry, Method is the first brand created for Generation X and upscale audiences, who make up 42 percent of the \$5 billion household cleaner category, they



On the Web: methodhome.com www.williams-sonoma.com

Now, Ryan and Lowry have come out with their latest offering for the increasingly crowded kitchen of tres-cool cleaners: \$5 liquid dish soap in a package designed by the "poet of plastic," industrial designer Karim Rashid.

'The idea is to change the domestic landscape, the 21st century and the time we live in," says Rashid, whose client list includes Armani, Prada, Sony and Estee Lauder. "Times have changed. The banal is now much more beautiful. A lot of our everyday products are so high-performing and aesthetic that all of us are design conscious.

The Jetsonesque bottle is stored inverted so it's always at the ready. Squeeze the 25-ounce container and a valve pops open, spouting a small amount of grapefruit, cucumber, mint or lavender-scented soap. Stop squeezing and the dimesize hole automatically reseals.

Williams-Sonoma was among the first companies to introduce personal cleaning products for the aesthetically conscious cook. The company's Essential Oil Collection includes liquid hand soap and dish detergent, bar soap and a candle, which helps neutralize cooking odors.

"Like fine perfumes (or fine wines for that matter), they contain an array of carefully balanced aromatic components with top, middle and bass notes," Williams-Sonoma says.

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The San Francisco housewares giant this year added cleaning products to its collection packaged in classically shaped plastic bottles with apothecary-style labels designed by Caldrea, a Minneapolis company.

These include countertop and floor cleaners and a basil-verbena window wash. All are biodegradable and available in elegant scent pairings of mint, basil, lemon verbena, rosemary, pine and grapefruit.

The products retail for between \$8 and \$12.



you packed the move before last and haven't wishes and the work of Finished Basement Co., a

THE CAMPBELLS

Simply by descending the stairs at his Golden home, J. Scott Campbell enters a monster's lair, a tiki lounge, a starship pilot's cockpit, a globe-trotting adventurer's library. This basement serves as both work space and play space, but it's a blurry line.

Typically, his lines are razor-sharp, as seen in his artwork for such venerable comic books as Batman and Spider-Man (his drawings of the web-crawler appeared in Time magazine last spring) and his own creation, Danger Girl.

The illustrator's taste for fantasy flows throughout his surroundings, lined with shelf after shelf of toys and action figures. Everything from Frankenstein's monster to Homer Simpson stand guard over Scott's drawing board.

tion going," says Scott, 29. Among the fuel for fun: an Indiana Jones hat and whip, a life-size replica of "Star

Wars" villain Boba Fett and two working pinball machines.

Scott's wife, Keyke, 26, may not share an equal passion for classic movie monsters and superheroes, but she enjoys the pinball machines as much as her spouse. And she had fun customizing bar stools by adding leopard-print fabric to the seats.

Eye-popping color throughout the 1,105-square-foot basement suits the pop-culture potpourri. Deep blue-purple covers most of the walls, with raspberry on some for contrast; tan within the coffered ceiling panels mirrors the tan carpet. Thick, wine-colored velvet drapes block sunlight from the east-facing windows of the walk-out basement; the dark conversion is critical for enjoying movies on the home theater's 106-inch screen. Cherry cabinets and black granite bar tops add to the richness.

The east-facing wall, the walk-out side of the basement, already featured a sliding glass door, but its location was too close to the home theater's screen. The door was replaced with a window and a door was added within the adjoining game room, which gained a bay window.

"When the windows were put in, it went from being a cave to a space with all this light," Scott says.

The studio is fully equipped. A custom-made maple art desk is stationed in one corner; a bank of office machines nestles in a custom cabinet.

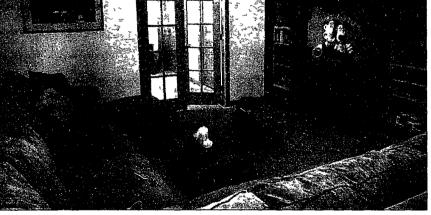
Campbell wanted a hardwood floor - uncommon in basements because of moisture's damaging effects. But a subfloor and a special scalant made it possible.

For the bar, the Campbells found a stylish trio of gold cigar lights, which complement the funky collection of taki cocktail pieces behind the bar

The Campbells originally budgeted about \$80,000 for the basement project. By the time they had everything they wanted, it totaled about \$100,000.

Key in elevating the budget: the elaborate home theater, with its three deep chairs - including cup holders - and a purple sofa on a riser trimmed with running lights.

"I'm not into cars or boats," Scott says. "I'm into home theater."



"Being surrounded by this stuff keeps my imagina- The basement in Debbi and Mark Steffensen's home in Evergreen, Co., mirrors the home's mountain setting.

THE STEFFENSENS

The basement at the Steffensens' Evergreen home makes a statement: Welcome to the mountains.

A faux evergreen sits behind the comfy green sectional. Knotty pine borders windows and is pieced over support beams. The silhouette of Mount Evans climbs high on a wall that houses a home theater system. Images of moose and bears are scattered throughout.

Like the Campbells, Mark and Debbi Steffensen worked with Finished Basement on their 1,200-square-foot space.

None of their clients had wanted anything so rustic before," says Debbi, 40. "I think they enjoyed being able to do something a little different.'

"They definitely wanted to bring that more natural feel inside," says designer Gina Schroeder of Finished Basement. "Usually, the post in the basement is wrapped in drywall, but we did a pine-wrap treatment.

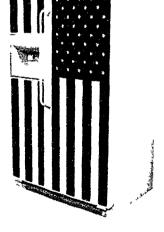
The Steffensens were the first occupants of the home when they moved in almost seven years ago. The basement was unfinished, but its high, 9-foot ceilings invited finishing.

A door from the TV-watching area leads to the guest bedroom, which adjoins a bathroom with fully tiled shower with seat. A kitch-- with tile counter, stainless-steel sink and wood cabinets enette with display shelves - sits in a cozy corner at one side of the landing. Carpet covers the theater area and guest room, while ruddy slate tile fills the rest, which also includes a bay window with striking vistas of the surrounding pine-dotted terrain.

Closeted space behind the 53-inch TV and under the stairs provides access to the electronics and storage for videos.

Placing the bathroom in the strategic spot between the landing and the guest room meant moving the basement's existing plumbing _ an expense of \$8,000. The slate tile ran around \$10,000. The project totaled \$60,000 to \$70,000, Mark says.

'It was better to do it now and enjoy it for 10 years than wait to do it and not be able to enjoy it," he says.



The 'Old Glory' fridge

Flag-waving kitchen appliances say,

'Patriotic and proud!'

By Lynette Evans SAN FRANCISCO CHRONICLE

What better way to keep ourselves focused on our civic duties than to make patriotism the focal point on the kitchen? Yes, fellow Americans, now thanks to Frigo, a company that makes custom frame and panel sets for refrigerators, you can

turn your fridge into a huge American flag. Along with Frigo's Festive Fridge Holiday Collection, which includes Halloween, Thanksgiving, Christmas, Valentine's Day, St. Patrick's Day and Easter panel themes, the Brewerton, N.Y., company is offering the "Spirit of America" flag design.

(800) 836-8746 or Thanks to Frigo ---www.frigodesign.com - you no longer have to suffer with that old white Kenmore or the custom wood-paneled Sub-Zero.

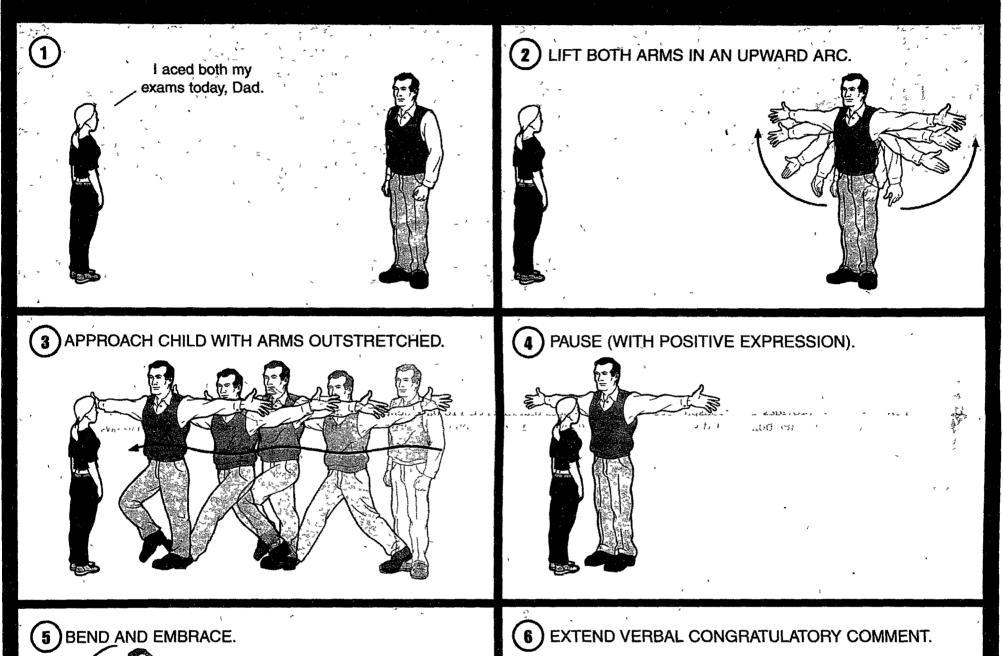
Provided it's built to accommodate custom door panels, for only \$329 you can convert your side-by-side fridge into a huge Old Glory. It's \$449, if the fridge isn't made for custom panels, but, what's another \$120 when you're making your patriotic point?

Heck, the \$30 to \$40 shipping charge (depending on the model) is nothing, either, when you consider that you'll be able to salute the flag every time you reach for a Bud.

Parental Guide #27

"THE SUPPORTIVE HUG"

(Please see diagram below.)







IT'S REALLY NOT THAT DIFFICULT.

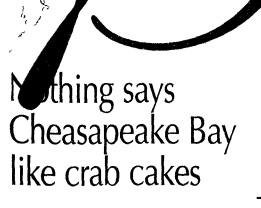
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U S ARMY

art and design by J.J.Sedelmaier Productions



By Jessica Wehrman SCRIPPS HOWARD NEWS SERVICE

Blue crabs are more than just a part of life on the Chesapeake Bay, and for those who live in the region crab cakes are more than just food.

Although "Callinectes sapidus" are found from Maine to Texas, Chesapeake Bay residents know crab cakes like Midwesterners know corn on the cob.

Chef John Shields says most restaurants in Baltimore serve crab cakes — even the Greek pizza place serves a crab cake sub. "People here are totally fanatical about crab," he says, adding that crab cakes are the No. 1 seller at his Baltimore restaurant, Gertrude's.

Greg "Cowboy" Richardson, chef at the Rams Head Tavern in Annapolis, Md., insists that blue crab is the only way to go when making crab cakes. Not Dungeness or King crab, which are found on the West Coast, but the Chesapeake Bay's treasure.

Whether served in a sandwich with slaw and fries or as a sweet, moist entree, chefs agree the key is quality crabmeat, preferably lump or backfin. Because crab is a sweet meat, it should be the star of the show. All other ingredients are merely filler.

Katherine Alford, head of the Food Network's test kitchens, warns that "The hardest thing about making crab cake is the sticker shock. You want to get the best quality you can afford."

Alford advises would-be crab cake-crafters to avoid summi --- the imitation crabmeat. Instead, she suggests jumbo lump crabmeat. The larger the lump, the more expensive it is.

Because of the decline in blue crab harvests in recent years, it's getting more and more expensive about \$22 per pound for Maryland-caught jumbo lump crabmeat last summer, for example.

More groceries are marketing refrigerated pasteurized lump crabmeat - a better option than many frozen brands offered in huge lumps, says Shields, author of "Chesapeake Bay Cooking with John Shields.'

"This product is so amazing," he says. "It is like one degree away from fresh picked crab."

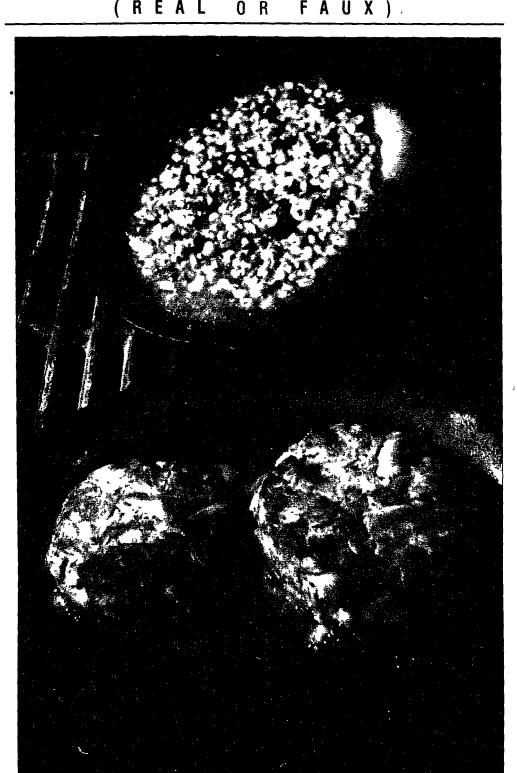
The other key is the binder — the stuff that holds the crab cake together. Some recipes call for bread, others for cracker meal or flour. Traditional Southern crab cakes include cracker meal - it gives the cakes a toasted, nutty taste. Other binders include panko, a type of Japanese bread crumb, and even leftover mashed potatoes.

The less filler, the better, Alford says. Use only enough to hold the cake together, she suggests, but not enough to mute the crabmeat's flavor. For an extra kick, include some onions, celery and spices.

Some chefs deep fry crab cakes, others pan fry or saute until heated through. Others broil them. Alford suggests pan-frying, since deep frying mutes the flavor.

Shields says sauteing and broiling both make great crab cakes, but frying is the favorite among native Baltimoreans. "Those who grew up eating crab cakes at the fire hall or church hall always eat them fried," he says. "It gives this wonderful crispy flavor.'

Richardson is well aware that his crab cakes come under the scrutiny of some of the toughest crab cake



bCakes

HomeTown

115

Crabcakes and corn on the grill dinner at the Ram's Head in Annapolis, Md. (SHNS photo by Bill Clark / Scripps Howard News Service)

FOOD

If your budget is thin, try faking it with fish, not crab

By Janet K. Keeler ST PETERSBURG TIMES

There's no question that the folks of Maryland have something to brag about in their luscious crab cake, a Chesapeake Bay original that leaves a big impression wherever it migrates.

Big lumps of cooked crab, not those shreds from a can, are what make Maryland's legendary crab cake so delicious. But the expense of lump crabmeat encourages experimentation with other seafood.

Filler is frowned upon in an authentic Maryland crab cake. It is natural to want to stretch the expensive meat, but it's blasphemy to cover up the richness of crab with bread crumbs from a box. That's the thinking in Maryland.

Less expensive seafood doesn't create such a dilemma. Frozen cod at \$5.50 a pound and calico scallops for about \$4 make it easy to experiment and far less painful if the results are less than perfect.

Almost any seafood can be molded into a cake, held together with eggs and sometimes mayon-naise, then flavored with everything from fruity hot sauces to Asian spices. Because it's not expensive crabmeat, we don't have philosophical problems with adding bread crumbs. Our goal is to get the finicky cakes to stick together.

Chunks of tangy brie added to whichever meat your wallet allows change the profile of the traditional cake. Grated ginger and water chestnuts give an Asian flair to cakes made of shrimp and scallops. If it's the sea you want to taste, go easy on the additions and limit flavorings to salt, pepper, garlic and onions.

Seafood cakes have three elements: cooked seafood, binder and flavorings. We like our flavorings to come from a combination of spices and veggies such as colorful peppers, scallions, shallots, leeks, celery or water chestnuts. Dice everything small and uniformly so the pieces cook evenly during the brief time they are heated. Bread crumbs do help keep your cakes together, despite the protestations of purists. Unflavored crumbs are the most unobtrusive, but then maybe you want Italian seasonings for your halibut cakes. Egg is also a binder and the only ingredient that needs to be cooked.

We like the coarse, untoasted Japanese bread crumbs called panko. Panko is light, almost tasteless, and the larger crumbs make the cakes crunchier, a good thing if you are broiling, rather than frying, your cakes.

We figured on 2-1/2 cups of bread crumbs for the amount of seafood but started with 2 cups. The remaining 1/2 cup was added because the mixture was too loose. We were finally confident when a tablespoon of the mixture held together when compressed by hand. The final ratio was 2-1/2 cups of bread crumbs to about 1-1/2 pounds of seafood.

Seafood, whether it be fin fish or shellfish, should be cooked before being mixed with other ingredients. We sauteed the cod fillets in a little olive oil, let them cool and then flaked the meat into the mixing bowl. Raw seafood lets off too much moisture during cooking, plus it requires more cooking time, which will burn rather than burnish the cakes.

Cooked shrimp and scallops should be chopped coarsely before being added to the cake mixture.

Take the extra time and chill the molded cakes rving. It makes the different

ure and success.

critics around.

"In this town, they'll let you know whether you've got good crab cakes or not," he says.

1 lb. crabmeat

lemon juice

2 large eggs, beaten

1/2 cup heavy cream

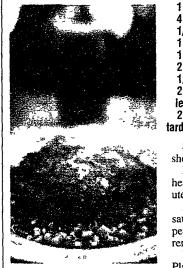


Photo by Bill Clark / Scripps Howard News Service

Crab Cakes

Servings: 4-6 Source: Food Network Kitchens

Photo by Bill Clark / Scripps Howard News Service

1 tablespoon minced fresh flat-4 tablespoon unsalted butter leaf parsley 1/2 cup finely diced onion 2 teaspoon chopped fresh dill Hot sauce, to taste 1 stalk celery, minced 1 tablespoon minced garlic Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper, to taste 3/4 to 1 cup cracker meal, plus 2 tablespoon freshly squeezed more for dredging the cakes 1 to 2 tablespoon vegetable oil 2 tablespoon whole-grain mus-

Spread the crabmeat out on a pan and pick over it to remove any shell. Transfer to a medium bowl.

Melt 1 tablespoon of the butter in a small skillet over medium heat Add the onion, celery, garlic, and cook until soft, about 5 minutes. Cool slightly and add to the bowl of crab.

Add the eggs, cream, lemon juice, mustard, parsley, dill and hot sauce to the crab mixture and mix together. Season with salt and pepper. Add 3/4 cup cracker meal to make a moist mixture. (Add the remaining 1/4 cup of meal if the mixture is very wet.)

Form into 2- to 3-inch round patties (cakes) about 3/4 inch thick. Place the crab cakes on a parchment or wax paper-lined pan, and refrigerate for 1 hour.

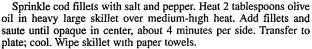
To serve: Dredge the cakes in the cracker meal. Heat a large skillet over medium heat and add the remaining butter and oil. Cook the crab cakes, in two batches, turning once until golden brown and heated through, about 3 to 4 minutes per side. Serve with tartar sauce.

For cakes: 1 lb. cod fillets (can substitute other firm white fish such as halibut, prouner or sea bass) 8 tablespoon olive oil 6-ounce can crab meat **3 tablespoon chopped fresh** parslev 1 cup chopped green onions 1/2 cup yellow peppers, diced small 2 tablespoon flour 2 large garlic cloves, chopped 1-1/2 teaspoon grated lemon peel

crustless bread Salt and pepper 1 large egg For sauce: 1 cup mayonnaise 1 tablespoon capers, drained and chopped 2 tablespoon chopped fresh parslev 1 tablespoon lemon juice 1 clove garlic, minced

2-1/2 cups panko bread crumbs or fresh bread crumbs from

1/4 cup mayonnaise



Flake fillets into large bowl. Mix in crab meat, parsley, green onions, peppers, flour, garlıc, lemon peel and mayonnaise. Mix in 2 cups bread crumbs. Season with salt and pepper, mix in egg. Add remaining 1/2 cup bread crumbs if you need them.

Shape into 10 3-inch-diameter cakes and chill in refrigerator for 30 minutes to an hour. While cakes chill, make sauce by combining all ingredients. Chill. To cook cakes, heat remaining 6 tablespoons of oil in skillet over medium heat. Add fish cakes and cook until brown and crisp, about 4 to 6 minutes per side.



Photo By Scott Keeler / St Petersburg

Seafood Cakes with **Caper Sauce**

Servings: 10 cakes Source: St. Petersburg Times

teems with comfort

By Marty Meitus SCRIPPS HOWARD NEWS SERVICE

When Jay Weinstein, a chef and food commentator for National Public Radio, was asked by the publisher to participate in "A Cup of Comfort Cookbook" (\$12.95, Adams Media Corp.), he thought it would fill a need created by the Sept. 11 attacks.

The cookbook, one in a series of "A Cup of Comfort" books, is a combination of inspirational stories and recipes.

"It's stories from people across America or even some outside America, about experiences in their lives that were distressing that they overcame," Weinstein says. "The stories describe how people have turned to food to bring that settled feeling into their lives."

The recipes are for well-known comfort foods, "the recipes that people turn to in times of stress," he says. To find stories, the editors put out an all-points bulletin to cooking clubs, sewing societies, chat rooms on home cooking, families and friends.

"We got many times more submissions (than we could use)," Weinstein says. "It was an avalanche of responses, but some of the universals kept repeating. We could do an all-meatloaf cookbook based on their submissions."

Weinstein was in charge of defining the comfort foods and adjusting the recipes. "We got a lot of regional recipes, but I felt it was important that these be universally recognized recipes, a touchstone for people," he says.

Based on an unscientific review of the submissions, Weinstein would name the top 10 comfort foods, in order, as mashed potatoes; roast turkey with stuffing and gravy; milkshakes; apple pie; sweet potato pie; grilled cheese sandwiches; chicken soup; bread pudding; spaghetti and meatballs; and brownie sundaes.

The common denominator is that "they're rich, they're stick-to-your-ribs food," he says. "Everyone has to decide what foods they're going to reach for when a difficult time in their lives sends them into the kitchen."

Most people's top 10 are in the book, he says, including barbecued ribs, pot roast, glazed ham, fried chicken and casseroles and his favorite comfort food, roast chicken.

Roasted Chicken with Lemon and Thyme

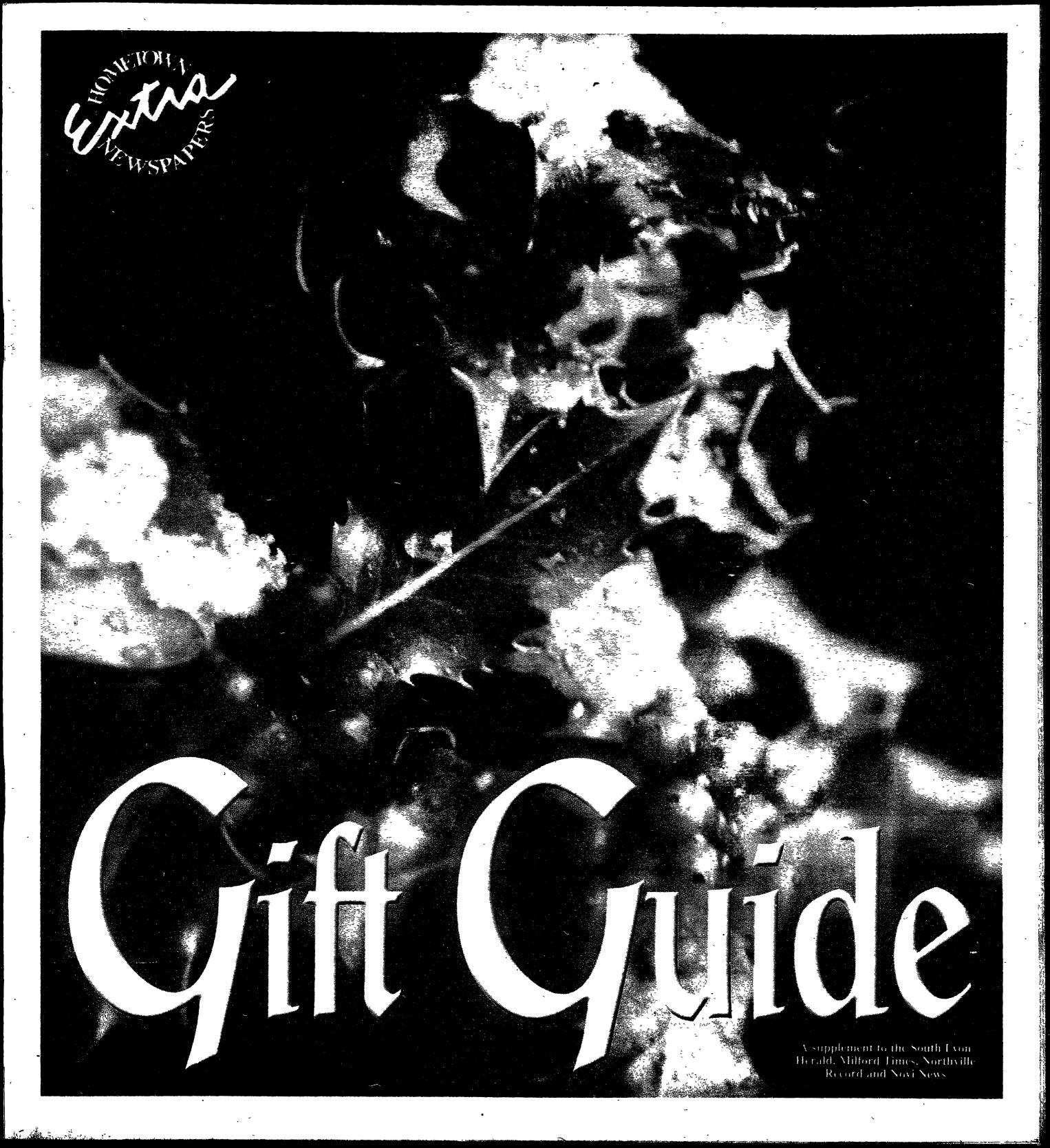
l chicken (3 1/2 to 4 pounds)	1/2 head of garlic, cut in half lateral-
t tablespoon oil	ly
2 teaspoon dried thyme	1 medium onion
) teaspoon salt	1 tablespoon cornstarch, dissolved
1/2 teaspoon ground black pepper	in 1/2 cup cold water
1/2 lemon	•

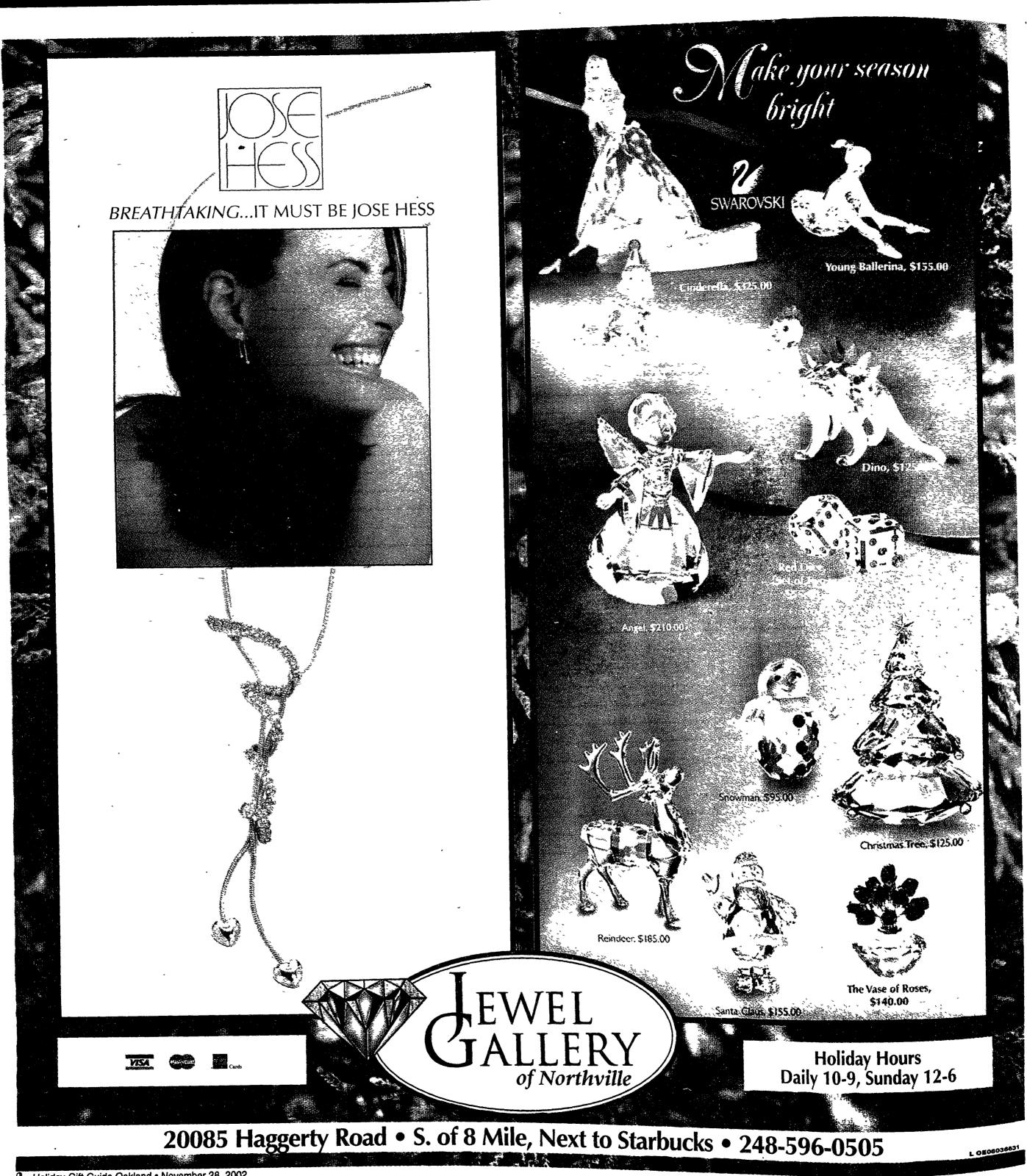
Heat oven to 450 degrees. Rub the chicken inside and out with oil, thyme, salt and pepper. Place the half-lemon and half-head of garlic in the cavity. Place the chicken, breast side up, in a small roasting pan, along with the unpeeled onion. Cook 20 minutes on top rack of oven; lower heat to 325 degrees.

Cook 35 to 45 minutes more, until juices do not appear pink when tipped from the cavity and a thermometer reads 180 degrees in the thigh. Transfer chicken to a cutting board to rest for 15 to 20 minutes.

Meanwhile, add 1 cup of water to the roasting pan. Use a wooden spoon to scrape up all browned bits; transfer to a small saucepan, along with the lemon and garlic from the chicken. Thicken by adding the constarch solution. Simmer 10

minutes and season. Serve the carved chicken with the master onton, quartered, and gravy,





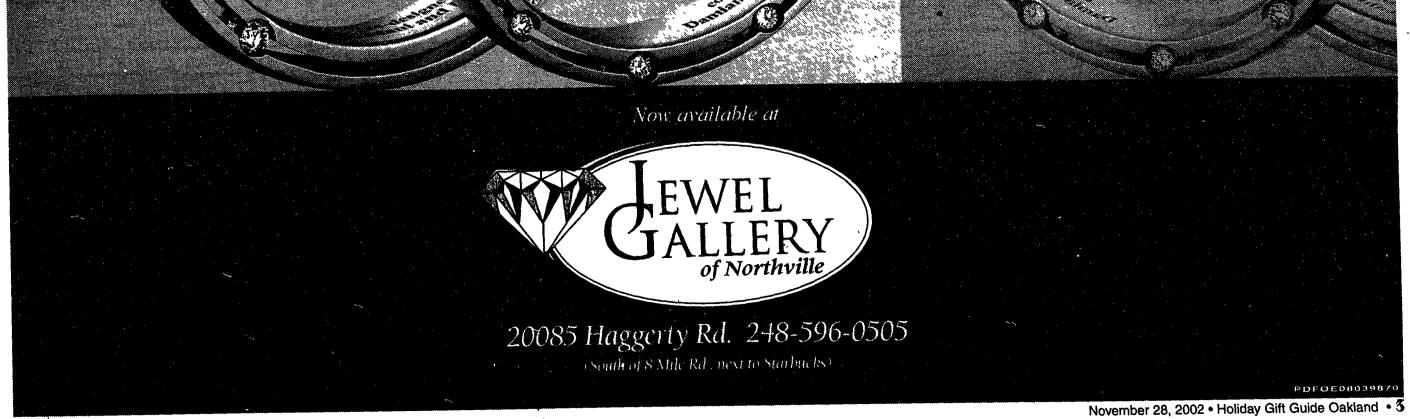
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Spruce up the house for the upcoming holiday season

By Linda Neff SPECIAL WRITER

f the thought of holiday decorating and entertaining in worn, tired-looking rooms seems a little discouraging, why not consider giving gifts for the home this year?

The installation of new window treatments can bring renewed life to almost any room and the addition of a new sofa, chair or dining set provides comfortable and cozy seating for family members and guests.

It's not unusual for couples to forego annual gift-giving to each other in favor of making some major purchases for their home.

Others may simply put off redecorating until the thought of holiday entertaining presses them into action.

Lee Ryden, owner of Auntie Em's in White Lake, said his experience has been that people do tend to get in the redecorating mode around the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays.

"You wouldn't think it would be on their mind," he said, but his business does see an increase in business starting in November when people are busy getting

DECORATING HELP

Auntie Em's, 9135 Highland Road, across from Wal-Mart and Home Depot, in White Lake. Call (248) 698-0455.

Huron Valley Furniture, 319 N. Main St., Milford. Call (248) 684-2265.

ready for the holidays.

Auntie Em's is a Hunter Douglas Gallery selling drapery and blinds by Hunter Douglas and other manufacturers. And for those unsure as to what type of window covering will work best for their home and lifestyle, Ryden can help.

"We would talk through what their true needs are and how they've been using things in the past," he said. "Find out if they're a drapery person or blind person."

Just as having the right window coverings can provide a sense of privacy and elegance to a room, comfortable seating and good lighting can provide a cozy space

"We would talk through what their true needs are and how they've been using things in the past — find out if they're a drapery person or blind person."

> -Lee Ryden Owner of Auntie Em's

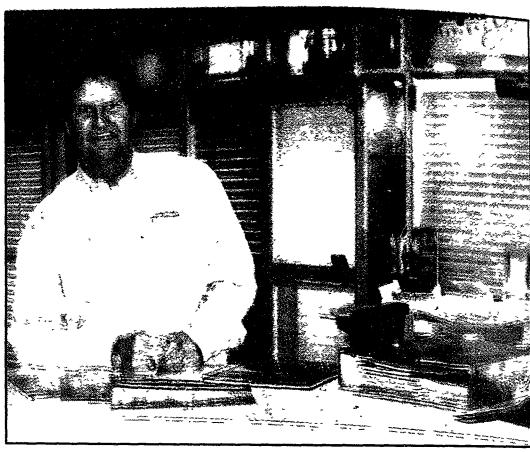


Photo by LINDA NEFF

for family and friends to gather.

This is the time of year when dining tables often take center stage in the home, showcasing beautiful holiday centerpieces.

Slip covers and holiday tablecloths can often be used to mask worn and tired furniture giving it new life and sprucing it up for the holidays.

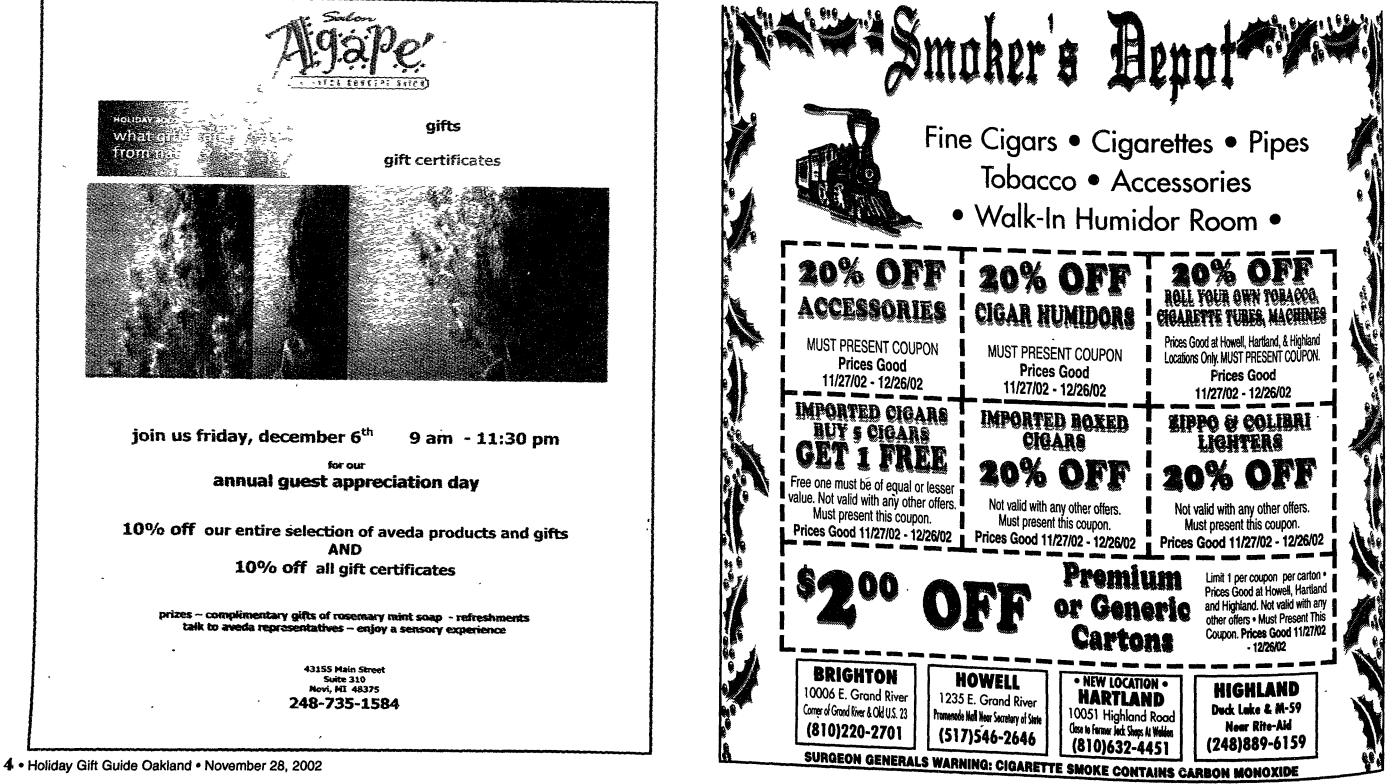
Lee Ryden of Auntie Em's in White Lake is ready to help each customer select the perfect window coverings for their home.

But this is the time of year when homeowners often buy gifts for their home such as sofas, chairs, dining and bedroom sets.

"Furniture (pieces) they buy for themselves," said Chuck Sherman of Huron Valley Furniture in

downtown Milford.

The store has been in operation since 1955 and carries mostly traditional-style full-size furniture that include Bob pieces Timberlake, Clayton Marcus and Lexington.





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Shopping simple for person who has everything

By Linda Neff SPECIAL WRITER

veryone has at least one of them on their Christmas shopping gift list — that person whose name sits there day after day throughout the Christmas shopping season, never seeming to get crossed off.

Every year it's the same old tune; you search and search for the perfect gift, but never find it. Eventually you break and buy something they'll never use.

Rather than put yourself through the ringer again this year, give some thought as to what this person does during the course of their weekday.

Are they a business person going to work each day? Retired and spending their time outdoors? What hobbies do they enjoy? Do they drive a car? Do they enjoy movies? Think about their regular daily activities and let that be your guide as to what type of gift they might find useful and enjoyable.

Gift certificates are becoming quite common but at the same time they are extremely useful.

Think about it, wouldn't you rather receive a gift you could actually use rather than one that is packed away in the closet only to be found when you pack up to move to your retirement home?

Sanford Chandler, whose family owns the newly renovated Howell Theater in downtown Howell, said the theater sells gift cards that are used like a debit card.

He recommends purchasing them in amounts needed to purchase tickets and snacks, such as the \$22.25 date combo.

"A date combo is a large popcorn, two medium soft drinks and two movie tickets," he said.

And even if that person has it all, a gift of discounted golf or a ski lift ticket would always be appreciated if they enjoy such sports such as golf, skiing or snowboarding. Rob Bruhn at Mt. Brighton and The Jackal Golf Club on Bauer Road in Brighton, said the resort offers an all-inclusive gift certificate that can be used for skiing, golf or dining at its new restaurant, the Bauery, scheduled to open sometime in November. Diners can take in the spectacular view overlooking the golf course in summer and the ski resort in winter and the menu will offer appetizers as well as lunch and dinner entrées.

SIMPLE SHOPPING

Appeteaser Restaurant 335 Main St., Milford (248) 685-0989

■ Flats Grille 224 S. Main St., Milford (248) 684-8888

■ Lu and Carl's 100 W. Main St., Brighton (810) 229-9660

Bistro 127
 127 E. Lake St.,
 South Lyon
 (248) 437-9000
 www.bistro127.com

Sharp Presents 213 W. Main St., Brighton (In the Emporium) (810) 229-2164 www.sharppresents.com

 Mt. Brighton/The Jackal Golf Club
 4141 Bauer Road, Brighton
 (810) 229-9581

Howell Theater
 2829 E. Grand River Ave.,
 Howell
 (517) 546-3600

have such a variety to spend it on."

Specialty gift baskets are always fun to receive and James Joseph who owns Sharp Presents in Brighton recommends them for anybody on your list — hard-tobuy-for or otherwise.

He has a large line of gourmet food items he always suggests for someone you're not quite sure about simply because "everybody loves food," and if they don't like it they can simply put it out for any party they may be throwing over the holidays.

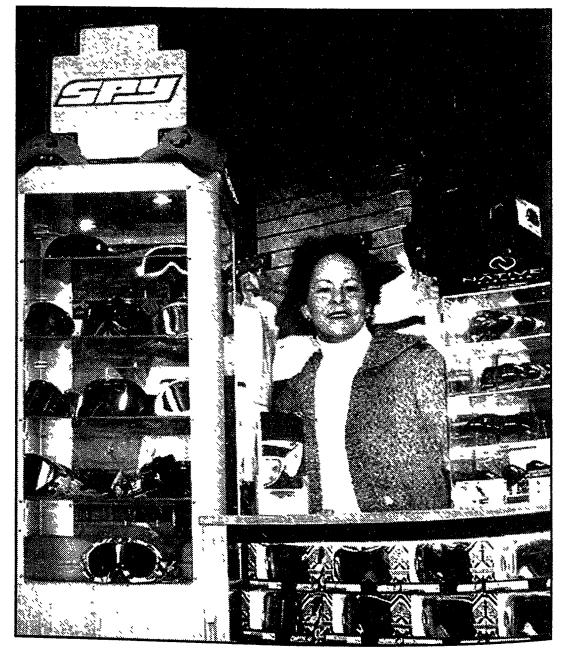


Photos by LINDA NEFF

Above, creating lusciouslooking gift baskets is a specialty of James Joseph who fashions baskets for holidays, special occasions or just to say "you're special." At right, gift certificates are available at Mt. Brighton/ The Jackal Golf Club in Brighton, or Sharon Porter can help shoppers select from a wide array of ski, snowboard and golf accessories.

Joseph said. "I also have a full line of bath and body products."

Baskets can be ordered by visiting the store, by phone and also by ordering directly from the Sharp Presents Web site, www.sharppresents.com.



"It really is a pretty good place (to purchase a gift certificate) because there are so many different things you can use it for," Bruhn said. "It is kind of nice that you Sharp Presents opened in July and is taking holiday gift basket orders. In fact, there's a 10 percent discount on all Christmas baskets ordered by Dec. 1.

Baskets can be filled using gourmet food items such as teas, coffees, cocoas, cookies, chocolate, crackers, cheese and pretzels along with gift items such as tea cups and other specialty items.

"In addition, I put can put in some small interior design pieces such as candles, picture frames, beautiful mugs and hat boxes," And who wouldn't appreciate a gift certificate for their favorite restaurant or maybe for a restaurant they haven't visited yet?

Crossing over the boundary between Oakland and Livingston counties isn't that much of a stretch for a leisurely lunch or dinner at some of the area's favorite eateries. The Appeteaser Restaurant and Flat's Grille in Milford and Lu and Carl's in Brighton, all owned by Chris Angelosante, offer gift certificates in any denomination.

All can be purchased at the respective restaurant or over the phone using a credit card; however the certificates can only be used at

the restaurant it was purchased for.

And if you would like to treat someone to dinner in a quiet comfortable atmosphere, consider giving a gift certificate for Bistro 127 in South Lyon.

Located at 127 E. Lake St., in downtown South Lyon, the restaurant seats 65 and offers a diverse menu and over 100 kinds of wine.

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and and

Where did Christmas cards, gift exchanges come from?

 rom candy canes to brightly decorated gingerbread houses to Santa Claus on every street corner, the holiday season brings some wonderful things.

However, it also ushers in many time-consuming tasks — cooking the holiday meal, picking out the Christmas tree, and especially, buying the perfect gifts for loved ones and writing out holiday cards to faraway friends and family members.

-Have you ever wondered about the origin of exchanging gifts and cards?

According to Donald E. Dossey, Ph.D, author of "Holiday Folklore, Phobias and Fun," by the 12th century, the practice of giving gifts had become common on Christmas, as well as on New Year's Day.

"It was believed to have come from the scriptural account, in Matthew 2:11, of the Three Magi who offered gold, frankincense, and myrrh to the Christ Child," says Dossey.

The origin of sending Christmas cards, he says, began in England.

"Edna Barth in 'Holly, Reindeer, and Colored Lights: The Story of Christmas Symbols,' says that in England, schoolboys away from home sent Christmas letters to their parents."

The letters were printed on paper that had Bible scenes on it, written in their best penmanship. In the hopes of receiving money and gifts, they would tell their parents of their progress at school.

It was in 1839, after the introduction of the penny post in England, that the true Christmas card tradition of sending cards to loved ones developed.

"One thousand copies of the card designed for Sir Henry Cole were sold. Usually regarded as the first of its kind, it was made by J.C. Horsley, a member of the Royal Academy," says Dossey.

In spite of its success, the custom did not

CHRISTMAS SUPERSTITIONS

Superstitions and folklore have a way of patterning our lives — from avoiding black cats to walking around ladders. Christmas is a time for cheer, but it also is filled with lots of folklore. The following "Christmas Magic" is courtesy of "Holiday Folklore, Phobias and Fun," by Donald E. Dossey, Ph.D. Roasting chestnuts in a open fire, named for the available persons you know, is a great divination ploy. The first one that pops will be the one you marry.

If there is a full moon on

Christmas, expect a poor harvest. If you do any household repairs on Christmas Day, the trouble will not be cured and even may get worse.

Hang a sprig of mistletoe over the door. It will chase away the evil spirits and bring good luck.

If you were born on Christmas Day, your life will be a happy and healthy one.

■ Keep your Yule log burning all night. If it goes out, expect bad luck.

Eat plenty of pies on Christmas. It is believed to bring good luck.

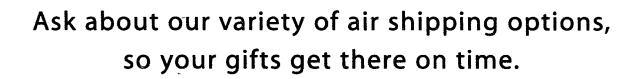
become widespread in America until after the English royal family began sending cards.

Give encouraging words and gifts

for everyone. For some people, the holidays bring on a major case of the blues. Whether it's from the stress of the season not enough money for gifts, lack of time from too much rushing around - or from feeling lonely and missing faraway family and friends, not everyone gets swept up in the holiday spirit. Do you have a friend or family member who is a little down in the dumps this season? It's time to cheer him or her up with some truly thoughtful and unique holiday gifts. Here are some ideas to get you started, courtesy of Robyn Freedman Spizman, author of "When Words Matter Most." • Smart cookies — Send someone a box or arrangement of cookies with a note that says, "You're the smartest cookie I know."

he holidays are here again. A time of happiness and cheer — but not for everyone. For some people, the holidays bring on a major case of the blues.
it's from the stress of the season — it's from the stress of the se

Get It There When You Need It There.





• Penny for your thoughts — Go to the bank and get a bunch of shiny new pennies. Give • All wound up? — Send a windup toy to someone who is stressed out. Add a note that says, "In case you get too wound up, wind this up instead."

• Think the world of someone — Give someone a map of the world tied up in a ribbon with a note that says, "I think the world of you."

• Warm wishes — Send your warmest wishes with a basket filled with your favorite soup, gourmet coffee or anything that will warm someone up.

• Deliver a dictionary — Give someone who is extraordinary a dictionary and underline with a highlighter all the words in it that describe that individual. Add a note that says, "I've underlined words from A to Z, to show how much you mean to me."

Prevent tragedy: Follow these tips to stay safe during holiday season

Candles, lights and decorations are an essential part of the holiday season.

Unfortunately, they also increase the risk of fire and injury.

In fact, the United States Fire Administration reports that holiday fires injure more than 2,000 people and cause more than \$500 million in property damage each year.

To help you and your family to have a safe, healthy and happy holiday season, follow these safety tips, courtesy of the Insurance Information Institute.

· Candles

• Check candles frequently to make sure they don't burn down too far or drip hot wax.

• Snuff out all candles before going to sleep.

• When burning candles, make sure they are placed in sturdy, noncombustible holders away from decorations and other combustible materials.

Fireplaces

• Never burn wrapping paper in the fireplace; this may release fire-starting embers or produce a buildup of dangerous chemical fumes in the home.

Entertaining

• If you entertain guests who smoke, provide large ashtrays and check for cigarette butts in upholstered furniture before going to bed. Cigarette fires are the leading cause of fire fatalities in the home.

· Don't leave the stove unattended when cooking for guests; in the excitement of holiday entertaining, it is easy to forget about the stove.

Children and Pets

• Place all ornaments out of reach of small children and pets. Small or breakable ornaments easily can be knocked down. This can result in cuts or choking.

• Be sure to anchor the tree to the wall and ceiling - curious children and playful pets can topple a tree in seconds, causing serious injury.

• Beware of toxic decorations. Mistletoe and holly berries may be poisonous if more than a few are swallowed. Old tinsel may contain lead. Fire salts (which produce a multicolored effect when thrown on burning wood) contain heavy metal, which if swallowed may cause serious gastrointestinal problems and vomiting.

Get into the habit of checking the batteries on smoke detectors.

Print a list of emergency numbers like the poison control, police and fire departments and place them near each telephone in the home.

This will help you give your family the most important gift of the season — the gift of safety.

Share the joy of gift giving with children

he holidays are an opportunity to gather with family, friends and loved ones and share special moments while creating memories that last a lifetime.

They represent a time to reflect upon the past, take joy in the present and renew hope for the future.

To some, the holidays mean gathering around the table for a festive feast, while to children, the holidays mean, well, what else - gifts!

This season, share the joy of gift giving with your child by providing the tools to make gifts for others.

Loved ones will appreciate that their gifts were made with them in mind, while children can take delight in knowing that they've accomplished a project of their own creation.

Most importantly, the steps and time

teaches a child that the best gifts of all whether given or received — are those that come from the heart.

Following are some creative gift ideas to share with your child — they're sure to make any recipient proud.

• Coupon book — A child's homemade, self-illustrated book of coupons to be redeemed as household chores may be the perfect gift for mom or dad. For example, a child can design a coupon that's good towards one day of taking out the trash and another that's good towards cleaning up the living room.

• Homemade picture frame — There's nothing more touching than receiving a photograph from a child or grandchild.

involved in making a gift for a loved one Help a young one make the experience unique by providing the materials to make a homemade picture frame. Marbles, popsicle sticks and beads all are items that easily can be glued in decorative patterns onto a picture frame to create a personalized, one-ofa-kind gift.

> • Drawings - Help a child create a masterpiece for grandma or grandpa by providing unique items which the child can use to create a collage. Scraps of fabric, yarn, buttons, cotton balls or any other household items can turn an ordinary crayon drawing into a three-dimensional work of art.

> • Homemade cookies - Take a day to bake with your child. A young one can take pride in having baked his or her own gift batch of cookies, not to mention practicing measures and the importance of following

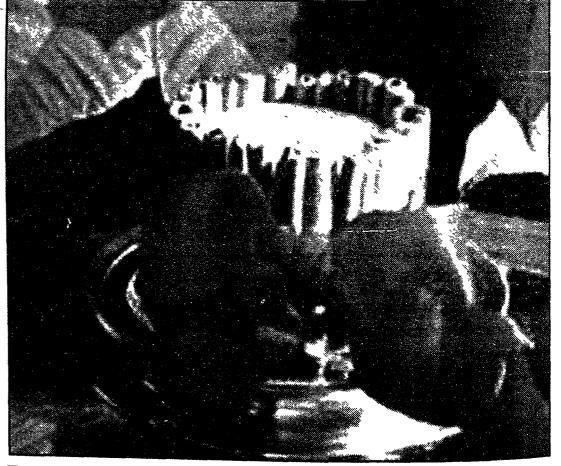
directions.

• Storybook — Have a child write and illustrate his or her own story. For a truly memorable gift, once the child has added the final artistic touches to the story, take the book to the local copy center where the pages can be bound inexpensively into a booklet, or even duplicated to share with other family members.

• Herb garden — An herb garden is an inexpensive, exciting gift for a child to give when he or she is the one who has planted the seeds. Show the child how much water and light the seeds require, and watch the child take pride in raising the seeds into edible herbs.

A word to the wise: In the event that something should go wrong, it wouldn't hurt to have a backup gift just in case!

Brighten up holiday table with homemade candles



uring Christmastime, the exterior of many homes are decorated in brilliantly colored lights, tinsel and animated figures.

However, you also can "make every corner" inside the home "beautiful with simple ideas that say Merry Christmas," says Barbara Milo Ohrbach, author of "Tabletops."

One of the easiest ways to brighten a table is with candles.

"Candlelight on the table at holiday time creates a festive mood," says Ohrbach.

Whether on your holiday table, or

as a gift for a loved one's home, making beautiful and unique candles is simple.

The following holiday candles make use of everyday, normal items, _ 3. Tightly tie wired ribbon or raflike cinnamon sticks, cranberries and ribbons, to turn simple candles into something special.

Cinnamon Stick Wrap 3-inch cinnamon sticks 2-inch pillar candle Rubber band Wired ribbon or natural raffia 1. Stand the cinnamon sticks next to one another halfway around the candle, and rubber band them tightly into place.

2. Add the remaining cinnamon sticks, covering the rest of the candle.

fia around the middle and bow.

Cranberry Star Bag of dried cranberries 12 inches of florist wire 18 inches of satin ribbon 1. Thread the cranberries onto the wire through their center, leaving 1 inch of wire at each end. 2. Twist both ends together

securely, making a loop with the wire.

This Cinnamon Stick Wrap candle will create a festive mood when placed on any table this holiday season.

3. Sharply indent the wire five 4. Tie a ribbon through the loop times to make a star pattern. and onto a candlestick.

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Special holiday events

Parades, raffles and Santa make shopping locally fun

By Candy Parent HOMETOWN NEWSPAPERS

"You better watch out; You better not cry; *Better not pout;* I'm telling you why: Santa Claus is comin' to town."

In addition to toys and games, Santa is bringing a variety of festive events and activities for all to enjoy. Don't miss them.

Northville

• Fantasy of Trees, through Dec. 15. Visit the Northville Public Library and enter to win a professionally decorated Christmas tree.

• Visit with Santa, through Christmas. Santa is at the gazebo from 6-9 p.m. Fridays and noon to 3 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays courtesy of the Northville Central Business Association and the Northville Rotary Club.

• Holiday Treat, Dec. 6. Children are invited to a special holiday concert from 6:30-8 p.m. at the Community Center on Main Street. Tickets are \$6 each. Call Northville Parks and Recreation at (248) $349-\overline{0}203$ ext. 1411 for more information.

• Handcrafters Craft Show, Dec. 13-15. Shop for unique, handmade items at the Northville Community Center on Main Street. Call (734) 459-0050 for more information.

Continued on page 10



File photo by JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWN NEWSPAPERS

Each year, Northville District Library holds the Fantasy of Trees raffle.



Special events provide entertainment for the entire family

Continued from page 9

• All Aglow Illumination for Education, Dec. 13. The Mothers' Club of Northville will hold a tree illumination ceremony at 6 p.m. in the gazebo.

• Candlelight Shopping, Dec. 13. The Northville Central Business Association invites all to shop, dine and enjoy holiday entertainment from 6-11 p.m.

Highland

• Treè Lighting Ceremony, Dec. 2.

The Highland Business Association's annual holiday event begins at 7 p.m. at Highland Firestation No. 1, located at the corner of Livingston Road and St. John Street.

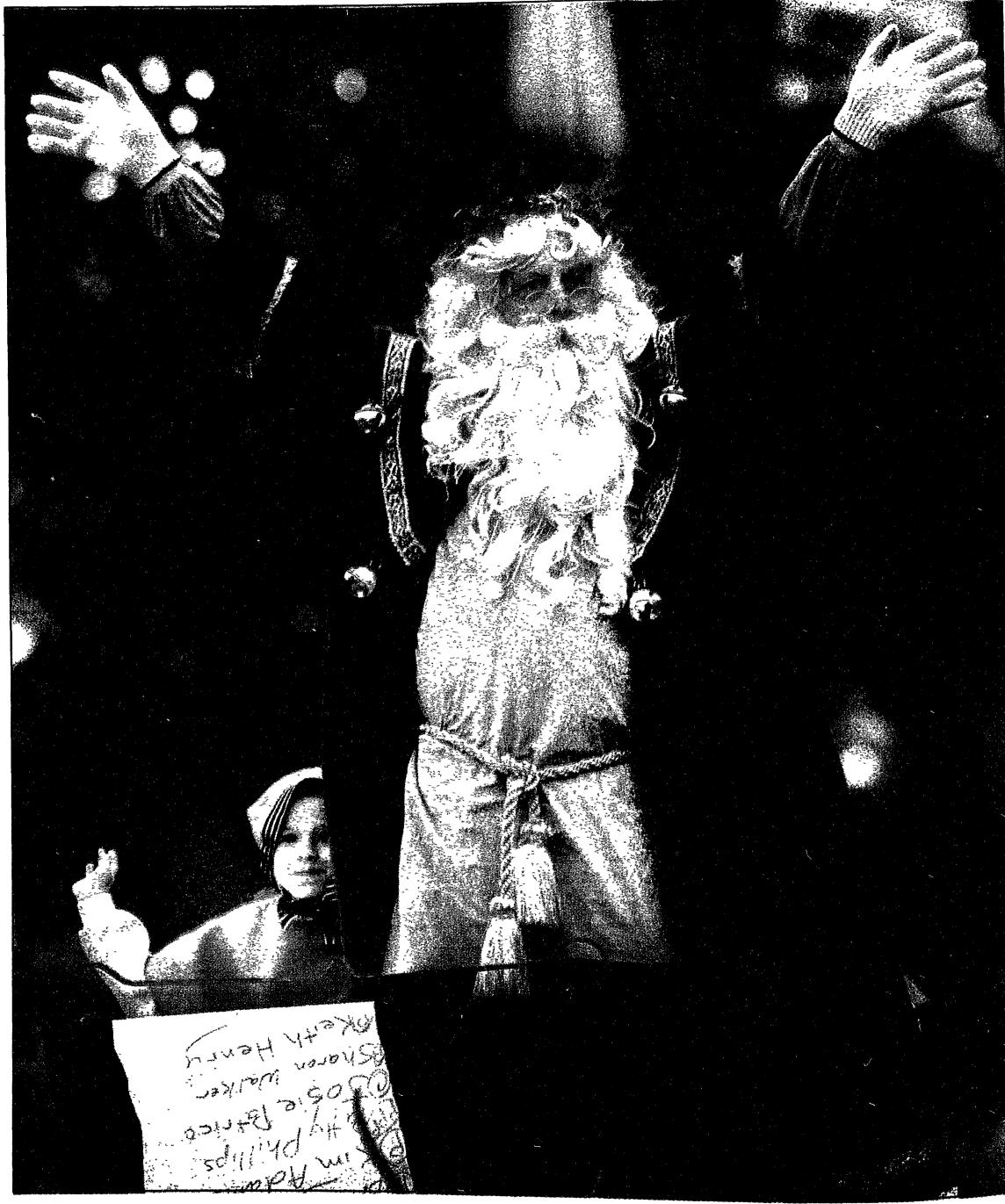
The event includes a tree lighting ceremony, holiday sing-along led by local school choirs, and the arrival of Santa Claus on a fire truck.

Participants are asked to bring a canned good item for the Highland Goodfellows. There is no other charge for this program.

• **Red Box Food Drive**, through Dec. 13.

The Highland Business Association distributes red plastic boxes to its members to collect canned and non-perishable foot items from employees and customers.

The red boxes are picked up by the Goodfellows (Highland fireman) who use the items to create holiday baskets. Last year, 125 baskets were deliv-



ered in time for Christmas.

White Lake

• Christmas party, Dec. 7. The White Lake Township Business Association invites the public to its annual party from 1-4 p.m. at Independence Village, located at 935 Union Lake Road, White Lake.

Activities invluce a visit with Santa, holiday sing-along and light refreshments. There is no charge for the program.

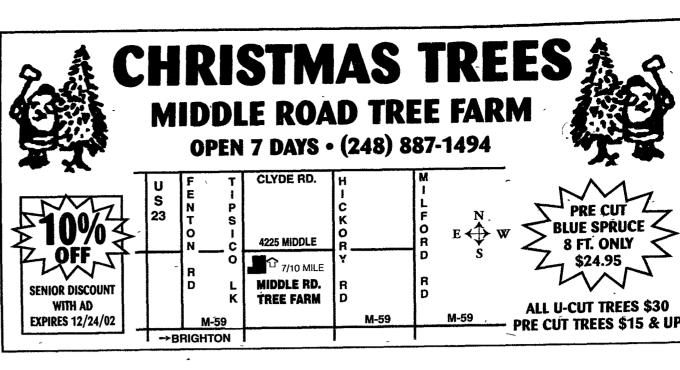
File photo by HAL GOULD/HOMETOWN NEWSPAPERS

Santa arrives for last year's parade in downtown Milford. This year's event is Saturday.

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Santa Claus is coming to Novi

Rachel Murray seems to be having a jolly old time visiting with Santa Claus after Novi's Main Street Holiday Walk and Tree-Lighting ceremony last year. Kids young and old lined up inside Novi's Main Street shopping area to visit with the man from the North Pole.

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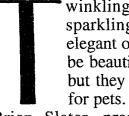
810-231-5555

Don't forget the pets during this holiday season



Pat Curry, owner of Pet Stop in South Lyon, offers many gift ideas for pets and pet lovers.

By Candy Parent HOMETOWN NEWSPAPERS



winkling lights, sparkling tinsel and elegant ornaments may be beautiful to look at, but they are dangerous for pets.

Brian Slater, president of Pet Supplies Plus in Howell, encourages owners to think of pets as children.

"Use common sense," he said. Just as one wouldn't leave children without supervision, pets should be watched when they play or eat.

Christmas trees create all sorts of temptations for dogs and cats.

"Cats love to climb in them and dogs love to drink out of the tree stand. Both of these things can knock a tree over," said Amy Otto, a volunteer with the Humane Society of Livingston County.

Pets need to be kept away from the tree when owners leave — even for a short period of time — and watched closely when they are home. The lights can burn a pet's nose, warns Slater, and they could choke on the ornament hooks. Of course, a dog or cat could also injure themselves on a glass ornament and the water in the tree stand could be toxic if fertilizers are added.

PET LOVERS

Pet Supplies Plus
 8703 W. Grand River Ave.,
 Brighton (810) 220-4799
 Pet Supplies Plus
 2640 E. Grand Diver Ave.

2649 E. Grand River Ave., Howell (517) 552-2493

Pet Stop 20752 Pontiac Trail in the Kroger Plaza South Lyon (248) 486-5838

than humans.

pets."

"Also, any stuffed animal could be bait for your pooch to go under the tree and get himself a new chew toy," warns Otto.

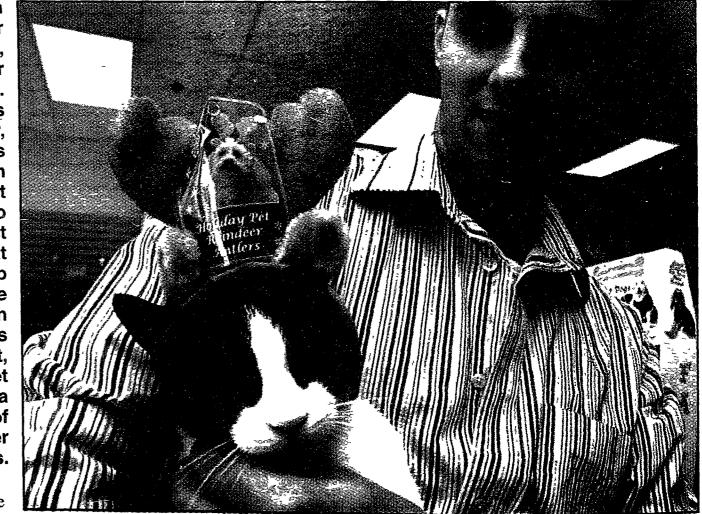
Pat Curry, co-owner of Pet Stop, located at Eight Mile and Pontiac Trail in South Lyon, adds that many plants used to decorate for the holidays, including poinsettias, holly, ivy and mistletoe, are toxic and should be kept away from pets.

Once the dangers of Christmas



Above, Ed, an African spur desert turtle, is ready for Christmas. Dressed in his festive wear, he walks around South Lyon's Pet Stop ready to assist customers. At right, Pet Stop employee

Photos by TODD VANSICKLE



"Try putting the tree in a room that the animals don't go into much, or keep it closed off while you are not home," recommends Otto.

Otto also recommends wrapping cords securely and hanging glass and food ornaments, like candy canes or bread dough, up high in the tree.

Additionally, extra care should be taken when placing packages under the tree. Long ribbons should be hidden or left off so they don't attract kittens, said Otto. Any presents containing food will also attract pets who have more sensitive noses are addressed, however, it's time to celebrate Christmas with pets.

Holiday treats for pets "People spoil their pet, at Christmas just like they would a child," said Slater. "Christmastime is the busiest time of the year for

Pet Stop has a variety of toys, treats and pre-filled stocking ready for pets. The store even offers rope bones in Christmas colors.

Pet Supplies Plus in Genoa Township offers a variety of dog and cat toys, including the Yuppy Puppy Food Dispenser — a toy that dispenses treats. Dog antlers and jingle bells are available for those who wish to turn their dog into a reinRyan Genson shows off his favorite cat, Bob, at Pet Stop with a pair of reindeer antiers.

deer. And cats are sure to love a cas-

١.

tle, tree or other climbing structure the store offers.

Otto reminds pet owners not to give dogs and cats leftovers, especially poultry bones.

"If you want something special for your four-legged friend's dinner, go to the pet store first and pick it up there," she said.

Giving pels as gifts And, when it's time to buy gifts for the pet lovers on your list, Pet

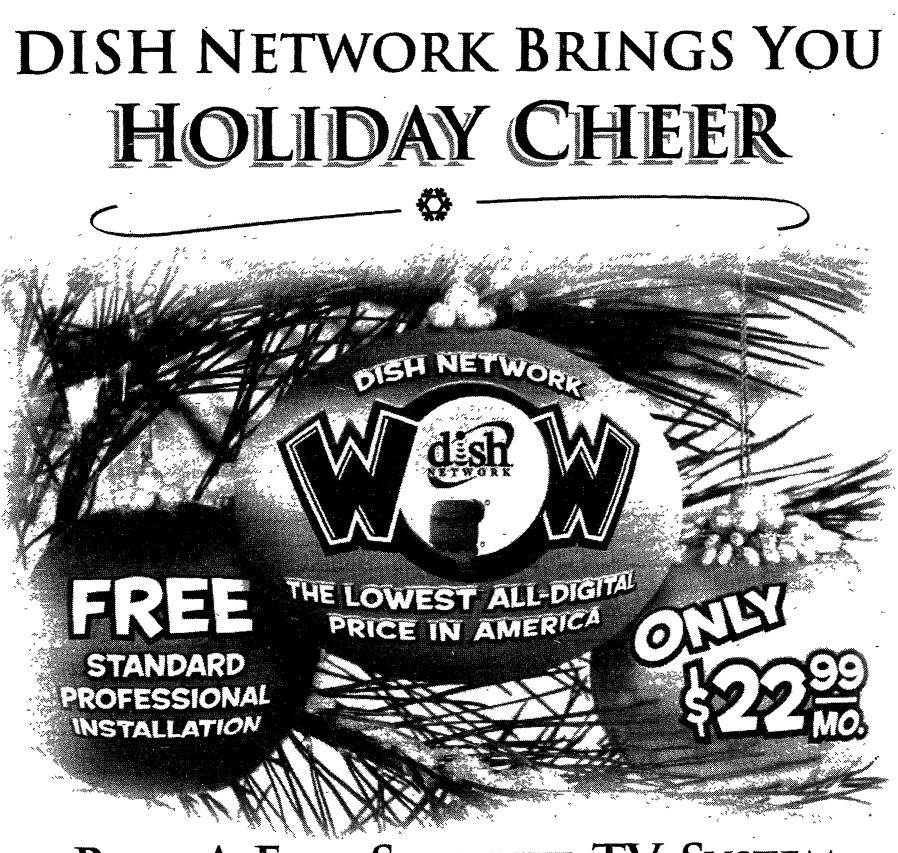
Stop offers birds, fish and reptiles, but Curry doesn't recommend giving someone a pet as a gift.

"I don't recommend it unless the recipient is aware they're going to get it and they want it. To just surprise someone with a pet is not a good plan," she said.

Parents should also keep in mind they will be the primary caregiverand make sure they're ready to accept the responsibility before purchasing a pet for their child, said Curry.

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Plus, A Free Satellite TV System

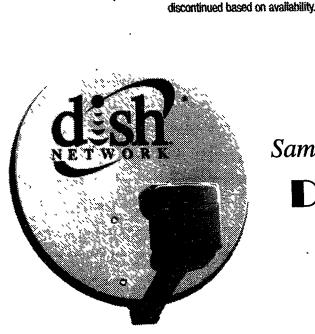
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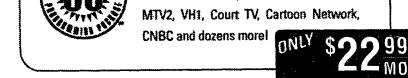
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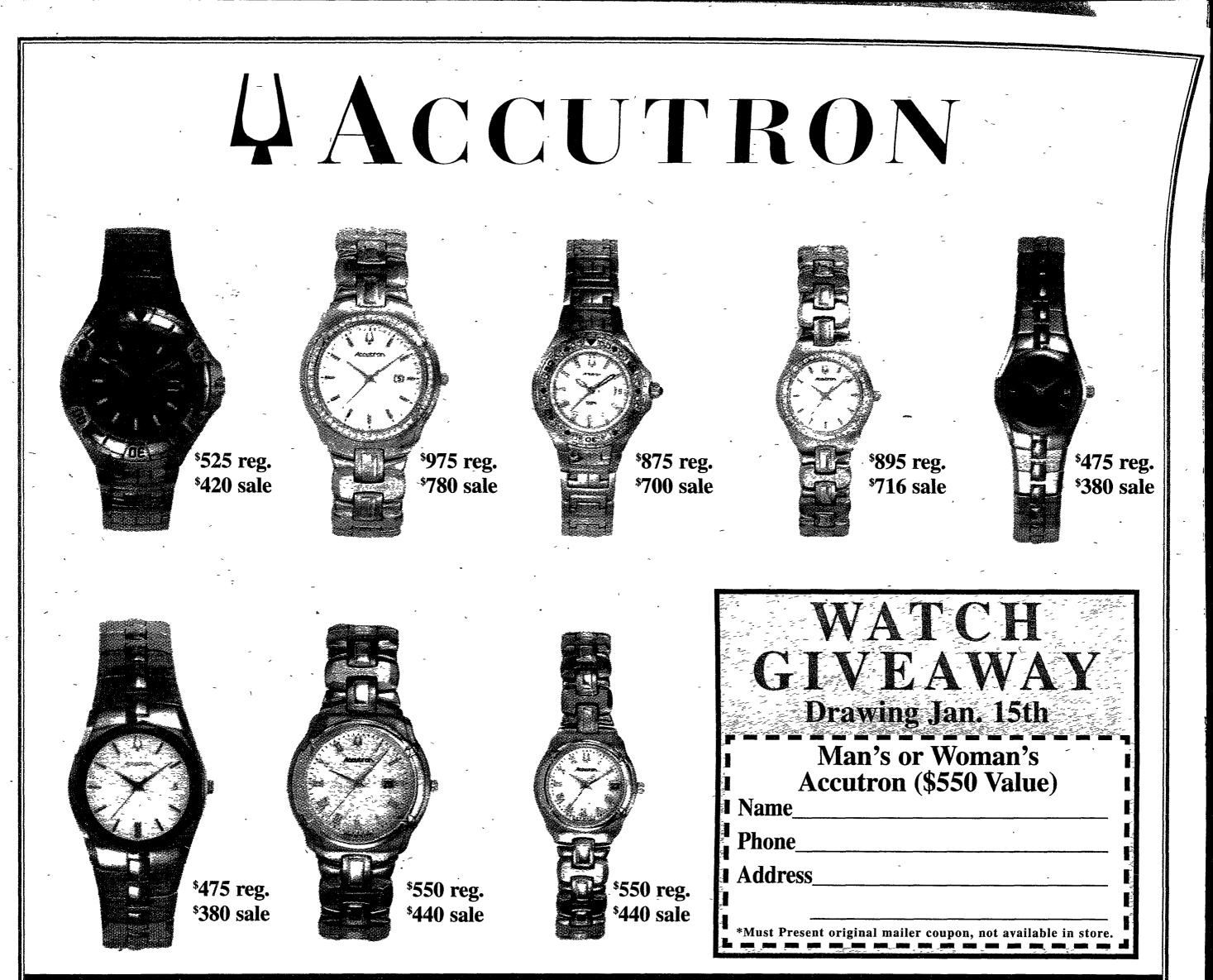
DigiComm Electronics, Inc.

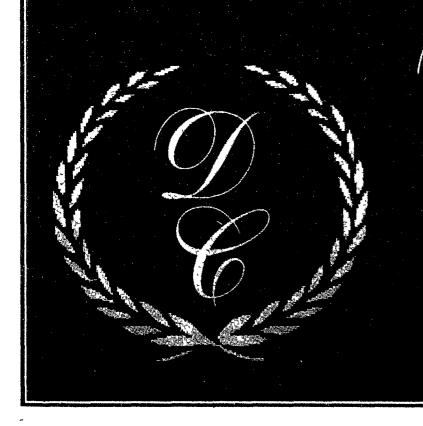
22882 Pontiac Trail • South Lyon

(248) 486-4343

Offer ends 1/12/03. All prices, packages and programming subject to change without notice. Available for new, first-time DISH Network residential customers only. \$240 Cancellation Fee applies for early termination of services contract. Supplies limited to available stock on hand. Local and state sales taxes may apply. All DISH Network programming, and any other services that are provided, are subject to the terms and conditions of the Residential Customer Agreement, which is available upon request. Hardware and programming sold separately. Significant restrictions apply to DISH Network hardware and programming availability, and for all offers. See your DISH Network Retailer, DISH Network product literature or the DISH Network website at www.dishnetwork.com for complete details and restrictions. All service marks and trademarks belong to their respective owners.







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Photo by HOPE LASH

Diane's Doll House in South Lyon offers both collectible dolls and the hottest toys for children and adults of all ages.

These toys are sure to be a hit with kids

By Hope Lash SPECIAL WRITER Roest said that Madame Alexander, Ginny, Madeline, life-like baby dolls by Lee Middleton and "Get Real Girls" are also popular choices for a favorite niece or granddaughter at Christmastime.

"I have a U-M and MSU chess game that's adorable."

SHOPPING FOR TOYS

roovy Girls, YuGiOh, LRC and Z might sound unfamiliar now, but they're hot items to include on any kid's wish list according to local toy store owners. "YuGiOh collector cards are the hottest thing out there for boys," said Lou LaChance, owner of Ultimate Toys & Gifts in Northville.

YuGiOh cards, which LaChance described as an update to Pokemon cards, are available in starter decks and booster packs.

Groovy Girls, 12-inch soft dolls with trendy clothes, are "very, very popular with the girls," noted Diane Roest, owner of Diane's Doll House in South Lyon.

The reasonably priced dolls are available in all hair colors and styles with a large assortment of outfits to select from, as well as groovy accessories like a VW Bug car, motor scooter and bed.

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"Of course, American Girl is the most popular," LaChance added.

"Z" cards will make great stocking stuffers for boys and girls. Five scenic "Z" cards come in a pack with pop out pieces and are packaged in themes like animals, airplanes and birds.

"They've been selling like hotcakes," LaChance said.

Other sure bets for quality children's gifts include classic wooden puzzles, Smithsonian science lab gifts for girls or boys older than 6 years old, and toy soldiers. Model trains, remote control planes, rocket kits and Knex construction sets are always good choices for future Thomas Edisons and architects.

When in doubt, though, buy a game. At the Northville toy store, a great new family game called "LRC – Left, Right, Center" has been -Diane Roest Owner of Diane's Doll House in South Lyon

hard to keep in stock.

"It's incredible," said LaChance about the new dice game with chips. "We sell four or five dozen per month."

In South Lyon, Roest stocks many board games with a regional twist.

"I have a U-M and MSU chess game that's adorable," she said.

Corvette, NHL, Wizard of OZ, NASCAR, Elvis and Scooby Doo are just some of the Monopoly games titles available with a specific focus. Diane's Doll House
 Corner of 10 Mile and Pontiac Trail
 in South Lyon
 (248) 486-0450

Hometown Hobby Shop 20744 Pontiac Trail, South Lyon (248) 437-5510

Purple Cow Toys20754 Pontiac Trail, South Lyon(248) 486-3890

Ultimate Toys & Gifts 123 Main St., Northville (248) 305-9990

Pets don't always make the perfect Christmas present

Continued from page 12

Curry recommends fish, certain lizards and small birds for first-time pets for children, as long as they are supervised while playing with the pet.

If parents decide to adopt a

dog or cat as a gift, Otto recommends placing a stuffed animal under the tree and taking the child to the shelter to adopt the pet after the holidays.

Parents might even include an interactive CD book such as "Tricks and Tips for Dog Training," available at Pet Stop.

"People should be aware that the holidays are a stressful time for people and animals and it's not always a good idea to throw a young animal into that situation," Otto, said.

Stock the sock . . .

Let your imagination run wild with any number of wonderful ideas for holiday stockings. A Christmas tradition, stockings can be used for any of the winter holidays including Chanukah and Kwanzaa. Wrap one up in pretty tissue paper and give as a house-warming gift or home for a child's favorite doll or stuffed animal. Revive an old sweater by making a stocking from its prettiest parts. Stockings made from cardigans (center and right) need no embellishment. Their collars are the stockings' cuffs, their buttons the decorations. The chest pocket of a pullover becomes a handy holder for candy on a ribbed-sweater stocking (left).

Get trapped in a spider's web

Christmas ach morning children bound down the steps, anxious to see what wonder-

the present belongs, and each person in the family gets a chance to be Santa until all of the gifts are distributed.

This year, take a different

included a story that described the distribution of gifts via a spider's web.

Bright ribbons hang from a chandelier, each attached at its far end to a wrapped

- Each recipient must find



MARKETPLACE

How do you say "Thank You" to your special friends, staff, clients or customers?



We have a few thousand ideas

ful gifts Santa has left for them.

Oftentimes, family members take turns being "Santa." Santa calls out the name of the person to whom approach to handing out Christmas goodies — one package. that has existed since the late the ribbon with their name 1800s. The December 1876 issue on it, and follow it to their

of St. Nicholas magazine gift.

Book giving takes research

idea, but it's not always easy to know what to look for.

Before you go shopping, be sure to take a few minutes to verify the recipient's tastes.

Giving books as gifts is always a good interest in American history, but your interests may diverge in time periods.

It's also a good idea to check how much your intended likes a particular topic.

This may help you decide whether to purchase a special edition hardbound copy For example, you may both share an or a simple, less expensive paperback.

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KED

Santa science

So many kids, so little time, how does he do it?

By Scott Hilyard COPLEY NEWS SERVICE

he question is inevitable. Sooner or later your child will ask — and you're hoping, for lots of obvious reasons, that it comes more early grade-school age than late college — the following question:

"How can Santa Claus make and give presents to every child in the world using only elves, flying reindeer and his sleigh?"

As a parent you have two options. Two possible answers. Two avenues of response.

Here's the first one:

(Many of the facts and calculations appeared years ago in a newsletter published by the National Association of Scholars in a form found, usually without attribution, all over the Internet. We trust the World Wide Web data is accurate, which, we know, is a little like trusting that a certain species of wingless, fur-bearing and potentially, if rarely, red-nosed reindeer can fly.)

There are 2 billion children age 17 and younger in the world, but only a small percentage actually receives gifts from Santa. Muslim, Hindu, Buddhist and Jewish families don't celebrate Christmas and thus have established other traditions by which to impart youthful necessities — such as Tickle Me Elmo and Xbox — on their children.

"That reduces the workload to 15 percent of the total, or 379 million, according to the Population Reference Bureau," the newsletter reads. "At an average (worldwide) census rate of 3.5 children per household, that's 108 million homes."

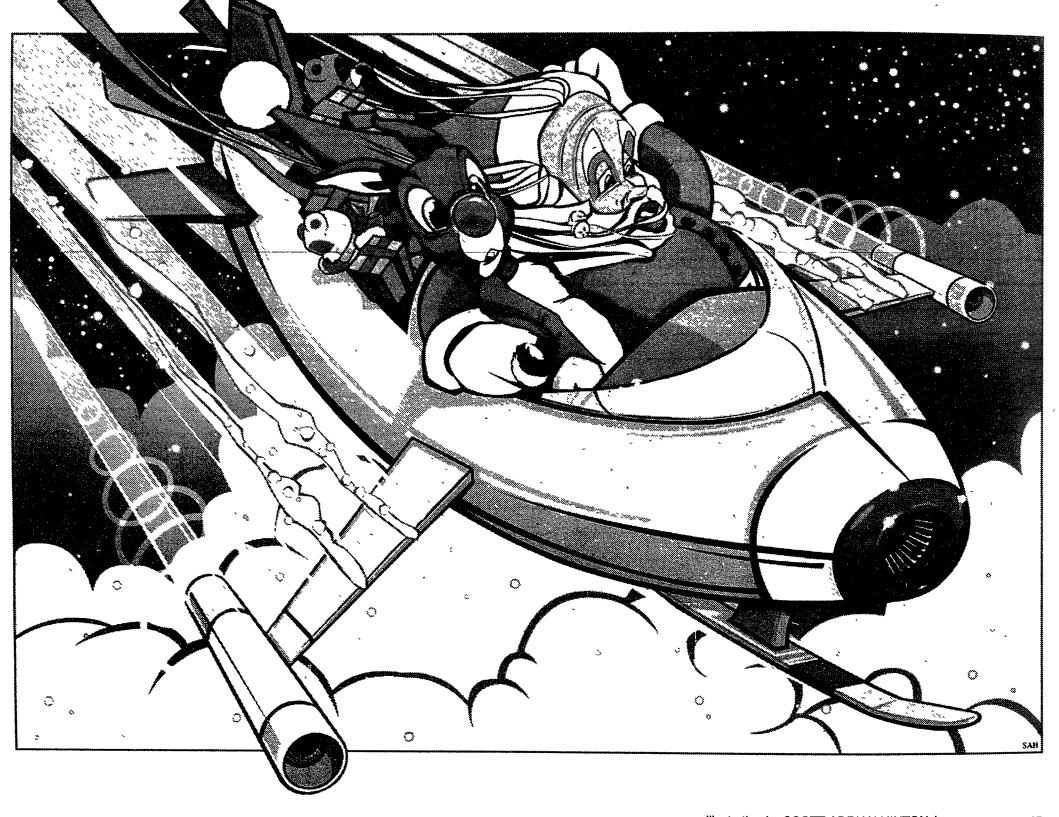


Illustration by SCOTT ADRIAN HINTON /COPLEY NEWS SERVICE

When children do the math, many discover that Santa's worldwide delivery schedule just doesn't add up.

The scholar association newsletter, using an assumption of .78 miles between households (Santa still has to cross oceans and mountain ranges. which up the average distance between stops) calculated the total distance of his trip --from North Pole back to North Pole — at 75.5 million miles. To accomplish that distance in 31 hours means his sleigh must travel at 650 miles a second, or 3,000 times the speed of sound. "For purposes of comparison, the fastest man-made vehicle, the Ulysses space probe, moves at a pokey 27.4 miles a second," according to the newsletter. The space shuttle completes one orbital swoop around the globe every 90 minutes, a fact that seems to open the door to the possibility of Santa's daunting task. The whole world? Ninety minutes? And Santa has 31 hours? Hmm ... "It's the starting and stopping, the braking and accelerating that are going to be Santa's problems," said Sheldon Schaefer, the director of science at Lakeview Museum in Peoria, III. That and Einstein's theory of relativity. "Say Santa traveled at speeds approaching the speed of light (186,282 miles per second)," postulated Schaefer. "At that speed, time for the traveler (Santa) stands still while everyone else ages at a normal rate. Santa would return unchanged to find Earth had aged 500 years." That's a problem. So is what it would take for Santa's reindeer to pull a sleigh loaded down with gifts at a rate of 186,282 miles per second. "It would take an infinite amount of energy," Schaefer said.

Finally, Santa must have found a way to mitigate the problem of air resistance.

According to the newsletter, "600,000 tons traveling at 650 miles per second creates enormous air resistance. This will heat the reindeer up in the same fashion as spacecraft reentering the Earth's atmosphere. The lead pair of reindeer will absorb 14.3 quintillion joules of energy, per second, each." That would, under normally applied laws of physics, cause the reindeer to burst "instantaneously into flame, exposing the reindeer behind them, and create deafening sonic booms in their wake. Santa, meanwhile, will be subjected to centrifugal forces 17,500.06 times greater than gravity, and would be pinned to the back of his sleigh by 4,315,015 pounds of force."

Now we're working with hard data.

Racing ahead of the approaching dawn by moving in the opposite direction of the rising sun, Santa has 31 hours to make his deliveries. Global time zones and the Earth's rotation give him a longer-than-24-hour Christmas Day. Adrenaline, bottomless lattes and a sugar cookie buzz give him the ability to stay awake throughout the trip.

Do the math: Santa has to make 967.7 visits per second.

Next comes Santa's second-biggest problem, keeping up the pace on a trip that takes him not just around the world, but to every continent, every country, every city, every dinky little town and remote area on the planet.

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The sleigh's cargo adds another "interesting element," according to the newsletter.

"Assuming (3 pounds of gifts per child) the sleigh is carrying more than 500,000 tons," the newsletter says.

If Santa's reindeer could pull 10 times their normal amount it would take not eight or nine Donner and Blitzen, et al., but 360,000 reindeer increasing the weight of the sleigh to an unwieldy 600,000 tons. By comparison, that's seven times the weight of the Queen Elizabeth ocean liner.

Which can only mean one thing: Santa's reindeer are not just freakishly aerodynamic, they're real strong, too.

That's the scientific explanation of the potential problems Santa must overcome to accomplish his yearly trip.

Here's the second way to answer the "How can Santa Claus ..." question:

It's magic. Go to bed. Your choice.

Good book perfect gift for reader on list

"All good books are alike in that they are truer than if they had really happened and after you are finished reading one you will feel that all that happened to you and afterwards it all belongs to you: the good and the bad, the ecstasy, the remorse and sorrow, the people and the places and how the weather was. If you can get so that you can give that to people, then you are a writer."

- Ernest Hemingway

By Candy Parent HOMETOWN NEWSPAPERS

rnest Hemingway knew what was required to so captivate a reader that they ignored all obligations and became one with a book. Although thousands of books are written and published each year, few of them command the undivided attention of the reader. These can't-put-it-down, forget-to-eat,

won't-go-to-sleep books are good for more than just rainy days or quiet, no-television evenings: They also make great holiday gifts.

Of course, separating the incredible from the so-so is not an easy task.

Fortunately, the experts are here to help.

Dooks for men Todd and Jane Gyulveszi, owners of

Little Professor Book Center of Brighton, recommend the following selections for men:

MILK GLASS

MOON

NEIL GAIMAN

"Tales From Michigan Stadium," by Jim Brandstatter. Brandstatter offers numerous short stories heard through the years at the University of Michigan's stadium.

• "Kill It and Grill It — 'A Guide to Preparing and Cooking Wild Game and Fish," by Ted and Shemane Nugent. This book includes hunting recipes, anecdotes and tips for cleaning and cooking wild game.

TED & SHEMANE NUGEN

Continued on page 21





Time to play

Men are never too old for toys during the holidays

By Linda Neff SPECIAL WRITER

e honest — shopping for the man in your life is not always fun.

They often have hobbies that are of little or no interest to their spouse or children who are therefore left out in the cold, literally, when it comes to buying their Christmas gift.

Some men while away their free time playing games or doing "research" on their computers.

Others may spend their time outdoors boating, hunting, fishing, snowmobiling or traveling.

And unless they're the type to drop an abundance of hints, you may have no idea just what it is that would really make their day come Christmas morning.

Gabe Kish. who owns the Gun Barn in Highland, started a wish list a few years back that his customers find useful just for that reason.

"The guys come in and put their name in the wish book and what they want," he said. "The wives come in and look to see what's in the wish book."

But if your guy didn't make his wishes known in the wish book, the Gun Barn still offers loads of guns. knives and accessories for the sports person in your life.

Kish said he carries pretty much anything that's sport-related and that includes some archery and some fishing.

The Gun Barn has more than 500 knives to choose from and about 4.500 guns.

"And with 4,500 guns, you pretty much have a choice of any kind you want," he said.

Gun prices start at about \$59 and can go as high as \$3,000. But, there are plenty of items like scopes. slings, gun cases, pocket knives, magazines, cleaning kits available for less than \$30.

TOYS FOR BIG BOYS

Kolt Jewelers 3651 E. Grand River Ave.. Howell

New Hudson Power 53635 Grand River Ave., New Hudson

The Gun Barn 2525 M-59, across from LaFontaine, 1/4 mile west of Duck Lake Road in Highland. Call (248) 887-3232.

Peter's True Value Hardware 3455 W. Highland Road, Highland.

bolder a Coblettan (a. C. H. B. A. B. S. B. Solar (. . . ?). Salet (. . .

"For something different, we also have a full selection of go-carts that's good for anyone from kids to men," he said.

Prices range from \$599 and up.

And what about a new Weber barbecue grill? Grebeck said it's a real popular seller for him at Christmas time.

"There are some people who just won't buy themselves something nice like that," he said.

Peter's True Value carries the traditional charcoal as well as a full line of gas grills.

But, if you're looking for a different kind of guy toy, check out the displays at New Hudson Power in New Hudson. Rick Cavora said he sells big trains, the G-scale.

So, do guys really like their kids can get involved in.



Above, trains can bring out the little boy in any man. Gscale trains available at New Hudson Power are no exception. Owner Rick Cavora has several sizes on display. At right, Bryan Charlick sits in one of the many go-carts offered at Peter's True Value Hardware in Highland.



"It's not all high-end," Kish said. And if you're still not sure, there's always the gift certificate that seems to be real popular.

Now, if your guy likes his power tools, check out the local hardware stores and home improvement centers for items like drills, saws and wrenches.

Peter Grebeck of Peter's True Value Hardware said you can find those items at Peter's True Value and more.

The store also stocks tool boxes, chain saws, leaf blowers, weed trimmers and rototillers.

trains?

"Yes, you'd be surprised." Cavora said. "And I got a bunch of gals too. They put them out in their garden. They can go indoors or outdoors."

The track is brass and the trains are all water proof and have a plastic body that won't fade in the sunlight. The most inexpensive train set starts at about \$140 and the next one up from that is \$160, which seems to be the most popular seller.

Cavora said accessory items are a big seller too, including Christmas add-on cars such as a gondola, caboose or box car. Then there are items like little people and extra track and specialty cars that play birthday or Christmas music.

There's also a toy train series that

Cavora said most of trains and accessories he carries are LGB, along with some USA and some Arista. But, he said, LGB is made in Germany and is a very high-quality product.

New Hudson Power also carries items for that special man in your life, including lawnmowers, garden tractors, zero turn mowers, generators, string trimmers and chain saws. "My customers tell me I sell 'big boy toys," Cavora said.

But for those who enjoy looking their best while at the office or spending a night on the town, a gift of men's jewelry or accessory item may be in line.

Most men like the look and feel of a stylish gold bracelet or neck chain, but it is something they normally would not purchase for themselves. A popular length for the chains tends to be 18-20 inches, said Bob Kwalton at Kolt Jewelers in Howell. Kolt Jewelers carries a good selection of merchandise geared toward the male species, including

pocket watches, money clips, key

rings, desk clocks and tie tacks. "We can also make tie tacks," Kwalton said.

Kolt Jewelers stocks a large selection of charms that can be made into specialized tie tacks that highlight the person's hobby or interest.

Wrist watches are always appreciated and Kolt carries a nice selection of those as well as pocket watches. Prices start at about \$100.

rings, pen and pencil desk sets, an extensive line of watches as well as



Photos by LINDA NEFF

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Pick up these books to entertain everyone during the holidays

Continued from page 19

• "Red Rabbit," by Tom Clancy. Clancey's newest thriller explores the story behind the attempted assassination of Pope John II in 1981.

• "John Adams," by David McCullough. This biography explores both the heroic acts of Adams and his relationship with Thomas Jefferson.

• "Why is the Stanley Cup in Mario LeMiux's Swimming Pool? How Winners Celebrate with the World's Most Famous Cup," by Kevin Allen. Allen tells what really happens after the celebration ends.

Books for children Mary Ellen Ahmad, owner of Aria Booksellers in downtown Howell, compiled this list of must-have books for children:

• "Dear Mrs. LaRue," by Mark Teague. "This lovable story about Ike, who just can't accept obedience school, will tickle dog lovers, Teague lovers, and humor lovers alike," said Ahmad. It's recommended for children from preschool to third-grade.

• "The Three Questions," by Jon J. Muth. Muth takes children on an adventure to determine when the best time is to do things, who is most important and what is the right thing to do. Recommend for ages 4-8.

• "Coraline," by Neil Gaiman and Dave McKean. Coraline travels through a mysterious door where she must save herself, her parents and the souls of others. Recommended for children over 10.

• "Saffy's Angel," by Hilarý McKay. Saffron, 13, learns she is adopted and travels to Italy to find her past. Recommended for ages 9-12.

• "Fair Weather," by Richard Peck. Peck, a Newbery winner, tells of the Becketts and their humorous adventures in Chicago in 1893. Recommended for students in grades 4-7.

• "The Christmas Humbugs," by Colleen Monroe, illustrated by Michael Glenn Monroe. Brighton's author and illustrator couple make sure the Humbugs don't dampen Christmas cheer. Recommended for ages 4-8.

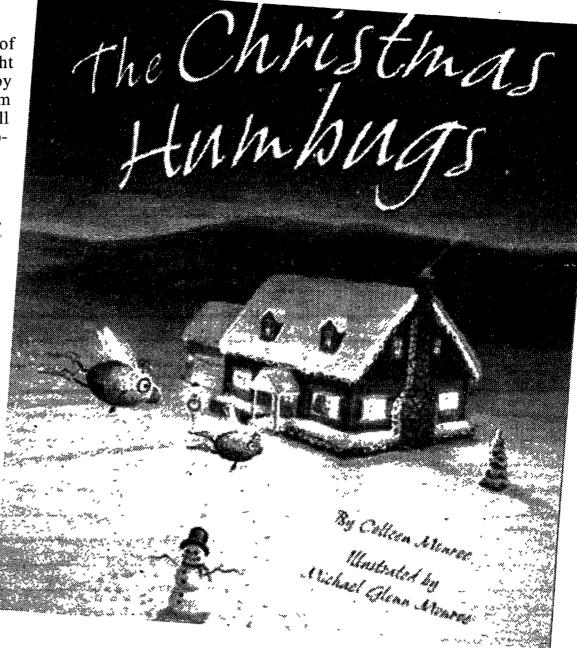
• "The Twelve Days of Christmas," and "The Night Before Christmas," gift pack by Robert Sabuda. Sabuda, from Pinckney, takes children of all ages on another fantastic popup adventure.

Books for women Todd and Jane Gyulveszi, owners of Little Professor Book Center of Brighton, recommend the following selections for the ladies:

• "The Red Tent," by Anita Diamant. This historical fiction novel examines the life of Jacob's daughter Dinah, mentioned briefly in the Bible.

• "The Lovely Bones," by Alice Sebold. This novel follows the existence of Susie Salmon, 14, as she watches over her grieving family and follows the investigation after she is raped and murdered.

Continued on page 22



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Why a red suit for Santa Claus?

It's been said that wearing red guarantees plenty of attention, and even Santa Claus is no exception.

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It originates in the legend of St. Nicholas, a priest renown for his generosity, especially to children.

When elevated to the rank of bishop, Nicholas wore a red hat, called a miter, and a long, red robe.

As the legend evolved, so did Santa's wardrobe, eventually to a more stylish red suit.

Don't miss these recommended books

Continued from page 21

• "Standing in the Rainbow," by Fannie Flagg. This 1940s novel is by the

author of "Fried Green Tomatoes."

• "Quentins," by Maeve Binchy.

Binchy readers will find mention of characters from her previous novels in this modern-day fiction book.

• "Milk Glass Moon: A Big

Stone Gap Novel," by Adriana Trigiani.

The third book in the fiction series continues the story of Ave Maria Mulligan MacChesney in the small town in southwest Virginia.

• "Hard Eight," by Janet Evanovich.

The newest mystery book in the Stephanie Plum series will keep readers laughing and jumping as they follow the bounty hunter on her next case.

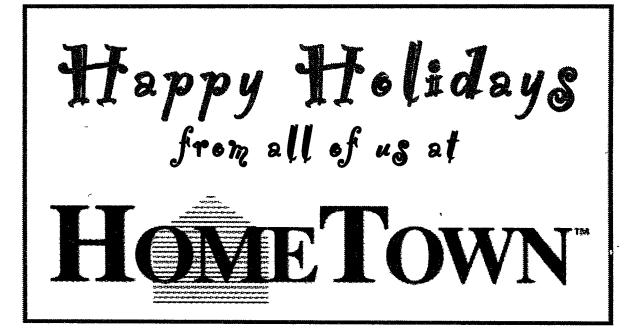
READING THROUGH THE HOLIDAYS

■ Little Professor Book Center of Brighton is located next to the Mill Pond in downtown Brighton (810) 227-3357

Aria Booksellers is located just east of the Howell Carnegie District Library (517) 548-5577

www.ariabooksellers.com

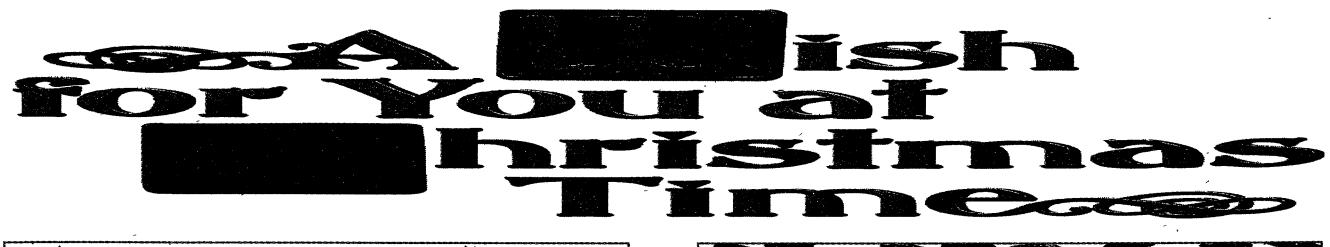




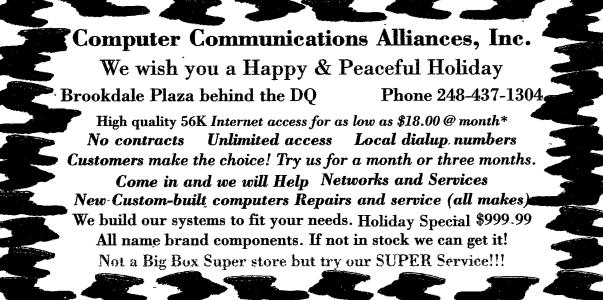




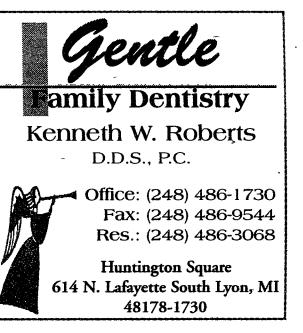
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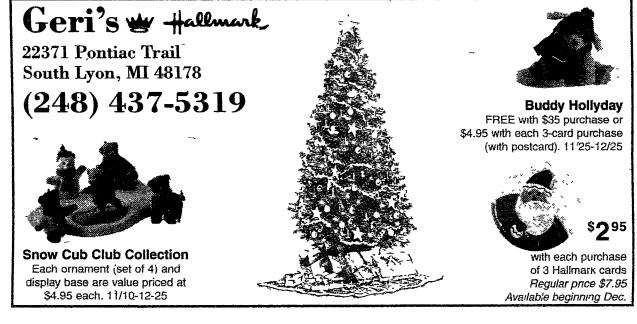
















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We want to take this opportunity to
recognize all our friends, neighbors and
customers and wish for their continued
health and success.Merry Christmas to AllMinister Christmas

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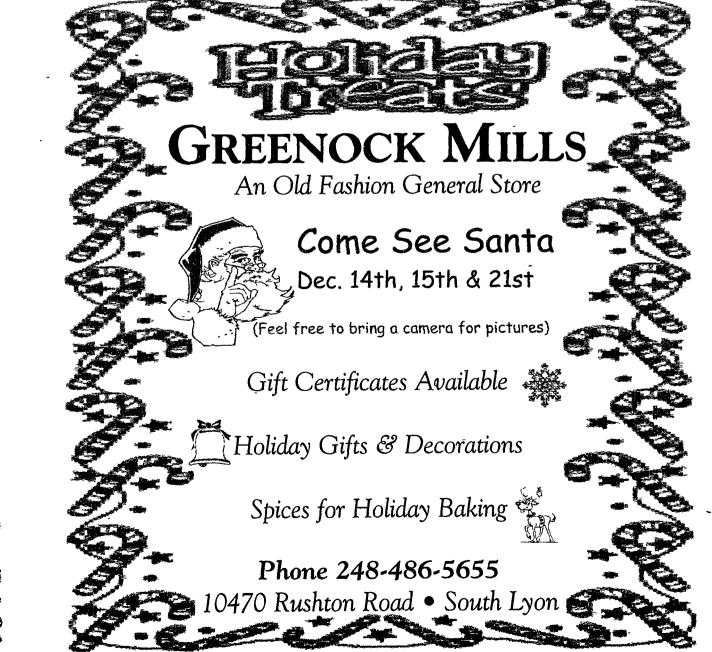




South Lyon Area

December 7th 1pm - 6pm Food Shops Open ~ 1pm-6pm Photos with Santa ~ The Grilled Tomato 1pm-4pm Carriage Rides ~ City lot next to Grilled Tomato 1pm-4pm Parade ~ Republic Bank parking lot 5:00pm Tree Lighting ~ Police Department 214 E. Lake St. 6:00pm





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Holiday stress Follow these tips to keep holidays cheerful and reduce stress

By R.J. Ignelzi COPLEY NEWS SERVICE

he holidays are supposed to be a time of family, friends, fun and festivities. Unfortunately, for a lot of us, the hectic month between Thanksgiving and New Year's ends up a blur of family, friends, fighting and frustration.

"During the holidays there's a lot going on for people. Often, too much going on," says communications expert Barbara Pachter, author of "The Power of Positive Confrontation." "There's more to do. More people to see. More money to spend. More to eat. More to drink. And, all of this can contribute to stress and conflict."

While this can be the season for dwindling patience and rising tempers, it doesn't have to be.

"Before the holiday craziness begins, you have to decide to do something about the things you can influence and just accept the things you can't," Pachter says.

"So you have to listen to Aunt Mary's story about her childhood year after year. So what?" Pachter says. "It's only once a year. Just put up with it."

However, tolerating Uncle Harry's drunken, rowdy behavior at every holiday dinner is another story.

"You can help do something about that. You and your family shouldn't have to make that part of the family tradition," she says.

Pachter offers her list of the top 10 causes of conflict during the holidays and how to make them a little less stressful.

1. Holiday meal moochers

One of the biggest complaints involves family members who don't do their fair share. They don't offer to host the dinner, they don't bring anything to the meal, and they never offer to help clean up.

"You need to be honest and upfront on this," Pachter says. "If you want help, confront Sister Sue and just say, 'I'd like you to bring the dessert this year." If someone continues not to do his or her part, etiquette and protocol consultant Catherine Albertini suggests having the meal at a restaurant and everyone split the bill. "Before the holiday craziness begins, you have to decide to do something about the things you can influence and just accept the things you can't."

-Barbara Pachter author of "The Power of Positive Confrontation"

and Christmas Day with the other," Pachter says. "Come up with your own system and try to avoid conflict by putting the children in the middle."

It's also important to be inclusive of others. Remember those family members and friends who are alone or old.

"Try to be thoughtful and make time for them out of respect," Albertini says.

3. Drinking too much alcohol

From spiked eggnog to rum punch, it's easy for cups to overflow with holiday cheer. Drinking too much liquor can cause some people to say and do things that cause problems for themselves and others.

Pachter suggests trying to be responsible for your own behavior.

"If people set a drink limit for themselves before they walk into the event, they can usually avoid a problem," Pachter says. "However, if you don't have a limit, it's easy to just keep on drinking because after the second or third drink, who cares?"

Albertini suggests that the host or hostess take responsibility for the alcohol supplied at holiday gatherings.

"Take control of serving the liquor and limit the amount of alcohol you serve in your home. Don't have an overabundant supply available," she says. "The guests should have to go to the host to get a drink." Having lots of nonalcoholic beverages on hand, serving only wine instead of hard liquor and eating early are other ways to cut back on alcohol consumption. others, such as items that are too personal for co-workers, can cause conflicts. People who agree to not exchange gifts, and then show up with one can embarrass others. People who have different expectations of the appropriate amount to spend for a gift can cause frustration.

One solution is to give something that you've made — your perfect pecan pie or a piece of needlework. Or, offer a gift-in-kind, such as seven nights of baby-sitting or two weeks of walking the dog.

And, as for the dilemma of receiving a gift without having one to give, Pachter says, "Don't be embarrassed. Simply say 'thank you' and accept it. And, don't feel like you have to run out and buy them something."

6. Not saying "thank you"

Receiving gifts and not saying "thank you" or not sending thank-you notes is just bad manners, Pachter says.

While a verbal "thank you" is OK when the gift is presented, it's better when followed up with a written note.

"A hand-written personal thank-you note goes so far," Albertini says.

And, forget the e-mail thank-yours.

"E-mail thank-yours are just not appropriate. The person who gave you the gift took the time to shop, buy and wrap it. It's so simple for the recipient to send a nice thankyou card," she says. 8. Scrooges

Every year, there's always one. The person who refuses to get into the holiday spirit, and complains about how much he dislikes the holidays.

"A Scrooge causes frustration and stress for everyone around," Pachter says.

You can try to ignore the more subdued Scrooges. However, you may need to tell the more vocal ones to leave the party or keep their comments to themselves.

"It's rude to sit there and complain and ruin other people's good time," Pachter says.

She suggests people make an effort to take part in some festivities. Attend the neighborhood or office party. Participate in group gifts. Wish people happy holidays.

"You may end up having a good time, despite yourself," she says.

9. Rude shoppers

Shopping during the holidays is a whole new consumer game. People are rushed, surrounded by crowds and tempers can flare. Impatient shoppers who take their frustrations out on salespeople and other shoppers can take the joy out of the season if you let them.

Before you "lose it" with the pushy woman next to you at the perfume counter, Pachter says to stop and ask yourself, "Is this really worth getting upset about?" Or, "Does this person really mean to be a jerk or is she just really stressed out, too?"

One of the best ways to not get stressed out and grumpy while holiday shopping is to plan your outings, Albertini says.

She suggests scheduling your shopping trips at times when stores are least busy weekday midmorning or midafternoon instead of evenings and weekends.

Make a list of what you're buying for whom.

Try to narrow your gift shopping to just two stores instead of running all over town. "Although it takes a lot of self-discipline, take a deep breath and try to be patient," Albertini says. "And if it doesn't work and you just get too overwhelmed, take a break and come back to it later."

"That way nobody gets stuck with all the work," she says.

2. Not sharing family time

With divorce, remarriage and families scattered across the country, sharing holidays with family members can be a difficult juggling act.

Sometimes it may mean devising a fair rotation schedule and sticking to it.

"In the case of divorce, maybe the kids can spend Christmas Eve with one parent 4. Ignoring RSVPs

Failing to respond to RSVPs and then showing up or saying that you will attend and then not showing up can cause major problems for a host this time of year.

"The host is trying to plan the party. Not to notify them you are coming or not coming is just very rude," Albertini says.

5. Gift-giving faux pas Gifts are supposed to make people feel good, but at this time of year, gift-giving can be the source of a lot of holiday stress.

People who give inappropriate gifts to

If you send a gift and don't receive a thank-you note, Albertini says it's fair to call in a couple of months and ask if they received the gift.

"Tell them you were worried it was lost in the mail, and just wanted to make sure they received it," she says. "This should sufficiently embarrass the recipient."

7. Holiday slackers

Co-workers who take three-hour lunches to finish holiday shopping or who call in sick to avoid working the holiday only make the holidays more stressful for their colleagues.

"More than any time of the year, it's important for everyone to do their fair share to avoid creating more work for others," Pachter says. 10. Forgetting what really matters With stores putting up holiday decorations before Halloween and television commercials endlessly promoting the latest gift gizmos, it's easy to take a materialistic view of the holidays.

"Losing the true meaning of the holidays ends up making people depressed, stressed out and irritable," Pachter says. "People who focus on giving to others, being with family, and doing nice things for other people are the ones who enjoy the holidays with the least amount of conflict."

Glory Days Ways to celebrate season religiously

By Sandi Dolbee COPLEY NEWS SERVICE

his time of year brings a smorgasbord of holidays overlapping in a rich buffet of light and miracles, enlightenment and spiritual discipline.

Depending upon your tradition, you'll burn yule logs, fast during daylight, light candles after sundown or sing carols about a baby and a manger.

Is this intersection coincidence? In some respects, yes. On the other hand, there are those who contend that setting Christmas around the festival of yule and the winter solstice was on purpose.

History tells us that it was in the fourth century that Pope Julius I fixed Dec. 25 for the celebration of Christ's birth (the Bible doesn't give an exact date for his birth). As one resource put it: "There is little doubt that he was trying to make it as painless as possible for pagan Romans (who remained a majority at that time) to convert to Christianity."

With the help of reference books, Internet sites and other sources, we have compiled a guide to this season of holidays and holy days. Oh, and this isn't all of them. But it should give you a pretty good idea of just how diverse our community is.

Ramadan: Nov. 6-Dec. 5

The ninth - and holiest — month in the Muslim year, began Nov. 6 (the date shifts each year, depending upon a lunar calendar).

During Ramadan, Muslims abstain from food, drink, smoking and other sensual pleasures from dawn to sunset as a way of learning discipline, self-restraint and generosity. Fasting is one of the five main tenets, called pillars, of Islam. Each evening of Ramadan, the daily fast is broken with traditional foods, celebration and prayer. Children, the elderly and pregnant women are among those who are exempt from fasting.

It was during Ramadan that Muslims believe the first revelations of the Koran were revealed to Mohammed. The end of Ramadan is marked by one of Islam's major festivals, called Eid al-Fitr, which this year will arrive about Dec. 5 (depending upon the sighting of the new moon). tion and rededication.

Each night of Hanukkah, a candle is lit on a special candelabrum, or menorah, with nine candles -- one for each night of the holiday and a servant candle, called the shamash, to light the others. Latkes and other foods cooked in oil are eaten, gifts exchanged, dreidels (tops) are spun, songs are sung and the story is recounted. The Jewish calendar is based on a lunar calendar, which means holidays shift in relation to the Gregorian calendar. Hanukkah often falls sometime during December; this year, it begins at sundown Nov. 30 and ends at sundown Dec. 7.

Yule: Dec. 21

The pagan holiday of Yule celebrates the rebirth of the sun. Also known as the Winter Solstice, this is how Robyn Roche Paull of San Diego describes her family's observance: "We wake up on the Solstice morning before the sun rises and wait outside for the sunrise. We give a blessing that the sun has indeed risen again this day. Then we go inside and open our presents and have a big breakfast." The rest of the day is spent enjoying family time, capped off with a big dinner and the Solstice ritual "of lighting the yule log and praying to our deities for continued happiness, well-being and blessings."

Christmas: Dec. 25

When it comes to American holidays, this one takes the award for the most mixing of the sacred and the secular. There are jingle bells, reindeer and Santa Claus, along with the religious symbols of the Nativity, the star in the east and the shepherds watching over their flock.

Christmas is Christianity's celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ, its Messiah. The holiday is marked with the giving of gifts (an imitation of the Magi's bringing of gifts to the Christ child), the singing of carols, children's pageants that retell the birth stories in the Gospels and special church services. It's an important time for Christians, but it's not the holiest day of their year. That honor belongs to Easter. On the Western calendar, Christmas is Dec. 25 (some Eastern Orthodox traditions celebrate Jan. 7). As for "the 12 days of Christmas," they run from Christmas Day to Epiphany on Jan. 6. Advent, a four-Sunday season to prepare for the coming of Christmas, begins Dec. 1.

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Bodhi Day: Dec. 8

The Buddha is said to have reached enlightenment under a bodhi tree. He sat there for days, and as he did, he came to realize what would later become the founding principles of Buddhism. The anniversary of his attaining Buddhahood is called Bodhi Day and is celebrated by some (though not all) traditions of Buddhism on Dec. 8.

Hanukkah: Nov. 30-Dec. 7

The eight-day Jewish festival of lights commemorates the victory of the Maccabees, Jewish warriors who overthrew their oppressors in about 165 B.C. When they won the battle, the victors also reclaimed their Temple in Jerusalem. But, as the story goes, there was a problem -- the Temple lamp only had enough oil to burn for one day. Miraculously, the lamp burned for the eight days of celebra-

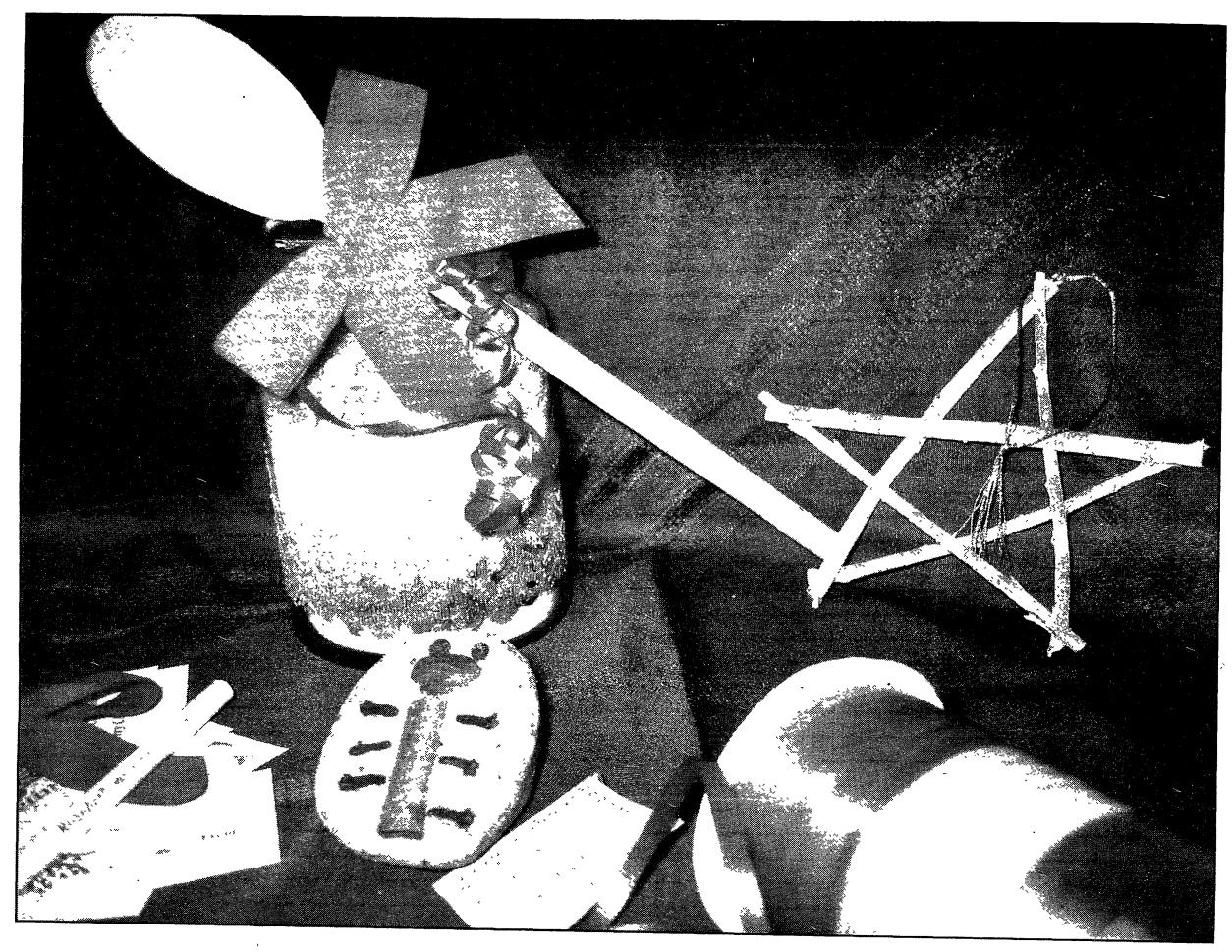
Kwanzaa: Dec. 26-Jan. 1

This African-American holiday was created in 1966 by Maulana Karenga, a professor at California State University Long Beach, as "a cultural message which speaks to the best of what it means to be African and human in the fullest sense."

Kwanzaa is a blend of culture, heritage and faith. Lasting for seven days, beginning the day after Christmas, a candle is lit each night to symbolize one of seven principles: unity, self-determination, collective work and responsibility, cooperative economics, purpose, creativity and faith.

It's a joyous time, which includes gift-giving and home decorations.

The colors of Kwanzaa are black, red and green.



Sometimes the perfect gift is something made by your own two hands.

Photos by LINDA NEFF

Gifts from the heart

Simple gitts made by hand cherished during the holidays

By Linda Neff SPECIAL WRITER

here's nothing quite like spending an evening with the kids or alone creating hand-made items for gift-giving or holiday decorations. Gifts from the heart are appreciated year-round, but are even more cherished at holiday time.

Many hand-crafted items can be made from materials found around the house or even in the outdoors. Materials are also available at discount and dollar stores, hardware and home improvement stores and even the local grocer.

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Some ideas may look complicated but are actually relatively easy to make, allowing the children to get involved.

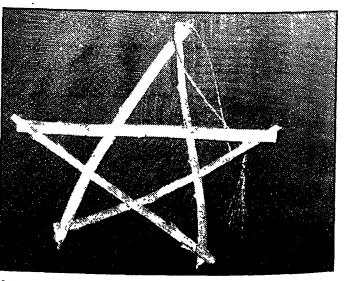
What grandparent wouldn't appreciate a willow star or cinnamon ornament from their precious grandchildren? And it's a gift that can be used to adorn the Christmas tree year after year, bringing back fond memories of years past.

The following are some gift ideas that take very little time to create and most are simple enough that the kids can get involved.

Add your own unique personal touches or place each gift in a basket with other items such as new measuring spoons, a gift certificate to a local grocer, a beautiful glass pitcher for serving, candles or picture frames to create a gift anyone is sure to love.

Willow Star This star can is made from willow twigs but just about any green twig will do. Measurements do not need to be precise; star can be made to any size.

Continued on page 31



The willow star is simple to make.

Show them you care with gifts from the heart

Continued from page 30

Twigs, about 1/4 inch thick, more or less 1/2-inch brads (very short nails) Hammer

Embroidery thread, decorative ribbon or cording

Tiny eye screws (optional)

Small can of paint or colored stain-of your choice (optional)

Glitter (optional)

Recycled Styrofoam carry-out tray for paint dipping (optional)

1. Cut twig into five, 6-inch sections.

2. Using 1/2-inch brads found at your local hardware or improvement store, nail twigs together at corners forming a fivepoint star.

3. Little eye screws can be inserted into top for cord or simply string cord through top opening.

4. Thread cord (embroidery thread) through eye screw or top for hanging.

5. To paint, dip star in colored wash (one part paint to two parts water), sprinkle with glitter if you wish and hang to dry.

Cider Beetle

The cider beetle is used in creating a delicious drink to warm you on those cold, snowy afternoons.

Brown sugar Whole cloves Cinnamon stick Whole almond

Orange ·

Begin by halving orange and removing the fruit and pulp. Pack each orange half with brown sugar, this creates the beetle's body.

Cut or break cinnamon stick into about 1 1/2-inch piece and press into middle of beetle.

Using almond and cloves, press each into body to create head and legs.

Wrap in colored cellophane and make gift tag to attach.

Beetle Gift Tag

Print the following on a tag and include with the beetle:

"To use: Unwrap beetle and drop into 1 1/2 quart of cider.

- "Add 1/4 cup of brandy (optional).
- "Simmer 30 minutes. Heat well.

"Remove rind and spices before serving."

Cinnamon / applesauce ornaments Here's one the kids really like to get involved in: Apple / cinnamon ornaments (not edible).

Once you've made the clay use your imagination to decorate — the possibilities are endless.

Ingredients needed: Applesauce Ground cinnamon

Continued on page 32

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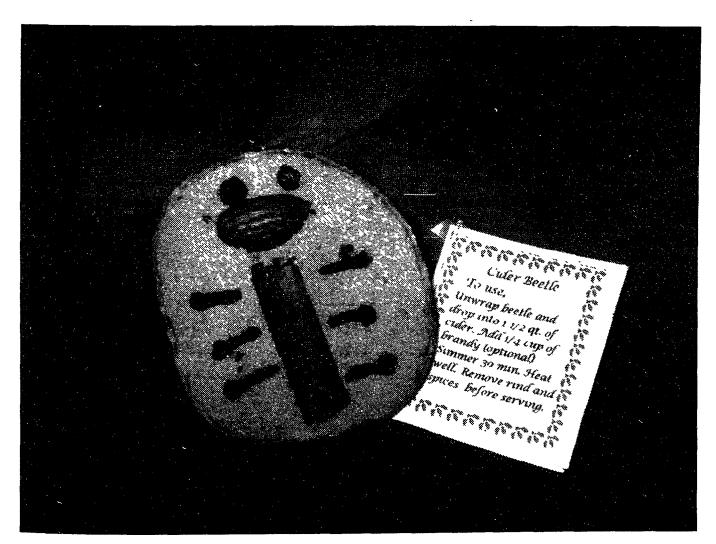
Christmas

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The cider beetle is a cute gift that keeps giving when the recipient makes the cider following the instructions on the tag.



Handmade ornaments, cookies make special gifts

Continued from page 31

Using equal parts applesauce and cinnamon and mix together till clay-like consistency.

For those who bake, it should feel similar to pie crust dough.

If dough feels too dry add a little more applesauce; if too moist add a little more cinnamon.

Using a rolling pin, roll dough to about 1/4-inch thickness.

Cut with cookie cutters and place on baking sheet.

Use a straw or toothpick to make a small hole in top. Once the shape is baked and cooled a ribbon or cording can be run through the hole so the ornament can be hung.

Bake at 150° for about two hours, keeping watch so it doesn't burn. Let dry in a warm place for a couple days till hard. When completely dry, string with decorative ribbon or cording, finish decorating.

Variations: Add glitter to dough when mixing for a sparkly ornament.

Dough can also be shaped into figures or hand-print plagues.

Use heart and star shaped ornaments and cut out center so child's picture can be glued on after baking.

Also when using shapes not consistent with Christmas, ornaments can be left out to be enjoyed year-round.

Cookies in a Jar This is so easy and so delicious! Simply select your favorite, or your recipient's favorite, cookie

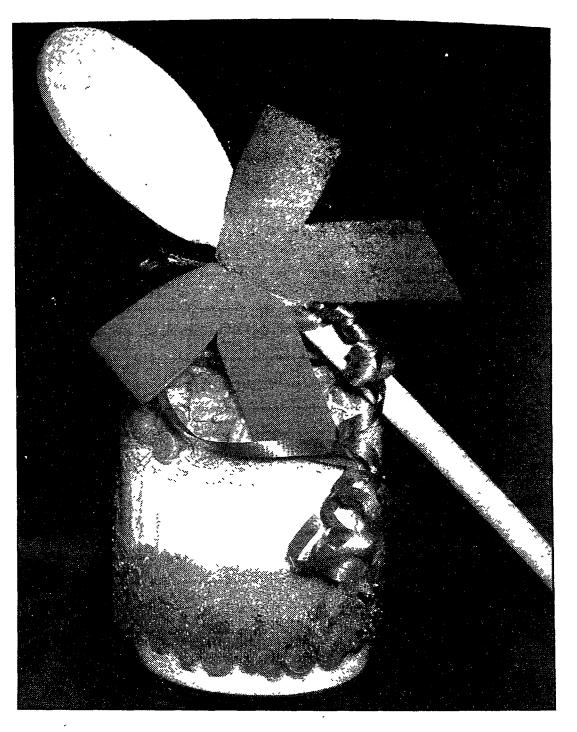
recipe.

Assemble all the dry ingredients needed to make the cookies and layer in a decorative glass jar.

Create gift tag with recipe instructions to complete the recipe and baking instructions and tie around jar top with brand new wooden spoon or spatula.

This idea also works well to create gifts of home-made soups and specialty breads. It's a gift that can be shipped as well.

> Adding a wooden spoon to this cookie jar, or including it in a basket with other baking supplies, makes a great gift.



Budget shopping simple if you know where to look

By Linda Neff SPECIAL WRITER

For many this holiday season, holiday shopping budgets may be a little tighter than those of previous years.

It can a little more difficult finding a gift for under \$30 that's sure to please, but it's not impossible. Take some time and consider local businesses you drive by on a daily basis or better yet, those you frequent either out of pleasure or necessity.

What kind of gift could you possibly purchase at Victory Lane Oil Change in Howell?

How about a gift certificate that covers one or more oil changes for your teenage son's or daughter's car? It's a gift that could even by appreciated by an elderly parent or single mom.

tificates to divide between his daughter and son," Starbird said. "He said it should last them for a year."

Then there is the co-worker whose name you drew out of a box. What to buy for them, especially when the office set a limit of \$30?

Well, think what you do just to prepare to get to work each day and go from there. Do you drive your car to the office? Then consider a gas card or a book of passes for the local car wash.

Wash World III in Howell sells a pass book consisting of five washes and two hot waxes for \$25. If your budget is higher, there's also a pass book for 10 washes and three hot waxes for \$35.

work in an office.

Kolt Jewelers in Howell carries a good selection of those kinds of items in addition to other inexpensive gift items such as tie tacks, charms, key rings and money clips.

For the sportsman in your life there is the Gun Barn in Highland that carries about 4,500 different kinds of guns. But you can still pick up a variety of inexpensive but useful items like scopes, slings, gun cases, pocket knives, magazines and cleaning kits for less than \$30.

"It's not all high-end," said owner Gabe Kish said. And if you're still not sure, he said a gift certificate seems to be real popular.

A practical gift for male or female who either owns or rents a home is a personal tool box.

picture-hanging paraphernalia, which is usually appreciated along with a small magnetic level.

And if you know someone who likes to play with G-scale trains, New Hudson Power in New Hudson sells a load of accessories from extra track to all different kinds of train cars.

Owner Rick Cavora said accessory items are a big seller. Try Christmas add-on cars such as a gondola, caboose or box car. Then there are items like little people and extra track and specialty cars that play birthday or Christmas music.

Other ideas for inexpensive gifts and stocking stuffers include movie passes to a favorite theater, accessory items from a favorite golf pro shop or ski lodge, a beautiful poinsettia the receiver can display on their desk or table, candles and holder; the list goes on and on. Shoppers will find there are plenty of items out there available for \$30 and less. It just takes some thought and imagination to discover what they might be so start early.

Skip Starbird, owner of the Howell store, said the most popular price for a gift certificate is \$26.50, which covers one complete oil service for a standard vehicle.

"I just had a guy come in and buy 10 cer-

Do you like to eat lunch out one of two. days a week with friends? Then, chances are your co-workers do too.

Bistro 127 in downtown sells gift certificates and for \$20 you can give a certificate to cover the cost of the restaurant's lunch buffet for three days.

Pen and pencil desk sets and small desk clocks are good choices for people who

Check out the local hardware stores and home improvement centers for items like hammers, screwdrivers and wrenches or maybe even a little tool box to store the items in to free up space in the kitchen drawer. Fill the box with items like a small box of finishing nails, everyday screws and

Say Merry Christmas in any language

"Merry Christmas" is just the beginning. Take a look at how people around the world express the joyous sentiments of the season:

Spanish — Feliz Navidad

Italian — Buone Feste Natilizie German — Froehliche Weihnachten Portuguese — Boas Festas Greek — Kala Christouyenna Indonesian — Selamat Hari Natal

Do not forget a present for the postman

As you're checking off dresser, the bus driver, etc. your holiday gift list this sea-Bring a little joy into their son, why not take a moment day this holiday season by to consider the people who surprising them with a are part of your everyday life thoughtful gift: - the doorman, the hair-• Gift certificate for coffee

or tea

• Engraved pen and pencil set

• Tickets to a movie or play

Magazine subscription

• Key chain

Warm glow of luminarias brightens up holiday season

By Cathy Lubenski

andlepower is expressed in more than wax and wick it's the warm glow that typifies the holiday spirit we strive to kindle in our homes and hearts.

In recent years, candles have lit up the design world with their varied shapes and scents. Now, once again, they've become a mainstay of holiday decorations in the tried-but-true form of luminarias.

A luminaria is a candle in a holder usually a paper bag with sand in the bottom. During the holidays, many people use them to line their walks or driveways with sparkling light.

Today, the popularity of luminarias has surged, giving them new life as versatile holiday decorations.

Luminarias now come in rusted metal, terra cotta, foil and pottery, and with as many holiday designs as you can think of, from Santas and reindeer to snowflakes and stars. Prices vary from 65 cents for a colorful paper bag with holiday cutouts to \$8 for a metal one from Pier 1 Imports to \$22 for a 6-inch-diameter stylized version carved from alabaster at Smith & Hawken.

And they're not just for holidays. Patti Matteson, co-owner of Ambiance Home Decor in Leaping Lotus of Solana Beach, Calif., said, "It's a way to say you're welcome at my house. I line my driveway with light to show you the way."

Matteson is stocking her store with paper bag luminarias and metal luminarias with fern, tulip, leaf and other designs that aren't allied with a specific holiday.

Regardless of the design, most luminarias share a common denominator: candlelight.

"I'm a huge fan of candlelight," said Joan Steffend of HGTV. "There's something very basic about candlelight; it makes you feel warm and welcome and special."

And, adds Kitty Bartholomew, another HGTV star ("Kitty Bartholomew: You're Home"), "No matter what your budget, you can get the Christmas spirit."

On her HGTV Christmas special, "A Handmade Holiday With Kitty Bartholomew," Bartholomew showed how to make a simple luminaria out of thin sheets of copper.

An even easier method is decorating an empty Mason jar, and then adding sand or cat_litter and a candle.

"Put a little decorative element, like a wired ribbon or perhaps some wired holiday berries you find in craft stores, around the top and then drape them down the side of the jar," Steffend said.

Steffend also suggests "spraying the glass with frosty spray (available at craft, stores) to make it look slightly icy.

"Or you can take some wire and make a

hanging luminaria. Just wrap it around the top of the jar, then add wire to make a hanger and hang it from a tree or whatever you've got in the front of your house."

The use of luminarias dates to 17th-century Spain, where cedar boughs were burned along town paths to light the way to Bethlehem for Mary and Joseph. Over the years, that symbolic light was downsized to candles. By the 1800s, settlers in the United States hung Chinese lanterns with candles, but that proved to be too expensive so paper bags were substituted, creating the tradition we enjoy today.

Luminarias always have been most popular in the Southwest.

In Albuquerque, N.M., luminarias line the streets on Christmas Eve. Santa Fe, Taos and Las Cruces hold bus tours to view their luminaria displays to avoid traffic jams.

If your budget only stretches to paper bags, use a 6-pound bag, folded down 3 inches from the top. Fill with 2 to 2 1/2 cups of sand or cat litter and put a candle in the center. Putting the candles in 2-liter sand-filled soda bottles cut down 6 inches from the top will help the candle stand straight.

You can cut snowflakes, Christmas trees or other holiday designs in the bag.

Never use luminarias of any type inside or in an area with dry brush or anything else that could ignite.

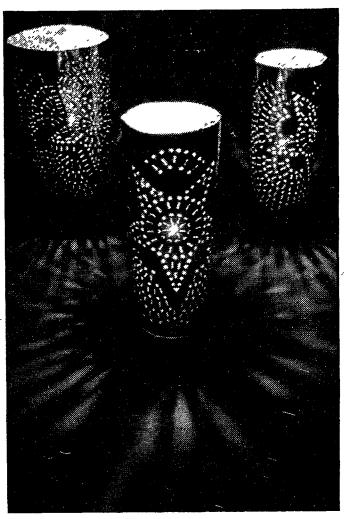


Photo by JERRY RIFE/COPLEY NEWS SERVICE

Light the holiday nights with the warm candlelight glow of luminarias. Styles vary from simple paper bags with cutout Christmas designs to these more ornate copper models.





Rottermond Jewelers & Gemologists owner **Dean Rottermond** holds a Rolex G.M.T. stainless steel watch retailing for \$3,950 amid the other Rolexes on display in the newly opened Brighton store. Rottermond also sells watches retailing for more than \$36,000 and can order watches that sell for more than \$80,000. Rottermond also has a store in downtown Milford.

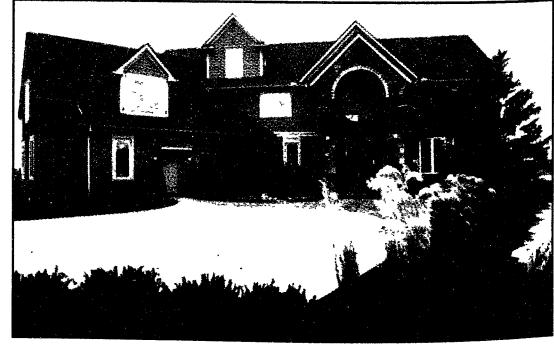
Photo by GILLIS BENEDICT/HOMETOWN NEWSPAPERS

Make a dream come true Elite gifts provide opportunity to fulfill someone's fantasy

By Candy Parent HOMETOWN NEWSPAPERS

need in a vehicle. ing the flight. Other meals are

ular bells and whistles one would are prepared by a private chef dur-



hen money is no object, every dream and desire can become a reality.

In fact, when searching for the perfect fantasy gift, the options are only restricted by your imagination.

For starters, you could surprise that special someone with a 2003 Cadillac Escalade from Superior Cadillac — GMC Inc. in Brighton.

The vehicle, slightly larger than a standard SUV, features a Bose stereo system, all-wheel drive, heated leather seats, a rear entertainment system and all of the reg-

Richard McIntyre, president of Superior Cadillac, says this premium vehicle sells for just \$57,595.

Perhaps a dream vacation is more fitting.

Phillips Travel Service Inc. in South Lyon offers a 13-day trip focusing on the history of food and wine.

The trip includes traveling by private jet to England, France, Portugal, Italy, Morocco, Russia and Turkey.

During the trip, guests will enjoy lectures, tours of private cellars and vineyards, classes, sight-seeing and plenty of taste testing.

Meals served on board the jet

served in elegant chateaus and historic castles.

The price for this dream vacation is \$27,950 per person, based on double occupancy, and is offered by Travcoa Adventure Series.

If traveling to Europe isn't enough, you could always buy a castle.

Schloss Matzen, a romantic, medieval castle located in the Tyrolean Alps of western Austria, is for sale.

The castle, with references dating back to 1167, has always been privately owned and is rich in history.

Continued on page 41

Photo by TODD VANSICKLE

This 9,000-square-foot home in Green Oak Township will be finished just in time for the holidays.

Deck the halls Holiday decorating easy with tips from the pros

By Linda Neff SPECIAL WRITER

epending on how you look at it, the thought of decorating for the holidays can be a loathsome task or exciting as all get out.

For many, there is nothing more gratifying and just plain fun than taking the family to select the perfect Christmas tree, putting the hundreds of colorful lights on the house for all to see, and displaying the many holiday decorations that have been collected over the years.

For others, they'd just as soon skip the months of November and December and get on with life.

A compromise for households with spouses at both ends of the personality spectrum could be to tone it down a bit.

Take the more traditional and natural approach to holiday decorating and keep it simple.

That's the trend Lori Vogel at Raney's Rainbow Gardens is seeing.

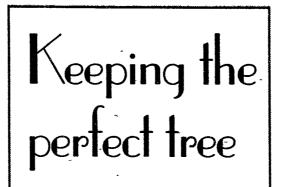
"It seems this year people are going for the more traditional Christmas with natural greens — the real thing — and using red and green as opposed to silver or mauves," she said.

Pine and cedar roping that's all natural can be used to add color and deliver a wonderful pine scent throughout the house. Drape it over a stair banister, lay it across a fireplace mantel or weave it through candelabras. It can also be used in creating an eye-catching centerpiece by putting it in vases or floral foam and mixing with fresh flowers, candles and ornaments.

When it comes to decorating the Christmas tree, Vogel recommends doing something a little different by drawing from hobbies and personal interests to create a themed tree.

"Take something you like and build a theme around that for tree decorations," she said.

Continued on page 36 Continued from page 35



For proper Christmas tree care, Greg Brainer recommends the following:

Make sure your tree starts out with a fresh cut — either at the tree lot or at home.

Use very warm water when watering and if you have a water softener it's best to bypass it because the salt from the softener can dry the tree out faster.

It's also a good idea to add 1/8 cup of sugar, which acts as a natural preservative, to your very warm water each time you water.



Photo by LINDA NEFF

The Greenery at Brainer's in Wixom readies for the Christmas holiday with this river of poinsettia blooms.

For example, use garden items like seed packets, miniature gar-

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Expert tips help holiday decorators prepare for the season

den hats and tools for a garden theme.

Consider using items from around the house or collectibles to create a one-of-akind tree that will bring back memories with every passing glance.

Vogel also likes to sprinkle artificial snow on the tree and to use lots and lots of ribbon, which she said makes a big difference in the way the tree looks.

Christmas Tree

When selecting a cut Christmas tree, Greg Brainer of The Greenery at Brainer's in Wixom, recommends that people ask when the tree was initially cut.

Some growers, he says, begin cutting trees two weeks prior to Halloween and if October stays fairly warm, the trees will dry out faster.

For a good-top-of-the-line Christmas tree it's hard to beat a Frazer or Douglas fir. They are generally priced higher than the Scotch pine found on most tree lots.

Brainer said the good Frazer firs are actually shipped here from North Carolina because they grow better in the hard soil on the side of the Appalachian Mountains.

Distinguishing features of a Frazer fir include its bi-color needle that is almost a silver-blue color on the underside and a very deep green on the top. It has a shorter needle with many of the same characteristics of a blue spruce, but is much softer and very full and dense. It has a very long shelf life and can last as long as seven weeks in the home with proper care.

Prices for a good Frazer fir usually start at \$50 and go up.

"If you find anything under the \$50 range you should probably question when it was cut and where it is from," Brainer said.

The Douglas fir is a longer-needle tree and lighter in color than the Frazer, yet it also has very soft needles and a nice shelf life within the home as well.

The Greenery sells both Frazer and Douglas firs.

It's one of the few places that still does Christmas tree flocking, which is a powdered coating sprayed onto the tree to create the effect of snow.

Brainer said the flocking is non-toxic and completely safe.

Prices average about \$8 per foot for flocking that can be done in white, green, powdered blue, pink and even black. "Every year we flock a pink tree for Aretha Franklin's home," he said. "And it's pink!"



Photo by LINDA NEFF

Michele Spear and Bryan Charlick arrange seasonal items for the holiday decorating displays at Peter's True Value Hardware in Highland. The store carries a full line of Lemax little houses, villages, trees and village people.

HOLIDAY DECORATING

Raney's Rainbow Gardens
 57707 10 Mile Road, South Lyon
 (248) 437-2856

The Greenery at Brainer's 51701 Grand River Avenue, Wixom (248) 349-9070

Dinser's Flowers and Greenhouse 24501 Dinser Dr., Novi

Peter's True Value Hardware 3455 W. Highland Road, Highland

"What we educate our customers on is actually the feel of the pot — when they lift the plant we tell them this is how it should feel (by weight). It's the feel of the pot is about the easiest way we've found for people to know; they can tell very easily."

Buzzy said people can actually keep their poinsettias alive well into spring by cutting them back a little when they start to look sickly around the end of January and into February.

The plant will produce new leaves and once the weather warms and danger of frostpasses, the plants can be put out on the deck or in the garden.

"They get to be a really lush, full, green. plant in the summer," she said. "They're really pretty."

Artificial Trees, Lights and More

For practical purposes, many people prefer decorating an artificial tree for the holidays.

It can be put up earlier and if they're going to be out of town there's no need to worry about who is going to water it.

A large selection of artificial trees along with all the bulbs, tinsel, tree toppers and lights needed to turn the tree into a shining, glimmering picture of beauty can be found at Peter's True Value Hardware in Highland.

Many of the trees are fully decorated and on display in the store, said Peter Grebeck of the hardware.

Roping

Fresh green roping has the ability to bring the outdoors in during the holidays, especially if your family puts up an artificial Christmas tree.

It adds another dimension as a swag either over or under your windows and can be used indoors or out.

But, said Cathie Buzzy, floral manager at Dinser's Flowers and Greenhouse in Novi, "You don't want to use it too early indoors."

Save it for a special occasion such as a dinner party or family gathering.

It will last longer indoors if sprayed with a preservative or flocked.

"Every year we flock a pink tree for Aretha Franklin's home, and it's pink!"

> -Greg Brainer The Greenery at Brainer's in Wixom

"Now if you flock it, it's just going to last for weeks," she said.

Buzzy said roping available at Dinser's comes in 50- and 75-foot rolls, which is good for the really big jobs.

In addition to roping, the greenhouse will have wreaths, grave blankets and poinsettias available for the holiday season.

Poinsettia

When it comes to caring for your poinsettia, Buzzy said they find that most people under water them.

"They let them get too dry and what will happen is they'll see it start to wilt and they'll give it a nice big drink and it drinks and then it drops its leaves," she said. "We carry every kind of light from icicle lights to rope lights," he added "We have a very good selection (of Christmas items): stockings, different Christmas decorating ideas, Santa Clauses, roping and table-top decorations."

The hardware also stocks a good assortment of tree toppers, lighted deer, stuffed animals and other gift items.

And for those who like to create peaceful-looking miniature Christmas villages, the store carries a full line of Lemax houses, villages, trees, village people and other accessories to help complete the scene.





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Milford Times

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Surprise someone special with a unique fantasy gift

Continued from page 34

Its Baroque chapel was consecrated by two different bishops who went on to become pope and President Teddy Roosevelt once visited.

The 20,000-square-foot castle includes a six-story tower and approximately 60 rooms.

The castle has been updated with indoor plumbing, central heat and electricity.

It can be yours for only \$6 million through Christopher Kump of California.

Since diamonds are a girl's best friend, why not surprise the girl in your life with the 2002 Fantasy Bra and Panty offered by Victoria's Secret.

Created by Mouawad, the bra is embellished with rubies and emeralds and features a 60-carat, pear-cut Mouawad Mondera diamond in the center.

The matching panty is embellished with rubies, emeralds and diamonds.

This elegant, one-of-a-kind bra and panty sells for only \$10 million.

If you have always wanted to see your face on an action figure, hurry to the phone and call Neiman-Marcus.

This year, individuals, couples or entire families have the opportunity to be turned into 6-inch action figures.

Following a digital scan in California, two poseable action figures will be created. The first is meant to be played with and the second to display. The keepsake figurine arrives in a custom-designed package with your super name and two accessories for your character.

And, you can even have the body altered to look more like a superhero than you naturally do.

The package, which does not include the cost of traveling or staying in California, sells for only \$7,500 per person.

Perhaps you need a watch for the man in your life.

Rottermond Jewelers, with stores in both Brighton and Milford, carries the finest watches available.

For example, a Rolex Day-Date platinum watch with a platinum, presidential bracelet and eight round brilliance and two baguette diamonds on the dial, is in stock and can be yours for only \$36,750.

FANTASY SHOPPING

Hidden Lake Green Oak Properties (248) 486-8110

Rottermond Jewelers 109 E. Grand River Ave., Brighton 369 N. Main St., Milford (810) 220-0015, (248) 685-1150

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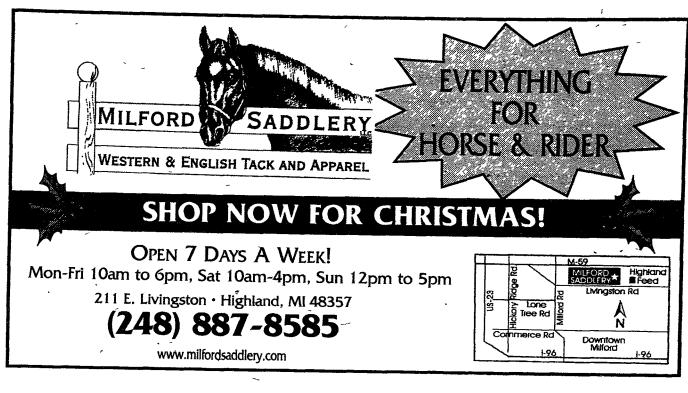
Christopher Kump ckump@mcn.org (707) 964-7573

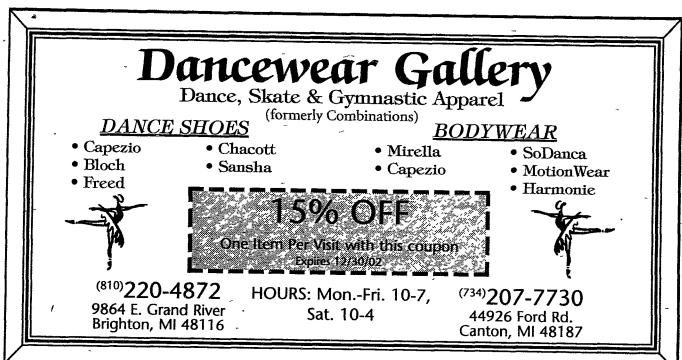
Phillips Travel Service 110 N. Lafayette, South Lyon (248) 437-1733

Superior Cadillac — GMC Inc. 8282 W. Grand River Ave., Brighton (810) 227-1100

and-her vanities, toilets and closets. Hallways and doorways are wider to allow easier wheelchair access and one of the bathrooms features a roll-in shower. Additionally, all four levels of the house are accessible via an elevator.

In addition to the two master suites, the house has three and a half bathrooms and two bedrooms and a bonus room that could easily be made into a third. Two full kitchens, one on the main floor and one in the finished, walk-out basement, make







Dean Rottermond, owner of Rottermond Jewelers, said it takes a year to make each Rolex.

"It's the finest production watch made out of Geneva, Switzerland," he said.

Or, you could surprise the love of your life with a new home in the Hidden Lake development in Green Oak Township.

This 9,000-square-foot, old-world-style home is located on a one-acre lot overlooking the lake. Earl LaFave, co-owner and developer of Hidden Lake, expects the house to be completed just in time for the holidays.

David Compo, builder, said the home is designed for a family who may have elderly parents living with them. Two complete master suites are included, each with hisentertaining a breeze.

The house also features an indoor swimming pool, spa, sauna and steam bath, spiral staircases, a four-season porch and a six-car garage.

This home is designed so it will cost no more than \$150 each month to heat. All ceramic and concrete floors, including the garage, are heated, so your feet will always be warm.

And, if the house itself doesn't do it for you, the location certainly will. Hidden Lake is based on a Disney complex in Orlando. It features 7 miles of walking trails, complete with gazebos, bridges, fountains and waterfalls. Compos said LaFave designed Hidden Lake so residents could enjoy the "up north" feeling at home in Green Oak Township.

This house can be yours for only \$2.5 million.

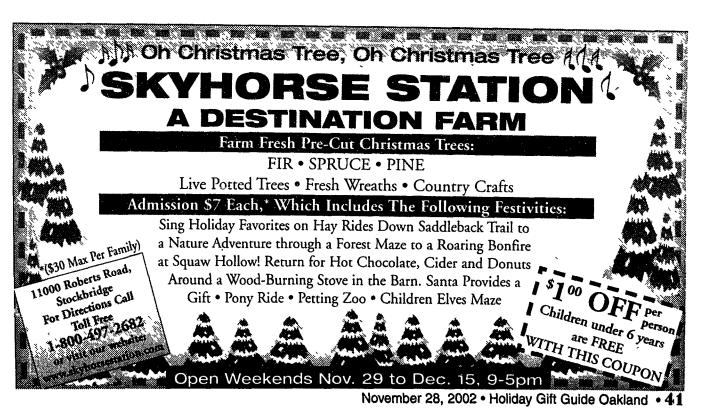




Photo illustration by JACIE LANDEROS/COPLEY NEWS SERVICE

While traditional wreaths are made of winter greenery, variety can certainly add some spice. The composite wreath pictured here is made up of four wreaths frosted papier-mache sugar plums, simple faux pine, faux holly berries and real succulent plants.

Wreaths made rounds since Roman times

By Cathy Lubenski COPLEY NEWS SERVICE

n pagan times, greenery was

"Some incredibly creative things can be done with wreaths. You can personalize them by hanging things on them and then they become almost like a little round Christmas tree." and dispel the bad ones. Both the Greeks and the Romans used wreaths made of silver or gold as eternal tributes to victory or on the grave of an especially brave soldier. Early Christians realized it was easier to incorporate pagan rituals into Christianity than it was to abolish them and started using wreaths at Christmas as a symbol of eternal life (the never-ending circle). Portia Harloff, who teaches a class on how to make them, said a succulent wreath is easy to take care of once the holidays are over. "You just soak it periodically in water and add fertilizer every six months or so," she said. To decorate them, "Use a pick with the decoration on it stuck into the soil and moss. You can decorate it that way with anything, like a big ribbon or ornaments,' Harloff said.

Wreaths have an added dimension as a centerpiece. "I just put it on my table and put a poinsettia in the middle with some red candles and it's beautiful." Harloff also uses her succulent wreath for

a symbol of hope in the midst of a barren winter. Christians adopted and adapted the custom of displaying greenery in winter, specifically at Christmas.

The Romans made wreaths of laurel and hung them on their doors as a sign of Jesus' victory over sin and death. Today, wreaths are secular and are among the most popular of holiday decorating accents.

You can take your pick from long-lasting synthetics that look remarkably real and stay fresh for years. You'll find them at places as diverse as Smith & Hawken, gardening outlets or holiday catalogs like that of the National Wildlife Federation. - Michael Payne Star of HGTV's "Designing for the Sexes"

"Some incredibly creative things can be done with wreaths," said Michael Payne, star of HGTV's "Designing for the Sexes." "You can personalize them by hanging things on them and then they become almost like a little round Christmas tree."

Wreaths are as old as the myths surrounding them. At the solstice, the Druids and other pre-Christian people decorated their doorways with ivy and holly, which was supposed to repel lightning and evil spirits.

The Romans used wreaths made of mint and rosemary after imbibing too much alcohol to clear the brain while a crown of roses was thought to be a headache cure. Ancient Greeks decorated with wreaths to draw in the good spirits other holidays as well. If you're interested in making your own wreath or if you've purchased a beautiful wreath, Payne suggests "in true Hollywood style, you add a string of tiny little lights to your wreath. You can literally weave them into the arrangement so when you hang it, it will come alive at night."

Personalizing a wreath will make it uniquely yours.

"If you're a real cat lover, you could have little felines hanging off of it. Or if you're someone who likes those little crystal animals, you could hang them and with the miniature lights refracting off them it would be just fabulous," Payne said.

Christmas tree continues to grow on Americans

By Paul R. Huard

COPLEY NEWS SERVICE

It's green, it's decorated and it's the ultimate symbol of Christmas.

But don't forget that the Christmas tree has a past. Today's tannenbaum has roots deep in Victorian fashion and pagan ritual, as well as Christian tradition.

Rick Dungey, spokesman for the National Christmas Tree Association, said that the origins of the contemporary Christmas tree are as tangled as yuletide tinsel.

"There are many, many cultural influences that produced the American love of the Christmas tree," Dungey said. "It's a lot like Christmas dinner. Lots of flavors combined to make one very satisfying holiday tradition."

Yes, there are people who prefer an artificial tree because of health or aesthetic reasons, said Dungey. But his group, which represents thousands of Christmas-tree farmers, wants Americans to choose a real tree because of its aroma and beauty.

Close to 33 million American families celebrate the holiday season with a fresh, farmgrown Christmas tree each year, he said. Dungey called real trees "food for the soul."

But when it comes to matters of the soul — Christmas is second only to Easter as a Christian holiday — just how did a tree become associated with the birth of Christ?

According to the Encyclopedia Britannica, the use of evergreens as a symbol and celebration of life during winter solstice celebrations

"There are many, many cultural influences that produced the American love of the Christmas tree. It's a lot like Christmas dinner. Lots of flavors combined to make one very satisfying holiday tradition."

> -Rick Dungey Spokesman for the National Christmas Tree Association

started in ancient Roman and Egyptian times.

The Egyptians used palm fronds to celebrate this shortest day of the year. Early Romans paid tribute to the god of agriculture by decorating trees with candles and ornaments during the festival of Saturnalia.

Even the Druids, ancestors of the Englishmen, adorned sacred oak trees with fruit at this time to honor their god of harvest.

The early Christians (who for the most part were illiterate) taught religion lessons through morality plays, specifically the "Paradise Play," the story of creation with its promise of redemption.

Central to this story was the single prop the paradise tree — a fir tree laden with the apples representing the Garden of Eden.

This practice evolved over the centuries to be incorporated in the celebration of Christmas in the Germanic areas of Europe.

Tradition says the German religious reformer and Protestant leader Martin Luther added candles to a tree after a nighttime walk looking at the stars during the yuletide season. The first recorded display of a decorated

Christmas tree was in 1510, in Riga, Latvia, a medieval German colony. Christmas trees were decorated with fruit, cookies and candy that would later be shared among family members as gifts after the holiday season was over.

By the 1700s, the tradition of celebrating the holidays with a Christmas tree was widely used throughout Europe. Decorations included lace, ribbon, tin, food items and lit candles.

Hessian mercenaries brought the tradition to the United States during the Revolutionary War. In 1804, U.S. soldiers stationed at Fort Dearborn in Chicago used evergreen trees in their barracks for Christmas.

But it was the British — specifically Queen

Victoria and her German-born husband Prince Albert — who gave the Christmas tree its greatest boost.

The Christmas tree was rare, even banned, in many parts of Great Britain in the early 19th century. Religious objections and shrinking forests made English Christmas trees the exception.

The custom wouldn't be revived until Prince Albert reintroduced the tree into the royal family's holiday celebration and into their countrymen's hearts. He had the trees shipped from his home in Germany.

Like so many other trendsetting fashions associated with the Victorian Era, it became a huge success in England as well America as people adopted royal tastes.

As a sign of mourning after Victoria's death in 1901, the Christmas tree disappeared from the English scene for about 30 years.

But the popularity of the Christmas tree in America proliferated.

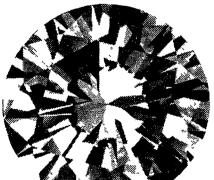
In 1856, President Franklin Pierce brought the Christmas Tree tradition to the White House. In 1923, President Calvin Coolidge started the National Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony now held every year on the White House lawn.

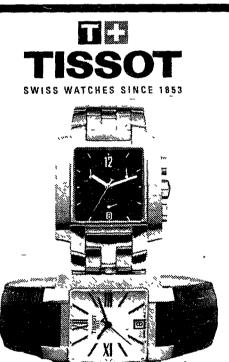
Since 1966, members of the National Christmas Tree Association have presented a beautiful, fresh Christmas Tree to the first lady.

This tree is displayed each year in the Blue Room of the White House.

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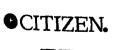
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Spin on history As games go, dreidel is a hard one to top

By Sandy Cohen COPLEY NEWS SERVICE

erhaps you've heard the song about the little dreidel made out of clay, but how much do you really know about this ancient game?

Well, it's Hanukkah time and prime dreidel-playing season. And the little spinning top actually predates the holiday itself, dating back more than 2,400 years.

"This has been brought down through the generations," said Rabbi Yossi Mintz of the Jewish Community Center in Redondo Beach, Calif. "It's associated with the story of Hanukkah."

The story begins in Jerusalem in 167 B.C.

The Greco-Syrian Seleucid Empire conquered Judea and forbade the Jews living there from studying or practicing their religion.

Jews were forced to hide in the hills to learn their history and traditions. If discovered, they could be put to death.

So, whenever Seleucid soldiers came by, the Jews quickly hid their books, pulled out a dreidel and pretended to simply be playing an innocent game.

"It was really a symbol of courage and sacrifice," Mintz said. "That's why we play it today, to remind us of that courage."

In fact, the entire holiday of Hanukkah is a celebration of courage and religious freedom. and maintain their faith, rather than sacrificing pigs and praying to Greek gods, a small group of Jews fought their oppressors despite terrific odds.

Determined to openly practice

Eventually, the tenacious rebels prevailed, driving out the Seleucids.

The Jews then went about restoring their holy Temple, which had been destroyed. Inside, they found a tiny bit of purified oil to light the Temple lamp enough to last just one night. Miraculously, it lasted for eight nights, thus the eight nights of Hanukkah celebrated today.

Beginning just after sundown on Nov. 30, Jews all over the world will light the Hanukkah menorah, a nine-armed candelabra.

For the following seven nights, a new candle will be added until the entire menorah is lit. The ninth candle, called the shamash, is used to light the others.

Game of dreidel

Once the prayers are said and the menorah is lighted, it's time to get down to the business of dreidel, a traditional Hanukkah game.

It's actually a kind of gambling, a simple game of chance. Each side of the four-sided top, called "dreidel" in Yiddish and "sevivon" in Hebrew, is marked with a Hebrew letter that tells the players what to do. The letters also represent a message, "A great miracle "It was really a symbol of courage and sacrifice. That's why we play it today, to remind us of that courage."

-Rabbi Yossi Mintz

Jewish Community Center in Redondo Beach, Calif.

happened there," referring to the miracle of the Jews' military victory and of the bit of oil that burned for eight nights.

With nuts or coins as currency, the players contribute to a central "pot" and take turns spinning the top. The one with the most loot wins.

High-profile dreidels

Most American Jews can remember playing the game as children with cheap wooden or plastic dreidels.

But nowadays dreidels have gone high-profile, ranging from the simple to the ornate, from about 15 cents to hundreds of dollars each.

"Every year it gets better," said Audrey Goldman, who runs the Judaica Shop at Temple Menorah in Redondo Beach. "They keep getting fancier and more complicated."

There are spring-loaded "jumping dreidels," doodling dreidels that leave looping ink swirls behind, and dreidels painted to look like footballs and golf balls. Some even light up and play Hanukkah melodies.

Then there are dreidels just for show, fancy collectibles made from crystal, pewter and porcelain. Some are little keepsake boxes, with room for a tiny gift inside, while others are just for looks, balancing on tiny stands.

The Temple Menorah Judaica Shop carries hand-painted wooden dreidels from Russia and silver filigree dreidel charms to wear.

There are dreidel stickers and coloring books, even dreidelshaped "party lights" and candles.

"The dreidel is a Hanukkah motif," Goldman said. "There's the dreidel and the menorah.

"But the dreidel is a happier symbol because it's games, it's fun."

How to play

Start with a dreidel and some

form of currency, such as coins, nuts or chocolate pieces. Each player begins with the same amount of currency.

All sit in a circle, and each contributes two pieces to "the pot" in the center.

Then the spinning begins. No one may touch the dreidel while it is spinning.

What happens next depends on which Hebrew letter is showing when the dreidel falls. If it lands on nun (which looks a bit like a backward 'L'), the player does nothing. If it falls on gimmel (a little like a backward 'L' with a tail), the player wins the whole pot.

All players contribute two pieces to refill the pot, and the game continues. If hay (which looks almost like the pi symbol) is facing up, the player takes half the pot. And if it lands on shin (which looks like a 'W'), the player adds two pieces to the pot.

Whoever is bankrupted drops out and the last survivor wins.

Discover the secrets of giving the perfect gift

o some people, the most difficult aspect of the holidays is finding the perfect gift for friends or loved ones. Not every person is easy to buy for, and hours spent searching the stores can cause even the most steadfast holiday shopper to throw in the towel.

There is, however, a selection of gifts that are appropriate for many, and this may be the answer to your worries about finding the perfect gift.

Of course, no single gift is perfect for everyone.

44 • Holiday Gift Guide Oakland • November 28, 2002

According to "Present Perfect: The Essential Guide to Gift Giving," by Sherri and Larry Athay, the best gifts share several common characteristics: appropriateness, perceptiveness, selflessness, generosity, indulgence, surprise and evocation.

• Appropriateness — The perfect gift is fitting for the occasion and the relationship. A tin of homemade Christmas cookies to a coworker would be a thoughtful gesture.

• Perceptiveness — A gift that reflects the giver's attention to the tastes and prefer-

ences of the recipient is preferred. In essence, it's a compliment that says, "When I saw this, I couldn't help but think of you!"

• Selflessness — The giver should only desire to please the recipient — expecting nothing in return.

This "no-return" policy includes any satisfaction the giver anticipates from the observations of others about the extravagance of the gift or the generosity of the giver.

• Generosity — Resourceful gifts reveal

how special the recipient is to the giver. Often, endowments of the giver's time, effort or creativity are the most generous and memorable characteristics of a gift.

• Indulgence — It pampers, it humors, it appeases, it satisfies — the perfect gift says there is something extraordinary about the recipient in the eyes of the giver.

• Surprise — Careful and discreet planning can catch even the most suspecting recipient off guard.

A spontaneous gift even can be more fun.

Enjoy fun, holiday events for the family

Continued from page 10

Milford

• Christmas Parade, Nov. 30. This year's parade, sponsored by the Huron Valley Chamber of Commerce, begins at 10 a.m. in downtown Milford.

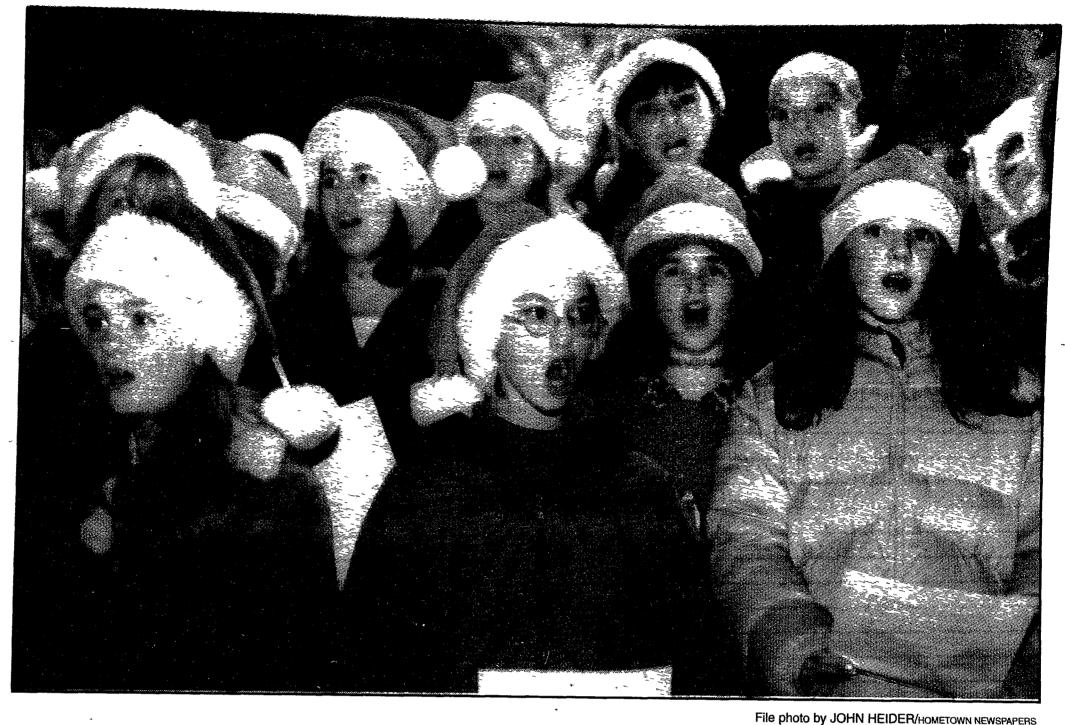
• Christmas Open House, Dec. 5. Milford's annual Christmas Open House runs from 5:45-9 p.m. in downtown Milford.

Candle, Can and Caroling begins at 5:45 p.m. Volunteers will serenade visitors to Milford in exchange for non-perishable food for the needy.

Additionally, Santa will be available at the Village Center Mall to hear each child's Christmas wish.

And strolling entertainment and refreshments provide fun for the entire family.

Continued on page 47



The combined choirs of Hillside and Meads Mill middle schools sing Christmas Carols during the 2001 Northville Mothers' Club tree-lighting ceremony at the gazebo in Northville. This year's event is scheduled for Dec. 13.







Collectors' haven Gift shops offer handmade, collectible, unique items for everyone



Above, Dan DeClark, owner of Legends of Time in Milford, displays a Native American blanket that makes a great gift for the holidays. At right, Sandy Richards of Milford looks around for a gift for her son at Legends of Time.

By Candy Parent HOMETOWN NEWSPAPERS

inding the perfect gift is not difficult if you know where to look. Specialty stores and gift shops offer a variety of unique, collectible and handmade items sure to please even the hardest-to-shop-for people on your list.

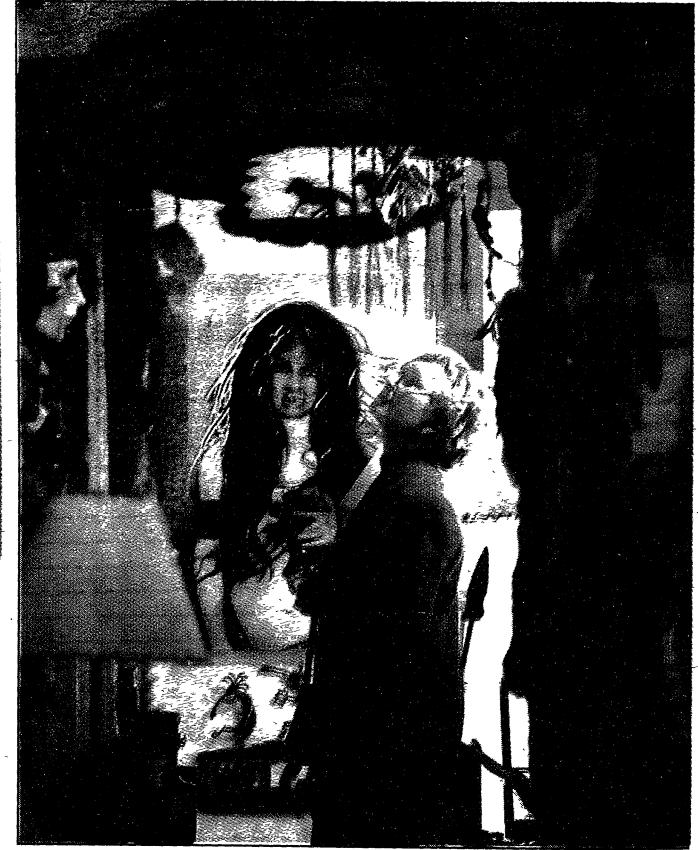
Typically, these stores offer items from a few dollars to several hundred, making staying within your budget simple. Shopping for a collector is easy

UNIQUE GIFTS

Pear-aphernalia, Inc. downtown Northville (248) 596-1430

Northville Candle and Gifts downtown Northville (248) 380-7059

Legends of Time downtown Milford (248) 685-0911 www.legendsoftime.com



Photos by TODD VANSICKLE

- a cutting board for the kitchen with an Christmas cards and artwork are available. artwork design. Although completely functional, Finnegan said some customers put them on a pedestal or hang them on the wall.

After finding out the items or brands a person collects, you can buy an addition to the collection.

Not only is it simple, but you are virtually guaranteed they will love it.

Northville Candle and Gifts, located in the Edward Jones Building on Center Street in downtown Northville, offers a variety of items for collectors.

Beverlee Lindeen, owner, specializes in unusual cookie jars, snowmen, nutcrackers, Raku Pottery from South Africa, night lights, door knockers, Wizard of Oz figurines, moose and bear items and much, much more.

Lindeen also offers a variety of pottery, T-shirts, hats and postcards featuring Northville and the surrounding area.

Of course, Lindeen also carries a variety of candles including Yankee, Village, Lang,

Jobi's Collection, Blue Star, Concord, A. I. Root and Swan Creek. Along with the candles, she offers an assortment of shades, tins, holders and toppers. New candle toppers that can be left on the jar even when the candle is burning have just arrived. Northville Candle even carries cards that arrive with tiny candles and a candle holder.

Just down the street, Pear-aphernalia, Inc., carries Northern Lights and Bullfrog candles and many other accessories for the home.

One popular item, said owners Pat Finnegan and Lori Stempien, is Counterart

Finnegan and Stempien also offer nativity scenes, Santas, angels and snowmen for collectors of holiday items.

For lovers of Native American items, the perfect gift is waiting at Legends of Time in downtown Milford.

Dan DeClark, owner, offers "everything that is Native American."

From baskets to wolves, DeClark has it and most of it is made by Native Americans.

DeClark purchases items from "148 different nations throughout the United States and Canada," including dream catchers and pottery made in Michigan.

Black Hills jewelry, Navajo rugs, clocks, drums, bracelets, figurines, books, music,

"We even have incense to make your home smell good during the holidays," DeClark said.

For some on your list, the perfect gift might be a one-of-a-kind, handmade creation.

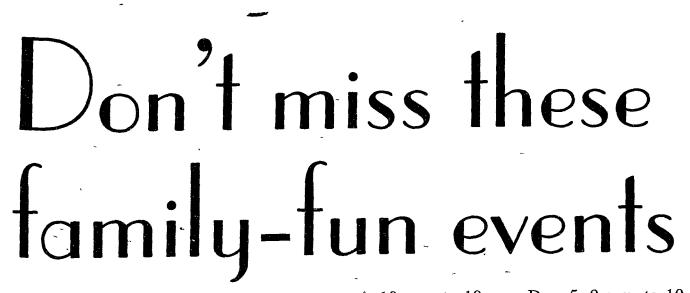
Northville's Pear-aphernalia, Inc. offers several locally handmade items. Handpainted ornaments featuring Northville, northern Michigan and America are available by Pat Gardner, an artist from West Bloomfield. Pear-aphernalia, Inc. also carries pottery by Ken Barnes of Northville, jewelry by LeAndra Williams of Detroit, wreaths from J B A Designs in Novi and beaded napkin rings from Sharon Lawoar.

Northville Candle also offers artist's items including carved birds by Ralph and Betsey Barber of Fenton and hand-painted glass vases, candleholders and accessories from Hazel Munro of Northville.



Photo by HAL GOULD/HOMETOWN NEWSPAPERS

Morgan Hewitt, 4, is a little nervous about sharing her Christmas list with Santa during last year's tree lighting ceremony in White Lake.



Continued from page 45

Twelve Oaks Mall

• Visit Santa, through Dec. 24. Santa is available from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday through Dec. 23.

4; 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Dec. 5; 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. Dec. 6-7 and Dec. 9-14; 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Dec. 8; 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Dec. 15; 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. Dec. 16-21; 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Dec. 22-23 and 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Dec. 24.

South Lyon • Christmas Tree Raffle, Nov. 29





On Dec. 24, Santa will be available from

9 a.m. to noon.

Photos are available.

Each child will receive a gift from Verizon Wireless.

• Toys for Tots, Dec. 2, 5, 12. Bring a new, unwrapped toy to the Lifestyle Cafe and listen as WMGC 105.1 FM and WNIC 100.3 FM broadcast live from the mall. Broadcasts are from 6-10 a.m. Dec. 2 and Dec. 12 and from 3-8 p.m. Dec. 5.

• Holiday hours: Twelve Oaks will be closed Thanksgiving Day.

The mall will be open 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. Nov. 29; 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Nov. 30; 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Dec. 1; 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Dec. 2-

• Holiday Jingle, Dec. 7. 1-4 p.m. Photos with Santa at Grilled Tomato 1-4 p.m. Carriage rides 5 p.m. Parade 6 p.m. Tree lighting ceremony

through Dec. 13.

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• Ringing in the Holidays, Dec. 5. This Christmas festival is from 6:30-9 p.m. in the Main Street area.

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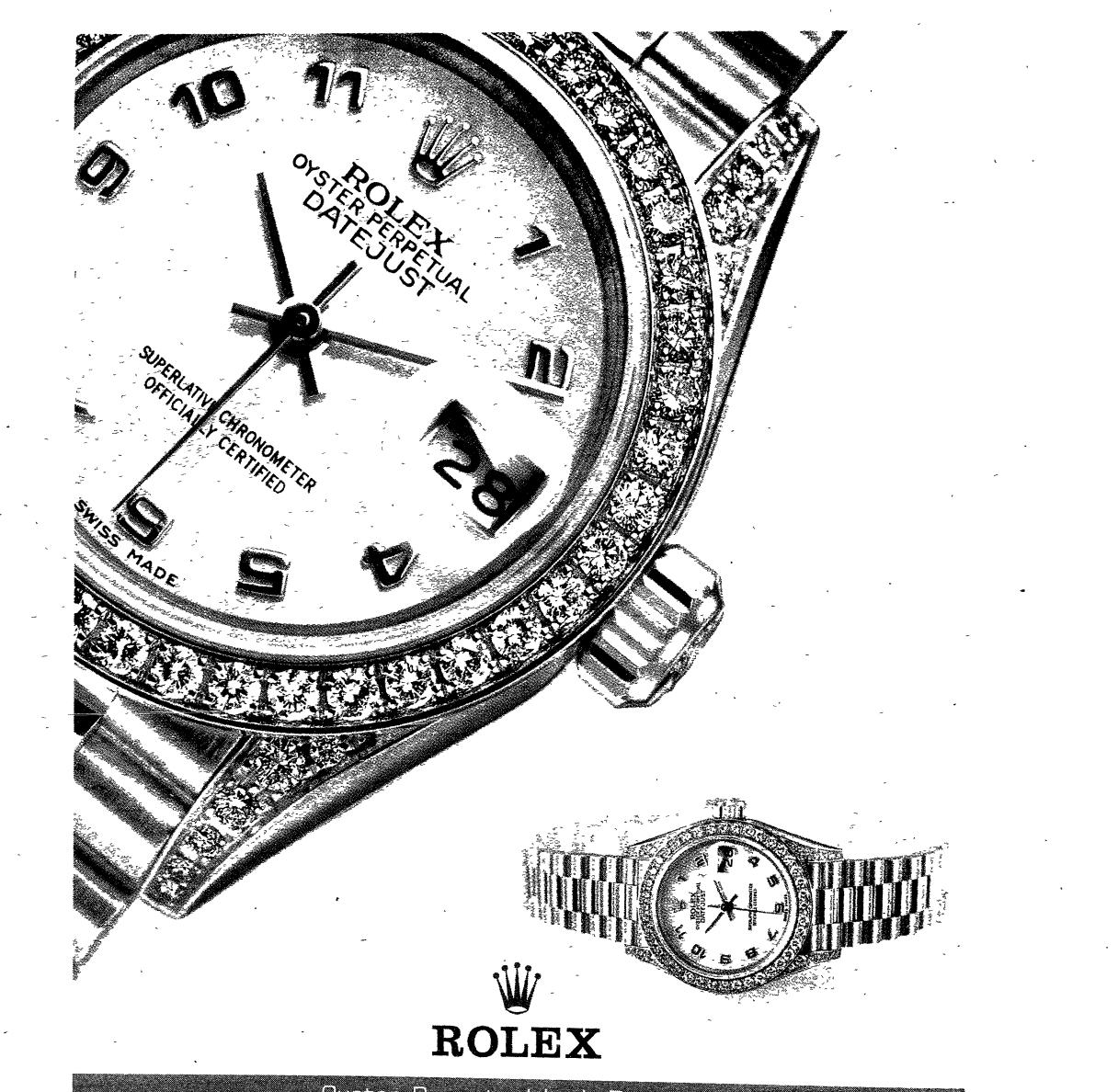
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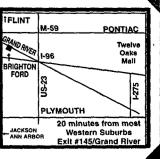




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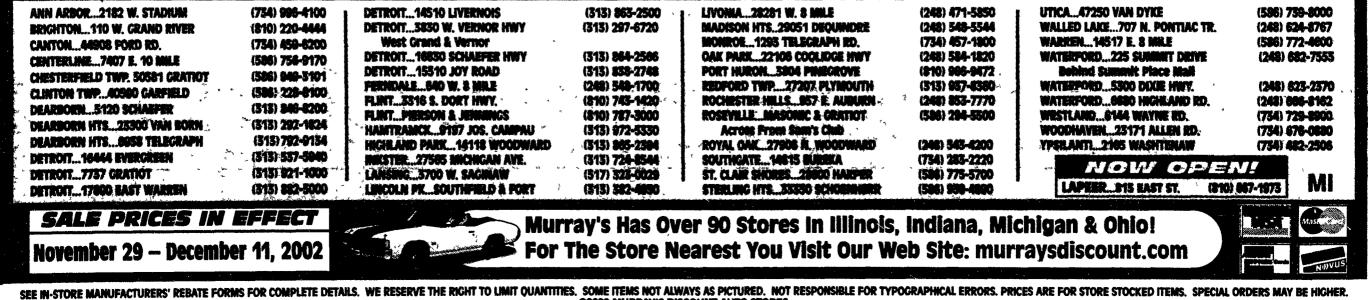








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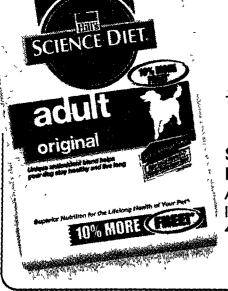
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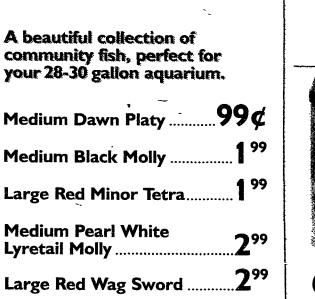
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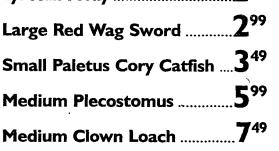
10999

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\$44.99 reg. retail food dish and book.



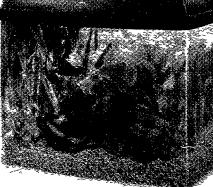
26 **Mini-Bow** 2.5 Gallon **Aquarium Kit**

S



Colorful aquarium kit includes Whisper micro filter, hood with light, and betta divider. Teal or blue





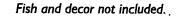
99⁹⁹ Fish and decor not included. **Marineland Eclipse System** 12 Gallon Aquarium

Elegant acrylic aquarium with integrated Bio-Wheel filtration and hood with fluorescent bulb.

Guinea Pig 24" Starter Kit

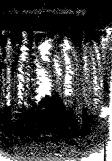
bedding, treat stick, water bottle

Galvanized metal cage includes food,



Marineland

Eclipse Hex



5 Gallon Aquarium Perfect for desktop, home accent or child's room. Comes with integrated Bio-Wheel filtration and hood with incandescent bulb.

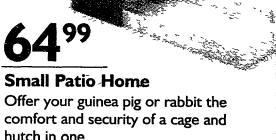
from L**O**99

New Lower Prices Top Fin 10-55 Gallon Starter Kits Ideal for all tropical fish. Includes tank, hood, bulbs, power filter, heater, net, thermometer, set-up video, food, Stress Coat and StressZyme samples.

An attractive mix of community fish for your 10-12 gallon aquarium.

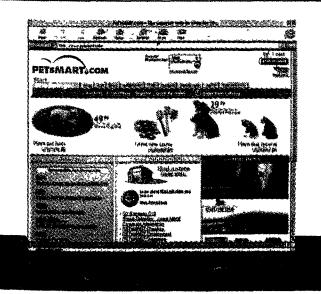


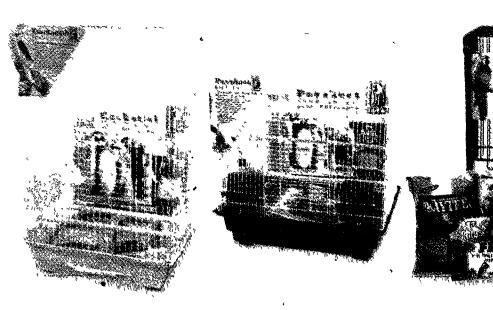
Jumbo Neon Tetra	199
Large Gold Pristella	99
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Fancy Guppy Pair	3 99
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Let PETsMART help you get started with everything you need. Starter kits include cage, bedding, toy, treats, spray millet, food coupon and basic care book.

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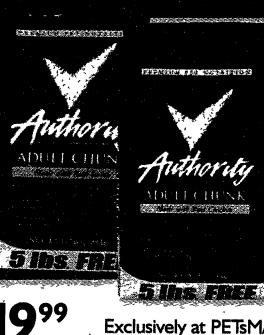


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Exclusively at PETsMART Authority bonus bag Adult Chunk Dog Food 5 lbs. free 38 lb. chicken & rice or 35 lb. lamb & rice bonus bags



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Low Prices Guaranteed

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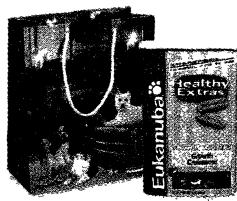
46¢ reg. retail **Nutro Cat Food** Assorted Max Cat, Max Kitten or **Gourmet Classics** 3 oz. can



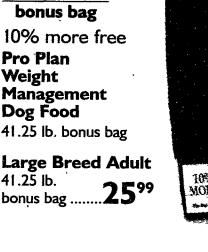


259 29.9¢ per can

SophistaCat Supreme Cat Food 3 flavor variety packs available in kitten, poultry medley or seafood selections. 12-pack of 3 oz. cans



*With any purchase of





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Lite or Senior 36 lb. 2799 bonus bag...

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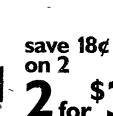
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Eukanuba Healthy Extras biscuits receive a beautiful holiday gift bag free.

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large breed premium performance 40 lb. bag

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40 lb. bag ..

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NACH - CAN

Salmon, chicken, beef, seafood or turkey 3 oz. pouch

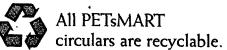
Prices effective November 24 through December 9

For the PETsMART location nearest you, visit www.petsmart.com or call 1 (877)4PETsMART (1-877-473-8762) Online prices may vary

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write scene featuring large fortress, two with light-up eyes, flapping wings and class. Includes 12 highly detailed warriors, accessory pieces. Two Power Stones activate

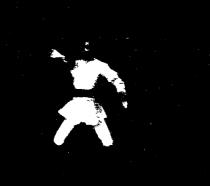
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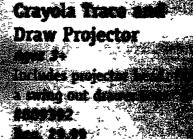
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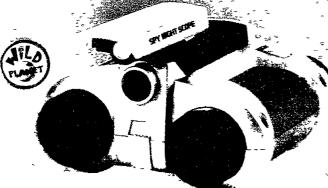


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With cool echo, bonus sing-along tape and AC/DC power cord. #801870 Reg. 39.99 29" sale



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Magnetize your imagination! Create an endless variety of shapes.



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> 2001TOTY

Ages 3+ Teaches the ABC's, numbers, phonics, pre-reading and math skills. Includes a Leap's Big Big Day Flip Book and Interactive Phonics Bus Game. Four "AA" batt. req. #809758 Reg. 44.99 3499 sale



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Twist & Shout

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Teaches and quizzes mathematics.

Musical beat makes learning math fun.

Choose from four exciting game modes.

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Includes kid friendly instructions for building 30 models across a range of themes. All in a sturdy storage case! #814489

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Jump 2 it! Combo Pack Ages 8+

The pogo "boings" every time you bounce it. Even counts your jumps. Stilts have gripper tips so you won't slip. Both hold up to 150 lbs. #87036 Reg. 39.99

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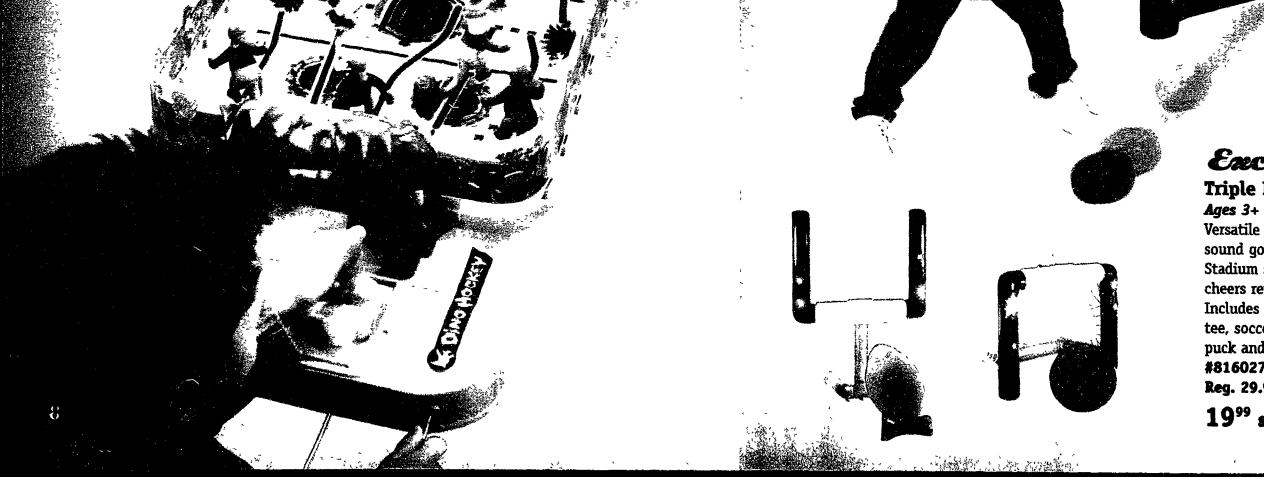
Doz'r Skateboard

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Ages 8+ A light-weight, easy-to-carryboard perfect for flips, kicks; tricks or just cruising. #809559 Reg. 12.99

Exclusive ! Dino Hockey Ages 5+

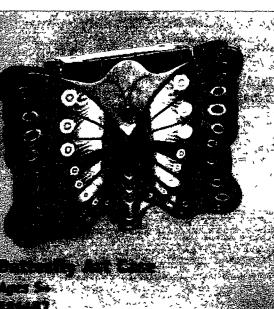
Shoot, score, ROAR! From out of the tarpits comes Dino Hockey! Watch T-Rex whack the boulder with his tail into the cave goal. Assembled size approx: 42" x 18" x 8". #817671 Reg. 39.99 29⁹⁹ sale



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7⁹⁹ea. este

Selection varies by store.

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Translucent Art Cases Ages 5+ Rog. 9.99 ca. 7⁹⁹ea. sale

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Foot-pedal-controlled wheel with two pounds of air-dry clay, tools, and more. Four "D" batt. req. #810358 Reg. 29.99

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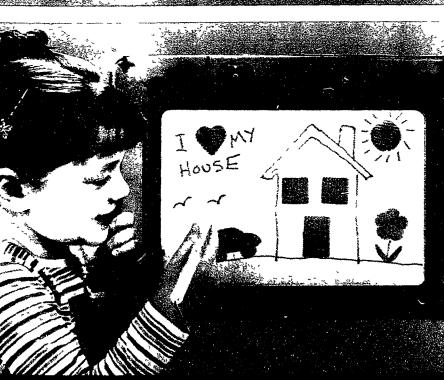
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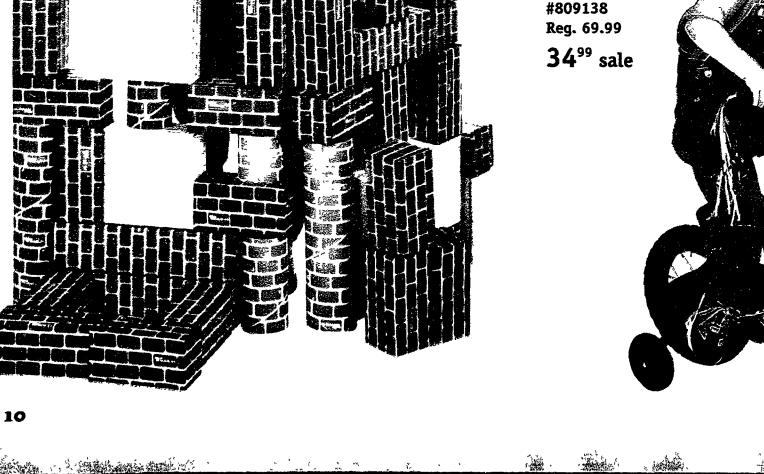
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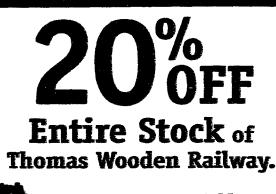


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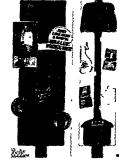
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Age 5-up.

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Q Online item # Sparkle Style House 424361



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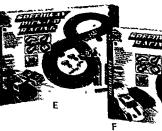
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orig. 29.99 **NRG** Paintball Ages 8-up. 🚨 Online Item # 266340

Save 50% off orig. price

97







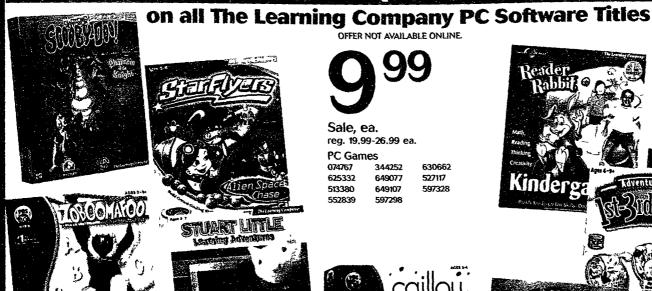
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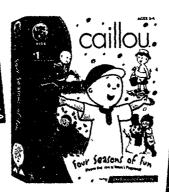
TONS ROUS



Sale, ea. reg. 19.99-26.99 ea.

PC Gan	ies	
074767	344252	630662
625332	649077	527117
513380	649107	597328
552839	597298	

FFER NOT AVAILABLE ONLINE





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More choices! More Fun! More Savings!





Save 50% Save over 40% on each



Sale, ea. reg. 29.99 ea. 36" Fiber Optic Trees 068759 371583

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25 Ct. Gift Bows Stock up now for the holidays! 067558

Put 2% of your "R"US spending away for college right now!

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Toxs R/Us Toxsrus.com. Kids R/Us. Babies R/Us. Babiesrus.com & Imaginarium are proud to contribute to your college savings with Upromise the Way to Save for College, Membership is FREE, and its easy to join. Terms and conditions apply. **Visit www.upromise.com to join now**.

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Doorbusters! *Friday only 6am-noon

Save \$10

Save \$20

Save over 25%



Sale, ea.

A. Talkin' Fashion Vanity Ages 2-up. Needs 3 AA batteries, sold separately Online item # 298692

B. Little Tikes Tender Heart Tea Party Kitchen Chair included. Ages 2-up. 2 AA batteries & doll sold separately. Online item # 548192

Save

Sale

orig.29.99



reg. 59.99

off orig. price



'**9**9 Sale 45-Second Anti-skip Personal CD Player Ages 8-up Needs 2 AA batteries, sold separately. 293639



Save 60%

Save over 30%



Doline Item #'s Sasha 242953 Fall Assortment 242937



50%

Ages 3-up. Needs 4 AA batteries, sold separately Q Online item # 026045

70/0



LEGO Championship Challenge II Online item # 469478



reg. 24.99 Surprise Battenes included. Ages 1%-up. 224963

\$





Save 40%

99

Sale

reg. 49.99

99 Sale, ea. rea. 9.99

Bob the Builder **Talking Vehicles** Batteries included. Ages 2-up. Each sold separately 275177

over 30% Save **99** Mighty Dump Truck Ages 3-up Sale

Online item # 183032

Save \$35 off orig. price





Newspaper supplement, November 26, 2002 @ 2002 Geoffrey, Inc.

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Not all items are Doorbusters or 2 Day Specials. *Friday only doorbusters. 6am-Noon. November 29th only. Sorry, no rain checks. Hurry in while supplies last. We reserve the right to limit quantities.



Not all advertised events, items or styles may be available at the Times Square, NY store.

8 A....

Toys"R"Us is the exclusive licensed mass retailer of Toys"R"Us Exclusive Items These items may also be available at select outlets owned or operated by licensor.

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Our Low Price Guaranteel *Competitor must have advertised item in stock and ad must show specific item and price. Prices are matched after Toys"A"Us coupon savings have been deducted from original price. Does not apply to percent-off, internet or telephone sales. Price Guarantee only given within 30 days of original purchase date with a valid receipt.



m regular or original prices. Sale prices represent reductions

The Toys"R"Us Rain Check Policy: It is our intention to have every item advertised in stock at our retail stores. Should certain items be unavailable in our stores, due to unforesen difficulties, we will gladly issue you a rain check at your request. Rain checks do not apply to special offers or to limited supply items which are available only while quantities last. We also reserve the right to limit quantities. The selection and price of items online and by telephone often varies from the toys featured in our stores and in our store advertisements. Supplies of items featured online and by telephone are limited and an other builters the above telephone. and are not subject to rain checks.

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FOR A STORE NEAR YOU, CALL * 1800 TOYS R US * 1-800-869-7787

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After Thanksgiving 2 Day Sale

Friday, Nov. 29, 6am-11pm & Saturday, Nov. 30, 8am-11pm





eary bird charles

5 OEC CLS Friday, November 29 6am-11am Only

Early Bird pricing available online 6am-1pm EST, Friday, November 29.

entire stock 25-50% off + save an extra 15%

Watches. Orig. 14.99-375.00, Final Price 8.49-239.06

- Seiko[®]
- Citizen
- Mudd[®]
- l.e.i.®
- Armitron[®]

entire stock 60% off + save an extra 25%

14k gold chains and bracelets. Reg. \$40-\$650, sale \$16-\$260, Final Price \$12-\$195 Includes Super Buys. Shop online W1720

49.49 Final Price

14k gold 2.95 mm hollow rope 18" necklace and 7" bracelet set. Reg. \$200, sale 65.99

14.99 Final Price

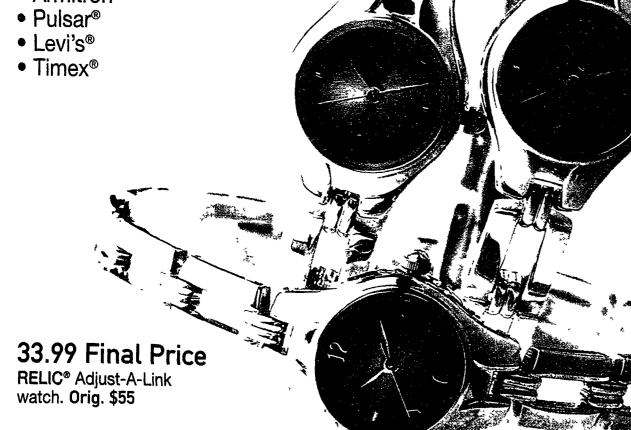
14k gold 1 mm herringbone 18" necklace and 7" bracelet set. **Reg. \$80, sale 19.99**

entire stock 60% off + save an extra 15%

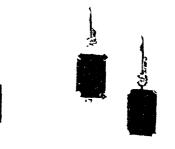
14k gold earrings and 10k Black Hills Gold[™] jewelry. Reg. 29.99-650.00, sale 11.99-260.00, Final Price 10.19-221.00 Shop online W1760

16.99 Final Price

14k gold earrings. Reg. \$50, sale 19.99



25.49 Final Price 14k gold earrings. Reg. \$80, sale 29.99





33.99 Final Price 14k gold earrings. Reg. \$125. sale 39.99





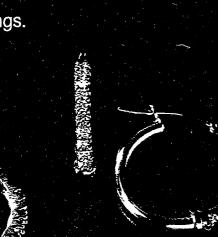


save 60% + an extra 15% On all diamond, gemstone & pearl jewelry Reg. \$50-\$3,000, sale \$20-\$1,200, Final Price \$17-\$1,020. Diamond Total Weights are approximate. T.W. may vary up to .05 ct. Some photos enlarged to show detail.

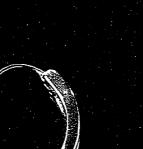


9.99 Final Price

10k gold 1/4 ct. T.W. diamond hoop earrings. Reg. \$200, sale 58.99 shop online P11288







Final Price

hoop earrings. Reg. \$600, sale 199.99 shop online P11286



169.99 Final Price

14k gold 1/2 ct. T.W. diamond stud earrings. Reg. \$600, sale 199.99 Shop online P112810

297.49 Final Price

10k gold 2 ct. T.W. diamond bracelet. Reg. \$1,250, sale 349.99 Shop online P112811

509.99 Final Price

14k gold 1 ct. T.W. diamond stud earrings. Reg. \$1,750. sale 599.99 shop online P112812

Friday, November 29 6am-11am Only

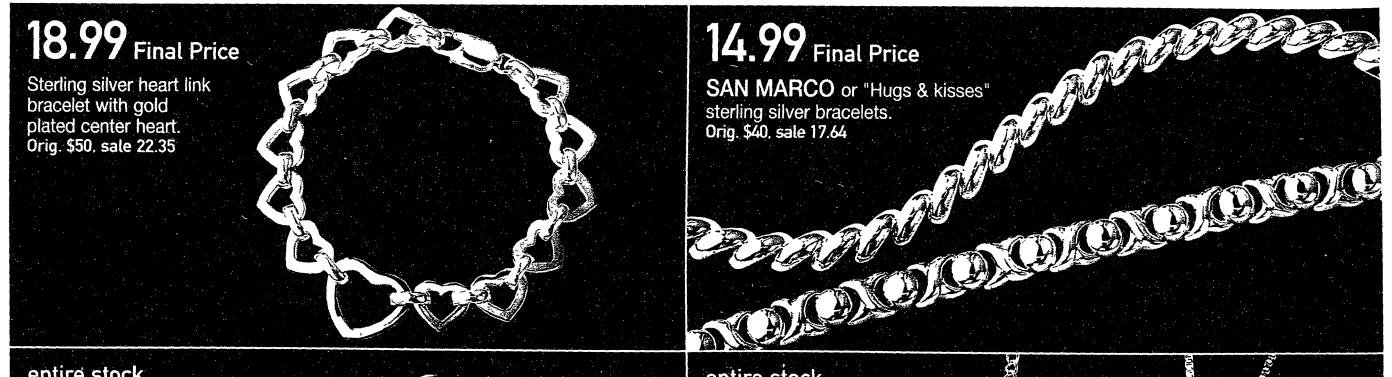
Early Bird pricing available online 6am-1pm EST, Friday, November 29.

entire stock 50% off Make the Deason Bright Boxed fashion jewelry. Orig. \$10-\$16, sale 4.99-7.99 PUSHPINS (อุโาอะบา)60 Make the Season Bright

SONOM

save 55% + extra 15% on all sterling silver jewelry

Orig. \$4-\$96, sale 1.80-43.20, Final Price 1.53-36.72





entire stock 5.49 Final Price

Sterling silver rings. Orig. \$15, sale 6.46

entire stock 49 Final Price Sterling silver pendants.

Orig. \$15, sale 6.46

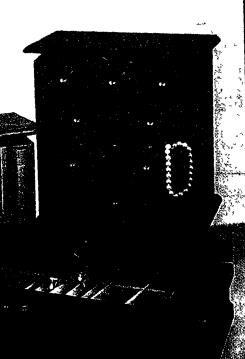


• Nine & Company

Villager

entire stock 50% off

Jewelry boxes. Orig. \$10-\$100, sale 4.99-49.99 \$\$ shop online for selected items P112813



NOUVEAU

entire stock 50% off SONOMA sport socks for her. Orig. \$8. sale \$4

sonon A Parr value Pada Parr value Pada Babo online p112815



Early Bird pricing available online 6am-1pm EST, Friday, November 29.

entire stock 50-60% off

Frames & albums.

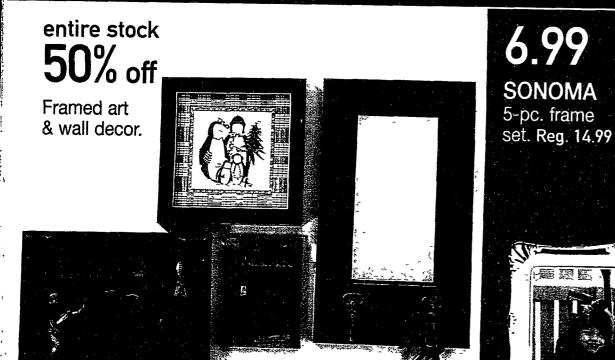
- Burnes of Boston®
- Fetco[®]
- Malden[®]
- Genuine Sonoma Home Goods™







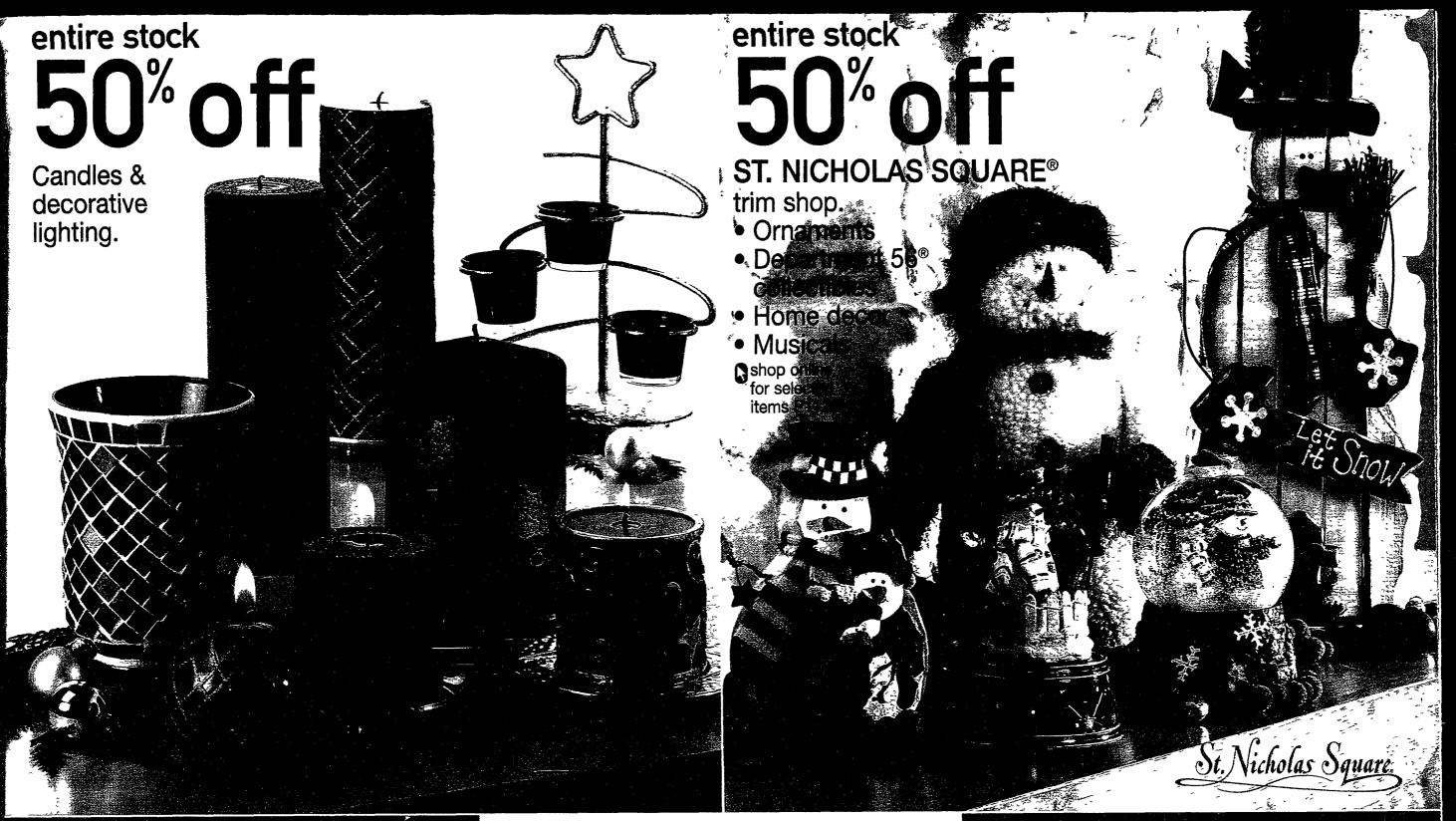












13.99

Candle centerpiece with wreath. Orig. 29.99

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8.99

Soft sculpture snowman. 14" tall. Orig. 19.99 Shop online H2670





Friday, November 29

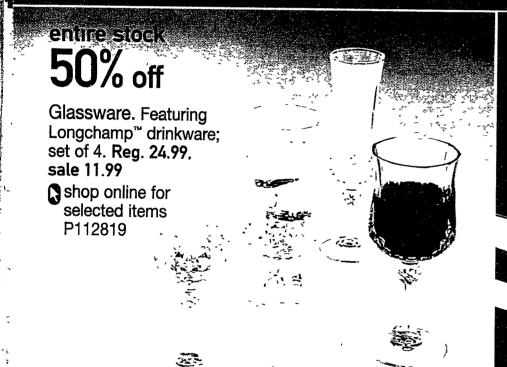
6am-11am Only

Early Bird pricing available online 6am-1pm EST, Friday, November 29.

Cushum An

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entire stock 50% off

Flatware. 16-, 20- and 45-pc. & expanded sets. shop online for selected items H2120

sale 28.99 5-pc. TV tray set. 4 trays and storage

stand. Reg. 79.99

shop online

entire stock

Cutlery.

40-50% off

sale 59.99 CHICAGO CUTLERY

Insignia series 7-pc. set. Reg. 133.99

No.

29649

Lowest Price Ever!

entire stock 50%

8

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Bakeware. Featuring T-Fal, Wearever & Pyrex Excludes Calphalon



aparta a series a se

glass bakeware and storage.

6

sale 17.49 **PYREX®** Portables set. Reg. 34.99

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SDECES Friday, November 29 6am-11am Only

Early Bird pricing available online 6am-1pm EST, Friday, November 29.

THE BIG ONE down

overfilled. Reg. 179.99-199.99

69.99 all sizes THE BIG ONE down comforters. Oversized &

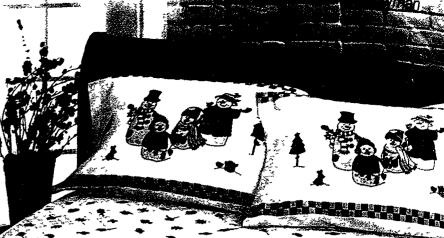
entire stock 50% off **BED IN A BAG®**

bedding sets, 180-, 200 220-, or 250 thread count shop online 1121

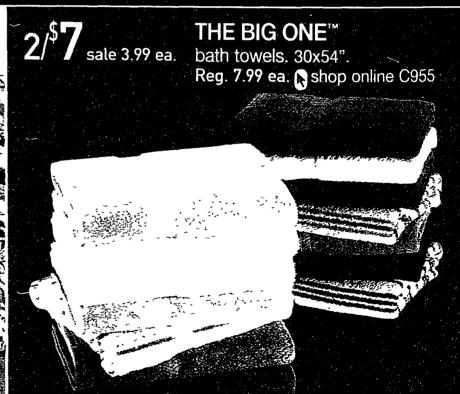
Flannel sheet set. Prints, solids or -plaids: Orig. 29.99 shop online 11273

Full, sale 23.99

/ild Rose



SONOMA HOME GOODS



1



Eller a.

shop online C324

Free rolling duffel With the purchase of inviupright. A \$39.00 value.

49.99 SONOMA 2-pc. duffel set. Reg. 99.99

Free rolling backpack With purchase. A \$19.99 value.

69.99 SONOMA Forestview 5-pc. luggage set. Red or navy. Reg. 139.99

> Genuine Sonoma Jean Company®.

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7.99 THE BIG ONE™ fleece throw. 60x70". **Orig. 19.99** Shop online P112890

14.99

Berber throw. 50x60"; plaids, prints and solids. Orig. 39.99 Shop online P112824

14.99 all sizes

SONOMA Soft One blankets. Reg. 37.99-49.99 Shop online C321

Sonoma Genuine

your choice

Character pillows and throws. Orig. 24.99-29.99 Shop online H1332

Mary and





entire stock 50% off Solid & decorative bath rugs. It is shop online H120 It

eary biographics

OECCES Friday, November 29 6am-11am Only

Early Bird pricing available online 6am-1pm EST, Friday, November 29.



entire stock 50% off

SO... and SONOMA activewear for girls 7-16 and boys 8-20. Orig. \$22-\$26, sale \$11-\$13

SO... GSJC

entire stock 1999

Girls' 7-16 fashion denim jeans. Featuring oirls' 7-16 Bull un jeans when and purse. Ong. 29.99



entire stock 50% off

Girls' 4-6x embroidered tops.



4

Genuine Sonoma

Jean Company®.

entire stock **50% off**

LEE^(*) utility jeans for boys 4-18. Featuring Sure 2 Fit adjustable waist. Shop online 24430

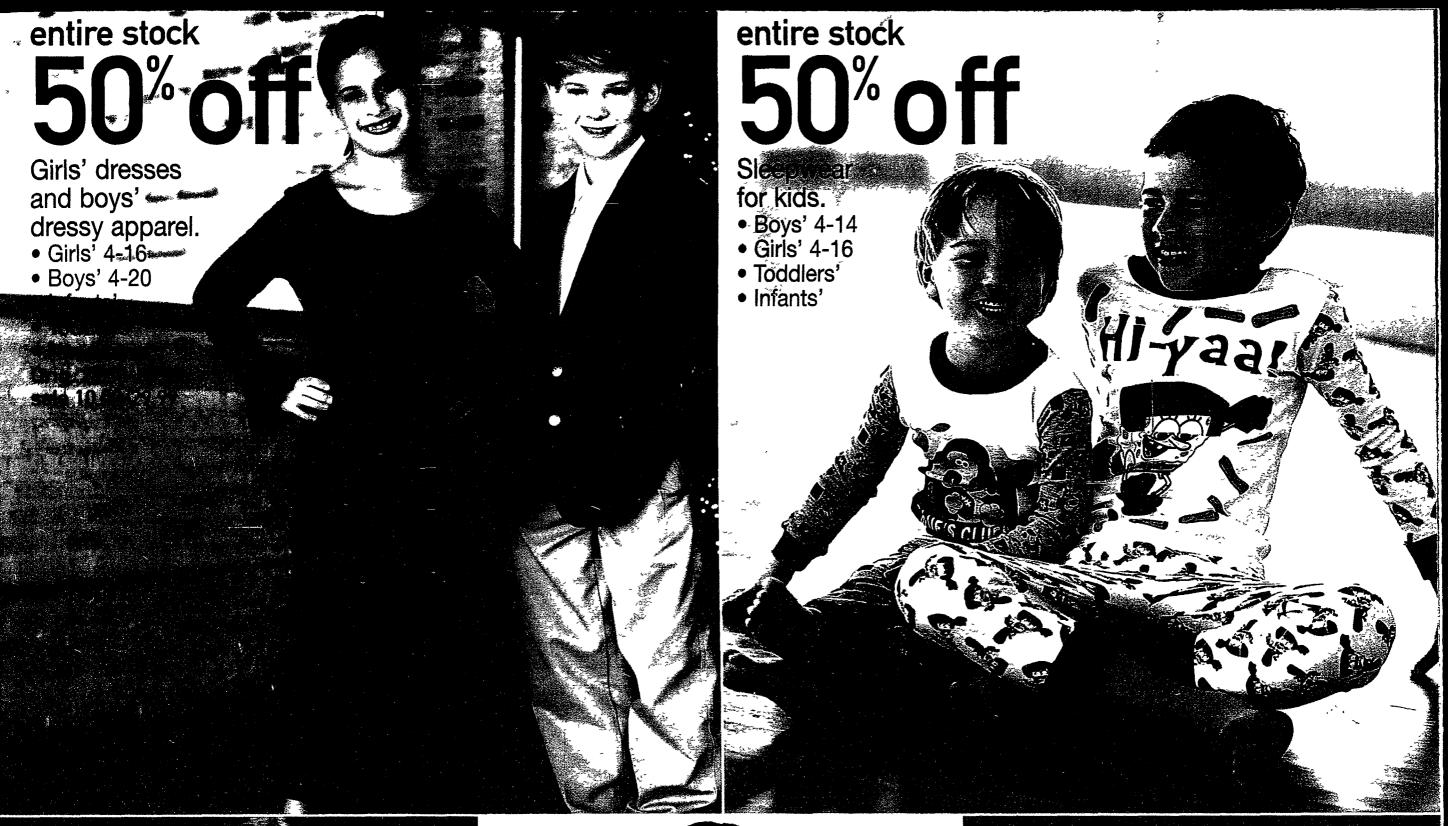
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entire stock 50% off

Sweaters for kids. • Boys' 4-20 • Girls' 4-16 • Toddlers • shop online for selected items P112825

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entire stock 50% off

Kids' turtlenecks. • Toddlers' • Boys' 4-20 • shop online P112827

entire stock 50% off Kids' sets and

Kids' sets and character apparel. • Toddlers'

- Infants'
- Newborns'
- Girls' 4-6x • Boys' 4-7



sale **24.99**

Radio controlled vehicle. Hummer[®] SUV, Harley-Davidson[®] Ford[®] F-150 truck or Dirty Jeep[®] Wrangler. **Orig. 29.99** Shop online K3214

entire stock **50%** off

Kids' outerwear. • Girls' 4-16 • Boys' 4-20 • Toddlers' • Infants' • Newborns' Excludes Columbia Sportswear Company*.

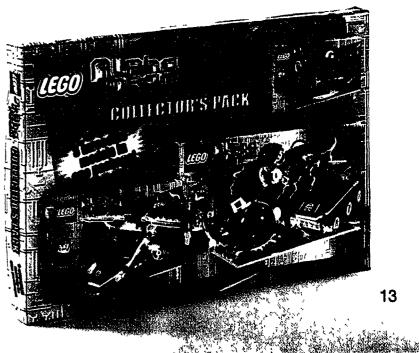


entire stock 40% off

Game tins. 20 games to choose from. Shop online K3121



saleLEGO® Alpha Team™19.99exclusive collector's
set. Orig. 34.99



early bird specials

Friday, November 29 6am-11am Only

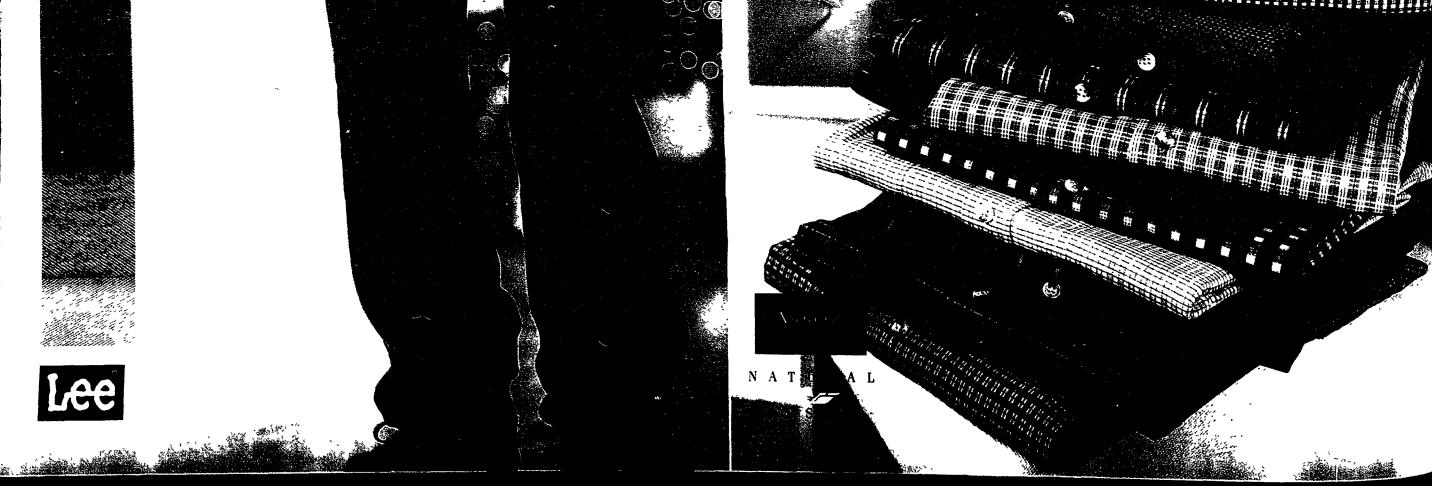
Early Bird pricing available online 6am-1pm EST, Friday, November 29.



entire stock 50% off Young men's knit shirts Orig. \$28-\$40, sale \$14-\$20



1599 ARBOW and NATURAL wrin spoi Orig



entire stock 099 **C&B SPORT** embroidered fleece tops for men. Orig. \$45





entire stock 50% off **CROFT & BARROW®** microfiber bomber

jackets for men. Orig. \$60 shop online 20442



CROFT & BARROW®

and SONOMA outdoor cold weather accessories and thermal underwear. Orig. \$8-\$35, sale 4.00-17.50 shop online P112830

50% off Gifts for men.

Orig. \$15-\$25, sale 7.50-12.50 Shop online P112829

DOCKERS

entire stock

barrow.

entire stock 50% off

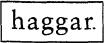
Men's corduroys and SAVANE® winter cotton pants. Orig. \$45-\$50. sale 22.50-25.00

UMBRELLA & TRIFOLD WALLET SET

- shop online for selected items P112831
- Savane®
- Haggar
- Natural Issue

50% off

HAGGAR[®] casual or dress pants for men. Orig. \$40-\$50, sale \$20-\$25 Selected styles. shop online P112832



50% off LEVI'S® fashion utility jeans for men. Selected discontinued styles.

entire stock 17.99

CROFT & BARROW®

solid and stripe jersey and ribbed sweaters for men. Orig. \$40-\$42 Shop online P112834

CROFT & BARROW® robes for men. orig. \$60-\$70 stop online P11283 Stop online P11283 Stop online P11283

6am-11am Only Early Bird pricing available online

Early Bird pricing available online 6am-1pm EST, Friday, November 29.

croft & barrow.

entire stock

CROFT & BARROW® flannel loungepants for men. Orig. \$20 \$ shop online P112836

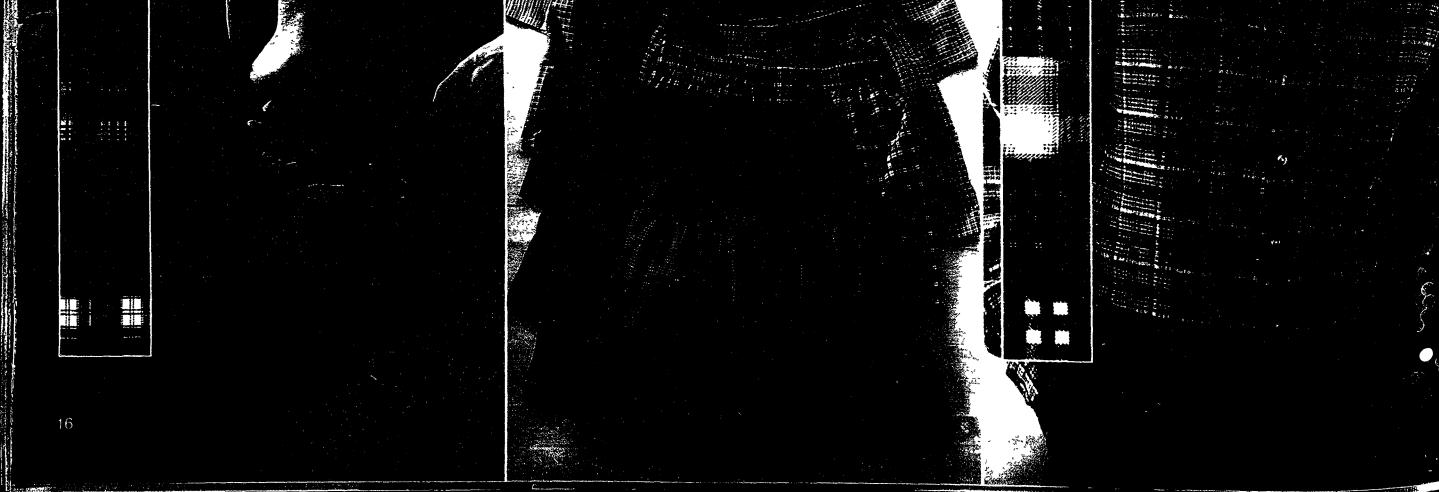
entire stock

D99

entire stock SONOMA woven boxers for men. Orig. \$12 shop online P112837

> ARROW a CROFT & ARROW® flannel sport nirts for men. Ori \$24

entire stock



4.99 Famous maker bras. Orig. 21.50-30.00 Women's Lingerie dept. shop online P112838

- Vanity Fair®
- Playtex[®]
- Bali®
- Warner's®
- Maidenform®
- Lily of France®
- Olga®

Fashion panties. Orig. 3/\$12 to 3/19.50 Excludes Jockey®.

99

• Moments® • I.e.i.® • Mudd® • St. Eve®

> Robe for her. Brushed terry wrap or lounger, Villager fleece wrap or bunny pile style. Orig. \$40 Shop online P112840

SONOMA JEAN COMPANY®

entire stock

entire stock

Sleepwear and

separates for her. Orig. \$20-\$22

shop online P112839

loungewear

17

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early bid bid specials Friday, November 29 6am-11am Only

Early Bird pricing available online 6am-1pm EST, Friday, November 29.

entire stock 50% off

100% cashmere CROFT & BARROW® turtleneck, cardigan

and short sleeved crewneck sweaters for misses. Orig. \$68-\$80, sale \$34-\$40 (\$shop online P112841

entire stock 50% off 50% off C&B SPORT fleece separates for misses, petites and women. Orig 528-\$40, sale \$14-\$20 Misses' shown. \$hop online P11284

50% off SONOMA and CROFT & BARROW knit tops for misses, petites and women. Orig. \$16-\$28, sale \$8-\$14 Misses' shown.

entire stock



entire stock 50% off **CROFT & BARROW®**

leather sportswear for misses. Orig. \$68-\$180, sale \$34-\$90 shop online W2940

croft & barrow

save 50%

CROFT & BARROW®

sweaters for misses, petites and women. Orig. \$28-\$48. sale \$14-\$24 Selected styles. Misses' shown.

shop online W1160

entire stock 50% off SAG HARBOR® and HARVÉ BENARD®

wool separates for misses, petites and women. Orig. \$30-\$94, sale \$15-\$47 Misses' shown.



entire stock 50% off

N.Y.L.® sherpa separates for misses and women. Orig. \$28-\$36. sale \$14-\$18 Misses' shown. shop online P112845

19

entire stock 50% off

Pantsuits & dresses for misses, petites, women and juniors. Orig. \$40-\$90, sale \$20-\$45 Misses' shown.

Williss Street

50% DOCKERS®, LEE® and GLORIA **VANDERBILT®** Sportswear for

save

50%

NORTON

Orig. \$29-\$76.

Selected styles.

Misses' shown. Shop online P112844

save

sale 14.50-38.00

MCNAUGHTON®

coordinates for misses,

and VILLAGER

petites and women.

Misses and Petites. Dockers Discontinued Styles. Selected styles. Misses' shown.

shop online P112847

entire stock **50%** off

BRIGGS® pants for misses, petites and women. Orig. \$20-\$44, sale \$10-\$22 Misses' shown.

Shop online P112848

early bird Specials Friday, November 29

6am-11am Only

Early Bird pricing available online 6am-1pm EST, Friday, November 29.

44⁹⁹

BRAETAN

Orig. \$100

bubble jacket for her.

50% off G.A.S., SO... and ENERGIE® sweaters for

jUNİORS. Orig. \$24-\$48, sale \$12-\$24 Shop online P112849

entire stock

• G.A.S. • SO... • ENERGIE®

entire stock 50% off MUDD® and UNIONBAY® sweaters and fleece tops for juniors. Orig. \$32, sale \$16 \$ shop online P112851

er 5 M Ur sw top Ori

50% Juniors' holiday separates. Orig. \$26-\$36. sale \$13-\$18



ERMAN KAY ol peacoat for SSES. Orig. \$130

099

entire stock 40-

Men's, women's & kids' dress and casual shoes. Orig. 24.99-64.99, sale 14.99

entire stock 7.99 Juniors' active pants. Orig. \$20



Men's, women's & kids' boots. Orig. 39.99-99.99, sale 19.99-49.99 Excludes Columbia Sportswear Company[®].

Shop online for selected items P112852

entire stock 40% off

Men's and women's walking shoes. shop online for selected items P112853

entire stock 15.99

SO... corduroys for juniors. Orig. \$34 Shop online P112897



entire stock 40% off

Men's and women's cross training shoes. shop online for selected items P112854



entire stock 40-60% off



AVIA

30-50% sweaters sweaters family

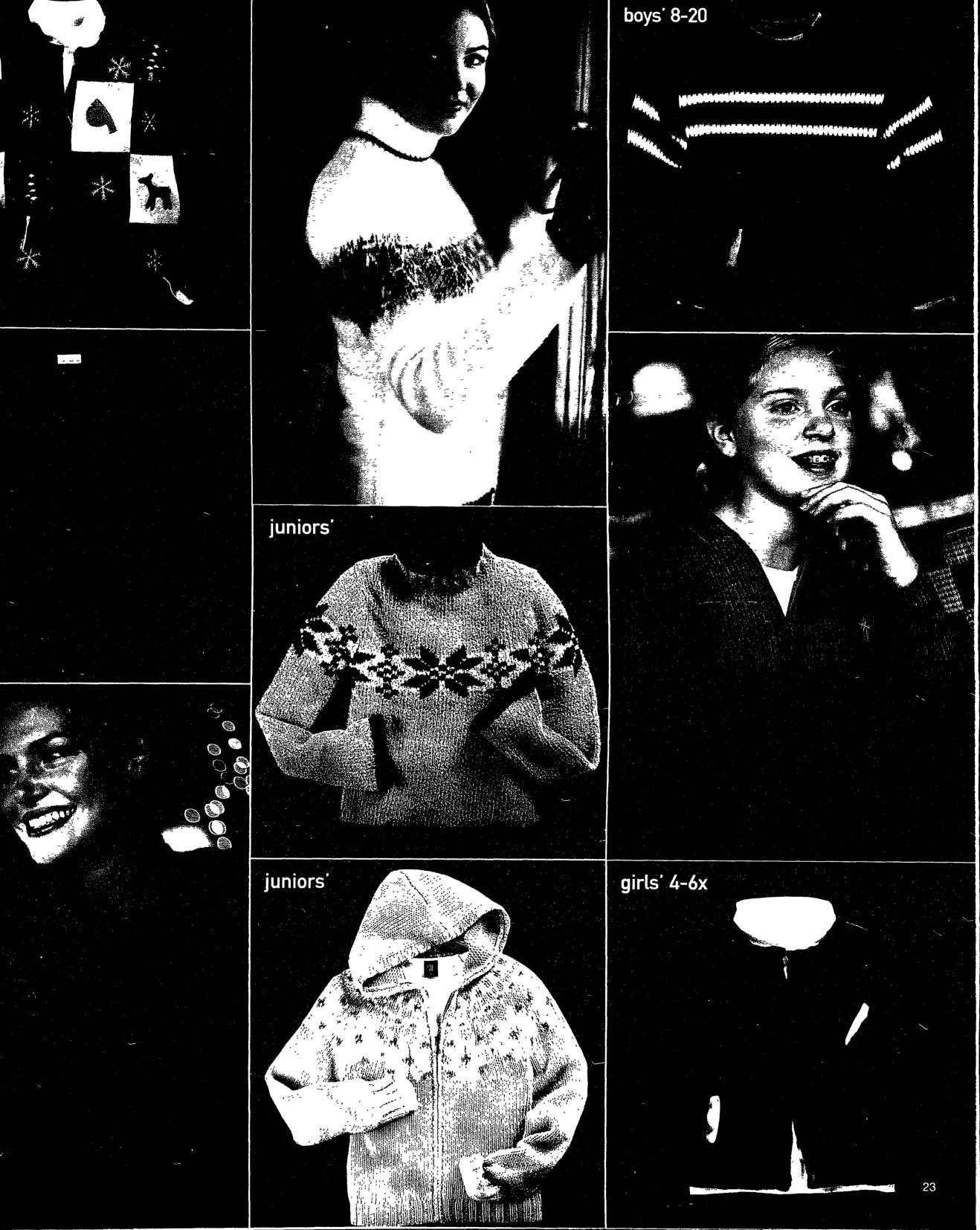
men's

misses

misses

young men's







Excludes Columbia Sportswear Company®. Shop online for selected items P5001

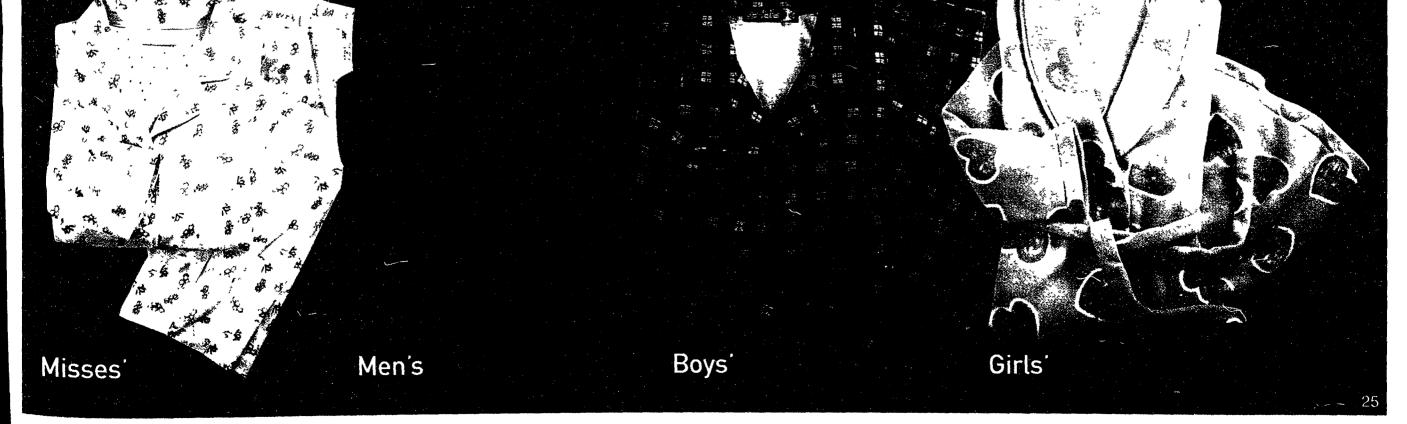




40% offall sleepwear, loungewear & robes

For the family. Shop online for selected items P5002





40-50%

Misses', petites' and women's coordinates. Orig. \$29-\$76, sale 17.40-45.60 Selected styles. Misses' shown. S[®] 505[®] ht Fit, 57 ise or Relaxed ans for misse shop online P112

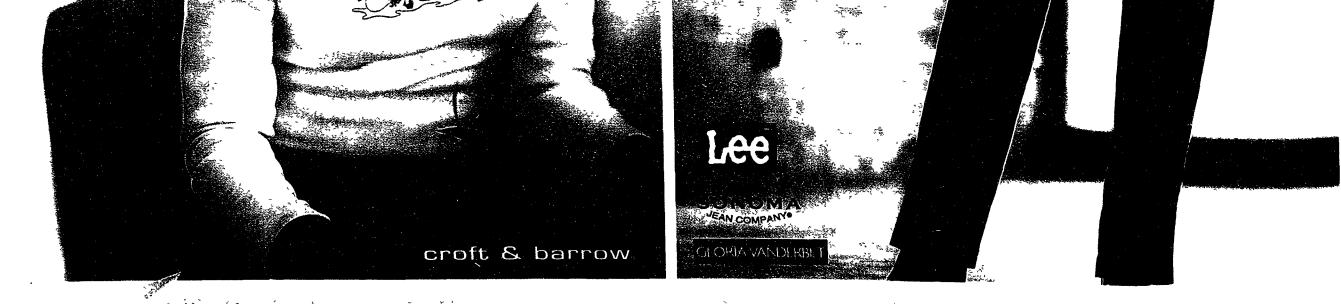
e **/i's° 550™** Re ars for women, sa

entire stock 25-50% CROFT & BARROW®

Mahte

knit tops for misses, petites women. Orig. \$16-\$28, 21. Misses' shown. 25-50% Twill pants, denim jeans & sorduroys for misses, petites

entire stock



,

70% original prices

Storewide Clearance When you take an additional 50% off already reduced clearance prices shop online: clearance

Final prices given at register. Clearance prices represent savings off original prices. Selection varies by store. Interim markdowns may have been taken. Sorry, no price adjustments given on prior purchases. Clearance not yet available at our new Ankeny, IA; Plainfield, IL; Noblesville, IN; Bainbridge, Chillicothe, Lima, Troy & Western Hills, OH; Lino Lakes & Mankato, MN and Delavan, Muskego & SW Waukesha, WI stores.



18.99

17.99

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SAG HARBOR®

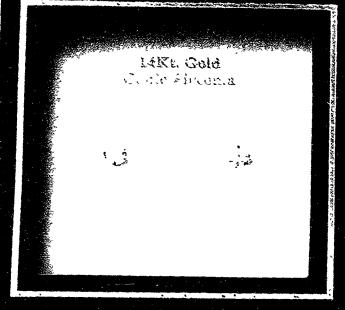
acrylic cardigan for misses. Orig. \$34 shop online 25586

Sag Harbor[®] mockneck





60% off all fine jewelry



Reg. 29.99-3,000.00, sale 11.99-1,200.00

WEL Guly

14.99 Super Buy!

14k gold holiday boxed fine jewelry. Reg. \$40 shop online P112896

Some jewelry photos enlarged to show detail. Diamond Total Weights are approximate. T.W. may vary up to .05 ct.

your choice **99.99** Super Buy!

10k gold 1/4 ct. T.W. diamond slide or 3 mm 17" omega necklace. Reg. \$250-\$300 shop online P112864

KARARA I



entire stock 30-50% off

Bath & body and home fragrances. Orig. 2.50-25.00, sale 1.50-12.50 Shop online P112864



Handbags and purse accessories. Orig. \$8-\$72. sale 4.80-43.20





entire stock 50% off SONOMA socks for her.



entire stock 40% off

entire stock

40% off

Cold weather

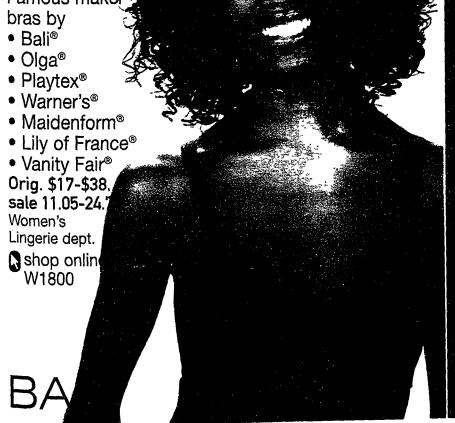
accessories for her. Orig. \$5-\$50, sale \$3-\$30

Free desk-size

calming fountain With any fine fragrance purchase of \$30 or more. While quantities last.













Shop at kohls.com Thanksgiving Day 30

sale 29.99 **DOCKERS®** Rambler Shoes for Men. Orig. \$60



sale 19.99 **GBX**[®] Killington shoes for men. Orig. 49.99

säle 39.99 **CROFT & BARROW®** Longview shoes for women. Orig. 64.99

sale 29.99

NINE & COMPANY Amadeo

shoes for women. Orig. 44.99







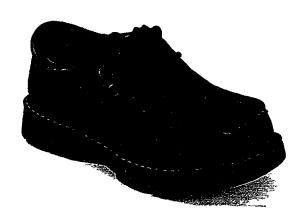
SKECHERS® Encores

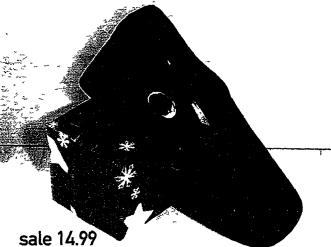
shoes for juniors.

Orig. 59.99

I.e.i.[®] Sportee shoes for juniors. Orig. 44.99 sale 19.99

-SONOMA Jacob shoes for boys. Orig. \$30 Genuine Sonoma Jean Company®.





SO...GSJC® Alexa shoes for girls. Orig. \$25

25-60% off entire stock shoes and boots for men, women & kids

sale 37.49 adidas® Mad Handle basketball shoes for men. Orig. 74.99



Excludes Columbia Sportswear Company®. Shop online for selected items P5003

sale 29.99 ROCKPORT[®] Evanston walking shoes for men. Orig. 59.99 Also available in wide widths. sale 26.99 **REEBOK**[®] Tip In Lace shoes for boys. Orig. 41.99





sale 39.99 adidas[®] Tremelo running shoes for *:women. Orig. 64.99



Shop at kohls.com Thanksgiving Day and receive After Thanksgiving Day Sale prices throughout the site. Take advantage of free standard shipping with online purchases over \$75 at kohls.com. Early Bird pricing available online Friday. November 29 6am-1pm EST





WO

Oric

entire stock **50%** off



entire stock 40% off Dress shirts and

CROFT & BARROW®, ARROW and HAGGAR® rugby shirts for men.

Orig. \$36-\$38, sale \$18-\$19 neckwear for men. Orig. \$20-\$38, sale 12.00-22.80 Shop online P112891

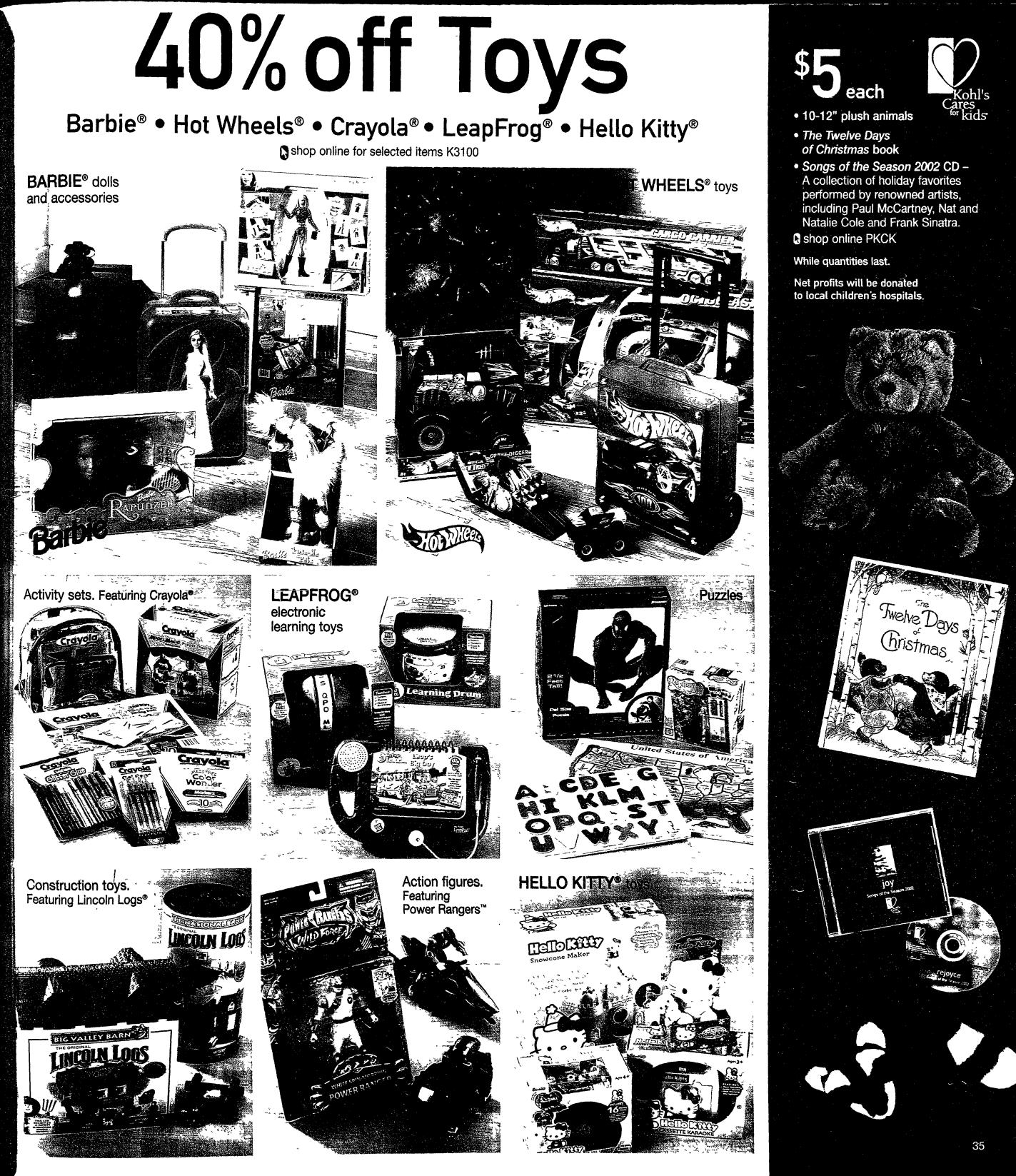


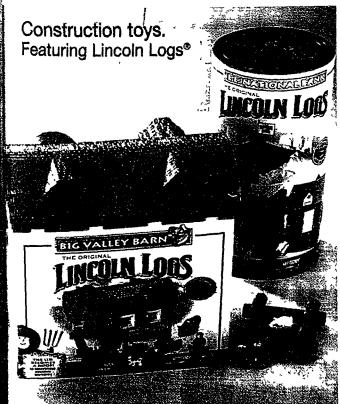




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entire stock 50%

Blankets and throws. Vellux®, cotton, acrylic and down blankets; chenille, down and novelty throws



entire stock 50% off

Bed pillows and mattress pads. Natural or synthetic bed pillows and guaranteed to fit mattress pads.

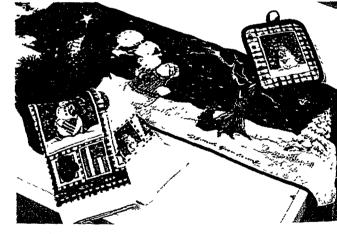


entire stock 50% off

SONOMA flannel bedding. Prints, solids & plaids; sheet sets, comforters & comforter covers. shop online P112879

entire stock 50% off

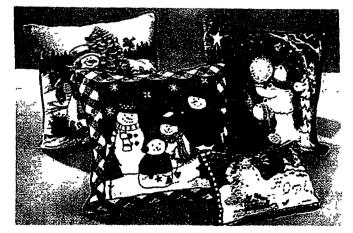
Down comforters. Includes down alternative comforters & featherbeds. Shop online H1265



entire stock 40-50% off

Table linens and kitchen textiles. Includes holiday, tapestry and more.

shop online H1230



entire stock 40-50% off

Holiday decorative pillows. Assorted sizes and patterns, includes doorknob pillows.

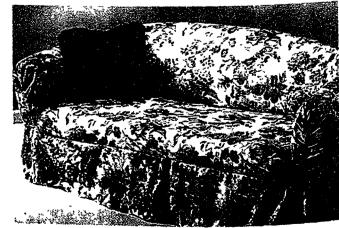
Decorative pillows. Microsuede and more, assorted sizes & colors.

40-50% off

entire stock

entire stock 33-50% off

Accent and area rugs & doormats. Shop online H1310



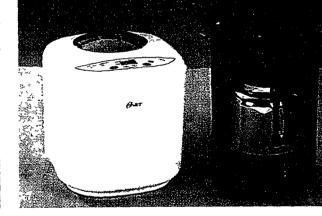
entire stock 50% off

FIELDCREST[®] slipcovers. Shop online 1350





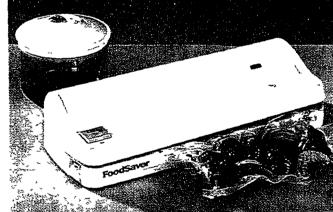
44.99 BASIC ESSENTIALS® nonstick aluminum 16-pc. set. Reg. 119.99 Shop online 23938



your choice 39.99

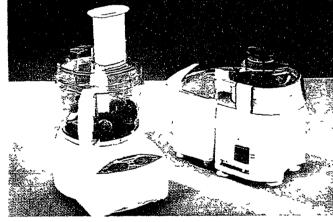
shop online for selected items P112879

OSTER® compact breadmaker or MR. COFFEE® 8-cup thermal coffeemaker. Reg. 59.99 & 69.99



129.99

FOODSAVER® Vac 550 food sealer. Automatic sealing button, includes 3/4-quart canister & video. Reg. 149.99

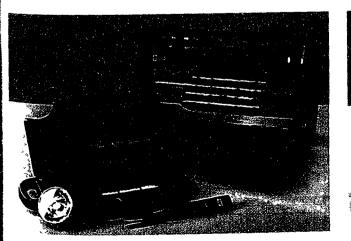


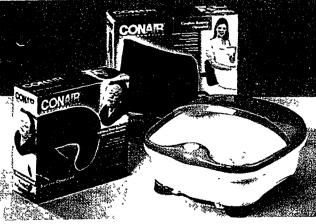


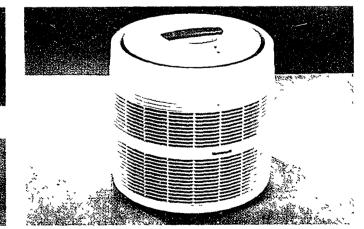
shop online for selected items 4252

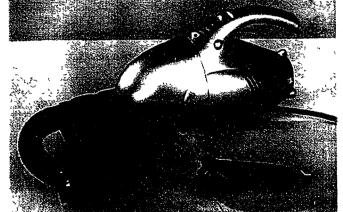
BLACK & DECKER® food processor or JUICEMAN® juicer. Reg. 59.99 & 89.99

shop online 11065









your choice 19.99

BBQ BRITE[™] set or 20-pc. barbeque tool set. Reg. 34.99 ea. your choice 14.99

shop online for selected items P112880

CONAIR® neck or back massager or **HOMEDICS®** Sole Therapy foot massager. Reg. 29.99

129.99

HONEYWELL HEPA air cleaner. For large rooms, room size 17x22'. Reg. 249.99 shop online 23819

19.99

EURO-PRO™ Omega[™] 600-watt turbo hand vacuum. Weighs less than 2.2 lbs., bagless, same suction power as a full size vacuum. Reg. 34.99



Pantryware. Travel mugs, spreaders, coasters and more.

Holiday ceramics. Tea-for-one sets, dip mix sets, mini baskets & more.

14-in-1 game. Orig. 39.99 shop online 32093

Tabletop game. Air hockey, pinball, ice hockey, foosball and more. Orig. 19.99



23.99

SETTLERS'™ Popcorn Popstir set. Reg. 34.99

49.99

Deluxe vehicle console. Orig. 99.99 shop online 32087

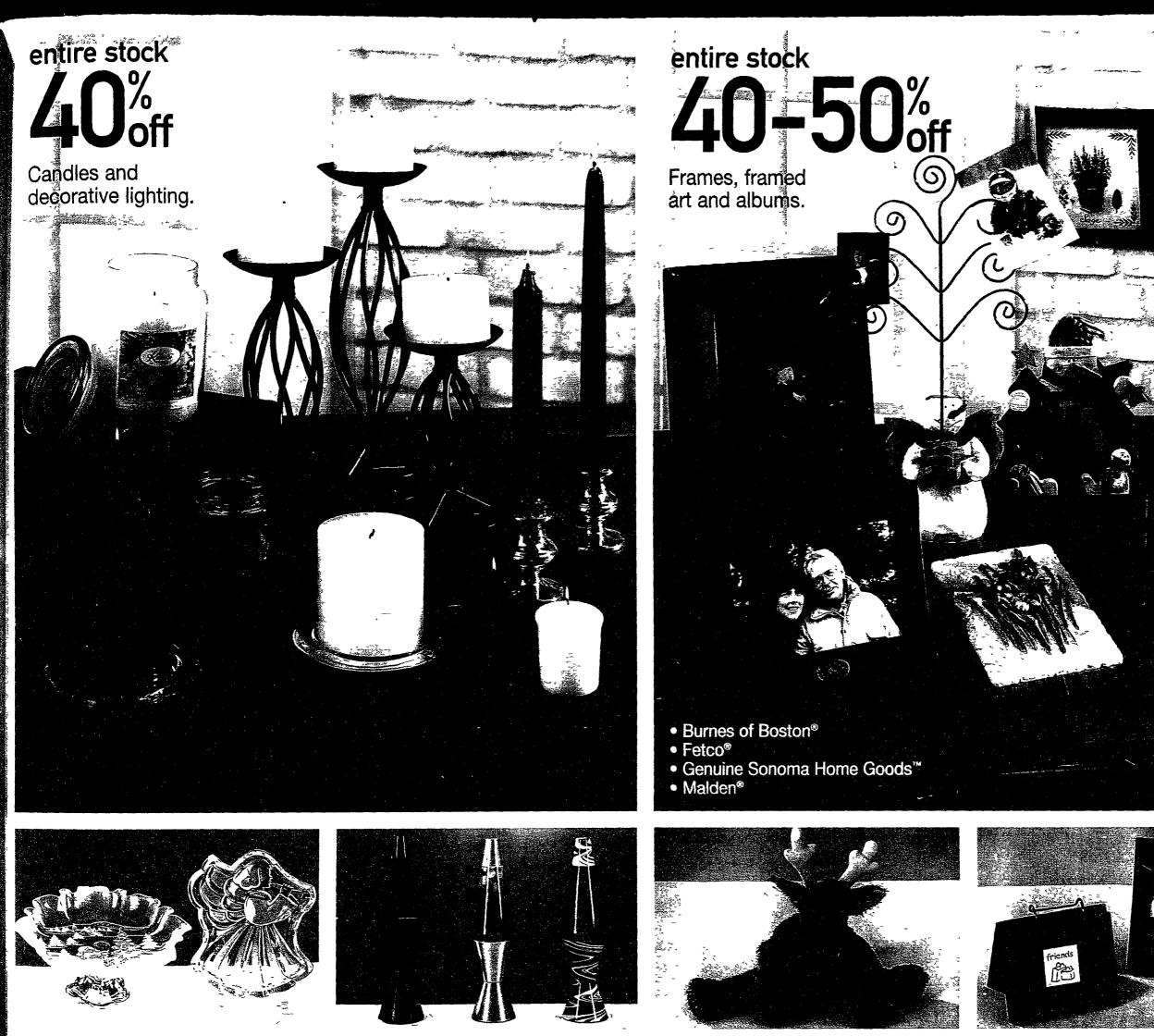
29.99 shop online 10817

Gumball machine bank with stand. Orig. 59.99

69.99

Shop online 32297

525x60 mm refractor telescope. With red dot Mars eyefinder scope. Orig. 129.99



entire stock **50% off**



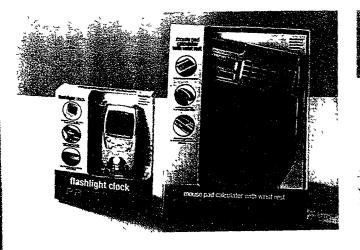
1.99

6.99

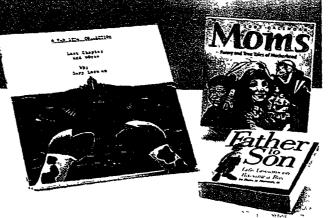
9.99

Shop online P112884

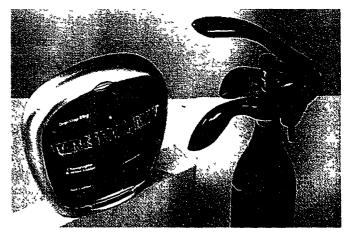




LAVA® brand motion lamp. Orig. 39.99 Shop online P112893 HALLMARK[®] Comet reindeer plush. With any \$10.00 Hallmark[®] purchase. While quantities last. Orig. 9.95



RARE WOODS® flip or collage frame. Orig. 18.99



9.99

PROTOCOL[™] gift. Orig. 16.99 Shop online P112885

23.99

Atomic projection alarm. Orig. 39.99 shop online 32074

Boxed calendar or gift book. Orig. 7.95-12.99

your choice **29.99**

METROKANE[™] Houdini corkpull or 4-pc. wine tool kit. Reg. 39.99 & 49.99

39

Early Bird pricing available online 6am-1pm EST, Friday, November 29.

entire stock **29.99**

Misses' holiday motif sweaters. Orig. \$48-\$62 (\$ shop online P11281





23.79 Final Price

14k white or yellow gold 1/8 ct. T.W. diamond stud earrings. Reg. \$100, sale 27.99 ▲ shop online P11282





Photo enlarged to show detail. Diamond Total Weights are approximate.

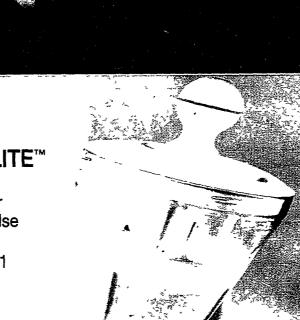


Orig. \$40

29.99

SMOOTHIE ELITE™

Smoothie maker. Dispenser valve, stir stick & 500-watt pulse power. Reg. 54.99 Shop online 24781



89.99

CROFT & BARROW® classic leather bomber jacket for men. Orig. \$250 \$ shop online 20363

159.99

Lowest Price Ever!

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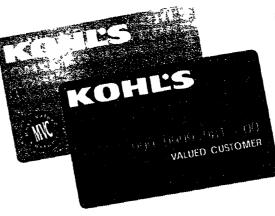
KITCHENAID® Classic Plus 4.5-quart 275-watt Stand Mixer. Reg. 249.99

25-35% off entire stock stand mixers. shop online H1642



Prices good Friday & Saturday, November 29 & 30. Store Hours: Friday, Nov. 29 6am-11pm; Saturday, Nov. 30 8am-11pm

"Sale" prices and percentage savings offered in this advertisement are discounts from Kohl's "Regular" or "Original" prices. The "Regular" or "Original" price of an item is the former or future offered price for the item or a comparable item by Kohl's or another retailer. Actual sales may not have been made at the "Regular" or "Original" prices, and intermediate markdowns may have been taken. Clearance merchandise is excluded from "Entire Stock" promotions in this advertisement. In some events, actual savings may exceed the percent savings shown. KOHL'S® and KOHL'S brand names are trademarks of Kohl's Illinois, Inc.



Open a Kohl's Charge and take 10% off your first day's Kohl's Charge purchases.

Subject to credit approval. See store for details.

For the Kohl's Store nearest you call **1-800-837-1500** or visit us on the Web at **kohls.com**

1128-TA

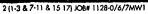


Prices effective Thursday, November 28, 2002 ALL MERCHANDISE ADVERTISED IN THIS CIRCULAR IS ALSO AVAILABLE AT OUR KMART SUPER CENTER LOCATIONS.

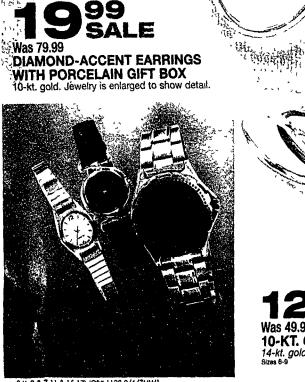
1A (2 & 4 & 7 & 10 & 12 14 & 19 20) JOB# 1128 0/6/7MW1



70% off fine & precious jewelry



NEW!





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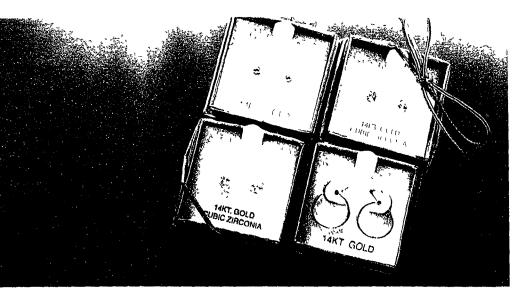
Fring

SA Was 139.99 DIAMOND-ACCENT AND SYNTHETIC GEMSTONE HEART PENDANT 10-kt. gold.

🖵 #1055126

59⁹⁹ SALE Was 239,99 %-CT. T.W.* DIAMOND EARRINGS. 10-kt. gold.

🖵 #848764





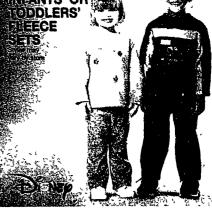












WOMEN'S WIDE-WIDTH

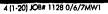
the Buy-One-Get-One offer

Shop at kmart.com

SKIMMERS

3 (1-4 & 7-13 & 15-20) JOB# 1128-0/6/7MW1







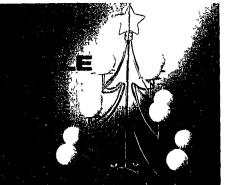
Was 49 99

SAVE 40% 99 SALE

Contra Contra

bonus! 35' extension cord. A 5.99 value!

5⁹⁹ 50' OUTDOOR EXTENSION CORD WITH FREE 35' EXTENSION CORD



299 Was 5.99 TRIM A HOME® SALE 50' TINSEL GARLAND LOWEST dian Rofle tior PRICE OF THE **SEASON**





SALE

1/2 PRICE



5 (1 20) JOB# 1128 0/6/7MW1

BUY ONE, GET ONE F

POWER RANGERS 5" ACTION FIGURES

Buy one at the reg. price and get the second one (of equal or lesser value) FREE. Was 5.99-7.99

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LOWEST PRICE OF THE SEASON 12⁹⁹ SALE Was 16.99 FRANKLIN JR. 4-BALL SPORTS PACK

JEST PRICE OF THE YEAR **Dual suspension**

OR BLUE THUNDER*

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Thousands of toys at your fingertips at kmart.com





6 (1-20) JOB# 1128 0/6/7MW1 -----





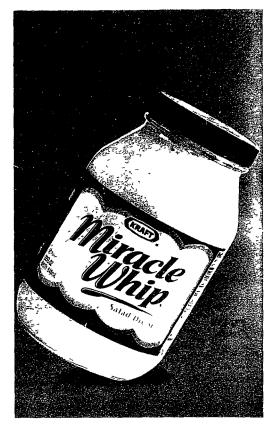


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Shop 7am to 9pm



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Special Buy items are volume buys or special deels in which the savings are passed along to the customer In some cases, Special Buys are available in limited quantities Price reductions are off everyday low prices unless otherwise indicated Our firm intention is to have every advertised item in stock on our shelves. However, if an advertised item is not available for purchase due to any unforeseen reason, Kmart will issue a Rain Check on request for the merchandise to be purchased at the advertised price whenever available, or will sell you a comparable quality item at a comparable price. Prices may vary in some stores due to local competition. We reserve the right to limit purchases to reasonable family quantities. Products represented in this circular are available at our Kmart, Big Kmart and Kmart Super Center Locations @2002 Kmart* Corporation. Prices offered in this circular are not available in the New York City Manhattan, Peorla, IL and White Lake, MI stores.

Prices effective Thursday, November 28, 2002

8 1 (HHH) JOB# 1128 0/6/7MW1 QDM A

Apply Nowi 1-800 GO KMART

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FREE MARTHA STEWART HOLIDAY BAKING MAGAZINE WITH ANY **KMART PURCHASE!**

The first 300 customers to make a purchase on Friday, November 29 (starting at 5 am) will receive a complimentary issue of the Martha Stewart Holiday baking magazine valued at 5.95. Offer good while quantifies last Limit one per customer

Look inside for Friday-

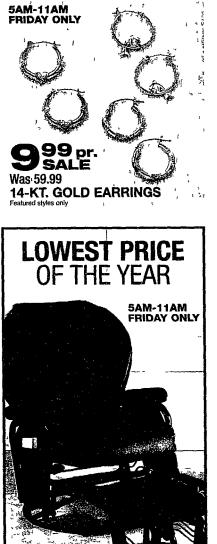
We're open around the clock for your shopping co

Prices effective Friday, November 29 thru Sa ALL MERCHANDISE ADVERTISED IN THIS CIRCULAR IS ALS

1 (1 3 & 7 11 & 15 17) JOB# 1129 0/6/7MW2



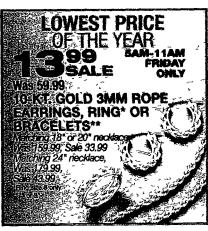
llam Specials





AVE \$40

Was 129.99



hour

specials



FINE JEWELRY POLICY Regular prices reflect offering prices at which sales may or may not have been made. Sale does not apply to red-tag price-reduced clearance, gold-filled, family jewelry or class rings. Jewelry photos may be enlarged to show detail Diamond weights are not exact. Jewelry shown is representative of assortment and may vary by store. If an advertised item is not available at your nearest store, we will be happy to

order it for you



*

VE

with a \$50 purchase or more

Receive reward Friday, November 29, 2002 Reward valid through December 8, 2002 See store for additional qualifications and exemptions. Only overreviated by issued for any pair base of Softer investment of appletions for

Saturday 2 day specials!

nvenience starting Friday 5am thru Sunday 10pm.

turday, November 30, 2002 - except as noted O AVAILABLE AT OUR KMART SUPER CENTER LOCATIONS.

2 DAY SALE SATURDAY

DISNEY'S CINDERELLA MAGIC CASTLE

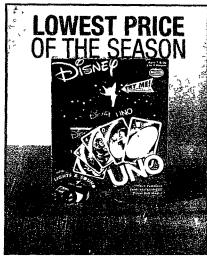


KMART EXCLUSIVE 99 6 SPECIAL BUY **BARBIE® SUN WHEELER** BEACH BASH™ VEHICLE







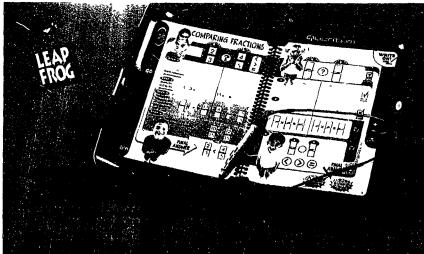














2 (1-20) JOB# 1129 0/6/7MW2



3 (1 20) JOB# 1129 0/6/7MW:





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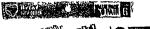


















BUY ONE, GET ONE 50% OFF MEN'S TEAM SPORTS APPAREL Buy one at the reg. price and get the second one (of equal or lesser value) at 50% OFF the reg. price. Team names and styles vary by store

999 SALE

MEN'S KNIGHTSBRIDGE®

Was 16.99

JERSEY SWEATERS

30% off all other

men's sweaters Colors may vary by store



99

MEN'S BASIC EDITIONS®

PLAID SPORT

Big Men's sizes, Sale 11.99 Colors may vary by stol

SALE

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Was 11.99

Colors may vary by store



YARN-DYED FLANNEL SHIRTS Big Men's sizes 2X-4X, Sale 5.99

7%

ALL MEN'S BASIC EDITIONS

SA

MEN'S KNIGHTSBRIDGE® FLANNEL PAJAMAS

MED DATE T

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BRIEFS

25% off other men's pajamas Styles may vary by store

300,000

3 T SHIRT

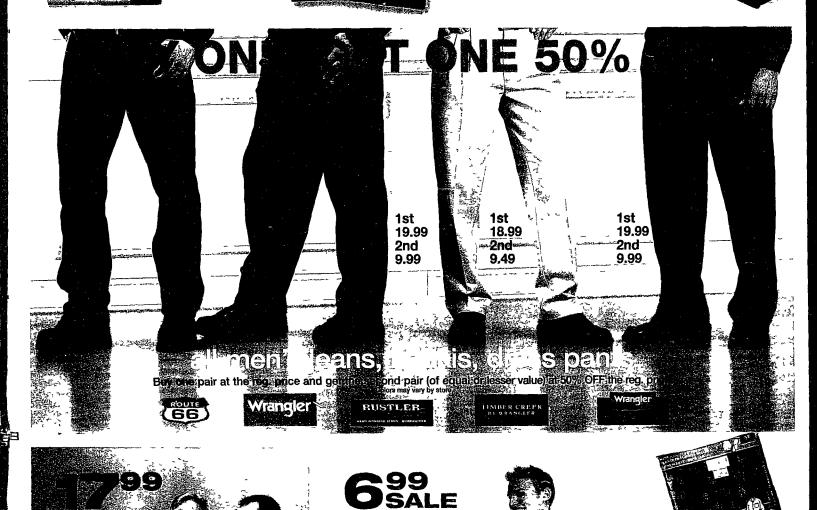
Was 15.99

THERMAL

UNDERWEAR









F

Sizes S-XL. Siyles may vary by store JOE BOXIER

Was 9.99 MEN'S JOE BOXER®

FLANNEL LOUNGEPANTS

BUY ONE, GET ONE 50% OFF MEN'S BOXED GIFTS

Naith Che

99 8 29 99

Buy one at the reg. price and get the second one (of equal or lesser value) at 50% OFF the reg. pnce.

auto power vac

thern

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MEN'S STARTER* HEAVYWEIGHT FLEECE Crews, sizes M-XL; pants, sizes S-XL. Colors may vary by store

599 SALE

Was 9.99



5 (1-4 & 7-13 & 15-20) JOB# 1129 0/6/7MW2





Was 9.99 WOMEN'S BASIC EDITIC WOOL CLOGS Not included in the Buy-One-Get-One offer

1/2 PRIC

Was 14.99

66

49 ' SALE

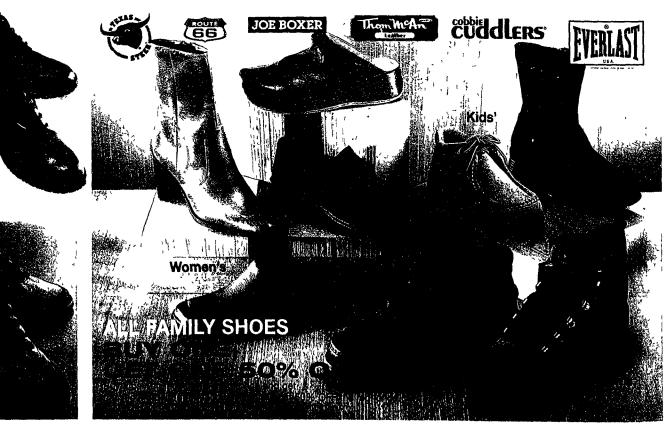
WOMEN'S BASIC

EDITIONS® ANKLE BOOTS



SELECT WOMEN'S EXPRESSIONSTM STRETCH ANKLE BOOTS Net included in the Buy One Get One offer





6 (1-5 & 7-20) JOB# 1129 0/6/7MW2





Was 9.99 LADIES' BASIC EDITIONS® LONG-SLEEVED TEES WITH LUREX Sizes S-XL. Colors may vary by store

Was 6.99 LADIES' BASIC EDITIONS® KNIT TURTLENECKS Sizes S-XL; prints and solids Colors may vary by store

LOWEST PRICE OF THE YEAR 99 DSALE 210 Was 7.99 LADIES' BASIC EDITIONS® SALE HOLIDAY EMBROIDERED KNIT TURTLENECKS Was 12.99 81 LADIES' GITANO Sizes S-XL Plus Size Basic Editions* knit mocknecks, Was 8.99, Sale 5.99 Colors may vary by store **5-POCKET JEANS** Sizes 8-18. Colors may vary by store (MUALININ MILLA GITANOE SA Was 8.99

SALE Was 19.99 LADIES' LADIES' ROUTE 66" TURTLENECK SWEATERS Sizes S-XL Ladies' Route 66" feshion pants, Vies 21,99, Sale 16.99 66 LADIES' BASIC EDITIONS* KNIT LEGGINGS

and kmart.com

99 |

7 (1-3 & 7-11 & 15-17) JOB# 1129 0/6/7MW2



8 (1-20) JOB# 1129 0/6/7MW2

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9 (1-20) JOB# 1129 0/6/7MW2



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11 (1 4 & 7 8 & 12-14) JOB# 1129 0/6/7MW2

All entertainment centers, TV stands, desks and office chairs on sale

2 113



12 (1-20) JOB# 1129 0/6/7MW2





VIDEO GAMES



14 (1 20) JOB# 1129 0/6/7MW2



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15 (1 20) JOB# 1129 0/6/7MW2







14 6 6 6 1 1

CAST DISSOLUTION

NEWI

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SALE

Limit 4 Plus dep 12 fl oz cans

28

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SCENT

PUREX DETERGENT

100 fl. oz., 40-use powder, 24-use tabs or 103-oz -net-wt

Kmart Exclusive

Classic powder.

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Saturday \mathbf{O}



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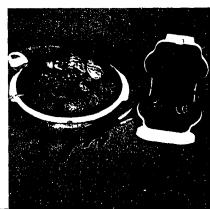












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18 (1-3 & 7 & 12-13 & 17-20) JOB# 1129 0/6/7MW2 QDM A



llam Specials

hour

specials

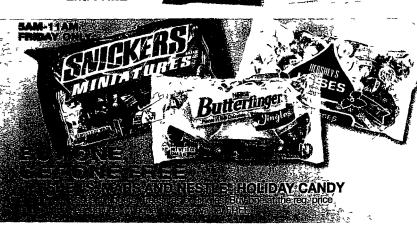
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SAM-11AM FRIDAY ONLY BUY ONE, GET ONE FREE LADIES' BASIC EDITIONS® HOLIDAY EMBROIDERED FLEECE. Buy one at the reg.

orice and get the second one (of equal value) FREE. Sizes S-XL. Plus Size Basic Editions[®] holiday embroidered fleece, 1st 18 99, 2nd FREE Screens may vary by store

1st 16.99 2nd FREE







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Markdowns taken from regular prices. Sale limited to in-stock items. Excludes moderns, cables, clearance items, demos, open-box merchandise and "Great Price" items. Selection varies by store.



BUY 1 GET 1 FREE

after mail-in rebate, on any 2 identical packs of Memorex DVD media. Includes DVD+R/+RW, DVD-R/-RW and DVD-RAM.

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\$100 Total Savings

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D-Link 2.4GHz Wireless Access Point

with 4-Port Router (DI-614+)

Limit 1 mail-in rebate per D-Link product per customer. Minimum 5 per store. No rainchecks. ^{\$}149.99 - ^{\$}40 Instant Rebate = ^{\$}109 99 - ^{\$60} Majil-In Rebate = ^{\$}49.99

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Notebook Case (0CH1)

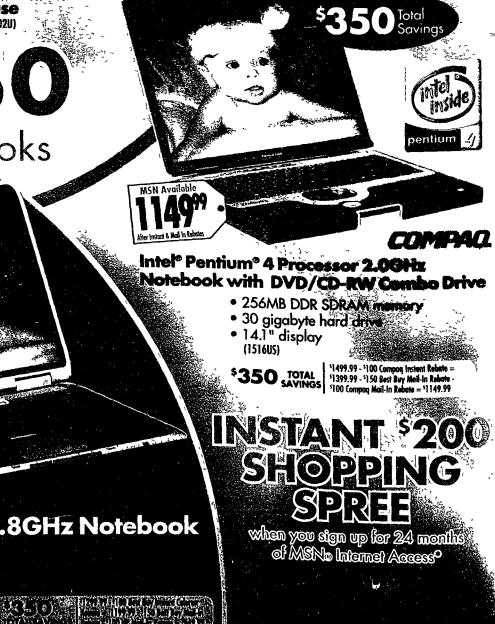


Mouse (PAUMOO2U)

- Colore SATURDAY onlì

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LICENES room anomably payment is greater of 110 or 2.25% of of purchase if plus balance is not publim full before



by mail, on all notebooks

14.1" display

Includes Computer Creation Station notebooks. Excludes prior purchases, clearance items, demos and open-box merchandise.





\$350 Total Savings

After Instant & Mail-In Rebates

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- 512MB DDR SDRAM memory
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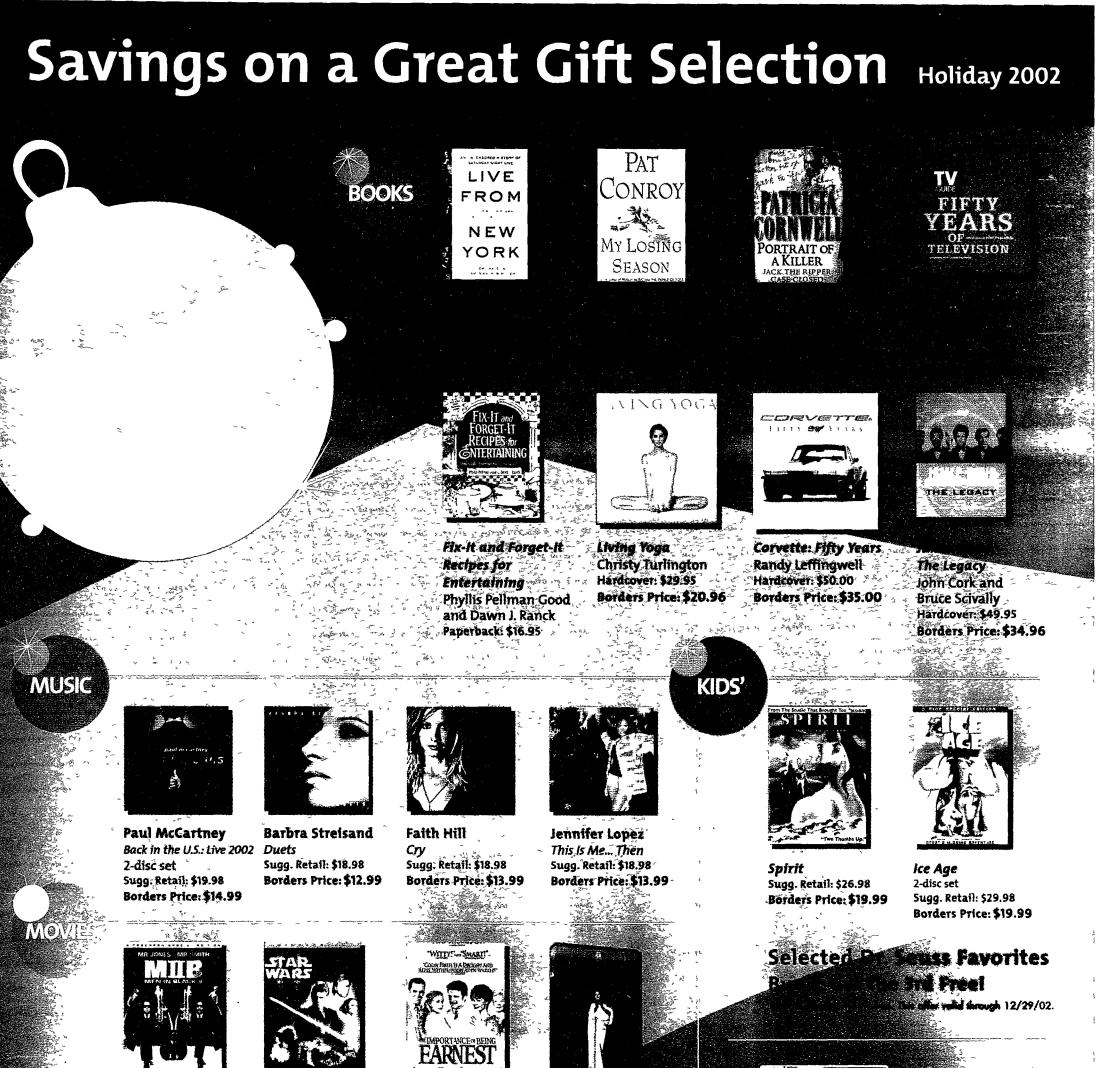




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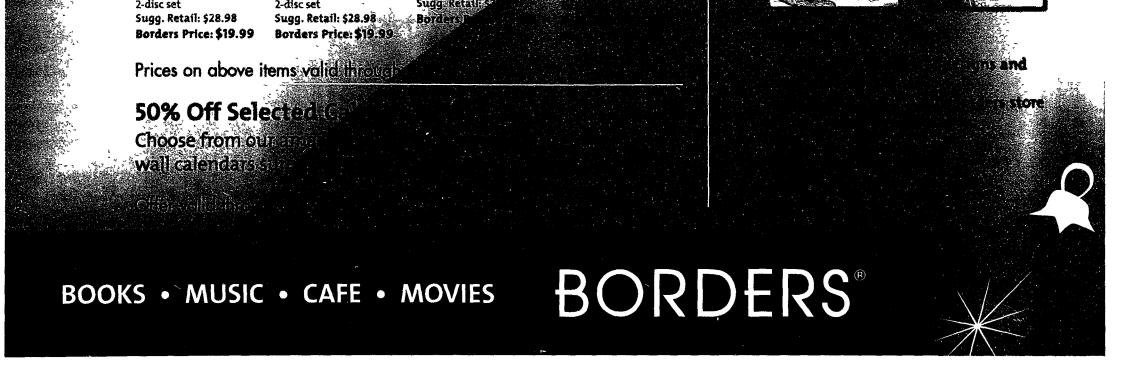


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Highland MI- Jay Chevrolet just announced plans to hold an "\$88 USED CAR, TRUCK AND VAN SUPER SLASHER SALE" on Friday, November 29 and Saturday, November 30. Record sales from the last few months have resulted in an inventory crisis causing an overstock of trade-ins. "We have to take immediate action NOW to reduce the number of used cars, trucks and vans on my lot. We have over a million dollar inventory. During this GIANT event, every used car, truck and van will be sold for up to thousands below its original price".

Sat., November 30, 11am-4pm

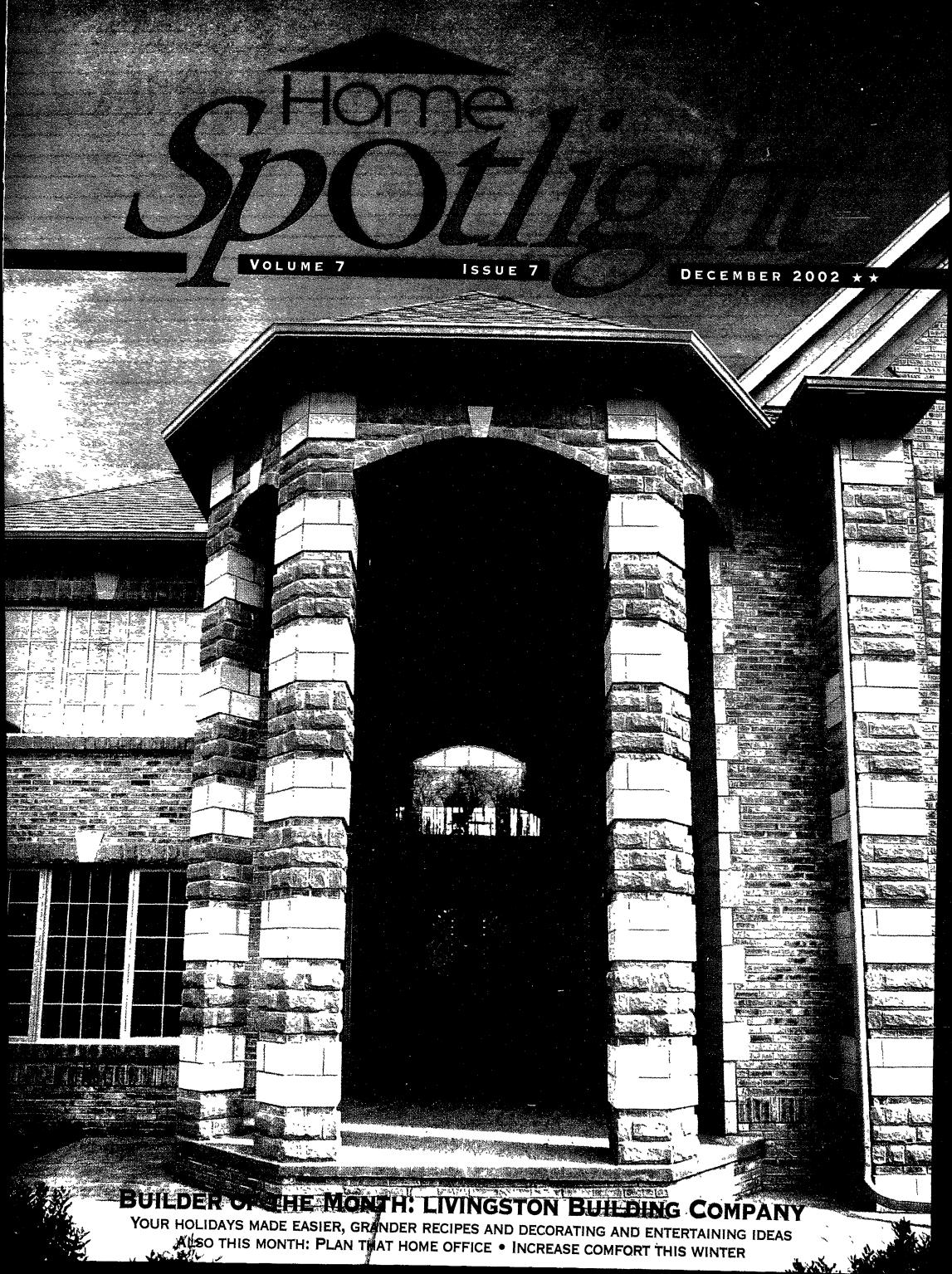
🛛 Fri., November 29, 11am-6pm 🍃

ALL VEHICLES WILL BE ON DISPLAY AT JAY CHEVROLET AT 3372 WEST HIGHLAND RD. 248-889-3232

HERE'S HOW!

At 10am on Friday and 10am on Saturday, all vehicles will be opened so that buyers may inspect the vehicles for an hour before the sale begins at 11am on Friday and 11am on Saturday. Whoever is sitting behind the wheel at 11am on Friday and 11am on Saturday, when the prices are slashed will be given the first opportunity to purchase the car, truck or van at the drastically reduced price. We want to remind everyone that this is for two days only. When our inventory has been reduced, we will remove the sale prices and return to normal operations. "Since Jay Chevrolet is a local business, we would like to give back to the community. The owner would rather allow local people to buy these over-stocked vehicles than wholesale them at auction".





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Hollow-core concrete floor planks are used extensively for commercial and industrial buildings, hotels, schools, etc. Because the planks are hollowed out, they are lighter than solid concrete, yet their engineered, pre-stressed steel cable construction provides incredible strength, allowing for clear-span panels up to 40' long and more. Total finished cost of just \$15 - \$25 per square foot (including other trades) compared to the \$100 - \$150 per square foot for new home construction. Just think of the money you will save on off site storage rental. Plus this system will add to your home's resale value. Clearly, Hollow-core floor planks from Kerkstra/Spancrete Great Lakes are very cost effective.

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Showroom of the Month Livingston Development Company

14 What's New

December * 2002

BUILDER OF THE MONTH:



LIVINGSTON BUILDING CO.

By Molly Tippen

4

ookie cutter houses abound. These variations on the same plans, the same three-arch elevations, can be found on any street and in any new subdi-

guished itself in the homebuilding market. Through attention to detail, expert craftsmanship and impeccable service, this company has built itself a reputation for excel-

Livingston homes look alike. According to Marcus Yono, of Livingston Building Co., "Since we're not modifying a set plan, we can design an elevation that fits perfectly with a customer's lifestyle and the surrounding landscape, while creating a home that is unique." Livingston's expertise allows homeowners options. Plans are not limited to common four-wall rooms or what other companies call standard features. The company offers a variety of design elements, including octagon-shaped rooms, two-story arches and stately columns.

vision.

But where are the cookie cutter people? Brighton-based Livingston Building Co. offers a different philosophy when it comes to new residential construction. This company builds unique plans based on the belief that homes should be a place of pride and distinction and reflect unique homeowners' wants and needs.

This design philosophy is only one of the many ways that Livingston has distinlence for homeowners of distinction.

Abundant Choices

Each and every home built by Livingston is entirely custom. From the initial consultations with architects, Livingston is dedicated to building homes that represent homeowners' expectations. When designing a home, the company starts with the ground floor, then the second floor, and creates an elevation to match these plans. In this way, no two

And at Livingston, standard amenities are

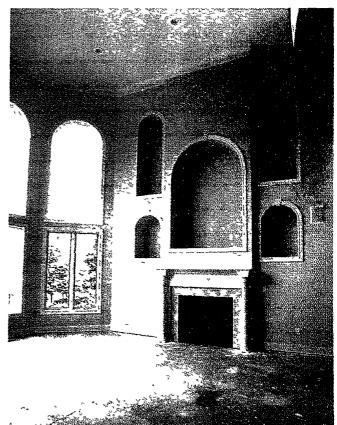
HOME SPOTLIGHT



all exceptional ones. Standard features include oval archways, curved drywall corners, detailed brick and stone designs, extensive use of hardwood flooring and ceramic tile, recessed lighting, angles in rooms, solid wood doors, 8-foot front doors, 8-foot high garage doors and the list goes on!

Once a home is designed, Livingston's team of expert craftsmen turn the dream into reality by painstakingly constructing the home with the finest materials. Enviable details are added to each home: Two-toned cabinets, extensive trim work, handcrafted woodwork, stone fireplaces and wrought iron spindles. Each finishing touch represents the beauty, functionality and quality that has become the hallmark of Livingston homebuilding.

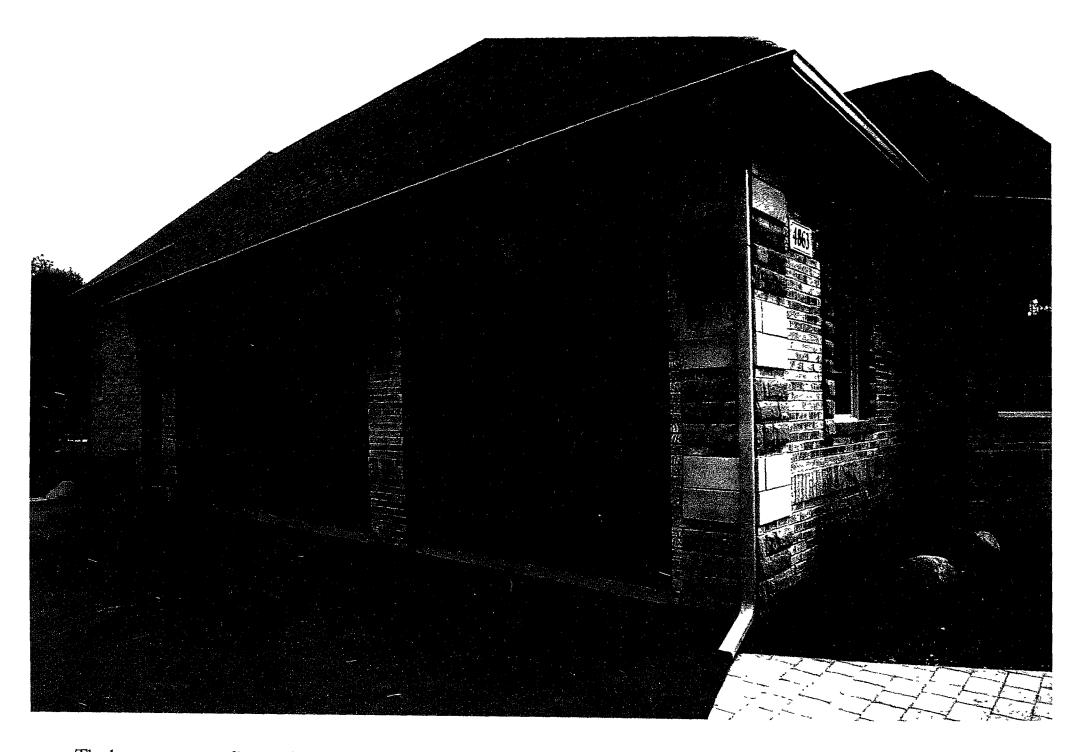
Even the location of a new home is carefully considered to suit homeowners' distinct requirements. While Livingston builds homes in subdivisions, more than half of the homes completed each year are on lots that customers purchased. The site for the home becomes part of the design process, to ensure a house that complements the beauty of the land. In this way, the result is truly one-of-akind, whether on a tree-lined neighborhood or a waterfront property.



Exceptional Service

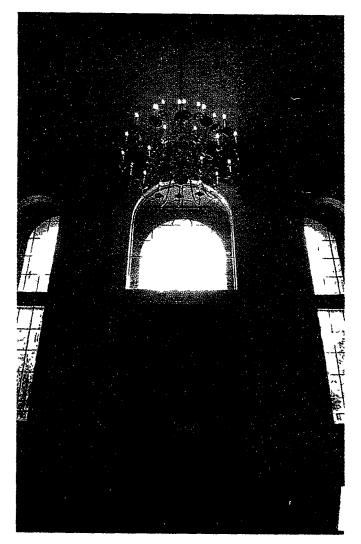
From start to finish, the professionalism of Livingston's staff ensures each buyer enjoys a worry-free experience. A homeowner coordinator, who is also a professional designer, meets regularly with buyers. This individual guides the homeowner through the myriad choices involved in building a custom home, such as determining selections and managing

5



costs. The homeowner coordinator also works with the field staff to address all homeowner concerns. "Buyers appreciate being updated regularly," Yono explains. "Anything we can do to make the process less stressful for buyers is a priority to us."

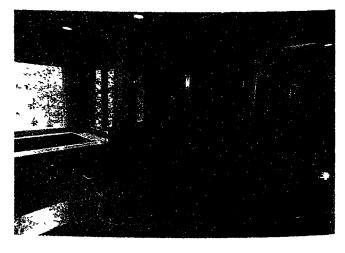
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Livingston homeowners also appreciate the company's integrity. Construction projects by less reputable companies, with costs spiralling out of control, are the stuff of homebuilding legend. To ease homeowners' concerns, all costs are written down. A lump cost is provided for each home based on a customer's desired amenities and square footage. Any changes or upgrade costs are discussed and presented to the homeowner in writing during various stages of construction, eliminating unpleasant surprises.

This integrity is further illustrated by Livingston's meticulous home inspecting process. A home inspector examines the home at various different stages during the building process. Each stage includes its own checklist with between 12 and 25 items for a truly thorough review. While the homeowners are given access to the site on any night or weekend, many issues they notice have long been discovered during Livingston's inspections. This process also helps to ensure a minimum preclosing punch list and post closing repairs. of quantity. "We think buyers are better off with 3,500 square feet and granite countertops and solid wood doors instead of 4,500 square feet with Formica and hollow doors," he says.

Current projects underway include Worden Lake Shores in Brighton, Fawn Meadows in Fowlerville, Parks Edge in

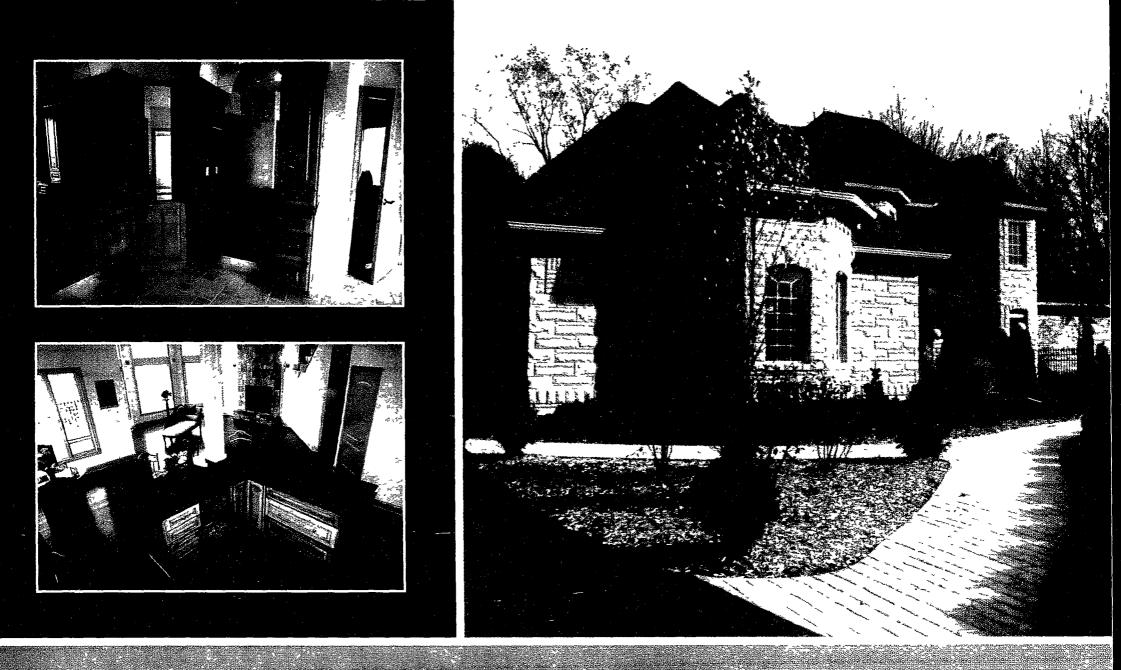


Extraordinary Value

Since a resale value of a home is often determined by the details, Yono says his company encourages buyers to focus on quality instead Hamburg, Morgan Lake Estates in Brighton and Nautical Commons in St. Clair Shores. Four new developments are in the design stages - two in Livingston County, Monroe County and Grand Traverse County. These projects are just a sampling of Livingston's commitment to exceptional quality. "Our overriding goal is to make sure customers have the home of their dreams,"

Yono says. "Anything less and we're not satisfied."

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Premier family community 52 nearly 1 acre home sites to choose from 2 park areas Lighted landscape entrance Several plans to choose from

Home packages available from the \$190s Just minutes from 1-96



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Entertaining Trends: Twists on tips, trends and holiday martinis

The holidays bring family and friends together to enjoy good company, good conversation and great food and drinks. While the tradition of entertaining during the holidays hasn't changed, that doesn't mean that how you entertain during the holidays must remain traditional.

Renowned party planner David Tutera suggests tapping into the hottest holiday entertaining trends to ensure everyone enjoys a holiday worth remembering.

Add a splash of contemporary to the traditional

White the Martine and the second s

Holiday entertaining often seems like the same old thing. To ensure that family and friends return home for the holidays again next year, Tutera suggests a new twist on an old favorite. This year's holiday parties, he says, will veer away from the standard red-and-green combination and focus on showcasing one color.

Tutera adds that an all-white theme should extend into the foods and beverages served as well. He suggests a Yuletide Martini for a white holiday party, or a Golden Martini for an all gold or copper party.

You can make the Belvedere Yuletide Martini by mixing 2 oz. vodka, 3/4 oz. Godiva White Chocolate Liqueur and 3/4 oz. milk. Shake well. Strain into a martini glass. Garnish with a sprinkle of nutmeg.

To make the Golden Martini, shake 1 1/2 oz. Vodka, 1 oz. Grand Marnier with ice. Strain into a martini glass. Top with 2 oz. of Moët & Chandon champagne. Garnish with a twist of orange.

Cap off the evening with a dessert party

The holidays are often a very hectic time as families try to find time to trim the tree, visit Santa, hang the stockings and entertain. Tutera notes that this holiday's savvy enter-

Make your fête a feat

tainers will focus on throwing dessert parties, which leave plenty of time for guests to attend cocktail parties and sit-down dinners earlier in the evening without feeling rushed.

Food and beverage pairings at a dessert party are crucial to its success. Tutera suggests serving berries marinated in vodka and chocolates paired with chilled shots of vodka.



Give your guests a gift

Tutera reminds us that holiday guests typically expect a small gift from their host. Instead of the traditional ornament or candy, this year give your guests something unexpected, versatile and functional – such as a fine wine or liquer. Whether your guests will enjoy it themselves, or in turn make festive holiday drinks for their own guests, this is a gift that will not go unused.

Holiday entertaining tips

The holiday season is meant to be enjoyed

with family and friends. To keep things merry and bright, Tutera offers the following entertaining tips:

- Plan your holiday party for a weekday evening or Sunday. There are only a few weekends between Thanksgiving and Christmas. Make it easy for your guests to attend your party by planning it for a day and time that they can more easily accommodate.
- Alert your guests well in advance. To ensure your guests can make it to your party, be sure to send out invitations well in advance so they can mark their calendars.
- Consider a tree-trimming or tree-takingdown party. These pre- and post-holiday parties offer freedom from the stress of having the house perfectly decorated and provide a change from the more traditional and formal holiday parties.
- Delegate. If guests ask what they can bring to your party, let them bring something. Delegating will help ensure that you get to enjoy the party just as much as your guests.
- Add plenty of visuals. Be sure to incorporate some of the many opportunities for dramatic visuals the holidays offer from candles to monochromatic color to tree decorations.
- Offer a bounty of delicious foods and beverages. The hallmark of the holidays is the sharing of delicious foods and beverages; make them memorable both in appearance and flavor.
- Music. Live or recorded, holiday music is essential for creating a festive mood.

hether your merrymaking guests are hundreds of clients and coworkers expecting champagne and foie gras, or a cluster of out-of-town relatives expecting some eggnog and an air mattress, your evening ought to sparkle. Make this year's festivities memorable with

these simple tips from Nancy's Specialty Foods, the world's largest supplier of gourmet quiche and appetizers.

8

Party Planning

• Plan on serving two drinks per guest per hour when it comes to mixed drinks, soft drinks, tea, coffee and water.

- For champagne and wine soirées, serve one bottle per two or three guests.
- At cocktail parties, anticipate eight to 10 appetizers per guest. (For a decadent, no-fuss menu, you can serve Nancy's new Champagne

Collection, featuring sumptuous Portabello Mushroom Turnovers, Crab Imperial, Roasted Vegetable Tartlet and Fromage Puffs.)

Deck the Halls

- Make your house stand out by stringing decorative lights or lanterns along your driveway.
- Place a fresh bar of soap and lotion in the bathroom along with scented candles.

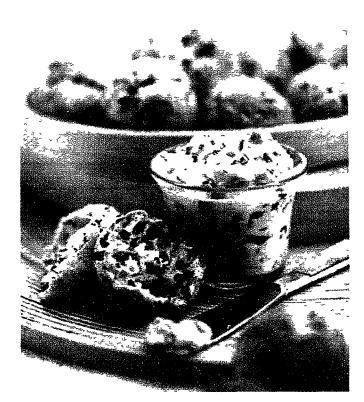
HOME SPOTLIGHT

The Recipe Corner: Spice things up with buttery basil parmesan puffs

he increasing availability of fresh herbs is changing the way Americans cook. Simply adding a small amount of herbs creates a tempting fragrance and delicious flavor that turns ordinary dishes into extraordinary ones.

"Incorporating fresh herbs into your recipes is a sure-fire way to engage all of your senses, while adding a thrilling dimension and sophistication to meals," says Jerry Traunfeld, James Beard award-winning chef and author of *The Herbfarm Cookbook*.

Traunfeld has partnered with Dairy Management Inc. (DMI), on behalf of the American Butter Institute to develop a delicious, herb-inspired recipe using fresh basil



and simple ingredients like butter and cheese. "This recipe is just the thing for fun, spur of the moment cooking," says Traunfeld. "Basil plays beautifully off the richness of butter, and creates an irresistible aroma that will tempt any palate."

With such a distinct and appealing texture, these Buttery Basil Parmesan Puffs are a great addition to any meal. Following are some ideas to keep in mind when preparing this recipe:

Keep it Fresh: Using fresh herbs can add more flavor than dried ones. Obtaining fresh basil can be as easy as picking it from your own garden, or buying some from the grocery store or local farmers' market.

Picture Perfect: To get round, airy puffs, place some of the dough in a plastic sandwich bag, seal it, and cut 1/4 inch off the bottom corner. Then squeeze out about 1 tablespoon of dough per puff.

Offer a Spread: Make a delicious butter spread, such as a sun-dried tomato butter, to

complement the puffs. Combine 1 pound of butter, 1 cup of sun-dried tomatoes, 1/2 cup of pine nuts and 1 tablespoon of fresh garlic in a mixing bowl. Mix together, then salt and pepper to taste.

Plan Ahead: To prepare now and bake later, unbaked puffs can be refrigerated for up to six hours before baking, or frozen on cookie sheets and baked directly from the freezer. Allow an extra five minutes baking time for frozen puffs.

Unparalleled flavor is achieved when all natural butter is used to create great-tasting dishes. Visit www.butterisbest.com for an array of meal ideas for any occasion. Everything from appetizers to entrées is just a click away.

Buttery Basil Parmesan Puffs

Makes: 24 Prep time: 20 minutes Bake time: 30 minutes

Recipe provided by Jerry Traunfeld on behalf of the American Butter Institute 3/4 cup water 6 tablespoons (3/4 stick) unsalted butter, cut in cubes 3/4 teaspoon salt

3/4 cup all-purpose flour

11/2 cups basil leaves, gently packed

4 large eggs

1 cup freshly grated Parmesan

Finely chop basil leaves and set aside. Preheat the oven to 400 degrees. Bring water, butter and salt to a rolling boil in a medium-sized saucepan. When butter has melted, add flour, all at once, and whisk vigorously over medium heat until mixture forms a smooth thick dough that pulls away from sides of the pan. Transfer dough to the mixing bowl of a heavy-duty electric mixer.

Using the paddle attachment, beat mixture on medium until slightly cool. Add basil and mix until incorporated and dough is bright green. Add eggs, one at a time, to mixture and beat until smooth. Continue to mix for one minute. Add cheese and process until incorporated.

Line two cookie sheets with parchment paper. Drop dough in tablespoon sized balls on cookie sheets, allowing about 1 inch of space between each. Bake for 25 to 30 minutes or until lightly browned and crisp. Serve while still warm. (Dough may be piped onto cookie sheet using a piping bag and plain tip, #8 or #9.)

• Pop cookie dough in the oven 10 to 15 minutes before your guests arrive for an enticing aroma.

• Add accents of color throughout your home with freshly picked flowers, bowls of fruit, or unlit candles.

Oh Night, Divine

 \mathcal{V}

• Enlist the talents of a few close friends to assist you before, during and after the party.

• Remove fragile objects from tables or shelves to protect them, and your guests.

• Plan for the unexpected-guests bringing extra guests, kids or even pets.

• Consider wearing dark clothes in case you spill, or have a second outfit ready and waiting.

• Keep an extra round of appetizers ready in the oven or refrigerator.

• Consider renting glasses, plates and silverware so you don't have to do the dishes afterward.

• Take a few minutes before your guests arrive to put your feet up and drink a glass of water.

Now that you've done everything to accommodate your guests, go ahead and enjoy the party.

To learn more about Nancy's gourmet appetizers, visit www.nancys.com.

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Decorator's Corner: Flowers for your home and theirs

The holidays are a time for personal celebrations and traditions shared with family and friends. Flowers have long played a special role in holiday festivities and are as personal and individual as the people doing the celebrating. This season, start your own traditions with flowers – the gifts that give more all winter long.

1. Greet guests at the door with a wreath holding a personal tree ornament for each of them to take home.

2. Use fresh flowers on your Christmas tree in water vials. Florists can recommend long-lasting varieties and tell you how to add water to vials. Dried or treated flowers are also a beautiful choice.

3. Use wrapped boxes, festive bows and flowers as table decorations. Give wrapped "packages" to your florist in advance and he or she can create floral designs for them. Place your "packages" with flowers under the tree or on the mantle.

4. Wrap the pots of poinsettias or other holiday plants in festive paper and ribbons.

5. For an elegant celebration take advantage of all places where candles could be displayed: Line a walkway with votive candles in luminaries leading up to a door. Place garland on the mantle with fresh flowers and candles to

Holidays From Across the Miles: Florist's card ideas

Tucked inside these flowers are thoughts from afar.

Every time you look at these flowers know that someone far away is thinking of you.

Blowing you a kiss from across the miles.

Sending you a floral hug!

beautifully grace your room and make the most of light by enhancing the fire. Float candles and flowers in treasured crystal or silver bowls to create a fabulous effect. Place scented candles with fresh blossoms in each powder room.

6. If an open house is on the agenda and many guests will be in a room, it is important to give special attention to the larger display areas such as the front door, foyer, mantle, buffet or serving areas, powder rooms, windows and staircase. This will help you get maximum impact because with many people in a room smaller arrangements placed around will not be seen at all times. Additionally, by focusing on a few focal areas in each room, more space is made for glasses, cups and food plates...and there is less chance of an accident.

7. As guests leave, have a vase of loose flowers by the door and invite them to take one home as a gift.



Wish I were there.

The miles cannot separate our hearts!

So far and yet so near you.

Miss you!

Thinking about you is one of my favorite "thinks."

Missing you and sending my/our love.



Buying a Poinsettia? Make it last all season and longer

Poinsettias are one of the longest-lasting blooming plants available to consumers.

To choose the perfect poinsettia:

- Pick a plant with small, tightly clustered buds in the center.
- Look for crisp, bright, undamaged foliage.
- Avoid plants displayed in drafty or crowded areas.

To keep the poinsettia blooming:

• When surface soil is dry to the touch, water thoroughly. Discard excess water in the saucer.

- To prolong color, keep a temperature range of 60 degrees for night and 72 degrees for day. High humidity is preferable.
- Place plant away from hot or cold drafts, and protect from cold winds.
- To rebloom for the next season: During winter, continue to follow holiday upkeep tips.
- March 17 (St. Patrick's Day): When bracts fade, cut stems back to eight inches above soil line.
- Continue to water regularly.
- Lightly fertilize with a good, balanced allpurpose fertilizer every three to four weeks.

- When temperatures are warm, place plant outdoors; first in indirect, then direct sunlight. Avoid temperatures below 50 degrees throughout the summer.
- July 4 (Independence Day): Cut back new growth stems. Repot if needed.
- Early September (Labor Day): Move plant inside. Provide six or more hours of direct light.
- October 1 through mid-December: Confine plant to complete darkness for 14 hours, giving it 10 hours of natural light daily. This will set the buds and cause bracts to color.

11



Did you know? History and Legend of the Poinsettia Poinsettias were first introduced to the United States in 1825 by Joel Robert Poinsett, amateur botanist and first ambassador to Mexico. He introduced the plant to the United States when he brought some cuttings to his plantation in Greenwood, South Carolina.

December 12 is National Poinsettia Day, an official day set aside to enjoy this symbol of holiday cheer. It was established upon the death of Mr. Poinsett to honor him and the plant he made famous. He died in 1851.

Poinsettias are native to Mexico, where they grow wild. The enchanting legend of the poinsettia dates back several centuries, to a Christmas Eve in Mexico when a little girl named Pepita had no gift to present to the Christ child. Her cousin Pedro urged her to give a humble gift. So, on her way to church she gathered some weeds she found along the road. As she approached the altar, a miracle happened: The weeds blossomed into brilliant flowers. Then they were called Flores de Noche Buena - Flowers of the Holy Night. Now they are called poinsettias.

December * 2002

Composite Panel Products: Help Shape Cutting-Edge Home Office



his is not your father's office. At-home and high-rise offices alike are shedding yesterday's genteel corporate aura for a look more reminiscent of a kindergarten classroom or sleep-over camp than a grown-up work space.

Today's fast-paced, cyber-connected marketplace has spawned a spirited new design direction for the contemporary work arena. Once-staid companies are now featuring brightly colored "playpens" for brainstorming sessions, "sleep tents" for re-energizing naps, and oversized Tic Tac Toe boards to get creative juices flowing. Today's hard-charging home offices are sporting the same spirited new look, with unconventional design elements and bold, colorful furnishings.

To keep stride with a fast-changing economy, businesses, telecommuters and at-home professionals alike are demanding high-style, tech-tonic office set-ups that are not only efficient to install, but can be readily rearranged to meet tomorrow's needs today. Furniture manufacturers are responding with a host of flexible, modular designs in a wide range of exciting styles and finishes. ing or a private work space.

Sauder Woodworking's sleek, contemporary Parisian collection, for example, features modular styling that allows stand-alone pieces to be joined in multiple configurations to meet changing work space demands. The collection creates a hip, versatile home office setting with its clean, uncluttered lines and natural bethel cherry laminate finish.

In fact, laminate finishes are a boon to today's fast-changing work environment. When a growing home business requires additional employees, wood finishes can be difficult to match on new desks and work surfaces. Laminate finishes, on the other hand, guarantee consistency in color and tone, giving the expanding home office a seamless, polished ambience.

In today's techno-centric work arena, computers not only rate prime space, but are inspiring furniture designers. For example, Apple Computer's spare, brightly colored iMac computer has encouraged bolder shapes and colors in office furnishings, industry insiders say. Haworth's if collection is a compelling example, with its combination of organic and geometric forms and colorful new surface options. The if line addresses key home office issues with a wide range of storage pieces, work tops, tables and screens that can easily be modified to individual needs and quickly moved from space to space. The collection's work surfaces are designed to rev up the home office: Dynamic patterned laminates add refreshing visual interest and powder-coated accents in vivid shades of red, green and periwinkle punch up the work area with vibrant color.

Home Office Checklist

According to Michael Allmond of All-Star Desk in Southfield, many factors can impact the appeal and convenience of an office. To aid customers in planning their home offices, they provide a complete home office checklist with thoughtful questions such as: How many electrical outlets are available and where are they located? Is the current lighting adequate?

Will guests be visiting the office?

How many files are required and are locks necessary? Does new furniture need to match existing pieces in the room?

Composite panel products such as particleboard, medium density fiberboard (MDF) and agrifiber board are vital team players in these hip new home office offerings, appearing as mobile desks, files and walls as well as multi-purpose units that are easily regrouped for a client meetAnother exuberant new home office collection, CreativeWorks by Creative Interiors, also caters to today's cyber-connected business world. The shapely desks, returns, storage and entertainment units provide versatility and flexibility for the home office. And the combination of a wood finish with stylish nickel hardware fits right into the hip 21st century office landscape.

12

HOME SPOTLIGHT

Hints for Homeowners: Reduce Costs and Increase Comfort This Winter

When choosing how to winterize your home for the safety and stocking with the safety and stocking your home with essential supplies will better prepare you and your family for the winter months ahead. Many factors need to be considered when choosing how to winterize your home, particularly safety and efficiency.

Purchase items that will save energy costs and keep the area in and around your home safe. According to Discovery.com, the average winter temperature in the United States is 35 degrees. Falling temperatures lead to rising heating bills, but by winterizing your home properly, you can reduce winter energy costs. Every home should have a few basic essentials on hand to help keep costs down and increase safety. Have these items handy and take stock of your winter supplies early and often, so you don't have to fight the crowds and the weather.

1. Snow shovel. Buy a shovel that is light and sturdy. Keep your walkways and driveways clear of snow. When shoveling, do not overexert yourself and lift heavy snow by bending at the knees so you do not injure your back.

2. Salt. Make sure that you have a bag of salt available throughout the winter to throw down on your walkways and driveways in order to melt snow and prevent icing. Keeping high traffic areas clear lessens the chance of slipping and falling.

3. Window roll-on kits. Use window rollon kits to keep the warm air inside and the cold air out. Window insulator kits are easy to install, and have a pre-taped edge for easy adhesion.

4. Outlet covers. Place covers on all electrical outlets. One place heat escapes and cold air enters the house is through uninsulated outlets. Place Duck[®] brand Socket Sealers directly behind the cover plate to easily increase energy savings in your home.

5. Weatherseals. The majority of heat escapes the home through gaps around doors and windows. Seal off these areas with a weatherseal to block these openings and seal heat inside the home. Many brands provide a complete line of selfadhesive rubber weatherseals that come in different varieties to effectively block any size gap. Make sure the surface is clean before you apply to ensure the seal sticks firmly in place. 6. Water heater blanket. Insulate your water heater with a water heater blanket. These blankets can reduce operating costs up to 15 percent. Be sure, however, that you note which blankets are appropriate for your specific water heater model.

7. Automatic thermostat. Programming the thermostat allows the unit to turn off while you are sleeping or are away from home. This will help reduce energy costs while keeping your family comfortable at home.

8. Doormats. Place doormats inside each entrance to your home, making a space to dry wet shoes and boots. This will keep the floors dry and help to prevent slipping.

Most of these items are affordable and available at your local superstore. A wellthought-out winterization plan will not only ensure you have everything you need for winter, but you will also have more time to enjoy your favorite cold weather pastimes in your warm, cozy home. It is never too early or too late to protect your home, your bills and your family from the severe weather.

Preparing sprinkler systems for cold weather

H ome irrigation and sprinkler systems need to be protected from cold weather. As the weather cools, prepare your sprinkler system from freezing temperatures.

Here are some tips from the irrigation experts at Rain Bird that, if followed, should help prevent costly damage to your irrigation system over the long cold winter:

• Insulate your assets - Shut off the water supply to the irrigation system and protect the main shutoff valve for your irrigation system against freezing. Make sure it is wrapped with insulation to run. The only change is that the valves will not activate. An alternative to using the rain-mode is to simply shut off the power to the controller. However, if you do, you'll need to reprogram the time and potentially all your other settings when the weather warms up.

• Drain the pipes - Remove the water from the pipes and sprinklers so that it won't freeze and break the pipes. There are several ways to drain your pipes: the manual drain valve, the automatic drain valve or the compressed air blow-out method. Since there could

(foam insulation tape and a plastic bag). If you do not have a main shutoff valve, install one and consider it a preventative investment. Any above-ground piping needs to be insulated as well. Self-sticking foam-insulating tape or foam insulating tubes commonly found at home supply stores work well.

• Stay in control - If you have an automatic system then you will need to "shut down" the controller (timer). Most controllers have a "rain-mode" which simply shuts off the signals to the valves. The controller continues to keep time, the programming information (start times, valve run times, etc.) isn't lost, and the clock continues be potential safety risks, contacting an irrigation specialist is recommended.

• Protect freezing preventers - Insulate backflow preventers and valves if they are above ground. You can also use insulation tape for this. Do not block the air vents and drain outlets on backflow

preventers.

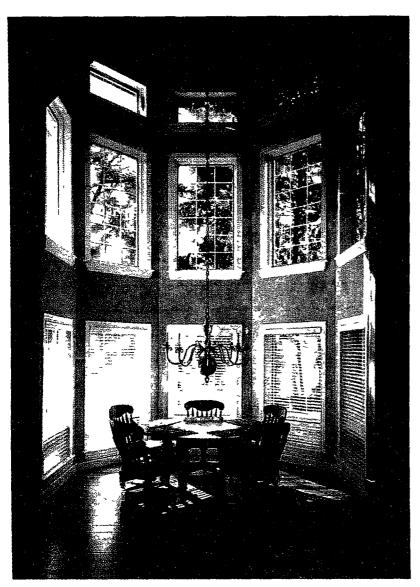
Consult an area irrigation specialist before you attempt to winterize your system. For more irrigation tips or information visit www.rainbird.com.

December * 2002

What's New

News from Castlewood Custom Homes

Clarkston-based Castlewood Custom Homes is proud to announce a few exciting developments.



Ingomar Farms: The company is currently taking pre-reservations for Ingomar Farms, a new 43home luxury development on the Centennial Ellis Farm Property.

Still time for Clarkston Village Place: There's still time to make color selections with an interior designer for Clarkston Village Place. These Victorian-Style condominiums are now available and offer amenities such as volume ceilings, two-story foyers and walking distance into town.

New designer on staff: Donna Milefchk will work with you throughout the building process to ensure that your dream home becomes a reality.

For more information, call 248/620–3181

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COMING NEXT MONTH:

January Special Section: 7th annual

Floor Plan Issue

Kitchen Company of The Month Carecrafted LTD – Kitchens/Baths

Also this month... New home resolutions

HomeSpotlight series The New HomeTown: Building in Downtowns

Professional Directory This Month: Duct Cleaning

Remodeling Times New year, new appliances

Get organized this year!: Re-design storage for kitchens, bathrooms, closets, and more

Decorator's Corner

Dress up those new walls: Paint, tile, mirrors, wallpaper

Your Money How to finance this year's home improvements

From the Ground Up

Floor plans that work: Architects solve common design problems

Real Estate Selling your home:

Name .



Choosing the right real estate agent

 City______
 Ask the Expert

 State______
 What to look for in your walk through

 State______
 Building a new home:

 Zip ______
 What to expect

 Phone ______
 Community Profile

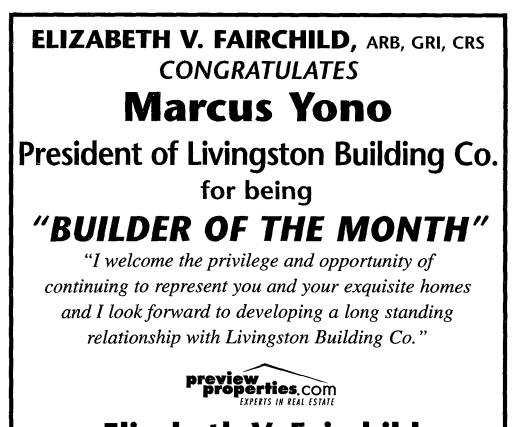


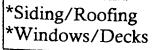
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Brochures • Custom Publications • Community Guides











From conception of a design thru building dedication and quality workmanship, M.K. Home Building is the right choice for your home.



M.K. Home Building 2142 Chase Lake Howell, Mi. 48855 P.517.548.6600 F.517.548.3300



Elizabeth V. Fairchild 130 W. Grand River Brighton, MI 48116 810-220-1437 evfair@ismi.net

If you are thinking of building your dream home, visit my website at www.evfairchild.com to preview just a small sampling of the fabulous homes that Livingston Building Co. has for you.

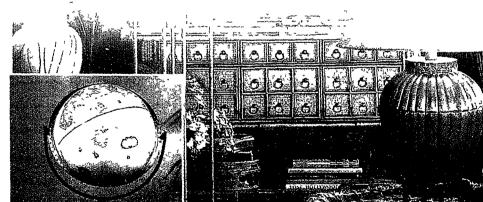
Office Furniture

When you start thinking about what home office you're going to buy, take a close look at All-Star Desk the Home Office Specialist.



Accessories

All-Star Desk has your office accessories – from a huge clock department to a gallery of world globes, tons and tons of lamps and the coolest desk accessories anywhere!



Did we mention All-Star Desk has the largest selection of chairs in Metro Detroit. Task seating, ergonomic, executive, La-Z-Boy, Herman-Miller, we've got them all – on display ready for you to try them out.

That Makes Your Home Work

All-Star Desk offers desks in all price ranges from ready to assemble systems to factory assembled solid wood desk with

> consistently superior finishes and unparalleled workmanship.

Traditional or Contemporary

All-Star Desk sales associates genuinely help design the best office layout with you and your work in mind. Your equipment needs, lighting, filing communication, everything is considered.





FREE DELIVERY

Prior sales & floor samples excluded. Minimum purchase \$150 *Expires 12-31-02*



29111 Telegraph Rd.

1/2 Mile north of I-696, Corner of 12 Mile Rd. Open Mon-Fri 10-9, Sat 10-6, Sun 12-5

Closed Thanksgiving Day. All Stores Open 6am on Friday Nov. 29th

Driving Down the Cost of Home Improvement Look Af All The Great **Gift Ideas** Throughout This 2002 Gift Guide!

While quantities last. All items are limited to stock on hand. No rain checks. Product availability may vary by store.

0100 <u>Ourchoice</u>

Vista *RAOBI* Volt 3.6 Volt k Driver Vista Vac 24-position clutch • Includes: Includes double ended screwdriver bit

and charger

(312118)

crevice tool and brush attachment 1312605)

Prices Below are for This Friday, November 29th Only! Don't Miss Out!

2103

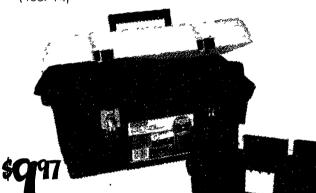
Buy a 10" tropical Get a 6" FREE \$4.99 Value! 2'x5' Level Loop Rug Wide assortment of 129 Piece Tool **colors** (257644) **Chest Kit** L-Piece Includes: wrench set. socket set, screwdriver Screwchiver Set set and home kit Was...⁵59.00 (780561) Was...^{\$}28.88 2-Pack 0" Tropicals Tropicals 6-Outlet 2 Gal. Dieffenbechie and Choose from an Spathiphyllum (183418) Stinger Vac sorted variation Power Strip 14:51 6" Poinsettia 73872) (335204) Choose from an Was... 29.97 assortment of colors (403085 Was...⁵4.97 AV U VIU. hecks Product availability may



Uorkforce

45-Piece Home Tool and Tote Set

• Includes: (1) canvas tote, adjustable wrench, (7) bit set, tape measurer, (8) hex key wrenches, (10) drive sockets, bit adapter, ratcheting bit driver handle, (5) screwdrivers, (4) combination wrenches, 13oz. hammer, 8" level, snap blade, 10" hack saw, long nose pliers and slip joint pliers (406714)

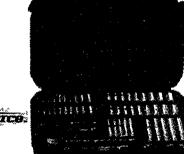


19" Tool Box with Bonus Box • Metal latches (134740)



5-Piece Quick Grip Set

- Non-marring, soft pliable pads
 Heat treated bar resists flexing, even when the the clamp is tightened to its fullest (281452)



Workforce.



78-Piece Socket Set

 Contains both SAE and metric sizes Includes: 1/4" and 3/8" ratchets, hex keys, sockets, extension and more (802625)



104-Piece Pearhead Socket Set with Bonus 3 Drawer Chest

- Socket set includes SAE and metric and comes with carrying case Chest is 21"W x 8 1/2"D x 11 1/2" H •
- 1585 cu. in. storage capacity (492764)

Gifts Under \$10

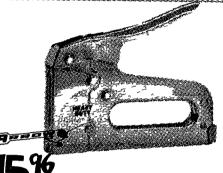




3-Piece Wood Chisel Set

1/2", 3/4" and 1" sizes
Drop forged, sharp edge high impact black plastic handles (749236)

Gifts Under \$20



Heavy Duty Staple Gun Shoots 1/4" to 9/16" staples All steel body with chrome finish

- Patented jam-proof mechanism
- For hardwood, plastic and soft metal • High carbon hardened steel working parts (172413)

Gifts Under \$50



4-Piece Plier Set

- High polish professional finish
- Blue comfort grip
- (183139)



2 2





- Box shaped design prevents tipping Heavy duty Nylon construction and webbing for long life
- Tools not included (494857)

CIC.

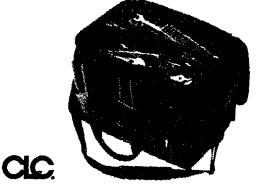
Hard Cap Clear

Gel Knee Pads

Specially designed gel



- Made of heavy duty top grain leather Double gussets keep front pockets wide open for easy access
- Tools not included (409242)



37-Pocket Tote Bag with Inside Top Tray

- Removable top plastic tray for easy access to bag contents
- 13 multi-use pockets inside
- and 23 outside to organize tools Tools not included (221818)

• Tools not included (348731) CIC.

• 23 multi-use pockets inside and 7 pockets

outside organize tools and accessories

• Easy roll wheels for maneuverability

Pro-Level Tool

5-pocket combo

- Leather belt
- Medium (369857)

center distributes weight throughout the pad Grab-tab for easy positioning of knee pad

197

 Super tough ballistic nylon throughout (223186)

4 Shop Online @ homedepot.com



^{\$}19 per month* **19-Drawer** Chest and Cabinet Combo Chest: • 26 1/4"W ×

(ONIN)

A HUSKY

- 17 1/2"D x 19 1/4"H
- Cabinet: • 27"W x 18"D x 42 3/4"H (383376,383317)



7-Drawer Chest and Cabinet Combo Chest:

- 26-3/8"W × 12-1/2"D × 15-1/8"H
- 12,789 cu. in. storage capacity
- Cabinet: 27"W x 17-1/4" •
- D x 31-1/2"H (814664,887813)

We Won'l Let You Take It Home Emply includes 104-Ricco Peathead Socher Sei

1644 Street-D

^{\$}12

per month

A HUSKY. **13-Drawer Pro Tool Chest and Cabinet**

- All welded steel construction
 - for added strength and security
- 13,600 cu. in. storage capacity
- Durable powder coat finish for durability and finish

ALCOND AND A

• Rear locking mechanism acts independently of lid so you can access all drawers when lid is locked (253872)



Rolling **Contractor Box**

- Durable top to use
- as a work surface with built in storage Removable tray to keep tools organized
- Deep main storage
- (411978)
- for larger power tools



\$**5,0**91



- 1 detachable tool box, drawer and large tool storage
- Large, heavy duty rubber wheels
- Professional

- Workbench Large work surface: 54"W x 23"D x 1-1/4" thick
- Pegboard back wall provides additional storage
- for hanging tools and supplies (839391)
- *When purchased with your Home Depot Consumer Credit Card Additional terms apply. See page 24 for details





Rolling Workshop

STACK-ON'

- 3 storage options in



5

ZAG Folding

MasterCart

Tool Cart

• Cord wrap

(612736)

Combination

• Removable organizers

• Multiple storage areas

• 18 x 10.6 x 24.4"

- Heavy duty fiberglass
- (649394)

- reinforced clamps
- 570199

Extra stool storage

Workbench

• 27.6" x 4.2" x 32.4"

• Large work table

Lightweight Workmate

- 350 lbs weight capacity provides a sturdy work surface
- Quality steel construction for durability
- Durable wheels for easy mobility
- Opens and closes easily with one
- motion for simple set-up and clean-up Folds flat for easy storage and
- convenient for portability (369236)

- (778834)

HUSNY

🖾 12 Volt Drill with Hand Vac Kit

- Includes: (2) double ended screwdriver bits, crevice and brush nozzles,
- (2) rechargeable batteries, charger and case • Keyless chuck (313041)
- 9.6 Volt 3/8" Cordless \$3 <u>974</u>/ Drill with Flashlight Kit

- Includes: (1) rechargeable battery, charger and case
- Maximum torque of 200 in/lbs. (190901)

18 Volt Drill

with Flashlight Kit

• Includes: (2) rechargeable batteries (1) 1-hour charger, 1/2" keyless chuck and case

RYOB

• Patented mag tray design to hold bits and screws on board (840961)

3.6 Volt Stick Driver with Flashlight Kit

Includes 23-piece bit set

Pivoting shaft for maintaining correct angle

Savings of \$127

^{\$}326 if

ourcnasea

Auto spindle lock for manual use

Wall mount charging station with bit storage (313002)



18 Volt Cordless Super Combo Kit separately Includes: 1/2" drill with bits, 5-1/2" circular saw with carbide-tipped blade, edge guide, wrench, tool-less blade change reciprocating saw with (2) general purpose blades, "Tuff-Sucker" wet/dry vac with crevice tool and brush, flashlight, (2) rechargeable batteries,

(1) 1-hour charger and case (200706)

6 Shop Online @ homedepot.com

57097 I 7.2 Volt Drill Kit and 28-Piece Bit Set

- Includes: (28) assorted accessories, (1) rechargeable battery, charger and case
- 3/8" keyless chuck, 24 clutch settings
- Built in bubble level (190904)

🖬 14.4 Volt Drill with Flashlight Kit

 Includes: (2) rechargeable batteries (1) 1-hour charger, 3/8" keyless chuck and case

17

per month*

A Savings of \$240

:1

purchased

separately

• Patented mag tray design to hold bits and screws on board (675923)



• Includes: reciprocating saw with (2) general purpose blades, 24-position clutch drill, compound miter saw with 40-tooth carbide blade, circular saw with 18-tooth carbide-tipped blade, speed saw with 1/8" and 1/4" collets, flashlight with high-intensity Krypton bulb, (3) rechargeable batteries, (1) charger and mobile work station (312712)





Limited Edition 14.4 Volt **Retro Drill** Includes: (1) double-ended bit, (1) rechargeable

battery, charger, polishing cloth and case Keyless chuck (134379)

DAWA!

14.4 Volt



3/8" Cordless Compact **Drill/Driver Kit** Includes: double-ended screwdriver bit, (2) compact batteries, 1-hour charger and case (349103) 18 Volt

> <u>\$199.00</u> (345529) . .

• Keyless chuck (319271)

18 Volt XRP

1/2" Cordless **Drill/Driver Kit**

Includes: (2) XRP

batteries, 1-hour

charger, double-

bit, 360° side

(366435)

Hammerdrill/Drill/Driver Kit

ended screwdriver

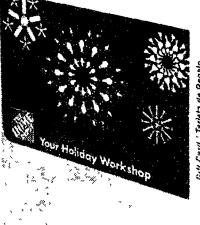
handle and case

^{\$}289.00

\$11 pei month"

14.4 Volt





201

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FREE 250

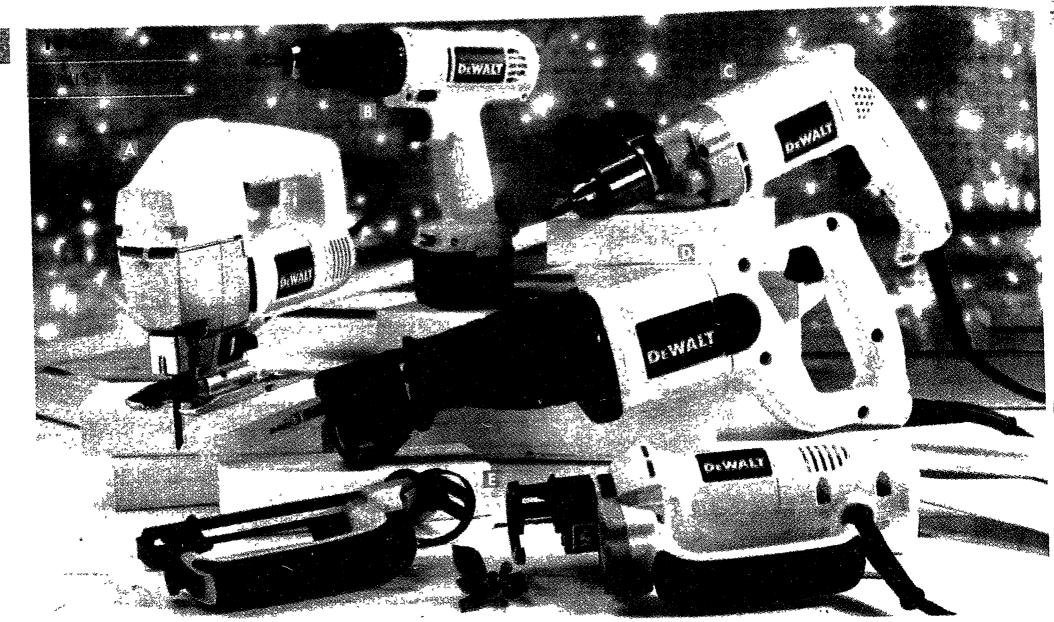
only at the

(367422)

Gift Card by mail

E

With purchase of select Dewalt tools. Offer valid through Dec. 31, 2002. See Store for details





1/2" Heavy Duty Drill 7.8 amp motor

0

લ મ

- Variable speed/reversing
- Metal gear housing for increased durability
- Two finger rubber trigger
- for increased comfort Includes 360° locking side handle (619936)

RYCOM

🔝 Jigsaw Kit

- 4.5 amp, 0-3,100 spm • Variable speed with
- 1" stroke for fast cuts
- 4-position orbital action
- 100% ball-bearing construction
- Includes case
- (589360)

Reciprocating Saw Kit 7 5 amp, 0-2,400 spm

- Keyless blade clamp
- for easy blade changes
- Variable speed
- for cutting different material Includes (1) metal cutting blade and case (299965)

9.6 Volt 3/8" **Drill/Driver Kit**

- Variable speed: 0-300/0-1,000 rpm
- Maximum torque of 200 in/lbs
- Compact and lightweight: only 3.7 lbs
- Includes: (2) rechargeable batteries, charger and case (704744)

🔁 Cut-Out Tool Combo Kit

- 5 amp, 30,000 rpm
- Tool free bit change
- Turn-on bump off switch for safety
- Accepts 1/8" and 1/4"
 - shank cut-out bits • Incudes: circle cutter, side handle and case (298346)

RYOBI.

3/8" Variable Speed/ **Reversing Drill Kit**

- 4.5 amp motor, 1,400 rpm
- Keyless chuck
- 2 built in levels for vertical
- and horizontal applications • Includes case (430040)

BOSCH

Ø

3/8" Variable Speed/

- Reversing Drill Kit 5 5 amp, 2,500 rpm Keyless chuck

- Comfortable, contoured grip minimizes fatigue
- Includes case

(403891)

Milwaukee

1/2" Heavy-Duty Drill • 8 amp, 0-850 rpm

- Heavy duty keyed chuck
- All metal gear case and diaphragm
- Includes 360° locking side handle (825624)



SANDERS GRINDERS

tools

SAOB

Detai

Sander • Bulls, scropes, cleans, temoves rust and polishes Triangular head gets into nooks. corners and tight spots (942423)

RYOBI **Corner** Cat **Finish Sander**

• 12 000 orbits perminute for guick, efficient sanding : • Dust-protected on/off switch 16

Various attachment pads for multiple uses 1840126

die Fil

\$4988 RYOBI 5" Variable **Speed Random Orbit Sander**

- Variable speed 7,000-12,000 (no load) to optimize sanding efficiency
- Spin control pad breaking system

 Accepts both adhesive backed and hook and loop sandpaper (209494)

1 - 122 -

RYOB

Oscillating Sander

- Large case iron work surface for added convenience and extra stability
- Quiet, powerful permanent magnet motor for extended use
- Dual action (rotary combined with up and down) for fast, burn-free contour sanding
- Built-in dust port to maintain a clean work area
- Includes: assorted spindles and sandpaper, (6) throat plates, wrench and washer (148859)

LOWERPRICE.

WAS \$119

🖸 3" x 21"

- **Belt Sander** • Electronic variable
- speed control Powerful dust collection system
- Includes: 80 grit belt and dust bag (164763)

Speed Saw Kits

SAOBI

18 Volt

(200705)

RYOZI

🖸 3" x 18"

4" x 36" Belt/Disc Sander

- Belt can be positioned horizontally or vertically between 0° and 90° Adjustable die cast aluminum
- table with miter gauge can be positioned for use with either belt or disc

RYOH

- Belt tension release lever allows
- for quick and easy belt change
- Built in dust port for vacuum hook-upback

3-1/4"

- Backstop included for horizontal flat sanding Cast iron base
- (281657)

- **Belt Sander** • 5 amp Belt tracking
 - system allows the user to maintain belt

re-unite of

alignment during sanding • Includes: dust bag, circular dust port for vacuum hook up (247708)

• 5 amp • Oversized depth adjusting knob works as auxiliary handle

Hand Planer

 Includes: extra set of blades, edge guide, dust bag and case (247995)

Spiral Saw Combo

 Includes: Revolution tool, Zip Mate angle attachment, assorted wheels for sanding, grinding, and polishing, carrying case and circle cutter (758236)

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Cordless Speed Saw[™] Includes: Speed Saw™, 1/8" collet, 1/4" collet, 1/8" plywood bit, 1/8" drywall bit, circle cutting guide, wrench, (1) battery, (1) 1-hour charger and case

\$00197 BROTOZIP **Rebel Spiral**

Saw Combo

• 2-speed: 25- & 30,000 rpm • Includes: Zip Mate attachment and wheels and case (779955)

"Revolution"

1de

\$**69**97



(77) accessories, project book and case (755041)

(605670)

*With purchase of select Porter Cable Item. See store for details.

1

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TABLE

How To Choose a Miter Saw

Compound Miter vs. Miter:

On a compound miter saw the blade tilts (bevels). This feature will allow cutting a bevel-an angle cut across the face of a workpiece.

On a miter saw the blade will not tilt, and of course, cannot be used to cut bevels.

10" or 12". Which Do You Need?

Of course there is more capacity with a 12" diameter blade compared to a 10" diameter blade. But do you really need that extra capacity?

If you are cutting base molding, making picture frames, or cutting materials up to 4x4's or 2x6's a 10" is fine.

However, if cutting. large crown molding or hip rafters; the extra capacity and power of a 12" compound miter saw will be appreciated.

With purchase of select Dewalt tools. Offer valid through Dec. 31, 2002. See Store for details í maile Na Staite Staite Na Staite Staite

Card by mai only at the

12" Sliding Compound Miter Saw

- 15 amp, 4,000 rpm
 Mitres 50° to the left and 60° to the right
- Dual vertical rails for accuracy and control ٠
- 0-48° bevel capacity to the left and right
- Electric brake stops blade quickly for safety
- Crosscut 12"x5-1/4" at 90°
- Includes: 60-tooth carbide blade and blade wrench (104389)

er month

Card by mail only at the

12" Compound Miter Saw

- 15 amp
- Long life stainless steel miter scale with 9 positive stops
- 0-48° left and right miter versatile cutting angles
- Extra tall sliding fence allows 5-1/4" crown mouldings
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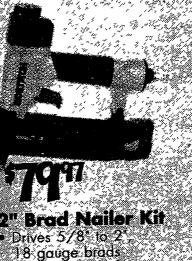


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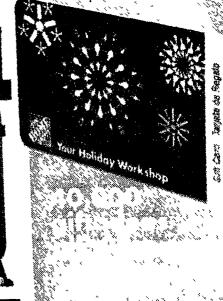




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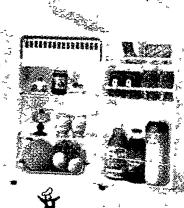
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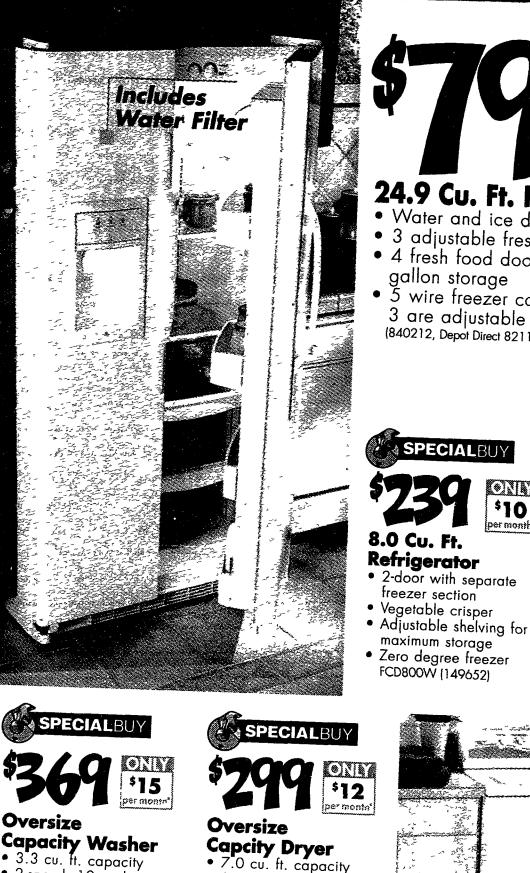
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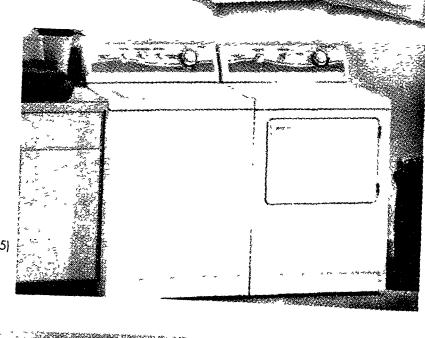
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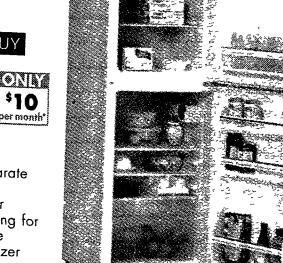
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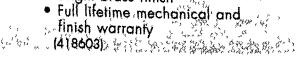
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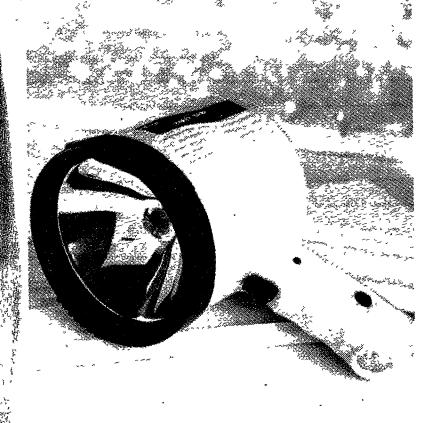
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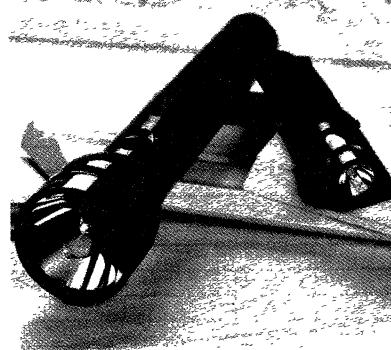
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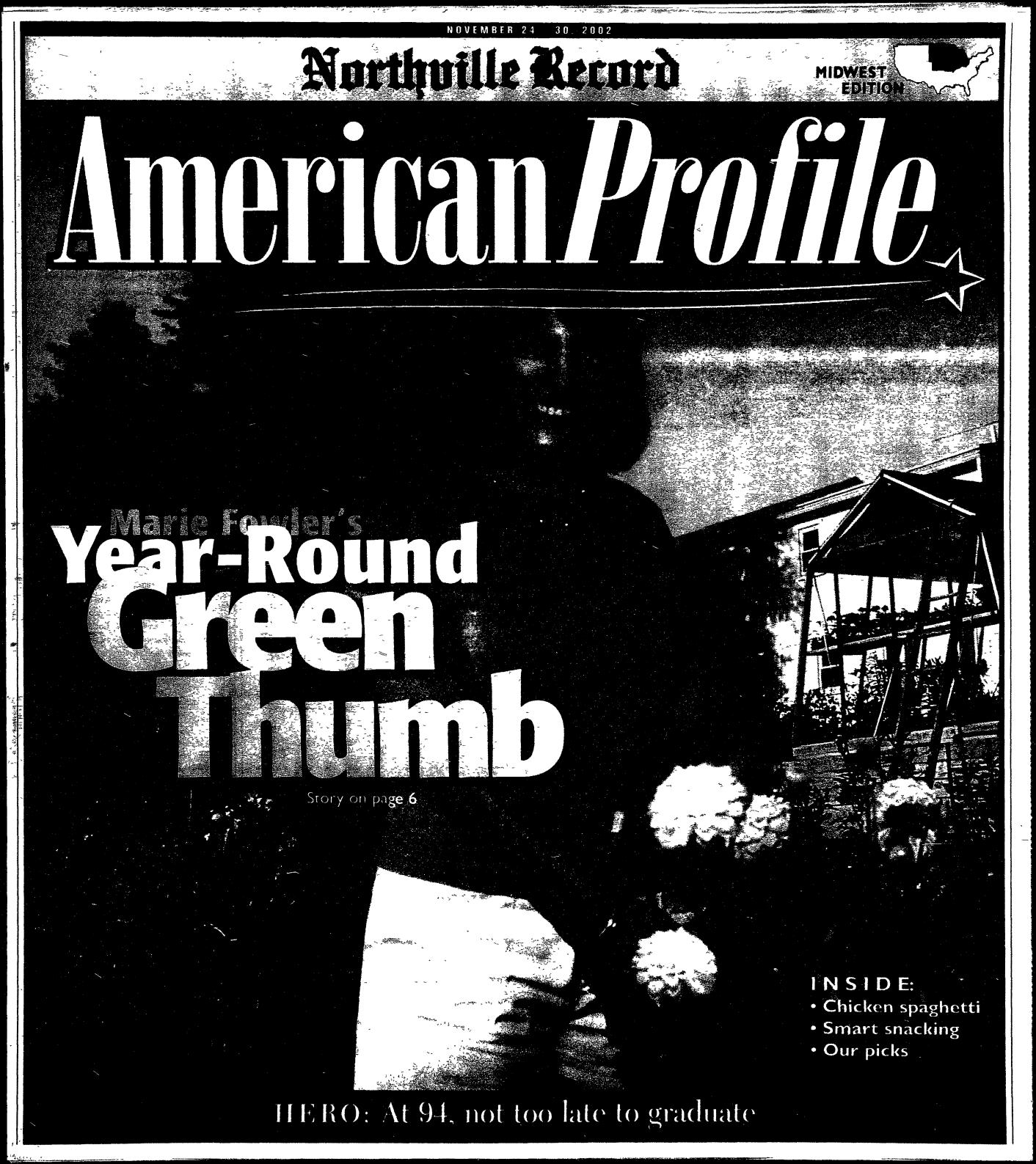
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Ask Americall Profile

Q Please tell me about Jennifer Garner, who stars on the series Alias. Is she James Garner's daughter? We love the show. —Sam R., California

Jennifer Garner isn't James Garner's daughter. The Houston native was raised in West Virginia by her mother, a retired English teacher, and a father who is a former chemical engineer. Garner studied ballet for nine years while growing up, then enrolled at Denison University in Ohio as a chemistry major. Her love of the stage was stronger than her love for

science, so she became a drama major. Garner moved to New York after graduating in 1994 and was a restaurant hostess while pursuing an acting career. She then moved to Los Angeles and later got a part on the WB show *Felicity*, where she met her husband, Scott Foley. Before hitting it big with *Alias*, Garner was in the short-lived series *Significant Others* and *Time of Your Life*. Her movie credits include *Pearl Harbor* and *Dude*, *Where's My Car?* She can be seen later this year in *Catch Me If You Can* with Leonardo DiCaprio. She and Foley live in the Los Angeles

area with their two dogs and one cat.

Q What has happened to Joseph Wambaugh? I thought he was one of the best crime writers.

-Wesley A., Minnesota

Your opinion is shared by many readers and critics who were thrilled to see new work from the 65-year-old writer after a six-year hiatus. *Fire Lover: A True Story* came out earlier this year. It moves from the police department to the fire department, offering the true story of John Orr, an arson investigator in California who was exposed as a serial arsonist, responsible for four deaths. His crime was

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Alias' Jennifer Garner is no "maverick."

discovered when he allowed too many details to leak into his firefighter-based novel. Wambaugh, a former detective with the Los Angeles Police Department, wrote his first novel, The New Centurions, in 1971, after 10 years with the department. His first nonfiction book, The Onion Field, was a follow-up success, and he left the force to be a fulltime writer in 1974. He continued to write both fiction and nonfiction, adapting his books for the movies and television. When he heard the story of Orr, he was inspired. "Here was a guy that wanted to get on the LAPD, where I was, and he wrote a novel," Wambaugh said in an interview with www.thebookreport.com. "I'm thinking: the guy wants to be me." Wambaugh lives with his wife in Rancho Mirage, Calif. He isn't working on a new book, but who knows what may inspire him in the future.

Q Is actor Clint Walker still living? If so, how old is he, and what is he doing now? He was in the old Western series Cheyenne and one of my favorite movies, The Night of the Grizzly. —Betty B., Alabama

The 75-year-old Walker is alive and very well, thanks to his interest in a healthy lifestyle. He and wife Susan live in Grass Valley, Calif., and both are well-schooled in the ways of herbal medicine, vitamins, and nutrition. A native of Hartford, Ill., Walker worked as a merchant marine sailor, a sheet metal worker, carpenter, deputy sheriff, and oil prospector before breaking into the movies. His good looks and muscular build soon landed him leading man roles in both television and film. He remains active and creative and is currently working with Western author Kirby Jonas on

how to adapt an idea of his into a book called Yaqui Gold.

- * Cover photo by Randy Janoski
 - Would you like to know more about your favorite celebrity or public figure?

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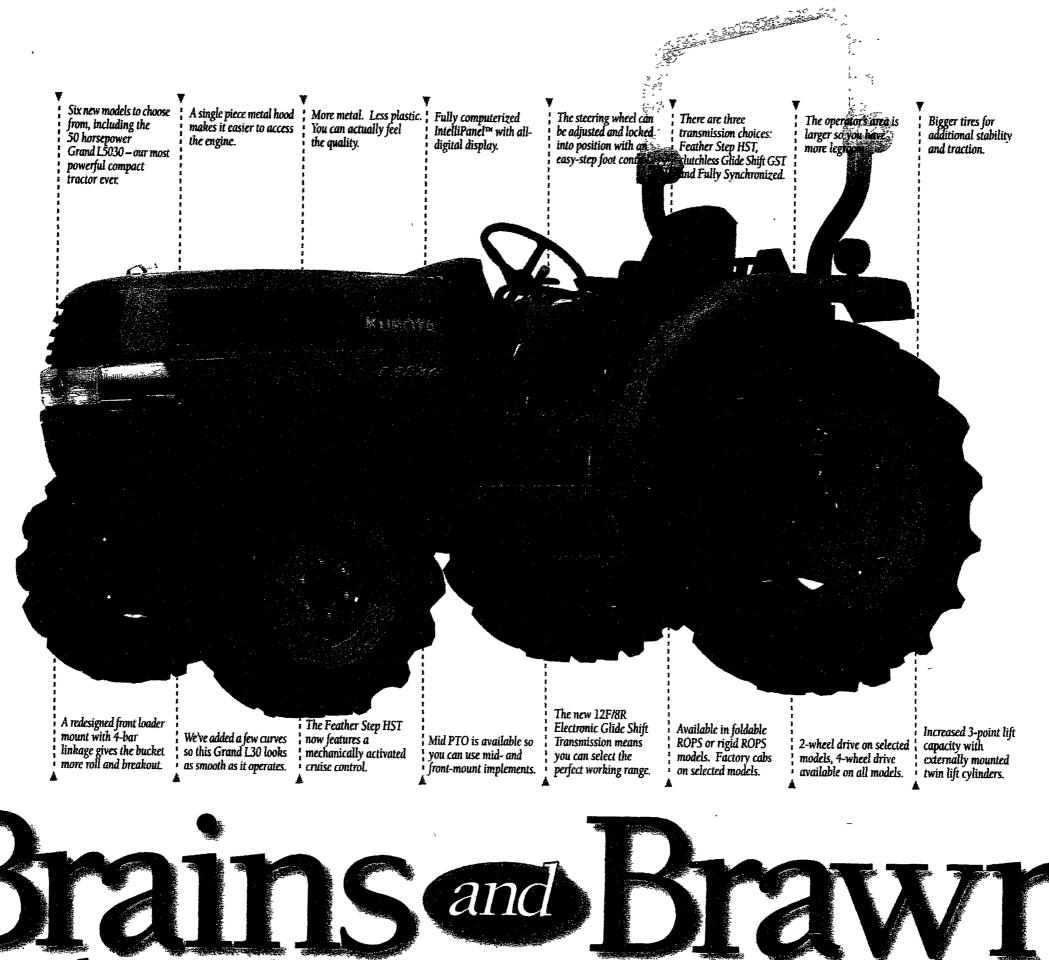


Joseph Wambaugh

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by ROBERT HENRY

The Graduate

Hometowie

Hero

When high school dropout Cecil Smith took

the test in January 2002 for his GED (General Educational Development) degree, the equivalent of a high school diploma, an essay question on the test asked, "What have you learned since high school?"

Describing what he had learned since high school in the space allotted would be impossible, Smith realized, because he had been out of school for 80 years.

"I had room for only a couple of hundred words," he says.

At age 94, he was also concerned about his penmanship. "I couldn't read my own writing," he recalls. But his handwriting was up to the task: Smith passed the test and was awarded a diploma.

"We can't find anyone older than Cecil who's gotten his GED," says Ben Justesen, a director for the national GED Testing Service.

Smith's penmanship problem is what got it all started. His handwriting never had been good, so his wife had taken care of the couple's writing requirements. Then after 61 years of marriage, his wife died, and Smith was stuck. He wondered if he could go back to school and fix his penmanship.

Smith of Westlake Village, Calif., (pop. 8,368) had been living with his nephew, Dick Kirkland, when the latter heard of an 80-year-old student receiving his GED at Conejo Valley Adult School in nearby Thousand Oaks, Calif. Kirkland suggested that Smith give the school a try.

"It was pretty amazing," says Michele Arso, the school's Learning Center program coordinator. "We thought having an octogenarian student was something---then Cecil came along."

Smith quickly went from wanting to improve his penmanship to wanting to get his high school diploma. After giving him a practice test, the Learning Center staff came up with an individualized approach for Smith.

"We have great staff and facilities," Arso adds, "but it's a lab environment, where each student has to study individually. Cecil did all the work himself."

Smith had dropped out of high school when his parents died. At age 14, he had to fend for himself.



Cecil Smith, 95, went after a high school diploma, with plenty of help from teachers

After he got married as a young man, Smith's wife wanted to move to California, so the couple settled in Los Angeles. "This was in the middle of the Depression," he says. "We camped on the beach for three days until I got a job."

Soon, Smith bought two acres of land in Malibu, Calif., which he still owns. "Originally I raised goats and poultry on that land while I worked as an upholsterer," he says. "Even (raised) bees. Survived earthquakes and brushfires. But I got a hip replacement and had to give up the animals."

After Smith passed the GED test and earned his diploma, Arso and the rest of the staff threw him a party.

> "They had balloons, a cake, reporters, TV people," he says. "It was quite something."

"Cecil really surprised us," Arso says. "Here he was, this quiet, focused student, and at the ceremony he was wearing a tuxedo, and we saw how much energy and charisma he had. He charmed everybody."

Smith hadn't intended to become a role model, but if he inspires others to get their diplomas, he'll be delighted.

"I would recommend going back to get your diploma for anybody-it does a lot of good just to know you did it," he says.

Now with his high school diploma finally in hand, Smith isn't about to stop learning. "I went out and bought one of those electric cars," he says. "I'm up for any scheme that will improve the environment."

His future academic plans call for computer classes. "I'll study up on computers next," he says. "Things are changing all the time, you know."

"I had to learn a trade," Smith says, "So I moved from Indiana to Michigan

the and the state of the state

and learned to be an upholsterer."

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Robert Henry is a freelance writer from Los Angeles.

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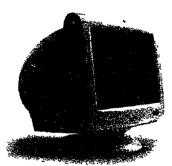


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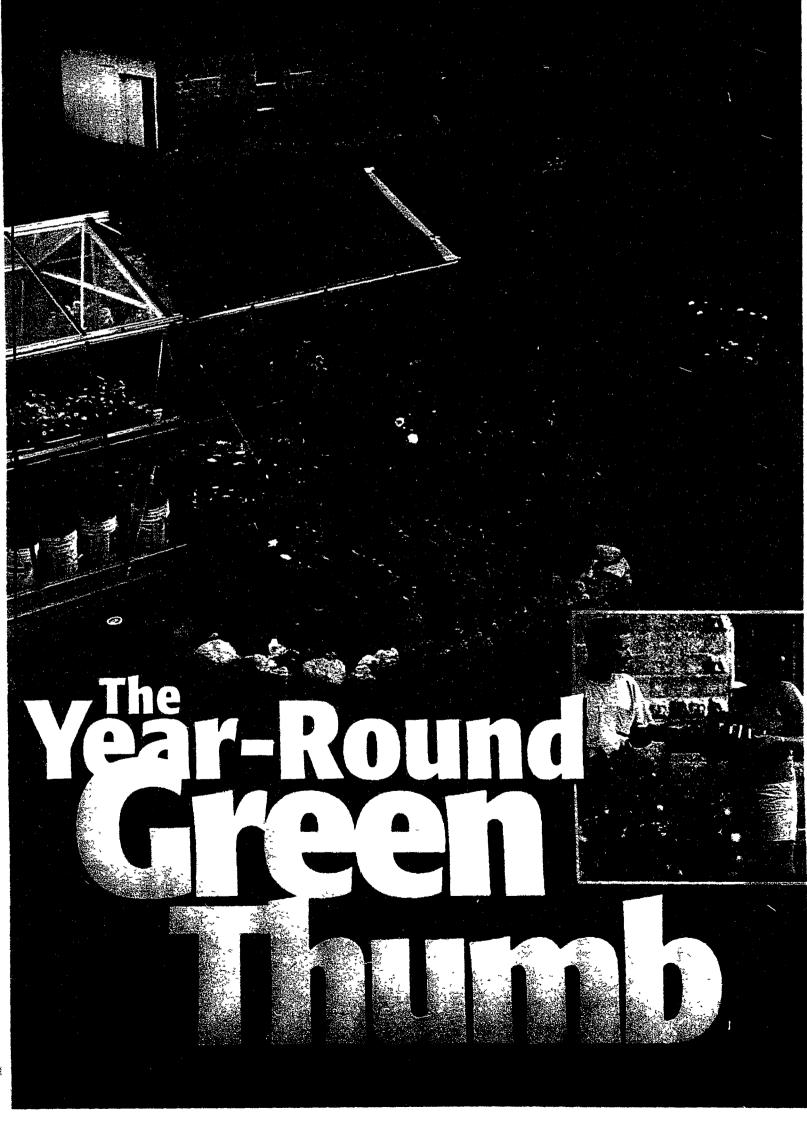


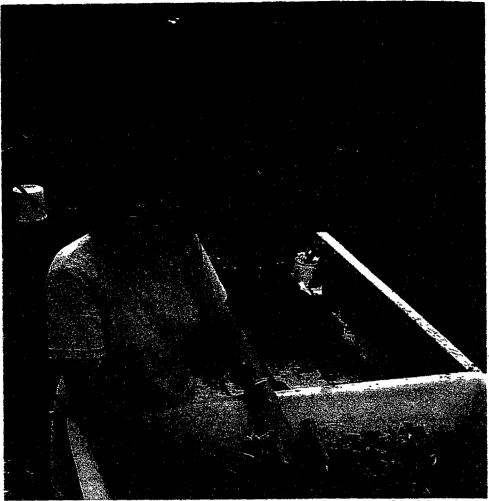
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Cover Story

When they see what we can do?





Marie Fowler knows what each seedling needs to grow a healthy plant.

In November, when the dazzling

colors in most flower beds are a distant memory, Marie and Keith Fowler still are cutting and selling beautiful blooms at their local farmer's market.

They take the whimsy of flowers very seriously and have made them more than a spring and summer hobby. Aided by two greenhouses, grow lights that mimic sunlight, and eight large flower beds, the Fowlers of Belchertown, Mass., (pop. 12,968) indulge their passion for flowers practically year-round. They grow annuals, perennials, and herbs to create bright fresh bouquets, dried arrangements, and flavorings for Marie's specially made vinegars, oils, and mustards.

Indeed, cold weather—even brutal New England winters—don't keep Marie from her flowers. "I do all my ordering in December and get the seeds in January," Marie says. Thousands of seeds are planted in February and germinated in their house under grow lights.

In February through about mid-March, seedlings are nurtured in their heated greenhouse (the other is unheated). When the weather warms, most are transplanted to waiting flowerbeds; others are placed in tiny pots and sold for \$1 each at the farmer's market.

Like Marie, most gardeners who own hobby greenhouses grow from seed, says Thomas Eckert, president of the National Hobby Greenhouse Association.

Eckert, whose third and current greenhouse measures 48 by 22 feet, has had greenhouses since 1978 at his home in Dillsburg, a central Pennsylvania community of 2,063. "I've always lived in a country setting and I like to see plants grow," he says. "It came down to economics ... I can't afford to buy flats and flats of plants (at a garden center), but I can get several flats out of one pack of seeds." He also uses the greenhouse for overwintering—housing outside plants, such as ferns or potted annuals that he wants to keep rather than losing them to winter's freezing temperatures. Some plants have lasted 15 years.

"I enjoy the quiet times in the greenhouse in the wintertime," Eckert says. "It's fun to putter around in there."

He trims and doctors overwintering plants infested with disease or insects and plants seeds to get a head start on spring. "Before you know it," he says, "it's spring again." At the Fowler home, is it ever.

The Fowlers are transforming the once-overgrown back yard of their large white farmhouse, part of which dates back to 1843, into a pastoral, color-filled landscape. An herb garden contains basil, lavender, and rosemary. Another grows primarily flowers for drying: cock's comb, strawflowers, sunflowers, and Keith's dahlias-the only flower he grows. Others are filled with annuals and perennials such as lilacs, butterfly bushes, foxglove, asters, and assorted grasses.

Tending the flowers is only part of this very busy hobby: Beds must be built; compost piles created; seeds bought and planted; greenhouses stocked; seedlings transplanted; flowers fertilized, harvested, and arranged; and the truck loaded for the farmer's market.

"It's a pretty serious commitment," Marie says.

'I always loved flowers'

Her Italian heritage accounts for at least part of Marie's love for raising beauty from the earth's soil, she says. Her Grandpa Rocco grew acres of tomatoes for his extended family, and her grandmother preserved enough for an entire year for the whole family. "I think seeing his love and the sharing with the garden really kind of made me want to do something like that," Marie says.

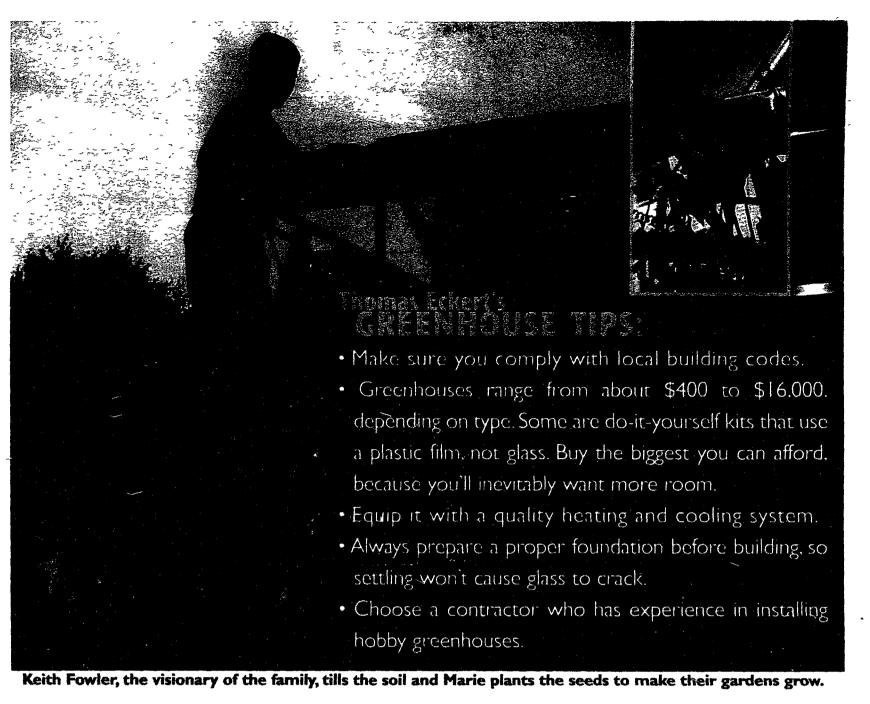
Marie began exploring her gardening roots once she married Keith and they bought a house with a bit of land. "I didn't grow vegetables because the property we had was very shady and had horrible soil and any attempt to grow vegetables was just really a disaster," she says. "But I always loved flowers."

The turning point came about 15 years ago when they bought their second home, with its sunny yard and good soil. "I wanted a small cutting garden and (Keith) ... rototilled a huge area for me as a birthday present," she says. "He does everything huge. He put a big fence around it and said, 'Okay, here you go.""

Marie enrolled in the horticultural program at the

University of Massachusetts at Amherst, where she works in the registrar's office. "I took courses one by one while I was working," she says. "I learned how to grow."

She planted, cultivated, and raised blossoms for two years before deciding, in 1990, to try selling them at the Amherst Farmer's Market. She was surprised at how quickly her zinnias, cosmos, and bachelor's buttons sold. 'It was kind of infectious," she remembers. To minimize labor, Marie planted mostly perennials (plants that return and bloom year after year) and filled in the rest of the garden space with annuals (which last just one season). "Once you get perennials in, you don't work quite so hard at planting," she says. She also quickly set herself apart from other market vendors who also sold flowers. "They generally were just selling cut flowers, not in bouquets," she says. "Another one of the courses I took was floral designing, and I got lots of practice. I knew I could make bouquets, and this would set me apart from other flower growers."



Not for long, though, she says with a wry smile. "Everybody who sells flowers just sells bouquets now."

Doing her homework

Turning flowers into bouquets is work. Keith, who handles maintenance for a real estate agency, primarily builds their flower beds and maintains compost piles. "We do a lot of organic farming," he says.

"He's the one who has the vision. He can look at the yard and say, 'Here's where the next one's going to go.' He has the big picture," Marie says. "I

> amble over to look at the bed and say, 'Here's what I want to do with it.'"

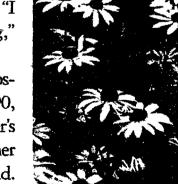
It was Keith who envisioned what their current home on 47 mostly wooded acres could become. When they bought the property two years ago, Keith immediately, with his tractor and backhoe, cleared the large, overgrown backyard area of sumac, thicker, brambles, and poison ivy, creating an invit-

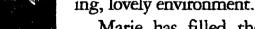
She also must alternate planting times to ensure a constant flow of flowers for market. Marie staggered a batch of 150 Oriental lily bulbs, which take about 90 days to mature, so they would last each week through the end of November.

What may sound like a lot of work to some is pure enjoyment for Marie—so much that she continually tries to stretch her knowledge. "I like to challenge myself each year and grow some things I know are going to be difficult," she says.

Marie admits it's sometimes a little difficult to snip the blooms. "But that's the beauty of it, especially with annuals. Lots of them are 'cut and come again,' like with zinnias. You need to cut them because the more you cut, the more they come back.

"With perennials, it's not the same, because you usually get one bloom each year and that's it. That's why I really like to keep a combination of annuals and perennials. A lot of serious gardeners don't want to deal with annuals, but they do have pluses." The effect her flowers has on her customers makes the extra effort worth it, Marie says. "I just really get a kick out of bringing a smile to people's faces when they see the flowers and when they see what we can do," Marie says. "I love to make people happy, and I think when they see what we do, it definitely brings a smile to people's faces. I guess that's the key. "I want to be happy and that's my goal," she says. "That's what it's all about." 🖈





Marie has filled the back yard with strategically grown cutting flowers. "A lot of perennials that you grow from seed don't flower the first year, but I try to select some that will flower the first year, combined with those that won't, so I have something to work with for bouquets for the year."

She also must become familiar with each plant. "You really have to do your homework because they have different germination requirements," she says. "Some like cool to start, some hot. Some need dark, some light, some grow slowly, some fast."

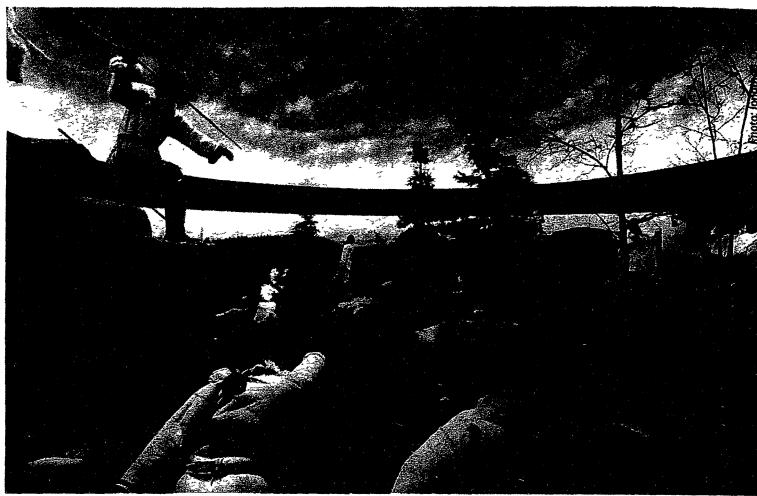
Carol Davis, who can barely grow marigolds, is national editor of American Profile.

American Profile • Page 7



by SHARON MCDONNELL

The Pequot: COMING Back Home



The life-like dioramas at Mashantucket's museum celebrate 11,000 years of Pequot heritage.

Long before Europeans arrived,

the Pequot Nation inhabited southeastern Connecticut. Yet so vivid is Connecticut's Colonial past it's possible to miss its rich American Indian heritage, even though it lives on in so many names—towns such as Pawcatuck and Mystic (the latter from Mistuket, for great river), and the state itself, Quinnehtukut (beside the long tidal river). But today, a remarkable museum in Mashantucket (much-wooded place) brings that heritage home.

The Pequot (pronounced "peekwhat") Museum and Research Center opened in 1998 and quickly earned the praise of the Smithsonian Institution. William Sturtevant, curator of ethnology at the Smithsonian, calls it "the best exhibit of North American Indian materials in the Northeast, and among the very best anthropological museum exhibits anywhere." The museum is owned by the Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation, a community in its own right, today numbering about 1,000.

Among the museum's exhibits is a re-created 16th-century village of the Pequot tribe—51 lifesize figures cooking at campfires, taking care of

Director Theresa Hayward Bell sees the museum as a vision from the heart.

children, and making tools. So real is this multisensory exhibit, visitors smell cooking and hear forest noises. In other dioramas, hunters from 11,000 years ago stalk caribou or shiver on a glacier where water drips and wind howls.

"The museum was a vision and a mission of our tribe—it was always in our heart," says Theresa Hayward Bell, executive director of Mashantucket's museum since 1994, when construction began. "We wanted a special place to house the histories of many tribes, not just our own."

A program of more than 100 cultural events is held each year, including demonstrations of such American Indian crafts as bone carving and pottery making, lectures by visiting scholars on history and folklore, Boy and Girl Scout activities, and American Indian storytelling. Archeology walks and concerts by American Indian musicians are held each summer. Singer and songwriter Buffy Sainte-Marie, a Cree, and singer Rita Coolidge, a Cherokee, have performed here.

An active archeology program is under way, notes Dr. Kevin McBride, the museum's director of

research and an associate professor of anthropology at the University of Connecticut. Sites as old as 9000 B.C. and as recent as 19th-century settlements are studied, and efforts to locate American Indian coastal villages are being conducted with the Mystic Aquarium & Institute of Exploration. Four hundred years ago, southeast Connecticut was home to about 20,000 American Indians, including the Pequot and Mohegan tribes. But by the early 1970s, only Elizabeth George and her sister

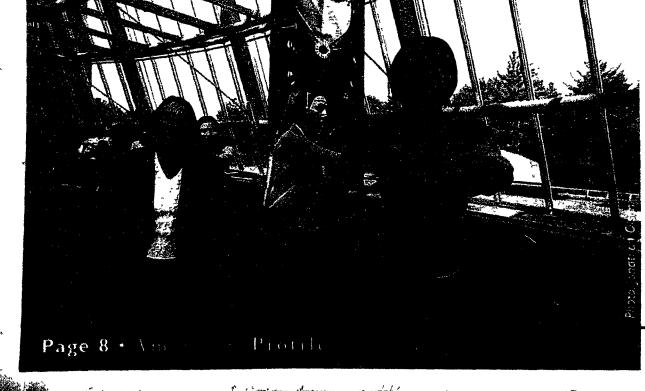
remained on the Mashantucket reservation, whose original 3,000 acres—granted in 1666—had dwindled to 213.

When George's grandson, Richard "Skip" Hayward, was elected tribal leader in 1975, he sought to bring members back to Mashantucket, but with only two houses on tribal land, no electricity, water, or roads, and no businesses, it was slow going. Still, some began to return—many of them nieces, nephews, and grandchildren of Elizabeth George.

A boost came for the Pequot when 15 federally subsidized homes were built in 1981. More important, federal recognition of the Pequot Nation came with the Land Claims Settlement Act of 1983, and the Pequots were able to re-acquire 800 acres of former tribal land.

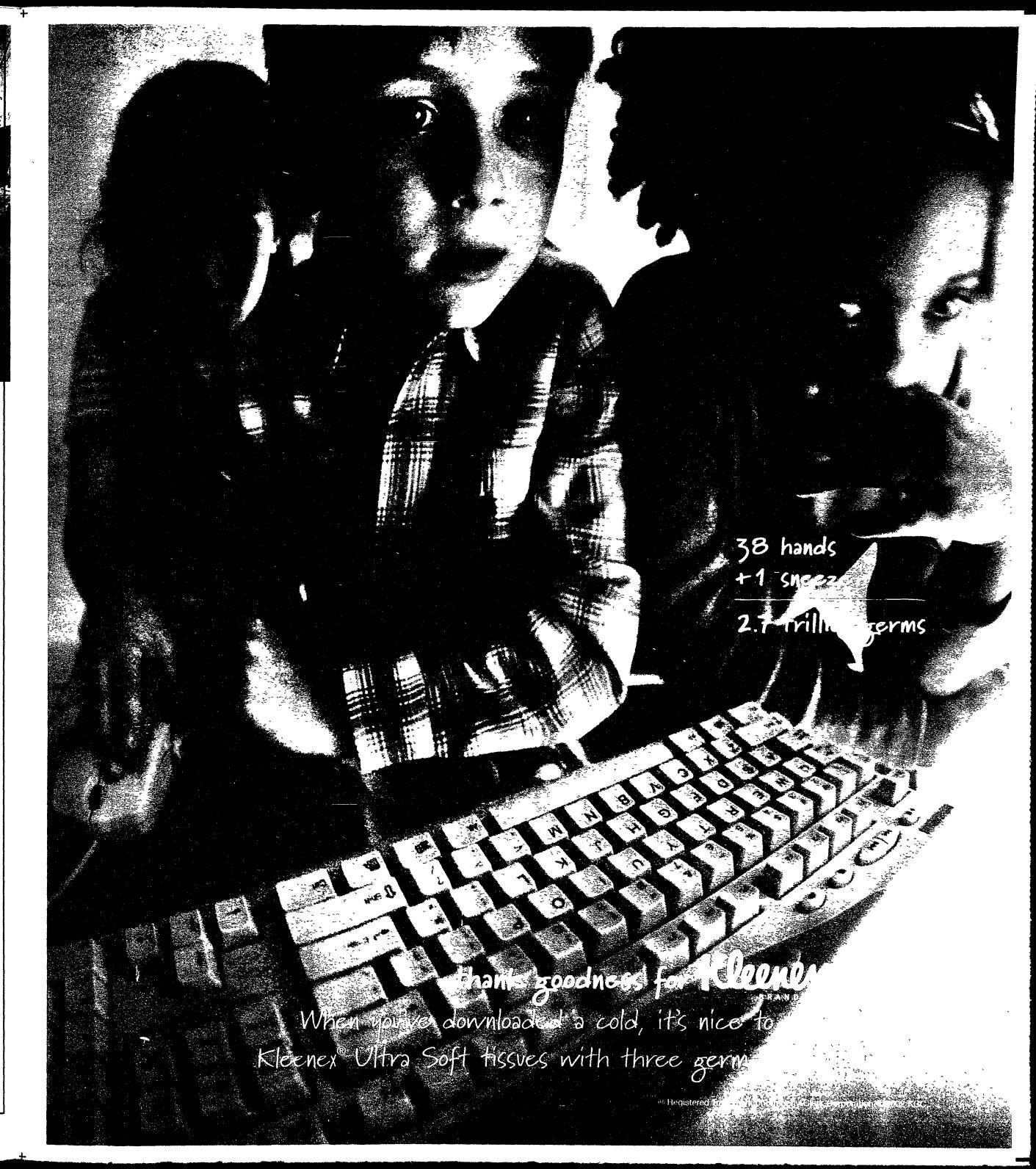
For a time, it was hard going. Raising pigs, tribal vegetable farming, making maple syrup, and starting a pizzeria were businesses the Pequots tried, with modest success. Then they found the enterprise that changed their fortunes. They opened a bingo hall in 1986, which, by 1992, had grown into Foxwoods Resort Casino. Thanks to Foxwoods, the Pequots were able to invest \$193 million to build their museum.

"This is a culmination of a dream, to tell the largely unknown story of the Pequots and preserve our culture and history," Bell says. Today, to celebrate the diversity of American Indian culture nationwide, the Pequots sponsor the Festival of Green Corn and Dance each August, drawing thousands from 500 tribes. The bull-riding contest is the most famous of more than 40 events, which include drumbeating and song in American Indian dress.



Mashantucket today has not only become a home for the Pequots, but also a place of revival for traditions as old as the land. \Rightarrow

Sharon McDonnell is a writer in New York City.



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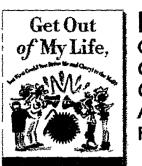
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Hip To Knit Judith L. Swartz Interweave Press



While many Americans turn to yoga or other relax-

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Hip To Knit is a collection of quick and easy patterns with simple instructions, for both knitting newcomers or experienced knitters.

Music

Golden Slumbers: A Father's Lullaby Rendezvous Entertainment/Warner Bros. Records

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Brahm's Lullaby, Hush Little Baby, You'll Be in My Heart, Blackbird, and Twinkle, Twinkle. Little Star, all performed by artists who recently have become fathers, godfathers, or uncles.

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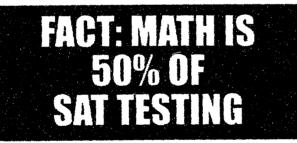
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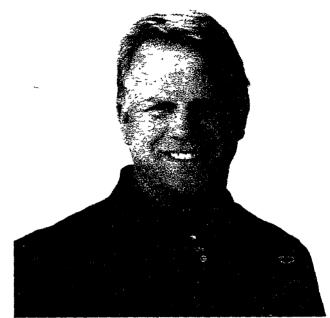
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Christmas Carol-Woodstock, Dec. The Woodstock Musical Theatre presents six performances of Charles astoric Woodstock Opera House. For

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Parke County Covered Bridge Christmas Bridgeton, Mansfield, and Rockville, Dec. 6-8. Visit with Santa laus, enjoy holiday music and a Christhas dinner, and tour 32 historic covered ndges, some decorated for the holidays. 65) 569-5226

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Nativity Set Show-Mount Pleasant, Dec. 14-15 Stroll through a display of nore than 100 Nativity scenes from mand the world at the Masonic Temple

KANSAS

Lucia Fest-Lindsborg, Dec 14 Expemence an 18th-century Swedish Christmas featuring ethnic music, folk dancing, and Dickens' 1843 Christmas classic at the food, and the crowning of Lucia, a symbol of light and hope to the Swedish people. Ret information, call (815) 338-5300. since the Middle Ages. (888) 227-2227.

MICHIGAN

Holiday Homes Tour-Grand Haven, Dec. 7-8. Tour eight historic or unusual homes decorated in their holiday finery during this annual event. Shuttles depart from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. at the Tri-Cities Historical Museum (616) 842-0700

MINNESOTA

Feeding Winter Birds-Centerville, Dec. 8. Bring a 2-liter bottle, plastic milk jug, or gound and create a backyard feeder for winter birds during this hands-on program from 2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. at

Wargo Nature Genter (654) 429-3007.

MISSOURI

Festival of Lights Sc. James, Dec. 7-25. Drive, or take a walking tour, through a festive Christmas light display at St. James Park, 320 Bourbeuse St. (800) 480-3899.

NEBRASKA

Christmas on the Prairie Waloo, Dec. 7-8. In its 13th year, this event will feature Czech entertainment and displays, a quilt show, vintage fashion show, and children's activities at the holiday decorated Saunders County Museum (402) 443-3090

NORTHDAKOJA

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North Star Classic-Valley City, Dec. 6-8. A linescock show learning carrie, sheep, and swine compensions, commercial exhibitions, and a beel cook-off coatest at the North Dakora Winter Show Build

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Holidays Festival Dulton De 7-6 The spirit of the scanth cours alive with a Christmas pacade, entertainment, a country-style breakfast, Mrs. Claus Pantry, and fireman's ham dinner. (330) 828-2444.

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Festival of Trees-Lead, Dec. 7-8. Features a Christmas tree-decorating contest and display, tree auction, carolers, and a bell choir at the historic Homestake Opera House. (605) 584-2067.

WISCONSIN

(715)) 561-4354 5

Red Light Snowmobile Rally-Hurley, Dec 12-15 Wisconsin's first snowmobile nde of the season features trail rides, a poker run, scavenger hunt, official snow dance, and live music in this northern Wisconsin community.

ADVERTISEMENT Senior Citizens with Money in the Bank Should Read This Before It's Too Late

If you have worked hard all your life and managed to put away a nest egg, you might end up losing most of your life savings because of a defect in Medicare.

If you or your spouse suddenly become ill and require extended nursing home care...NO ONE will help you with the nursing home bills. Medicare won't and neither will your health insurance. By law you are responsible for the nursing home bills yourself. Only after you have used up virtually all of your money, will Medicaid step in. That's because Medicaid, like Welfare, only aids the poor. By some estimates, the average couple's life savings can be wiped out after only 13 weeks of nursing home care. Rich people don't have to worry because they can afford super-expensive special nursing home insurance, while the poor are taken care of by Medicaid. Now that just doesn't seem fair to working people with a lifetime of hard-earned savings. The system they have supported with tax dollars, seems to have forgotten them. Savings intended to provide security in retirement, or help for children, can quickly go up in smoke. The fact is. if you don't know how to protect your assets, here's what can happen to you. By law, before Medicaid will pay nursing home bills, you may have to spend all your countable assets except \$2000 (or as low as \$1500 in some states). Countable assets mean not only money in checking and savings accounts...but also any funds in CD's, IRA's, Savings Bonds, Mutual Funds, stocks, whole life insurance, annuities and other types of investments, as well as most trust assets.

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They can also take a vacation home or a second car. In addition, (except for a small personal spending allowance and a health insurance payment allowance) your entire Social Security or pension check can be taken to cover nursing home expenses. What's more, if you are single or widowed, you can even lose your house.

According to the federal law called the Spousal Impoverishment Act, if one spouse requires extended nursing home care, the healthy spouse can be forced to surrender HALF of their combined countable assets. And if you have a sizeable estate, they can legally take MORE THAN HALF.

Is there anything you can do to stop this nightmare from happening to you? Yes. You are protected by law and can use several legal techniques to place your countable (or vulnerable) assets into the uncountable (or protected) category. The problem is, most people are not aware of their legal rights. Unfortunately, most people think Medicare will take care of them, so they unknowingly leave their assets vulnerable and in jeopardy. Your legal rights and the many methods of protecting your money are now revealed in "How to Protect Your Financial Security." This financial self-defense manual tells you simple legal procedures for preserving your money and warns of pitfalls to avoid. Here is some of the valuable material you learn:

- If you give your money to your children without following these precise guidelines, a nursing home could get your money anyhow
- · What you need to know about Living Trusts
- •What lawyers never tell you about protecting your will

As a hard-working taxpayer, you have a legal right to protect your life savings for yourself, your spouse or your heirs. You don't have to be rich to have peace of mind. You just have to follow the easy steps outlined in "How to Protect Your Financial Security."

Christmas trees hold an actic full of memories

- Legal ways to turn countable (or vulnerable) assets into uncountable (or protected) assets
- How to protect your house from being sold to pay your nursing home bills

• How to protect a second car or vacation home

Although "How to Protect Your Financial Security" can easily save you thousands of dollars, the price is very reasonable. Right now, you can receive a special press run for only \$8.95 plus \$1.00 postage and handling. It is not available in any bookstore. It is only available through this special offer on a 90 day Money Back Guarantee. If you are dissatisfied in any way, just return it in 90 days for a full refund, no questions asked.

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Did You Know...

ILLINOIS—In 1836, New Philadelphia in Pike County became the first town founded by an African-American. "Free Frank" McWorter, a Virginia slave, saved \$800, bought his freedom, and mapped the town, which survived until 1885 when the railroad bypassed it.

INDIANA—The 1811 Salisbury courthouse in Centerville (pop. 2,427) is the only remaining log cabin courthouse in the Northwest Territory which included Indiana prior to statehood.

IOWA—In 1928, the Des Moines Register and Tribune became the first newspaper in the country to own and operate an airplane. Dubbed the Good News, the five-seat Fairchild monoplane promoted aviation in Iowa and hastened newsgathering.

KANSAS—The world's longest grain elevator stretches more than one-half mile in Hutchinson.

MICHIGAN—Established in 1911, Owasippe Scout Reservation near Whitehall (pop. 2,884) is the nation's oldest Boy Scout camp.

MINNESOTA—Three TV moms—Barbara Billingsley of *Leave it to Beaver*, Marion Ross of *Happy Days*, and Debra Jo Rupp of *That '70s Show*—popped open a giant can of Spam in June to officially open the \$8 million Spam Museum in Austin (pop. 23,314), home of Hormel Foods.

MISSOURI—Known as the "Voice of the St. Louis Cardinals," Hall of Fame announcer Jack Buck broadcast Cardinals baseball for KMOX radio from 1954 until his death June 18 at age 77.

NEBRASKA—The People's or Populist Party held its first convention July 4, 1892, in Omaha.

NORTH DAKOTA—In 1913, a Northern Pacific Railroad official named Zap (pop. 231) after Zapp, Scotland, because both places had coal mines.

OHIO-In 1972, Burt Reynolds autographed

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a hot dog bun at Tony Packo's Restaurant in Toledo, and today some 1,000 famous big-name buns adorn the restaurant, famous for its Hungarian hot dogs.

SOUTH DAKOTA—Completed in 1924, the Meridian Bridge at Yankton (pop. 13,528) became the state's first bridge to span the Missouri River and completed the link for travelers on the International Meridian Highway between Mexico City, Mexico, and Winnipeg, Canada.

WISCONSIN—At the 52nd Kraut Festival last June in Franksville (pop. 1,789), Brenda Lashley ate more than a pound of kraut in two minutes to win the women's world kraut-eating championship. expect to find in more expensive watches, this precision chronograph is a watch enthusiast's delight. Fun to play with and easy to depend on And if you order now by toll-free phone, you can receive a second Chronograph absolutely free

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from CHERYL POMERENKE



When I was a grill cook for a restaurant in Crawford, Texas, I was asked to make this recipe for Crown Prince Abdullah of Saudi Arabia, who was a guest of President George W. Bush at his Crawford ranch. This dish was one of the daily specials at the restaurant.

What's your FAVORITE recipe?

Send us a favorite recipe for an appetizer, main dish, side dish, salad, sandwich, soup, baked good, or another dish, along with the story behind it, to:

HOMETOWN RECIPES, 341 Cool Springs Blvd., Suite 400, Franklin, TN 37067.

Include a photo of yourself, your name, address, and phone. Those whose recipes we publish will receive an American Profile T-shirt. (Sorry, we can't return any materials.)



3 cups cooked chicken (I use chicken tenders)

- 1 12-ounce package thin spaghetti
- 3 tablespoons butter or margarine
- 1/2 cup chopped celery
- 1/2 cup chopped onion
- I tablespoon chopped pimentoI 28-ounce can cream of chicken soup
- I cup milk
- 1 1/2 cups Velveeta or similar product Salt and pepper to taste Cheddar cheese, grated

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. In a large saucepan, cook chicken in boiling water until done. Drain, saving water. Chop chicken into small pieces. Add spaghetti to chicken water and cook until done, following directions on package. In another pan, melt butter and sauté celery and onion. Stir in pimento. Add chicken, soup, milk, Velveeta, salt, and pepper. Drain spaghetti and add to chicken mixture. Pour into a greased 9-by-13-inch baking dish. Sprinkle Cheddar on top. Bake for 20 minutes. Serves 8 to 10 people.

Tips From Our Test Kitchen: Cheesy chicken is hard to beat. To make the Velvetta melt more evenly, cut into small chunks.

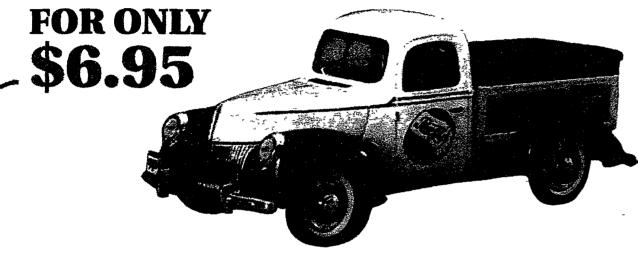


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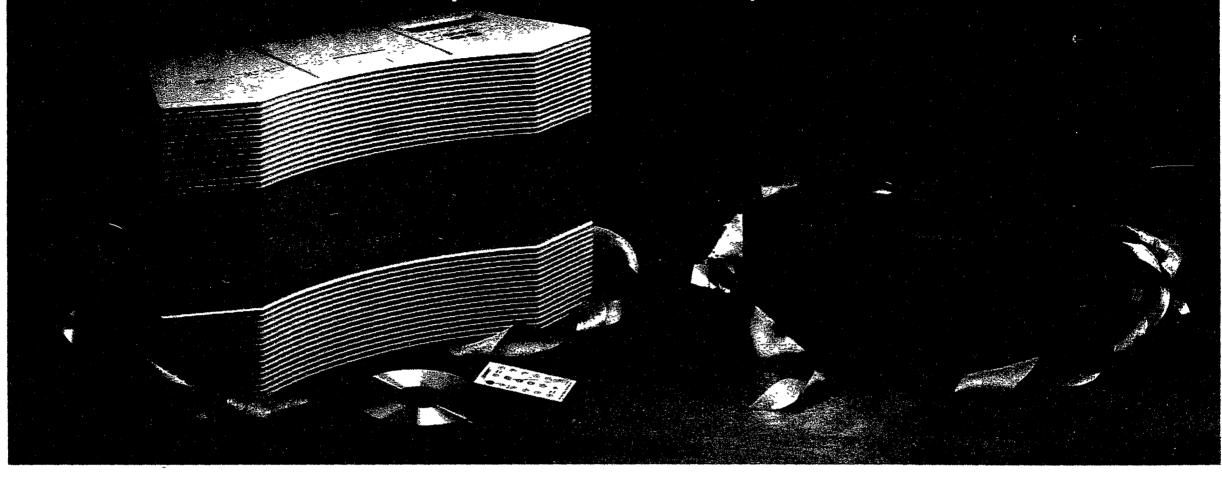
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