Aorthuille Record HomeTown coununications Happy Thanksgiving!

Thursday, November 27, 2003

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Northville, Michigan

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Volume 135 Number 48 Look inside for your **GREEN SHEET** |

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INSIDE



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New man at Our

Lady Father Terry Kerner

is the new face in the hallways at Our Lady of Victory

School. Read about the priest and what he brings to the school. - Page 6A

SPECIAL SECTION



Look for our 2003 Gift Guide in today's edition.

SPORTS

Rocks roll Despite a strong effort. Northville couldn't find a way to get past Plymouth Salem in district hoops action last week. - Page 1B



The Bloomfield Hills-based developer planning to finalize the purchase of the former state psychiatric hospital site by the end of the year will appear before the Northville Township Planning Commission Tuesday night.

The meeting is at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday at the Northville Township Civic Center. It will be a return engagement for representatives of Real Estate Interests Group, which has a \$76.5 million deal pending with the state to purchase 414 acres on the south side of Seven Mile Road between Northville and Haggerty Roads.

Township planners are not more in keeping with the with what expected to act next week on the latest plans to develop the site, but their seven pairs of eyes will scrutinize every inch of it. A lot of information will be presented at the meeting, said Jennifer Frey, township director of community development.

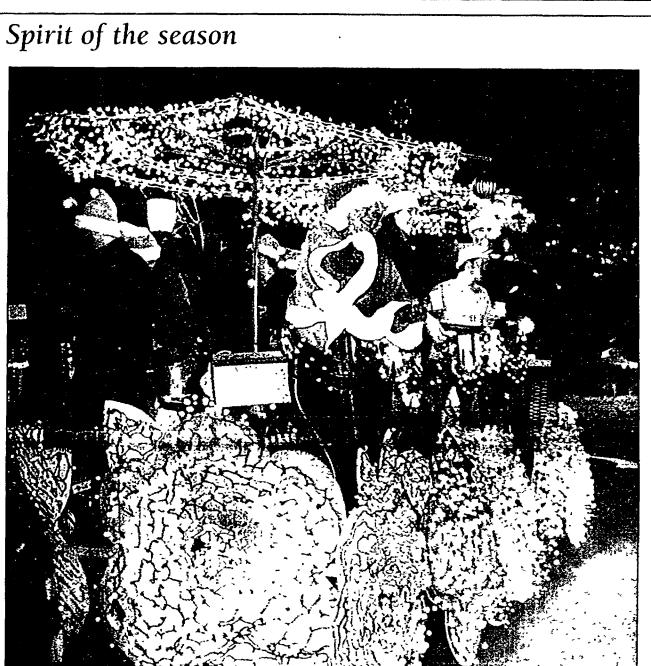
What to build on 7 Mile?

"I hope they bring something

the Planning Commission set up in the [planned use development]," said Mary Gans, who serves on both the township's planning body and board of trustees. "Otherwise, it will overdevelop the parcel."

In preparation for the property to change hands, the trustees last year adopted a planned-use development ordinance for the state property, part of an overall vision for complementary development along the Seven Mile corridor between Northville and Haggerty roads. Renderings specify locations of office, research and development, residential and open-space land uses.

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Schools take action in hit drill aftermath

By Jennifer Zinke STAFF WRITER

While a Meads Mill Middle School student continues to deal with injuries suffered after a questionable football drill, district officials had both strong words and actions for the coaches who orchestrated the drill.

Garret Drogosch, a seventh grade student at Meads Mill Middle School who sustained two broken bones in his lower leg, was said to be recovering from a second corrective leg surgery, though additional surgeries are likely necessary.

Paul Drogosch, Garret's father, and the second surgery took place Nov 14. Surgeons, he said, put a six-inch plate and screws into his son's leg to hold the bones in place.

"He'll have to have further surgery when it heals," the father said "If everything moves along tine. [he'll] have another operation in a year to remove the screws. and plates and let the bone devel-

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Mary Poole and her daughter Jessica, middle-right, toss candy treats to the crowd during last Friday night's Hometown Holidays Lighted Parade that wound through downtown Northville. The Poole's Tavern float won second place in this year's balloting. For more on the parade, see pages 3A and 5A.

The coaches - James Chabot, Nick Nugent and Doug Walters ---were terminated from their coaching positions following an indepth investigation conducted by the school district administration, officials said.

According to Northville schools, the three seventh- and eighth-grade coaches were disciplined for incorporating an inappropriate drill during an Oct. 28 football practice. The drill involved the selection of a seventh-grade player who did not hold a starting position on the team by an eighth-grade student. The older student would be per-

Continued on 18

Reminder: Forget-Me-Nots set to close after two years

By Maureen Johnston STAFF WRITER

Mary Sieler soon will be channeling the creative energy that delighted the visitors to her Forget-Me-Nots shop into her passion for writing.

The owner of the specialty gift shop made the tough decision to close her doors just two years after first offering custom gift baskets in December 2001 from her 124 E. Main Street location. Sieler and her partner mom Sandi Hulbert cited economic conditions as the primary reason for their decision.

'In the town, on a day-to-day basis, there's not enough traffic to support a

"...there's just not enough traffic to support a business like this."

> Sandi Hulbert Forget-Me-Nots

business like this," Hulbert said. "It just doesn't seem the town supports the town. It was an economic decision

for us.

A special invitation mailed last week to Forget-Me-Not's past customers informed them of an advance sale that concluded Nov. 26. Although passers-by, alerted by the neon-green and pink signs papering the store windows, too have been able to take advantage of 20 to 50 percent discounts.

The store owners, with the assistance of a retail consulting company, plan to clear the store's inventory and fixtures by the end of the year. A special contest promotion will run

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Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Downtown Northville's Mary Sieler is in the process of closing her Forget-Me-Nots gift shop. Here she checks out some of her Christmas decorative merchandise.



NORTHVILLE RECORD-Thursday, November 27, 2003



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Spring-like weather dominates Christmas Walk

By Maureen Johnston STAFF WRITER

The gift of unseasonably warm temperatures Sunday meant a sleigh full of fun for shoppers and merchants during the Northville Chamber of Commerce's 22nd Christmas Walk. annual

Santa actually traveled by carriage for the event, thrilling youngsters with his "ho, ho, ho," singing, and jolly presence at the helm of the horse team. Throughout the day, excited youngsters and adults waited in the line stretching from the Marquis Theater past Great Harvest Bread Company for a chance to jingle around town with the main man.

Annelise Norton, along with her grandparents Sue and Ralph Thorn of Brighton, waited and waited for her chance to ride alongside Santa. The carriage trip through town followed some shopping at Anne's Crafts on Center where Grandma and Grandpa treated Norton to a rock painting kit.

"We heard about it on the radio and wanted to experience it." Sue said. Norton was visiting for the weekend from Bay City.

Across Main Street, the Chamber-hosted greens market hummed with activity as people picked from among the garland, wreaths, centerpieces and decorations on display. Some purchasers carefully balanced a protectively boxed beauty for Thursday's table, while others shoulder-lugged a large wreath to last the season.

Mark Prielipp, who hauled his wares from his farm in Britton, said mid-afternoon that business was pretty brisk. "This is a great event," he said. "People enjoy it, especially when it's like this out.

60-something-degree The weather prompted some shop owners to prop open their doors to invite the hundreds of passing walkers inside.

Their sidewalk pace was leisurely, window shopping. sometimes stopping.



Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Northville Sunday afternoon during the annual Christmas Walk event. Carriage rides were offered free of charge to attendees of the afternoon-long affair.

Al Fox of Novi hawked roast-

of them.

my favorite part."

Various non-profit agencies stationed around town offered treats and information. At the afternoon. "It's been going well, spread-ing Christmas joy," Bezak said. Main and Center intersection, Northville High School Choir members Katie Ketchum, Alyssa Most customers requested standard greetings with names, Bezak said. "We had one girl Hinds and Ellyse Corbeil offered games, gift-wrapped bread and holiday music CDs created by who wanted eight of them." the 1997 choir.

ed chestnuts on behalf of the Barbara Pirronella selected some of their hot-selling pump-Masonic Lodge Fraternity. "Peel kin bread in front of the Dancing off the outer husk and eat the Eye Gallery. The Northville resiyellow meat," he advised the curious who reached toward the dent, who accompanied neighsteaming pans for his free treats. bors to the Christmas Walk, said, "We're going through them," Fox said. "We bought 50 pounds 'I always love coming up here, eating and walking around."

East on Main, members of the NHS class of 2004 continued the tradition they started last year of on-the-spot customizing Christmas tree ornaments for a donation. Seniors Brett Bezak, Katie Kudyba, Mike Schmitt,

it." she said. "It brings that old-Natasha Kaounas and Andrew fashioned quality back. Moore alternated shifts for the

The city's decorations of greens, little lights and red bows on lampposts set the backdrop for the holiday atmosphere. Strolling carolers added to the

ambiance. Maureen Parrish of Redford and Maureen Burke of Garden City saw the Christmas Walk previewed on the television news. After picking up hors d'oeuvres at Traditions on Center, the two settled on a bench just outside the store. Burke, who had purchased a candle wreath at Pear-Aphernalia, complimented the festive feeling downtown. "It's real crowded and nobody's like, obnoxious."

Traditions was wall-to-wall goings-on, between Christmas displays and the shopping pub-

Sunday afternoon during the annual Christmas Walk event. lic. People lifted sparkling orna-

ments to inspect, compared candle colors, complimented the piped-in music and headed to the counter with items they selected. Traditions owner Karen Slack,

clad in red and black and a toysoldier hat, said sales were a mix of ornaments, decorations and home decor items. "It's more like it should be, better than last year," she said. "Everyone's buy-

ing." Her successful day in the store was on the heel of victories at the 19th annual Festival of Trees Children's Hospital benefit in Dearborn. Thanks to the magic Slack created with her skating theme, the Northville store took first place in the 9-foot tree category, as well as best-of-show in the newly created centerpiece category.

Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Bustling downtown Northville Sunday was moms, dads and strollered babies mingling with grandparents and teenagers. Shirtsleeves at the start of the event turned to jacketing against the breeze five hours in. Many sipped cider or coffee, some simply smiled at the approach of the season.

Maureen Johnston is a staff writer for the Northville Record. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700 mjohnston@ht.homecomm.net.



Arriving at the chestnut table,

She complimented Fox's

annual role in doling out the

delicious nuts. "I always plan on

Terri Denhof exclaimed, "This is

'COTt

Al Kligman of Northville, father of Richard Kligman, president of Superb Custom Homes in Plymouth, was recently named Builder of the Year by the Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan.

Kligman, of Southfield-based Kligman Homes, will receive the award Dec. 2 at the 2003 Leadership Recognition and Awards Night, hosted by BIA and the Apartment Association of



Hotel.

learned the trade as a Al Kligman teenager, working with his father, a skilled cabinet maker who was also involved

in home building and commercial remodeling.

After graduating from Wayne State University in Detroit in 1955, he obtained his builder's license and formed his own company, Kligman Homes, in 1956. He built his first home in Sterling Heights.

In 1962, he changed the company's name to Superb Homes, Inc. the east side of Metro Detroit until 1990. In the early 1990s, he became a designated builder in the Chase Farms subdivision in Novi. This led to his company building homes in the award-winning Stonewater subdivision in Northville, where he currently

lives. Superb Homes, Inc., is now run by his son, Richard.

Headquartered in Farmington Kligman remained a builder on Hills, BIA is a trade association

representing more than 2,200 builders, remodelers, multi-family property owners, developers and suppliers to the residential construction industry.

BIA is affiliated with the Michigan Association of Home Builders in Lansing and the National Association of Home Builders in Washington, D.C. Nationwide membership includes more than 200,000 individuals and companies.





The House family including Kevin, Sara and Alex, 4, and Judy Ottmar of Bloodfield Hills, check out some of the holiday wreaths for sale along Main St. in Northville last





Publication Number USPS 3989-20

Laister Street.

Students set the bait for butterflies



Winchester Elementary School student Emily Holbrook, right, and other classmates work on stripping the needles from a yew bush branch Wednesday afternoon. The branches were to be made into decorative barriers for the school's butterfly garden.



Garden haven created for winged insects at Winchester

By Jennifer Zinke STAFF WRITER

Next year, students and teachers at Winchester Elementary are hoping to see a mass arrival of monarch butterflies to the school grounds.

Elementary classrooms assisted by multiple parent volunteers — are developing a "butterfly garden" which will be equipped with various plants and greenery to support the various stages in the butterfly's life cycle.

On Nov. 20, second grade students assisted in developing the garden by constructing a log pathway stretching the entire length of the area.

The pathway is planned to be partitioned off from the various

plants using decorative logs laid end to end and will allow visitors to walk through the entire habitat.

Second grade Winchester teachers Becky Weiss and Kate Devendorf said students have been studying habitats, food chains and the life cycle of insects.

Devendorf said she hopes the future garden will help develop a sense of community among the Winchester students.

Lisa Deeds, a parent volunteer and master gardener through Wayne County, headed the garden construction process last week. Near her, several other parent volunteers trimmed branches that will decoratively enhance the future garden.

Deeds said the area is expected

to have an ample supply of milkweed, butterfly bushes and globe thistle. The envisioned garden will have the capacity to attract and support the early and adult life stages of butterflies.

Garden project developers believe the creation of a butterflyfriendly environment will benefit the local community as well as the winged wonders.

And the price was just right.

"So far, we haven't spent a dime," said Deeds.

The materials and plants have all been donated, she said.

Jennifer Zinke 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.



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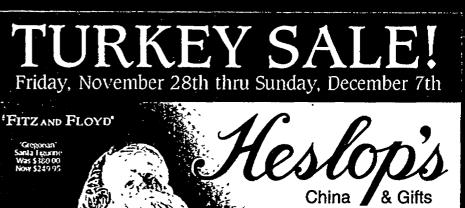


Photo by JOHN HEIDER

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Photo by JOHIN HEIDER

Santa Claus greets some of his fans along Main Street

in Northville last Friday

night during the Hometown

Holidays Lighted Parade.

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Original floats delight parade spectators

By Maureen Johnston STAFF WRITER

Justin York Salon's shimmering, twinkling vision of angels won the judges' hearts at the lighted Christmas parade Friday night.

The thousands of parade watchers won as well with bearable weather, 31 spectacles of creativity and enthusiasm marching past, and the arrival in town of a handshaking, ho-ho-ho-ing Santa. Poole's Tavem, last year's winner of the Northville Recordsponsored trophy, took second place in the float competition, while Long's Bath Boutique earned third.

The sunny 50 degrees of earlier in the day dipped to the 40s while the crowd awaited the procession. Businesses scheduled to stay open later than usual for the seasonal celebration warmed plenty of hands courtesy of insulated cups.

Watching from behind the bleachers at the intersection of Main and Center streets, Linda Atton of South Lyon returned to her hometown to maintain her tradition of enjoying the parade. "This town has grown so much since 1960, but it's still Northville." she said. Children pressed to the front of the crowds, ready for a well-targeted handful of sweets.

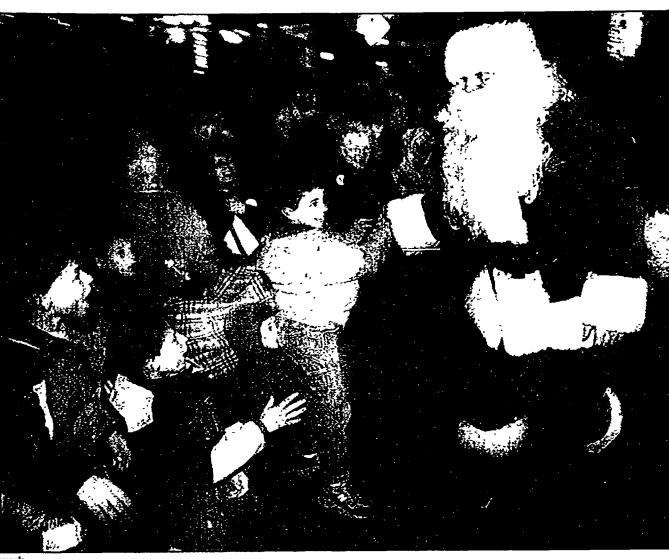
Public safety department vehicles earned applause. Appreciative spectators hollered to walking and riding members of service organizations, community groups, and local merchants. The crowd clapped again at the Northville High School marching band, led by tuxedoes in Santa hats, playing their holiday medley.

Dawn Bostwick of Northville brought her two-year-old son, Cole, to the lighted parade for the first time. "He's so excited to see Santa," she said.

Just down the curb in front of the Marquis Theater, the Petty family waited for the procession to begin. Mother Debra treated her girls Lenzi, 11, Lauren, 9, and Leah, 4, to a trip downtown after seeing the seventh annual event advertised in flyers sent home from school.

"We came for the lights and the parade states the said: Trumpet " player Lenzi said she also was on the lookout for her fellow musicians.

Part of the excitement before the 6:30 p.m. start was parade grand marshal Chuck Gaidica's live broadcasts from Main Street. Spectators of all ages, waving for attention, gathered for a look at the new Northville resident at



work. The WDIV-TV (Channel 4) meteorologist interviewed Mayor Christopher Johnson, Chamber of Commerce executive director Laurie Marrs, the four parade judges and others during a series of on-location clips in the hour prior to the parade.

Julie Cyrek, who came downtown Friday with her parents Pat and Joe Cyrek, watched in admiration from afar. "I'm a big fan," she said. The Northville resident also planned to watch the Northville Fire Department truck for her firefighting boyfriend John McKee.

Central Business Association vice president Ed Fleming presided over the panel of four parade judges who, deliberated "after 'the grand' marshal," then Santa, finished the procession. They were Elia Perry, 13, Beatrix Potter, 10, Sarah Greiner, 9, and Veronica Johnston, 4.

Maureen Johnston is a staff writer for the Northville Record. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700 or

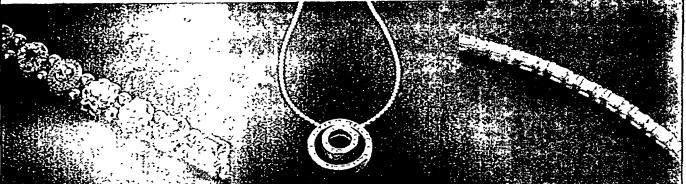
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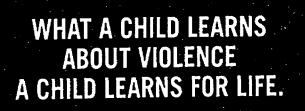
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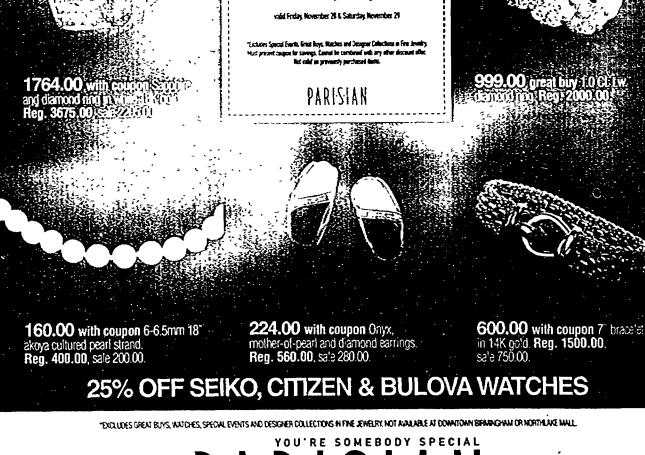
As she awaits her job as judge of floats of last Friday night's Hometown Holidays Lighted Parade Beatrix Potter, 10, works on a lollipop as fellow judge Veronica Johnston, 4, sits at left.



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Kerner takes on new role as OLV priest

By Maureen Johnston STAFF WRITER

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Father Terry Kerner one day last week said Mass, tossed a football with students after school, presided over a confirmation service, greeted a prospective parishioner, clowned with the choir, and described plans for a multi-million-dollar expansion project.

His title: the busy new priest in town at Our Lady of Victory. New as of July, and he hit the ground running. The community's first glimpse of his collar was in Norhville's annual July 4 parade, part of the Catholic church's tongue-in-cheek title for the jeep entry "Our Four Fathers."

In his 32nd year of priesthood, Kerner came to Northville after serving for 17 years at St. John The Baptist Church in Monroe. "They asked if I would be willing to move from Monroe... and I agreed to do it." He succeeded Father Ernie Pocari, who led the congregation for 10 years.

Kerner's first charge was to acquire property to accommodate the growing number of parishioners to better meet their needs while staying in the city. Since July I, another 120 families have joined the 2,400-family parish.

The priest attributed the growth to people with children moving into the Northville area. "It's a great parish, with great potential."

When Kerner first saw the Northville community from his vantage point in the jeep, he remembered thinking, "Half this town is five years old or younger."

"It's a young, vibrant community," he said. "It's kind of like you're a pioneer in a sense."

Four months into his Our Lady of Victory service, parishioners complimented an improvement in morale at the Thayer Boulevard church. It was fine before, said Susan Sovis, "then this guy came along. We're in heaven."

Parishioner Pam Szmadzinski complimented the new priest's involvement in the school. He greets children in the parking lot, interacts with them in the classrooms, and attends athletic events.

"It has just been wonderful," the mom said. "We were blessed. I ask people and they say, 'we love him."

He is also very community minded, Sovis said. "It's not just a community of school and church. It's a downtown community. That's one of the reasons we belong here, we embrace the whole community of Northville."

That said, Kerner cited as his greatest challenge upon arrival being the new guy, instead of the familiar face. He said he still is working on learning and remembering names. "I came from a parish where I knew everybody."

St. John students he met in the eighth grade, he married, then baptized their children, he said. "I kind of felt like a grandpa. It's a wonderful feeling."

Kerner said he enjoys the diverse responsibilities his role entails. "You're the shepherd of the community," he said.

In addition to his most familiar robed appearance at mass Sundays, the priest supervises religious education for 1,000 local children kindergarten through eighth grade, oversees the affiliated school's operation, conducts weekday worship serv-



Our Lady of Victory School student Kaitlin Nelson, middle, looks over at Father Terry Kerner who's stopped in at her after-school choir rehearsal on a recent Thursday afternoon.

ices, and performs outreach services, to hospitals, nursing homes, and the homebound, for example.

"We have a fairly large staff too that helps," Kerner said. Including teachers, the OLV staff includes 32 employees. Associate Father Paul Czarnota helps say Mass weekdays and for the five Sunday services. Retired Navy Chaplain, Father David Brock, also helps out on weekends.

"I love everything I do." Kerner said. Most gratifying is working with people when they are sick or dying, he said. "Those are probably the most dramatic and most meaningful," he said. "That's when they are the most real. They are the most open to God's healing presence."

Weddings and baptisms are fun, the priest said. Last Thursday's confirmation was a milestone for 105 OLV ninth

graders. There are many groups active at the church. Kerner said. "There's something going on every night of the week." When

he finds a meeting in the church hall, he said with a laugh, he asks, "Now who are you?"

"People are very busy in this community," he said. "It seems to be reflected in the congregation." Kerner was ordained in 1972 at

his home parish, also St. John the Baptist, in Ypsilanti, where he still has family. The 58-year-old priest served parishes in Detroit and Utica before landing in Monroe.

His move to Northville meant new digs at OLV's Orchard Street

rectory. "Erin," his 10-year-old cocker spaniel, keeps him company there.

The OLV parish has been "very welcoming," Kerner said, "They've been very understanding of me leaving somewhere after 17 years, how difficult that is. They've been very, very kind."

Maureen Johnston is a reporter for the Northville Record. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700

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Construction, [•] renovation are challenges for OLV next year



By Maureen Johnston STAFF WRITER

The music room is little more than a corridor. Parents new to Our Lady of Victory put their children's names on a kindergarten waiting list. And the congregation keeps growing.

Those reasons and more are behind plans to build a new kindergarten through eighth grade school on Orchard Street across from the Thayer Boulevard Catholic church. An early estimate on the new 77,000-square-foot facility is \$12 million, said Father Terry Kerner. "We're not at that point yet."

The plan is to provide two classrooms per grade, instead of one, as well as a music room, gym, cafeteria and att room. The current school building is more than 50 years old, he said. "It's getting slightly frayed and we want to keep up with technology."

gy." "If you were to walk through the school, you would see why we need a new one," Kerner said. "I'm arhazed over the years, they found every inch to utilize."

Renovation of a couple of the classrooms attached to the church, and parts of that building also are on the drawing board for another estimated \$2 million. Preliminary plans also call for the former convent at the corner of Orchard and Main streets, as well as the bulk of the school, to be demolished.

Freeing the social hall from school use would open the space to other meetings, the priest said. The land cleared by demolition of two of the 9 classrooms will provide space for additional parking, landscaping and a memorial garden.

With approval from the city, Kerner said, "we're looking at groundbreaking in the spring." Open of the new Orchard Street

"If you were to walk through the school, you would see why we need a new one."

> Fr. Terry Kerner Our Lady of Victory

school would be fall 2005, according to the proposed timetable.

"That's progressing," he said. "It's going very well. People have been very cooperative."

The church purchased two homes on Orchard, adjacent to the rectory, which provide an approximate four acre building site. "My house and the wooded area stays," Kerner said.

The priest is not preoccupied with fundraising for the construction projects. "I don't worry about it," he said. "I let God take care of that."

Fundraisers are a familiar sight at the OLV buildings. The parent-teacher-organization hosted the monthly "market day," in the atrium last Thursday. Pam Szmadzinski, mother of seventh grader Corey and third grader Corey, helped with the sale of the preparedfood items.

Parents are involved in everything at the school, the mom said, helping in the classrooms, hosting fundraisers and traveling on field trips.

on field trips. "Everybody's a member of the PTO," Kerner said. "Everyone's expected to support the school."

Maureen Johnston is a reporter for the Northville Record. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700 or mjohnston@ht.homecomm.net.

Township casts eye to 7 Mile future

Continued from 1

both the township's planning body and board of trustees. "Otherwise, it will overdevelop the parcel.

In preparation for the property to change hands, the trustees last year adopted a planned-use development ordinance for the state property, part of an overall vision for complementary development along the Seven Mile corridor between Northville and Haggerty roads. Renderings specify locations of office, research and development, residential and open-space land uses.

Revised plans

The five-partner buying group met the Nov. 11 deadline to submit drawings to be included on the planning commission agenda. That same day, all but two of the members of the commission and township board of trustees toured the site, with its now-abandoned empty buildings, rolling hills and dense woodlands.

"That was very helpful," Frey said. Jon Weaver, an REI partner,

proposed the outing to show officials how his team came up with their plan to transform the proper-

ty. The two schematics REI submitted to the township are slightly revised from the plans they presented at a special meeting Oct. 23, Frey said. Initial consensus reaction from officials and several residents who spoke at that meeting was "too much."

They're not detailed drawings," Frey said of the latest documents. "They have revised the residential layout slightly. They scaled back the commercial." Part of Tuesday's presentation likely will include REI's take on why the market is or is not conducive to what the township specified, she said.

"It certainly is a step in the right direction," said Bill Gorsuch. a resident of the Northville Trails development that backs up to the former hospital property. He and other homeowners directly affected by future development on the site have attended meetings and kept in close contact with township planning officials.

"I hope [Real Estate Interests] bring something more in line with that the planning commission set up. Otherwise, it will overdevelop the parcel."

> Marv Gans Northville Township board of trustees

"The lots look to me to be pretty narrow," said Gorsuch, who measured his own yard at 88 feet. "I don't think that will be appro-

priate for Northville." Another concern he cited is lack of a transitional area between proposed new houses and existing developments accessed from Six Mile Road — the Trails, Maple Hill and Lakes of Northville. "It does not provide for any kind of transition between zone east of Winchester [Drive]," he said.

Factors to consider

Township residents and representatives repeatedly have raised

the issues of lot size, access visually and physically to open space, and most of all, density. Gans characterized as excessive

- that REI designated on the first three proposals. He contrasted the 500,500 square feet of familiar shopping plaza Laurel Park Place at Six Mile and Newburgh roads. "If they came in at 500 [thousand square feet], it's still a lot," Gans said. "It's a regional shopping center. It would kill the city of Northville."

The three options Weaver initially unveiled called for 1,600 or more residential dwellings on the

Seven Mile Road site, as part of a diversified development.

The need for a diversified tax base that generates sufficient revenue to fund residents' expected level of service — primarily in the form of research and development facilities — has been a recurring theme in planning discussions among township officials.

REI's purchase agreement with the state Department of Management and Budget calls for the company's completion next week of due diligence. The developer has proceeded according to a self-imposed accelerated timetable.

Among the contract provisions is the buyer's acceptance of the property "as is," following the opportunity for physical inspection. The contract also says, "the state's approval shall not be required with respect to discussions with Northville Township or other governmental agencies having jurisdiction over the proper-

ty. The three options Weaver initially unveiled called for 1,600 or more residential dwellings, and a combination of regional and neighborhood retail areas. The plans, titled "conventional mixed use," "main street central park," and "urban open space" varied in other components, such as maintenance of the recreation center currently on the site, conversion of the power plant into a visual arts center, inclusion of a parking deck and elementary school.

This is the Bloomfield Hills firm's second go-round at trying to buy the property in what has turned into a longer-than-expected attempt by the state to dispose of the parcel. In this, the second round of bids, Grand/Sakwa of Farmington Hills Sept. 5 withdrew its \$76 million bid at the expiration of the 75-day due diligence period. Rock Construction Co, of Livonia declined the state's subsequent invitation to proceed with its offer of \$76.7 million for the property.

Maureen Johnston is a staff writer for the Northville Record. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700 mjohnston@ht homecomm net

LIBRARY LINES

LIBRARY HOURS: The invited to make fun holiday crafts Northville District Library is open Monday through Thursday from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., Friday and Saturday from 10 ann. to 5 p.m., and Sundays from 1 to 5 p.m. The library will be closed on Nov. 27 for the Thanksgiving holiday. The library is located at 212 W. Cady Street, near Northville city hall, with parking off Cady Street. For detailed information about programs or services, or to request or renew library materials, call (248) 349-3020.

WINTER STORYTIMES: The complete schedule of winter season storytimes will be available December 1, providing details for the various programs offered by the Youth Department. These include ongoing storytimes for different age groups, including the TOT program for 2- and 3year olds, Storytime for 4- and 5-year olds, and Kids Club for first and second graders. Registration for these programs starts in January. In addition, the library offers monthly drop-in programs, such as the Little Me Storytime for 10 months 2 years, and **Evening Family Storytimes.**

HOLIDAY CRAFTS FOR KIDS: Children of all ages are

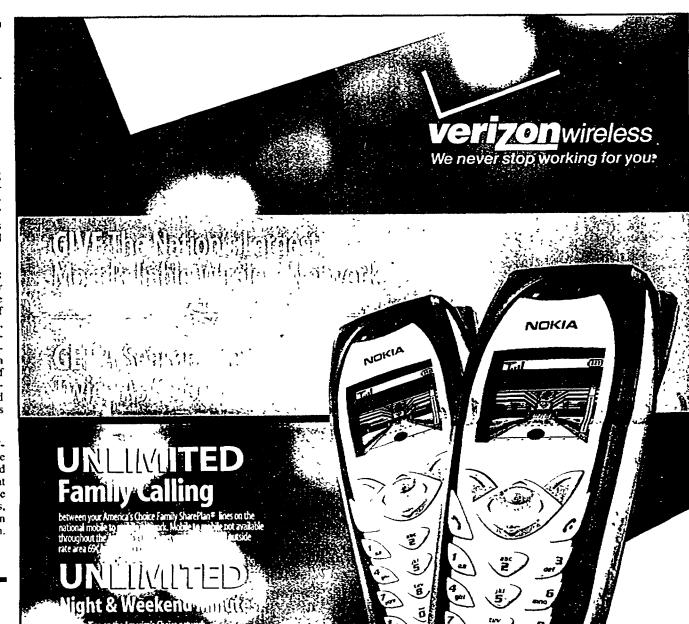
POLICE REPORTS

on Dec. 16 at 4 p.m. No registration is required for this hour-long free program in the library's meeting room.

EVENING STORYTIME FOR FAMILIES: Children, wear your pajamas and enjoy a lively storytime on Dec. 10 at 7 p.m. This half hour program is best suited to children ages 3 and older, but all ages are welcome.

THE GIFT OF READING: Once again this year, the library will be a drop-off site for the Detroit Free Press Gift of Reading program. Donate new, unwrapped books for young readers up to age six, or make a financial contribution to the program that every year helps thousands of children discover the joy of reading. Donations will be accepted through Dec. 10 at the library's Circulation Desk.

LIBRARY BOARD MEET-ING: The next meeting of the Northville District Library board of trustees will be on Dec. 18 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.



UNLOCKED AND ROBBED

Northville Township Police were sent to the residence of a couple who reported their vehicles had been broken into on Rollingwoods Circle.

The 46-year-old Northville woman stated that sometime during the night items had been stolen out of her unlocked vehicle parked in the driveway. She said her husband also had his vehicle rummaged through. No force was used to get into the vehicles.

According to police, the man initially thought nothing was taken but later realized his cell phone had been stolen. The woman said both vehicles were last driven around 5 p.m. the day before and left unlocked overnight. At 10: 30 a.m., she realized some DVDs and a Sony CD player had been taken. The man was advised to contact



Motorola and report his cell phone taken and cancel service. The family was aslo told by police to lock all their vehicles and their home to protect their property. The man requested extra patrols through the area.

There are no suspects or witnesses.

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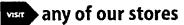
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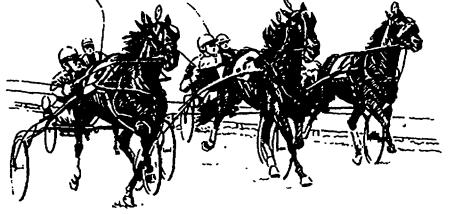
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Thursday, November 27, 2003-NORTHVILLE RECORD

Event eases pain of holiday deaths

By Maureen Johnston STAFF WRITER

When a family holiday story is tom by the loss of a loved one, it takes turning to a new page of tradition to ease the sadness. To that end, the folks at the

New Hope Center for Grief Support again this year are providing "New Hope for the New Year," a festive setting of music, taste treats and companionship. Set in the splendor of an 8,000square-foot model home, the open-to-the-public event is from 6 to 9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12 in Northville's Stonewater community off Seven Mile Road, just west of Beck Road.

"It's comfortable, almost fitting," said Sandy Prebenda, outreach and special events coordinator for the New Hope Center for Grief Support. "Something about having it in a home makes it a wonderful venue."

"There are so many things that you do during the holidays that are wrapped up in traditions," she said. "There are so many chances for that person to be missed."

A fundraiser for the support center, the event combines opportunities for people to mix and the homebuilder to showcase his work. Like other Northville developers in previous years, Richard Kligman, president of Superb Custom Homes, agreed to host the upcoming event.

The builder said he became acquainted with New Hope Center staff members through their assistance of a former Superb employee. "The comfort and support from new Hope were fantastic and tangible," Kligman said. "This seemed like a right fit.

"We were glad for the opportunity to participate."

A resident of Stonewater himself. Kligman checked in last Papa Romano's, Rebecca's on

SPECIAL SEMINAR

"Hope for the Holidays" Workshop

7 p.m. Monday, Dec. 1 Ward Presbyterian Church at Six Mile and Haggerty roads Free presentation by the New Hope Center for Grief

Support. Ward Church will host a

special candle lighting "Time of

Rememberance

ceremony. For information, call (248) 374-5966

week on preparations of the17925 Ridgeview Drive model. With the help of Jimmy Angell of Perlmutter-Freiwald in Franklin, decor to complement the neo-traditional architecture --- from window treatments to furniture --will happen in the next two weeks.

Among the home tour highlights will be: the wine cellar; the distressed pine library; 10-foot ceilings on the first floor; three marble fireplaces, one fieldstone fireplace; the view of a 38-acre spring-fed lake: floors of Brazilian walnut, slate and marble; the elevator; exquisite stenciling in the dining room; two full kitchens, and mahogany cabinets, heated floors and waterfall faucet in the master bathroom.

In addition to the feast for the eyes, visitors will be able to sample from a variety of local menus.

"We got a great response from the restaurants from Northville," Prebenda said. Among those providing hors d'oeuvres will be Bistro, Brann's Bonfire Steakhouse, Charley's Grille, Hole-In-The-Wall, Genitti's Helen's Uptown Cafe, Mr. Pita,

Center, and Rocky's of Northville.

For entertainment during the leisurely home tour, Prebenda arranged for guitarists Kris Kurzawa and Ben Luttermoser to perform, raffles and door prizes. For those grieving a friend or family member, the center's "Angels of Hope" memorial tree will be set up in the model home to provide an opportunity to hang an ornament in their honor.

Some who have lost a loved one who wrapped the gifts or chopped the tree or baked the cookies — struggle with a sense of sadness at holiday time, Prebenda said. "At every turn, the person's not there."

"The holidays are so rich with the things that people do together. unlike any other time during the year.'

Referring to the loss of her husband more than three years ago, the coordinator said, "the holidays are an especially poignant time."

The Dec. 12 event gives people an opportunity to start a new type of annual celebration, Prebenda said. "There's a lot of reasons why it's such a wonderful mix." People perhaps facing their first holiday without a loved one can mingle with empathetic others in a beautiful setting.

All proceeds from the \$25 tickets go to the New Hope center, Prebenda said. "I would love for this to raise \$5,000," she said. This holiday gathering is one of the center's three major fundraisers each year. Last year, approximately 200 people attended, Prebenda said.

For ticket information, call (248)348-0115.

Maureen Johnston is a staff writer for the Northville Record. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700 mjohnston@ht.homecomm.net.



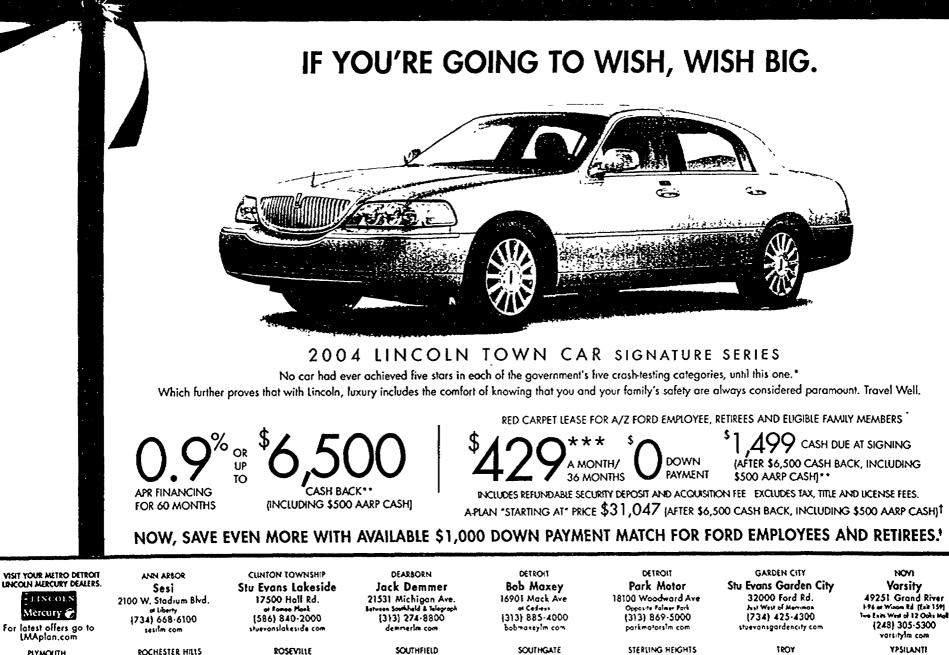
Photo by JOHN HEIDER

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Superb Construction Homes' Rich Kligman, left, will be donating the use of this 7,900 sq. loot Boulders of Stonewater home for Sandy Prebenda's New Hope Agency's Dec. 12th fundraiser for her grief counseling agency.





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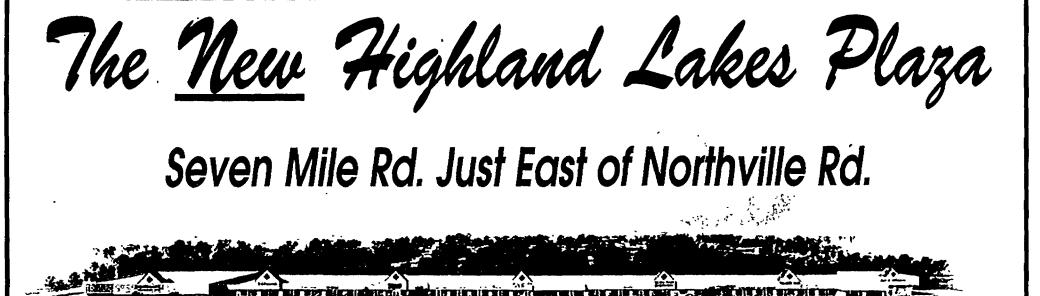
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10A NORTHVILLE RECORD-Thursday, November 27, 2003



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Donated cherry tree becomes centerpiece

By Maureen Johnston STAFF WRITER

A solid cherry beam set in a field stone fireplace will show visitors to Northville's new senior center the character in the roots of the community.

A local sawmill last week shaved the future mantel from a tall straight tree that stood for generations along the property line of a Northville farm. Jim Nield, a member of the Senior Advisory Council overseeing the ongoing construction and renovation project, donated the log, which measured 14 feet, with a 24inch diameter.

The cherry wood, with its refined grain and rich color, will tie in with the millwork - molding, trim and reception desk accents - specified for installation throughout the center. "We're matching the mantel with that," he said.

An architect, interior designer, manager construction and Northville Parks and Recreation Director Traci Sincock were part of the committee that developed the

"This is forever. This is what the public looks at. what the eye will see."

> Jim Nield Senior Advisory Council

prairie/Mission décor planned for the 6,000-square-feet in new and renovated space. An oversized beam imbedded in the custom fireplace will fit the scheme, Nield said. "Something has to make a statement in a design like that," he said. No knock on oak, but it is everywhere.

The only thing that the eye sees is the finish work."

"This is forever," Nield said. This is what the public looks at,

what the eye will see." The huge cherry tree in his yard coincidentally was available at the time of the project. "It was dying." he said. "Maybe just the age of the tree, the dry weather. I wouldn't have cut it if it were healthy."

The resulting 12-by-13-inch beam will dry over the winter. Finishing and installation will follow in the spring.

Motorists passing the 303 W. Main Street location have watched in recent weeks the erection of protective fencing on the west side of the former community center, the removal of playground equipment and preparation for foundation work for the building expansion.

The renovation and construction is a \$2.89 million cooperative project, funded by the City of Northville and Northville Township, in a Northville Public Schools-owned

building. Members of the senior advisory council at their meeting last Thursday discussed with enthusiasm the donation of the cherry timber. Nield earlier that day took the former tree to Munro's Saw Mill on Taft Road to create his gift.

"This is going to be a solid tim-ber," Nield said. "You can't just buy that at any lumber mill. You need the tree. You need the saw mill."

More than a legacy of his involvement in the senior center transformation. Nield said he liked the idea that a piece of history would be imbedded in the center's stonework. "I view it more as it came from Northville, not it came from me."

Nield watched closely while mill owner Gilbert Van Sickle carefully lined up the log to run through his

Using a well-oiled dolly and system of rollers, Van Sickle maneuvered the mighty log toward the whir of the large-toothed 54-inch circular blade. As the trunk of the mighty cherry

tree narrowed, the vision of the grand fireplace grew Nield's smile wider.

Maureen Johnston is a staff writer for the Northville Record. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700 or mjohuston@ht.homeconum.net.



Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Using a cant hook, sawmill operator Gilbert Van Sickle wrestles a 1,500 lb. black cherry tree log onto a carrier system that will transport it towards the mill's huge cutting blade.

Sawmill remains a fixture of Northville's industrious past

By Maureen Johnston STAFF WRITER

Gilbert Van Sickle wields a chain saw, cant hook and axe like natural extensions of his arms.

The owner of Munro's Saw Mill at 25650 Taft Road, across from the Novi Schools administration building, is the third generation of his family to operate the business. Moving nimbly among saws, planers and hanging power tools. this is the only career he has known.

"I grew up here," he said. "Ever since 1 was born, this has been my whole life."

The mill mostly saws area-grown hardwood planks and stakes, Van Sickle said. although he frequently accommodates custom orders. Sales and service of Stihl power tools -- chainsaws, blowers, line trimmers and so on -- is the other part of the business.

"It's not a job you get rich at, but there's plenty of work," Van Sickle said. In a tight teaching market after he earned his degree in education, the mill owner joined his uncle John Munro in the family business in 1968. He has run the mill with the help of one hired hand since his uncle died in 1985.

His grandfather, Burton Munro, in 1933 set up the mill on the family's original 80-acre farm, which Van Sickle traced back to 1874. The farm has dwindled to his 15 acres and his mom's 10. With the recent sale of 10 acres of the original farm, he said he is watching for construction to start on 20-some condos just outside his shed door.

Last week, Van Sickle all-business approached the task of cutting into shape with familiarity to tend to a dulling chain-the 1,500-pound cherry log that saw bldde. Using a hand file, the mill Northville senior advisory council mem- owner adeptly sharpened each blade. ber Jim Nield hauled to his yard. The

project: creating a one-of-a-kind mantel links along the bar. for the new Main Street senior center.

Prior to the first runs through his main saw, Van Sickle chopped at the cherry log with an axe, removing loose bark. He then maneuvered the mighty log toward the whir of the large-toothed 54-inch circular blade.

In a couple of concessions to the advance of technology, the mill acquired a red laser light to show where the oversized blade would bite, as well as a metal detector to scan the log before the cut. An imbedded nail from a decades-ago clothesline could cost the mill a \$2,000 blade, the owner said.

Before he started the senior center's chunk of cherry, Van Sickle had reached bare-handedly advancing the studded

Like most of the hand tools at his fingertips, Van Sickle has used that same chainsaw for 23 years. Longer than that his family has sold Stihl products. The family-owned business continues to pride itself on value-priced goods and repair service, Van Sickle said.

A visit to the long, open-raftered shed that houses Munro's Saw Mill assaults the senses; the smell of fresh-cut lumber, the nose tickle of floating dust particles, the wade through inches of sawdust, the rooster crow and dog bark, and taste of another era. Amidst the dusting of the saw, sights in the crammed quarters dart from neatly bundled cedar stakes, to random pieces of wood, to a huge John Decre poking into the overhead door, to power equipment, to ancient-appearing machinery.

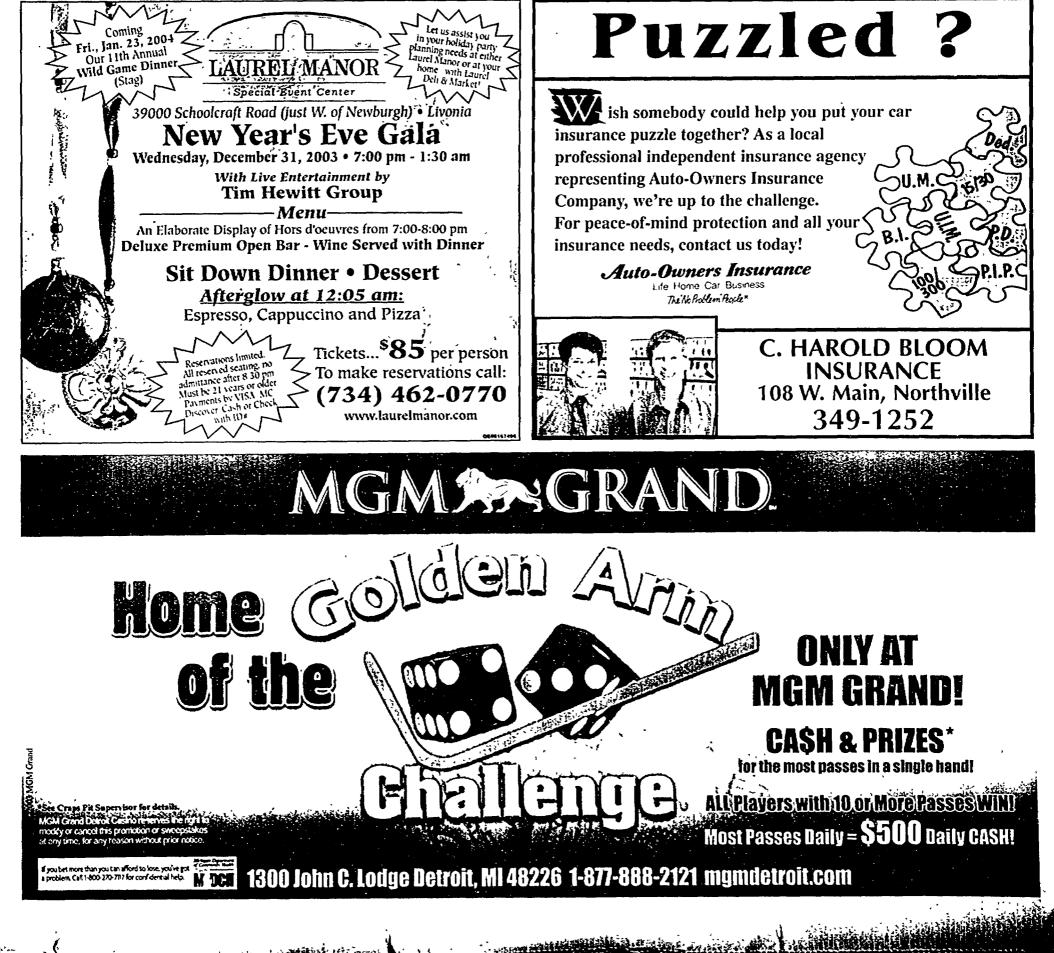
All the milling equipment dates back to

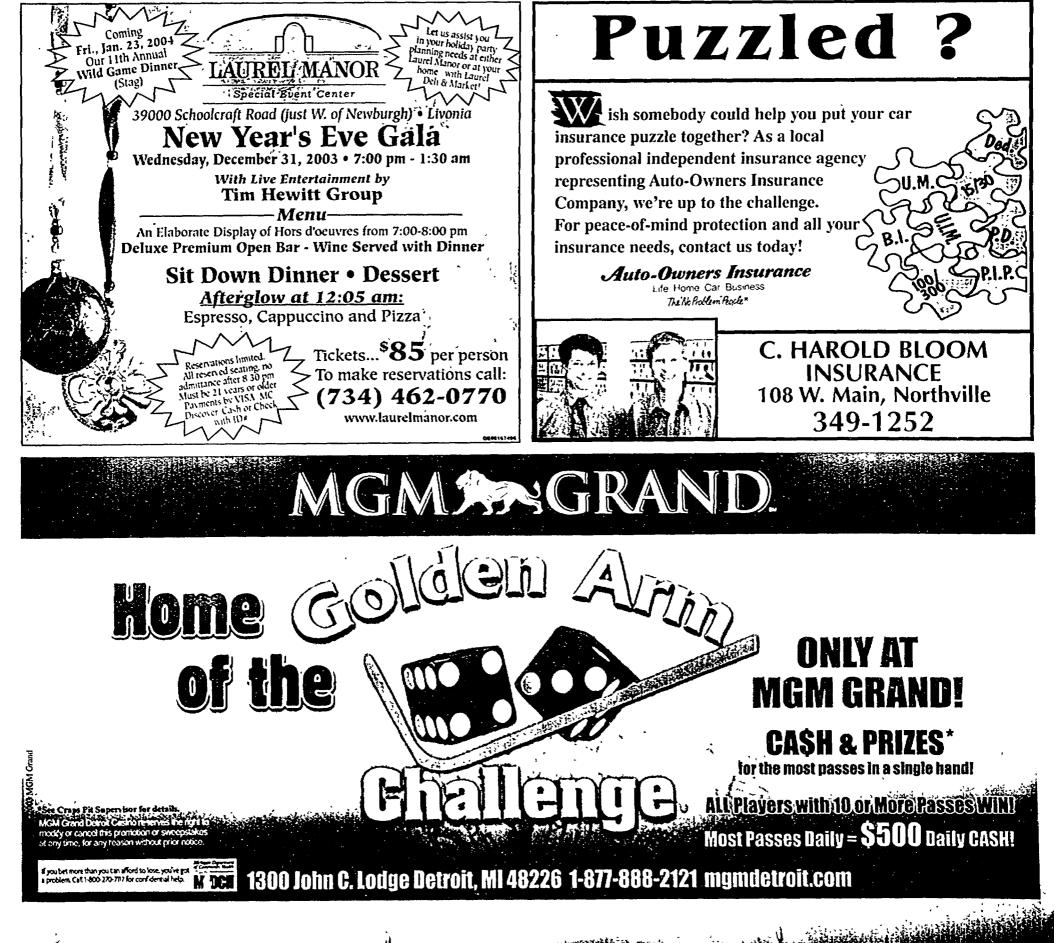
the 1800s, Van Sickle said. When his grandfather set up the main saw, he powcred it with a 1928 Buick engine. In 1950, they replaced that motor with a 1921 electric engine; a 1904 street car control turns it off and on to this day.

Another family tradition is the 1912 Sears kit house at the front of the Taft Road location where Van Sickle and his wife Judy, raised their two children Kristin and Matthew. Neither plan to follow him into the saw mill, he said.

Meanwhile, their dad working out back agilely uses his hinged tool to pull into place logs nearly 10 times his weight, just like the Munros two generations before him.

Maureen Koluiston is a staff writer for the Northville Record. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700 or mjohnston@ht homecomm.net.





Thursday, November 27 2003-NORTHVILLE RECORD 11A

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12A NORTHVILLE RECORD-Thursday, November 27, 2003

Gift of reading passed along in Scout project

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Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Northville High School student Mary Schubert, right, got some help from these Thornton Creek Elementary School student to gather books to be donated to Detroit's Neinas Elementary School. Students include Ashley Hart, Sarah Hennessy, Shannon Sargent, Katie Vandervoort, Blair Winkler, and Kristen Zayan. In collecting the books Schubert will earn the Scout's Gold Award.

By Jennifer Zinke STAFF WRITER

She's been in Girl Scouts since kindergarten and now the Northville High School senior is hoping a large-scale book drive will yield her own Gold Award.

Mary Schubert, who is part of Girl Scout Troop 134, has organized a book collection project and plans to donate all contributions to Neinas Elementary School in Detroit.

Schubert, 17, has collected approximately 3,000 books, largefrom Thornton Creek Elementary families and her neighbors.

"I've always wanted my Gold Award," she said.

The award is the highest accolade to be earned in the Girl Scouts program.

Schubert said she chose to support Neinas Elementary and provide the young students with additional learning opportunities.

She also described the overall economic conditions at the school as quite poor.

"I just wanted to really help them," she said.

The books are slated to be delivered before Christmas.

Conducting reading-related projects has become a bit of a tradition for Schubert. To earn her Girl Scouts' Silver Award, she organized a book sale for the Northville District Library.

Karen Schubert, Mary's mother, said students at Thornton Creek Elementary and community members have helped donate enough books to fill an estimated 55 boxes.

Both mother and daughter agreed that "It's just going to be verwhelming to get this sorted."

The book drive, which began in September, will also include donations of books written in Spanish.

Karen said her daughter has been working cooperatively with the librarian at Neinas Elementary School.

'[Mary] loves reading and reading has always been really important to her," she said. "She just can't imagine the kids not having enough books at their library. There's so much need and we're so blessed. We need to give a little. There's so many people reaching out and helping others we have to do our little part. That's the whole idea of Girl Scouts."

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

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The City of Northville is accepting applications for a full-time ASSIS-TANT PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR. This position provides supervision over laborers, equipment operators, and seasonal and clerical employees performing work on the City's water, sewer, and street systems Salary

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. 27	9 a.m1 p.m	Office Closed & Archives	Cady Inn
Nov. 28	9 a.m1 p.m. Office Closed & Archives 4:30 p.m6 p.m. Brownie Scout Meeting		Cady Inn Cady Inn
Nov. 29	12:30 p m2:30 p.m.	Wedding	Church
Nov. 30	10 a.mnoon	Mill Creek Community Church	Church
	1 p.m4 p.m.	King's 8th	Cady Inn
Dec. 1	6:30 p.m7:30 p.m.	Junior Scout Meeting	Cady Inn
Dec. 2	9 a.mnoon	Stone Gang	Buildings & Grounds
	5 p.m9 p.m.	Moharmoff Party	Cady Inn
Dec. 3	9 a.m1 p.m.	Mill Race Basket Guild	Cady Inn
	3:45 p.m5 p.m.	Brownie Scout Meeting	Cady Inn
	7 p.m9 p.m.	Mill Creek Community Church Prayer Service	Church
Dec. 4	9 a m1 p.m.	Archives Open to the Public	Cady Inn
	3:30 p.m5:30 p.m.	Brownie Scout Meeting	Cady Inn

Best-decorated homes in Novi sought

By Phil Foley STAFF WRITER

This year's Novi Homeowners Council Holiday Decorating Contest promises to be bigger than ever before, and all you have to do to enter is decorate your home and make sure the lights are on Dec. 6 and 7.

According to council president Ron Boron, it's all about uning. In past years, the presidents of the homeowners associations that make up the council would nominate a home from their neighborhoods. and then a group of council it or hers would select the two best decorated homes in the city.

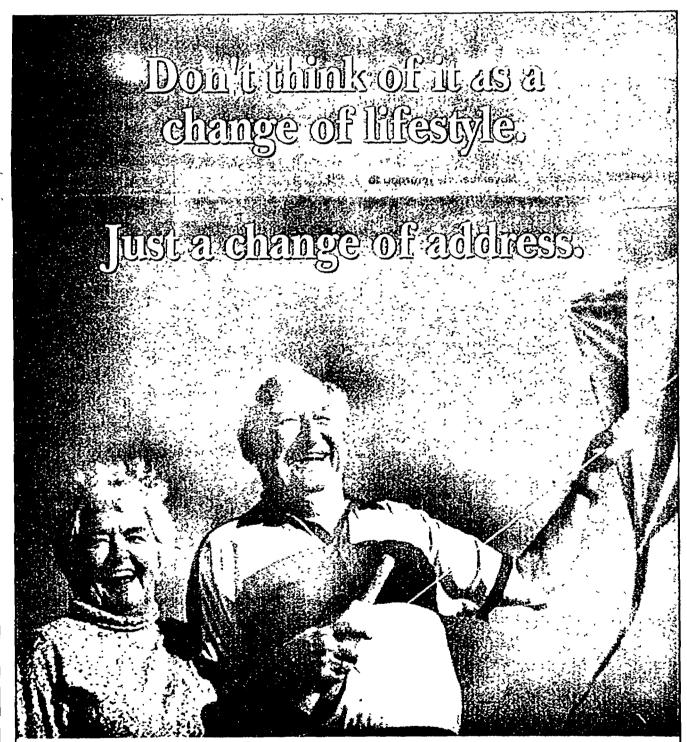
This year, with Thanksgiving falling so late in the month and the sole city council meeting for December being shifted to the 16th to accommodate the mayor's work schedule, council members have decided to take the first weekend in December to scour the city looking for the best holiday decorations

Boron said he expects his group will look at somewhere around 500 homes during the two evenings. He said another format change this year is that the winners will be presented their gift ceruficares at the Dec. 16 city council meeting

While in past years the council has only judged the decorating efforts of residents of subdivisions that belong to the Novi Homeowners Council, this year the contest will be open to anyone fiving in Novi.

Boron said the Holiday Decorating Contest is one of the biggest things his group does each year. The other is negotiating trash hauling bids for participating homeowners associations.

Boron noted that the Willowbrook Subdivision and the area bounded by Novi, 11 Mile, Taft and Grand River have been among the most beavily deeorared residents diare is in the city in recent years



A complete job description and application can be obtained online at www.cl.northville.mi.us. (Please go to Services then Employment Opportunities.) Applications are also available from the City of Northville, 215 W. Main Street, Northville, MI 48167 or by calling (248) 349-1300.

Preferred applicants should have previous supervisory experience in utility and street maintenance activities, and hold a State of Michigan Water Certification Level 2 (WDS-2) or greater.

Please submit a resume and application to the City of Northville Department of Public Works, 215 W Main Street, Northville, MI 48167 no later than December 2, 2003.

(11-20 & 27-03 NR 98366)

Western Townships Utilities Authority **Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting Synopsis** 3:00 p.m. Monday, November 17, 2003

Regular meeting called to order at 3.00 p m. Present: Thomas Yack, Steve Mann, Richard Henningsen Agenda - adopted as amended, changing the order of items. Minutes of the regular meeting of October 27, 2003 – approved. Schedule of disbursements totaling \$1,975,988 05 – approved. Operations & Maintenance Report for October 2003 - received and filed.

Director's Report for November 2003 - received and filed. Financial Statements for 12 months ended September 30, 2003 received and filed.

Capital Improvement Program; Above Ground Storage Tank Improvements - received and filed.

Request For Proposals; Alternative Electric Generation Services approval to issue request for proposals on Alternative Electric eneration Services

Interim Management Plan – approved as presented. Final Budget Amendments (Fiscal Year 2002/2003) – approved as presented.

WTUA Pension Plan Consultant Agreement - approval of engagement of services letter to Kevin Berny's of Dickinson-Wright for legal consulting services on the WTUA pension plan. YCUA Plant Expansion Update - received and filed.

The regular meeting was adjourned at 4.02 p m

Chairperson THOMAS J. YACK

This is a synopsis. A complete copy of the minutes may be revewed at the WTUA off located at 40905 Joy Road, Canton, NI 48197 (or) by visiting our wrbute at WTUA org. wi at the WTUA officer

Publish, November 27, 2003

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Are you an organ & tissue donor?

Ask your family today, and let them know your decision, too. That way you'll know, they'll know, and there will be no questions later. For a free brochure, call 1-800-355-SHARE. Share your He. share your decision.# Michigan Coalition on donation Oman & Tissue Ad

Your dignity and independence are never compromised at the Botsford Commons Community. Whatever living option is best for you, a condominium or rental apartment, when your address changes, your dignity follows. We encourage residents to continue with their lifelong goals and dreams. And if unexpected changes arise, the Botsford Commons campus is equipped with both an Assisted Living Center and a Skilled Nursing Facility to meet those needs. Come in for a visit and see how you can celebrate your same familiar lifestyle in a brand new location.



Botsford Commons Community 21450 Archwood Circle • Farmington Hills, MI 48336 • 248-426-6903

Marilland Millister and and a second state

COMMUNITY EVENTS

THIS WEEK •

Northville Co-op Preschool parent-tot program signup DATE: Ongoing LOCATION: Northville Co-Op Preschool (21260 Haggerty Road) TIME:: Call for info DETAILS: The program is open to children who will be 2 by Dec. 1. The program runs January through May. PHONE: (248) 374-3460

"The Wonderful Wizard of Oz" stage presentation DATE: Various dates through Jan. 18 **LOCATION: Marquis Theatre** (135 E. Main Street) TIME: Call for info DETAILS: Tickets are \$8. The show is not recommended for children under age 3. PHONE: (248) 349-8110

Youth winter basketball league

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 photos may also be submitted and will be published, space permitting.

signup DATE: Ongoing through Dec. 11 LOCATION: Northville Parks & Recreation (700 W. Baseline Road) TIME: Call for info DETAILS: Girls will be divided

into grades 6-8 and 9-12. Boys will be divided into groups for grades 8-9 and 10-12. All leagues play an 8- or 10-gram schedule beginning Jan. 17. Team practices begin Jan. 5. Adult coaches are needed for the program. Children of volunteer coaches will be able to play for free in the league. PHONE: (248) 349-0203, ext. 1405

• COMING UP •

Holiday grief workshop DATE: Dec. 1 LOCATION: Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church (40000 Six Mile Road) TIME: 7 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. DETAILS: The free workshop is open to all adults whohave experienced the loss of a loved one. PHONE: (248) 348-0115

Northville Woman's Club meeting DATE: Dec. 5

LOCATION: First Presbyterian Church of Northville (200 E. Main Street) TIME: 1:30 p.m. **DETAILS:** Robert Newell, designeer of the Northville **Community Foundation home** tour, will be speaking on designing for the holidays. PHONE: (248) 349-5446

William Allan Academy Santa Store

DATE: Dec. 6 LOCATION: William Allan Academy (29875 Eight Mile Road) TIME: 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. DETAILS: A bake sale, craft sale, and holiday decoration sale will be part of the event, which is open to the public.

PHONE: (248) 349-5020

Northville Lions Club meeting DATE: Dec. 8 LOCATION: Mill Race Village TIME: 6:30 p.m. DETAILS: U.S. Representative

Thaddeus McCotter, R-Livonia, will speak. Dinner will be served at 6:30 p.m. and the program at 7 p.m PHONE: (248) 349-0282

Women's winter basketball league signup DATE: Call for info LOCATION: Northville Parks & Recreation (303 W. Main Street) TIME: Call for info DETAILS: League play starts Jan.

PHONE: (248) 449-9947

New Hope Center for Grief Support home tour DATE: Dec. 12 LOCATION: Call for info TIME: 6 p.m. - 9 p.m. **DETAILS:** Tickets are \$25 per person, of which \$15 is taxdeductible. PHONE: (248) 348-0115

Mothers' Club of Northville All Aglow 2003 DATE: Dec. 12

LOCATION: Downtown Northville bandshell

TIME: 6 p.m. 🗤 **DETAILS:** Names of honorees recognized through contributions to the Mothers' Club will be displayed on an illuminated board in front of the Mothers' Club Christmas tree. Proceeds benefit educational enrichment opportunities for Northville school children.

PHONE: (248) 347-1917

"The Christmas Shoes" stage presentation DATE: Dec. 12, 13 LOCATION: Northville Christian Assembly (41355 Six Mile Road) TIME: 7 p.m. (Dec. 12); 4 p.m. (Dec. 13) DETAILS: The musical drama depicts the lives of two families struck with holiday crises. Tickets are \$5 per person. Children ages 4 and younger are

1 104

PHONE: (248) 348-9030

Respite from Iraq flies by for Northville army lieutenant

By Jennifer Zinke STAFF WRITER

After serving overseas for almost seven and 1 hris Asher, a 1st Lieutenant in the U.S. Army was welcomed home by family, friends and his fiancee in early November.

Although the Northville resident was allowed to return home, he was required to return to Iraq Saturday. His fiancee, Candice Reeder, said the 15-day leave went by much too fast.

Asher, who serves as the maintenance control officer for the 2-8 Infantry Battalion, said after being overseas so long he was ready to reunite with loved ones. "It was pretty exciting," Asher

He first stopped in Baltimore and discovered members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars organization distributing phone cards to all the soldiers.

Asher, 26, said his first call

photo by JENNIFER ZINKE Candice Reeder (left) is engaged to Northville resident, Chris Asher, a 1st Lt. in the U.S. Army. Asher returned to Northville for a 15-day leave in early November. He returned to ---Iraq Nov. 22.

was to his fiancee.

Reeder said the two plan to wed June 12 in Livonia at the United Methodist Church, United

where her own parents were married 29 years ago. The engaged couple is planning a Caribbean cruise for their hon-

he's allowed to call home once a month. However, family members keep in touch through numerous letters, e-mails and

World and admitted coming home was "a little strange at first, but it's really good to recharge the batteries. I've got to back and complete the mission and bring everyone home safe.

Jennifer Zinke 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.



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Join us during our Grand Opening Celebration December 1st-6th for great selections and a chance to win a fabulous daily prize!

Free gift for the first 10 customers who spend \$50 or more on Saturday, December 6th

Now accepting women's holidayjand winter clothing for consignment.

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evmoon.

Asher said while overseas care packages.

Asher said he may not return to the U.S. until early to mid-2004.

During his break, Asher and Reeder toured Walt Disney

· . Calification - California Cal

14A NORTHVILLE RECORD-Thursday, November 27, 2003

HILLSIDE MIDDLE SCHOOL SCIENCE FAIR COMPETITON RESULTS

CHEMISTRY

1st Place: Jon Kuznicki 2nd Place: Brittney Ermatinger 3rd Place: Sakura Sato Honorable Mention: Clara Fecht, Nick Gallagher, David Marcus

MICROBIOLOGY 1st Place: Austin Kellar 2nd Place: Gina Morris & Melissa Dirado 3rd Place: Lizzie Nash & Keegan Warner Honorable Mention: Lauren Cheaney

ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE 1st Place: Jon Berry & Max Pierson 2nd Place: Abbie Saltz & Nicole Bailey 3rd Place: Brendan Flayer & Mike Sokolov Honorable Mention: Andy Close

MATH/COMPUTERS 1st Place: Priya Thyagarajan 2nd Place: Palak Thakore

PHYSICS

1st Place: Josh Samson 2nd Place: Allison Holmes 3rd Place: Kasey Mohan Honorable Mention: Thomas Minier, Jeff Monticello

EARTH AND SPACE 1st Place: Steven Pascoe 2nd Place: Ellyn Yurgalite & Becca Vandevelde

ZOOLOGY 1st Place: Scott Hetu 2nd Place: Danny Engerer & Spencer Clanin 3rd Place: Lizzie Anker

BOTANY 1st Place: Carrie Pichan 2nd Place: Aaron Towne 3rd Place: Sarah Stern Honorable Mention: Ryan Denhof, Samantha Solomon, Brook Fillipps

HEALTH & SCIENCE 1st Place: Kevin Uetz & Mike Baldwin 2nd Place: Stephen Polanski 3rd Place: Alyssa Marcangelo Honorable Mention: John Hebert, Adam Berger

PSYCHOLOGY/HUMAN BEHAVIOR 1st Place: Megan Piotrowski 2nd Place: Mike Collins 3rd Place: Jill Hoernchemeyer Honorable Mention: Evan Gerish

Try it — you'll like it

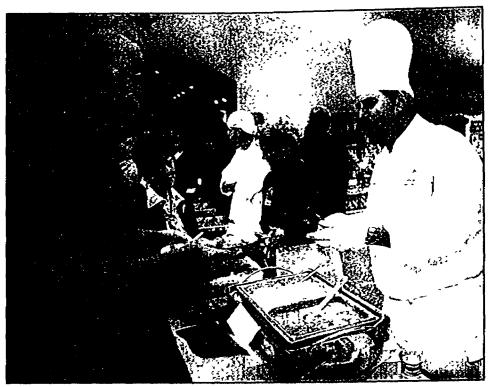


Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Bob Buckhave, left, co-owner of the Old Church Square facility, enjoys a dish of crayfish etouffe from Schoolcraft Community College's Vista Tech culinary arts program chef Bruce Konowalow at last Thursday night's "Wine, Dine and Design" business expo sponsored by the Northville Chamber of Commerce at the square's upstairs banquet facility.



Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Dozens of Hillside Middle School students gathered last Friday afternoon for a photo to commemorate their award-winning science fair projects in the recently concluded school competition.



FIRST **CHRISTMAS**



A baby's first Christmas is special to parents, friends and family, so this year we are going to give you a chance to tell your little ones how special they are. This feature will run on December 25th.





If you would like your baby featured in this special, send a picture along with a brief message (25 words or less) & \$25 (check, Visa or Mastercard accepted) to: HT 1st Christmas P.O. Box 230P, Howell, MI 48844 Attn: Sherry

This special will run on Thursday, December 25th, 2003. We must receive your entries by Tuesday, December 16th, 2003.

********* *"HO! HO! HO!"*

As Santa's newest helper, I want to give you \$500 cash to spend however you like . . .

It's True! I've just received next summer

word from the North Pole Call 248-449-8487 right • \$0 down and no payments that I've officially been now to make an with 0 interest for 6 months named as one of Santa's appointment for your no-Nords to the second sec

With this

20. I am going to give you an immediate \$500 cash you buy from me. This is 137 homeowners to call gift. cash you can use to pay for 248-449-8487 to set up a Why wait?????

Think about this. If your instant a brand new \$169 through the winter and furnace is 10 years old or "Talking" Thermostat, you'd like to cut your utility older - even if it's still FREE. This patented bills, now is the time to act running - you're probably Patent Ponding Social No. heating your probably electronic device (U.S. and get \$500 cash. borrowed time and paying more for utilities than you accurate, easy to read, easy and call me today at 248-to set and it literation is 449.8487 need to.

But at this time of year, who heating or air conditioning Remember, Your

regular list price of a top this winter. quality system

• \$0 down, 0 interest, 0 December 20 and get ... payments for 6 full months • \$500 cash rebate to spend you don't pay a penny all however you want winter

• \$1,000 - \$2,000 off the • Low weekly payments of regular full price of a top just \$13 - \$20 ... starting

<u>Buv</u> <u>_a</u>

an with 0 interest for 6 months cost, no obligation Needs \$20/wk after 6 months

special Analysis and Replacement assignment comes the Estimate. The sooner you • Lower heatin power for me to do call, the sooner I'll hand you something very special for that \$500 you can use any you ... way you want as an early efficient furnace From now until December present from Santa. And • Plus, when you're one of 20. I am going to give you here's one more thing Santa the first 137 to call, you get

asked me to do. rebate on any new furnace When you're one of the first

holiday gifts, travel - <u>free furnace estimate</u>, my If you're concerned your whatever you like. Service Technician will furnace won't make it Think about this. If your install a brand new \$189 through the winter and

Thermostat as a special free

· Lower heating bills for

the rest of the winter because of new energy-

\$189

"Talking"

to set, and it literally tells 449-8487.

quality system

free really wants to think about problem. And we'll deliver, "Talking" Thermostat comes buying a new furnace, right? install and calibrate it for with a lifetime Replacement That's why I'm pleased you at no cost. Santa has asked for my So, if your furnace is 10 unique emergency feature. help. In addition to the years old or older, don't let If you ever have a problem by pocket rebate, here's what else I'm going to give you. • \$1,000 - \$2,000 off the your family safe and warm button and the thermostat tegendar list price of a top this winter. tells you I've been in this business 10 years and I've <u>furnace</u> before never seen anything like it!

Jon Kipke Contracting, Inc's





Read then Recycle this Newspaper

Thursday, November 27, 2003-NORTHVILLE RECORD 15A

Sounds of science ring true for Winchester

ICHURGES TRANSFOCTED SCHURCEY SOLG

By Jennifer Zinke STAFF WRITER

Can you hear me now? Third grade students at Winchester Elementary experiment- different levels of ed with the effects and distribution of sound during a Nov. 20 assembly hosted by the Ann Arbor Hands-on Museum Museum.

Greta Gesme Wicker, an outreach specialist for the museum, headed up the unique learning session. During her presentation, Wicker explored the causes of vibrations, defined sound and energy and described how humans can produce sound.

Using a variety of teaching tools, including a Slinky, tuning forks and a spoon tied to a string, Wicker demonstrated how sound travels and how individuals can receive and intrepret sounds.

Students also explored how vibrations can travel through different types of matter, including solids, liquids and gas.

During an experiment, students struck tuning forks and shricked when they discovered what happened when placed in a glass of water.

"I just think it's amazing to see the different levels of students learning and how they react to hands on *morris@ht homecomm.net*.

"I think it's just amazing to see the and how they react to hands-on learning."

Greta Gesme Wicker Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum

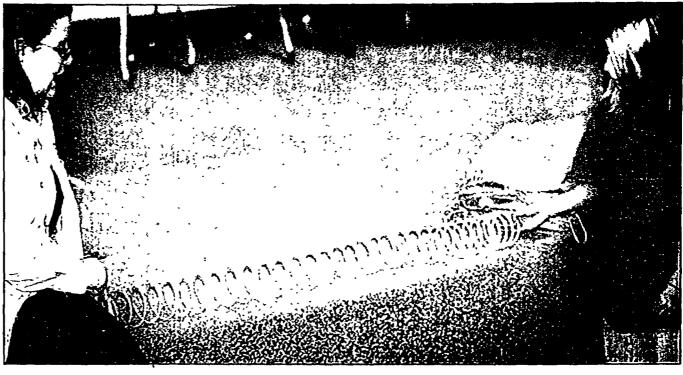
learning," said Wicker, who added that four different sessions were hosted for the third grade students. "It changes their perception of sci-

ence," she said. The Ann Arbor Hands-on

Museum is located at 220 E. Ann Street For more information, call (734)

995-5439. Jennifer Zinke is a staff writer for

the Northville Record. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700 ext 107 or e-mail bv



Winchester Elementary student Lauren Wozniak, a third grader, assists an Ann Arbor Hands On Museum educator in her demonstration involving a Slinky as she explained how sound waves travel - to a Thursday morning assembly gathered to hear about "Sounds Like Fun".

NORTHVILLE SCHOOL BRIEFS

ENGINEERING PROJECT DISPLAYS

Daniel R. Basse and Aaron Haverberg, who both graduated from Northville High School in 1998, will each present a project at the 33rd Conference on Senior Engineering Design Projects at Western Michigan University Dec. 2.

Sandra Basse of Northville, His project is a four-post ride simulator.

Haverberg is the son of Robert Haverberg of Northville. His project is themed the "Utilization and Scheduling of Hospital Staff."

The conference, which runs from 9 a m. to 3:30 p m. will be held at the Bernhard Center on the WMU campus. It is open to the public free of charge and is sponsored by WMU's College of "accompany children abder age 13. . Engineering Sciences.

RIDGE WOOD SKATES

Join the fun at Ridge Wood Family Fun Roller Skating Parties. The next party will be held on Dec. 1, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Riverside Arena in Livonia Riverside offers a safe and fun "kid friendly" environment.

Future parties are scheduled for Basse is the son of William and January 9, March 26, and May 17.

> MOVIE NIGHT WITH SADD

Northville High School's SADD winter movie will be showing Disney's "The Santa Clause" Dec. 5 from 7 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. in the high school cafeteria.

Admission is free, however snacks and drinks will be available to purchase. An adult must and Applied A special holiday guest (Santa) will visit. Interested students may

have their photo taken with Santa.

RECORD SEEKS OUT-STANDING TEACHER NOM-INATIONS

The Northville Record is seeking readers to inform of us of local teachers who have demonstrated academic excellence in the classroom.

To nominate a teacher, send the teacher's full name, school address and school phone number along with a statement of nomore than 200 words indicating why this instructor deserves to be our Feature Teacher. Nominations are to be sent to 104 W. Main Northville, Mich. 48167 or via e-mail to

cdavis@ht.homecomm.nct The staff of the Record will make each selection. The winming teacher will be featured in the Record on the second Thursday of the month.



Happy First Anniversary

Deron and Jeanne Lent are celebrating their first anniversary on November 23, 2003. They were married November 23, 2002 at the First Presbyterian Church of Northville in a double ring ceremony officiated by Pastor Kent Clise.

The bride wore a dress of white dia-' mond satin velvet and silk dupioni. The bodice had a beaded trimmed neckline and the dress had a chapel length train. Her headpiece was a beaded tiara with detached veil. The bride carried a bouquet of black magic red roses and the maid of honor and bridesmaid carried white roses.

The maid of honor and bridesmaid wore floor length dresses of black velvet with jackets and silver bodices. Lea Lyons, sister of the bride, was maid of honor and bridesmaid

was Kristen Clark.

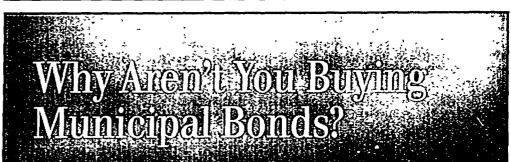
Tom Beinke served as bestman and Scott Rossmiller as groomsman. Richard Lyons was the usher. Soloist was Kathy LaPine.

Church pews were adorned with pine sprigs, white roses and bows and alter pieces were of red and white roses with pine branches and hurricane candles.

A cocktail hour and dinner reception followed the ceremony at Northville"Hills'Golf Club' with dancing to the Steve Somers Band. Eileen McCann presided at the guest register. Entrance to the club was tree lined in white lights and the interior

was beautifully decorated with poinsettias and a large Christmas Tree. The bridal couple honeymooned in St. Thomas, Virgin Islands and

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UPINION

Northville Record

Part of HomeTown Communications NetworkTM

Chris C. Davis **EDITOR** Grace Perry PUBLISHER **Richard Brady** VP/COO

Jack Lessenberry VP. EDITORIAL Dick Aginian PRESIDENT Phillip Power CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

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.

Give thanks... here are ideas

Thanksgiving 2003. The day set aside to gorge and not feel guilty about it. To cheer on the Detroit Lions' struggle against the Green Bay Packers.

And to acknowledge the good things in life, expressing appreciation

them. While you and yours privately This is the day to openly ОГ reflect on your acknowledge the personal blessgood things in life ings, at the and reflect on them. Northville we Record thanks offer for:

Our gov-

ernmental process, despite its flaws. Our Constitution allows us in courtrooms and civic meetings. We have access to police reports, official documents, records. We not only have the right, but the obligation, to know. And we are afforded the freedom to make sure you do, too.

• The Northville / Northville Township community. We are n in the midst of an enclave of prosperity. And we have people here who truly care about what goes on in our businesses. schools, neighborhoods — who aren't afraid to get involved.

• Family and friends. They're worth more than all the gold in the world and can help take the sting away from another ons' meltdown. • Memories. There's quite Lions

the value in looking back on holidays past, remembering those who might no longer be

with us, but who left their marks nonetheless

• Hopes and dreams. Planning, anticipating and wondering give life to the future.

· Good health. Often overlooked --- until it's gone.

Literacy. It's the stuff our world, and our profession, made of. is Employment. We are of the fortunate few who spend

days

doing what we enjoy, and getting paid to do it.

our

• The food. Thanksgiving is a holiday centered around a feast. Not only is overindulgence OK, it's expected.

• You. When a Northville Record reporter knocks on your door, calls you up, walks into your shop or classroom, stops you on the street or at a community event, you open. Thursday, when you open the latest edition of our newspaper and start reading, you complete the cycle of why we're here, why we do what we do. For all these things, we are

thankful.

So what are you thankful for? Look around your homes and your dinner table. Look into your heart. We hope they are all overflowing with a bounty of goodness. Happy Thanksgiving from the Northville Record.

appreciate a toaster oven or

gift certificates for groceries or

I'm an 86-year old senior

I work 40 hours or more a

week for \$6.50 an hour and

have no benefits. Daycare is

expensive, 1 have to raise my

two girls alone. I would like a

movie pass and gift certificate

I'm a single mom going to

school and working. I will

graduate in June after nearly

seven years. I would like a gift

certificate for gasoline. I live in

Northville and go to school at

Eastern Michigan University.

A phone card would be appre-

I am a 56-year-old woman

three years overdue for an eye exam. I am very badly in need

of some plumbing work in my

home. I have no water in my

upstairs bathroom sink, the toi-

let is broken and I only have

cold water in the sink. A home

improvement store gift card

could help with some repairs.

offer would also be appreciated. Anything else anyone could

who's looking for a coupon for

gasoline.

an oil change.

to dine out.

ciated.

-13 TREES

Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Bill Richardson, right, current owner of Northville Camera Shop at 117 E. Main St. will soon be handing over the reigns to Tom James, left, after 27 years of ownership. James will bring exhibits and photo contests to the shop as well as the ability for customers to process film in-store and print their digital photos and enlargments within the shop.

Thanks for assistance with city fire program

The Northville City Fire Department would like to recognize the following area businesses whose donations and support made our "Great Escape" program an outstanding success: Brann's Steakhouse & Grille, Chuck E. Cheese, Putting Edge, Dancing Eye Gallery, Starting Gate, Memories, Stampeddler, Town & Country Bicycles, Michigan Connection, Rebecca's of Northville, Northville Candles Gifts, Traditions, Anne's of Northville, Genitti's, Chocolates By Rence, IV Seasons, The Bee's Knee's, The Marquis Theater. Livonia's Riverside Arena, Novi Bowl, and the Northville Record. Thanks again for your support.

> John Lapenta Northville Firefighter

waterfowl." The waterfowl that is mentioned was the model that was used for determining the toxicity of shot. The dove, according to U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, is a migratory game bird, not a songbird that Michigan's government mistakenly made it in to. So your argument about lead shot and songbird stature is baseless.

I live in a town in which it appears amazing the laws of physics do not apply, for the same amount of energy that comes from out of muzzle of a shotgun is the same amount that strikes a target 45 to 50 yards away (at least according to Braddock and Manning). A simple experiment: take a ball and throw it. The further it goes from you, the less force it has. In principle, this would be the same for a shotgun or any gun. I believe the DTE engineer knows more about what types of abuse that fiber optics and power lines can take than someone from the National Audubon Society knows.

Ms Braddock claims that there were hundreds of orange-clad hunters chanting for the hunting bill (they do have that right). Yet I only saw one anti-hunter there. Where were you on the day of the demonstrations? You do not even have the conviction to go to Lansing to do counter demonstration. Where does your conviction end? Does it end at the

social programs are being "reformed" to start them on their elimination. The environment is being raped by George W. Bush's sponsors with the help of new environmental rules passed by his agents which will allow the polluting of the air and ground while immunizing the polluters from cleaning their messes and from damages sought by people whose properties are destroyed. And our old trees our trees in our parks - are being given to the timber industries, those who bundled hundreds of thousands of donations for Bush's reelection. This is only the short list of the destruction to our environment. A 226 (a)

Thursday, November 27, 200

What about the billions of subsidies to the large agribusinesses which we pay for, while they cause havoc to the farmers in the third world countries? We could go on and on.

Then there is the Iraq mess which was sold to the American public on lies: Iraq was an immenent threat only months away from having an atomic bomb; Iraq was buying uranium from Africa; Iraq was in cahoots with Al Quaeda in the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks. Over 500 American, British and Italian

military, plus United Nations and aid workers and from 7,000 to 10,000 Iraqis have been killed and thousands of service personnel and Iraqis injured. Why? Because the Bush gang saw that Iraq, instead of being a threat, wa

I am a single disabled mother of two girls living on \$542 a month. My mother was recently robbed by her caretaker, and stole all her life savings, including savings bonds, annuities, checking and charge cards, and her new car. I was trying to save money for my daughter's wedding in February, but now with the added responsibility of taking care of my mother, it's impossible.

I am looking for help in almost any way possible. I don't know where we will stay in February, because we don't have the money for travel or lodging. We can't afford a photographer for the wedding. (1 had a decent camera with a tripod which I used prior to coming down with severe nerve damage, which causes me to shake and makes it difficult to take pictures.) Any help you can offer would be appreciated.

I'm a single mom with three kids. I need a space heater. I live in a trailer and can't afford to pay for a lot of heat.

I need to have my oil checked and changed. I'm 72 years old, so money is tight. I'd be able to pay half the cost if someone else could cover the other half.

I'm a 65-year-old senior who can't walk anymore. I need to use a wheelchair. I'm very lowincome, and would like a gift certificate for food and a hair-

I'm a 68-year-old senior living on a fixed income. I would

> In need of assistance? Can you offer a helping hand? Call Northville Civic Concern at (248) 344-1033



Inaccuracies abound

For the last few weeks the citizens of Northville and the citizens of Michigan have been bombard with a total lack of information regarding dove hunting. We have the likes of Mary Braddock and others giving out erroneous information, such as bag limits. Ms. Braddock in one letter claims 60 birds a day. In the next letter, Ms. Baker writes that it would be15 birds a day. This was found on the same page. Which is it? The both of you cannot be right. (Now I see, as of Nov 20 that you are back to a 15-bird limit, or 900 per season).

I am very concerned about this issue of a state Representative calling you to tell you to "back off." Why don't you name the representative, Ms. Braddock? No state Representative, whether Republican or Democrat should get away with this type of tactic. Or is it that you are using the alleged threats from a state Representative to give you credibility. (Credibility that you lost when misquoted \$35,000 for \$350,000 and that you misstated the bag limits of 60 a day instead of 15 a day). No, Ms. Braddock, I think that you fabricated this story. You fabricated this story so that the public would have sympathy for you and the birds. Tell us who the state rep is? Tell us so that we can get conformation of this. Tell us so that we can find the truth in your absurd story.

Now about the Wal-Mart comment. You need only to go to small town America to see what Wal-Mart has done. The small town merchants who have been in business for generations have seen their empterpreneurial dreams die. They died because of unfair competition from Wal-Marts of this nation. By the way: Wal-mart does carry shotgun shells and have carried shotguns. They do have a stake in the hunting business for they supply ammo to hunters.

Mr. Manning writes that "by Federal Lawnon-toxic shot is only required for waterfowl hunting in wetland areas." Yet the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has issued regulations stating "it is illegal to take a migratory bird by use of any shot except steel shot, bismuthtin shot, or other shot approved by the Secretary of the Interior that is nontoxic to

word processor? You must have been staying in the comfort of your home again. What about you? The counterdemonstrator that was there was welcome and treated with all due respect. Would the anti-dove hunters exercise the same courtesy?

We in this country are guaranteed certain rights: the freedom of assembly, freedom of speech and freedom to lobby our elected officials. You decry the fact that hunters used these rights, that you called intimidation, yet you have the freedom to intimidate a legislator by telling them that you want to "California" them. The hunters have just as much right to be there voicing their opinions as you do. Without these freedoms the country is on the road to dictatorship. To deny one group of its rights to freedoms, we need to deny you your rights too. You believe that because someone who holds an opinion that is different than yours that they should surrender their rights this is not the America that I know. This is not what this country was founded on.

> Dwight Wild Northville

Whatever happened to the good of GOP?

One has to wonder what happened to the Republican Party of only a few years ago, the party of Eisenhower, Gerald Ford, and even the first Bush. As a general rule, these administrations - at least from a domestic standpoint --- were fiscally conservative. Today, we have an administration which is fiscally totally irresponisble, wants to control public discourse, wants to put laws telling everyone what he/she may do, and is hell-bent on returning women, as much as possible, to their status in the nineteenth century.

We have gone from such large surpluses that we did not know how to spend them to a projected debt of trillions in a few years. The an easy target, with hardly any defense, lots of oil, and after years of sanctions, too impoverished to make a meaningful resistence. Of course, our nation would all be behind our brave, forceful (draft dodging) president who led us to a quick victory. (Notice all the flags out when we unilaterally invaded iraq?) And our conquering hero, with victory behind him and constantly drumming up fear of AI Quaeda, but doing little about it, would then be able to push his agenda: dismantle the "safety net," get rid of Medicare and Social Security and start the great American Empire.

Also, let his sponsors, the powerful and wealthy, get richer while poor people's children get killed and maimed on the battlefield. Is it any wonder that the very next day after the helicopter crash that killed 16 military personnel and injured many more, Bush was reported by the New York Times to be in high spirits at one of his many fundraisers. He did not even mention the crash. The economy showed signs of getting better and of course, this would increase his chances of being elected. So what are a few more destroyed young lives, aren't we getting reports of one to three more killed, and others injured, every day? Let's get used to it.

The latest attack on our civil liberties is that the FBI is going to spy on demonstrators. After all, if we do not approve of Bush's record we must be anti-American and need to be watched. "Real" Americans are supposed to goose-step in line with George Bush and the war profiteers, not care about a bunch of boys and girls barely out of their teens being killed and maimed and Iraqi families blown up. As a "real" American, I suggest the FBI check up on the New York Times. Last week it showed an American soldier in Iraq raising the stump of his right arm, all of what was left of it. Photos like that can dampen the war spirit. That paper needs to be kept under surveillance.

> Irene Piccone Northville

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. Mail: Letters to the Editor, Chris C. Davis, Northville Record, 104 W. Main, Northville, MI 48167 E-mail: cdavis@ht.homecomm.net Fax:(248) 349-9832



OTHER OPINIONS

Page 17A

November 27, 2003

Time for an economic checkup

There's lots of news to report having to do with the state's dire financial situation. And, as is usually the case, there are a couple of larger, more fundamental issues that deserve more careful scrutiny lurking under the froth of current events.

Gov. Jennifer Granholm last week said she favors suspending the scheduled 0.1 percent cut in the state income tax rate scheduled to take place Jan. 1 in order to



use the \$115 million in revenue so gained to offset budget cuts for schools. Although some Republicans snarled about 'Granholm's job-killing tax hike," I think she's right.

Delaying a

Phil Power

tax cut of \$30 a year for the average family is a perfectly reasonable way to share the pain in overcoming a \$920 million state deficit.

In other news, school officials are having some trouble explaining just why they should not be asked to use some of their "rainy day" funds — totaling nearly \$2 bil-lion statewide — to help meet the budget crisis. It looks as though the poorly conceived laptop computer program for sixth graders (\$22 million) has been clicked off. And Lansing insiders say the \$2,500 Michigan Merit Scholarship awards for kids who do well on the MEAP is almost certain to be reduced as Granholm and the legislature come to terms about eliminating the deficit.

The good news is that the University of Michigan's annual economic forecast projects a substantial uptick in the state's econ-omy, but not till next year. It predicts Michigan will add 77,600 more jobs in 2004 and another 92,000 in 2005, with the state's unemployment rate dropping from today's 7.4 percent to 5.7 by the end of next year.

As to the more fundamental issues lying below the surface, consider first the folks, whether on Granholm's staff or in the leg-islature, who are actually working out the details of resolving the budget mess. They're facing a December deadline and a \$920 million nut. And come the New Year, they'll have to start all over with another

budget for next fiscal year. Anybody who has tried to work out a household budget has to feel for these folks. They are tired. They are stressed. They are facing rapidly shifting state revenue estimates and fierce partisan political pressures. They deserve our mixed sympathy and admiration, just as their work will need careful scrutiny to catch any mistakes made in the rush to get budget product out the door.

The important thing going on under the surface, however, is some very tentative talk about the basic architecture of Michigan's entire tax system.

This year's budget crisis is hardly unique. It's just one more proof point that our state budget has been in chronic structural deficit for years.

According to Citizens Research Council staffer Tom Clay, possibly the most knowledgeable person in the state about our tax structure, this structural deficit is the outcome of "Michigan trying to operate a set of programs that increase in cost faster than the revenue base." He cites Medicaid payments, now at \$ 2.3 billion per year and growing at double-digit rates, despite repeated efforts to cut payments to doctors and hospitals. Any attempt to fix our current deficits that ignores this chronic budget imbalance is nothing more than wheelspinning.

Moreover, there are serious flaws in two of Michigan's main taxes. The 6 percent sales tax is levied on goods, not services.

Does this really make any logical sense? Of course not. And the state's levy on businesses — the Single Business Tax that nets around \$2 billion annually in revenue — is very odd, indeed. Essentially a tax on payroll (when Michigan's unemployment rate is at an 11-year high!) the tax is complex, difficult to compute, hard to administer.

Worse, in comparison with other states' business taxes, it stands out like a sore thumb. Research conducted by the Michigan Economic Development Corporation indicates that a considerable number of companies facing location decisions take one amazed look at the Michigan SBT and immediately run to another state.

Moreover, there is a fundamental structural change taking place in Michigan's economy, from one based on manufacturing to one depending more and more on services. Although manufacturing will be a big deal for decades to come, basic trends such as productivity improvements and the export of jobs to low-wage countries like China mean that we're not likely to have as big a manufacturing sector as back in the 1990s. An economy based on high value-added services and on the high-tech spinoffs from research at our state's universities is on the horizon. The big question is whether our present tax system helps that transition...or hurts it. As a popular one-liner in Lansing goes,

"Michigan is trying to get to a 21st century economy using a 1950s tax system." And although you won't find anybody willing to talk about it in public — yet — a few far-sighted people are just now beginning to think about what kind of basic changes are needed in our tax system and about how to make them in a sensible way.

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.

CORUNDUM CONUNDRUM

CORUNDUM CONUNDRUM Although sapphires may be syn-town of the color blue, they are actually available in a number of colors. The red variety is called ruby because the ancients did not realize that suby and sapphire were actually the same mineral. It was decided that all gemstones of the imieral corundum would be called sapphire, would go by the name ruby. Where the state we pink corundum? The international Gemstone Association resolved that light shades of the red tate should be included in the ruby category since it was too late to leg-row known as either pink ruby or pink sapphire. Sapphires are a wonderful gift for that special person in your life for pink sapphire. Sapphires are a wonderful gift for that special person in your life for pink sapphire. Sapphires are a wonderful gift for that special person in your life for pink sapphire. Sapphires are a wonderful gift for that special person in your life for pink sapphire. Sapphires are a wonderful gift for that special person in your life for pink sapphire. Sapphires are a wonderful gift for that special person in your life for that special person in your life for sary, birthday, or to say. "I Love

LET'S TALK

GARY S. WEINSTEIN

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A lot of our dreams died with JFK

Years ago, I was doing some research at the John F. Kennedy Library in Boston, and I asked to see Dave Powers, the president's friend, a working-class Irishman who had been sort of the court jester of the New Frontier.

"You're from Detroit?" he said, eyes twinking merrily. "I love Detroit. A great thing happened to me there. We were campaigning in Cadillac Square on Labor Day and I broke my watch "Puzzled, I asked why in the



world breaking his watch during the madness of a campaign rally was a great thing. Tha

fuss was all about, those who knew remembered. Michigan played a small, but signifi-

On Election Day, it was those same Detroiters who gave John F. Kennedy the margin he needed to carry the state by a whisker in one of the nation's closest elections. Some say it was Millie Jeffrey who did it, the tiny dynamo of a labor organizer who ran JFK's campaign in the state. "I met him at a dinner in Grand Rapids in 1958, and was instantly taken with his charm, his ideas, his freshness," Jeffrey,

now 91, remembers. But labor and civil rights groups were suspicious. Jeffrey, the highest-ranking woman in the United Auto Workers union, chaired his campaign, made him acceptable to the Democratic party's base, rallied and fired up the troops When Michigan, after seesawing all exactly what night, finally went to JFK at 6 the next Powers, then morning, the Secret Service took that as sort of a ceremonial curatheir cue to move in and protect the president-elect. (In those long-ago and suppostor of the edly gentler times, mere candidates didn't magnificent library, was get Secret Service protection. Nor would waiting for. they, until after the public saw an unguarded Bobby Kennedy dying in a pool of 'Because blood on the floor of a hotel kitchen.) Michigan's narrow, but solid margin for Kennedy in 1960 also was a large part of the real reason why Richard Nixon didn't contest the highly suspicious result in Illinois that year. What is often forgotten is that even if the Republicans could have proven vote fraud there, Nixon still needed another large state to win. Michigan was his last hope.

kid like me." Asked about his own race, Kelley made some comment about his

And I'll never forget — Kennedy looked at me and said 'we are all egoists, Frank. The one who hides it the best wins.' Kelley would go on to serve 37 years as attorney general, leaving office at last the year JFK's son died.

When he retired, I asked him what his best day on the job was. He couldn't say. He knew what the worst one was, though. He was swimming laps in the YMCA pool in Lansing on Friday afternoon when he looked up to see a grim-faced aide come in. "All I could think of was that something

had happened to one of my kids," he said. It was Nov. 22, 1963, and when the aide told him what had happened, Kelley felt no sense of relief to take as a public person. A lot of hopes and dreams died that day in Dallas," he told me as he was leaving office. Dave Powers had died the year before. If he were still around, I doubt that he would have been very visible this week. He didn't like talking about the President in November. When he did, all people wanted to know about was the assassination. He knew all about it. It was he who ran to the limousine at Parkland Hospital, wrenched the door open, looked down on what he should never have had to see. 'Who wants to talk about that? he said. "My goal is to keep the memory alive, you know." I knew. Last summer I was at the Kennedy Library again, and saw people, old and young, with stars in their eyes, watching the Inaugural Address. In some crazy way, that part of our past isn't, in fact, over. It isn't, as they say, even really past.



The Ward Chancel Choir and Orchestra, Crossfire,

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Featuring the choir and brass in "The Battle Hymn of the Republic"

Message by Dr. James McGuire

Jack Lessenberry

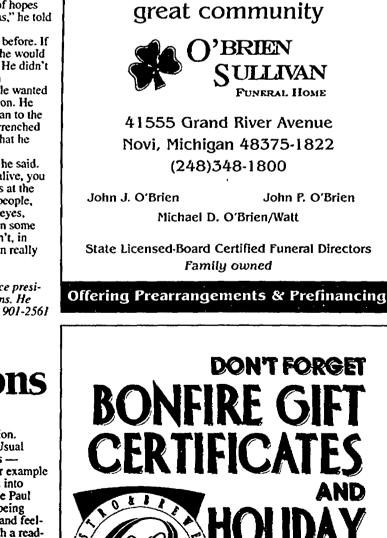
Jack Kennedy took his off and gave it to me!" he said triumphantly. That was a legendary day state Democrats still talk about. John Kelly, for many years a state senator, perched on his father's shoulder that day, his 11th birthday, and briefly grasped the senator's hand. Thousands saw him at rallies across the state.

Mary Ann Watson, a professor of telecommunications at Eastern Michigan University, was a little girl of four when the candidate's car whizzed by and she saw him, as she imagined, looking straight at her. She grew up to become the nation's leading academic expert on television in the Kennedy era.

Last week, as television flooded the airwaves with specials, and younger Americans struggled to figure out what the "They loved him. We all did," said Frank Kelley, the nation's longest-serving state attorney general. He was a recent appointee to the job when the president came to Michigan to campaign for Democratic candidates for a day in 1962.

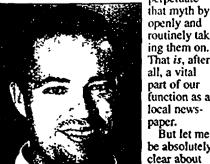
"You know, that grace, those perfect moves, those tailored suits, that face made quite an impression on a middle-class Irish

Jack Lessenberry is editorial vice president of Hometown Communications. He can be reached by phone at (248) 901-2561 or by e-mail at jlessenberry@homecomm.net.



Give credit for facing tough questions

For whatever reason, there's a perception floating around that community newspapers like ours only do stories about the bake sales and check-passings taking place. And to a certain extent. I suppose we help perpetuate



routinely taking them on. That is, after all, a vital part of our function as a local newspaper. But let me

be absolutely clear about this: we don't shy away from

Chris C. Davis

the tough story, and we aren't afraid to ask the tough questions, either. When we encounter such stories --- such as the story about Garret Drogosch's injury suffered during a Meads

Mill football practice — we have both an obligation and an interest in taking them on. It's an almost certainty the people on the receiving end of our inquiries feel some level of discomfort in fielding the ques-tions. If I were in their shoes, I'd probably be experiencing that same kind of anxiety.

Nevertheless, it's important that people in positions of power in the community step up and face the music when situations like these come around. Our reporters and photographers spend a lot (READ: "many, many, many hours each week") of time following up on the classroom projects and feature stories in Northville and Northville Township. Just don't call us "soft" because we do. It's simply part of the responsibility we shoulder.

And that's why I've got to hand it to people in the Northville school district this week, who didn't run for the hills when the phones rang. They listened to what we asked and responded intelligently and promptly. Some might say that that's exactly the kind of response the district should have supplied, and they'd be right. But it still takes guts to do what's right, and to

that end, I tip my hat in appreciation.

It's not just the quote-unquote Usual Suspects, though. There are others -Garret's father, Paul Drogosch, for example - who have suddenly been thrust into uncharted news waters. People like Paul deserve another tip of the hat for being willing to share their experiences and feelings not only with us, but also with a readership that wants to know what's going on in its hometown. (Come to think of it, isn't that why people buy their hometown newspaper in the first place?)

Garret's recovery is only beginning, and I'm willing to bet our pursuit of this very unfortunate story is just beginning, too. More questions will follow, and we'll be there asking them and looking for responses. It's important that we continue doing our job, and it's just as important that the district continue doing its.

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

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Counselor: save tackle football for older kids

- By Jennifer Zinke STAFF WRITER

Use of an questionable football practice drill --- which led to the termination of three football coaches from Meads Mill Middle School ---has drawn the ire of a local counselor.

Amold Keller, executive director of Psychotherapy and Counseling Services, P.C., said the sport of football carries a high and unnecessary risk, particularly for young players.

"In general, football can be a form of boy abuse," said Keller. "Despite equipment and padding, the possibility of injury in normal circumstances is very huge."

According to Northville schools, football coaches James Chabot, Nick Nugent and Doug Walters, were disciplined for incorporating an inappropriate drill during an Oct. 28 football practice. The drill

involved the selection of a seventhgrade player who did not hold a starting position on the team by an eighth-grade student. The older student would be permitted to line up a short distance away from the younger student and given an unabated tackling attempt at the younger student.

The coaches were terminated from their coaching posts and were given a three-day unpaid suspension, along with a letter of reprimand.

Twelve-year-old Garret Drogosch, a seventh grade student at Meads Mill, was selected by an older player three times for the drill.

The injury required transport to an area hospital, where physicians notified Northville Township police that the injury appeared to be the result of an assault.

"It makes a lot of sense that [the district] would fire these coaches,"

said Keller. "The coaches are putting children at increased risk and increasing their vulnerability for injury. You wouldn't consider putting our female athletes through that kind of drill and danger."

"The bottom line is football for that age level is a form of abuse to begin with and then to have coaches promote the possibility of more damage is uncalled for. Parents need to think twice before they subject their student to that form of abuse."

As a result of the drill, Drogosch sustained two broken bones in his lower leg, which have required multiple corrective surgeries. During the boy's second surgery Nov. 14, surgeons inserted a six-inch plate and screws into the boy's leg to hold the bones together.

Additional surgeries are likely.

Keller said he believes the coaches are more at fault for the incident than the older football players.

"I don't think it's a case of bullying, I think the [coaches are] attempting to make these boys meaner and tougher," he said. "A rough and tough lineman, for example, is a coach's dream. While the intention of the coaches may be innocent to that extent, they're increasing the possibility of physical and psychological damage or trauma."

Keller also said due to the physi-cal immaturity of young boys' bod-ies, such sports would be better left

for older athletes. "I don't think tackle football should be available to anyone under 15 years of age," Keller said. "That's my personal opinion."

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

Training programs available for coaches

By Sam Eggleston STAFF WRITER

It's out there, it just isn't being used by very many coaches.

The Program of Athletics Coaches Education, more commonly referred to as PACE, is a program that is run by the Michigan High School Athletic Association to help coaches understand the ins and outs of their jobs.

"It talks about everything but the Xs and Os," said John R. Johnson, the Communications Director for the MHSAA. "The MHSAA is never involved in things that actually address strategy and techniques of a specific sport. There are other resources for that. The PACE program talks about coaching philosophy, organization, the need to take into account liability issues and those kinds of aspects of the game."

PACE, however, is not a program that has been chuming out the numbers some would expect.

"We're only servicing-rabout-up 1,000 people a year," Johnson said. "There are roughly 30,000 coaches at the high school level right now. We're not having the reach with PACE that we would like."

The MHSAA, according to

Johnson, is going to take steps to revise the PACE program and make it more attractive to coaches and school districts.

We'll be trying some new things in coaches' education in the next few years," Johnson said. "We plan on expanding what we offer, but also make it more attractive and get more people involved"

Currently, PACE is offered at various dates, with various sessions that often coincide with coaching associations. The Michigan High School Basketball Association, for example, holds a major conference every year that has PACE opportunities running at opportune times for coaches to take advantage of.

The program, which has been running since the 1980s, has some faithful followers. According to Johnson, some school districts send their new coaches to take part in the program, while others send their entire coaching staffs every couple of years.

Northville High School encourages their head coaches to attend the PACE program.

"We hand out information on the PACE program with a schedule and encourage them to attend," said Northville school district athletics

i Le TE

director Bryan Masi.

In fact, Northville has impressive numbers regarding the program, or the coaches' associations that encompass their sports and are expected to educate coaches as well.

The survey of the head coaches indicate that 98 percent of them are either PACE-certified or are involved with their coaches' associations." Masi said.

Northville is also planning on the development and implementation of a program which will do more than just encourage coaches to attend programs such as PACE.

"We're looking into developing a professional development program for coaches," Masi said. "This program will help get funds to cover the costs of the PACE program. We will continue to have our pre-season meetings and I have developed a coaches manual that covers the expectations of the coaches throughout the entire athletic department."

The pre-season meetings and the coaches' manual are things Masi 344 integrated into the system on his appointment as athletics director. The manual covers not only the expectations of the coaches, but also the student-athletes, information on

various coaching associations and the MHSAA's PACE program. The pre-season meetings cover things the coaches should be aware of, including meetings with team trainers.

The rest of the program, accord-

ing to Masi, was something he

hoped to implement in the near future. "I wanted to develop it over time," he said. "The time is here."

Hit drill was 'unacceptable,' district says

Continued from 1

mitted to line up a short distance away from the younger student and given an unabated tackling attempt at the younger student.

Garret Drogosch was selected by an older player three times for the drill. The injury required transport to an area hospital, where physicians notified Northville Township police that the injury appeared to be the result of an assault.

School officials said along with termination from their coaching posts, the men were given a threeday suspension, without pay, from their teaching assignments and a letter of reprimand.

Northville schools superintendent Leonard Rezmierski said the coaches have served their unpaid suspension.

He also said the coaches were not invited to attend the end-ofthe-year Meads Mill football banquet.

It is unknown if the three coaches will face any criminal charges.

"We have not heard back from the Wayne County prosecuting attorney's office," said Rezmierski.

Rebecca Tenorio, assistant prosecutor for Wayne County, said, "We are still investigating. We can't give any comment other than we are still doing an investigation into it."

Education is reviewing and draft- be reached at (248) 349-1700.

ing a district-wide policy to prohibit inappropriate conduct or activities by coaches or team members for all district athletics and activities.

"We are looking at policy and procedures that ensure this will not occur in any form or fashion in any sport," said Rezmierski. There are exercises that go on in proper practices that are appropriate. That was not what this was about. This exercise was so inappropriate that it's unacceptable under any definition.

"I don't think the coaches intentionally meant to harm, but that's in fact what happened. We all have to take responsibility for that behavior and that action. All of us are deeply saddened by this happening to any of our students."

For the Drogosch family, their thoughts are constantly turning to the welfare and health of their eldest son.

"My family would like to focus on getting Garret well and making positive changes to the mentoring, coaching of our children," the father said.

In a prepared statement Northville school officials said, "The Northville Public School is very proud of its long-standing commitment to providing quality educational services and programs and deeply regrets this incident."

Jennifer Zinke is a staff writer The Northville Board of for the Northville Record. She can





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Lack of shopping traffic forces Forget-Me-Nots closing

Continued from 1

State Blees

through Dec. 20.

The Nov. 20 launch of the private sale was a day of visits from Sieler's patrons-turnedfriends. A ready smile of greeting from the mid-store counter, and a warm offer of assistance were the shop owner's trademark.

There were tears of understanding and support," Sieler said. "They were customers in the beginning and now they're friends. They became more to me than I ever imagined they would."

Northville Chamber of Commerce executive director Laurie Marrs said Sieler will be missed. An active member of the merchant association, she contributed to the downtown community of businesses, she said.

"Everybody loves her," Hulbert said. "She's the one who created everything." Her role primarily was keeping the books, the mother added. "I'm going back into retirement. My husband will be happy."

The mother and daughter recalled fondly their fun on Atlanta trips to buy merchandise for the store.

"We found some things that were wonderful," Sieler said. "And we had some laughs about some real dogs."

The store tables, shelves and counters still are crammed with merchandise dainty, practical, aromatic and whimsical. There are Christmas items as well as Sieler's regular stock of jewelry, candles, home and garden decor, wedding and baby gifts, and so on.

Jerry Artz, a consultant from G.A. Wright company of Denver, is helping Sieler and Hulbert conduct their final sales. Part of the promotion is a contest during which customers accumulate points toward prizes such as a flat-screen TV, TV/DVD combination, a palm pilot, a miniature stereo system, and others

"We didn't want this to linger," Hulbert said. "We wanted to get it over. It's too saddening."

It was hard for the shop owner watch her dream venture marked for clearance.

"It just didn't work out, but I'll miss it," Sieler said. "There's something wonderful waiting around the corner."

Sieler, whose background before retail was in television production, said she is not certain yet which project to pursue. "I've had several different offers," she said. "My passion is writing." She said she may apply for a grant to finish a book in the works.

The Novi High School graduate will continue to make her home in Northville. "It's a great little community." Sieler said she will keep in touch with the friends she made downtown

"I'll shop in their stores."

Maureen Johnston is a staff writer for the Northville Record. She can be reached at (248)349-1700 or mjohnston@ht homecomm.net





Jenelle Jolley and Bill Harden announce their engagement. The bride-elect is the daughter of Janet Stack and Jeffery Jolley of Croswell She is 2000 graduate of Northville High School and is attending Wayne State University. The groom-elect is the son of Robert and Debborah Harden of Livonia. He is attending Northwood University. A May wedding is planned.

Jolley-Harden



OBITUARIES

Richard S. Aja

Richard Aja died Nov. 20. He was 77.

Mr. Aja was born March 2. 1926 in Detroit to the late Braulio S. Aja and Nicolasa G. Aja.

He graduated from the Detroit Institute of Technology in 1949 with a Bachelors Degree in Accounting. He was employed with Rockwell Standard Standard Corporation from 1950 to 1961 as an accountant and cost estimator. From 1961 to 1985 he was an accountant and business manager of the School of Medicine and College of Pharmacy at Wayne State University.

Mr. Aja served in the United States Navy during World War II in the South Pacific and Okinawa, was a life member of Veterans of Foreign Wars Post No. 4012 in Northville, a life member of the Disabled American Veterans Chapter No. 114 in Livonia, American Legion Post 25 in Lake Placid, Fla. and a member of the Destroyers Escort Sailors 'Association. Inc.

Survivors include three children, Linda (Darryl) Smith of Waterford, Marie (Jerry) Lubbers of Kingston, Mich, and Richard (Mary) Aja of Livonia; four grandchildren, Derek, Ryan, Ashley and Michael; two siblings, Joseph Aja of Traverse City and Carmen Shrader of Detroit: and a dear companion. Cathy Bartoni.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Ruby in 1994 and a granddaughter, Julie.

A funeral service was held Nov. 22 at Northrop-Sassaman Funeral Home, which handled funeral arrangements. Father Terry Kerner from Our Lady of Victory Church officiating. Interment will be at Parkview Memorial Cemetery, Livonia.

Memorials may be made to the Hospice of Michigan or Angela Hospice.

Stacey Marie LaFleche

Stacey LaFleche died Nov. 19 at home. She was 38. She was born March 14, 1965 in Livonia to Richard and Janice (Peterson) Rayl.

Survivors include her husband, Thomas LaFleche of Green Oak Township; one daughter, Katelyn Marie La Fleche; her parents, Dick (Brooke) Rayle and Janice (Tom) Weitzel: her grandparents, Kenneth and Harriet Peavey, Farolyn Parrish, and Louis Weitzel; her siblings, Nicole Biglione, Megan Weitzel, Rusty Rayl, and Carmen Byberg.

She was preceded in death by her grandparents, Harold Parrish, Kathleen -Weitzel, Eileen Peterson, Ralph Peterson, David and Marie Rayl.

A funeral mass was held Nov. 22 at St. Joseph Catholic Church, South Lyon.

Memorials may be made to Katelyn LaFleche Education Fund or the charity of your choice. Arrangements were made by

Phillips Funeral Home, South Lyon.



NORTHVILLE **BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING SYNOPSIS NOVEMBER 20, 2003**

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF

CALL TO ORDER: Supervisor Abbo called the meeting to order at 6:30 p m. and upon a roll call vote, the Board went into closed session. Closed session was adjourned and the meeting was opened to the pub-lic at 7.30 p m. The Clerk took the attendance: Present: Mark Abbo, upervisor, Sue Hillebrand, Clerk, Richard Henningsen, Treasurer, Manorie Banner, Trustee, Marv Gans, Trustee, Shirley Klokkenga, Trustee, Brad Werner, Trustee

Pledge of Allegiance

- Agendas: Approve Consent & Regular Agenda approved Appointments, Petitions, Resolutions & Announcements:
- Jeri Moak was administered the oath of office for Deputy Clerk.
- B. Re-appoint Brad Werner to Parks and Recreation approved C. Re-appoint Mary Gans to Planning Commission approved D. Re-appoint Richard Allen to Planning Commission approved

- E. Re-appoint Richard Henningsen to Senior Advisory Council approved
- F. Re-appoint Don Samhat to Zoning Board of Appeals approved
- G. Re-appoint Shirley Klokkenga to Zoning Board of Appeals approved
- H. Re-appoint Leslie Moran to Election Board of Canvassers approved
- Re-appoint Kathleen Leo to Election Board of Canvassers approved
- 3. Public Hearing: Quail Ridge SAD Public Hearing scheduled for 12/18/03
- Brief Public Comments & Questions: Representative from Country Club Village III spoke
- 5. New Business:
 - . Municipal Building Project Payment #8 approved
 - B. Municipal Building Project Change Order #10 & #11 approved

 - C. DPS HVAC Bid approved D. Millennium Park Improvements approved E. Sewer Televising Equipment approved
 - Northville Road Water Main Design approved
 - G. Escrow policy Development Fees approved H. ZBA Fee Adjustments approved

 - Development Review Fee adjustments approved
 - J. 2003 Winter Tax due date extended to March 1, 2004 approved K. Office Closing - December 19th at 1 p m - approved

 - 2004 Holiday Schedule approved
 - M. Contract for Telecommunication & Electronics Systems approved
 - N. DPS Pick-Up Truck approved
- Unfinished Business: None
- **Ordinances: None**
- 8. Bills Payable: Bills payable in the amount of \$3,147,323.90 approved
- Board Communication: Reports given by Board members.
- 10. Any Other Business: Resolution approved for 'No Stopping Northville' Challenge
- 11. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8 30 p m.

Mark J. Abbo, Supervisor

Sue A. Hillebrand, Clerk

This is a synopsis, a true and complete copy of the minutes will be available after November 28, 2003. (11-27-03 NR 99847)

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(1) Some payments higher, some lower. Not all Lessees will qualify for lowest payment. For special lease terms and ROL Cash, \$1000 ROL cash on 2004 Explorer 4-dr., \$2000 ROL cash on 2004 Ranger, take new retail delivery from dealer stock by 1/2/2004. ROL Cash may be taken in cash, but is used towards down payment in examples shown. Lease renewal cash of \$1000 on Explorer, \$500 on Ranger, only available to customers terminating their Ford Division Red Carpet Lease and re-lease for 36 months by 1/13/2004, Leases terminated early quality if leminated within program dates. The Ford Employee 50% down payment matching program (up to \$1000 total) ends 12/1.03. Supplies are limited, not all dealers will have all teatured models. Residency restructions apply. See dealer for complete details. All payment examples are for Current Ford Employees and eligible family member Lessees.

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Sports

NORTHVILLE RECORD

Thursday, November 27, 2003 hometownlife.com Stangs fall to pesky Rocks

By Sam Eggleston SPORTS WRITER

Northville knew they had a chance - and the final score isn't even close to being indicative of how close this one was.

The Northville Mustangs, under the coaching guidance of Pete Wright, made a run for the District Finals game, but fell in the semi-final round of the tournament to a determined Plymouth Salem squad, 30-23.

"Going in, we thought we had a good chance to win this game," Wright said. "We understand what has to happen to win a basketball game. They played zone, dared us to shoot a little and we just missed some opportunities."

The Mustangs, on the other hand, forced the Rocks to shoot from beyond the arc -- something Salem proved they could do very well throughout the course of the contest.

Northville was the first to get on the board in the game, hitting a three-point field goal off the dribble with Simone Toney earning the bucket.

A minute later, the Rocks answered the a three-pointer of their own, and then proceeded to go on a streak of eight unanswered points.

Northville cut the lead to 8-4 on a free-throw by Domonique Desira as the quarter came to a close. The second quarter of play found Northville inching back into the contest. Two free throws from Danielle Toney cut the Salem lead to 8-6, and junior Evonna Karchon added another from the stripe before Salem hit a three to push their advantage to 11-7 with 6:52 left in the half.

Northville's Simone Toney hit a three of her own, which was followed by a good inside move to the bucket by senior Andrea Watts to give Northville their first lead of the game with a 12-11 advantage with 5:24 left in the first half.

"That is certainly a credit to this group," Wright said. "No matter how far we were behind or no matter what the score was, they never quit."

Salem came back a minute later, scoring a bucket on a jumper before following it up with a three-pointer for a 16-12 lead with 4:02 left in the half.

After Desira missed two free throws, Karchon hauled down the rebound, passed it off before eventually getting the ball back and driving to the hoop for the score to cut the Salem lead to 16-

14 as the half expired. Northville came out of the locker room slightly flat footed and paid the price. Salem racked up seven straight points before Desira knocked down a jumper to

score Northville first bucket nearly five minutes into the quarter. To Northville's credit, they adjusted their play and held Salem scoreless for the next four minutes and 44 seconds while they cut the lead to 25-17 by the end of the quarter.

The final period of play found Northville jumping to a fourpoint run thanks to four consecutive successful conversions from the charity stripe as Danielle Toney and Emily Weaver each hit both of their foul shots to slice the Salem lead to 25-21 at the 4:21 mark in the fourth. After Salem began to slow the clock, the Mustangs worked and worked but couldn't seem to get their shots to drop.

Late in the quarter, Salem added two points from the foul line to increase their lead to 27-21 before adding another from the line with just 22 seconds left in the game. Danielle Toney added a lay-up for a 28-23 game with just 12 seconds left before Salem sealed the victory with two free throws at the eight-second mark for a 30-23 final

"We certainly had the opportunity to keep the game close," Wright said.

The Mustangs will graduate two seniors in Watts and Desira, but return a host of talented underclassmen in Lindsey Blair, the Toney sisters, Meaghan Higgins, Karchon, Tracy Garfield, Chrissy Castelli, Sara Weaver and Lauren Comai. Iwema.

"When the season ends and you can evaluate what you have back in the future, it's good to see so many returning kids," Wright said. "They're young, they're excited and we should be even better next year if you look at the way we improved this year."

And still at his side will be Ed. Kritch, Wright's invaluable assistant coach.

"Ed means an awful lot to our program," Wright said. "He has a great rapport with the kids and he understands the game and what has to happen for us to win."

Sam Eggleston is the sports writer for the Northville Record and the Novi News. He can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 104 07 al seggleston@ht homecomm net.

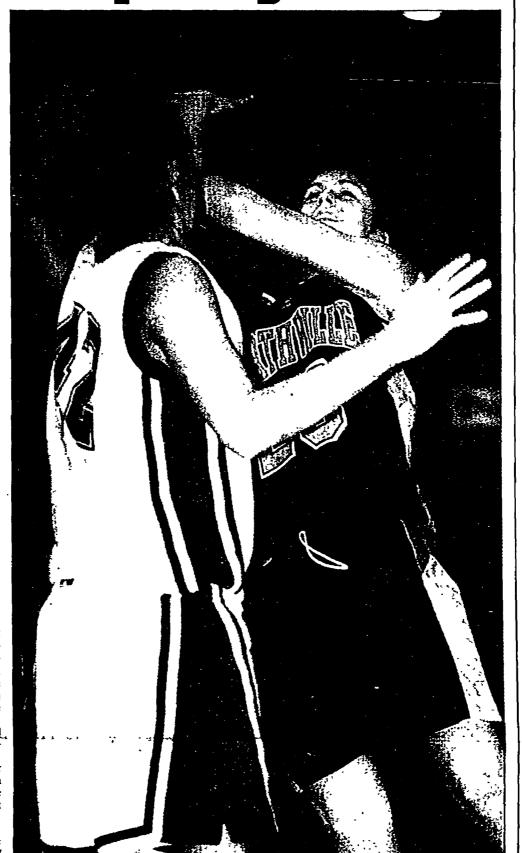
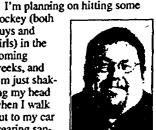


Photo by JOHN HEIDER Northville's Evonna Karchon, right, tries to get a shot past a Salem defender during last Wednesday night's playoff game at South Lyon High.

Where's the snow?

It sure doesn't seem like it, but fall is behind us and — gasp! — winter is here. My only question, being from the Upper Peninsula, is where the heck is the snow?

hockey (both guys and girls) in the coming weeks, and I'm just shaking my head when I walk out to my car wearing sandals and a T-



1

Sam shirt thanks to Eggleston the 60-degree weather we've

been enjoying. It gets a little cool down here and people start throw. ing on their winter coats and chooks (which is Yooper for a winter hat).

I've had the blessing of being a sports writer in the Upper Peninsula and Alaska, and I have a to say that hockey up there is a 3 different breed. In Alaska, I was surprised at the sheer number of girls that played on the boys a teams. Goalies, forwards, defenders - you name it and there was a girl playing the position on one of the teams I covered. In the Upper Peninsula, hockey is big but there aren't too many girls on the teams at the varsity level. I grew up with a national championship through Northern Michigan University with the help of now-professional Dallas Drake, so I became used to a high-paced hockey right out of the gates (I was 11 when they won the title in 1991). Since then, I have to say I've been lucky with some intense games at every location I've been a writer, and I've enjoyed the hockey very much.

This year, at Northville, I'd like to welcome back Brad O'Neill. Brad, as many of you know, started out as the hockey coach in Northville's inaugural year on the ice. He built the program from the ground up and though I never knew him before he came back this year. I have to say it is my belief that the program suffered in his absence. I expect that they are back on track, especially since they earned the first win over Novi in four years under his tutelage

The girls are starting off strong too. I've heard they began their season with a victory over Ladywood (the same team that knocked them out of the playoffs last year) and we'll be bringing you their results and preview next week.

Speaking of previews, I know a lot of you are wondering where the previews are. Seasons are about to start and things are about to get underway. Well, you don't have to wait long. The full wintersession previews will be available in next week's paper. There's plenty of talent for us to marvel at this year, so I don't think you'll be disappointed.



Northville well represtended at state finals

Submitted photo

The Northville Mustangs girls' swimming team was well represented at the State Finals, hosted by the Michigan High School Athletic Association at Eastern Michigan University November 21-22. The girls, who included Alandra Greenlee, Ashley Miller, Alex Tereszczenko, Sara Carr and Kathryn Kusuplos, qualified for five individual events and five relays this year. During the regular season, the Mustangs were ranked in the top 25 for the lower peninsula and having such a dedicated and determined group of girls make it to the state finals is an indication of why they were honored by the coaches across the state. The girls in the photo are (clockwise from top left): Alandra Greenlee, Ashley Miller, Alex Tereszczenko, Sarah Carr and, in the middle, Kathryn Kusuplos.

Hockey earns win over Novi Wildcats

By Sam Eggleston SPORTS WRITER

It was like old times.

The Northville Mustangs hockey team earned its first win over the Novi Wildcats in four years during the second round of the Metro Invitational Hockey Tournament, which was held at the Novi Ice Arena November 21 and 22.

Northville, which opened its season with the tournament hosted on their home ice, came out ready to play and notched a 2-1 victory over their crosstown rivals.

"Having Brad O'Neill back at the helm is a very positive thing for Northville," Phelps said. "He's well versed in hockey, and he know what he's doing when it comes to running a program. He's got some nice players and a very solid team this year."

The Mustangs, who fell to Farmington Unified 4-1 in their first game of the tournament, were the first to get on

the board.

The Mustangs notched their first goal of the night in the first period, this time getting the score from Robbie Riehl with an assist going to Matt Long. The goal was scored against goalie Justin Ruccolo.

"I have to give Justin credit with how he played," Phelps said. "It was his first varsity hockey game and he only allowed two goals."

Junior Mike Monticciolo took the puck in with an assist going to Troy Engelland and notched the second score against Ruccolo and to ice the game for the Mustangs. Novi fought back, scoring a

late goal by Chris Zarem to cut the Northville lead to 2-1, but that would be all the scoring either team would manage.

"Beating Novi was a good win for us," O'Neill said, "It has been a few years since we've done it. I think this was

Continued on B5

Well, winter's here and I don't even have to worry about putting on my mittens or keeping a pastie warm while I go out and do some ice fishing. Life is definitely different in this neck of the woods - at least the hockey reminds me of home!

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.homccomm.net.



Domonique Desira Senior **Basketball**

It's never easy to end your senior year with a loss - but Desira did so in style. She played hard, determined and dedicated in the Mustangs' loss to the Salem Rocks in the second round of the Districts. Her ability to "Dominate" the boards and keep shots outside



Ant was it - a solitor as

made her an effective and consistent player all season long.



Andrea Watts Senior

Basketball

Watts is the kind of athlete you just have to admire. She manages to combine strength and grace and do it in a way that makes you nod approvingly. She's full of talent too, and never gives up. Just the look of determination on her face when she's in the middle of a competition lets you know that you don't want to get in her way. And, let's not for-



a Constitution of the

get, she's a leader by example and in spirit. All around, Watts is the kind of player any coach would love to have.

It's all about family, faith and coaching

Detroit Lions' quarterback coach Kevin Higgins appreciates the opportunities his life has given him

By Sam Eggleston SPORTS WRITER

In the world of coaching, much like that of playing, getting to the National Football League is an amazing accomplishment.

Northville resident'-Kevin Higgins was quick to agree with that statement, but even quicker to point out that it wouldn't have even been a consideration if his family hadn't been in complete support of the advancement.

Higgins, who is the quarter-back coach for the Detroit Lions, knew it was a difficult prospect for his children when the opportunity knocked for him to take a position in the professional ranks. With some family meetings, and plenty of prayers, the decision was made to pick up their roots in Pennsylvania and make the move to Northville.

"It was a family decision," Higgins said. "We discussed it and decided as a family that this was a great opportunity.

For Higgins, Northville had a lot to offer — both with its convenient location and impressive academic-minded school system.

"I looked at the South Lyon area because it was more rural," Higgins said. "But I wasn't as impressed with the district when it came to the academics like Northville's. The athletic programs are solid here, and the academics are fantastic. Northville was also located close to the highways, which was a benefit."

Higgins found himself in a situation of a changing head coach following his first year with the Lions, and was glad to become a member of Steve Mariucci's program and continued on as the quarterback coach.

"As a head coach, Steve works predominantly with the offensive side of the ball," Higgins said. "He's at all the

staff meetings, and when I work individually with my quarterbacks, we often sit down with Steve and go through every game tape. He knows quarterbacks, and has been involved with some of the best in Brett Favre, Steve Young and Jeff Garcia in his previous coaching positions."

Working with great quarterbacks is something Higgins is getting used to.

"Joey Harrington is an out-standing individual who is just learning the professional game of football," Higgins said. "If you look at some of the great quarterbacks in the history of the league, it took a couple of years for them to completely understand the game. Joey was thrown into the fire, but has really begun to get more and more confident in understanding his ability. Hopefully, that continues."

Harrington noted that having Higgins as a position coach helps him grow as a player.

'Coach Higgins is very, very detail orientated," Harrington said following the Lions victory over the Chicago Bears November 9. "One of the things you need to know as a quarterback is what to do in every situation, and Coach Higgins makes sure I have that covered."

Higgins has felt the same pressures as his quarterbacks. Both Harrington and Mike McMahon have shown impressive skills while under center. Higgins has also worked with third-string quarterback Ty Detmer and former Lions quarterback Charlie Batch.

Before coming to Northville, Higgins was increasing his football knowledge at the head coach of Lehigh University in Pennsylvania. Seven years were spent as the Mountain Hawks' head coach, and an additional six were as the assistant at the highly-successful college. In 1995, 1998 and 2000, Higgins was the Patriot-League Coach of the Year and was named the

Regional Coach of the Year in 1999. In each of his final two seasons as the helmsman for the team, Higgins was a candidate for the Eddie Robinson National Coach of the Year, and award that honors the top coach in Division I-AA.

"We, as a family, had a great time while I coached at Lehigh," Higgins said. "It was a great opportunity that led me here. I had hoped that an opportunity would present itself to move up to the National Football League. After we prayed to God as a family, the opportunity opened up."

The coaching position with the Lions wasn't Higgins' first encounter with the NFL though. During the summers of 1996 and 1997, he did an internship with the Philadelphia Eagles. While there, he had the opportunity to work with coaches such as Andy Reid and then-assistant-coach Jon Gruden, who now heads up the Tampa Bay Buccaneers.

"I had the opportunity to meet a lot of coaches then," Higgins said. "I studied the West Coast offense and implemented a very similar program at Lehigh. Of course, we were able to do more things with it that you can't necessarily do in the NFL, like wide receiver screens."

Higgins career in sports started in his home town of Emerson, New Jersey. There, he was blessed with a great line of dedicated coaches.

"In high school, I had what I consider a great football coach," Higgins said. "I also had great baseball and basketball coaches. I immediately knew that I wanted to coach at some point."

After high school, Higgins went to West Chester University, a Division II school, and played free safety for four years as he earned a nod as the team's most valuable defensive back.

It was during his time at West Chester, and on the football field, that Higgins realized his

lofty goal of playing professional football was something he needed to set aside.

"I was a defensive back, and I remember thinking after a play where a runningback made a move and beat me that I wasn't destined to play professionally," Higgins said.

Instead, he was destined to coach professionally. Not only has Higgins made a mark on the

Detroit Lions and the players who are tutored by him, but his family has made their mark on Northville.

Detroit Lions' quarterback coach and Northville resident Kevin Higgins poses with the

His wife, Kay, is involved in church activities, while his daughter Meaghan plays basketball for the Northville Mustangs. Higgins' youngest child, Katie Rose, is currently a student in Northville's middle school, while his oldest, Tim, is a student at the

three things he loves the most: His family, God and football.

University of Florida and a member of their football team.

Photo by SAM EGGLESTON

"I've been blessed with a great family," Higgins said. "I couldn't ask for anything more."

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.net.

There's no 'I' in this team

By Sam Eggleston SPORTS WRITER

Who hasn't ever dreamt about b eing a pro? Especially a pro with he National Football League.

Making the Detroit Lions is an accomplishment that is beyond th e ability of the majority of the pop ulation. Sure, all of us remember our playing days and some of us have this dream that we could h ave made the pro level - but for s ome of us, that dream is reality. We're talking about your friend s and neighbors. The guys you go to church with and play softball with. We're talking every-day Novi residents. No, they aren't taking snap on t he field or trying to catch those ev er-clusive Joey Harrington passes, but they're part of the Lions an d they're pros nonetheless --- they 're the stat guys. Every week when you see statistics on the television, Internet or in the new spapers regarding the Detroit Lions, you can thank these guys for doing one heck of a job.

on a play will pop up, causing some laughter to echo over the headsets each member of the stat crew wears.

"We have a lot of fun." said Mena, who is responsible for entering all of the data into the Game Statistics Information System for the NFL. "This is a great group of guys. Don't get me wrong, everyone takes their position seriously, but we don't do it for the money. For us, it's a passion. We enjoy doing it and we enjoy the challenge behind it."

"Quite frankly, he's one of the smartest guys I know and he's a perfect candidate for quality control."

Mena, who is in his fourth year with the crew, is a whiz when it comes to computer systems thanks to his background working at America On Line, Netscape and Sun Microsystems.

According to Brenner



· KELLER



Novi seems to be Lions central these days, boasting five team statisticians with neighboring Commerce playing host to one.

Willy Mena, Micheal Brenner, Dave Irvine, Dan Blossfeld and Tim May all hail from Novi while Phil Austin is Commerce's lone representative on the statistician crew.

"It caught me by surprise," said Blossfeld, who is one of the manual play-by-play statisticians, of the number of Novi neighbors he had working along side of him. "It wasn't until they asked me to do it that I knew some of these guys worked for the Lions."

It's a job that requires plenty of patience, keen eyes, an understanding of how the game works and, of course, a sense of humor. During a game, the group chatters constantly, calling out plays, yardage, where the ball was spotted and who was the defensive play-maker for the down. Now and then, a small joke or comment

The crew is made up of firstyear guys, veterans - and even an old-timer in Irvine.

"I started to sub in 1982," said the Novi resident, who sends his three sons to Northville schools. "I started full time as defensive spotter in 1985. I've been here the longest, that's for sure."

The group is headed by Brenner, who has the title of Chief Statistician - a job that Brenner definitely doesn't mind having.

"I've been doing it (keeping stats) for 30 years," Brenner said. "I really don't see myself not wanting to do it. My job is by far the best though. Everyone else has to work with computers and enter data, but I get paid to use my eyes and watch the game."

From the Novi side of things, there are two rookies that have recently made the team. Blossfield and May are first-year stat guys, but have caught on nicely and enjoy every minute of what they do.

"I love it," May said. "After my first game, I came home and told my wife that it was like dying and going to heaven."

Though not everyone would compare their job to a heavenly event, the stat crew is quick to get their job done and get it done right. When things go wrong and there are corrections to be made, Austin is the guy for the job.

"Phil Austin is one of the most detail orientated guys I know," Mena said of the quality-control statistician from Commerce. the guy who keeps things rolling smoothly.

"Willy is the backbone of this group," he said. "He's usually the first one in and, though I'm in charge, gets things running the way they are supposed to. "I don't know this computer

work from Adam, but the rest of these guys do. They have a lot of respect for what each other does, and they get things done right."

The process itself is fairly simple. First, the Offensive Spotter (Brenner) calls out the play, such as a run by a particular player. The defensive Spotter (Irvine) then announces who the tackler(s) are. Finally, the ending spot of the ball is determined. All of the information is put directly into a laptop computer and is quickly transferred to the NFL and to the various personnel working in the press box.

All of that, and these guys get to watch the game now and then too.

"When things are going smoothly, you get to see some of the game." Mena said, and then added with a laugh that sometimes things don't go very smooth. 'There are actually times that I don't know what the score is. As long as there aren't any crazy plays, you can enjoy the game, but it's never like actually being in the stands."

Whenever a position opens up with the stat team, there seems to be plenty of people to fill in and take over --- in fact, they are even willing to take their kin's' spot. "I'm sure they would," Irvine

answered when asked if his three sons, Chris, Phil and Steve, would

Photo by SAM EGGLESTON Who knew Novi was Lions Central? Five guys from Novi and one from **Commerce help the Detroit** Lions keep track of their stats: Dave Irvine, Tim May, Phil Austin, Dan Blossfeld, **Micheal Brenner and Willy** Mena.

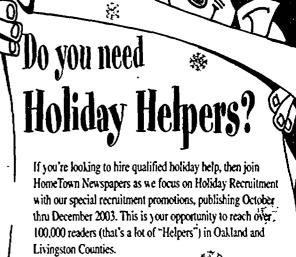
fill in for him if he ever decided to leave. 'They like to come up in the box and do it. All three of my boys are football fanatics like I am. They think it's very cool, and they love the preferred seating."

In fact, the seating, which is at the 40-yard line of the southernside of the field and well above the stands, is some of the best there can be.

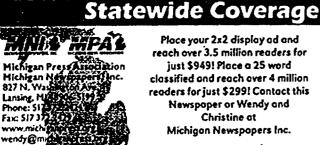
"It's the best seat in the house that you get paid to sit in," Brenner said.

So, the next time you open your Monday paper and read the box score of the Lions game, you can nod approvingly at the fact that your neighbors are busy getting you the best stats available.

For these guys, it's just part of being on the team.



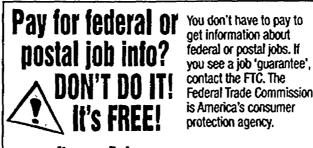




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- Player of the Year -

Shannon Waddell

South Lyon senior

Domonique Desira

Northville senior

- · Named first team All-KVC.
- Scored in double figures in 20-of-22 games. Maintained KVC-high 15.1 points per game
- scoring average.
- Averaged team-high 8.2 rebounds per game.
- Averaged 2.7 steals per game.

• Averaged seven rebounds, six points a

• Scored 13 points in the post-season

"Her biggest asset is her ability to

defend," said Pete Wright, "She's a very

good defender than knows how to move

well and goes after the ball hard. She's a

solid rebounder as well, and a very active player in the post.

She can slow a player down, deflect the pass or block a shot.

game against Novi and had 15 rebounds

game, two steals and three blocks

Honorable mention WLAA

She's just an excellent defender."

Rachele Folino

Novi sophomore

game

Hartland

Second-team All-KVC

• Averaged 1.2 assists per game.

Shannon Waddell

"I think Shannon's been the most dominant player in the confer-ence for the last two years," Lions head coach Jim Brennan said, "And that's really tough to do, because the second time through she had every defense focusing on her. Every body basically planned their game around stopping her and she was still able to churn out 15 points per game.



 Named honorable mention All-KVC. Maintained 6.2 points per game scoring average.

"Katie matured extremely as a basketball player this season," Eagles head coach Brian Ives said. "Last year there were Katie times when she would shoot the ball too quick and not use her head. This year she

• 12.5 points, three rebounds, steals, sec-

• 13 games with double digit scoring,

"The second time through the KVC (por-

tion of our schedule), Alison was just dom-

free-throw line. Gordo's tough and a good rebounder, espe-



Gordon was just deadly with that little 15-foot jump shot from the

cially for her size. And she hit some big free throws for us."



Fallon Sanborn Lakeland iunior

- Named first team All-KVC.
- Maintained 8.8 points per game scoring average
- Drilled team-leading 24 three-pointers.

"Fallon is probably day-in and day-out the hardest working kid I have ever Fallon coached," Eagles head coach Brian Ives Sanbo Sanborn said. "Sometimes she almost works too hard and she's spent from working so hard

in practice. She busts her tail and is always trying to get better. When she really decides to shut someone down, she is probably one of the best defenders that I've ever had. She can do a little bit of everything."

Simone Toney

Northville sophomore

· Averaged eight points a game, three rebounds, two assists and two steals All-Division Western Division WLAA



Toney

"What Simone contributes is her consistency," Pete Wright said. "You know she's going to get eight points a game because she's a scorer. She drives to the basket, or she can pull up and shoot threes. With some players, you don't know what you'll

get from game to game, but with Simone, you know she's going to come in and play as well, if not better, than the game before."

Nicole Wilson

- Lakeland junior Named second team All-KVC.
- Maintained team-high 9.0 points per
- game scoring average. • Drilled 16 three-pointers.

"On the basketball floor, Nicole is far and away the quickest player in the Nicole league," Eagles head coach Brian Ives said. Wilson She can explode past everybody. She handled the ball well and really grew into how

to be a point guard. Defensively, she got much better. She started to learn how to play defense. She definitely benefits from being able to get out and run and play pressure defense. There were many girls that she just turned inside out."

Whitney	Fuelling
---------	----------

Milford senior

- Named first team All-KVC.
- 10.9 points per game scoring average. Averaged 5.8 rebounds per game.
- Averaged 1.4 assists per game.

"I think Whitney had a very good season," Mavericks head coach Don Palmer said. Whitney "Especially considering the fact that we were Fuelling never able to develop a consistent second or

third threat to take some pressure off her. Whitney was our first option on offense, an integral part of our press break and was usually assigned to defend the other teams' best offensive player, whether it be a perimeter or an interior player. In 27 years of coaching girls' hoops

Corey Innes

Alison Greulich

• First team All KVC

• 27 3-point field goals

Novi senior

ond in assists

three over 20

defense.

Lakeland junior

- Named honorable mention All-KVC. • Maintained 6.2 points per game scoring

"Corey was rock solid for us this year," Eagles head coach Brian lves said. "She definitely played the most minutes for us Innes all year long. She busts her butt and does

so many little things that don't get recognized, between setting screens, rebounding, defending, and making a pass. And she's a great spot-up shooter."



Northville junior

- 7.5 points game, four rebounds, two steals
- Honorable mention WLAA • 23 points in post season game Vs Novi
- 21 points first game of season Vs South Lyon

Evonna "Evonna is an extremely quick player as Karchon everyone saw in the Novi game." Northville coach Pete Wright said. "She can beat kids

off of the dribble and finishes well at the rim. This year, she developed a mind-set for playing in the game and understood what we were trying to do offensively and defensively. She's



Katie Wissper

Lakeland junior

 Named honorable mention All-KVC. Maintained 3.9 points per game scoring

- average.
- · Led team in blocked shots and rebounds.

"Katie is very, very athletic," Eagles head coach Brian lves said. "By the time Katie she graduates, she will probably have the Wissner blocked shots record at Lakeland High

School. She had a little bit of a bad back and was nursing that, but she's tough. She does an outstanding job rebounding the basketball and defensively she got better and better on guard-



· Averaged 11 points and 7.5 rebounds

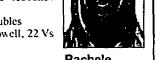
Domonique

Desira

 Seven games with double-doubles · 20 points Vs WLC, 17 Vs Howell, 22 Vs

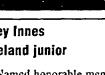
"When I think about Rachele, I think about Folino

how she can play four positions," Novi coach Bill Kelp said. "We asked her to play the five position after our three little losses in the middle of the year and she did a great job for us. I think the biggest thing about Rachele is that she wants to be the best. She'll work to achieve that to no end. She's just a sophomore, so she has two more years and I think she's going to get better and better."







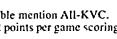




Alison

Greulich





inant," Coach Bill Kelp said. "She was playing extremely well for us. I think the biggest thing about

her, and something we're obviously going to miss, is the way

she could score. But bigger than that, we're going to miss her

ability to bring the ball up the floor and break down a

· Drilled 22 three-pointers.

Corey



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Milford Times





Northville Record

SUE DONOVAN, BOB PERI, JENNIFER REWITZ

Thursday, November 27, 2003-NORTHVILLE RECORD

Wildcats fall in OT to strong Brother Rice

at 7-7.

take a 14-7 lead.

of the endzone.

By Sam Eggleston SPORTS WRITER

For those who were near the line, or standing with a good vantage point, it seemed as though that ball crossed the threshold.

Of course, no one wearing black and orange would say so, but the faithful in green and white quickly exploded as the final attempt to cross into the endzone by senior quarterback Mike Hart was waved off by the line judge in Novi's 31-28 loss in overtime to Brother Rice in the state semi final game.

The call, which was an optionstyle play that gave Hart the choice to hand the ball to fullback Josh Buck or take it himself, came after Rice nailed a field goal to take the lead in their overtime possession.

"It was game 13 for us and we knew we had to go for it if we want-

SPORTS SHORTS

Rec Basketball League forming

The Northville Parks and Rec department is currently accepting player registration for it's Youth Winter Basketball Leagues and will continue to do so until the leagues are full.

The game groups for the girls are sixth-eighth grades and ninth-12th grades. They boys groups have teams of eighth-ninth grade and 10th-12th grades. All leagues will play an eight or 10 game schedule, primarily on Saturdays starting January 17.

Teams will practice one or two nights each week. A coaches meeting for all teams will be held December 17.

Adult coaches are needed for the program. The coach's child will play for free if the coaches volunteer.

If interested, or if you'd like more information, please contact Dave DeMattos at (248) 349-0203, ext. 1405.

à

AAU Girls' Basketball Tryouts

ed to beat our opponent," Novi coach Tab Kellepourey said. "We have a lot of respect for Brother Rice, but we

have a lot of respect for ourselves too.

Our kids were fired up. We talked

about what we should do on the side-

lines, and they were all in favor of

After the hand-off had gone to

Buck on the previous three plays that

had went three, four and two yards

respectively, it seemed as though all

of the Brother Rice defenders would

be keying on the big bruiser of a full-

back. All, except, one. A Warrior

came blitzing off the end, scooted

around his blocker and put a hit into

Hart's thigh pads just as the senior

cut upfield with the ball. As he was

falling forward, Hart stretched the

ball and touched the goal line as he

hit the ground --- but the play was

waved off as the official said his knee

hit the ground prior to the ball break-

going for it."

ing the plane.

The Legion AAU girls' basketball team will be holding tryouts December 7 and Dec. 13 at Andover High School. The time and details are available at www.legionbb.com or through email at legionbb@hotmail.com.

There is a \$20 fee to participate in the highly-competitive tryouts, and there will be teams in age groups from 10 years of age through 18-year-old players.

For more information, email legionbb@hotmail.com.

Ski and snowboard club registration

Northville Parks and Rec is currently taking registrations for the popular ski and snow board club. All students in middle school and high school are encouraged to participate and membership includes luxury motor coach transportation to local ski areas on Friday evenings and some Saturday evenings as well as group lift tickets, rental equipment discounts and lessons at Mt. Brighton Ski Area. The club membership is limited to 300 participants.

The fee is \$135 for city and township residents, \$138 for school district residents and \$145 for nonresidents. Please bring a current school photo and last year's club ID card.

"I thought it crossed," Hart said

following the game and then shrugged. "I can think it, everyone

can think it, but the official didn't and

Novi knew right away that this

wasn't going to be an easy game. Playing at Berkley High School, on

the new, rubber turf that has become

so popular over the last couple of

years, the Wildcats kicked off and

proceeded to be picked apart by a

patient Brother Rice running game

that took five minutes off the clock

on their way to a score and a 7-0 lead.

In turn, the Warrior defense held

strong, forcing the Wildcats to punt.

After a broken coverage allowed the

Wildcats to give the Rice returner

pressure and caused a fumble, senior

utility player Trent Sisson dove on it

and came up with the football to

Novi took advantage as Hart

steadied his team with some impres-

revive the Wildcats.

that's all that matters."

Also, adult chaperones are need-ed for trips and will receive complimentary skiing.

For more information, please contact Northville Parks and Rec at (248) 349-0203.

Want to play some basketball?

Northville Parks and Rec will be hosting a Women's Winter Basketball League starting January 28, 2004. The cost to join is \$395 per team and the season will run through 11 weeks.

Registration starts December 16th. If interested, please visit Parks and Rec or contact them at (248) 449-9947.

Learn to Skate

The arena's Learn to Skate Program runs through December 20 with a wide variety of classes being offered at different times Tuesdays through Saturday. Classes include, Beginning Tots, Snowplow Sam, Freestyle, Adult, Hockey Skills and Home School.

eventually finding Trevor Hoover on

a nine-yard touchdown strike. Senior

Mark Angelocci's kick tied the game

The Wildcats took the lead early in

the second quarter following a third

and nine scenario. Hart backed up in

the pocket, guarded by protection from Ryan Pritchard, Kyle

Margrave, Chad Thurman, Steve

Jabbori and Mark Kaminski, and

found Hoover streaking down the sideline for a 27-yard scoring pass to

Rice wasn't deterred though, and

answered quickly after returning the

ball to the Novi 26-yard line on the

kickoff. The defense held, for the

most part, and forced a fourth and

goal. The stand was for naught

though, as Rice scored a touchdown

to a wide-open receiver in the corner

With the game tied 14-14 and time

There will be no classes the week of November 24-29.

Arena spokesman Jennifer Sutherland said admission and skate rental at the open house is free to all skaters, and will give prospective students a chance to skate with Learn to Skate instructors so they can be placed in the proper class. She added Learn to Skate students get free admission to open skating at Novi Ice Arena throughout the session with their registration receipt.

Open registration for Learn to Skate is underway. For more information, call the Novi Ice Arena at (248) 347-1010.

Golf Lessons Available

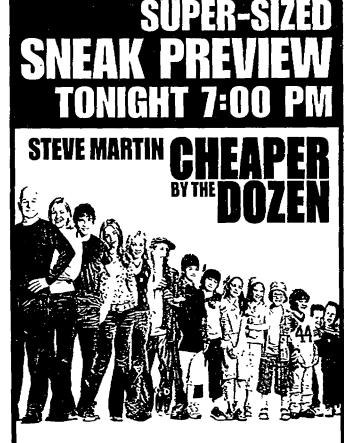
Looking to improve that swing? Tanglewood Golf Club is offering individual and group lessons by PGA Certified instructors for private lessons. Call (248) 486-3355 and ask for went to work trying to gain enough yardage to get within Angelocci's range. After multiple passing plays, the Wildcats opted for a halfback draw that sprung for 39 yards and the touchdown as Josh Woods bounced outside, juked a linebacker and outran the defense to the endzone for the surprising score with just under 11 seconds left in the half.

The 21-14 lead was one that the Wildcats enjoyed for the majority of the second half. After multiple turnovers, punts and a tenacious defense kept both sides from getting in the redzone throughout the scoreless third quarter, an unfortunate fumble to start the fourth quarter gave Rice the momentum they needed. The Warriors marched 63 yards in a minute and a half before scoring to tied the game 21-21.

sive throws from the backfield and expiring in the half, the Wildcats another turnover with an interception, which Rice took advantage of once again. After taking the ball: down to the Novi 31-yard line, Rice set up for the field goal but was called for a delay of game that, forced them to go for the first down instead on fourth and eight. The play was a pass, which was caught, s and then an extra 15 yards was : awarded by the officials due to a personal foul. With 1:33 left in the game, Rice crossed into the endzone for the score and a 28-21 lead.

The Wildcats, who have been in similar situations throughout the year, started down the field from their own 27 yard line. Hart put together 60 yards in passing and 10 f on the ground before finding ; Hoover in the endzone for a touchdown and a tied game with 21.4 seconds left in the game and both teams prepping for overtime.

Minutes later, Novi committed



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Hockey earns first-win over Novi Wildcats in four years as O'Neill returns

Continued from B1

our first win over them in four years. More importantly, it was good for us to get that first win of the season."

Both Phelps and O'Neill agreed that the first handful of games in the season are always

going to be shaky.

the first conference game of the year. Northville will then host goalie that will have an impact Stevenson at 6:10 p.m. on this team."

The Unified squad, which had already played a game earlier in the week, scored three goals on power plays and one with a 5on-5 situation.

"Besides their special-team goals, it was a light game. O'Neill said "We just had some reached at (248) 349-1700 eit untimely penalties that hurt us. For our first game, we played

"limmy did a great job for rather tentatively, but we turned us," O'Neill said. "He's a good it around when we played Novi." Northville's only goal of the night came off the stick of Jake Vitale, a senior, who was assisted by his brother, Joe Vitale, and Blake Brittina.

> Sam Eggleston is the sports writer for the Northville Record and the Novi News - He can be 104 or seggleston@ht homecora - ret

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Brad, Larry or Tom.

Both teams were still basically doing tryouts," O'Neill said. "We have our team, but we want to see who is going to go out and work hard in the beginning of the season. We want to see who deserves to be out there."

Northville returns to action when they visit Walled Lake Western Saturday at 5:50 p.m. in

their season off on the right skate, but they learned from their mistakes nonetheless.

The Mustangs didn't start

December 3.

Northville 1

Farmington Unified 4,

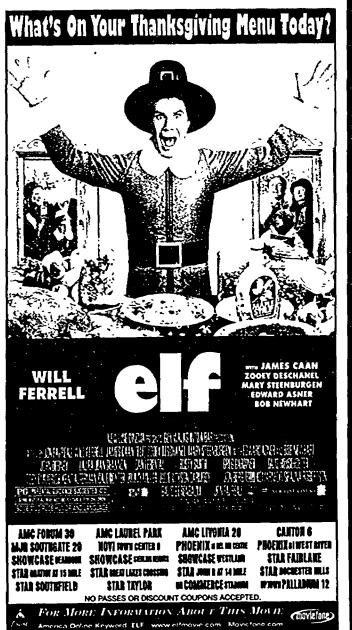
In their first game of the year, the Mustangs had the daunting task of taking on a very strong Unified squad even with the impressive play of Jim Gates in goal as he stopped 27 of 31 shots in the heavily lopsided affair.

Baut Disney Pictures M II RPHY Check Your Pulse At The Door...If You Have One. NELT IN A APRIL Maria Diguna the second s tatat - - O Auritan PG have a the task and haunted-many SEE IT NOW! TANCFORCH 30 AMCLAUREL PARK ANC LIVONIA 20 CANTON 6 EMAGINE NON AVESOUTHGATE 20 PHOENIX INTER PHOENIX WEST BATE SHOWCASE DEURORN SHOWCASE SHEETING SHOWCASE MESTIAND STAR FAIRLANE STAR GRUDOF AT 15 ML STAR GRUT LIAIS CROSSING STAR JOHN R AT 13 WILE STAR ROCHESTER HILLS STAR SOUTHFIELD STAR TAYLOR

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REGIONAL MARKETPLACE

Page 6B

Thursday, November 27, 2003

MONEY MATTERS

Arm yourself with a holiday spending plan

If you've not yet crafted a holiday spending plan, consider these strategies to avoid letting your generosity get the better of you. Decide whom you'll buy for. Sit

down and think about whom you really want to buy for this year. Is it really necessary to give gifts to your housekeeper, stylist, pet sitter and office mates? Send them a fun e-card, or take the time the write a heartfelt sentiment in a carefully chosen holiday card - one that you think would appeal to their personality. Do you feel compelled to buy for your extended family members? Don't assume your aunts, uncles, grandmas and grandpas want gifts. They may be up to their ears in gadgets and trinkets. Instead, query them about what's near and dear to their hearts. Perhaps you can make a contribution to their favorite charity (which is tax deductible) or accompany them on a community service outing.

Decide how much you'll spend. Once you've determined whom you'll buy for, jot down how much you think you want to spend on gifts. Include incidental items like Christmas cards (be sure to include postage), decorations, crafts, holiday food and any outfits you want to purchase for you or your kids. Next to each item jot down the dollar amount you want to spend and then tally the costs. Is it more than you're comfortable spending? Look at your list and cut out names or reduce the gift dollar amounts.

Tap the right side of your brain get creative. Consider some alternatives to store bought gifts. Dr. Sam Quick, human development & family relations specialist with the Kentucky State University Cooperative Extension Office, recommends crafting homemade gift certificates. What type of gifts might you give? For the friends in your life who are single moms, or for the couple who needs a muchneeded break from their kids, donate four Friday evenings of free babysitting. A son might give his mother a certificate for an hour of his time doing any chore of her choice - with no protests.

To create a gift certificate in Word, open a new document. Click "Insert" on your tool bar, and then choose "Text Box" from the pull down menu (fifth option from the bottom). Draw your text box. Click inside the text box to add text. In the top left hand corner of the box type "To:" and fill in the name of the person to whom you're presenting the certificate. Next, type "What:" and describe what your Re specific (Dad will gift is mom a 25 minute back massage.) Finally, in the bottom right hand corner of the certificate, draw a signature line (To draw a line, choose "Autoshapes" by clicking "Insent" and then "Pictures.") There you'll sign your name, in pen. Also, somewhere on the certificate, indicate how long the offer is good for. You can fit three or four certificates on a page. Print the page, cut out the certificates and put them in envelopes. Consider asking your kids to put their artistic touch on the envelopes. You'll be involving them in the gift giving process and you'll set an example of how you can share the Christmas spirit for just pennies. If you pay with credit... If you're planning to use your credit cards this year to purchase gifts, use the one with the lowest interest rate. And treat it as if it's money you drew out of your checking account. Once you reach the dollar limit you decided on when you crafted your spending plan, charge not one cent more. And make a concerted effort to pay down your balance quickly. You don't want to be paying for Junior's toys next August. Club Open a Christmas Account. In January, open a Christmas Club account. Most credit unions and many banks offer them. Put some money in each month based on how much you spent last year. Arrange to have the amount automatically deducted from your paycheck. This way, when it's time to shop for the holidays again, you'll have all the money you need. And you'll earn interest rather than making big interest payments to finance next year's holiday shopping. Mary Davis manages public Mary Davis manages public Grais for the Michigan Credit Union League (MCUL), a statewide trade association representing Michigan credit unions. Send your financial questions to "Your Money Matters" clo the Michigan Credit Union League, P.O. Box 8054, Plymouth, MI 48170-8054, or stop by our Web site (www.mcul.org) to learn more about smart money management. Comments about this column may be e-mailed to mcd@mcul.org.

Dean and Cindi Rottermond, second and third from left in second row, are shown with staffers and collected gifts for the less fortunate.

Rottermond Jewelers gives back to community

It all began five years ago with a hope and dream of Cindi Rottermond, vice president of Rottermond Jewelers.

She clearly remembered how during her days at Ford Motor Company she had participated in a Christmas program called "Operation Good Cheer" in which employees "adopted" abused/neglected children, making the holidays brighter for those in need.

Cindi talked it over with her husband Dean and other staffers at their Milford jewelry store. "Did they want to be involved in a similar local project?" she asked.

When the replies returned in the affirmative, Cindi sprang into action. When she learned that 183 area residents that year had asked for aid through Community Resource Sharing (CRS), a local assistance program, she was, to allocate one gift per adult and three for shocked. * Thus, "Sharing Christmas with Others" was launched. Cindi and Dean asked their customers' also to become involved in adopting 12 families. She distributed flyers around town and Rottermond staffers handed them out to customers. Cindi even devised a method of keeping track of everyone who agreed to contribute and what the donation would be. Gift certificates for food and clothing were also collected and given to CRS for additional families. From warm boots and pajamas to trucks and dolls; the gifts poured in. The Milford Post Office employees adopted / three families and provided everything on ... those families' lists and more. And she didn't stop there. Cindi enlisted the help of parents of the Prestwick Village Golf Club Children's Party and asked them to contribute gift certificates.

Instead of exchanging gifts among themselves, the youngsters brought the gift certificates to their annual party and learned about sharing with others.

Rottermond staffers also were involved. They, too, purchased gifts and wrapped, hauled and delivered them. All of that was in addition to the bookkeeping efforts of making sure every family's gifts were together.

That was five years ago, and the program has continued to grow. This year Rottermond Jewelers has adopted 20 families, and the program of Sharing Christmas with Others has been extended to the Rottermond's Brighton jewelry store.

"Our customers, have come to expect this outreach," said Cindi. "In addition to the Milford Post Office employees, other businesses have called to pitch in. We try each child. For the youngsters, it is often the basics - coats, snow boots and mittens and one toy. We also try to give a grocery gift card to each family for food, " Cindy explained. Clients and other donors are asked to wrap each gift and deliver it to the store by a specific day. Families are directed to come to Rottermonds to pick up their gifts on a designated day in keeping with the confidentiality guidelines set by CRS. But the Rottermonds do not stop there with their service to the community. Dean established a relationship with Huron Valley Schools about 12 years ago, working with jewelry teachers Dorothy Kane at Lakeland and Andrea Bronson at Milford High. He has supplied gemstones and metals for the advanced jewelry classes at both high schools. He also sponsors scholarships for top jewelry students who further their studies.





ADVERTORIAL

Students vie for top honors during a

From left, Dorothy Kane, Andrea Bronson, (HV Schools jewelry instructors), jeweler Eric Larvick and Dean Rottermond with some of the students' work.

special evening at the store to which parents are also invited. Dean and his staff of jewelers judge the submissions, awarding ribbons and scholarships to the students based on design, craftsmanship and uniqueness.

Dean has also served the community in a variety of roles. He has served on the Downtown Parking Authority and been a member and chair of the Milford Downtown Development Authority. He has served as vice chair of the Huron Valley YMCA and has chaired the "Swing for Kids" benefit for the Y's Partners with Youth Scholarship Program. Cindi has assisted in fund raising activ-

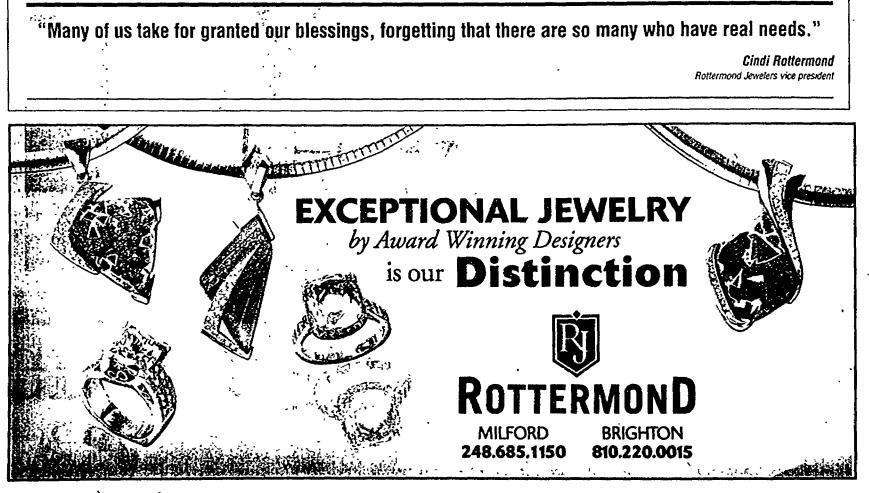
ities as St. Joseph's School in Howell and

served as a Cub Scout den mother for three years. At the pack level, she helped collect food for the homeless and prepare a meal for the less fortunate in Livingston County.

Rottermond Jewelers has also donated to countless organizations throughout the area.

Cindi and Dean, together with their staff, work hard at their commitment to the community, particularly with young people and the less fortunate.

'Many of us take for granted our blessings, forgetting that there are so many who have real needs. Christmas reminds us of core values, and the love we should share with others," Cindi concluded.



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Seeing

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Flamboyant . colors can do wonders for some rooms

By Rose Bennett Gilbert COPLEY NEWS SERVICE

Q: Somewhere I saw a photo of Diana Vreeland's amazing red living room and I've never forgotten it. Who was the designer?

A: The famed Billy Baldwin, no less, he who is still revered and imitated for his tasteful, classic rooms, many based on his trademark "Coromandel brown" color schemes.

Obliging designer that he was, Baldwin responded magnificently when Vogue's inimitable editor asked him to turn her New York apartment into "a garden in hell." All-scarlet and rampant with oversized Persian flowers, that "garden" continues to bloom in memory as the ne plus ultra translation of an individual's personality through color, fabric and furnishings.

The chintz came from John Fowler's famous shop in London, by the way, and Baldwin used it everywhere: up the walls, on the windows and furniture, and framing the large plate mirror he installed behind the sofa. Not for the faint of heart, but the perfect natural habitat for the black-haired, crimson-lipped, totally dazzling Ms. Vreeland.

Q: How do I handle the huge space in our family room-dining room (30 by 22 feet, all running together?) I was thrilled with the size of the space when we first saw the house, but it was still furnished and looked cheerful.

We are newlyweds and don't have much furniture yet --- or much money either! Our dining table and four chairs



Vogue editor Diana Vreeland is up to the challenge of her red and wild living room.

look lost on one end, so far from the couch, two chairs and TV on the other. I need space fillers! Help!

A: You may need space dividers more. Not to divide your room physically, but to suggest different areas within it. Perhaps you missed our recent column, praising the spatial skills of a young friend whose Washington, D.C., studio apartment measures a scant 15 feet square. She's arranged her furniture to create the illusion of three distinct "rooms" living room (with a trundle bed-sofa), dining area and home office, set off behind low bookcases and tall plants. You should be able to create the

same effect without making a major investment in furniture. Buy two area rugs instead, in related colors, but different patterns, to distinguish your dining area from the living-TV room.

Rugs can also go far toward compensating for a paucity of furniture. Ditto for color. Consider painting a strong color on one end wall, in the dining area, say.

Next, find a way to suggest a division without throwing up physical barriers. A standing panel screen can do the trick (make sure it's finished on both sides). So will a pair of freestanding columns (scour your favorite salvage yard), a couple of urns or large

vases on pedestals, even a large green plant or two. Or if your decor is casual, steal an idea from designer Clodagh (one name only, please), who screened off areas in her New York loft-showroom with handsome dividers made from different lengths and thickness of bamboo, stuck in sand in rectangular stone garden planters.

Add small uplights for emphasis. In fact, light can be the subtlest divider of all. Hang an important-looking chandelier or fixture low over your dining table, and install a dimmer switch so you can spotlight the table when it's the dining room's turn to star, or fade it away to focus on the living room.

Registries mean setbacks for real estate marketers

Thursday Nov. 27, 2003

By James M. Woodard COPLEY NEWS SERVICE

Realtors don't like the current do-not-call registry or the proposed do-not-spam registry because they interfere with common real estate marketing practices.

Realtors and their sales associates often use the phone or e-mail communications to seek buyers for their properties or to solicit new list-ings. If these methods are prevented by law, brokers will need to find new techniques to attract buyers and sellers.

Perhaps, though, that challenge would be healthy for the industry.

As it stands, the Federal Trade Commission has the legal authority to operate the do-not-call registry while court challenges wind through the legal system. In other words, the registry is enforced by law. And Realtors are feeling the effect on their marketing.

Real estate professionals who have registered for and obtained registry lists but fail to follow the rules may be subject to a claim by the FCC or a private party, according to a National Association of Realtors report. Violators can be fined up to \$11,000 per violation.

The law is unclear regarding brokers who fail to obtain do-not-call lists, but whether the bro-ker has or has not obtained a list, he will have to defend himself in court if a complaint is filed. That can be costly and time-consuming.

The proposed do-not-spam law is receiving overwhelming support by legislators who sense the strong public desire to restrict unwanted e-mails.

"Realtors use e-mail as a communication tool isely and in a targeted manner," the National Association of Realtors report said. "We already comply with many of the practices that would be required by the proposed legislation. Our association would be concerned with any bill that would attempt to create a do-not-spam registry given our experience with problems already created by the do-not-call registry.'

The new law would prohibit e-mail senders from falsifying or disguising their identity and would ban use of incorrect, misleading or fraudulent subject lines. It would require the inclusion of a legiti-mate return e-mail and physical postal address for the sender and a functioning opt-out mechanism.

Among other requirements, it would also necessitate a clear and conspicuous notice that e message is an advertisement or solicitation.

Send inquiries to James M. Woodard, Copley News Service, P.O. Box 120190, San Diego, CA 92112-0190.







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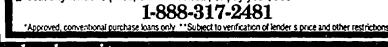
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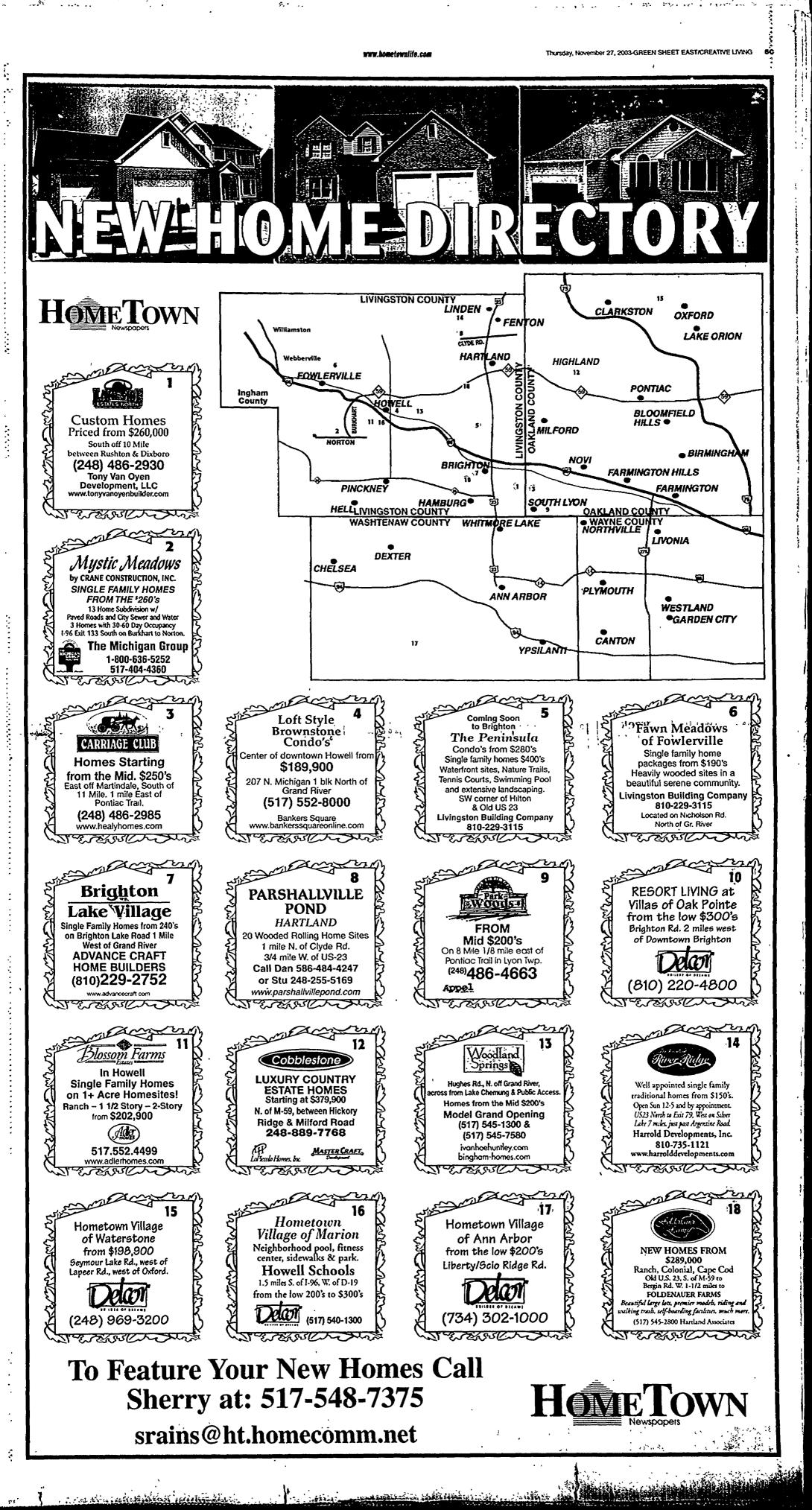
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S. LYOM/BRIGHTON area. 3 br apt, 1 full bath. Utilities includ- ed. Brighton area schools 5800 mo. Call (248)486-8110 MonFrt. 9-5 for more infor- mation or to make appt. Security depost required.	A/C, carpet & appliances Heat included 248-353-9010 x10	laundry, gas heat, c/a, private balcony, watk-in closet in mas- ter br., finished watk out w/g pabo, 2 car attached garage, 1.5 security, 6 mo lease pos- sible, ready to move-in at close of lease. Option to buy avail.	WHITMORE LK. 2 bedroom, wistove, indge, taundry book up Close to schools & hwy No pets \$700 734-449-0872	Gentry Real Estate (248) 887-7500 FARMINGTON HILLS 4 Bedroom Home Central air, Basement, Immediate Occu-	(517) 546-6320 HOWELL VERY NICE, 2 br., in city No pets/smokers S625/mo RE/MAX Executives, Sara, (517)540-1700, ext. 109	BRIGHTON. FURNISHED, executive style 3 bedroom, 2 bath No lease Perfect tempo- rary residence. (810)227-3225 HARTLAND SCHOOLS - All	Clean & quiet \$325 includes all util ties (734)658-8823 Rooms for Rent (140) SOUTH LYON. Delaxs rooms.	2 br. completely furnished, screen porch, beautiful pool, pets OK. Munutes from poean & colt country club, 15 min from Ft. Lauderdale beach & airport. (248) 684-9592
SOUTH LYON 1 & 2 bed- room. Private entrance, pets welcome, C/A, kitchen appliances incl.,	SOUTH LYON. 182 bedroom, starting at \$550. Appliances, water/heat included No pets 810-629-3122 WALLED LAXE AREA	All monthly dues & taxes incl in payment of \$1,995 Come take a look at your new home! (248) 349-2343 NORTHYILLE CONDO Rent-to-Own, With help	Homes for Rent 4050 BRIGHTON 2 br., 1 bath mobile home, appliances, laundry, lake access, fenced, garage, pets ok mo. to mo. \$750/mo tab bet herea 2/8 210 2005	pancy. Rent or Lease w'Option to buy Negotiable terms. Great neighborhood & schools All applances 25 car garage, 25 baths Security Deposit, no pets or smoking \$2900	INTERESTED IN RENTING WITH AN OPTION TO BUY? Start building your future now with no banks or credit scores (248) 421-1335 cpsolutionsRc@earthlink.net	sports lakefront, 3 br. 2 bah, 1,600sq ft. quality home 51 395/mo. (810)632-6386 LAKE CHEMUNG 3 bedroom, 2 bath, attached garage, no pets \$1 300/mo	Low weekly daily rates, TV, maid service Country Meadow Inn, Pontac Trait (248)437-4421 Halls & Beitdings 4200	Searching for a Job? Find one online at
washet/dryer hookup, income luruts apply Startung at \$530/mo Call (248)349-6612.	Hawk Lake Apis 1 & 2 br & townhouses Lake privileges. Fishing balcomes, central ar, free storage, cable ready 1st Month Free! (248)624-5999	Ist Time Buyers 1 bedroom, just refurbished, new app- liances Several Available S625-S795/mo 24hr message (866) 237-2647 121	1st, last & sec 248-719-2105 BRIGHTON Lake Access, 1 br home w/ bsmt. & all appli- ances Very private surround- mgs (810)599-5566	Tel. 248-471-5714 HAMBURG 2 bedroom w/applances, large yard, no pets \$850/mo (517) 548-4894 after 6pm	MILFORD 2000 sq fL, All mantenance included 25 car garage, 3 br 2 Full baths 1 acre \$1495 248-685-2584	(517) 546-7380 MILFORD. 2 br. 2 bath log home, on private lake w'great view heated porch \$1,250 mo (586)823-5237	SOUTH LYON- Large building for shop or storage, room for 4 cars plus 248-437-5336 or 248-320-7554	www.home- townlife.com





GOLF CARD MEMBERSHIP Includes 2 for 1 green fees at these 7 area courses.*

*Some restrictions apply. Valid one time ONLY per course, unless otherwise indicated. Two for onr inclueds green fees only with the rental powercart, when required. Card effective for 2003 season only. Excludes league play, and outings *Make checks payable to Hometown Newspapers.



www.bometownlife.com

Thursday, November 27, 2003-GREEN SHEET EAST/CREATIVE LIVING 70



REDFORD - Cozy home on double lot. 3 bedroom, 2 bath bungalow w/2 car attached garage by breezeway, finished basement w/2nd kuchen & bath. Newer roof, windows, kitchen & carpet. \$139 000 (18BRA) 734-455-5600



WYANDOTTE - Solid brick bungalow. 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, full basement, 2.5 car garage wopener. Updates include: windows, furnace, C/A, electric & plumbing Freshly painted & 1 year home warranty \$153,000 (42DEE) 734-455-5600



CANTON - What a beauty! 3 bedroom, 1.5 bath colonial wharge cozy family room wfireplace, doorwall to deck & pool, partially finished basement, 2 car attached garage \$214,900 (45MOR) 734-455-5600



NOVI - Prime location, 4 bedroom, 1.5 bath stone house on approximately 35 acres. Newly renovated white kitchen & some newer carpeting Huge pole barn w/aroe work area. Close to Novi schools. 12 Oaks mall and area freeways. \$309,000 (55TEN) 248-349-5600



NORTHVILLE - Atlention Renters. Great occorrunity to live near the historic district. Be the 1st to enjoy this updated starter condo. Fresh paint, newer carpet, updated kitchen and bath. Rent to own option. \$104,000 (25FAJ) 248-349-5600



PLYMOUTH - Beautisul colonial, 3 BR, 1.5 BA home that is totally updated. Natural fireplace in FR. Beautiful hardwood floors in lätchen & hallway. Newer kätchen cabinets & countertops. Florida room screened/stormed w/doorwall from family room. 2 car attached garage. \$244,900 (80ASP) 248-349-5600



SOUTHFIELD - Ranch plus bonus bldg. Outstanding 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath home on large private yard. FR w/bay window. Newer rool. Wood deck & pool. 2 car attached garage has pull down storage plus huge bonus building that has numerous possibilites. \$169,900 (21WES) 248-349-5600



LIVONIA - 2 homes for the price of one. Live in the 3 bedroom brick bungalow & rent out the 2nd house or use as in-law quarters All appliances stay \$210,000 (00HAL) 734-455-5600



PLYMOUTH - Custom contemporary home. Exquisite thru-out! 3 story atrium toyer, spiral oak staircase, great rm wifireplace opens to sunroom, kit w/newer gran-ite counters, formal DR w hdwd floor, lib or music room, master suite w/fireplace, jetted tub, finished LL walk-out to inground pool. \$675,000 (77WES) 734-455-5600



WESTLAND - A honey for the money! 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, fully finished basement whar, updated oak kitchen w.Pergo floors, large 2 car garage & lenced yard \$136,900 (14HAZ) 734-455-5600

AND BEER AND THE

LIVONIA - Meticulously maintained 3 bedroom, 1.5 bath ranch w/spacious & open floor plan. Huge country kitchen w/all appls included. Family room w/natural fireplace & doorwall to large multi-level deck. Newer hdwd in hallway Updated furnace &air Huge fin bsmt w/rec room, bar & work rooms. \$194,900 (61SUN) 248-349-5600



WEST &LOOMFIELD - Multi-level condo. Outstanding 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath condo w/eat-in kitchen. Spacious open floor plan. Master bedroom w/newer bath including separate Jacuzzi tub & shower. Decks off LR & master BR. 2 car attached garage Office/workout area on 4th level. All appls stay \$269,900 (40PAL) 248-349-5600

NORTHVILLE - Awesome Condo. Better

than new 2 bedroom, 2.5 bath end unit

w'granite counters, oak cabinets & walk-in

closets. First floor laundry, finished lower

level, 2 car garage & deck. All appliances

included Pets are allowed \$189,000

(18CHA) 248-349-5600



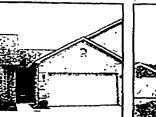
PLYMOUTH -- Ranch condo. Mint move-in condition 2 BR, 1 BA unit w/doonvall that leads to your second story balcony for your private moments or just to enjoy the weather Andersen windows including a large hav window & newer Berber carneting Shows beautifully \$134,900 (54PIN)



LIVONIA - Charming Ranch, Great 3 BR starter or for retrees. Freshly painted this past year. Carpet & hardwood floors, furnace & air replaced 7/03. Large double lot. 2 car garage All appliances stay plus one year home warranty \$161,900 (59BUT) 248-349-5600



DEARBORN HGTS. - Location, Location Roof! This is a sure bet - end of quiet street. Overlooks Edward Hines. Brand new roof (house & garage) 7/03. Several more updates including vinyl windows make this 3 bedroom ranch most desir-able \$142,000 (67MCM) 248-349-5600



CANTON - Backs to wetlands. Gorgeous 2 bedroom, 1.5 bath condo has cathedral ceilings, gas fireplace, beautiful kitchen, 1st floor laundry, doorwall to lovely rear yard & deck, 2 car attached garage w/opener. Home warranty \$219 900 (96CHE) 734-455-5600



DEARBORN - Beautiful & spacious 4 bedroom, 3 full bath brick bungalow offers 15z12 updated kitchen w/Conan counters, newer vinyl floor & large moveable island, most windows replaced, refinished hardwood floors & much more \$219 900 (36HIG) 734-455-5600



LYONS - Just like new. Bright open floor olan w'3 bedrooms, 2 baths, boht oak otchen wisland Hardwood floors, secluded master suite w/Jacuzzi tub & doorwall to deck, track lights in great room w'double doorwall to wrap around deck + 2 car garage, basement w marble floor & more \$324,714 (46EME) 734-455-5600



VAN BUREN - Feed the deer at home. Approx. 145 acres offering 3 bedrooms, 25 baths, ranch w/25 car attached garage, pole barn, lots of closet space, beautifully tiled loyer. All this built in 2001. Custom kitchen & cabinets. A walk to Belleville Lake Great location \$299,900 (65MAR) 734-455-5600



PLYMOUTH - 1/2 acre broadfront ranch. Curb appeal + finished walk-out, 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, dining room, family room, living room, fireplace, deck, 2 car attached garage, all appliances, mature trees, pri-vate updated throughout \$244,900 (15BRD) 734-455-5600



INKSTER - Stunning brick ranch offers partially finished basement w/fireplace & glass block windows, newer furnace, C/A, roof, hot water heater & all appliances All thus in this great 3 bedroom home \$99,900 (930AK) 734-455-5600



PLYMOUTH 705 South Main St. 734-455-5600

NORTHVILLE 175 CadyCentre 248-349-5600

Michigan's #1 Century 21 Firm!



REDFORD - This is a winner! 3 bedroom, 1.5 bath open floor plan ranch wharge rooms, hdwd floors, 2.5 car gar, C/A, completely updated t/o w/3 season Florida room, fin bsmt, maintenance-free exterior, extra deep lot w'sprinkler system, ig shed, S Redford schools on a dead-end street w/park \$166 900 (60SAL) 734-455-5600



WESTLAND - Livonia schools Excellent area of all brick homes. 3 bedrooms, 1.5 bath on main floor. Huge garage & partially finished basement. Onginal owner has updated important "stuff" like roof, furnace, hot water heater, windows & siding Nice layout. Come see \$159,900 (60MER) 248-349-5600





CUSTOM BUILT. Hurry, still time to make

selections, 4 spacious BR's, 3 full and 2 half baths 3+ side entry garage. Golf course community Walk out lower level. Corner lot in great neighborhood. Builder uses only Top quality materials \$499,900 (91GRE) 248-349 5600

BRIGHTMOOR



WESTLAND - Brownstone style condo. Close to shopping schools, community park & library all just 1 stop sign away Great 2 bedroom, 2 5 bath unit w/attached garage, vaulted ceilings in bathrooms, den, spacious kitchen w'doorwall to deck. \$189 000 (90CEN) 734-455-5600



CANTON - Beautifully maintained Cape Cod backing to woods & golf course offers 3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, 3+ car attached garage, basement, private patio, 1st floor master suite whis & her walk-in closet, great room w'gas fireplace & cathedral ceiling \$399,000 (36GLE) 734-455-5600



DEARBORN - Pienty of potential. Home has plenty of sweat equity, already has updated windows & vinyl siding Home being sold AS-IS \$109 900 (54COL) 734-455-5600



DEARBORN HGTS - Spacious home. Meticulously maintained 4 bedroom, 2 bath colonial w/spacious rooms Large living room w/natural fireplace. Large kitchen w/healed floors. Loads of storage - closets - shelves - walk-in storage room. Garage with work area. Cement driveway 10/03. \$194,900 (25HUB) 248-349-5600



SOUTH LYON - Ranch Condo 55+ ranch end unit w/2 BR & 2 full ceramic baths. Extra sink in dressing area. Great view from dining room window. Newer dishwasher Large patio Single car garage. Enjoy clubhouse & beach on Crooked Lake \$136,500 (52CAM) 248-349-5600



SOUTH LYON - One of a kind - approx. 10 acres. See it for yourself. Quality built t/o. 4 BR, 3.5 BA colonial w/open floor plan with views from every window. Nice location siding to a pond. Long wood walk path to serene Tree island. Nicely finished walkout with French doors. \$559,000 (89DIX) 248-349-5600

SOUTH LYON - Welcome Home, Beautiful

3 BR. 2.5 BA Arrish brick colonial offers

spacious MBR w/awesome bath, Great

room has natural fireplace, cathedral ceil-

ings & 9' doorwall to deck. Open lotchen

w'oak cabinets Walk out lower level.



VAN BUREN - I won't last long. 3 bedroom, 1 bath ranch on approx .5 an acre w/2.5 car garage, many major updates, newer carpet to over hardwood floors, C/A, Florida room, ceramic tile in bath, newer windows & huge yard Near x-ways & walk to elementary schools. Home warranty \$139 900 (50HAG) 734-455-5600



CANTON Great location. Spacious 2 bedroom, 1.5 bath townhouse w/upgraded baths, remodeled kitchen, newer carpet, fireplace, numerous updates, finished basement, attached garage, 2 doorwalls leading to private deck + all appliances stay \$145,300 (74BED) 734-455-5600



SOUTHGATE - A perfect 10! 4 bedroom cape cod w/25 baths, 2 car attached garage, basement w/glass blocks, master bedroom wilull bath & Jacuzzi tub, great rom whreplace, dining room, cedar deck, brick paver walloway, C/A, sprinklers. Gorgeous, gorgeous t/ot \$259,900 Gorgeous, gorgeous (25MOR) 734-455-5600



FARMINGTON HILLS - Say helio to a good buy Fantastic custom built 3 bedroom ranch in Farmington Square. Excellent quality materials used throughout. Gourmet kitchen, formal dining room, French doors, wood floors. Huge basement & great room wilireplace Updates \$350,000 (43BAY) 248-349-5600



NORTHVILLE - Large colonial. Pienty of room, many updates including newer car-pet t/o, paint, appls. 4 BRs, 3.5 BA w/a 5th BR in lower level. Large shaded yard backs to commons. Buy now and move by Christmas. \$352,000 (03SPR) 248-349 5600



ALMOST 1/2 ACRE. Spacious 3 BR, 1.5 BA ranch. 2 car atlached garage. Freshly painted neutral colors throughout. Berber carpet, ceramic in updated bath. Newer windows & hot water heater, 24' pool & equipment. Large shed. Priced to sell. \$199 900 (17LIV) 248-349-5600

å

REDFORD - Ready to move in! 3 bed-

room, 1.5 bath brick ranch w/many of the high ticket items done. Updates include windows, furnace, roof & newer carpet. All appliances & home warranty included \$129,900 (91LEN) 734-455-5600



DEARBORN HGTS - Ranch w/3 bedrooms, 1.5 baths, partially finished bsmt, 2 car garage, C/A. Updates: furnace, roof, windows, hot water heater, circuit breakers. Home also has family room & Florida room. All appliances stay Hardwood floors large lot Home warranty \$139,617 (75WĂY) 734-455-5600



DETROIT - A great starter. 2 bedroom ranch w/2 car garage & full basement, kitchen appliances. Close to schools, shopping & churches. \$42,000 (47SCO) 734-455-5600



All new inside. This beautiful 3 bedroom, 2 bath home has gorgeous howd firs, library, sunroom & FFL. New in 2003: root, furnace, electrical, plumbing, kitchen appliances 2 car garage & spacious deck. Celebrate the holidays in your new home 29.000 (55WAL) 248-349-5600



square footage for the money \$138,900 (33ARB) 248-349-5600

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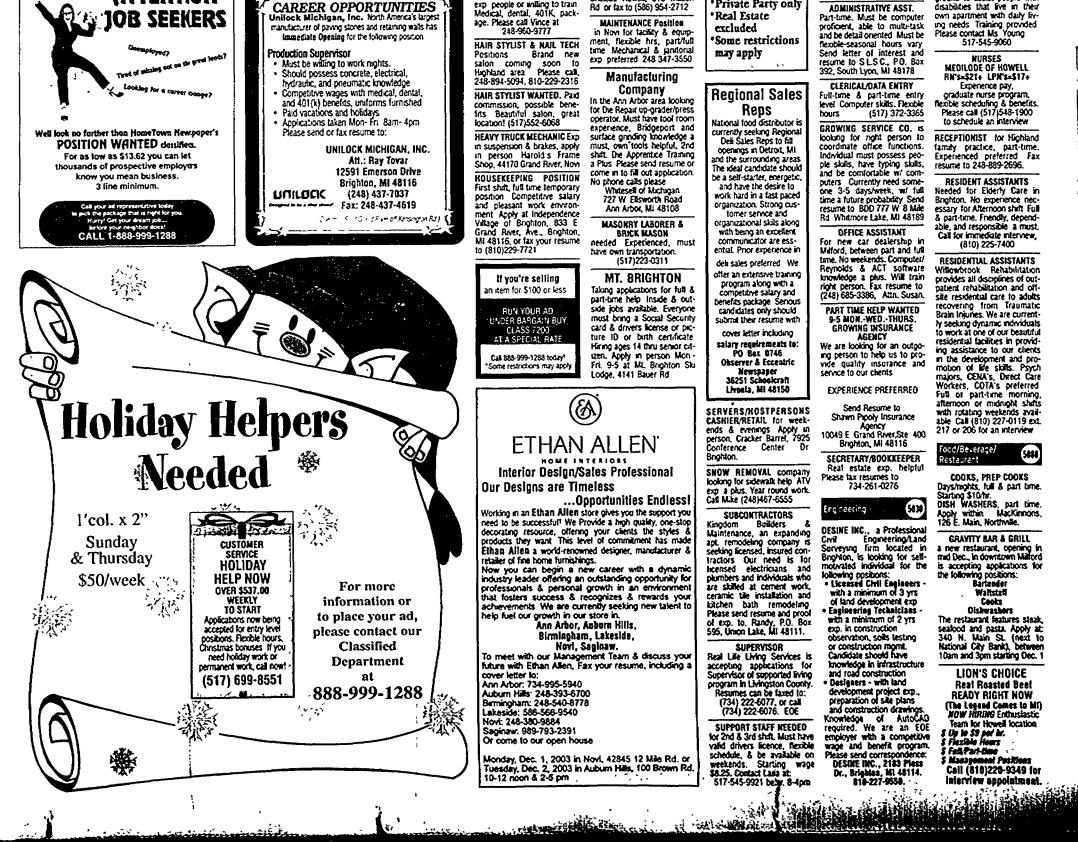






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Thursday, November 27, 2003-GREEN SHEET EAST/CREATIVE LIVING 6D

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Used car prices take hard tumble New car incentives push used car marketplace to record low

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Farmington Hills, MI – A Farmington Hills dealer is selling 2003 vehicles for one-half of the original manufacturer's list price. And they're offering many other 2003 models far below normal market values. The 0% financing offered by GM, Ford, and Daimler-Chrysler mesmenzed so many buyers that far fewer shoppers even bothered looking at pre-owned 2003 models.

How does 0% financing on a new model do in a heads-up comparison to a pre-owned 2003 model? In the instance of the Buick Century, financing \$21,960 plus tax vs. \$9995 plus tax, the payments on the new car at 0% interest would be \$392 monthly for 60 months, but only \$233 monthly at 3.9% for 60 months on the program model. With the prime at a record low, today's interest rates are very competitive. Many credit unions charge under 6% for auto loans if the applicant has a good credit rating. And when purchasing the used 2003, don't forget that you'll be saving about an additional \$1,000 in sales tax and licensing fees. (Taxes estimated at an average of 6%).

The Bob Saks Superstore sold over 150 Buick **Centurys in the first 30** days of their sale.

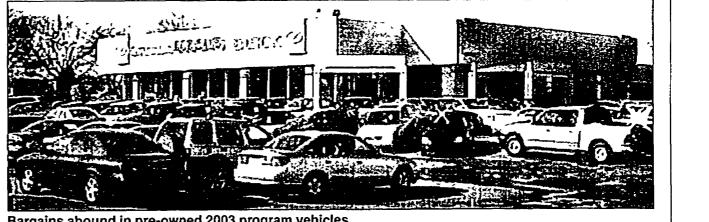
A "program" car is a vehicle that has been leased by a premium rental company through a special "program" from the manufacturer. Strict maintenance is required, and all vehicles are carefully inspected upon return. In many cases, these program units receive better maintenance than vehicles owned by private owners.

Saks Buick-Oldsmobile Used Car Superstore in Farmington Hills has long been known as Michigan's "bargain hunting" dealer. Currently, they're selling

any other dealer in the nation. (Over 150 Centurys were sold during the first 30 days of their sale.) Last year, they sold the most pre-owned 2002 Chevrolet Luminas and Oldsmobile Intrigues in the nation from their single location. And the year before they set the sales record selling the most off-lease GMC Yukons.

Today's real bargain can be found at Saks in the pre-owned 2003 vehicles. The 0% financing on new 2003's has left the used models unnoticed and overlooked. So, with far fewer dealers purchasing these units, the prices have dropped to record lows.

So, once again, Bob Saks has gone shopping for the vehicles with a huge cart. They have just made a multi-million dollar purchase of these units from



Bargains abound in pre-owned 2003 program vehicles

General Motors, bringing in truckload after truckload from across the country. In addition to filling their giant used car facility to the brim, Bob Saks had to lease additional storage lots to accommodate their massive acquisition of vehicles. And they currently stock the largest inventory of 2003 program cars in Michigan.

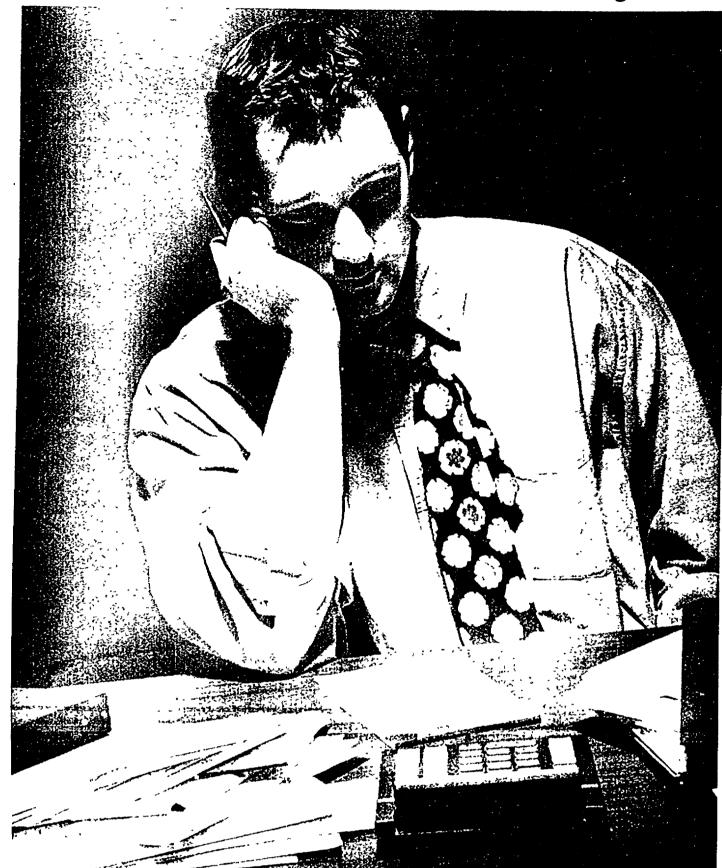
The purpose of 0% financing is to clear out the remaining new 2003's. In another month or two, these vehicles will all be gone, along with the incentives. In the meantime, the 2003 program vehicles are truly today's "sleeping" bargain ... But they'll soon disappear as smart shoppers begin to "wake up" and recognize the real deals.

The Bob Saks Superstore is located at 35300 Grand River Avenue at Drake Rd., Farmington Hills. Their used car superstore may be contacted directly at (888) 551-6917.



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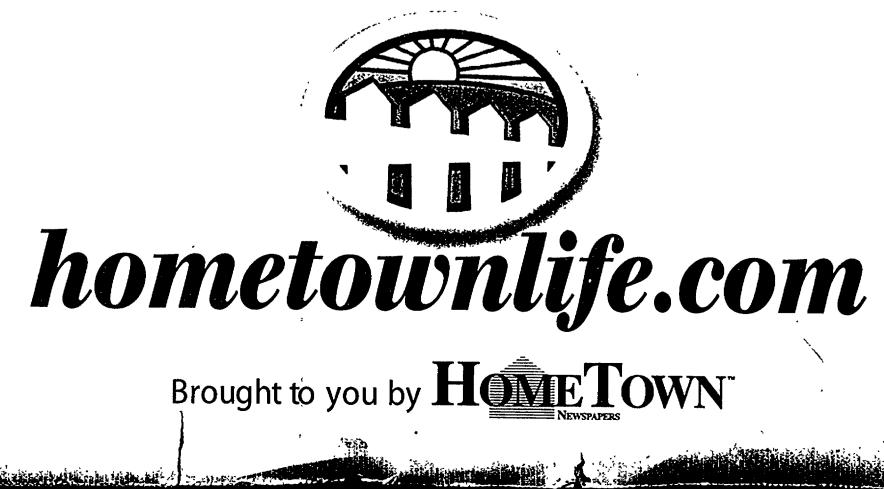
JOBS AND CAREERS

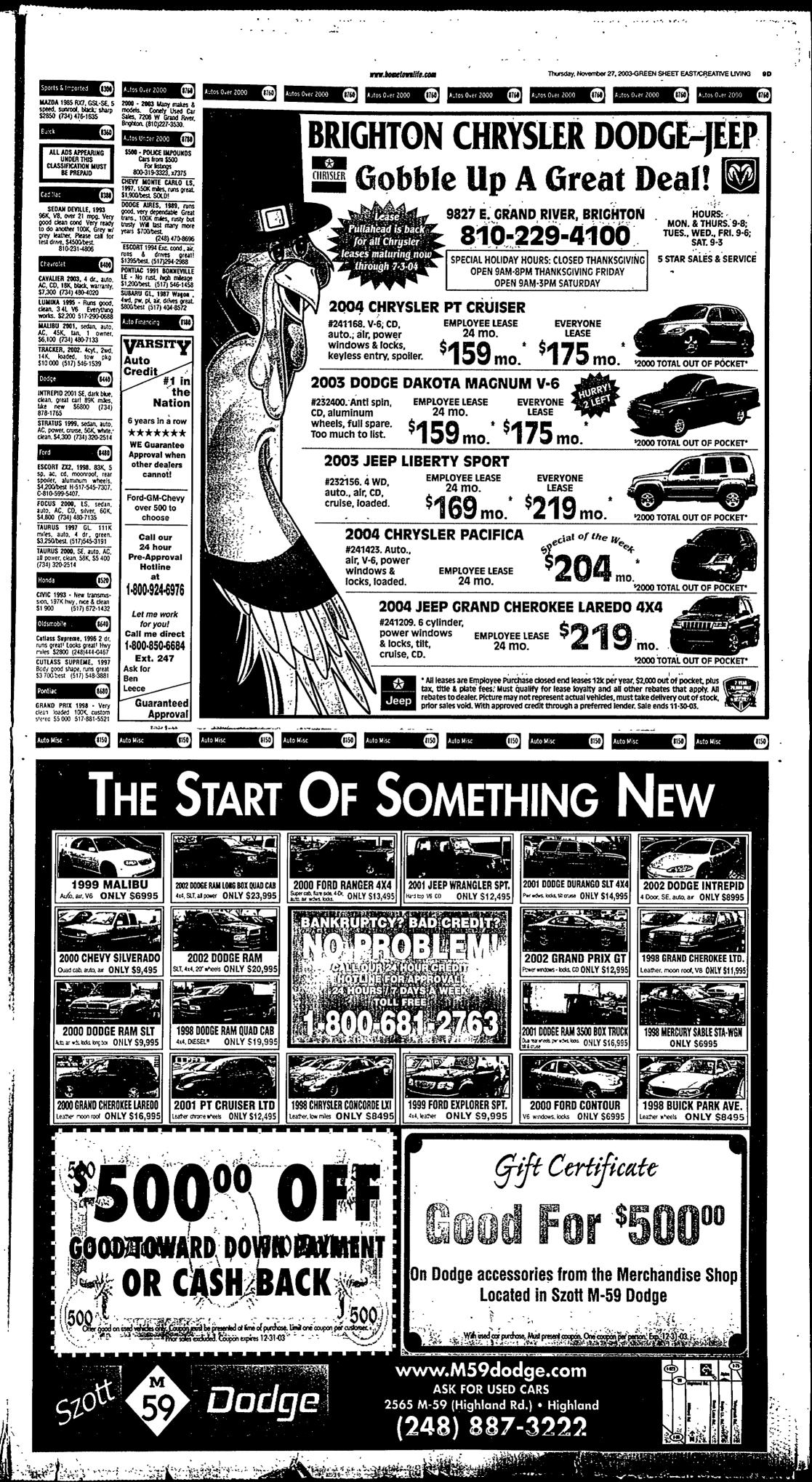
and you're there!

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well, your boss will say, "I knew you could do it!"

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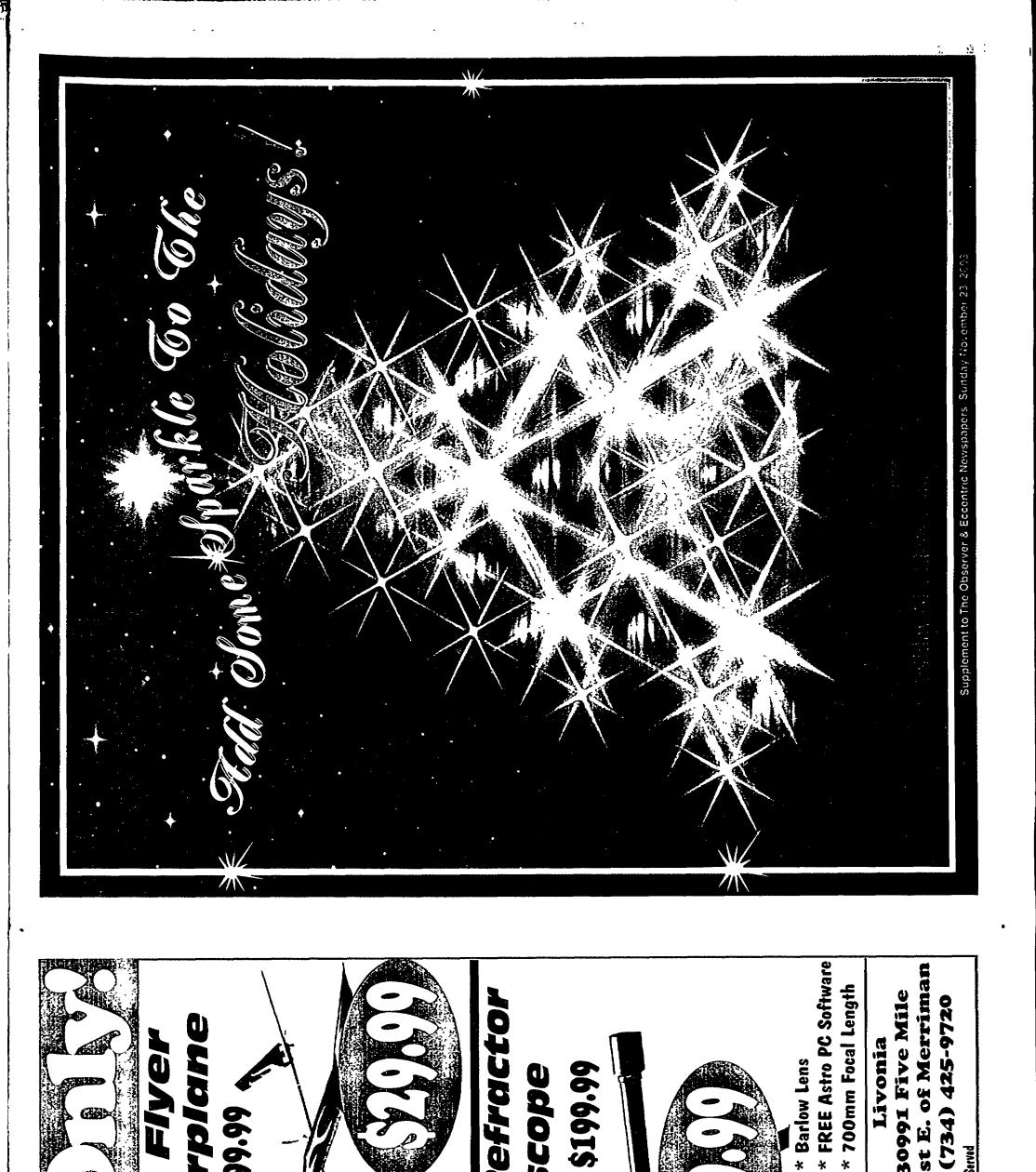


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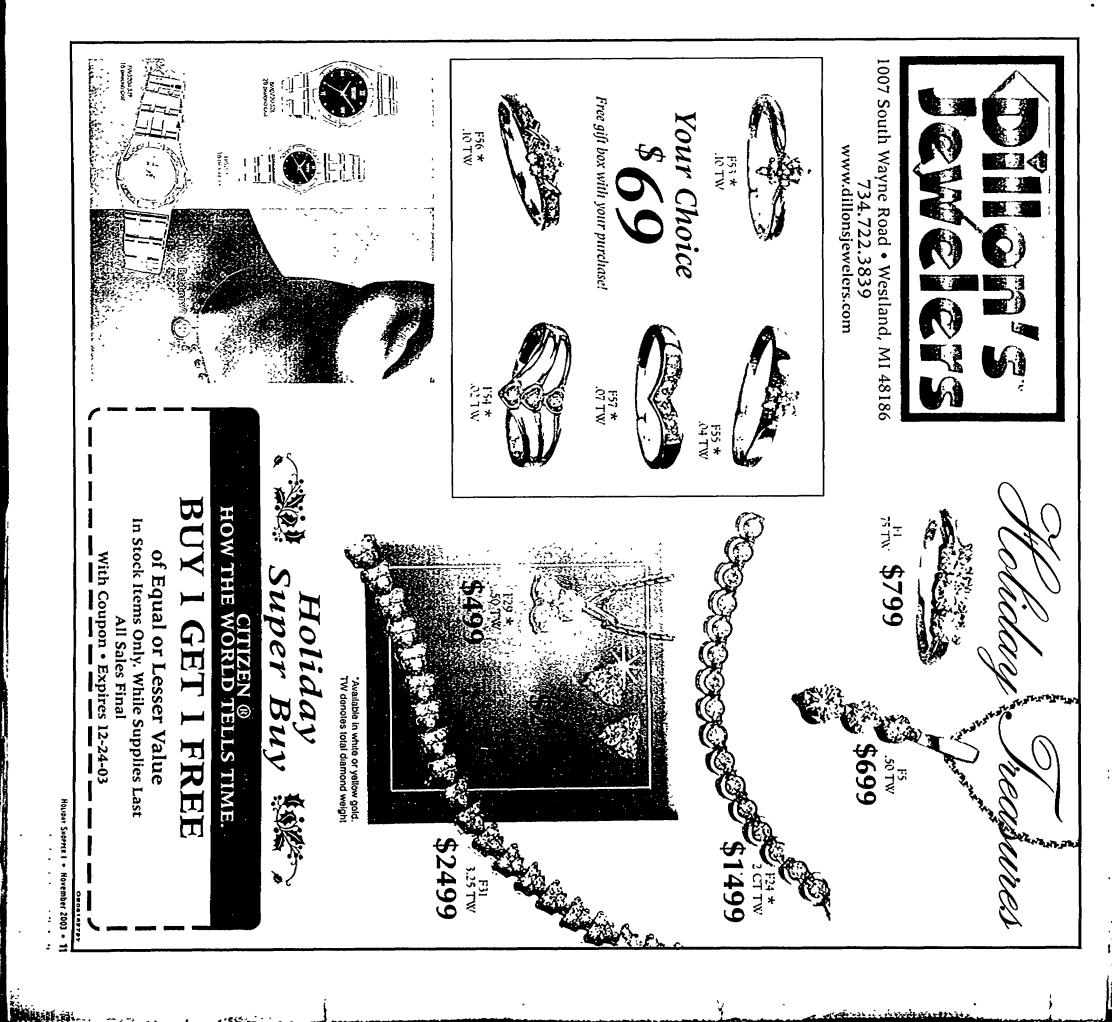
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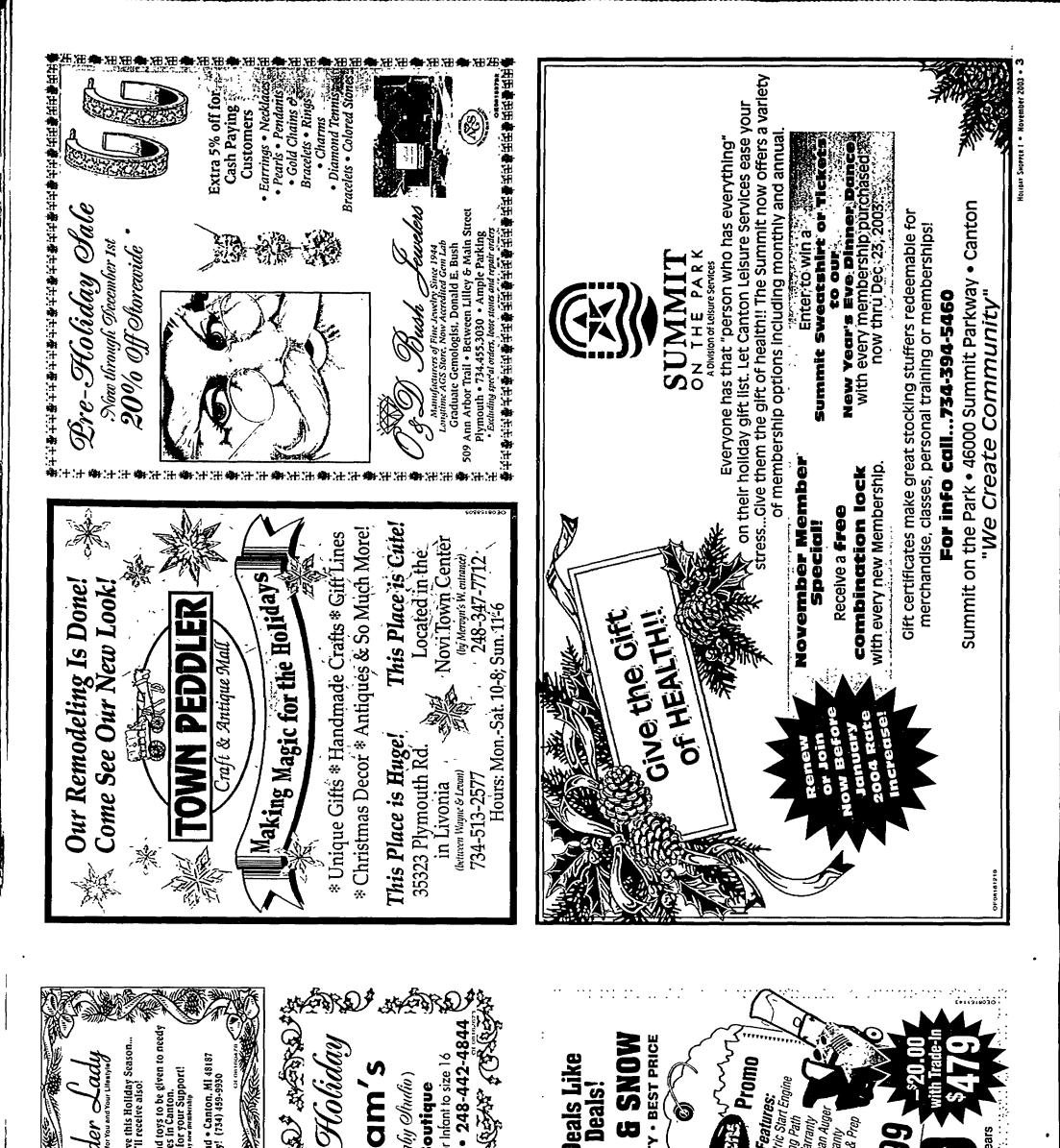
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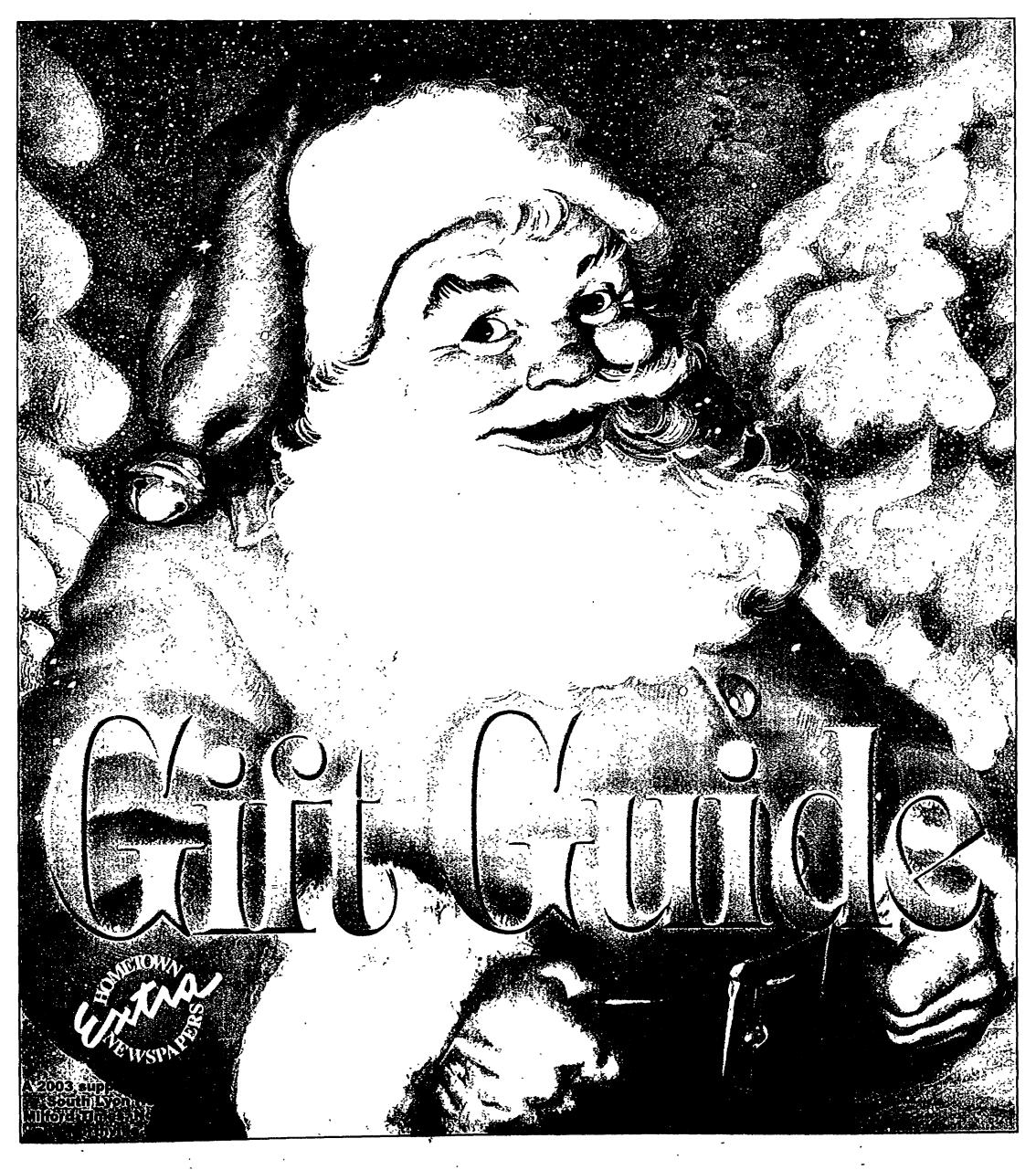
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HOLIDAY GIFT GUIDE . Thursday, November 27, 2003. 3



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Celebrate the season

By Candy Parent HOMETOWN NEWSPAPERS

t's beginning to look a lot like Christmas. In fact, holiday fun can be found in all over the area. Listed below are just some of the places you can see Santa, shop for gifts, sing carols or celebrate the season. Happy Holidays!

■ Through Dec. 15 The Highland Business Association, in cooperation with the Highland Goodfellows, will hold its Red Box program through Dec. 15. The HBA will distribute red boxes to local businesses to collecting non-perishable food items. The items are then turned over to the Highland Goodfellows who use them to help fill their holiday baskets. For more information call (248) 889-1422.

■ Weekends through Dec. 21 Santa Claus will be at the gazebo in downtown Northville from 6-9 p.m. Friday and noon to 3 p.m. Saturday and Sunday through Dec. 21.

■ Dec. 1 The Highland Business Association is holding its Christmas Tree Lighting at 7 p.m. at Highland Fire Station No. 1 at the corner of Livingston Road and John Street in Highland. Santa will be on hand to help. Refreshments will be served. For more information call (248) 889-1422. ■ Dec. 3 White Lake Township holds its annual Christmas tree lighting at 6 p.m. at the township hall, 7525 E. Highland Road, White Lake. For more information call (248) 698-3300.

■ Dec. 4 Downtown Milford's annual Christmas Open House is from 6-9 p.m. Watch as Santa arrives in Milford, enjoy entertainment, refreshments, special promotions and the Candle, Can and Carol

■ Dec. 4 Ring in the Holidays in Novi from 6-9 p.m. The event features an electric light parade at 6:45 p.m., carolers, carriage rides, food samples, limited Christmas ornaments and more will entertain visitors during this free event. Children can attend the Kringle Jingle Workshop, hosted by Twelve Oaks Mall's Build-a-Bear Workshop, take a ride on the North Pole Express and visit with Santa and his reindeer.

■ Dec. 5-7 "A Christmas Carol," will be performed at the Novi Civic Center at 7:30 p.m. Dec. 5 and 6 and at 3:30 p.m. Dec. 7. Tickets will be \$10 in advance and \$12 at the door. For more information call (248) 347-0400.

■ Dec. 6-7 Snacks with Santa, including a snack, a hayride and singing holiday songs, will be held at Kensington Metropark Farm



Submitted Photo

The Spirit of Christmas Yet to Come, a.k.a. Wendy McAlpine, visits Scrooge, Ron Dzwonkowski, during Novi's production of "A Christmas Carol." The play will be performed Dec. 5-7 at the Novi Civic Center.

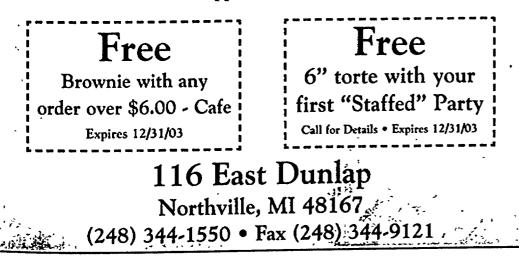
Learning Center. Admission is \$8 per person and all tickets must be purchased in advance. For times, call (800) 477-3178.

Continued on page 21



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HOLIDAY GIFT GUIDE . Thursday, November 27, 2003. 5

Deck the halls

Make home festive by following these decorating tips

By Annette Jaworski -SPECIAL WRITER

ecorating your home is a quick way to get into the holiday spirit. A festive décor inside and out helps set the mood for holiday entertaining and welcomes your visitors. Why not add a little holiday cheer to brighten your home inside and out?

On the outside

Janice Zeleji, manager at Peter's True Value in Highland says that decorating the outdoors is a great way to greet our neighbors and passers by. It's sometimes the only window into another's home.

"A lot of people enjoy driving through subdivisions to look at the display of each other's homes."

One of the most popular and versatile ways to brighten up your home's exterior is through holiday lighting. Like many items, there are trends in outdoor lighting as well. Once out of favor, the larger lights, or C7 or C9s are making a comeback, according to Zeleji. Miniatures continue to be a popular choice. And some items have been around a while, but have only recently gained momen-

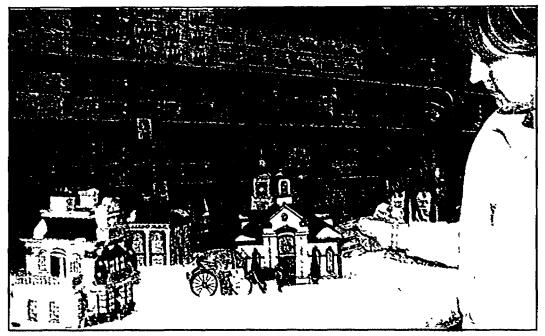


Photo by ANNETTE JAWORSKI

This beautiful Christmas scene is created using Ace Village Collectibles. Terry Lanehart, manager of Grundy's Ace Hardware in Howell, says the collectible line is attractive, yet affordable.

"Those netting lights have been out for a long time, maybe about five or six years. The same with the icicle lights. They're both still

really popular," said Zeleji.

Lawn ornaments are another fun way to dress up your outdoor display. The lighted 3-D deer are still a hot commodity for lawns.

New this year will be a gold look deer that come motorized as well.

"Many people are adding sizes, or add to their herd," she laughs.

Those big inflatable items will be popular as well and come in a number of designs and some with motors as well. Look for "The Grinch" to be big this year.

Those "hard" blow-up characters are also making a comeback in designs like Frosty, penguins, polar bears and reindeer.

Perky poinsettias Bright and colorful, poinsettias are the perfect floral accent for the holiday season. With a little tender loving care they can last through New Year's Day. Harmon Beatty, of Beatty Florists in Hartland says they're a 3to-4-week plant as far as blooming, so an optimum time to buy would be around Dec. 10-15.

Look for a spot with high sun, but not direct sunlight — they'll last longer that way he explains. The vivid red plants will also retain more of their color that way. Watering them is the tricky part.

"You want to keep a happy medium and don't let it get excessively dry. Keep it moist, but not saturated," said Beatty.

Continued on page 8

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Spruce up the house for the holidays

Continued from page 6

Empty out the excess water that drains into the plant base so it won't soak into the roots. Poinsettias also do best when it's not too warm inside, at about 65-70 degrees.

Dressing the table Centerpieces are another great way to use florals during the holiday season. Add a custom look to your décor by bringing your own container, says Sherry Tucker, head designer of Pat's Field of Flowers in South Lyon. The only limit is your imagination. For example she's used a washbasin, plates, bowls, pitcher or ornaments - practically anything you cherish has potential. Or consider some of the beautiful collectibles they carry such as the Wysocki heirloom tree in a limited edition.

The natural look in centerpieces is a popular trend currently.

"People are going to the greenery and natural look with twigs, pine cones and berries. They tend to last a little longer," said Tucker.

If your centerpiece contains cut flowers, pull them out as they fade and replace with greenery to extend its life, Tucker suggests. They also carry a large selection of candles, and seasonal shades for candles that make wonderful accents.

Roll out the carpet Want a quick and easy way to make a big impact indoors? Hang up your wreath and

roll out the red carpet --- a holiday rug that is - says Vicky Serra of Serra Floor Coverings in South Lyon.

They're a quick and easy way to add a festive look. They carry a wide selection in different sizes from approximately 3-by-4-feet to the largest at 5-foot-4-inches-by-7-foot-8inches. Designs include snowmen, several kinds of Santas and a Happy Hanukkah. One selection resembles a Currier and Ives print and two of the Santa selections are limited editions by Ronnie Magee that includes a print. This year a new selection includes Dancer the Reindeer.

"If you have a foyer, that's a great place to put it, or maybe the family room by the fireplace," said Serra.

Ranging in price according to size, the small are \$49 to \$69 with larger ones around \$139. Serra says they're high quality materials that clean up beautifully and should last from year to year.

Create a holiday village

If you're heading to the hardware store for an extension cord, you might be surprised at what you'll find. Terry Lanehart, manager at Grundy's Ace Hardware, says their display is often a pleasant surprise. Most noteworthy, are the collectible homes by Ace that get snatched off the shelves. Nicely detailed and reasonably priced, these porcelain pieces are a collectible bargain.

"They're affordable so customers can add to their collection every year," says Lanehart



Photo by ANNETTE JAWORSKI

Vicky Serra says Serra Floor Coverings in South Lyon offers many beautiful rugs to bring the elegance of the holidays inside.

Some choose to arrange the village on the fireplace mantle or some use them to surround the tree, perhaps around a train track. Many leave them up as a year round display.

Each year they focus on new items and many are patterned after actual homes or businesses. One of the unique items includes beautiful lighthouses patterned after actual

FOR MORE SUGGESTIONS

Beatty's Florist and Greenhouses, Inc. 13790 W. Highland Road (M-59) Three miles west of Milford Road in Hartland (248) 887-1411

Grundy's Ace Hardware 150 E. Grand River in Howell (517) 548-4200

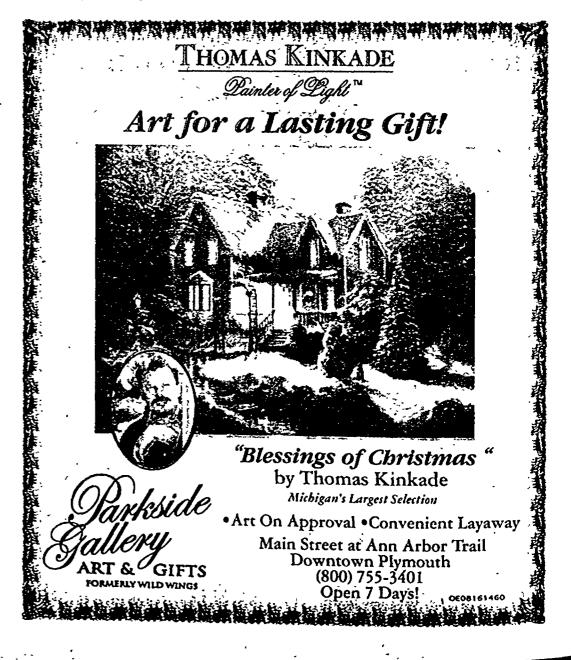
Pat's Field of Flowers Brookdale Square Shopping Center in South Lyon (248) 437-7997

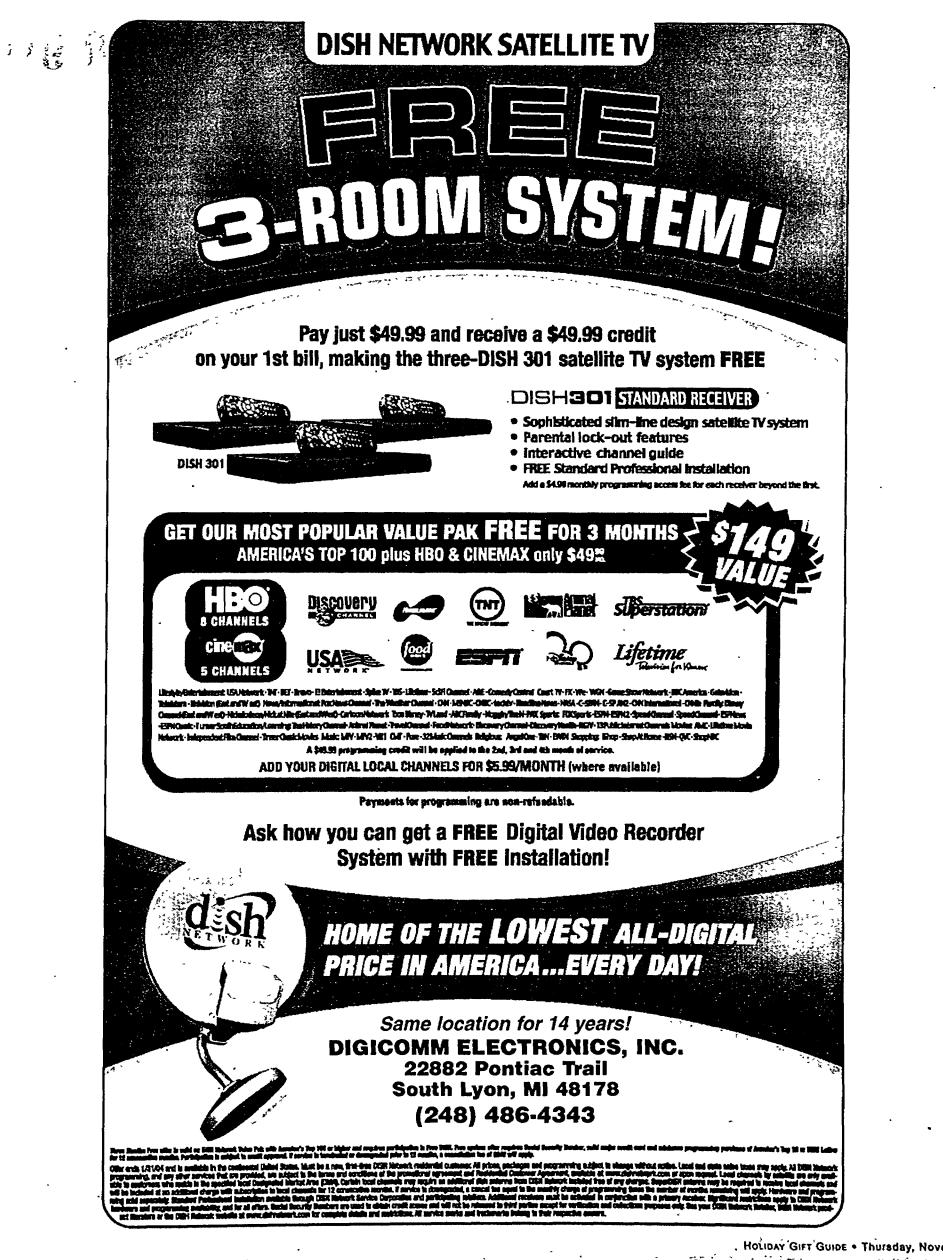
Peter's True Value 3455 W. Highland Road in Highland (248) 887-7795

Serra Floor Coverings 21946 Pontiac Trail in South Lyon Across from the McDonald's (248) 437-2838

lighthouses throughout the United States. A fun new item this year includes a rustic tree farm, with lots of detail and charm.







O Christmas Tree Follow these tips to find the perfect, fresh, Christmas tree

By Annette Jaworski SPECIAL WRITER

from the fragrant branches to the shining star, a Christmas tree is the center of the holiday experience in many homes.

The perfect tree provides a beautiful backdrop for your ornaments as well as a gathering spot for the family. Certainly such an important part of the holidays should be selected with the utmost care.

For many, the holiday season kicks off at Thanksgiving and doesn't end until New Year's Eve. Danny Meier of Meier Flowerland in Brighton says many people are keeping the tree up for longer periods.

"A lot of people put up their tree by Thanksgiving and keep it up until New Year's Day. You're looking at 5-6 weeks," said Meier.

This requires a little tender loving care for it to last. In that case, first select a tree that will hold its needles. A Fraser or Douglas fir tends to hold up the best for longer periods, he suggested.

"The No. 1 thing to do that will keep your tree fresh is to keep water in it," said Meier.

Bill Brian of Broadview Tree Farm in Highland recommends making a fresh cut off the bottom once you get home and using warm water for the tree's first "drink." They

both warn that water needs to be monitored carefully. If it runs out, the bottom of the tree will seal over with sap, preventing the tree from using any more water. If it's dried up, you can try another trick. Brian suggests drilling small holes at an angle below the water line to get the tree to absorb water.

Looking for a great smell? The concolor fir isn't a real common tree, but it produces a wonderful aroma. Actually the entire fir family is the one that produces that wonderful pine smell, says John Gwizdala, owner of Middle Road Tree Farm in Highland.

A fun idea to try - after your holiday dinner, snap off the ends of a few branches to release a wonderful evergreen scent, suggests Meier.

When looking at tree types, consider your ornaments as well.

"If you've got grandma's heavy old time ornaments, the Douglas is not the best choice as it's soft," said Meier.

You might want to consider the Fraser trimmed back. Spruces also are really good for holding an ornament.

Why not make selecting the tree a family outing, says Bill Brian of Broadview Tree Farm? They're ready and waiting to take your family out for a wagon ride with saw in hand to pick your very own tree.

"We really want people to just enjoy the experience," says Brian.

FIND THE RIGHT TREE

Broadview Tree Farm 4380 Hickory Ridge Road Highland, 2½ miles north of M-59 (248) 887-8733.

Meier Flowerland and Greenhouse 8087 W. Grand River, Brighton (810) 229-9430.

Middle Road Tree Farm Middle Road north of M-59 and **Hickory Ridge roads** (248) 887-1494.

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Don't rush the process; just enjoy it, he adds.

"Trees are like people. There's one for everybody ... Once they find that perfect tree, it speaks to them, it's theirs."

Customers are dropped off in an area of their choice depending on what variety of tree they want. In about 20 minutes one of their eight tractors will come by for pick up.

"They're constantly going in the field. We don't want you to get too cold," said Brian.

Photo by ANNETTE JAWORSKI

Bill Brian of Broadview Tree Farm says select-

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Put a little romance into the holidays

By Candy Parent HOMETOWN NEWSPAPERS



he dancing flames of the candles provide soft light in the room. Romantic music plays softly in the background and the crackling fire warms the room. With wine, food

and song, you are transported to a special place where only you and your significant other exist ...

Of course, planning that magical night isn't always easy, but giving your lover a romantic gift for the holidays isn't as difficult as you may think.

In fact, it may be as simple as choosing some elegant lingerie.

"I think it creates a sexiness between couples and a confidence in women. If you feel good inside you exude that and your partner picks up on that," says Theresa Larson, owner of Romance and Fantasy in Howell.

Since everyone's taste is different, Larson carries a variety of lingerie, including items that are elegant, sexy, racy and soft in all sizes from petite to full-figured. Men, says Larson, tend to prefer red and white, while women lean toward black.

"It's the ultimate sexy, classic color," she says.

In addition to lingerie, Romance and Fantasy offers massage oils, romantic games and other products to help couples relax and enjoy each other.

"We all need and want this in our relationships," says Larson. "It's the spice that everybody needs."

Another way you can create a little romance is with a small box wrapped in gold foil and a satin ribbon from Cooper & Binkley Jewelers in downtown Brighton.

"Our customers recognize our gift wrap," says Barbara Binkley, owner. "That begins the excitement."

Binkley says jewelry is a precious gift to women. Often, jewelry becomes heirlooms, handed down from one generation to another.

"It's such a special thing," says Binkley. "It's the greatest symbol of love." The most popular romantic gifts, according to Binkley, involve diamonds.

"Diamonds are what every woman wants and what men want to be able to give them," she says.

Many men choose to buy either a new diamond ring for their significant other or they buy a bigger diamond to replace the original.

One customer brought his girlfriend into the store and the two casually looked at engagement rings, says Binkley. Once she had narrowed in on the type of ring she liked, he got down on his knee and proposed in the store. "We all cried," says Binkley.

Another popular gift of love is considered anniversary jewelry, but Binkley says many give it just to express their love.

Available in rings, pendants, bracelets and even earrings, anniversary jewelry features three diamonds, which represent the couple's past, present and future together. Pieces are available in every price range, from just \$300 to \$25,000 or more, says Binkley.

When one particular anniversary ring came in, Binkley fell in love with it and she told her husband about the ring.

Later, the couple celebrated their anniversary with a barbecue at her parents' house. While there, she asked her husband for a beer. When he came back out, he handed it to her in a glass. She says thought it was silly because she could have just drank it out of the bottle. But, she took a drink or two and didn't notice anything until one of her children asked her what was in the bottom of her glass. There, floating in the beer, was that special ring.

"There's just so much more to it than just the piece," says Binkley, who describes jewelry as emotional. "There is so much to jewelry. It is not just an item. It's more than that."

Of course, surroundings can go a long way in spicing up a relationship.

Phillips Travel Service in South Lyon offers several romantic getaways for couples.

A relaxing weekend getaway at the Grand Traverse Resort and Spa in Traverse City includes two nights in a one-bedroom condo, breakfast and spa treatments for about \$600. Each person can choose two treatments from a

SPICE IT UP A BIT

Cooper & Binkley Jewelers 105 W. Main St. downtown Brighton (810) 227-2221

Phillips Travel Service 110 N. Lafayette St. downtown South Lyon (248) 437-1733

■ Romance and Fantasy next to Little Caesar's and Mesquite Junction in Howell (517) 540-1485

list that includes a 50-minute Swedish massage, a facial, manicure. stress-relief treatment and others. Kim Guadagni, travel agent at Phillips

Travel Service, says couples may also enjoy a four-day getaway to Aguadilla, Puerto Rico. Located in the Sunset Capital of the

Caribbean, a junior suite at the Rincon Resort is about \$2,500 per couple. And, there is plenty to do at the ocean-front resort, including snorkeling, scuba diving, kayaking and deep sea fishing.

But, for the ultimate romantic getaway, Guadagni recommends a trip to Anguilla in the Caribbean. The island, a quaint 16-by-3 miles, is covered in beautiful beaches.

"Anguilla is a very romantic getaway for peace and relaxation," she says. "It is intimate ... and one of the Caribbean's best kept secrets."

Two resorts are available. The first, Rendezvous Bay Hotel, is a casual, upscale resort with 24 one-bedroom villa suites. Each has a king size bed and a private porch that steps directly onto the beach.

This trip is just over \$2,000 for a seven-day stay.



Submitted Photo

Romance and Fantasy offers many items, including holiday-inspired lingerie.

A second resort is very upscale, says Guadagni. Cap Juluca is a 179-acre, Moorishstyle resort with seven suites and six beachfront villas.

Each morning, a continental breakfast is served on the private terrace overlooking the beach. The junior suite also includes a double Jacuzzi on the terrace, marble bathrooms and more.

This incredible getaway is under \$7,000 for a seven-day stay.

Give a little

Make another person's day special by giving your time

T's beginning to look a lot like Christmas ... and Chanukah and Kwanzaa for that matter. Snow has covered the ground, the trees are bare and animals scurry for a hard-to-

find treat. Amidst the calm serenity of this beautiful landscape lies the hustle and bustle of holiday decorating, shopping and cooking.

Now's the time to turn on your favorite holiday tunes, once again go over your guest list and look forward to the excitement that is in store.

The holidays are a time for giving thanks for all that you receive and experience during the year. The sentiment becomes even more poignant against the backdrop of the country's latest trials and tribulations.

However, if everyone puts aside their skepticism, prejudices and quips, this season can be one of the most memorable ever.

Here are some easy ways to embrace the

season of giving and joy:

• Assist an elderly neighbor who has trouble heading outdoors in inclement weather. Pick up his or her groceries, shovel the sidewalk and treat him or her to a special card expressing your holiday sentiments. • Volunteer your time at a local orphanage or homeless shelter. Those without a true home can benefit from your generosity.

• Set up a neighborhood caroling group. This tradition has slowly fallen out of

fashion. Revive it again and spread the season's joy to all you pass.

• Save your holiday meal leftovers and donate them to a soup kitchen or shelter.

• Donate extra funds to your house of worship so that holiday decorations, fundraisers, events and more will be even more

spectacular.

• Do something as simple as giving up your seat on the bus or train to someone as a gesture of good tidings.

• Take a day off from work and allow your children to play "hookie" to do a fun family activity out of the blue, like sledding, skiing or just enjoying a mug of hot chocolate while watching the snow fall.

These are just a few thoughtful ideas, and surely you can think of some more. Just remember to make this season as magical as you can.

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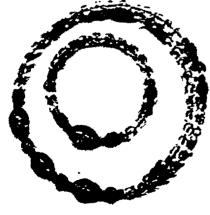
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Shop South Lyon & New Hudson





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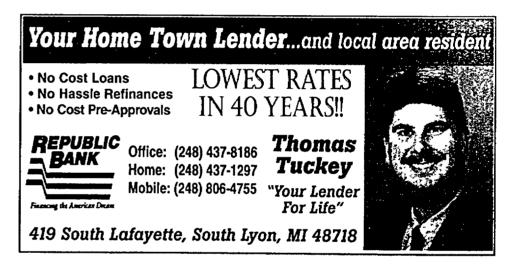
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The Bead store at Seasonal Expressions 21200 Pontiac Trail, South Lyon 248-437-1952 Visit us on the web: www.seasonal-expressions.com







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This year, make the house shine

By R.J. Ignelzi COPLEY NEWS SERVICE

Yatching Josh Cantor hang holiday lights is like getting a behind-thescenes peek at a movie set. Crawling along the roof of a vine-covered arbor, Cantor, owner of Christmas Light Hangers, is putting the finishing touches on a two-day, 100-light-string project.

"A lot of work, but it was worth it," he says proudly.

As any director will tell you, a show is only as good as its production effort. And that goes for Christmas light displays, too.

"You can't just staple some lights up on your roof and think it's going to look good," Cantor said. "It takes time, planning and the right equipment."

Safety tips

For a safe installation and the most effective holiday display, lighting pros and safety experts offer some illuminating tips:

· Before you start, check all light strands for broken sockets, frayed cords and loose connections. Replace the faulty strands with new ones.

"Don't spend too much time repairing your lights," Cantor said. "Most lights, especially the mini lights, are only made to last a season or two. Just go buy some new ones.'

· Read the directions on the box of lights for guidelines on the number of sets that can be safely hooked together. The limit is usually three.

 Avoid overloading a single wall outlet or extension cord. Each outlet can only accommodate up to 1,500 watts. Add up the wattage of the bulbs on the string and don't let them exceed the limit.

 Make sure all lights are Underwriters Laboratories listed, signifying they've been tested for safety.

• The large, screw-in holiday bulb is a good type to use for framing the house since individual lights can easily be replaced.

 If your screw-in holiday lights are more than 5 years old, replace them with new and



Photo by JERRY RIFE/copiley News SERVICE

Strands of icicles and red and white lights combine to light up a home for the Christmas season. Keep safety in mind when preparing your holiday lighting display; check lights and replace faulty strands with new ones, read all directions on the box before you begin and be sure to avoid overloading sockets and extension cords.

improved low-heat, energy-efficient bulbs.

 Choose bulbs with transparent rather than painted coloring. These lights look brighter and will not peel or chip.

• Plan your strategy, considering where the electrical outlets are so you can easily plug cords in.

 Use good-quality outdoor extension cords that can handle moisture. Choose dark-colored cords rather than bright orange ones, so they don't stand out.

. If you have an older home without ground

fault circuit interrupters built into the outlets, use portable ones. They plug easily into the outlet and help protect you from electrical shock.

· Wear proper footwear, rubber-soled and lowheeled shoes, especially when climbing on the roof.

 Do not wear a tool belt while hanging lights. It could be hazardous in case of a fall.

· Be sure to use a sturdy extension ladder. To minimize the trips up and down and for safety's sake, make light hanging a two-person job.

• Hang lights with the power off. Turn on the

power after attaching each string to make sure there are no problems.

 Keep ladders away from power lines. Never stand on an aluminum ladder while installing or troubleshooting live wires or lights. Unplug the line or cut off power first.

Hanging larger lights takes more precision than the minis or icicles.

"With the bigger lights, you have to get every bulb straight in line," Cantor said. "Otherwise, the first thing you'll see when they're lit are the mistakes."

 Outdoor lights should be hung with the bulbs hanging down. This prevents moisture from collecting in the sockets and causing damage.

• If you use a staple gun, use the smallest quarter-inch wire staples you can find so you won't damage the wood. When hanging screwin lights, staple every light on both sides. For icicle lights, place a staple every two or three lights. Be careful not to staple through the wire.

• Instead of staples or nails, try using plastic gutter clips to hang the lights. "They work great because they don't cause any damage to the house," Cantor said.

When wrapping tree trunks, don't use a staple gun or nails. The sap will ooze out and sink into the wires, causing a short circuit.

• When lighting bushes or shrubs, don't be stingy with the lights.

• Try to keep extension cords out of sight. Cantor routinely runs cords along the gutter line or loops them over the roof and down the back of the house to an outlet.

• Wrap all light and cord connections with duct tape to make them waterproof and keep them from loosening.

You can cut each string of lights to customfit windows and lines so leftover lights won't be left dangling on the side. After cutting wires, twist them together and wrap with electrical tape.

· Label the light strings for next year, indicating which window or portion of the house they're used for. For more complicated light schemes, take a picture and draw a map.

Don't let the stress of the holidays get you down

hhh, holiday time ... Shopping, Tradition, Rituals, Entertaining, Snow, Socializing. Did you get the secret message oftentimes synonymous with the holidays? STRESS!

When University of Southern California researchers looked at deaths from coronary artery disease, (hardening of the arteries within the heart and body; a condition which leads to congestive heart failure) for a 12-year period in Los Angeles, they found there were a whopping 33 percent more deaths during the holiday season of December and January compared with summer and early fall.

Clearly this data speaks volumes. Since 80 percent of all physical illnesses are stress related, the stress contributor stands out clearly as a leading culprit. Increased stress affects the body, making it more susceptible to heart problems. With an increase in stress, there is an increase in adrenaline and epinephrine levels. These stress hormones combined with risk factors associated with heart disease, (which many of us already have) such as high blood pres-

sure, can lead to heart attacks.

> Stress factors can come in many forms ranging from time pressures, increase in expenses, family issues, and even environmental affects. Researchers did not find a major correlation between average daily temperatures and stress; remember the study I referenced was held in sunny California

where temperatures fluctuate from a mild 50 to 80 degrees, but colder weather along with a severe lack of sunshine can only increase these stress factors. Take for instance SAD, (Seasonal Affective Disorder), it is real and can cause depression, weight gain and increase stress. And let's face it, we do not see a lot of

sunshine in Michigan during the winter season.



Chris Klebba

So what can you do differently this holiday

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season to enjoy more and stress less? For many of us going to our "happy place" in our minds is just not practical when the kids are decorating the tree with lit candles, the cookies are burning in the oven, the phone and the doorbell are ringing. How many times have you heard or felt like you were actually happy the holidays are over?

Try these tips ...

 Have realistic expectations. — easier said than done for most type-A personalities. Don't overbook or overaccept. Learn to say no. In other words, at least attempt to set your holiday up positively from the beginning. Many are heading for overstress right from the beginning based on the unrealistic schedule they have already set.

· Do more of the things you love. Tradition and what you did last year often overpowers what you want and love to do. Make a conscious effort to do more of what you and your family really want to do. Set aside money for these things. Make a plan to do these things and ask your family to help.

• Budget - A recent survey showed the average person will spend close to \$1,000 on gifts this year. Know what you can handle. Expense of gifts and parties can escalate quickly and create stress if not budgeted.

• Keep moving - Exercise is the best medicine to reduce stress. Don't stop and start again in January. Abbreviate if you must, but keep moving! Humans have a built-in "fight or flight" response to stress. In other words, thousands of years ago when we encountered stress we either fought or fled, both requiring physical exertion, essential in balancing our stress levels. Holiday time is the stress, exercise is the fight. Without it the stress progressively builds into a strain and that is dangerous!

Make this holiday season about the heart instead of against it. Happy Stress Free Holidays!

Chris Klebba, owner and operator of the Water Wheel Health Club in Northville, can be reached at (248) 449-7634 or www.wtrwheel.com

could short and start a fire.

Decorations

• Only use fireproof decorations; never use

• Never run an electric train under a tree.

• Never put wrapping paper in a fireplace.

ished. Burning it may create sparks and release

toxic gases in your home which can potential-

Frees

• If you have a metallic or artificial tree, be

sure it's flame retardant, should any sparks fly.

• Avoid setting up your holiday tree near a

heat source like a fireplace or heating vent.

more prone to catch fire.

The warm air will dry out the tree, making it

• Provide ashtrays for guests who smoke, and be sure to check for stray cigarette butts in

Insurance Information Institute, cigarettes are

upholstered furniture. According to the

the leading cause of home fire fatalities.

Holiday paper is often a little glossy or pol-

decorations made of cloth or paper.

Sparks from the track might start a fire.

ly build up and can cause an explosion.

ccording to the National Fire Protection Association, there were 300 Christmas tree fires in U.S. homes in 1998, and nearly 50,000 home fires from 1994 to 1998 were caused by lit candles.

Here are some tips on how to keep your holiday decorations safe this season:

• Before hanging decorative lights each year, be sure to inspect them for frayed wires, loose connections, cracks, or wear and tear. Be sure to unplug lights before replacing bulbs or fuses. Do not overload outlets or mount lights in a way that can damage the cord (for example: using nails to hold wires in place).

· Don't use indoor lights for outdoor decorating.

• Use caution with candles. Set them in stable holders where they are less likely to be accidentally knocked over, and never leave the house while candles are burning. Keep them away from decorations, wrapping paper, trees, young children and pets.

• Turn off all lighted decorations when you go to bed or leave the house. Overnight, they

Frue facts ...

The first printed reference to Christmas trees appeared in Germany in 1531.

Alabama was the first state to declare Christmas a legal holiday in 1836.

Oklahoma was the last, doing so in 1907.

It has been estimated each year, most Americans will hear the 25 most popular Christmas songs about 700

times each. Christmas was first abbreviated to "Xmas" in the 1500s, the X representing Xristos, the Greek word for Christ. -- Copley Nous Service

Deck your halls safely The holidays are happening all over

Continued from page 5

Dec. 6-7 Tchaikovsky's "Nutcracker Ballet" will be presented by the Plymouth Symphony Orchestra, Plymouth-Canton Ballet and the Plymouth Canton Educational Park Madrigal Singers at 11 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Dec. 6 and $\overline{2}$ p.m. Dec.

7 at Salem High School Auditorium, 46181 Joy Road, Canton. Admission is \$18 for adults and \$10 for

children. Groups of 10 or more receive a discount.

Following the matinee performances, the Plymouth Symphony League will host the Sugar Plum Tea in the cafeteria. Tea tickets are also available at \$5 each.

For tickets or more information, contact the Symphony Office at (734) 451-2112 or at plymouthsymphony@aol.com.

Dec. 7 The White Lake Township Business Association will holds its annual Christmas Party from 1-4 p.m. at Independence Village, 935 Union Lake Road, White Lake.

Refreshments will be served, Santa will pay a visit and Christmas caroling is also on the agenda. For more information call (248) 975-8017.

Dec. 11 Look for more holiday events, traditions and gift ideas in Gift Guide II, coming in your HomeTown Newspaper.

Dec. 12 Celebrate the season with a Candlelight Walk through downtown Northville, sponsored by the Northville Central Business Administration. For more information, call (248) 349-7640

Dec. 12 All Aglow Tree Lighting Ceremony, sponsored by the Mothers Club of Northville, is from 6-11 p.m.

Call (248) 349-5026 for more information.

■ Dec. 12-14 Handcrafters Show at Hillside in Northville.

■ Dec. 13-14 Snacks with Santa, including a snack, a hayride and singing holiday songs, will be held at Kensington Metropark Farm Learning Center.

Admission is \$8 per person and all tickets must be purchased in advance.

For times and additional information, call (800) 477-3178.





HOLIDAY GIFT GUIDE . Thursday, November 27, 2003. 21

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Holiday checklists help you get organized

By Liz Poppens COPLEY NEWS SERVICE

or many households, the holidays are anything but a holiday. As the clock counts down, the holiday to-do list gets longer and longer: shopping, cooking, cleaning, decorating, sending holiday mail, and on and on.

"People put a lot of pressure on themselves," says professional organizer Sue Becker of Downers Grove, Ill.

Many, she says, get swept up in wanting to create the perfect holiday decor or the perfect holiday meal without thinking through what it will take to accomplish it or whether it's what they really want:

The secret, she says, to a happy holiday is to be true to oneself, then get organized.

Step back, she says, and ask yourself such questions as "What level of holiday do I want?" (an immediate family affair or an extended family extravaganza, for example) and "What do I want me and my household to get out of it?"

Once you've thought everything through, start making plans.

"Checklists are very helpful; think about areas you really need to deal with," Becker says.

She recommends organizing under the following categories: • Cards. Start early, early,

carly. Make a list (saving envelopes from cards received the year before is one way to formulate a list; saving addresses and creating a master file on your home computer is another). A computerized list is easy to edit and then print out on address labels.

And if holiday cards are just too labor-intensive a task to add to the pre-holiday run-up, consider sending out cards on another occasion, such as New Year's.

"Not only does it take the pressure off you, but it allows your recipients to really savor their cards," Becker says.

• Gifts. Set a budget, make a list and stick to it.

It's easier said than done, but Becker strongly suggests avoiding a stressful "cycle of gift-giving."

Wrap gifts as you bring them home. Set up a wrapping station (a card table in a spare room and a box filled with paper, ribbon and tape will do), then stow the wrapped presents away or under the tree.

Handmade gifts are a wonderful way to remember friends or family; make sure to allot enough time to create them.



Photo by SCOTT LINNETT

Getting organized for Christmas decorating and entertaining can start with deciding what kind of holiday you want — an extravaganza with all the trimmings, a simple celebration with your immediate family or something in between. Experts advise making checklists to help keep everything organized.

Also, gift certificates are the last refuge of the holiday-challenged and good for givers and receivers alike.

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• Decorating. Some people decorate the house the same way every year; others change their holiday decor from year to year.

In any case, make decisions about what you want, such as a color scheme, early.

Set a timetable to decorate the

house (if you're planning to do a lot of entertaining, the sooner the better).

Go through past decorations and edit out those that are broken or out of date.

From year to year, if you like the way a room looked, take a photograph. Then pack away the decorations in a labeled box to make next year's decorating job even simpler.

• Entertaining. Holiday entertaining can be an area of added pressure, Becker says, if left to the last minute.

Sit down and make some basic decisions about the date, the menu, the guest list and whatever cleaning, cooking, shopping and decorating need to be done beforehand.

Work backward from the date to set a timetable. Remember that caterers, cleaning services and baby sitters are especially busy this time of year, and that the sooner you make arrangements, the more likely it is you will find someone to do the work.

If you're doing it all yourself, it's even more important to set a schedule. Include dates for cooking (many appetizers can be made in advance and frozen), shopping, cleaning and decorating.

• Baking/cooking. If you like to cook during the holidays, whether it's holiday meals or edible gifts for friends and family, think about recipes that can be made and frozen ahead of time, Becker said.

Most cookie doughs can be refrigerated and baked later.

Find windows of time to cook while watching TV or waiting for a load of laundry to dry.

Stock up on non-perishable ingredients, such as flour and sugar, ahead of time.

Scout the attic, basement and closets for boxes you can decorate to package your gift goodies.

While you're at it, get out the silver, the linens and the holiday china.

Clean what needs to be cleaned and put in a staging area for the upcoming holiday meals.

Menus made ahead of time make it easier to shop ahead of time.

Also, if you want to try out a new recipe on the crowd, make a test batch first. The best-looking recipes aren't always the besttasting ones.

Finally, Becker advises, let others in on the action wherever you can, whether it's hiring a baby sitter to watch the kids while you're holiday shopping or letting guests light the candles and fill the ice bucket.

"Holidays are a perfect time to let people help," she says.

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Personalized gifts perfect for hard-to-shop-for

By Candy Parent HOMETOWN NEWSPAPERS

here is always one person on the list who is simply impossible to shop for. Finding something they will like — that they don't already own — is similar to trying to find a needle in a haystack.

Fortunately, this problem is easily remedied with today's technology.

Personalized, unique and one-of-a-kind gifts are inexpensive and are a perfect way to show someone how much they are appreciated.

The Spirit of Livingston, located near the old Quality Farm & Fleet building in Howell, and Parkside, located at Nine Mile on Pontiac Trail in South Lyon, offer opportunities to create a truly custom gift for someone special.

"Our gift shop has gifts that you can't find in a regular store," says Pamela Haggerty, owner of Parkside.

"You can take a photograph and put it on just about anything," adds Carol Maczik, owner of Spirit of Livingston.

In fact, photos can be placed on lace, money, candy bars, mouse pads, candles, mugs, sweatshirts, ornaments, tiles and more. You can even make a personalized poster of someone.

And, most items cost less than \$30.

"If you have a unique photo, let us see what we can do with it. It's a memory that will last forever," says Haggerty.

For grandparents, have a child's school picture put on a porcelain ornament each

Thistledown



The Spirit of Livingston, located in Howell, offers personalized picture frames, memory boxes, mugs, can holders and more. Items can be created from any photo or artwork.

year. Then, they can look back and watch the child grow up each time they decorate the tree, she adds.

Maczik also says drawings, paintings and other artwork can be used in place of a photo. Dad, for example, would love a mug featuring a drawing by his child.

'Mouse pads and coffee cups have always been a hot thing because they are personalized gifts you are not going to get from someone else," says Haggerty.

Of course, both stores also offer embroi-

dery and etching services. A mother, for example, would love a sweatshirt with the names of each of her children embroidered on it. Or, a niece would enjoy a teddy bear with her name embroidered on the bear's scarf. Towels can be monogrammed for a new couple or a picture frame can be engraved with their name.

Maczik also says over 16,000 designs featuring hobbies, organizations, sports and more are available and can be put on anything that can be stitched upon -



Photos by CANDY PARENT/HOMETOWN NEWSPAP

Parkside in South Lyon is more than just a cleaners. Customized laces celebrating grandparents, weddings and babies are available.

whether purchased in her store or elsewhere. For example, order a classic car collector a hat with his favorite hot rod pictured on it.

Continued on page 30



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Minding your manners is best gift you can give

By Jennifer Mastroianni COPLEY NEWS SERVICE

he holiday party season is upon us. No doubt you will be invited to celebrate at several social or work-related gatherings. When it comes to guest etiquette, do you know what's naughty and what's nice?

"The holidays are really the time when people should shine and be at their best," said Kay Stephan, a certified etiquette trainer. "But in all the holiday frenzy, it's easy to let manners slip."

So before you begin your merrymaking, better brush up on how to be a good guest.

Food and drink

Want to kill your career? Get sloshed at the company Christmas party.

"Nothing is more disgusting than a holiday lush," said Stephan.

But it's not just alcohol that people abuse at holiday events.

"Remember when eating, that this is not your last meal," she said. "You do not have to make a replica of Mount Everest on your plate."

When dining in the company of others, remember moderation, be on your best behavior and learn the layout of a table setting so you know basic things like which butter plate is yours.

Exotic foods and unusual drinks are often part of holiday celebrations. If you don't like it, mum's the word. If you don't know what something is, ask. And remember, faking it

can backfire.

Even the most refined folks forget the golden rule at the appetizer table: No doubledipping. Yes, it's tempting to nibble that chicken wing or tortilla chip and go back for additional dunking. It's a major no-no.

Many people celebrate the holidays with meals at restaurants. Be aware of the difference between a social and business dinner.

"The purpose of business dining is not the meal, it's about creating rapport. It's not really about the food," Stephan said. "If something goes wrong, or you don't like something, as a guest you should not make a big deal out of it."

Invitations

Honor your RSVPs. "This is one of the biggest holiday faux

pas people make," said Stephan. Many a host and hostess has put tremen-

dous effort into a party, only to have people respond late, not respond at all, or say they are coming and not show.

"If the invitation says 'Regrets Only' and you don't call, they are assuming you are coming," she said.

If you say you will attend, you must. Lastminute cancellations are unacceptable, barring major medical emergencies. If you are invited to someone's home for dinner or a party, always take a gift. It should be a thoughtful token of your appreciation. "Wine, cookies and ornaments are very

appropriate," Stephan said.

If you can't manage that, don't throw something together just to have an item in hand.



"It's better to give a really nice card than a cheap, poorly wrapped gift," she said.

Know the don'ts

Don't bring anything that will create havoc.

"Such as food that needs to be assembled or flowers without a vase," Stephan said. "The hostess has enough on her mind."

Don't pout if the hostess does not use your food or wine gift at the event.

"It might not fit in with what she has

planned," she said. Don't expect the hosts to open your gift.

He or she may want to open it later, in private.

Mixing and mingling

Try to talk with everyone at the party at least once. The whole idea of a party or open house is to socialize and spread good cheer.

"If you want to be able to make small talk with people, know the basics, know what's going on in the world," Stephan advises. "Read the paper, go to movies, watch the news. I don't like sports, but I watch the last two minutes of important games just so I know I can talk about it."

Don't whisper or point. Don't talk about income, sex or health problems. Don't share strong political or religious opinions. Don't tell off-color jokes. Don't spew about yourself, unless you want to be branded the party bore.

Timing

• Do not arrive early.

"The hosts are usually running around seeing to last-minute details," Stephan said.



"They probably don't have time to entertain you just yet."

• Do not be late for dinner. Many a Caesar has wilted, beef Wellington cooled and baked Alaska melted waiting for tardy guests.

• Know when to go.

"Don't be the last person to leave the party," Stephan said, "unless you plan to be part of the clean-up crew."

Attire

A "stylish-casual" dress code is often the assumed holiday attire, but you never know. "If you aren't sure what to wear, call the hostess and ask," Stephan recommends.

If it is a company party, think professional. Ladies, forget plunging necklines and micro minis, and guys, skip the T-shirt and tennis shoes.

Teens and young adults may need special guidance when dressing for holiday gatherings, Stephan said.

"Parents need to realize that dress protocol applies to kids," she said. "They should not wear jeans, have clean and neat clothing and boys should have collars, no T-shirts."

Get in the spirit.

Stephan has a unique reminder method to help spread the spirit of the season.

"Every day during the holidays, put five pennies in your pocket," she said. "Every time you say something nice or do something nice for someone, move a penny to the other pocket. At the end of the day, if all the pennies are in the opposite pocket, you've done your job."

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Foys not always fun and games

By Candy Parent HOMETOWN NEWSPAPERS

> electing the perfect toy involves more than simply finding one the child wants that fits within the budget — safety must also be considered.

Many parents believe all toys on the shelf are safe for their children to play with. However, Rachel Weintraub, SafeChild.net assistant general counsel, says that is simply not true.

"Although there are safety standards for toys, they often require only minimum levels of performance and fail to address all known hazards," she said in a press release.

Many times, safety problems are not detected until a child has been injured. Manufacturers then institute a toy recall, but getting the word out is difficult. To help, SafeChild.net offers tips to help select the right toys and a searchable database notifying parents of recalls. "The purpose of SafeChild.net is to pro-

vide parents and caregivers with the tools they need to reduce childhood injuries. The reason millions of unsafe products remain in toy boxes is because parents and caregivers often never hear about toy safety recalls. SafeChild.net makes finding these unsafe products as simple as possible," stated Jack Gillis, CFA director of public affairs. "SafeChild.net has been updated just in time to help parents to avoid problem toys during the upcoming holiday toy buying binge."

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SafeChild.net's Fop holiday toy safety tips

1. Check age labels: Don't confuse age labels with your child's intellectual ability to play with the toy or game. Just because your child enjoys, understands or can play with the toy or game doesn't mean it's safe for him or her. Age labels are safety, not development ratings.

2. Beware of choking: For infants, toddlers and all children who still put objects in their mouths, avoid toys with small parts that could pose a fatal choking hazard. Rattles, balls, blocks and other small parts should be at least 1.75 inches in diameter. SafeChild.net recommends this simple test: If the item can fit inside a toilet paper roll, keep it away from small children.

3. Examine the toy: Look for sturdy construction, such as tightly secured eyes, nose and other potential small parts and well-sewn seams on stuffed animals and cloth dolls. Be sure that eyes, noses, ribbons, buttons and other decorative items can't break or be pulled off. For all children under 8, avoid toys with sharp edges and points.

4. Avoid known hazards: Avoid toys that can be shot or propelled. Do not let your child put caps in his pockets. They can easily ignite and cause burns. Discard plastic wrappings on toys immediately, before they

FOR MORE INFORMATION

For more safety information. visit www.SafeChild.net For toy recall information, go to SafeChild.net/ToyRecallDatabase For toy safety tips, go to SafeChild.net/for_parents/toys.html

become deadly playthings. Never let your child play with latex balloons including uninflated balloons or balloon parts. Avoid toys that make loud noises, such as cap guns, as they can damage a child's hearing. Strings and ribbons on toys should be no longer than 6 inches to prevent strangulation.

5. Regularly check for recalls: Millions of toys are recalled every year and parents never find out about them. The only way to protect your child from these hidden hazards is to know about them. Log on to SafeChild.net and check the status of the toys your child has, and then check back every month for updates. SafeChild.net is unbiased, advertiser free and dedicated to just one thing - keeping your child safe.

SafeChild.net is a project of the Consumer Federation of America, a nonprofit association of pro-consumer advocacy and education group.

Poinsetting the record straight

Poinsettia plants are indisputably lovely. They are not indisputably poisonous.

It's a persistent myth that apparently originated in 1919 with the death of a 2year-old child of an Army officer stationed in Hawaii. The cause of death was incorrectly assumed to be from eating a poinsettia leaf. In fact, there are no documented cases of death by poinsettia consumption.

While the poinsettia belongs to a genus - Euphorbia -- that includes several plants that are toxic, it is not. A child weighing 50 pounds would have to eat about 500-600 leaves to exceed experimental dosages that, according to the POISINDEXInformation Service, produce nothing more injurious than vomiting. Poinsettia leaves are apparently

extremely bitter tasting.

- Copley News Service





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Fips help you dress for holidays

By Carol Palmatier SPECIAL WRITER

> Then planning your shopping this month, don't forget to consider your holiday wardrobe.

Office parties, neighborhood get-togethers, formal occasions - all these call for something a little special this time of year. And local stores are happy to help, with festive fabrics and new treatments for the holiday season

"Brighter colors are in this year, with faux fur trims, rabbit trims, and not so much black," says Jeannine MacDonald, owner of Lady Rebecca's Choice in Howell.

"Even what some people would think of as summer colors are showing up in winter clothes," she continues, pointing out a hot pink corduroy coat from the April Cornell line. We are seeing a return to more festive clothes for the holidays this year."

Velvets are a popular fabric this season, MacDonald explains, as well as longer soft sweaters as part of an outfit.

One big trend is toward individuality in clothing choices, she says.

"People are getting away from malls and finding the smaller shops because they can get good service," MacDonald explains. She says people are tired of dressing like

cookie cutters and are looking for a more individual approach to shopping and fashion.

Her store caters to just that sort of shopper, with a good variety of clothing, and some fun lines of accessories like scarves, funky purses and bats.

Faux fur and animal prints are big this holiday season, as shoppers look for a return to fun and festive clothing, like this coat and accessories found at Lady Rebecca's Choice in downtown Howell.

Lady Rebecca's Choice also carries a good selection of items for the Red Hat Society, including de rigueur purple dresses, red winter hats, and some fun accessory items that would make any Red Hatter happy this Christmas.

Going from an office setting to an afterhours party is easy with a little advanced planning, according to JoAnne Molin, manager of Open and Clothed in Northville. Molin recommends a standard business suit as a starting point.

"Lose the jacket and put on a pretty velvet vest, then dress it up with accessories to make those basic business clothes look wonderful," she advises.

Sheers and velvets are popular this year, especially in jackets and pants, and are a perfect choice "for any type of cocktail party or special evening at home," Molin continues. Molin agrees with MacDonald that color

and soft fabrics are big this year.

"We have some wonderful copper color quilted jackets, crinkle skirts with sheer blouses, and a handkerchief hem skirt of burnout velvet in a beautiful copper color," she says.

When choosing clothing for a more formal occasion, such as a Christmas wedding or gala party, "keep up the holiday theme with luxurious fabrics like satin and velvet," she advises. "It is a celebration, so celebrate!"

Her rule for dressing with style is simple. "If you don't feel good in it, don't wear it!" says Molin.

When the occasion calls for more formal attire during the holidays, consider going with dressy separates instead of a long gown or cocktail dress, suggests Kendra Marshall, manager of Elder Beerman in Howell.

"Separates are in this year," Marshall explains. "For example, you could pair a really pretty jeweled velvet top with a pair of

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Open and Clothed 141 N. Center St. In the Old Church Square Northville (248) 349-9900

Elder Beerman 3599 E. Grand River Howell (517) 552-1300

E Lady Rebecca's Choice 107 E. Grand River **Downtown Howell** (517) 545-3090

black pants you might already have at home." This technique can help you stretch your holiday shopping dollars, and give you more flexibility in your wardrobe, she explains.

Another tip for making the most of your existing wardrobe is to take advantage of the latest trends in jewelry and accessories.

"The biggest mistake most people make is not updating their jewelry and accessories with the season," Marshall says.

She suggests some tops in trendy colors to go with a few good quality basics, and using accessories to add interest and stay current.

Hot trends this season include chunky jewelry in sterling silver and large semi-precious gems.

"And always dress it up with a really cute pair of shoes," she advises.

Photos by CAROL PALMATIER

They're back: Sweaters perfect choice for men

By Carol Palmatier SPECIAL WRITER

oliday time means plenty of opportunities to dress up, and this year's fashion choices are combining flexibility with style for the men on your shopping list. Men have a good range of choices this season, from classic business looks to the more relaxed casual approach in comfortable easy-care fabrics.

"Men's dressy slacks out of micro fiber hang beautifully," says Kendra Marshall, manager of Elder Beerman in Howell. "Combined with a thin gauge sweater, the look can go dressy or casual, and you can always dress it up more by throwing a blazer over it," Marshall adds. At Arms Brothers in Milford, holiday dress-

ing means a return to classic good looks.

Black has been popular for the dressy look," says Ron Barnette, manager of the oldest men's clothing store in the state. "Sweaters are also big again, as well as sport coats and suits," continues Barnette.

Barnette sees a turn-around in the businesscasual trend of the past few years. "Some people have taken business casual to the extreme. Companies are starting to step up and demand

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Elder Beerman 3599 E. Grand River, Howell (517) 552-1300 Arms Brothers 361 N. Main St., downtown Milford

(248) 685-8449

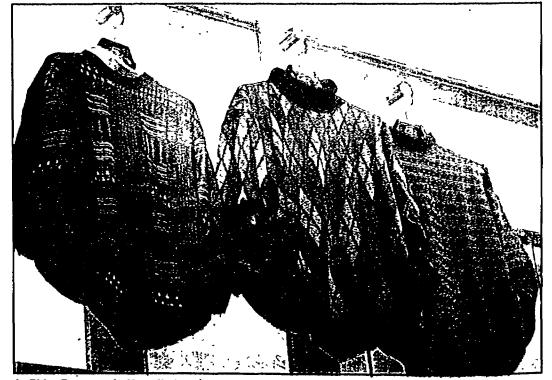
a dress code," says Barnette.

Arms Brothers is there to help make that transition, with a wide variety of business and sportswear.

"When business casual took over, we considered going strictly business casual, but decided to keep a good mix," says Barnette. "We now have 20 different suits available for order that we can have in a matter of days."

When dressing for a more casual holiday get-together or informal entertaining, consider a sweater, suggests Barnette.

"We are seeing chenille in sweaters, or fleece with added texture," he says. "We are also seeing classic cable sweaters, in colors across the board."



At Elder Beerman in Howell, dressy sweaters help the businessman make the transition from office to party with style, in a variety of styles and colors.

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This year, get out of line. **Discover The UPS Store**[™].



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Shopping for men doesn't have to be challenging

By Annette Jaworski SPECIAL WRITER

o doubt some of the toughest challenges you'll face this holiday season are finding gifts for the men in your life. Don't give up, there are lots of great ideas from the simple and inexpensive to the big-ticket items they yearn for all year.

For most guys, you can hardly go wrong with tools.

"Craftsman tools make good gifts all year long," agrees Bob Sendra, owner of Sears in Howell.

This year's hottest tools have added a new feature — a laser light for precision. It adds incredible precision and is now available at a reasonable cost on items, such as circular, radial and miter saws.

"For a circular saw, it only changes the price from maybe \$59 to \$69," said Sendra.

Predicted to be one of this year's most popular items is a device called laser track that can be used alone or with a tripod. It's basically a level with a laser light.

"It will help to get that wallpaper or picture hung straight," said Sendra.

Classics that continue to be well received include tool sets and rollaway tool chests that help keep it all together. No need to put on the reading glasses — laser etching on tool sets is making them easier to read.

"This year we'll be carrying laser etching on socket sets in a larger size that makes them visible from 5 feet away," Sendra added.

And for the little guys, they carry a new and exciting line of Craftsman tools for kids with hammers, tool belts and benches to name a few. They contain fun features like realistic sounds to the hammer.

Today's technology enables many of the new electronic items to be more affordable, particularly DVD players.

"You don't need to spend a lot of money to get a decent DVD player," said Sendra.

MORE INFORMATION

Dunham's Will be moving next to Elder Beerman in the Kroger Plaza (517) 548-9600

■ Sears Roebuck and Company East of Latson Road on Grand River Avenue in

Howell (517) 545-4004

Coyote Golf Club 28700 Milford Road in Lyon Township (248) 486-1228

■ Dickenson Sawyer www.golfclubcard.com (248) 669-8815

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Game tables are a fun choice not only for the man of the house, but the entire family as well. Sears carries a full line of air hockey, soccer, pool and ping-pong tables. This year, they'll be on display in the store for a hands-on look.

As a favorite past time of many, why not consider a gift of golf?

Jason Raney, PGA Head Golf Pro at Coyote Golf Course in South Lyon, says gift certificates are one of the most popular items they carry around the holidays. The certificate can be applied in a number of ways, such as for merchandise in the pro shop.

"We basically offer all major brands, including Footjoy shoes and Ashworth clothing."

Additionally, there are a host of different brands of clubs and balls to suit personal preference. Custom orders apply, too. Certificates can also be applied for the dining facility, which is top notch, he adds.

How about some lessons to improve on that game? There are different packages available.

"That's something (lessons) that fit everyone. It's also a nice way to get juniors started," says Raney.

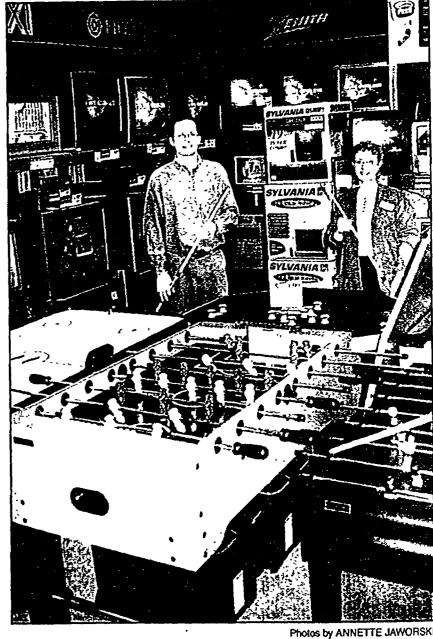


Don't worry about getting the right brand or size for your guy. Jason Raney, PGA Head Golf Pro at Coyote Golf Course in South Lyon, says you can't go wrong with a gift certificate.

And of course, many people enjoy using the certificates for a round of next season's golf.

If your guy likes to sharpen his skills by visiting new courses, maybe consider a two for one golf card offered by Dickenson Sawyer. Even great as a stocking stuffer, the card is affordable, and offers great savings for frequent golfers. For \$30, the Livingston County card offers a round of free golf, with one round paid at five different courses including Huntmore, Marion Oaks, Brentwood, the Links at Whitmore Lake and Hunter's Ridge. Or look for combo cards at other courses that include buckets of balls, rounds of golf and lunch.

The cards can even be purchased for courses in other areas. For example, the Gaylord card costs \$60 and is worth an actual \$800 in savings — it even offers discounts for lodging. A Mount Pleasant area card includes the fabulous new "Buck's Run" course, says Janet Woods, owner of Dickenson Sawyer. This card includes 14 rounds of golf at seven different



Jeff Sendra and Kathy Boyda of Sears in Howell show off some of the great gifts they have for guys including games, electronics and Craftsman tools.

courses.

For the sports lover in general, a sporting goods store such as Dunham's offers a whole host of ideas.

"Lots of things in our store are guy oriented," said Nancy Donohoe, manager at Dunham's in

Howell. There's hunting, fishing and

and equipment for fitness buffs,

camping gear for the outdoorsman

including weightlifting equipment. And of course, there's gear for every kind of sport from hockey to golf. Golf balls and tees make great stocking stuffers.

"They're always looking for that special club to complete the set," said Donohoe.

For the weekend warrior, there are jerseys, sports logo wear and work boots to get you through the week.

Who are you supposed to tip during the holiday season?

First, there are the doormen, superintendent and maintenance men at her apartment building. Then there is her colorist. Oh, add in her hair stylist and the nice shampoo girl.

"Did I mention my newspaper and mail carriers? I can't even keep track of it all," she explains.

The holidays are a time to open your heart and your wallet to those who provide services to you. Tipping is a way to express your gratitude for what you've received in the past months as well as for the service you will receive in the months ahead.

Who you tip and how much you tip is under constant debate. According to the Emily Post Institute, base your decision on how pleased you are with the service, your relationship with the provider, how often you use the service, how long you have used the service, your budget, your area's customs, and the type of establishment (upscale versus one that is more moderate).

Instead of just slipping the cash into an envelope, personalize it with a handwritten thank-you note.

Some tipping suggestions:

Baby sitters: an extra evening's pay plus a

small gift from children/child.

Hair salon staff: \$10 to \$60 each, giving extra money or an extra small gift to those who do more for you.

Building superintendents and doormen: \$20 to \$100.

Nannies, au pairs or housekeepers: One or two weeks pay plus small gift from your child or children.

Cleaning person: \$25 to \$50; one day's pay or a gift equal to one day's pay.

Newspaper carrier: Between \$10 and \$30. Letter carrier: They are allowed to accept gifts worth up to \$20.

In general, service workers get tips,

which they rely on to supplement their income.

Jason Haber of New York, N.Y., provides extra tips to people he visits frequently.

"A tip is not something you prepare for," he says. "It's something that you respond to when you've been well taken care of."

In some professions, a gift will suit the bill. Send your child's teacher a book, picture frame or gourmet fruit basket. Thank your chiropractor with a plate of cookies. Mail your dentist a holiday card.

Follow these tips and you'll be on your way to tipping in a tactful and tasteful manner.

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Reeping holidays happy Simple steps help you deal with cancer during the holidays

Decorating, shopping, baking ... chemotherapy sessions.

Holidays are stressful enough, but for many of the 1.3 million people diagnosed with cancer this year, their disease will mean the added difficulty of dealing with a serious illness.

If you are a patient or your loved one is, cancer may change your holiday plans. But it doesn't have to take the joy out of the season.

If you are facing cancer, you may see the holidays as a burden or hassle. But sharing in this festive time can be a welcome distraction, as well as a reminder of all the things that make life precious.

The important thing is to set realistic expectations and not overdo it.

Whether you are a patient or caregiver, here are some tips that can help maintain your holiday cheer:

• Scale back. Remember it's the spirit of the holidays that counts. Things like decorating and cooking can take a lot of energy – energy you need to get well. Attend only those parties most meaningful to you – your family, friends, and business associates will understand if you decline an invitation.

• Accept help. If you are facing a serious illness, this is one time when the saying "It is

Healthy Holidays

The holidays are a time for celebrating. And with these celebrations, you may be tempted to forgo healthy eating and regular exercise. By just doing a few simple things, you can keep your holidays healthy and not miss out on the good food and fun. Try:

- Eating smaller portions
- Adding fruit toppings to your traditional desserts
- Keeping pre-cut vegetables readily available in the refrigerator for snacks
- Parking your car farther away from the front of the store when you are shopping
- Cleaning the house vacuuming, dusting, and other activities burn calories
- Walking around your neighborhood to see the holiday lights

Another important factor in healthy living is not smoking. If you have recently quit or are trying to quit, ask your family and friends for help getting through the stress of the holidays.

For more information, call the American Cancer Society at 1-800-ACS-2345 or visit www.cancer.org.

better to give than to receive" does not apply. Chances are your friends and family members are already looking for ways to help. Let them.

• Allow some down time. Preserve your energy for those holiday activities you want to do. If you are tired, rest. • Focus on family and friends. Gathering with those close to you will remind you how much love and support you have.

• Pamper yourself. If you can afford it, do something special for yourself like get a manicure or massage (check with your doctor to make sure it won't interfere with treatment). These treats can be relaxing and help build energy for holiday festivities.

• Ease side effects. It's important to remember that extreme fatigue during this time is more likely caused by cancer treatment than holiday excitement.

Approximately 90 percent of cancer patients experience treatment-related fatigue. Many patients also experience pain related to their disease but do not realize there are medical remedies that can help.

If you are experiencing fatigue or pain, talk to your doctor.

• Seek support. Sometimes only those who have been through a cancer experience can truly understand your feelings. Support groups or online support networks, such as the American Cancer Society's Cancer Survivor's NetworkSM (www.acscsn.org), can provide much-needed emotional support.

Cancer doesn't have to ruin the holidays. Doing things for yourself and accepting support can help you continue to enjoy this time of year.

For more information, contact the American Cancer Society at 1-800-ACS-2345 or www.cancer.org.

--- Source: American Cancer Society, December 2003



HOLIDAY GIFT GUIDE . Thursday, November 27, 2003. 29

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Gifts for teachers

Teachers rule books, gift certificates, food and anything homemade are best

By Candy Parent HOMETOWN NEWSPAPERS

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eachers have an important job — they make a difference in the lives of children every day. So, it is only natural that those children would want to remember their teacher at

Christmas with a special gift.

Teachers, of course, love it when their students think of them — especially when they put some thought into getting them something they need or collect.

"I have always appreciated anything the students get me," says Greg Prince, fifthgrade teacher at Voyager Elementary School in Howell. "I always remember the gifts that were unique. I still have a red chili pepper bell that hangs behind my desk that was given to me by a student six years ago! Once kids find out you like to collect things, they get you all kinds of "stuff" to add to your collections."

Over the years, however, those gifts could add up and overwhelm the classroom.

"Presents are such a tough thing for me," says Jill Cain, a fifth-grade teacher at Southeast Elementary School in Howell. "I hate for families to spend money on me "I never expect anything, and sometimes just receiving a card that says 'Thanks!' is the best (gift) of all."

-Greg Prince Fifth-grade teacher at Voyager Elementary School in Howell

when I pretty much have everything I could ask for."

This year, consider purchasing something the teacher and students can both use.

For example, Cain says last year the school's PTO put together a book fair as a fund-raiser. They offered teachers the opportunity to submit a wish list of books they would like to have in their classroom. The teachers and students benefited by having the books in the classroom and the school benefited by receiving the extra money. It is a "win — win situation," says Cain.

Of course, all teachers agree gift certificates to local bookstores and teacher stores are great because they can purchase items for the classroom they would typically pay for out of their own pocket. "It takes a lot of money to build the classroom library," says Cain. "To have an effective writer's workshop, the books need to be in the classroom so that the students can re-read, do inquiries and look at sentence structure whenever they need to." Of course, homemade gifts are also

appreciated by teachers.

"I think that the most special gift that I have ever received was one made by a student," says Jennifer Dittmer, resource room teacher at Southeast and Challenger Elementary Schools in Howell. "I taught in an inner-city school and had a fourth-grade student who had nothing. He cut down a tree and wood burned 'Teacher of the Year' on his own. That was five years ago and I will always remember the look on his face when he gave it to'me. I cried and he beamed! It was one of those moments

ANOTHER IDEA

Deborah Wolf, principal at Southeast Elementary School in Howell, has another idea for holiday gifts. "Principals appreciate it when families donate children's books to be given to those children who are not able to purchase book fair books and books from children's book clubs," she says

that I will never forget."

Anything, even a card, that a student has taken the time to make themselves is appreciated.

"Cards and letters are very special," adds Dittmer.

Other suggestions may include donating to the teacher's favorite charity in their name, purchasing a ball for the playground or book for the library, making a scrapbook or cookbook from the students in the class or baking cookies.

"I never expect anything, and sometimes just receiving a card that says 'Thanks!' is the best of all," says Prince.

Although, he adds, food is always appreciated.

Personalize the gift for someone special

Continued from page 23

In addition to personalized items, both stores offer varsity jackets and a complete collection of school spirit items.

Parkside specializes in South Lyon items, but others can be ordered.

Spirit of Livingston carries items for each of the school districts in Livingston County and can also help those in surrounding areas.

However, Maczik cautions parents not to buy completed varsity jackets for Christmas presents.

There are so many options available, she says it is better to bring the student in and let them design their own coat. It's also a good idea to have them try on the coat and make sure it fits before adding patches and embroidery.

She recommends buying a plain coat and wrapping that up for the holidays. Then the student can visit after Christmas and design the coat they want.

Other suggestions for hard-to-shop-for teens include gloves and a scarf, embroidered with their school mascot, to match their varsity jacket, flannel pajamas, sweats or even a two-tone sweatshirt in their school colors, says Maczik.

Of course, since everything is personalized, anything can be modified to fit the individual's needs.

PERSONALIZED PRESENTS

🖩 Parkside

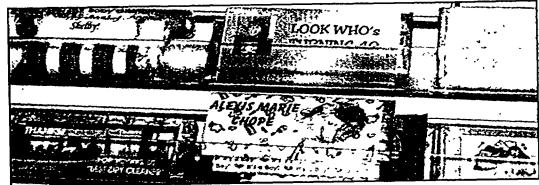
22645 Pontiac Trail Located at Nine Mile and Pontiac Trail between CVS and Burger King in South Lyon (248) 437-8353

Most items take about 2 weeks.

■ The Spirit of Livingston 2572 E. Grand River Ave. Located by the old Quality Farm & Fleet building in Howell (517) 545-8831

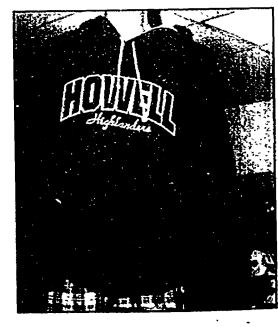
Most items ordered before Dec. 10 guaranteed for Christmas delivery.

"We're the personalization shop," says Haggerty. "We gear it to what you need it for."



Photos by CANDY PARENT/HOMETOWN NEWSPAPERS

Above, M&M's, Trident, Life Savors and Hershey's can all be customized with a photo or saying at Parkside in South Lyon. Pamela Haggerty, owner, suggests using the candy bars for people who you wouldn't normally buy a gift, but want to give a little more than a card. They are perfect for members of a church, classmates or co-workers. A family photo and wishes for a happy holiday are perfect, she says. At right, The Spirit of Livingston in Howell has brand-new, two-tone sweatshirts in school colors. They can customized with the school's name, a sport, child's name or anything else. Matching flannel boxers and pajamas, gloves, scarfs, t-shirts, sweats, umbrellas, license plates, hats, duffel bags and more are also available.



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Shopping for perfect gift easy

By Lillian Vernon SPECIAL WRITER

Gift giving is a combination of art and science that requires careful thought and planning: Searching for the perfect gift is fun for some, but for others it can be frustrating.

These tips will make your holiday gift giving more enjoyable and less of a chore:

• During the year, think about the types of gifts your family and friends want and need. Keep a master shopping file or notebook as a resource for information on gift recipients, including clothing sizes, hobbies, personal tastes and preferences. The earlier you shop, the better. When you see the perfect gift on sale, buy it on the spot. If it's a bargain, it will most likely be gone. Sales also help you budget your money and keep down your credit card bills. If you wait until the last minute, you'll have to settle for what's available. Remember, the most popular products, sizes and colors often sell out.

• Maintain a gift closet to keep last-minute gifts and assorted greeting cards.

• Take advantage of services offered for free or for a nominal fee, like personalization, personal shoppers, gift certificates, gift registries and gift-wrapping.

• Sentimental and personal gifts are always special and will be cherished for years. Write your family history or recipes in a decorative bound book, or restore old family photos and mementos and place them in frames or an album with dates and captions.

· Give a gift that gives back. Shop in muse-

um stores and from retailers who pledge a percentage of their profits to a charity. You might also make a contribution to a nonprofit organization in someone's name.

• For a do-it-yourself touch, buy decorative baskets or tins and fill them with soaps, lotions, body gels, potpourri, candles, candy or homemade cookies. Make a specially prepared meal hosted at your home.

• In a small but visible way, something as simple and elegant as a person's name or initials sets them apart from everyone else and makes a statement about their individuality. A personalized gift shows you took extra time and care in your choice. There are personalized gifts to suit every personality, interest and age. Personalization takes extra time, so shop early.

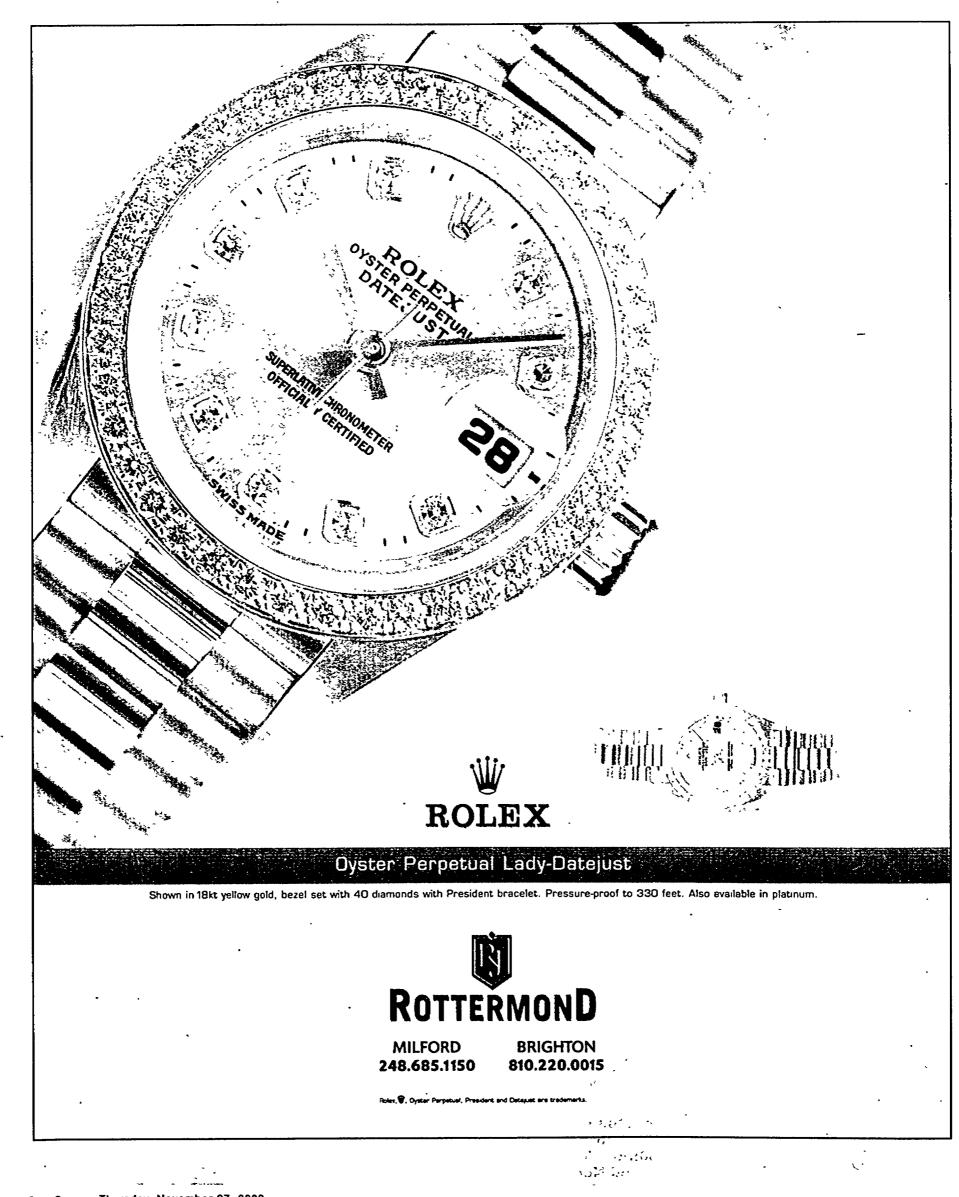
• If you are unsure what to buy, a gift certificate is always a practical choice. Gift certificates can be purchased for stores, restaurants, movie theaters, malls, mail order catalogs and online retailers. You can buy most gift certificates online to save time. Wrap them in a gift box so they will be even more of a surprise.

• Always check the retailer's return policy. Some offer an unconditional money-back guarantee with no time restriction — perfect if you shop far in advance. After making your purchase, save your receipt, packaging and shipping box in case you have to return the gift.

• Wrap gifts as soon as you buy them. You'll wrap more carefully and have more time to enjoy the holiday. Dress up your gift-wrapping with a personalized ornament, a candy cane, bells or holly berries. For a gift that won't fit under a tree, like a bicycle or an appliance, put a picture into a card or gift box.







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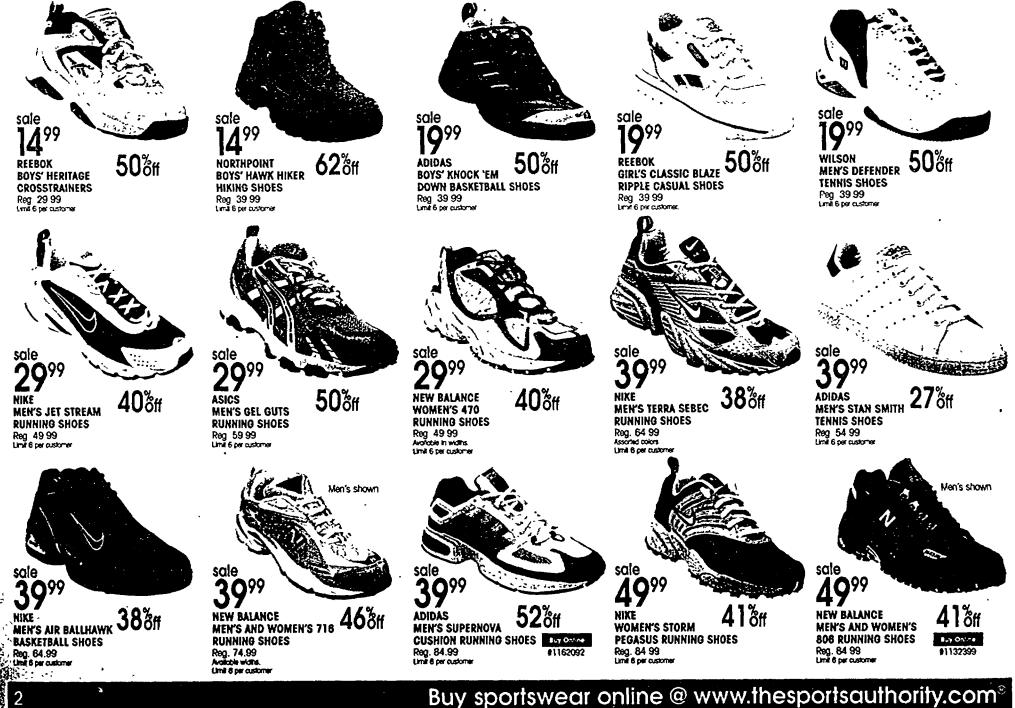
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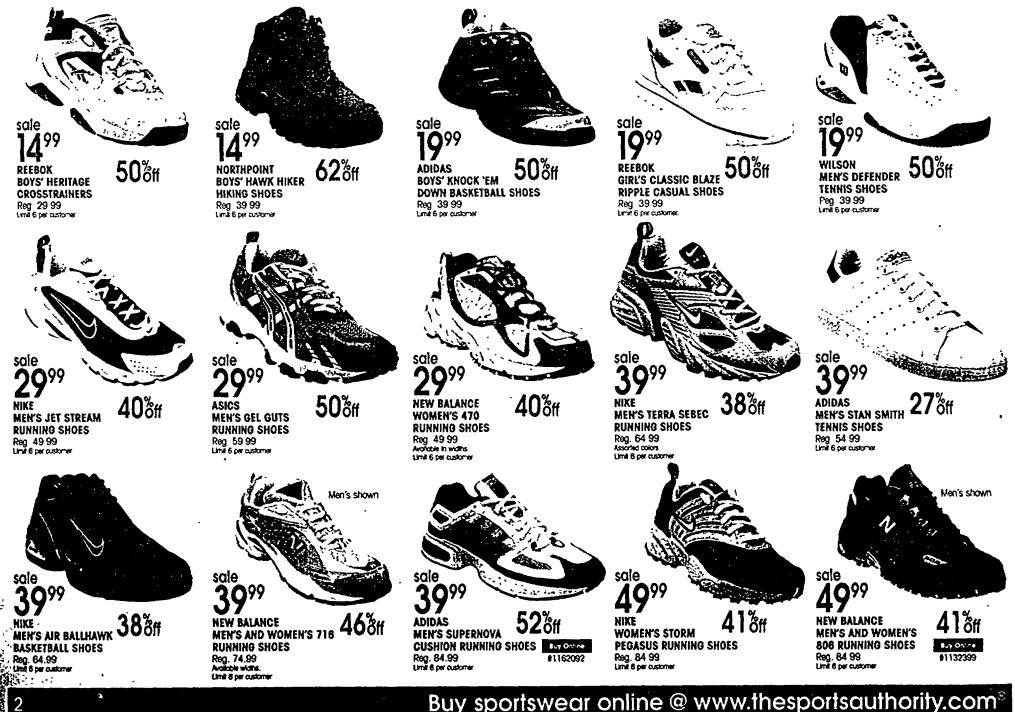
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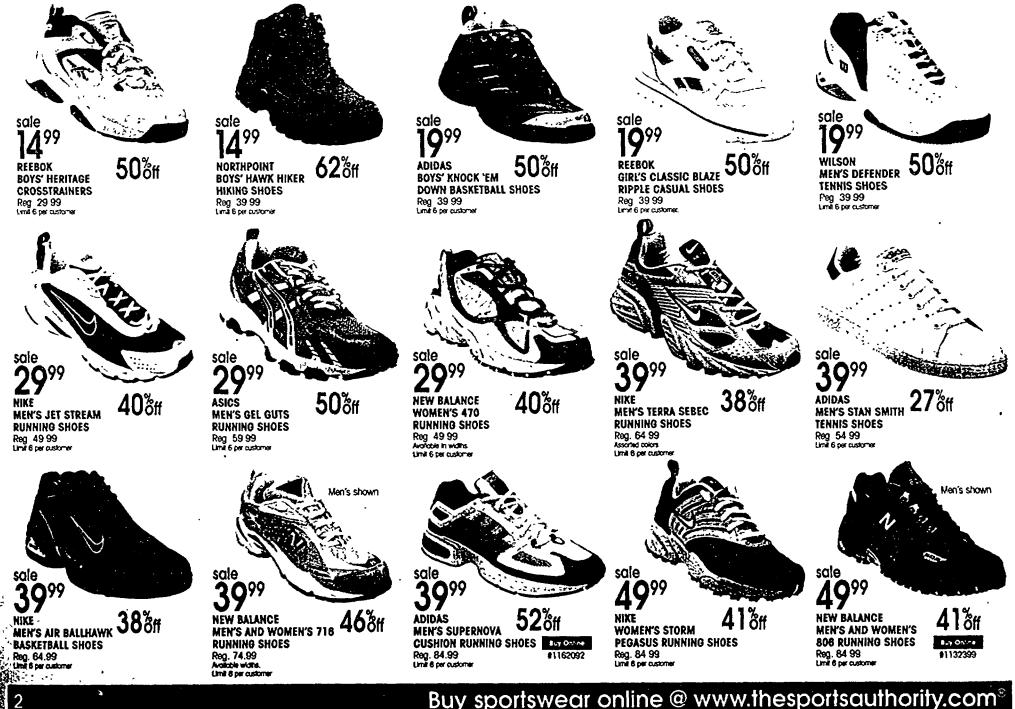
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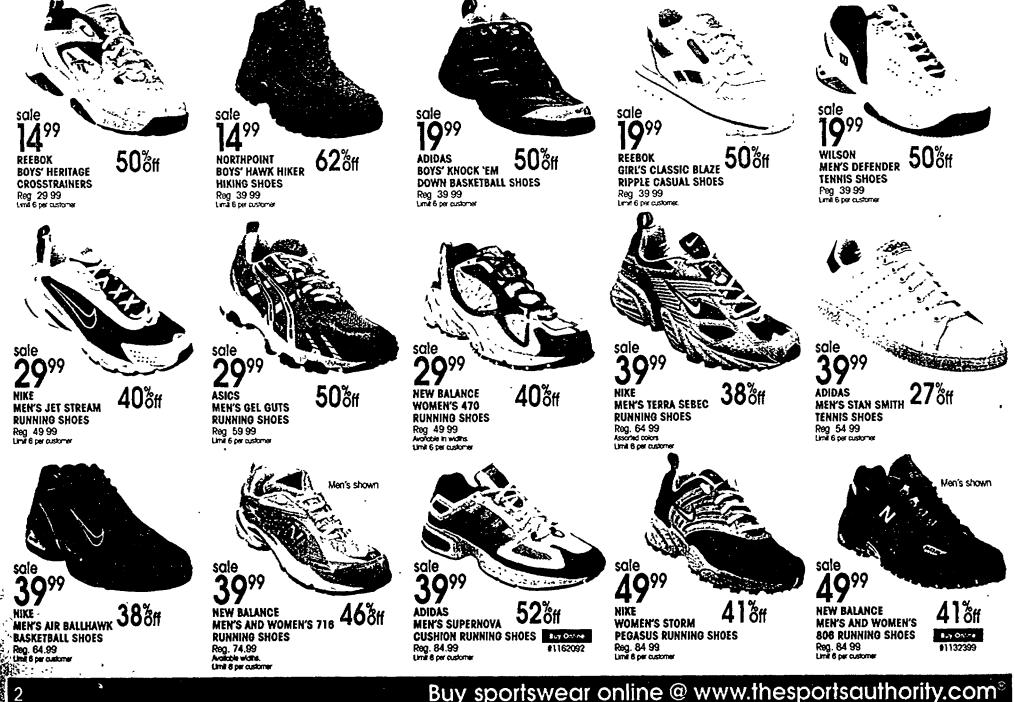


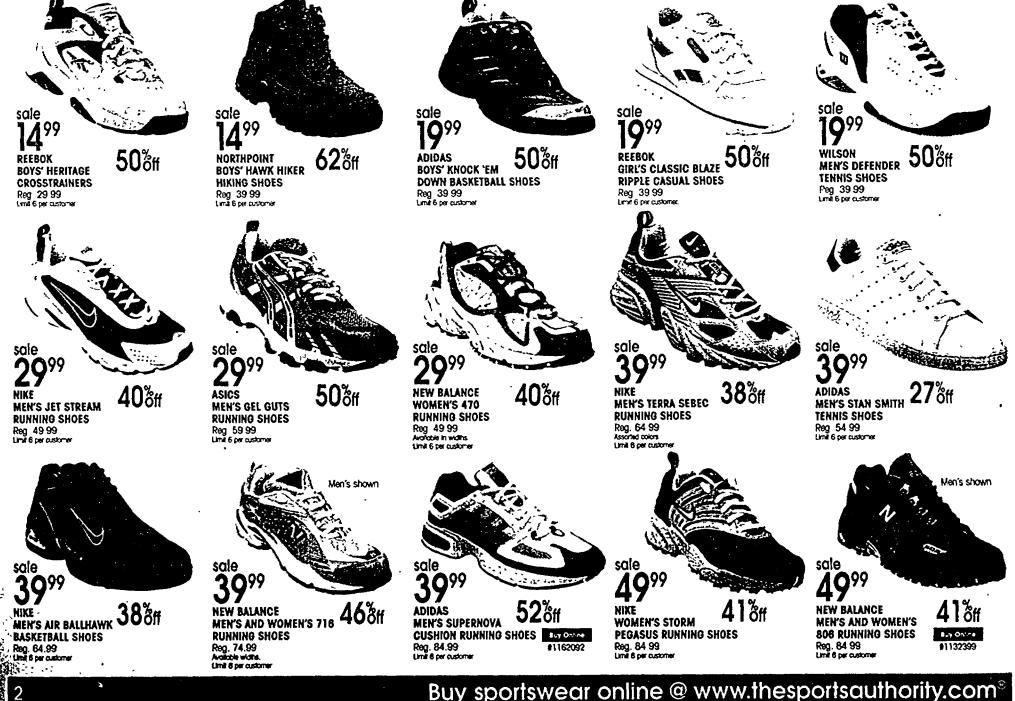
















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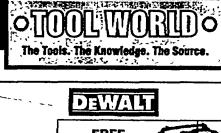
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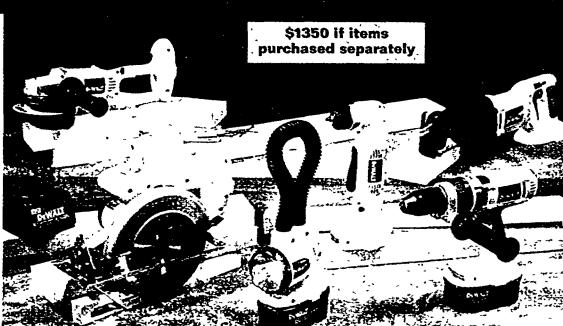


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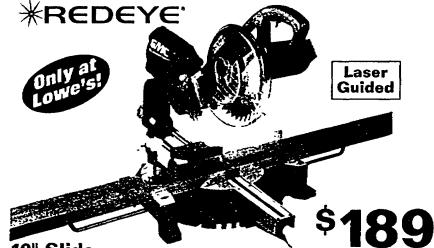
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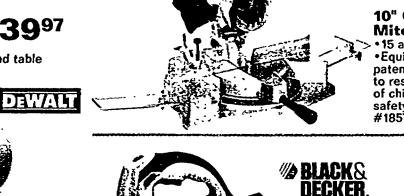
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Great ways to get organized for the holidays

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Storage organization



Shelving organization

Balanda Bartise Hariston - March 12:01



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Showroom quality, exclusively at Lowe's!

All the details, just right.

• Detailed grain texture looks and feels like real wood.

• Pre-attached premium underlayment saves installation time and provides the most natural sound.



• Lustergard[™] Plus, the best built-in scratch barrier, period.



• Gluefree joint reduces installation time while a built in edge sealant protects against moisture.

Manufacturer's mail-in rebate 10/1/03 - 12/7/03

No limit per household. Rebate offer good on in-stock and SOS colors. **Only \$3.57** per sq. ft. after mail-in rebate. \$69.83 (EDLP) -\$7.04 (manufacturer's mail-in rebate) \$62.79 (per carton after mail-in rebate)

23





Installing Laminate Flooring is a "Snap!"

- No need to scrub, wax or polish
- Guaranteed not to stain, fade or wear through
- No messy cleanup ■ Look of real wood in an
- easy-to-install laminate ■ No glue, nails or clamps!
- Innovative locking system
- installs up to 50% faster than traditional "glued" installations

Pergo[®] Signature Glueless Laminate Flooring •Sold in 17.59 sq. ft. carton •Detailed grain texture looks and feels like real wood •Red Oak color shown #115351

g \$3.97 (EDLP) ____\$0.40 (manufacturer's mail-in rebate)



Available through special order in some markets.

In-Stock Colors



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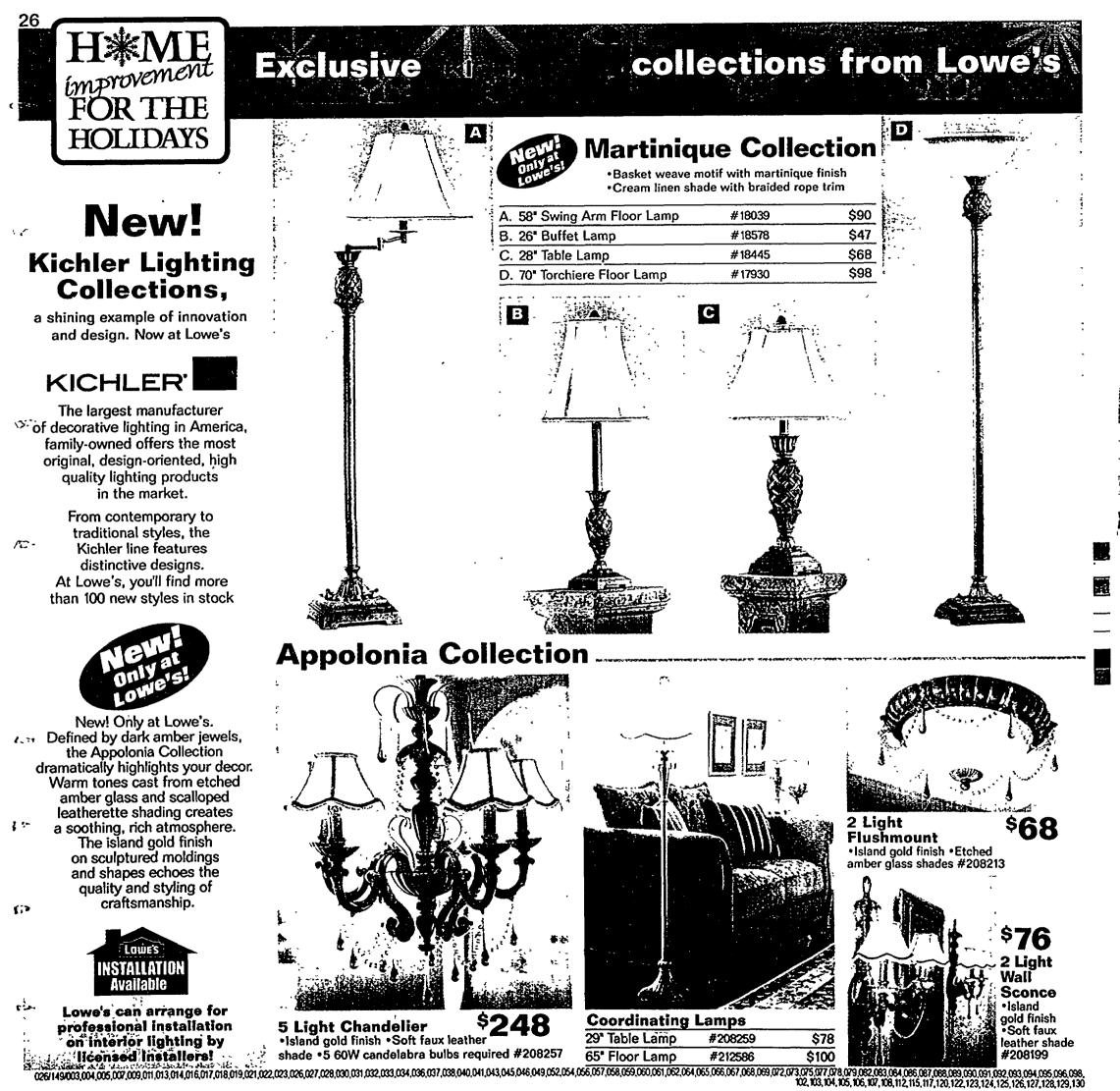
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Order your Special Order Window treatments from Home •Monday through Saturday from 7:00AM to 11:00PM, and Sunday from 10:00AM to 7:00PM, at 1-800-559-2555.



Lowe's INSTALLATION Available

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No time to install it yourself? Professional installation available.



Bring in your window measurements and in minutes we'll cut your blinds to a desired width. Free - no additional charge!

Applies to in-stock blinds with Custom Size Now[®] logo



Visit Lowes.com/homedecor for more information on window treatments

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In-stock and ready to take home today!





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Bring in your window measurements 57 and in minutes we'll cut your blinds to a desired width. Free - no additional charge!

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light, cuts glare •When closed, allows complete

privacy • Precision hardware system ensures

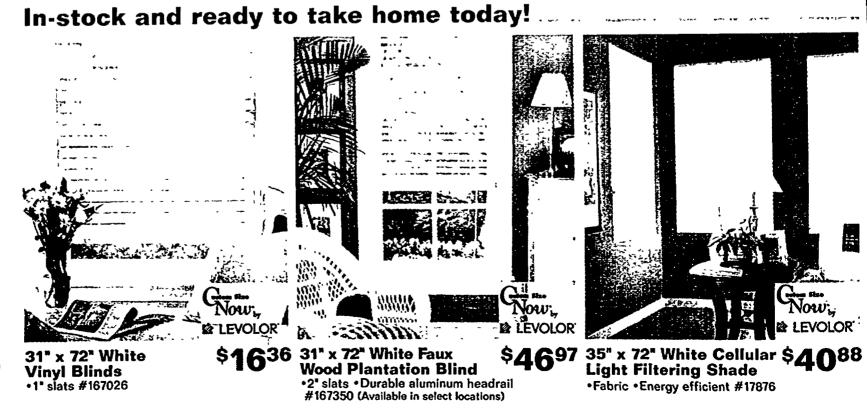
long lasting smooth and quiet operation

31" x 64" Fauxwood Blinds Several colors to fit your decor •Several colors to fit your decor •Available through special order •Textured fabric vanes between two sheer facings •When open, filters

\$**85** Available through special order
 North American hardwood and polymer material resists warping, cracking chipping and fading • Comes standard with a decorative 3" wood valance . Decorative tapes extra

31" x 64" M&B Cellular \$**89** Sonnet Blinds •Available through special order •Available in a

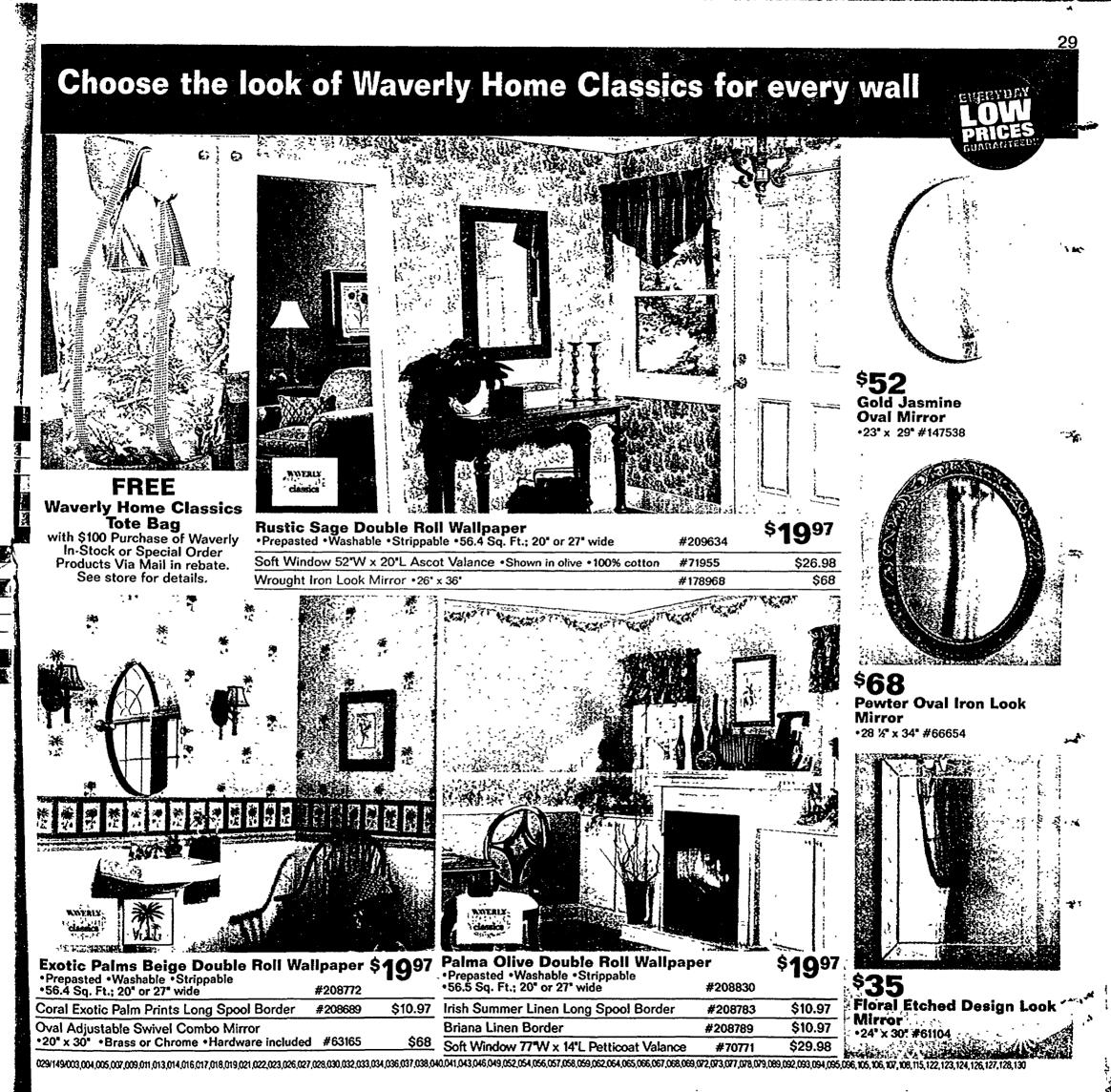
variety of pleat sizes and styles • Fabrics range from light-filtering to room-darkening for ultimate light control • Honeycomb pleats provide superior insulation and sound absorption



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Prepaid Phone Cards

30 Minute	#150399	\$2.47
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250 Minute	#163930	\$17.97
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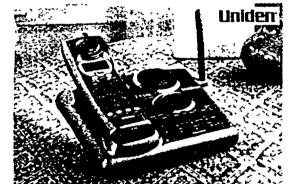
30 Minute	#163295	<u>\$16.92</u>	
60 Minute	#199049	\$23.53	
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Keeping in touch with family and friends is

2.4 GHZ Digital Spread **Spectrum Cordless Phone**

•Two handsets with call waiting/caller ID •English, French and Spanish menus •One touch phone book dialing •100 dynamic memory locations •6 ringer tones #194227



2.4 GHZ Analog \$**49**99 **Cordless Phone** •Charcoal or White finish •Call waiting •Caller ID •Digital answering system •20 number memory dial #177886,8266

Way Radios



Mobile Radio Service 2 Pack •NiMH rechargeable batteries, dual charging cradle and AC adapter, removable belt clipper and rubber antenna (not included) #212266



2.4 GHz Cordless Phone \$78

\$**34**62 **General Mobile Radio** 2 Pack Service with 22 Channels Indoor range up to 2 miles •Outdoor range up to 2 miles #221729



Uniden

•Caller ID, call waiting, handset to handset call transfer and handset speakerphone Shown in titanium finish #164047



2.4 GHZ Cordless \$**39**⁹⁵ Phone with Telezapper Telezapper device eliminates many telemarketing calls . Includes call waiting, caller id and headset compatibility #217334



General Mobile Radio \$2488 Service with 22 Channels 2 Pack Indoor range up to 2 miles •Outdoor range up to 2 miles #221727

•Caller ID, call waiting, digital answering machine with 3 mailboxes. TeleZapper technology, programmable ringer #195511 Uniden[.]

32

22 Channel General \$52



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Electric Stove

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Satin Nickel

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•Reduces heat loss up the chimney by 90% •Picture frame design #185584

Also available in Black and Polished Brass (#185580)

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•25%"H x 23%"W x 15%"D •Patented

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electric flame technology produces

realistic flame effect • 1500 watt/ 120 volt/5115 BTU heater #144886

PYROMASTER.

Save energy with zone heating



32^e Fireplace and Mantel **Oakridge 32" Vent-Free Firebox** •Full-size zero clearance 32" fireplace •Fiber ceramic brick liner, black hood and pull screen included

\$**28**9 #91613 (shown) 32" Oak Wall Mantel Now at Lowe's!

•Use with 32" fireplace •Oak finish •Elegant traditional design •Hand crafted from oak solids and veneers \$379 #220582 (shown)

26" Fireplace and Mantel

26" Traditional Electric Fireplace Now at Lowe's! •Patented flame technology, for a realistic and beautiful flame effect •Moveable mesh screen and rolling ember bed \$354 #219615

26" Brookhill Fireplace Now at Lowe's! •14,000-26,000 Btu ·Single burner system •Heats up to 950 sq. ft. ·Zero-clearance fireplace • Thermostatically controlled \$354 #44471

26" Oak Wall Mantel Now at Lowe's! •Oak finish •Elegant traditional design •Hand crafted from oak solids and veneers . Hearth base included





Liquid Propane #83244 \$298 ^{\$}198 18" Winchester Log Set • 16,000 to 27,000 BTU output •Single burner with manual control •Heats up to 900 sq. ft. •Natural gas #45724 Liquid Propane \$198 #46388

OPEN HEARTH Fireplace Toolsets and Screens.







Antique Pewter Your Choice \$3488

Curved **Fireplace Screen** •Fits fireplaces up to 36" wide #209460

5-Piece **Fireplace Toolset** •Includes tongs, poker, broom, shovel and stand #209459

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Bluffton, IN	(260) 565-4700

Details on our policies and services

Prices may vary after December 11, 2003 if there are market variations. See store for details regarding product warranties. We reserve the right to limit quantities.

We guarantee our everyday competitive prices If you find a lower everyday or advertised price on an We guarantee our everyday competitive prices It you find a lower everyday or advertised price on an identical stock item at any local retail competitor that has the item in stock, we'll beat their price by 10% when you buy from us. Just bring us the competitor's current ad, or we'll call to verify the item's price that you have found. Cash/charge card and carry purchases only. Competitor's closeout, special order, discontinued, clearance, liquidation and damaged items are excluded from this offer. On percent off sales, we will match the competitor's percent off offer. Limited to reasonable quantities for homeowner and one-house order quantities for cash and carry contractors. Current in-store price, if lower, overrides Lowe's advertised price. Price guarantee honored at all Lowe's retail locations. Labor charges for product installation are excluded from our price guarantee offer in our stores with an installed Sales Program. Visit store for complete details.

No-Hassle Return Policy: If you are not completely happy with your purchase, simply return it along with your original sales receipt to any local Lowe's store within ninety (90) days" of purchase. We'll either repar it, replace it, refund your money or credit your account "30 days for Outdoor Power Equipment (mowers, chain saws, blowers, tillers, trimmers and pressure washers).

Fair Purchase Policy: In order to provide fair purchase opportunity to all our customers, Lowe's reserves the right to limit quantities sold to individual customers

Non-Stock Policy: If, by chance, your local Lowe's store does not stock an item we advertise, we will be glaced to order that item for you at the advertised price.

Delivery Policy: Delivery applies to deliveries made to locations within the United States only.

Professional installation through licensed subcontractors Lowe's contractor license numbers: AK#2834t AZ#IS1744, CA#803295; CT#558162; FL#0017683; Hl#23784; IL Plumber #058-100140; LA Master Plumber #1440 WSPS; NV#2-45450; NJ Plumbing - see store; OR#144017; Suffok County#30182-Ht WA#982BN; MI#2101146786; Lowe's Home Centers, inc. 6122 'B' Drive North, Battle Creek, MI 49014. Water heater installation: If an expansion tank is required by local code it will be an additional charge (not included in the basic replacement labor). Permit fees are additional (not included in the basic replacement labor).

ASK FOR ZERO PAYMENTS AND INTEREST FOR 12 MONTHS

Payments not required for 12 months on any approved single receipt in store purchase of \$299 or more charged to your Lowe's Consumer Credit Card account from November 28, 2003 through December 7, 2003 Finance charges and optional insurance charges on your promotional purchase will be billed from the date of purchase, but finance charges will be reversed if the promotional purchase and any insurance charges are paid in full within the promotional period. If you do not, you will be responsible for these charges. Regular credit terms apply to non-promotional purchases. APR is 21% (139% for purchases of \$2,000 or more). Minimum finance charge is \$100, (\$ 50 in 1A). Offer subject to credit approval. Excludes business accounts.





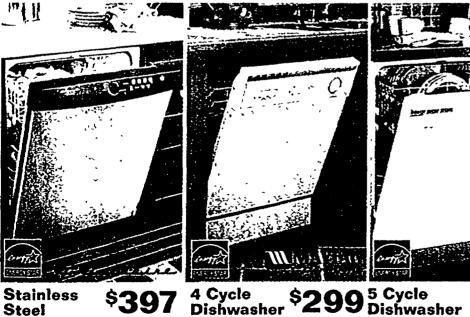
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 AccuWash system with APF •Hi-temp scour, soak and scour and sani-rinse cycles •Hard food disposer •2-4-8 hour delay •Nylon coated racks (GU1100XTLQ) #209737 **4** Cycle Dishwasher ·High-pressure, high-flow wash

system • Micro-processor control with 9 touch pads • Hard food disposer •2/4/6 hour delay start •Deluxe upper rack with shelf • High-side lower rack with shelf (MDBTT59AWW) #211841

MAYTAG



•High-pressure wash system •Timer control with 6 push buttons •Hard food disposer (PDB3600AWE) •High temperature wash, NSF certified sanitize rinse #165984

^{\$}237 Dishwasher 5 level precision wash system •High temperature wash and rinse •Hard food disposer •1 to 6 hour delayed start option #212861



#33029

Dishwasher

Precision wash system

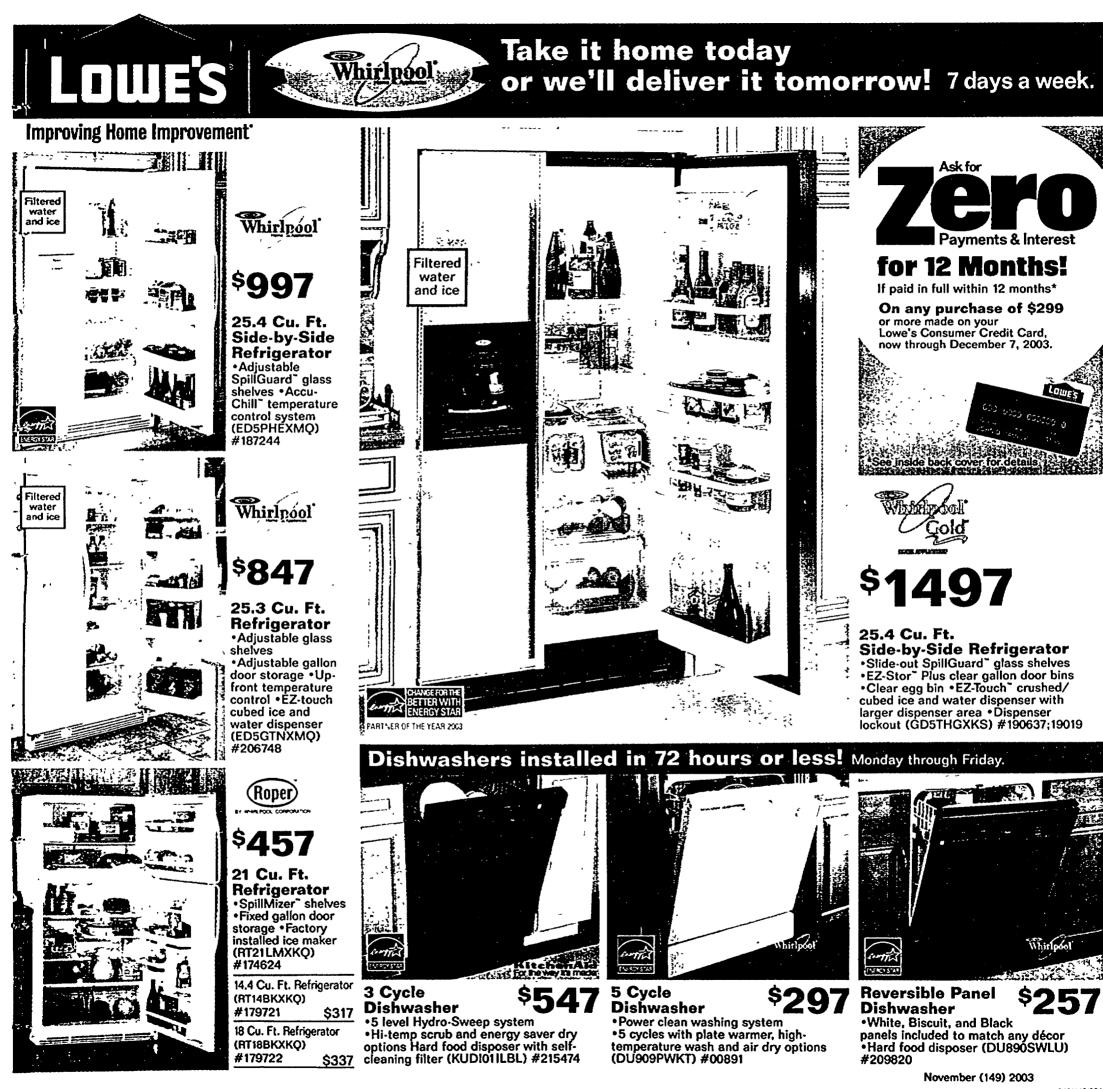
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2 DAYS ONLY! NO INTEREST FOR 90 DAYS

ON PURCHASES OF \$150 OR MORE ON YOUR JCPENNEY CARD

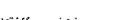


FINE JEWELRY & WATCH DOORBUSTER PRICES EFFECTIVE 6 A.M. TO NOON, 11/28/2003. FINE JEWELRY & WATCH SALE PRICES EFFECTIVE THROUGH 12/24/2003. Regular prices reflect offering prices which may not have resulted in actual sales. Any event designated as a "sale" always excludes Special Buys, Trunk Shows, Custom-ordered Fine Jewelry, Pre-owned Jewelry, Jewelry Care Plans, Catalog/Internet Jewelry, items sold every day in multiples of two or more, and Value Right items which are sold at our best price every day. Bonus Buys are excluded from any additional percents off or dollar off coupons. Jewelry photos may be enlarged to show detail. Diamond carat weights (CT.) represent the approximate total weight (T.W.) of all diamonds in each

setting unless noted. Diamond solitaire weights may vary between .01 and .05 carat. Diamond total weights may vary between .01 and .08 carat. Some diamonds consist of fewer than 17 facets. Diamond sale includes only that jewelry where diamonds constitute the greatest value. Diamond accents may not constitute greater value than gold. Genstones may have been treated and may require special care. 10k and 14k gold in our assortments. Available only at JCPenney stores with Fine Jewelry departments. Merchandise shown is representative of our assortment. Selection may vary by store. Some merchandise may not be available at every store. *Excludes Everyday Value watches.

6 A.M.-NOON! FRI. ONLY! EXTRA 10% OFF ALL OTHER SALE-PRICED WATCHER 2 DAYS ONLY! NO INTEREST FOR 90 DAYS

JCPenney 4



ON PURCHASES OF \$150 OR MORE ON YOUR JCPENNEY CARD Purchases must be made November 28 or 29, 2003. Minimum monthly payments required. See page 42 for details.



JCPenney 6



Housewares available at most larger JCPenney stores. "Manufacturer's mail-in rebate. See sales associate for details.

JCPenney 8

* Manufacturer's mail-in rebate. See sales associate for details. 💛 9 the second s



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JCPenney 12cw 50.00



IF YOU MISS OUR 6 A.M.-NOON DOORBUSTERS, CHECK OUT



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JCPenney 18

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JCPenney 20



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Some store discounts may not apply to Catalog and Internet orders; shipping and handling charges will apply. See back cover for more details.



Items with this symbol are also available at jcpenney.com or by phone: 1-800-222-2343. See back cover for more details.

*Excludes Columbia Sportswear Co.

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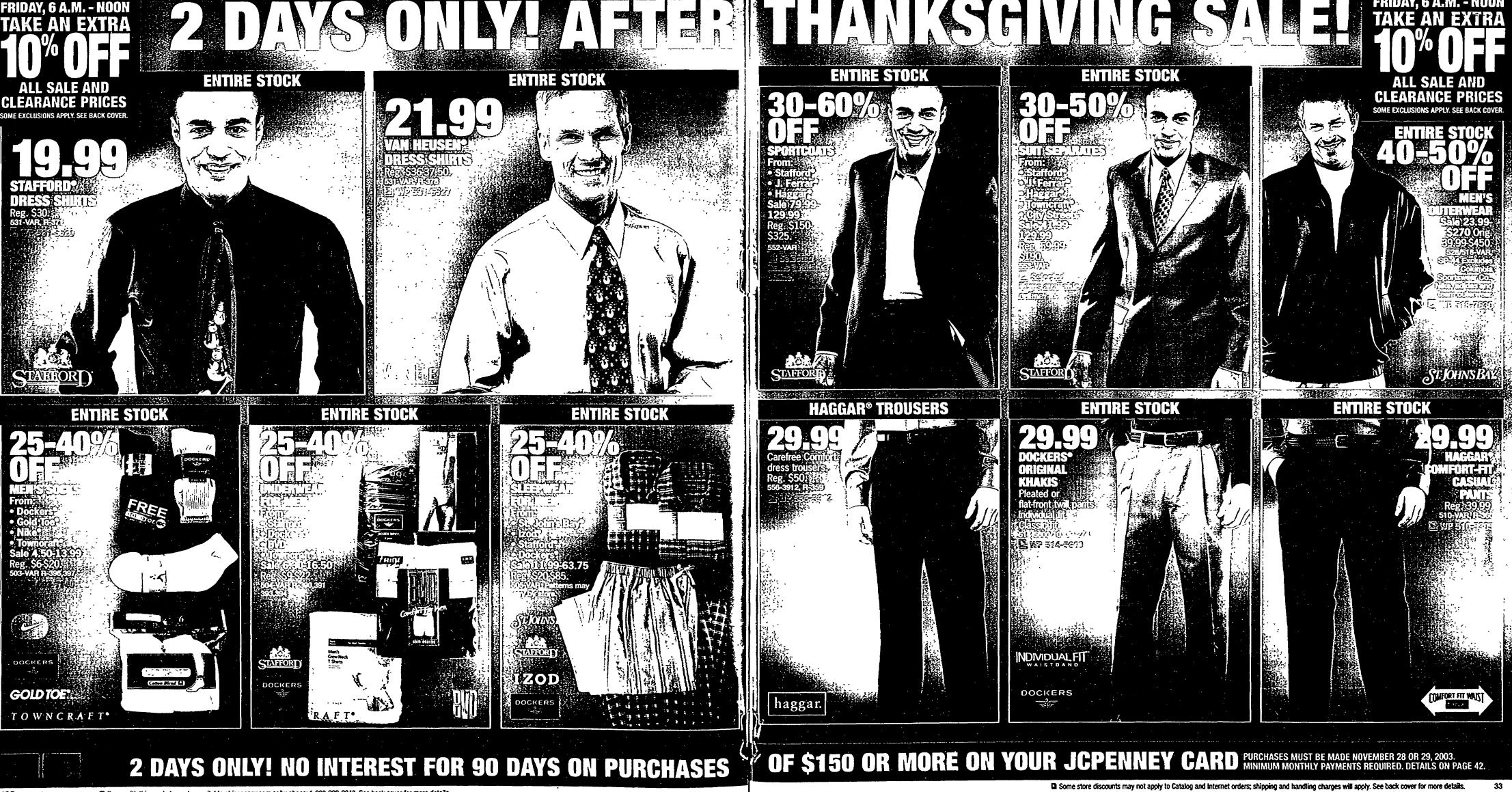
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JCPenney 32



ney 34 Items with this symbol are also available at jcpenney.com or by phone: 1-800-222-2343. See back cover for more details

JCPenney 34



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JCPenney 38

Some store discounts may not apply to Catalog and Internet orders; shipping and handling charges will apply. See back cover for more details.



Items with this symbol are also available at jcpenney.com or by phone: 1-800-222-2343. See back cover for more details.

Shoes available at most larger JCPenney stores. Selection may vary by store.

Antoine Both Instation at the Balling





*NO INTEREST FOR 90 DAYS. Applies to each individual sales receipt of \$150 or more for purchases on 11/28/03 - 11/29/03 on a JCPenney consumer credit card account. No finance charges will be assessed on pro ion ends, but minimum monthly payments are required. If minimum monthly payments (including optional credit insurance charges) are not paid when due, promotional terms may be terminated Subject to credit approval by Monogram Credit Card Bank of Georgia. Standard account terms apply to non-promotional purchases and, after promotion ends, to prov

10-PC. CUTLERY SET

itchen shears. 4 steak

ves & bonus 8" slicer



21% (Puerto Rico Accounts 19.8%) unless: (i) you have a Starter Account (23.9% APR) or (ii) you now reside in AK, AR, CA, HI, IL, KY, MI, MO, PA, RI, WA or WI, or you have moved from IL, KY or WA after 9/30/96 Wi after 6/30/97 or any of the other states listed above after 4/30/97, and you were advised that your APR is 23.9% or (iii) you have been notified that your APR is 12.9%. An APR of 24.99% (Puerto Rico Accounts 23.8%) may apply if payment is not made when due. Minimum Finance Charge is \$1.00 (none for Puerto Rico Accounts).









1 (1-4 & 7-13 & 15-20) JOB# 1128-0/6/7WRA



2 (1-20) JOB# 1128-0/6/7WRAP

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DISNEY PRINCESS 7-PIECE DOLL ACCESSORY SET



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SALE 8-IN-1 PEWTER GAME SET

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is definitely better.

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Over 2¹ tall

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\$10 SALE CHILDREN'S GAMES. Bratz™, Guess Who?, Spider-Man^{*}, Hulk*, Deluxe Monopoly or The Game of Life. "Not shown



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Includes adaptor

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SAVE \$30

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SYLVANIA 13" TV/VCR COMBO Front A/V input jacks and sleep timer.

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SAVE \$20 **59**⁹⁹ sale **GPX**₁

25-WATT CD+G/AM/FM CASSETTE KARAOKE Cassette captures your sing-a-long voice control system. C1480 Includes microphone,

VI SALE YAMAHA PSR170 KEYBOARD

Features 7-step teaching system, 61 keys, bass ports and 2 stereo speakers. DJ features include 100 songs, 100 voices and 100 styles. **___**#822091

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SAVE \$12

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player/recorder vocals on tape. Automatic demo CD+G disc and TV connection cord **9**#1221621

Displays song lyrics on your TV screen ត្រៃក

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56⁹⁹ SALE SONY CD/CASSETTE DIGITAL BOOMBOX WITH REMOTE

3 💭 #1309621 SALE #130962 PHILIPS 45-SECOND SKIP PROTECTION PERSONAL CD PLAYER. CD-R playable. AX3211/17

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6999 After Mfr.'s \$20 Mail-In Rebate*

CLASSIC 6-CD DIGITAL AM/FM STEREO CASSETTE RECORDER Dynamic bass boost. Includes remote. Rebate limited to mit is stipulations *Sale 89 99 less \$20 rebate = 69 99

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Get the best dinnerware #788455 and kitchen appliances #788437 at kmart.com



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Available in clear or multicolored lights.

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BUY ONE, GET ONE

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OR MULTIROLL GIFT WRAP Buy one item at the reg. price and get the second item (of equal or lesser value) at

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3-PACK MAGIC TAPE \$3105

SALI LIVE POINSETTIAS With 3-5 blooms. Up to 14" height. Due to the seasonality of the merchandise on this page





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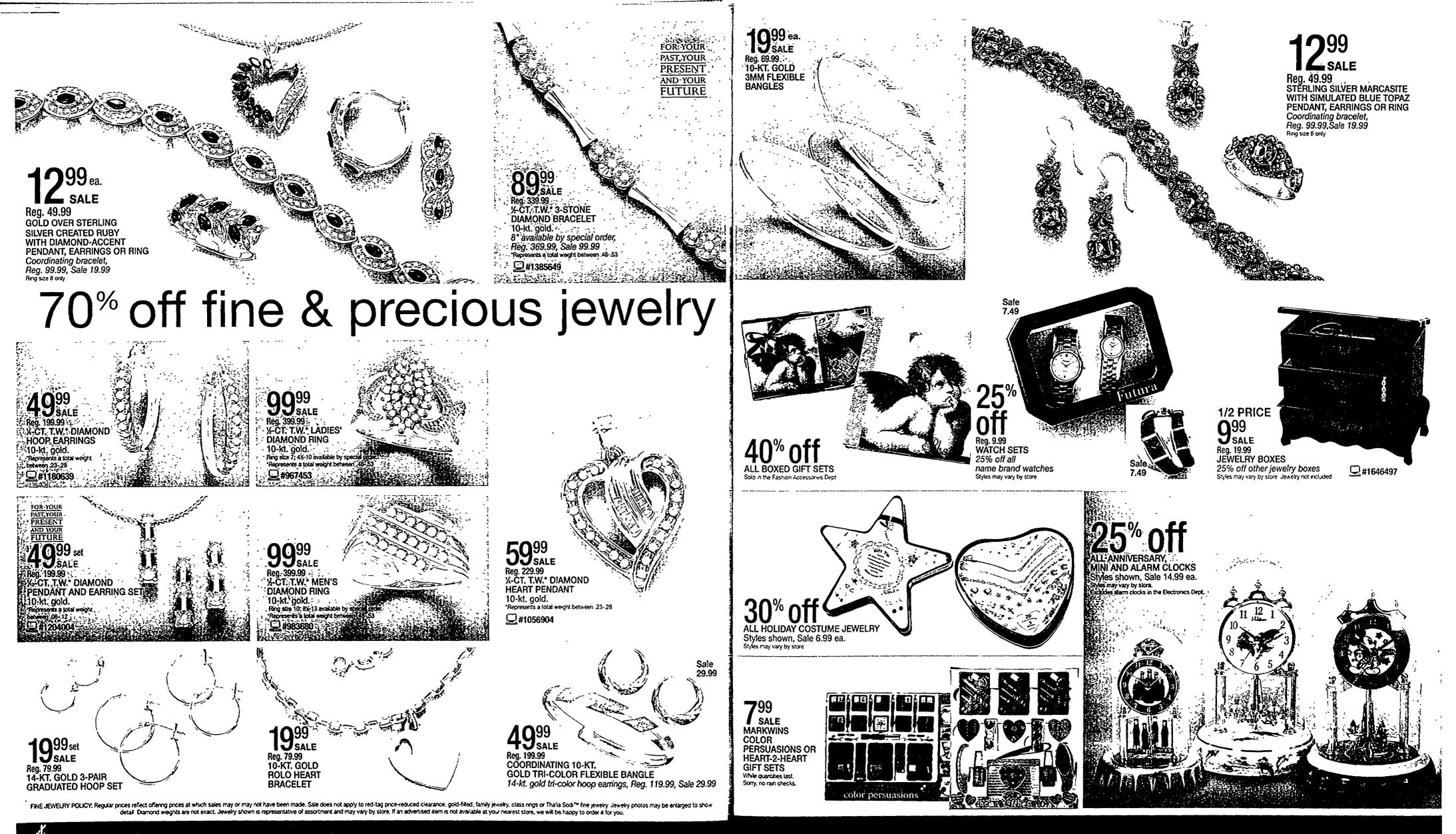
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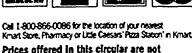


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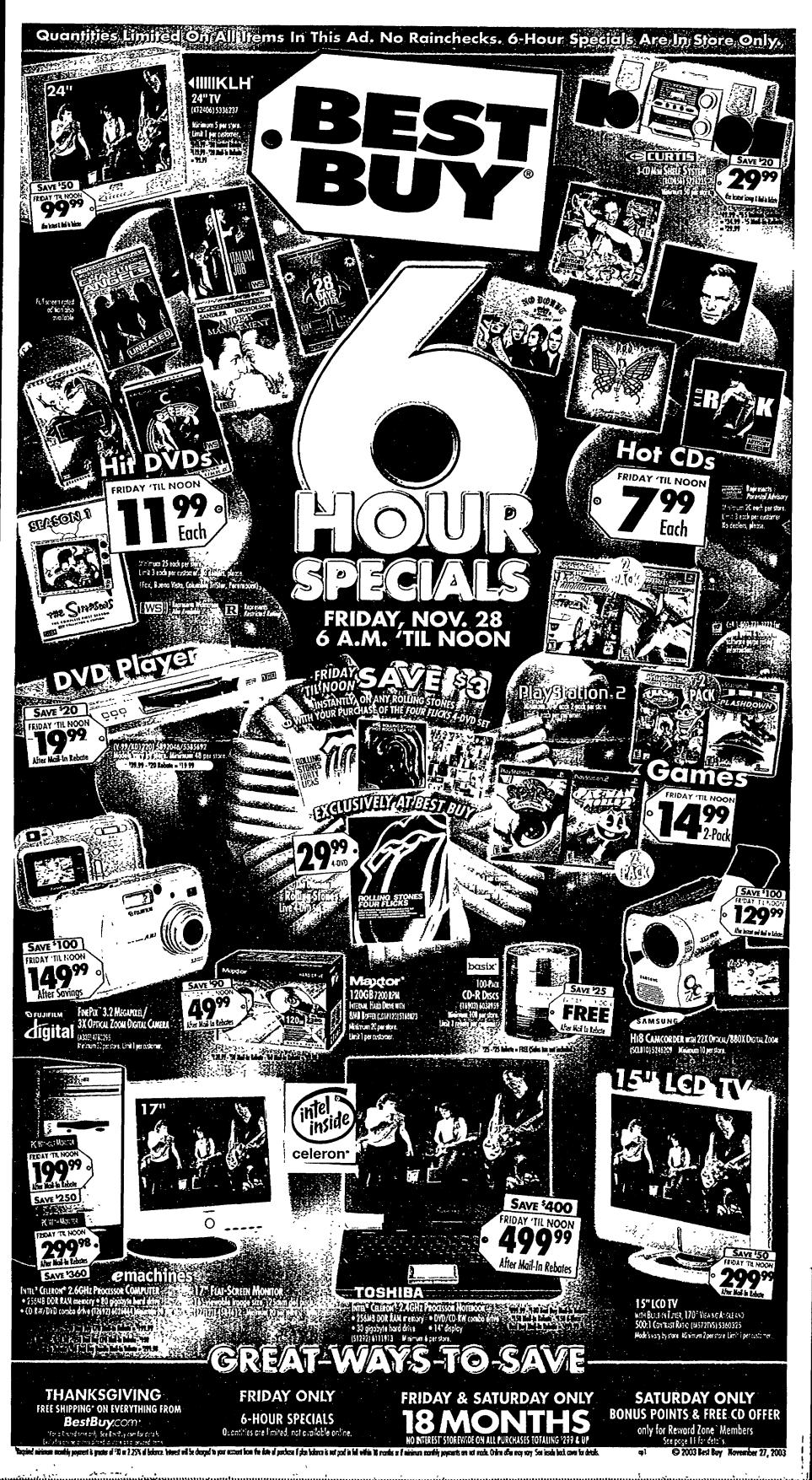
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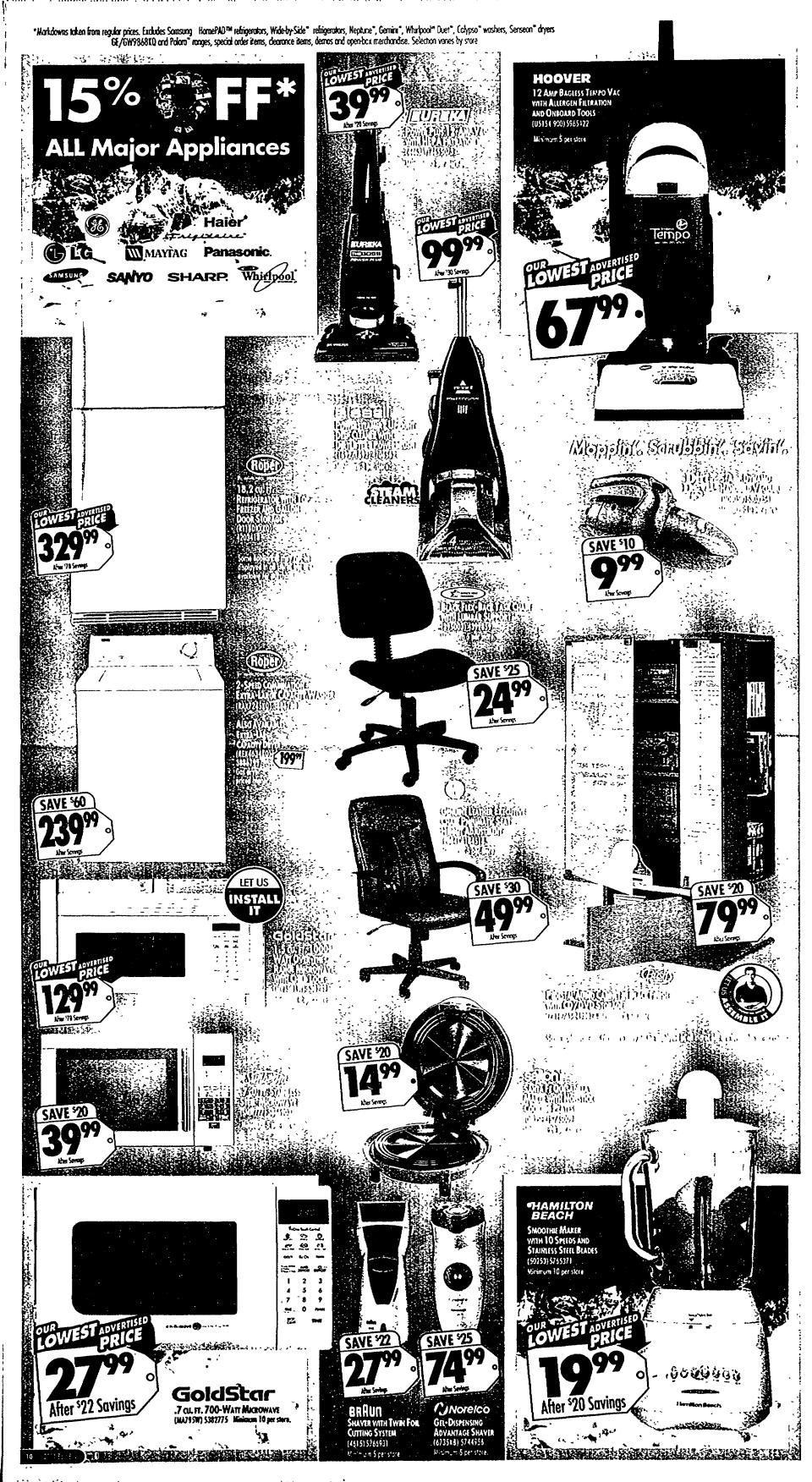


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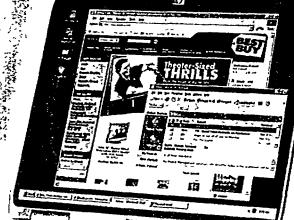


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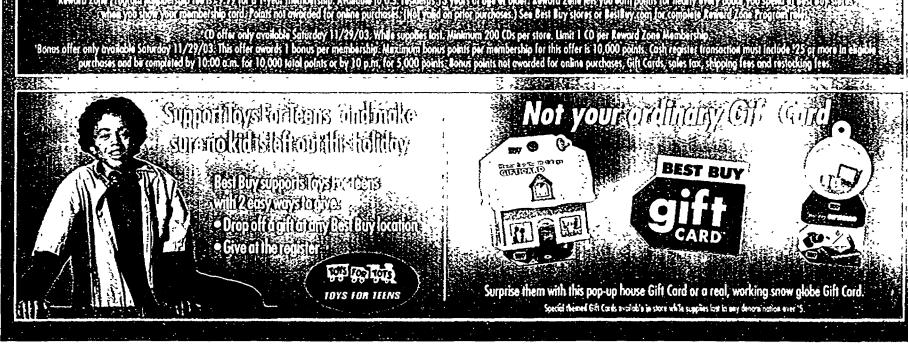
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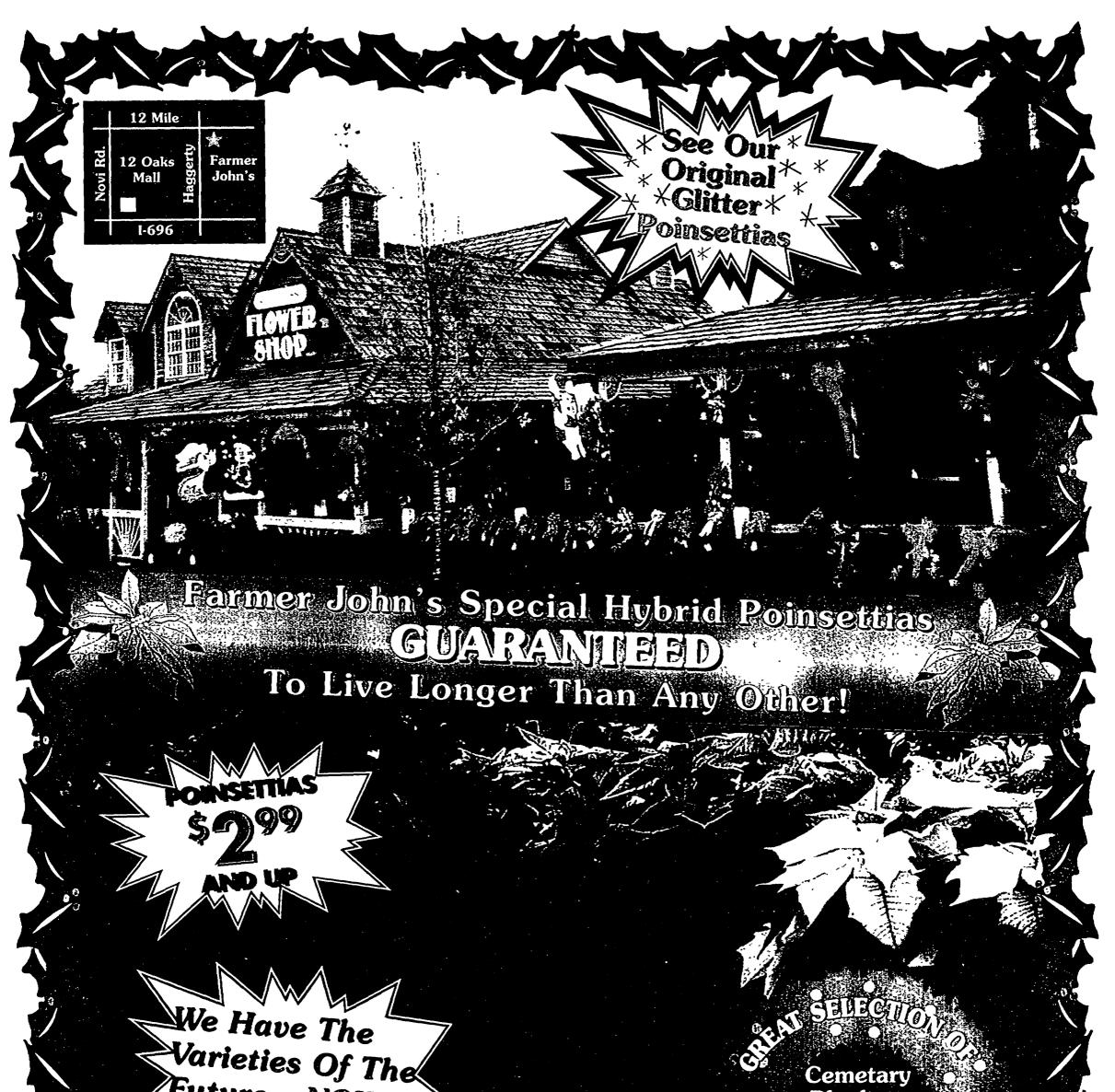
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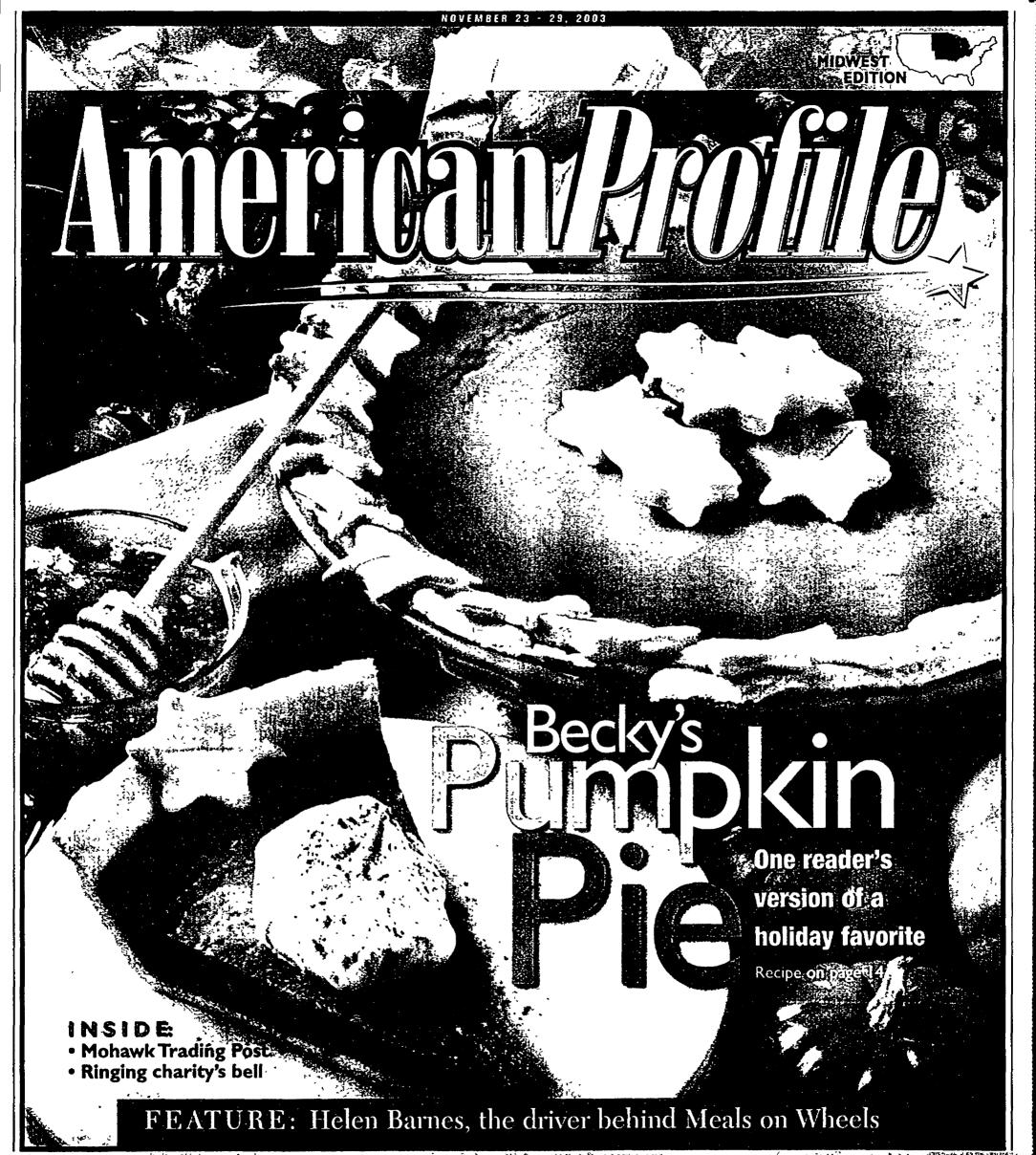
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Ask Americal rofil

I've enjoyed watching lead actress Catherine Bell on the TV show JAG. Can you tell me something about her off-screen life?

-David C., Florida Contrary to her conservative character on IAG. Bell, 35, is a real risk-taker who loves to skydive, bungee jump, snowboard and water ski. "I'd meet people and they'd go, 'I thought you were much older and much more conservative," she says, "And I'd say, 'Hang on, there's this whole other side of me!'" Surprisingly, she got interested in acting as a way to overcome her shyness. Born in London, her family moved to Los Angeles when she was 3. A science and math whiz, she entered college with plans to become a doctor, but fate led her to a modeling career in Japan. After a few years, feeling that the job was damaging her self-esteem, she returned to Los Angeles and started her path toward acting. Bell and her husband had their first child, a daughter, in April.

Can you tell us anything about Rod Roddy, who was on The Price is Right? It sounds like his voice, but it never shows him like it used to. -Janie S. (via e-mail)

Rod Roddy, born Robert Ray Roddy, died on Oct. 27 from colon and breast cancer at age 66. He had been ill for more than two years and hospitalized for the last two months, but worked on the game show

Game-show announcer

Rod Roddy died on Oct. 27.

as long as he possibly could. "The courage he showed during those difficult times was an inspiration to us all," says The Price Is Right host Bob Barker. The Texas native was in his 16th war as Barker's sidekick and announcer on the top-rated game show. Roddy was well enough to tape the first show of

> the new season, which Songwriter Malvina Reynolds. world." The song has proved to be a perennial marked the show's 32nd year on CBS. Roddy, who was single, launched his television career when he became the narrator of ABC's comedy Sup. He had a long history with game shows. He worked on When! and Press Your Link on CBS and Battle of the Stars on NBC. Roddy also worked on Lote Connation before joining The Price Is Right.



Actress Catherine Bell is quite the daredevil when she's not working.

My question is about a song called Morningtown Ride by a group called The Seekers. It sounds like a lullaby for little kids. What inspired the song and is it available on CD?

—Mary M., Michigan

The late songwriter Malvina Reynolds is the woman behind Monningtown Ride. Reynolds wrote many songs for children, and in a radio inter-



that became such a huge hit for The Seekers. "I know youngsters hate to go to bed at night because it seems like, as far as they're concerned, it is the end of the world," she says. "Going to sleep means that you are going to be cut off from everything, and I wanted to help them understand that they were heading somewhere, when they got into bed, that they were heading for morning. And strangely enough, this song became a grown-up hit all over the

view explained the inspiration behind the song

favorite, included on albums by children's singer Raffi, Secame Street, and sung by numerous parents to their children at bedtime. You can find The Seekers' original version on The Very Best of The Seekers. In 2001, the Australian group got together to record a Christmas version of the song for an album called Morningtourn Ride (To Christmas).

* Cover photo by David Damer

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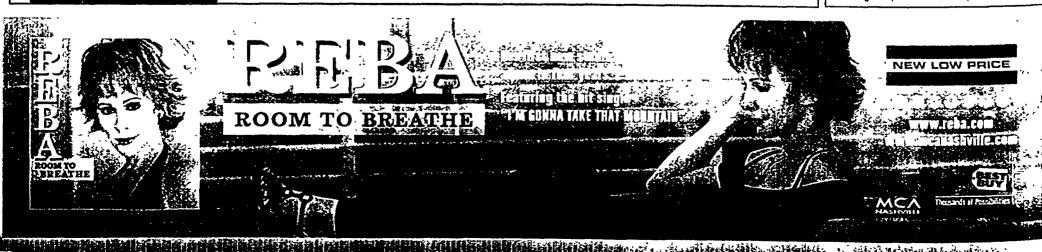
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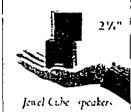
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Trading Post Part Museum

Buckskin robes and cradleboards brush against intricately beaded moccasins and pipe bags displayed behind glass at the 1892 Mohawk Lodge Indian Store & Trading Post, Carved totems and historic

photographs balance precariously on a nearby mantle, while a row of kachina dolls suspends unceremoniously from the rafters in Oklahoma's oldest trading post, arguably one of the most authentic in the country.

Colorful Pendleton blankets soften gunmetal-gray shelves like wildflowers scattered across a sunburned prairie in the unassuming redbrick building off old Route 66 in Clinton, Okla. (pop. 8,833). Pat Henry sits in a weathered easy chair—one of three anchoring a moderately tranquil bay surrounded by the tumultuous sea of American Indian artifacts. Her husband, Charles, is seared next to her, while a battered

chair facing the door marks the roost of the late N.B. (Napoleon Bonaparte) Moore, crowned head of Oklahoma's oldest trading post before he sold it to Henry's mother.

Owners Pat and Charles Henry.

"N.B. loved to sit in that chair and visit with the Indian people," Pat explains, almost reverently. "He was the local newsletter," she says, adding that Moore was as much a repository for intertribal gossip as Mohawk Lodge Indian Store is for the hand-crafted items stockpiled there during its 111-year existence.



Many Indian trading posts are sprinkled throughout western Oklahoma, even more throughout the Southwest. Along the Interstate 40 corridor west of Oklahoma City, roadside signs advertise the Cherokee Trad-

ing Post and Restaurant on the outskirts of town. And nearby Weatherford (pop. 9,859) sports a sign for Doc's Longhorn Trading Post & Antique Mall. Rooted in a tradition that predates statehood, Mohawk Trading Post began life not far from Clinton in Colony, Okla.

The Dutch Reform Church of New York established the store so that Plains tribes could sell their handicrafts to Eastern markets. Operating under the name Mohonk (after a lake in New York state), the trading post moved to its present location in 1940. In 1950, Moore—a member of the Creek tribe—purchased the business and began adding to its substantial collection.

Several years later, Par's mother—a part-Comanche and Cherokee woman by the name of Nellie Stevens came "a rollin" in here," says Pat, looking for antiques. Stevens decided to set up her own shop in a building that formerly served as the trading post's beading house. By 1964, Stevens and Moore were trading places when she took over Mohonk (changing it to Mohawk), while Moore moved into the smaller house next door.

"Mama owned the store during Route 66's heyday," adds Pat, who took over after her mother's 1992 death. And although the interstate usurped some of the Mother Road's traffic, travelers still seek out the shop's historic Indian wares. In addition to a stream of international motorists who flock to Clinton's Route 66 Museum each summer, the trading post attracts its own pilgrims who view the store as a home away from home.

Many come to buy. Some, like the Indians whose crafts Pat sells, trade materials—hanks of colored beads and the softest of goatskins—for their handiwork.

Mohawk Trading Post is more than a store. It is, in effect, a museum. And Pat is its curator.

Pat points to a beaded vest with a flying geese pattern that came from the Tingley Collection in Anadarko, Okla. (pop. 6,645). On another wall, a king-sized buffalo-hide vest decorated with American flags hangs beneath

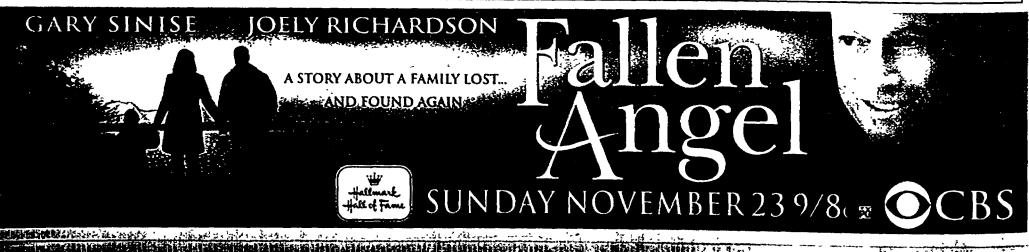


Carved totems and historic photos line the post's mantle.

the picture of its former owner. 6-foot-8, 450-pound Apache Ben. And then there's the 1840 Crow saddle, stenciled with roses on stretched rawhide, and the 1915 drum used in Pawnee Bill's Wild West Show.

Most of the antique items aren't for sale, although cases of 19th-century moccasins and trunks of blackand-white photographs barely contain their contents. Pat wouldn't have it otherwise. "If I don't buy and keep them here," she says of such museum-quality treasures, "they're gone from the area forever."

Margaret Dornaus is a regular contributor to American Profile.



Did You Know...



AND A PRIMA PARAMETERS

ILLINOIS—In 1914, Bayard and Everett Heath opened a confectionery and ice cream shop in Robinson (pop. 6,822) and by 1928 had perfected their recipe for Heath English toffee bars.

INDIANA—The six-acre Crossroads Greenhouse in Indianapolis is the nation's largest methane-operated greenhouse. Methane gas is produced and recovered from a nearby landfill.

IOWA—Black australorps and red frizzle cochins are among the exotic chickens sold by Murray McMurray Hatchery in Webster City (pop. 8,176), the world's largest rare breed hatchery. KANSAS—No fast food for Bill Bunyan of Dodge City (pop. 25,176), who spent three years eating a hamburger in each of the state's 105 counties. He celebrated last August with a hamburger at Paddy's Restaurant in Sterling (pop. 2,642).

MICHIGAN—In 1883, Edward Warren of Three Oaks (pop. 2,949) patented featherbone, made from turkey quill feathers. It cinched the market as the stiffening material used in corsets.

MINNESOTA—Henry Hastings Sibley, the state's first governor elected in 1858, previously managed the American Fur Company in Mendota (pop. 147). His limestone home is preserved at the Sibley House Historic Site.

MISSOURI—The All-American Red Heads, a popular women's basketball team, had its roots in 1936 in Cassville (pop. 2,890) when team members dyed their hair red.

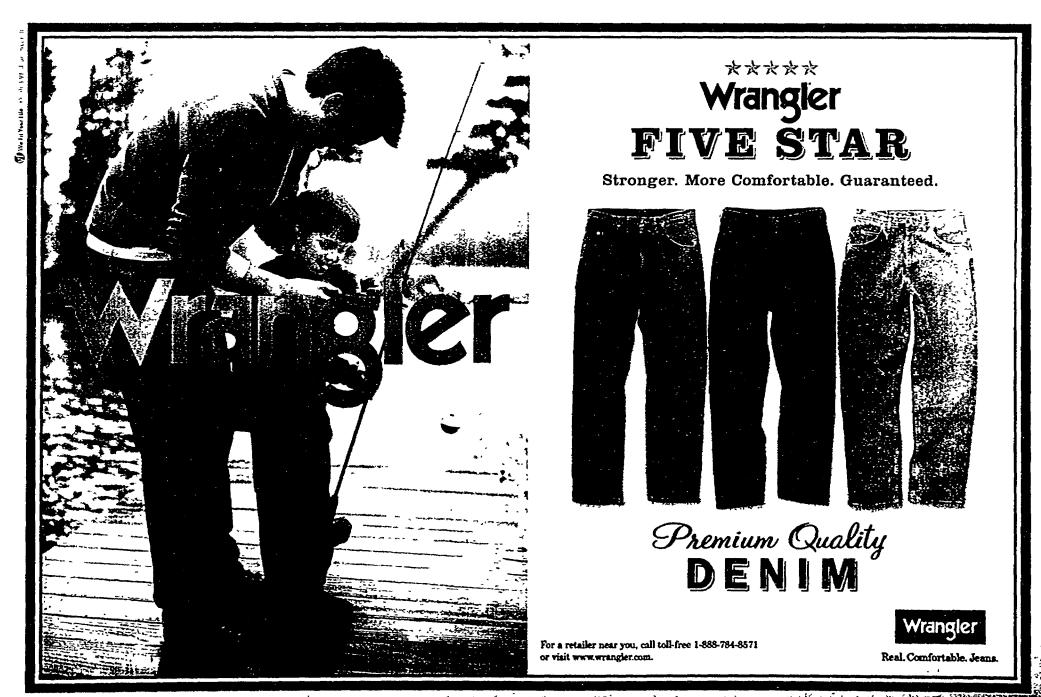
NEBRASKA—Lori Bortner, 20, of McCook (pop. 7,994) is Miss Rodeo America 2003 and will log 100,000 miles traveling to events to promote the sport.

NORTH DAKOTA—Baloney is big business in Wishek (pop. 1,122), where Stan Deile makes and sells about 3,000 pounds a week at Stan's Super Valu. OHIO—Illustrator and cartoonist Daniel Carter Beard co-founded the Boy Scouts of America in 1910 and served as its first national commissioner. Beard, who was known to scouts as "Uncle Dan," was born in 1850 in Cincinnati.

SOUTH DAKOTA—More than 70 woodcarvers exhibit their work at the National Museum of Woodcarving near Custer (pop. 1,860).

WISCONSIN—In 1967, "America's Dairyland" became the last state to allow yellow coloring to be added to margarine.

Compiled by Marti Attoun of Joplin, Mo.





Thirty-two years ago, Barnes helped found Meals on Wheels of Lehigh County, Pa. Today, at 90, she drives two routes a week. Every Monday morning she wakes at 4:30 a.m. to bake coffeecakes and assorted treats for more than 50 Meals on Wheels volunteers. And from college classes to public transportation, she's shaped the lives of Lehigh's elderly for decades.

"Helen is a one in a million person," says Hope Geary, who herself has volunteered with Meals on Wheels for 32 years. "At her age and with all she does, she makes the rest of us look like we're dragging our feet."

"She had a hand in so much of this agency," says Pam Bechtel, director of the county's Meals on Wheels program. "She's been such a

part of it, they're almost synonymous."

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Though Barnes worked as a registered nurse for nine years, she eventually chose to stay home to raise her three children.

But when her son, David, was killed in Vietnam in 1968, life changed for her. "After David was gone, I just thought this was crazy that I should sit at home and do nothing but cry over the loss. So I got involved," she explains. "It helped me put everything on the back burner, and that's what I was aiming for."

In 1970, various county agencies dealing with the elderly were complaining that many of the elderly had to give up their homes because they were unable to shop or cook for themselves. A young minister approached Barnes with his plan for a homedelivered meal program and asked if she'd help get it off the ground. She agreed, and on Feb. 1, 1971, the program served its first meals—to a total of nine people.



Helen Barnes designed a carrier bag with separate compartments for delivering hot and cold food.

Barnes served as the volunteer coordinator, using her home as a meeting place and her phone for Meals on Wheels, and the trunk of a volunteer's car for their records. "That was where we kept our files and records," she says. "We had no place, but we were bound and determined."

Hot food carriers

After someone else volunteered to take her place as the volunteer coordinator, Barnes and the board of directors "decided it was time for me to get involved in other things that would be helpful," she says. She designed a carrier bag volunteers could use to carry hot food and cold food in separate compartments. She made hundreds—and burned out the motor on her sewing machine. When a company agreed to take over the task of making the bags several years later, they kept Barnes' pattern, saying they couldn't improve upon it.

As a national entity, Meals on Wheels got off the ground in the early 1970s. In 1972, Congress passed the Older Americans Act, providing grants to help address the nutritional needs of seniors. That legislation catalyzed home-delivered meal services across the country, creating a national network. Barnes attended the second national conference and took part in the evolution of the movement---eventually attending 22 conferences.

(Continued on page 10)

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Busy shoppers vie for space in the crowded Wal-Mart parking lot in Grand Island, Neb. After parking their cars, they scurry through the lot toward the door to get out of the cold. Despite the hectic pace of the season, Al Anderson stands patiently at his post outside the store, greeting shoppers with an infectious smile and warm well wishes.

"Merry Christmas," says Anderson, opening the door for an elderly couple.

"Thank you kindly and have a great day," he replies as another shopper drops a handful of coins into his red metal bucket.

Anderson, 49, who changes oil at Russ's Quick Lube when he's not jingling his Salvation Army bell, jokes with cart boys and chats with acquaintances that stop by to surprise him with hot chocolate and food. Through it all, he never hesitates to share the magic of his smile.





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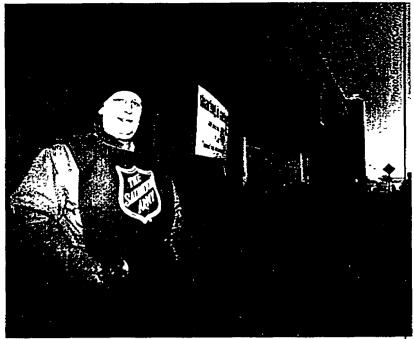


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TAL BASICS

Supporting World Health



Al Anderson is Grand Island, Nebraska's most successful bell ringer.

Anderson is one of nearly 1 million volunteer Salvation Army bell ringers who man 20,000 buckets nationwide each holiday season. His loving nature epitomizes the 112-year-old tradition of collecting money for the less fortunate.

In 1891, Salvation Army Capt. Joseph McFee of San Francisco needed money for a Christmas dinner for the poor along the wharf. He found an old black cooking pot and placed the now famous "sharing is caring" sign above it, ringing a bell to attract attention. The fundraiser was so successful that when his assistant moved to Boston, he took the idea with him. From there it became an annual tradition, spreading throughout the country until it became the most visible of all of the Salvation Army's fund-raising campaigns.

In the tradition of Capt. McFee, and with the same generous heart, Anderson truly enjoys the time he spends collecting for the Salvation Army. For four hours a night, four nights a week, shoppers in Grand Island are treated to much more than the sound of his bell and the sight of his bucket.

"We call him Al 'I love this place' Anderson," says Deb Dorsey, who coordinates the bell ringers' schedules for the Salvation Army's Grand Island chapter. "His attitude is very contagious. He just really loves people and it shows."

"Like the sign says, it's about sharing and caring," says Anderson, who won top honors for the most donations collected in Grand Island (pop. 42,940) for both the 2001 and 2002 holiday seasons.

He began ringing bells for the Salvation Army seven years ago when a friend and fellow bell ringer asked him to help. The two came up with a friendly challenge to determine who could collect the most money. The competition has been a standard for them ever since.

"Al has helped a lot of people in this town," says Joe Martinez, Anderson's employer and owner of Russ's Quick Lube. "He's even helped me personally and members of my extended family. Al is really dedicated to his community and he has such a giving nature. We're glad to have an employee like him and we're proud to help him contribute in any way we can."

Despite being one of Grand Island's most successful bell ringers, Anderson doesn't see himself doing anything special. Plus, he feels good about the time he devotes to charity work.

"I get a lot of serenity out of this," he says. "I've been down and out before and I went to the Salvation Army. I did community service for them years ago and I knew they were great people. I guess you could say I do it for the spirit of Christmas."

Anderson also realizes his own efforts would be meaningless without the generosity of others who drop their dollar bills and spare change into his red metal bucket.

"You just have to have faith in people, that's all," he adds. \Rightarrow Robin E. Shirley is a freelance writer in North Platte, Neb.

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By simply eating a combination of two natural and delicious foods (found on page 134) not only can cancer be prevented-but in case after case it was actually healed! "Symptoms of cancer, liver dysfunction, and diabetes were completely alleviated." Remarkably, what Dr. Budwig discovered was a totally natural way for eradicating cancer.

However, when she went to publish these results so that everyone could benefit-she was blocked by manufacturers with heavy financial stakes! For over 10 years now her methods have proved effective-yet she is denied publication-blocked by the giants who don't want you to read her words

What's more, the world is full of expert minds like Dr. Budwig who have pursued cancer remedies and come up with remarkable natural formulas and diets that work for hundreds and thousands of patients. How to Fight Cancer

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& Win author William Fischer has studied these methods and revealed their secrets for you-so that you or someone you love may be spared the horrors of conventional cancer treatments.

As early as 1947, Virginia Livingston, M.D., isolated a cancer-causing microbe. She noted that every cancer sample analyzed (whether human or other animal) contained it.

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Six-time Nobel Nominee's **Two-Nutrient Cancer Breakthrough Revealed**

Turn to page 82 of How to Fight Cancer & Win for the delicious diet that can help stop the formation of cancer

They walked away from traditional cancer treatments...and were healed! Throughout the pages of How to Fight Cancer & Win you'll meet real people who were diagnosed with cancer-suffered through harsh conventional treatments-turned their backs on so called modern medicine-only to be miraculously healed by natural means! Here is just a sampling of what others have to say about the book.

"We purchased How to Fight Cancer & Win, and immediately my husband started following the recommended diet for his just diagnosed colon cancer. He refused the surgery that our doctors advised. Since following the regime recommended in the book he has had no problems at all, cancer-wise. If not cured, we believe the cancer has to be in remission

-Thelma B.

"I bought How to Fight Cancer & Win and this has to be the greatest book I've ever read. I have had astounding results from the easy to understand knowledge found in this book. My whole life has improved drastically and I have done so much for many others. The information goes far beyond the health thinking of today.'

-Hugh M.

can't find adequate words to describe my appreciation of your work in providing How to Fight Cancer & Win. You had to do an enormous amount

of research to bring this vast and most important knowledge to your readers.

My doctor found two tumors on my prostate with a high P.S.A. He scheduled a time to surgically remove the prostate, but I canceled the appointment. Instead I went on the diet discussed in the book combined with another supplement. Over the months my P.S.A. has lowered until the last reading was one point two."

-Duncan M.

"In my 55 years as a Country Family Physician, I have never read a more 'down to earth.' practical resume of cancer prevention and treatments, than in this book. It needs to be studied worldwide for the prevention of cancer by all researchers who are looking for a cure."

-Edward S.M.D.

"As a cancer patient who has been battling lymphatic cancer on and off for almost three years now, I was very pleased to stumble across How to Fight Cancer & Win. The book was inspiring, well-written and packed with useful information for any cancer patient looking to maximize his or her chances for recovery."

-Romany S.

"I've been incorporating Dr. Budwig's natural remedy into my diet and have told others about it. Your book is very informative and has information I've never heard about before (and I've read many books on the cancer and nutrition link). Thanks for the wonderful information."

-Molly G.

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As the national organization has grown to more than 20,000 Meals on Wheels programs, Lehigh County's program expanded as well (though it remains entirely privately funded.) The organization now employs seven staff members, hires five volunteer caseworkers and serves 370 meals a day. In the beginning, clients paid \$10 a day for a hot meal and a cold supper, with the nutritional and caloric requirements they needed--milk, protein, vegetables, salad, and fruit. Inflation has increased the price, but the menu remains the same with its hot and cold component, but now diabetic and low-fat versions are offered.

And Barnes isn't alone in her long-term contributions. In this program geared toward the elderly, many of the volunteers are senior citizens themselves.

"When I came here, I was amazed by the number of volunteers in their 70s and 80s," Bechtel says. "Some of it's generational-this is a group that believes in volunteering. And this isn't the only thing they do. It's a very active group.

"Sometimes there'll be bad weather," Betchel says, "and we'll get clients call and say, 'It's too dangerous out there to drive. Your volunteers are older than I am-tell them to stay home.""

But the similarity in age also adds to a bond that clients and volunteers alike appreciate. "If I miss a week because I'm on a trip or sick, they'll wonder where I am and ask when Betty's coming back," says Betty Kauffman, Barnes' Monday partner. "They just give me a smile and that's worth the whole thing."

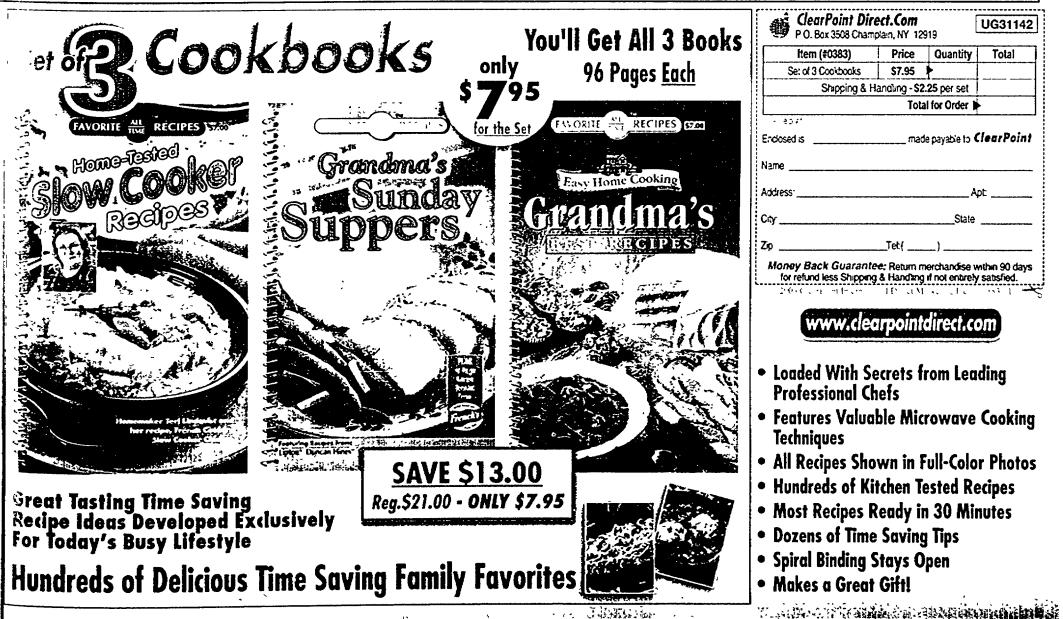
With 65 percent of clients living alone, volunteers may well be the only person a client sees all day. "The visit could be the highlight of their day," Bechtel says. "Every volunteer has their own personality-there's no formula-and you deliver a part of that with the food."

More than meals

"You have to realize you're bringing them more than a meal; you're bringing a bit of sunshine and comfort," Geary says.

For the clients, the service often means keeping their home and their highly valued independence. "If it weren't for Meals on Wheels, my daughter would have to provide my meals-she has her hands full taking care of the children," one client says. "She would try and convince me to go into assisted living."





Barnes bakes pound cakes, coffeecakes, and other treats for Meals on Wheels volunteers With goodies in hand, Barnes heads off for another day of deliveries in and around Allentown, Pa.

Barnes also is a hostess at her own home, in the old-fashioned sense, one who sees visitors as pleasure rather than work. Her sense of welcome is based more on warmth than on menus, though her cooking is mentioned as often as her charm. And like all good hostesses, she has created a home that's open to everyone, from the Meals on Wheels board of directors' annual volleyball game to a picnic for 100 adult learning participants.

"She's always feeding everybody," Bechtel says. She also seems to help everyone. Along with serving as secretary for two terms and president for one for Meals on Wheels, Barnes was a member of the Governor's Council on Aging, the Area Council on Aging, and a founder of the Institute for Learning

in Retirement (ILR), a series of courses for retirees held at nearby Cedar Crest College. The Council on Aging helped establish free transportation for the elderly on public buses in the county. ILR has organized 20 years of courses-from languages to physics to computer technology to music- for those over 55.

"These older people just eat it up," Barnes says. "Otherwise they'd stay at home and watch TV." She signs up for classes each semester, though she often finds that her schedule's double-booked.

But it's Meals on Wheels she nurtures most, from donating the proceeds from her Christmas tree farm sales to waking up every Monday for those early morning baking sessions. "She's always

doing something kind and wonderful for Meals on Wheels-it's her baby," Geary says.

In 2001, Barnes won the national Spirit of Women Award for her contributions to community service. She was chosen from women around the nation. "She just has a grace," Bechtel says. "She's a lady who knows the proper way to treat people and she has a touch that's uniquely hers."

That touch seems perfectly suited to the work she's chosen.

"Delivering food to someone's home is such a beautiful symbol of neighbor helping neighbor," Bechtel says. "It's such a basic need, such a simple thing." \Rightarrow

Gin Phillips writes from her home in Annandale. Pa.



What's Happening in Your Hometown?

Submit your event at www.americanprofile.com/happenings Or mail to: Happenings, 341 Cool Springs Blvd., Ste. 400, Franklin, TN 37067 Hoppenings must be submitted four months prior to event.

ILLINOIS

Holiday in the Park-Paris, Nov. 27-Jan. 1. Marvel at twinkling floats, Santa Claus and classic cars during the 5 p.m. parade on Route 1, and enjoy live entertainment, horse and buggy rides, and light displays at Twin Lakes Park. (217) 463-2715.

INDIANA

O' Tannenbaum Days--Jasper, Dec. 5-7. Come downtown for woodcarving, spinning wheel, butter-chuming, and quilting demonstrations, horse-drawn carriage rides, train rides, and a visit to Santa's house. (812) 482-6866.

IOWA

Down on the Farm Century Christmas-Stanhope, Nov. 28-Dec. 28. Take driving tours and enjoy animated light displays, marvel at 12 decorated Christmas trees, and enjoy raspberry tea and kettlecom at Country Relics Village. (515) 826-4386. . . . Donie - HERET.

KANSAS

Beef Expo-Hutchinson, Dec. 12-14. This 25th annual exposition features multi-breed cattle shows and sales, 4-H and FFA livestock-judging contests, and a trade show at the Kansas State Fairgrounds. (785) 273-5115.

MICHIGAN

A Plymouth Christmas-Plymouth, Dec. 6-7. Enjoy this holiday event featuring horse and carriage rides, Santa Claus, people dressed in Victorian era costumes. Christmas decorations, refreshments and carolers downtown. (734) 453-1540.

MINNESOTA

Winterfest-Luverne, Dec. 5-7. A Christmas light parade, craft show, parade of homes, festival of trees, and a dinner theater highlight this holiday event at various locations around town. (507) 283-4061.

MISSOURI

Handel's Messiah-Sedalia, Dec. 7. Hear the timeless Christmas classic. composed by George Frederick Handel, performed by the Sedalia Symphony Orchestra at 3 p.m. at First Baptist Church. (660) 826-2222.

NEBRASKA

Christmas on the Prairie-Wahoo, Dec. 6-7. This holiday festival features Swedish traditions, decorations, food, and a Saint Lucia exhibit, plus a 1940s-style fashion show and live music at the Saunders County Museum, (402) 443-3090.

NORTH DAKOTA

Nordic Christmas Festival-Bottineau, Dec. 6, 13, and 20. Enjoy visits with Santa, Scandinavian food, including rommegrot (sour cream soup) and lefse (potato bread), and Norwegian needlework and music throughout downtown. (701) 228-3849.

OHIO

Holiday Lights-Kirtland, Dec. 5-7 and 10-23. Take horse-drawn wagon rides and see thousands of lighted farm and nursery rhyme displays, make a toy at Santa's workshop, and enjoy a horse show at Lake Farmpark, (800) 366-3276.

SOUTH DAKOTA

Christmas in the Hills-Hot Springs, Dec. 5-7. Witness tree and candle-lighting ceremonies, visit with Santa and Mrs. Claus, and listen to choral groups at The Evans, plus enjoy arts & crafts and food at the Mueller Civic Center. (605) 745-6744.

WISCONSIN

Dickens of a Christmas-Ripon, Dec. 5-7. Victorian era "living" window displays, a Cratchit Family Christmas party, quilt show, carolers, a tree festival, and an Oliver Twist soup kitchen highlight this downtown event. (920) 748-6764.

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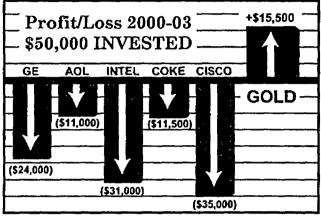


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With the holiday season approaching, many of you will have guests visiting to share a meal or to catch up over a weekend. What better time to serve a holiday tradition for dessert or a quick and tasty breakfast treat. Both are sure to garner compliments from your guests.

Reader Becky Clark sent us her recipe for pumpkin pie, which uses honey in place of sugar. Necessity is the mother of invention and Clark's experiment paid off.

"When I first made this recipe, it called for two cups of sugar and I only had one," she says. "I substituted the second cup of sugar with honey. Everyone loved it."

Our second recipe, interestingly enough, came to us from one of our advertisers, Rhodes Bakery and its Bake-N-Serv Kitchen. It is for a breakfast or brunch pastry called Lemon Pull-Aparts. It is very simple to make, yet we doubt you will have leftovers to enjoy later.

Mary Carter is American Profile's contributing food editor.

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:

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Include a color photo of yoursell, your name, address, and telephone number: If we publish your recipe, we'll send you an American Profile T-shirt. All submissions and photos become the property of American Profile. (Sorry, we can't return any materials.)





Becky's Pumpkin Pie 4 eggs, beaten 1 cup milk 1 teaspoon cinnamon 3 cups pumpkin 1 tablespoon flour 1/2 teaspoon nutmeg

- 2 teaspoons vanilla 1/2 teaspoon salt 1 cup granulated sugar
- I cup honey
- 2 unbaked pie shells

Preheat oven to 425 degrees. Mix ingredients in the order given. Pour into pie shells. Bake at 425 degrees for 10 minutes. Reduce oven temperature to 350 degrees and bake 40 to 50 minutes, until pie is golden and well set.

Tips From Our Test Kitchen: For a more traditional, custardstyle pie, add two more eggs. Serve with whipped cream.

Photo: David Damer Styling: Mary Carter

Lemon Pull-Aparts 12 Rhodes[™] Dinner Rolls, thawed but still cold

2 lemon rinds, grated 1/2 cup sugar

1/4 cup melted butter

Citrus glaze I cup powdered sugar I tablespoon butter, melted 2 tablespoons fresh lemon juice

Mix grated lemon rind with sugar. Cut rolls in half and place in a 12-inch deep dish pizza pan or 9-by-13-inch baking pan sprayed with non-stick cooking spray. Drizzle 1/4 cup melted butter over rolls. Sprinkle with lemon rind/sugar mixture, reserving 1/2 of mixture to sprinkle on just before baking. Cover with sprayed plastic wrap.

Let rise until double in size. Remove wrap. Sprinkle on remaining mixture. Bake at 350 degrees for 20 to 25 minutes. Remove immediately from pan and place on cooling rack. Combine powdered sugar, butter and lemon juice. Mix well. Drizzle glaze over pull-aparts.

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