

Thursday, December 25, 2003

hometownlife.com

Volume 135 Number 52

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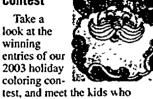
INSIDE



We've got a rundown of Christmas worship services. - Page 4A

Coloring contest

Take a look at the winning entries of our 2003 holiday



test, and meet the kids who added the hues to the colorful creations. - Page 2A

MARKETPLACE



Feliz navidad!

Dawn Salvati displays one of the dishes from her authentic Mexican menu and La Casa del Rio Grande. Find out about the restaurant and its holiday offerings. — Page 18A

SPORTS

Holiday cheer

Nonhville High School varsity cheerleader Erica Bivens crowd. --- Page 15A



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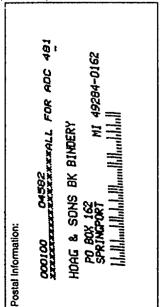
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Northville, Michigan

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Church project unveiled

Our Lady of Victory expansion to be discussed Jan. 6

By Maureen Johnston STAFF WRITER

Parents who want a new school for their children and owners of property near the proposed structure will present their positions at the Jan. 6 Northville planning commission meeting.

Our Lady of Victory church's plan to accommodate its growing congregation includes construction of a kindergarten-through-eighth-grade school on Orchard Street home sites, a location which neighbors fear will affect their property value.

The proposal for a 77,000-square-foot school, between Main and Thayer streets, is the subject of a Jan. 6 public hearing at the commission's regular meeting at 7:30 p.m. in City Hall. Four representatives of the 2,400-family Catholic congregation will present the OLV proposal, including Father Terry Kerner, Dave Laabs of the stewardship committee, architect Ron Cieslak of Farmington firm Merritt, McPherson, Cieslak, P.C., and attorney Don Samhat.

'We're looking forward to the public hearing to clear up misunderstandings," Kerner said earlier this week. "I think everyone has good will and has concerns about the quality of life in Northville. We see this as a plus for the neighborhood and the city of

Several homeowners in close proximity to the Thayer Boulevard church and school have said they plan to attend the hearing. "I expect there will certainly be some interest," said Mike McClish. "I'll be

Continued on 7



An architectural rendering of how proposed renevations to Our Lady of Victory might appear. This is the east ele:

State

eases up

budgets

By Pam Fleming

STAFF WRITER

on school

Northville Schools superintend-

ent Leonard Rezmierski was

pleased with the outcome of last

week's state budget compromise.

announced the compromise Dec. 18 that guaranteed an income tax cut in 2004 while providing addi-

tional revenue to soften cuts to public schools, higher education

The agreement also includes an

incentive for small businesses to

provide greater health care benefits to their employees by reduc-

ing an onerous tax burden by 50

Garcia said the Senate, the

House of Representatives and the Governor's Office each compro-

mised to reach the deal, which

also includes \$12 million in administrative cuts for state govemments not in the initial plan. The cuts to K-12, higher educa-

tion and revenue sharing were

reduced from the governor's orig-

Continued on 8

and local governments.

percent by January 2007.

Sen. Valde Garcia, R-Howell,

Special deliveries



Northville's UPS Store manager Mike Ludwig surveys the mountain of boxes piled up in his store on Wednesday afternoon of last week. Ludwig said that holiday gift-shippers were making for a very merry Christmas for his business and that he was having the busiest year so far.

Photo by JOHN HEIDER

ROCK ON!

Former Record intern heads to '04 Games

By Victoria Sadlocha STAFF WRITER

Former Northville Record intern Grace Blum realized hard work and proper planning pays off after learning she will travel to Athens, Greece for the 2004 Olympic

Games. Blum, was one of 46 Asbury College students recently chosen to cover the games as a media communications intern.



Grace Blum

really excited," Blum said. "I went to Asbury because I knew that Asbury students have the opportunity to go to the Olympics. So

Continued on 5



Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Former Silver Springs Elementary School pupil Amy Yamika, standing next to a fellow Radio City Christmas Spectacular performer - a Rockette - talks about her work with the ensemble currently appearing at Detroit's Fox Theatre.

■ Student's feet

earn her spot in holiday stage spectacular

By Pam Fleming STAFF WRITER

Many little girls dream of dancing with the Rockettes, the famous high-kicking team of dancers.

Northville resident Amy Yamika is living that dream.

The 10-year-old fifth grader from Ridge Wood Elementary used to attend Silver Springs Elementary in Northville and is currently performing with the Rockettes at the Fox Theater in Detroit. The daughter of Dan and Mary Beth Yamika of Northville, she began dancing at age 3 and was in her first recital at age 4.

"I like dancing because it entertains me," she added. "It's my favorite thing to do. I'm not a really good singer, but I want to be a professional dancer."

Tiffany Whitaker, one of the Rockettes performing at the Fox, visited Silver Springs Elementary Dec. 18, along with Santa and Mrs. Claus from the show.

Yamika has a solo song and

dance performance during the Nutcracker part of the show.

"I call her Miss Showbiz," Whitaker told Yamika's classmates.

Whitaker also told the group that it was hard to be a Rockette because the dancers have to be able to sing and be proficient in ballet, tap, and jazz dancing.

"Rehearsals are very long, and it's a rigorous show," she said.

"We rehearse for about an hour a day six days a week about a month before the show. There's a lot of kicking," Whitaker joked.

The Rockettes' Detroit per-

formances end Saturday.

Yamika had to audition in Chicago last year to be able to perform with the famous dancers, She's been attending school in an apartment near the Fox Theater while performing with the group.

Her classmates had some interesting questions for Santa Claus when he visited Silver Springs last week.

"What kind of cookies do you like?" one student asked.

"Peanut butter or chocolate chip, and if you have some macadamia nuts, that would be great," Santa replied.

'How many cookies do you eat

Continued on 8

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WEET DUR CHRISTMAS COLORING CONTEST WINNERS

MEGAN KRYGIER





Megan is 3½ years old. She attends Thornton **Creek Elementary** School's Early Childhood Center.

KACEY CERRETANT





Kacey is five years old. Kacey is a student at Moraine Elementary.

TROY YOUMANS





Troy attends Silver Spring Elementary school. He is 7 years old.







Danny, 9, is a student at William Allan Academy.

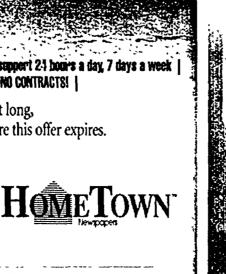
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Where Can I

So — how to cook a turkey? Kids have ideas

We asked Northville schoolchildren for ideas on how to prepare the holiday bird; here are our favorite responses

SILVER SPRINGS **ELEMENTARY**

Kathy Moser / First Grade

Buy it from the store. Bake it for 2.7 minutes. Then take it out of the oven and eat it.

- Courtney Shute

Hunt for it. And cook it in the oven at 400 degrees for four hours. Put it on the table and eat

- David Weber

Buy it at the store. Clean it before you put it in the oven for you to eat. Cook it at 90 degree for 17 hours.

– Christina Minna

You buy a turkey at the store. Then you put stuffing in the turkey. You put it in the oven. It takes three minutes. Then you

- Emma Horalek

You buy it from the store and you put it in the oven. It is hot, like 20 degrees.

- Akira Nishii

MORAINE ELEMENTARY

Jan Loeffler / Kindergarten

Shoot it. Cut its head off. Take its feathers off. Cook it in the oven until night. Eat it.



-Mikey Knoth

First you cut the head off. Then you...I forget.

- Joey Eisele First put two cups of sugar on the turkey. And put about 10 cups of flour on the turkey, too. Put 10 cups of water on the turkey. Cook it in the oven for about 10

hours and 41 minutes. Ding! It's

- Stefan Piccone

.Get a turkey from the garden. Put it in the oven and cook it. - Michael Chuev

First you get the turkey and you kill it. Then you cook it. You get a big pot and then you put it outside on a little like holder thing. Then you plug it in and you get some oil. Then you put some fire thing under it and you light it. Cook it for about two hours. Then you eat it on a plate with silverware.

Mrs. Fairchild / Kindergarten

To make a turkey, first put him in the oven. Then, cut him up and eat him!

— Evan Simoff

I would buy it from the grocery store. It would already be cooked. Then we would eat it. - Sam McMeekin

To make a turkey, buy the body and then the head and then the feathers. Then you burn it! - Christiana Buterakos

RIDGE WOOD ELEMENTARY

Alice Janke / Third Grade

1) Buy a turky. 2) Take the turky out of the packege. 3) Put the turky on a tra and put the turky in the oven and the tempacher should be about 500 or 345. 4) How long to cook the turky about 3 or 5 hours. 5) Put the spices on the turky. 6) You cut the turky then you eat the turky and thats how you cook a

turky.

- Kelly Wright

Step 1: Put the turkey in the oven at 350 degrees for five hours. Step 2: Watch TV until the turkey is done. Step thre: Remove the turkey from the oven. Step 4: Make the apple pie in the oven for 20 minnits. Step. - Luke Wegzyn five: you get the pie out of the

- Anthony Robinson

Rebecca Blaharski Third Grade

1) Take the icky stuff out. 2) Put in the oven. 3) Put on 370 degrees. 4) For a couple hours. 5) Take out. 6) Eat it.

– Rikki Miller

You buy a turkey. You put it in the microwave. You set the time on the microwave (I don't know how long.) You take it out and eat it.

- Emily Deng

Lillian Knoth / Second Grade First you buy a turkey from the store. Second, you put the turkey in the refridgerater. Third, you take the turkey out of the refridgerater. Next, you preheat the oven to about 451 degrees. Later, you put the turkey in the oven for about four hours. Shortly after, you baste the turkey. Afterward, you take the turkey out of the oven and enjoy

eating your splendid turkey.

—Mary O'Brien

First, you get the turkey. Next, my mom puts on the oil and the lettuce. Then she puts it in the oven. I think she puts the temperaure at 230. Like 17 min. later she takes it out of the oven and sucks all of the oil and poors it back on. Then she puts it back in the oven. Finally she does that

like 5 times and then it is ready. — Riley Gaidica 🗆

Sharon May / Third Grade Frist, I would wash it and put in the uven then I would time it

for 15 minits and I will serv it.

I would put the stofin in the turkey then put karits in the plat. Then I would mack mash ptatos and put the truky in the ovin for 200 minits and then wil it is cooking other thigs like ham, chikin. Allso the ham will be 20 ponds. After truky is down I

would put etalen dreseng.

- Sam Shihadeh

- Alec Clevenger

Sarah Madill / Fourth Grade Use a George Foreman grill or turkey cooker. Set the degrees to 150 and put the turkey in the pan with grease but just for a little bit. When the temperature is right, put the turkey in the oven and let it bake 2-3 hours. Take a toothpick and feel if its' rought put it in the turkey. If it's smooth

your turkey will be great. – Brandon Fields

What's the best way to cook a turkey? Waste \$1,000,000 on 503 turkeys and stuff yourself. - Daniel Medendorp

The best way to cook a turkey is to buy one, then roast it over 80 hair dryers for one week.

– Sammi Miller



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BUSINESS BRIEFS

David Getto of Northville - a shareholder in the firm of Sommers, Schwartz, Silver & Schwartz — has been inducted as a Fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers.

The induction ceremony took place recently before an audience of 1,150 persons during the 2003 annual meeting of the College in Montreal.



David Getto

THE NORTHVILLE RECORD Published Each Thursday By The Northville Record 104 W. Main Street Northville, Michigan 48167 Periodical At Northville, Michigan

Subscription Rates: Justife Counties \$26 one year home delivery. \$35 one year mail delivery. Outside Counties (in Michigan) are \$40 per year, prepaid. Out of state,

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MILL RACE MATTERS

Having family in town for the holidays? Think about scheduling a Private Tour of the village during the month of December while the buildings are decorated for the holiday season. Private Tours are approximately an hour to an hour and a half and are \$3 a person (minimum of \$30). All proceeds go to maintaining the village. Schedule through the Northville historical Society Office, located at the Cady Inn. Office hours are Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 1 p m. (248) 348-1845.

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Dec. 26	9 am - 1 pm - 10 am - 11 am 6 pm - 7 pm	Office and Archives Closed Rehearsal Rehearsal	Cady Inn Church Church
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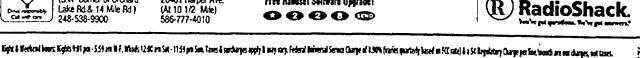
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The second secon



Record intern gets picked for **Olympics** position

Continued from 1

So when I was a freshman, I thought in my senior year I would apply for it, and maybe I would

The Davisburg native and current Colombia, Tenn. resident's foresight reaped her ultimate reward.

About 150 students at the Wilmore, Ky. college applied for the honor before the 46 finalists were chosen

Blum will find out her internship assignment next month.

Options include working as a sport-event researcher, photogra-pher fact logger or working behind the camera.

"I'm looking forward to the entire experience because it is the anniversary Olympics and it is in Greece so I'm hoping it will be a "little more special," Blum said.

The trip will take place in -August and last two-to-three weeks.

Blum is required by the college to complete one internship for ·both of her majors.

She successfully completed her journalism internship this summer at the Northville Record.

"I really enjoyed it," Blum said of the experience.

The prior intern said some of her most memorable Northville experiences included working on a profile of area churches and covering community events.

"I think that is what I would like to work on if I worked at a paper - human interest, heartwarming stories," Blum said.

The student hopes to pursue a career in journalism upon her May graduation and successful completion of her summer internship. "As long as I'm writing, I'll be

Thappy," she said. Victoria Sadlocha is a staff writer for the Northville Record. She can be reached at (248) 349-

vsadlocha@ht.homecomm.net

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Schools take hard look at future

State only allows for five-year forecast; another bond election possible for summer

By Pam Fleming STAFF WRITER

Northville school officials will meet with members of the board next month to discuss findings from the Sinking Fund/Bond Election Committee.

The group looked at student population, trends, building capacity needs, subdivision build-outs and general capital improvement needs. The final report of the committee's findings were presented at the Dec. 9 school board meeting.

Town hall meetings for members of the community will fol-

The committee met from July 2 through Dec. 3 to investigate complex issues facing the school

"It is indeed fortunate for our community that we started meeting in July. There has been a sea of change in information that we couldn't foresee," said district superintendent Leonard Rezmierski.

Rezmierski noted that state allows school districts to predict only what the district needs as far as expansion for the next five years in presenting data.

"In attaining the state's favorable bond rating, a school district must present its building information to the state to attain approval, and we can't only project for five years. We could obtain data for 10 years out, but then we could overbuild. We sup-port the state's statute on this,"

tive in our estimations of what we will need," he added.

The committee's first recommendation presented to members of the board of education Dec. 9 was to call for a bond election on June 14 during the annual board trustees election. If that date is not possible, the grap suggested a bond election for April or May.

The committee suggested that the bond ballot include building capital improvement items. building additions, as well as transportation and technology

The total bond amount and millage required will need to be

determined by the board of education. An approximate cost per home is also needed.

The committee also advises that an announcement be made to the community of the strong possibility of the need for another bond election in the 2004-2005 school year.

Members of the committee also noted that when data is conclusive on Northville Township's developments on state property on Seven Mile Road and City of Detroit property on Five Mile Road, another elementary school will be needed.

study session with the board of education after the Board receives the results of the fourth community survey at the Jan. 13

"We want to be able to show the board what we want and why," Rezmierski said. "We have to have factual reasons for expansion. We want to sustain our integrity with the communi-

Pam Fleming is a staff writer for the Novi News. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. or by e-mail at The committee has requested a pfleming@ht.homecomm.net.





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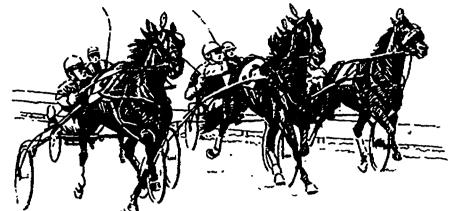
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Public to get look at OLV expansion plan

Continued from 1

there."

McClish and neighbors seven years ago assembled a grassroots group called the Orchard Heights Homeowners Association to oppose the parish's 1996 plans for expan-

Consensus concerns again are about the size of the proposed building, safety of the children and increased traffic volume through established neighborhood streets from Clement to Rogers, and Main to Fairbrook. Another repeated concern was the "commercial" appearance of the building in the middle of a residential neighborhood.

"It's a beautiful building," Kerner said. "Our architect actually has tried to put in a Victorian flair." Some of the same architectural elements of the public library downtown are repeated in the school design, he said

McClish questioned whether a mjohnston@ht.homecomm.net.

public school building the size being proposed would be approved on the approximate four-acre site. "I don't see how this possibly

could proceed," he said. The front of the school would line up with the existing homes, Kerner said. "It's not like it's encroaching on the street or sidewalks," he said.

The two-story building, with its 44,000-square-foot footprint meets the code, Kerner said. There is greenspace planned. It will sit

Also, the priest pointed out, the new-school proposal preserves the wooded area on the comer of Main and Orchard streets, as well as the vintage rectory.

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

Dough from the dough



With a goal of raising money for a future mother/daughter trip to Mackinaw Is., Girl Scout Troop No. 710 of Winchester Elementary School will begin selling their cookies on Thurs. Dec. 18. The girls will be responsible for taking orders, handling money, and distributing the baked goods to their customers. At far right Jamie Bell, and Ellie Asher prepare to make the cash/cookie exchange. Other scouts in the photo are Rachel Brown, Cailyn Burgett, Rachel Culbert, Lauren Dicomo, Sofia Fierro, Carly Morrell, and Susan Morris.



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Robert Bogart

Robert W. Bogart, 81, of Fernandina Beach died Dec. 14, 2003, at Baptist Medical Center.

Born in Paul, Minn., he moved to the area in 1995 from Charlevoix. He

was a graduate of Michigan State

University and attended Purdue

Robert Bogart

University. He served in the U.S. Air' Force, 397th Bomber Division, 9th Air Force, during World War II. He owned and operated Bogart & Associates Insurance Co. Mr. Bogart was a member of Amelia Baptist Church on Amelia Island.

Mr. Bogart is survived by his wife, Andrea Bogart; sons, Thomas Robert Bogart of Phoenix, Ariz., Patrick Owen Schaefer of Ann Arbor, Michael Lee Bogart of Deland, and Andrew John Schaefer of Cary, N.C.; daughters, Barbara Lindsay Erickson of Kalamazoo, Mich., Judith Barclay Sluga of Parachute, Colo., and Stacey Ann Schaefer of Northville: 13 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.

A memorial service was held Dec. 18 at Amelia Baptist

Obituaries are printed free of charge in the Northville Record, but information must be provided to the Record no later than noon of the Tuesday preceding the Thursday of publication. Obituary information not originating from a funeral home must be accompanied with a photocopy of a state-issued death certificate. Materials can be

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

Church. Rev. Dr. Neil Helton officiated the service. Interment will take place at a later date in Michigan. In lieu of flowers. donations may be made in Mr. Bogart's memory to the Salvation Army, P.O. Box 52508, Jacksonville, Fla., 32201.

Memorial arrangments were handled by Oxley-Heard Funeral Directors.

Richard D. MacKinnon

Richard D. MacKinnon died Dec. 14 in Sarasota, Fla. He was

Mr. MacKinnon was the for-

mer manager of the Michigan Columbus Federal Credit Union. At the time of his death, he was a mortgage broker with Brasota Mortgage Company Bradenton. He also served in the United States Army in Korea.

Visitation was held Dec. 19 and a scripture service was held on Dec. 20 at Northrop-Sassaman Funeral Home in Northville. A funeral Mass was celebrated at Our Lady of Victory Church in Northville. Fr. Terry Kerner officiated. Interment was in Holy Sepulchre Cemetery.

Mr. MacKinnon is survived by his parents, Donald and Irene Mackinnon of Northville: his siblings, Robert Mackinnon of Sacramento, Calif., Julie (George) Magulak of Bloomfield Hills, Mary Beth (Keith) Verner of Hummelstown, Pa., and Thomas MacKinnon of Hamburg. He is also survived by dear friend Patricia Campbell of Bradenton,

Phyllis Fortier

Phyllis Fortier of Northville died Dec. 6. She was 84.

Ms. Fortier was born March 12, 1919 in Detroit. She came to Northville 18 years ago from Pleasant Ridge. She was a former member of the Y.W.C.A. in Clawson.

Mrs. Fortier is survived by her

husband, Lawrence of Northville; her daughters, Diane (Samuel) Ahlquist of Plymouth, Gail (late Murray) Cook of Troy, son Dennis of Walled Lake; her sister. Nancy Davis of Lakeside, Calif.: her sister-in-law, Eileen Trask of Cincinnati; nine grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by a brother, Walter Trask.

A funeral was held at the Meadowbrook Congregational Church in Novi. Rev. Neil Hunt

Memorials may be given to the American Cancer Society.

Pauline Stachurski

Pauline Stachurski Northville died Dec. 18 at her home. She was 82.

Ms. Stachurski was born Feb. 21, 1921 in Shadyside, Ohio to the late Frank Lendosky and Mary Stachon Lendosky.

Mrs. Stachurski was retired from the Inland Division of General Motors. She was a seamstress for the company. She enjoyed knitting in her retire-

Visitation was held Dec. 20 at the Northrop-Sassaman Funeral Home in Northville. A scripture service was held with Fr. Terry Kerner from Our Lady of Victory officiating. Interment will be in St. Hedwig Cemetery.

Ms. Stachurski is survived by her husband Chester of Northville. and children Cheryl (Ralph) Rempfer of Taylor, Marlene (Jack) Harrigan of Northville and Rodney (Karen) Stachurski of Redford. She is also survived by eight grandchildren, eight greatgrandchildren and a sister Leona Dietel of Marshville, Wisc.

Memorial contributions to the Michigan Parkinson's Foundation or the Arthritis Foundation would be appreciated.

Yvette M. Plas

Yvette Plas died Dec. 18, 2003. She was 89.

Ms. Plas was born April 26, 1914 in St. Boniface, Winnipeg, Canada to the late Hermengilde and Corinne (Forgue) Meunier.

Ms. Plas is survived by her two children, Jan M.(Loretta) Plas of Green Oak Township and Sharon (Ronald) Cazabon of Ontario; one sister, Alice Almeranti of Pontiac; five grandchildren, Michele Plas, Suzanne (Durk) Knebler, Marc, Kevin (Holly) Cazabon and Brian (Zora) Cazabon of Winsor, Canada and great-grandchildren, Kendall and Kameron Plas of South Lyon, and Hayden

Cazadon of Windsor, Canada. Preceding her in death was her husband, John J. Plas and one son, Gary L. Plas.

A funeral was held Dec. 20 at St. Kenneth Catholic Church of Plymouth.

Memorials may be made to Community Opportunity Center, 33014 Five Mile Rd., Livonia, Mich. 48154.

Arrangements were made by Phillips Funeral Home, South

Joan Elizabeth Rogman

Joan Rogman died Dec. 19, 2003. She was 65.

Ms. Rogman was born June 13, 1938 to the late George and Lelah (DeCook) Rogman.

She was lifelong resident of South Lyon and graduated from South Lyon High School in 1957. She worked for the Northville Public Schools for more than 20 years. She enjoyed shopping and dining out and spending time with her cat "Kip".

Ms. Rogman is survived by her sister, Dolores Sieting; one nephew, Michael (Deanna) Sieting and two great-nieces, Heather and Pamela.

A funeral service was held Dec. 23, 2003 at Phillips Funeral Home of South Lyon, which handled funeral arrangements.

Memorials may be made to the American Diabetes Foundation, 30600 Telegraph Rd., Suite 2255, Bingham Farms, Mich. 48025-

On Campus

Nonhville

Marie

State eases crunch on school budgets

resident original proposal because of Elizabeth Kronsbein was awarded the money degree of docpausing tor of veterinary medicine by St. George's Elizabeth Marie months University spent. Kronsbein

(Grenada, West Indies) during autumn 2003 commencement ceremonies. Northville resident Brittany Bartelo was named to the dean's

list at Kalamazoo College for the autumn 2003 term. Northville resident James Hice was selected as a member of the

Albion College concert choir. Northville resident Nicole DiPaolo has been accepted for honor student status at Indiana

Wesleyan University (Marion,

Ind.) for the 2004 fall semester.

Continued from 1

Senate leadership's insistence on how

from the income-tax rollback for six be Under the

Senate's proposal. the John Stewart \$77 roughly million raised by pausing the rollback will divided among schools, universities and local govern-

Schools now \$96 per pupil,

Granholm.

face a reduc- Leonard down from the \$196 per student

The deal also

tion of about Rezmierski

proposed by Gov. Jennifer

Hold harmless' part of school aid bill The Section 20j Hold Harmless payment reinstated by the state

support instructional programs and direct, noninstructional services Section 20; is part of House Bill 4401, Public Act 158, which is a summary of school aid provided to Michigan schools for fiscal year

003-2004 Under the Hold Harmless Payment program, eligible school disnots receive an amount equal to 11.5 percent of their foundation allowance for each qualified student before any proration between dis-

Section 20 describes the calculation for districts with a foundation allowance above the state minimum foundation allowance when the foundation increase is greater than the rate of inflation.

State Rep. John C. Stewart, met with Gov. Jennifer Granholm Dec. 1 to 18 february 10 ask her to 18 february 10 Hamless or Section 20 monies for 19 Northwile schools. 10 1821 143102

Voting yes to pause the rollback was the only way to insure there would not be any further or worse cuts in revenue sharing," he added. an tell you that our représentatives — Sen. Brûce Patterson, Nancy Cassis and Rep. John Stewart constantly kept me informed on what was happening wanted to know my opinions on the matters at hand and have been very supportive to our cause, "Superintendent Leonard Rezmierski said. They never wavered, and I'm very pleased about this," he said.

reduces cuts in revenue sharing to 5 percent, while university funding drops as little as 2 per-

DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY OF cent if tuition increases are kept in check.

Under the deal, small busi-

nesses in Michigan will see relief from the taxes they pay on health care benefits. Taxes paid by employers on these benefits will be reduced by 50 percent by January 2007, starting with a 5 percent reduction in January 2004.

State Rep. John C. Stewart, Plymouth, who serves Northville, Wayne and Canton east of I-275, said he negotiated with the governor to reinstate the \$1.9 million Section 20j Hold Harmless monies for Northville schools. Rezmierski said the loss of

those funds would have been devastating' and would' have resulted in \$400 to \$500 less for each student in the Northville school system. Stewart voted to pause the

income tax rollback of 1/10 of 1 percent for six months, which allowed the reinstatement of these funds. "Clearly, this was in the best

interest of the vast majority of the citizens of my district," Stewart said.

"If cut, the 20j monies would

have cost us \$321 per student. This amount, if taken away, times our 6,100 students would have totaled just under \$2 million that would have been effective now through the rest of the school year," Rezmierski said.

I'm pleased that through all of the contacts made with the House and Senate representatives that we obviously prevailed in that the 20j monies were not reduced at all," he

"On the other hand, we are going to lose \$100 per student immediately. We will lose about \$606,000 from the Northville schools' budget. Every school district, every charter school received the same reduction per student," he said.

Rezmierski said the key to the compromise was the six-month pause on the income tax reduc-

Pam Fleming is a staff writer for the Northville Record. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 105, or by e-mail at pfleming@ht.homecomm.net

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"...I loved it.

Diane Keaton, an Oscar* nomination, she could go all the way. The film is that good, it is that much fun." Joel Siegel, GOOD MORNING AMERICA

"Nicholson is hilarious... 'Something's Gotta Give' is something special." Peter Travers, ROLLING STONE

Sharp, witty and deep-down funny, Something's Cotta Cive' is one of the best adult romantic comedies of the year - or the last few years, for that matter."









Jack Nicholson Diane Keaton

Something's Gotta Give

Keanu Reeves Frances McDormand Amanda Peet

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Student gets up-close look at Rockette lifestyle there are actually 184 Rockettes and 1/2 inches. Whitaker noted that she in a year?" asked another student. Secret Santa," she said.

"Oh, I can't count that high," Santa

Another student wanted to know if Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer's nose ran on a 20-watt or a 30-watt

Whitaker told the children that

that they are currently also performing in New York; Branson, Mo.; Seattle, Milwaukee, Nashville, Tenn; Ft. Lauderdale and Tampa, Fla.; and Phoenix.

Rockettes must be at least 5 foot, 6 inches, and no taller than 5 foot, 10

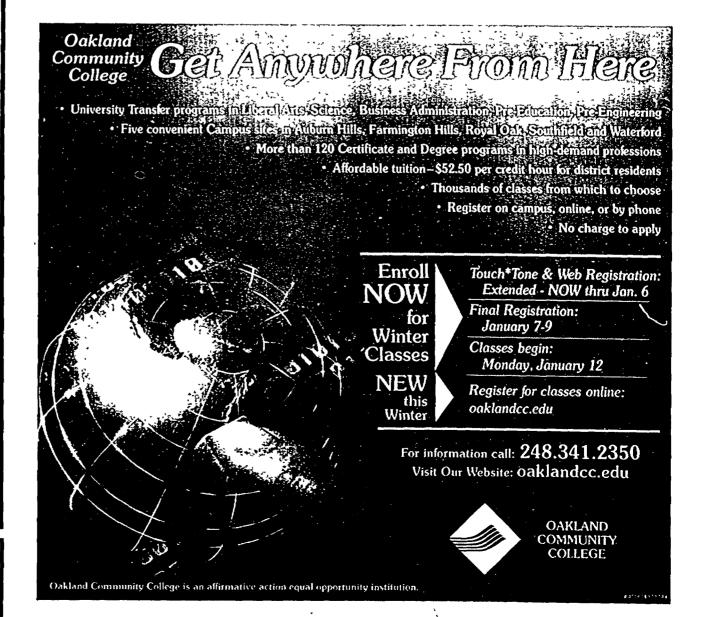
A THE RESIDENCE OF THE PROPERTY OF THE PROPERT

practices pilates, does a lot of cardiovascular work, yoga and stretching to keep in shape, as well as ballet, jazz and tap classes several times a week.

"It's really fun," Yamika said about performing with the Rockettes "I love being with the cast and crew

They're really nice. We even have a

Pam Fleming is a staff writer for the Northville Record. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 105 bv ϵ -mail pfleming@ht homecomminet



Township keeps guard up at hospital site

Snider: letting locals play role in property sale process is vital. Homeowners watch and wait

By Maureen Johnston STAFF WRITER

In light of the repeated advance and retreat of developers seeking to purchase the former psychiatric hospital site on Seven Mile Road, the Northville Township board is on guard.

A messenger from the state Department of Management and Budget at the trustees' regular meeting Thursday night listened to concerns about the fate of the prime location. But land services director Tom Saxton repeated the previous communiqué: legislation is guiding the sale of the property, and the state is looking for at least \$65 million in proceeds to help with the current budget deficit.

A subsequent conference call between state and township leaders similarly resulted in little progress toward a local voice in the sale process, said township supervisor Mark Abbo.

Township manager Chip Snider, who also joined the Friday conference with Saxton and budget director Mitch Irwin, said the township should play a role in pre-bid meetings with companies interested in buying the land. "Bidders would be apprised up front of the township ordinances," Snider said. "I don't

want to 'be there.' I want to 'be part of it." If they would do that, it would be an act of cooperation far exceeding anything else."

Saxton's message Thursday was that the state will not entertain a bid less than \$65 million, one of the criteria outlined when the initially offered the par- Mark Abbo cel. Bids withdrawn in the past four months include

Rock

Real

Construction

Part





of Bloomfield Chip Snider

Hills at \$76.5 million, and Grand/Sakwa of Farmington Hills at \$76 million.

supervisor stressed Thursday night that the former hospital site presents unique challenges to potential developers that are not visible from Lansing. There are vacant buildings to be demolished. contamination, steam tunnels, asbestos, oil and

gas leases, and 200-year-old trees, he said.

"We are going to be extremely protective of the environment," Abbo said. "They're going to be looking to us and say 'I paid all this money, give me something for it."

Local officials are continuing to evaluate options to protect the community for the long-term. The board will look at rezoning the parcel or lobbying revisions to the legislation that is guiding the sale, the supervisor said.

"It became very clear that the township needs to protect our own interests," Abbo said. "We will do so. We like to plan for anything that may be thrown our way and be ready for it. We don't like surprises."

The surprising sequence of events since the state in May 2003 put the former hospital site up for sale prompted the latest efforts at preparation. The state budget department nixed the first round of bids. Three of five round-two offers were withdrawn two following months of investigation of the site. State officials announced last week they will again offer for sale 415 acres that encompasses dense woodlands, rolling hills and a series of now-vacant buildings.

Added context for the supervisor's comments is the most

recently aborted plan for development, which would have overstretched public safety services, water and sewer capacity, and • school and traffic projections, • based on township planning guidelines.

township trustees The Thursday night formally revised • an ordinance that governs development along the Haggerty Road corridor, preventing a potential developer from dragging westward down Seven Mile Road some of the commercial provisions. The state-owned parcel, • touched on the east by Haggerty • Road and on the west by . Northville Road, stretches from the south side of Seven Mile to the rear of subdivisions accessible by Six Mile Road.

In addition to the possibility of • adding pre-bid meetings, conversation Friday covered topics such as selling parcels of the 400 acres; adding a proviso to the bid documents requiring land donation to the township and school district, and extending the time • constraints of the due diligence period, Snider said.

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

mjohnston@ht.homecomm.net.

for new Seven Mile neighbors

Since the state announced in November 2002 plans to close Northville Psychiatric Hospital, owners of property adjacent to the site have waited and watched 415 pages 150 per page 150 per p

The state's 415 acres, touched on the east by Haggerty Road and on the west by Northville Road, stretches from the south side of Seven Mile to the rear of subdivisions accessible by Six Mile Road. Among the developments that border the property developers continue to investigate are Northville Trails, Maple Hill, Lakes of Northville, Innsbrook apartments, and The Cascades of Northville.

Eric Lark, a resident of the Cascades subdivision along the western ridge of the stateowned parcel, said he has been watching closely the saga" of the series of companies bidding on the parcel. He

I think the Township and/or State should consider proposals that maintain the tremendous natural beauty of the parcel, while increasing the tax base through a sensible mixture of commercial and higherend residential uses.

What attracted me to the area was the opportunity to area was the opportunity to live in close proximity to so many amenities, while still residing in a natural setting. I recently stood in my back yard and in the course of 10 minutes saw a deer, two hawks, a tlock of general flock of geese, and several pairs of ducks paddling up the river. I would hate to see this area turn into another West Bloomfield, where I grew up, where traffic, congestion and over development have in my opinion compromised what once was a beautiful area.

The trick in this case will be to meet the Township's requirements while keeping the project attractive and reasonably profitable for potential developers. Lastly, I think it is important to work with a developer with a solid reguladeveloper with a solid reputation, pertinent experience and adequate financial resources. :

The Northville Record welcomes your comments on this, or any issue. Staff writer Maureen Johnston can be reached at (248) 349-1700 or mjohnston@ht.homecomm.net

COMMUNITY GROUPS

ACORD (A Community Organization Recognizing

Diversity) WHAT: A group of Northville residents concerned with fostering harmony and understanding diversity, group believes in actively promoting equality for all people, regardless of race, creed, color, religion, gender, disability, socioeconomic situation or national origin. **CONTACT:** Al Qualman PHONE: (248) 349-8437

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

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN -NORTHVILLE/NOVI BRANCH WHAT: Promotes equity for all women and girls, life-long education and positive societal

CONTACT: Mary Jane Kearns **PHONE:** (248) 449-8693

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

WHAT: Bring together business-women of diverse occupations and provide opportunities for them to help themselves and others grow professionally. WHERE: Wyndham Garden Hotel, 42100 Crescent Blvd., Novi.

WHEN: Every third Monday of the month **CONTACT:** Bettie Johnson PHONE: (248) 960-9559

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

BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA TROOP NO. 755 WHERE: First Presbyterian Church of Northville **CONTACT:** Alan Bennett PHONE: (248) 349-7568

CALLING CART CONTACT: Sonja Lane PHONE: (248) 348-0628

CIVIC CONCERN CONTACT: Marlene Kunz PHONE: (248) 344-1033

COMMUNITY CLOTHES CLOSET WHAT: Assists with emergency needs and helps low-income families with clothes and baby

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

to noon PHONE: (248) 349-8553

DETROIT/OAKLAND CHAPTER -GENTLEMEN SONGSTERS CHORUS CONTACT: Fran Durham

Phone: (248) 344-4613

FRIENDS OF MAYBURY STATE PHONE: (248) 349-8390

FRIENDS OF NORTHVILLE PARKS AND RECREATION PHONE: (248) 462-4413

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

FRIENDS OF NORTHVILLE PHONE: (248) 349-0712

GARDENERS OF NORTHVILLE-

WHAT: An evening gardening club which discusses community gardening as well as hosting speakers and seminars on gardening issues.

CONTACT: Yvonne DeMattos PHONE: (248) 348-1946

GOODFELLOWS **CONTACT:** Bob Peterson PHONE: (248) 349-2357

HURON VALLEY GIRL SCOUT

COUNCIL PHONE: (800) 497-2688

KIWANIS CLUB PHONE: (248) 349-0611

KIWANIS EARLY BIRDS

PHONE: (248) 347-3470

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS PHONE: (734) 453-9833

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF NOVI/WEST DAKLAND WHAT: Promotes responsibility through informed and active participation of citizens in government and action on selected governmental issues

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

PHONE: (248) 380-8474

MASONIC TEMPLE ASSOCIA-

PHONE: (248) 476-0320

NORTHVILLE ACTION COUNCIL PHONE: (248) 349-1237

NORTHVILLE ANIMAL AID PHONE: (248) 349-3738

NORTHVILLE ARTS COMMIS-PHONE: (248) 449-9950

NORTHVILLE ATHLETIC BOOSTERS

PHONE: (248) 344-8414 **NORTHVILLE BEAUTIFICATION**

COMMISSION **CONTACT:** Linda Lestock PHONE: (248) 349-1300

NORTHVILLE COMMUNITY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE **CONTACT:** Laurie Marrs PHONE: (248) 349-7640

NORTHVILLE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION CONTACT: Shari Peters PHONE: (248) 374-0200

NORTHVILLE CO-OP NURSERY PHONE: (248) 348-1791

NORTHVILLE EAGLES PHONE: (248) 349-2479

NORTHVILLE GARDEN CLUB CONTACT: Mariorie Faessler PHONE: (248) 349-7709

NORTHVILLE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY CONTACT: Pat Allen PHONE: (248) 348-1325

NORTHVILLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

WHAT: To discover, collect, observe, advance and disseminate knowledge of history of the Northville Region. The group's focal point is Mill Race Historical Village.

CONTACT: Juliet Culp PHONE: (248) 348-1845

NORTHVILLE LIONS CLUB PHONE: (248) 348-9075

NORTHVILLE MOTHERS CLUB PHONE: (248) 344-1585 NORTHVILLE NEWCOMERS WHAT: To help newcomers to

the area as well as current residents who would like to become more familiar with the community on a social and civic level. Newcomers hold fund raisers to aid the Northville community. WHEN: Once a month, September through May. Meeting dates vary. Social interest groups meet once or twice a

CONTACT: Sally Bettes PHONE: (248) 735-0192

NORTHVILLE PARKS AND RECREATION PHONE: (248) 349-0203

NORTHVILLE RAINBOWS NO.

PHONE: (248) 349-1714 **NORTHVILLE ROTARY CLUB**

PHONE: (248) 344-8440

NORTHVILLE SENIOR CITIZENS CENTER PHONE: (248) 349-4140

NORTHVILLE WOMAN'S CLUB CONTACT: Virginia Martin

A CONTROL OF THE PROPERTY OF THE PARTY OF TH

PHONE: (248) 349-3064 **NORTHVILLE YOUTH ASSIS-**

TANCE **CONTACT: Mary Ellen King** PHONE: (248) 344-1618

SARAH ANN COCHRANE CHAPTER OF THE DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

WHAT: A group with ancestors who fought in the American Revolution. Members participate in community work involving veterans' hospitals, schools and community service.

WHEN: The group meets every third Monday, except in January, July and August. CONTACT: Phoebe Huff

PHONE: (248) 442-2679

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

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Northville Record

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

Have a peaceful Christmas 2003

We found this editorial in our archives from 2001. We think it's as timely now as it was then.

Different holidays ask us to do different things.

Start with St. Patrick's Day in the spring. It's an opportunity to greet the onset of warmer weather and longer days, not to mention celebrate the return of green, instead of slushy gray.

Memorial Day's purpose, at least as of late, is two-fold. There's the contemporary view of the day being the unofficial start to summer - an unfortunate and shortsighted view of the holiday's actual purpose: to honor America's fallen.

Independence Day's festive atmosphere gives us a chance to revel in all things red, white and blue. Labor Day gives us one last crack at a trip to the cottage.

Halloween lets everyone play. Thanksgiving asks us to be mindful of what we have and share that goodness with others.

And then there's Christmas. Regardless of one's belief system, Christmas is a holiday that reflects peace, love and joy. And now more than ever, we think everyone could use a little bit more of each.

As 2001 comes winding to a close, we find our country in the midst of a great struggle to free a

captive people and to slowly regrow an economy that's struggling to come back to life. Indeed, there is plenty over which to fret. But the spirit of Christmas asks us to take a deep breath, close our eyes, and find peace in the still of the season. Though it may be buried deep, there is still good and beauty in the world -- like a flower under a blanket of snow.

And like a flower under the snow, it is often the little things and not the big, splashy presentations - that make the biggest difference. A smile, holding the door for someone, a hug, or a kind word can move mountains.

Better yet, those things are contagious. Happiness and peace can spread like wildfire if a heart is open to them.

The greatest gifts are the ones given, not received. This Christmas, give a laugh, give a smile...and give yourself a break. We could all use a little solace in this uncertain time in which we

We wish everyone a peaceful Christmas 2003.

FOOTNOTE: (It's true - the best things in life don't always come with a lot of flash. Take, for instance, a baby born in a Bethlehem manger.)



Third grade students of Willam Allan Academy dance and sing for residents of Northville's Allen Terrace last Friday afternoon. Students sangs many traditional Christmas Carols for about thirty residents of the senior housing complex in a show that lasted nearly an hour.

The Demonstrators and Special Event

Phyllis Lindblade, Susan Adams and the

Nancy Vaghy and the Weavers Guild

Owen Creteau our resident

Karen Clark and Girl Scout Troop No.

748 for providing refreshments and desserts

and all of her many marvelous docents that

Thank you to Colleen Sygar and Joelle

Sarkozy for all the upfront planning and to

and Colleen Sygar for greeting visitors and coordinating the day of the event. It takes

many people, many volunteers, to be able to

put on such a spectacular event. Thank you

Bob Russell, Carolyn Stuart, Fran Gazlay

Debbie Dickinson and Brownie Troop No.

Marietta Rathbun our Docent Chair,

Georgia Randinitus and the Mill

High School Chamber Choir

Charlene Berry

Heirloom Rug Hookers

900 for selling wreaths

always help out.

Race Basket Guild

Blacksmith

Christmas Walk was super only with help

A huge thank you goes out to all the people that made the 22nd annual Mill Race Village Christmas Walk a fabulous success.

Our Christmas Decorators: Cady Inn: Sandy Basse, Archivist and

Mary Harris المتأثران لدووالا "General-Store: Judy Davis and Diane " 1974"

Forystek Wash-Oak School: Sue Seelye New School Church: Pastor Dave Simmons and the Mill Creek Community

Hunter House: Jerome Delaney and Real

Estate One Yerkes House: Jennifer Jarosz, Kathleen McLallen, Ann Smith and Amy Zubor of

Century 21 Cottage House: Nancy Vaghy and the

Weavers Guild The Wonderful Music:

Kathy Sanderson and the Our Lady of Victory Bell Choir

Ed Meade and Voices in Time Rob and Nancy Downie, Heartstrings

Music Oroug Mary Kay Pryce and the Northville

They were together for only three weeks,

in the fall right after Ronald Reagan was

swept into office. Tom was a 22-year-old

apprentice stonemason from Toledo who

languages and was still working on

a doctoral thesis on "Advertising and

was at heart, a writer. Hanneke, 21, was a

highly educated Dutch girl who spoke four

They met after she finished research for

Propaganda in

Elections," and

took off to see

America before

American

Presidential

going back

home. Along

the way, they met. Instantly,

they became

inseparable. "Seventy-two

hours later she

days like a life-

said, 'three

all for making Northville such a wonderful place to live and call home.

Juliet Elise Culp

Thanks for attending Mothers' Club open house

Northville Mothers' Club Life Members annual Holiday Open House is thought of as a special beginning to the holiday Sedson."-A time to see old friends and taste new recipes.

Life members would like to thank all the guests of our community who attended our Holiday Open House Fundraiser on December 6th. We also thank those who could not attend but were generous with a donation. The monies received will go to scholarships for Northville school children.

Happy Holidays and Thank you

Northville Mothers' Club Life Members

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PRESIDENT George W. (R·Texas) 1600 Pennsylvania Ave. Washington DC 20500



president@whitehouse.gov

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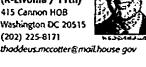
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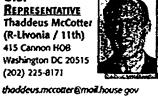
COUNTY **COMMISSIONER** Lyn Bankes (R-Livonia) 600 Randolph Street 4th Floor Detroit MI 48226 (313) 224-0946

lbankes@co.wayne.mi.us



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SenNCassis@senate.michigan.gov





COUNTY COMMISSIONER **Hugh Crawford** (R-Novi) 1200 N. Telegraph Rd. Pontiac MI 48341 (248) 858-0100





time.' She was Jack Lessenberry still a bit rusty with the language, calling watches 'armclocks" and cameras 'photomachines.'

"But I figured out pretty quickly that she was commenting on how we are together, instantaneously bonded and looking through the same eyes as if together all of our days," Tom Badyna remembered.

Two weeks later, just before Christmas 1980, he put Hanneke Oberman on a plane for Holland, "after a harrowing ride through a sleet storm and a traffic jam on the Brooklyn Bridge. We walked the long concourse of the foreign terminal at JFK I walked, she hobbled, having broken a quite high heel exiting the taxi.

'That's kind of a good metaphor for that good-bye," he said wistfully, over coffee in

There are Christmas miracles

one of his favorite hangouts, a combination coffee shop and bookstore in Dearborn. Actually, it was just supposed to be see you later ...

..but they never saw each other again. They were young, and restless, and one thing led to another, and they somehow lost touch. He moved to Colorado to do construction and live in a small shack through freezing winters. He taught himself to write at night, at length producing a series of fantastic, impressionistic short stories and parables that seem something like a working-class American version of Mario Vargas Llosa, or perhaps Gabriel Garcia Marquez.

She worked in international economics in Brussels, was an advertising executive in Amsterdam, but at last found her niche as an advocate for the homeless and addicted in Rotterdam, where for a pittance, she fights for their rights.

He came back to Toledo, worked construction by day, and wrote for a growing and enthusiastic Internet community of fans at night. "I've published a few things, but I don't much like dealing with editors,' he told me a year ago. (Most writers can

relate.) There were other women. There were other men. But neither ever married, or forgot those two weeks crossing the continent.

They made sporadic attempts to find each other. Finally, this fall, he found her, on her office's web site. Is this really you? he asked, and sent her a short story. She didn't much like the story...

"But I still liked him," she says with a small smile, arm around him in the cafe, surrounded by coffee drinkers and holiday shoppers. "Loved him."

Who said there aren't still Christmas miracles?

Within days after their first e-mail, she was on a plane to Toledo. "I haven't a thought in my head," Tom wrote me. "I'm calm and confident about this bit of lunacy. There is also the possibility that my life was about to be turned upside down.

Did they immediately feel what they hoped to feel when she walked off the plane? "It took about a half a second upon seeing her again for all the passion and intuitive knowledge to be back firmly in place, and within 10 minutes it was as if she was at my side all my life." She pauses. a little hesitant, either with shyness or over the language. "It took me maybe 10 minutes. I mean 10 seconds."

They spent two weeks in Toledo, touring bars and bistros, listening to Beethoven, Johnny Cash and the Pixies, reading

Chaucer and comic books. And they knew. She is back in Rotterdam now, alone again. But not for long.

We shall not do this again," Tom said last week, as he was making plans to move to Holland. "I promised her to be in Rotterdam by Feb. 1, and to marry her by summer. No one's invited, of course. It's something between her and me.'

He doesn't know whether he will be able to practice stonemasonry in Holland. If not, he will perhaps stop procrastinating and get down to writing seriously, perhaps tackling that novel at last that he knows he has somewhere inside him.

There is a lot they don't know yet. But Tom Badyna does know this: "I'd look at her sometimes and see the girl of long ago, and then see the remarkable woman before me, and I'd see too, somehow, the missing years, and it was a feeling tragic and beautiful, as if they were somehow necessary for this and what's before us."

Here's hoping that for Tom and Hanneke, it is a very happy new year.

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.

TIME FOR A **CHANGE?**



Change the batteries in your smoke detector at least once a year.

Control of the Contro

United States Fire Administration Federal Emergency Management Agency w.usta.tema.gov

HOMETOWN' 517-548-2000

Christmas is memory-laden

According to the psychologists, important holidays like Christmas generate memories that are among the most intense and longlasting of our lives. So it has been with me and, I am certain, with most families. Christmas produces remembrances that will

stay with me for the rest of my life, some of them generating stories that become important parts of shared family history. Here are

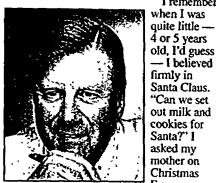
I remember

- I believed

"Can we set

dear," she

when I was



Phil Power

cookies for Santa?" I asked my mother on Christmas Eve. "Certainly,

Certain I could stay awake to see Santa arrive by willpower alone, I stationed myself on the sofa. My mother pulled a blanket over me and turned out the living room lights, leaving me safe and comfy by the warm glow of the Christmas tree bulbs. And
— amazing to recount (!) — when I woke up in the early morning, the milk had been drunk, the cookies eaten, and there were just a few crumbs left on the fireplace hearth

replied. And so we did, right in front of the

along with Santa's presents. Much of my father's family lived in Traverse City, so nothing would do other than to take the long drive - six hours or so in those days - to spend Christmas in my grandfather's big, dark Victorian house on Sixth Street. His birthday was Dec. 24, not

exactly an optimal date for a celebration. But he was always glad to see us arrive, loaded down with double-duty presents.

My grandfather was a fierce man, an archetype of the old school. His oft-repeated doctrine - "There are two ways of doing things; my way and the wrong way" - was an adage that many in the family took to heart. But he was kind and gentle with his grandchildren. He used to sit down in a big red leather arm chair by the side of his fireplace, pull me up into his ample lap and read "The Night Before Christmas" to me before I went off to bed .

Occasionally we would celebrate Christmas at home near Ann Arbor. When I was around 12, I whined long and loud enough to induce the purchase of a giant tree for the living room. We spent hours decorating it, handing the ornaments up to my father, who teetered on top of a big wooden

That was the year my godmother came to spend Christmas with us. She was a no-nonsense woman who lived in (gasp!) New York and disliked our two Siamese cats. The feeling was mutual, and when she strode through the house wearing her corduroy slacks that went "swish, swish" as she walked, the cats would always beat it for a safe haven.

One morning, however, she walked (swish, swish) into the living room and (unintentionally) cornered the cats in front of the tree. Up to the top of the tree they went, lickety-split. Down went the tree, slowly and with great dignity, the falling ornaments making glittering geometric cascades as they headed for the floor, where they shattered in gentle, brittle, high-pitched sounds...

After I graduated from college, I wound up in Fairbanks, Alaska, where I worked as the sports editor of the Daily News-Miner. My parents flew up to be with me for Christmas. Of course, we followed our established family tradition of going out into the woods to cut a fresh Christmas tree.

"Going out" consisted of getting bundled up enough to survive a temperature that I remember as being pretty close to...40

The "woods" around Fairbanks are mostly tundra, but we finally located a somewhat shriveled spruce-like growth that seemed a reasonable facsimile of a real Christmas tree. Taking the axe we had brought with us. I delivered a suitably stout blow to the base of the tree, only to see every one of the branches immediately fall off! The extreme cold had made the wood so brittle that one axe-blow denuded the entire tree. We trucked back into town and bought a pre-cut tree, probably imported from somewhere 'outside," i.e. anywhere but in the arctic and had a happy Christmas, far away from

This year Kathy, Nathan and I will be traveling to Denver to spend Christmas with our son, Scott, and his new bride, Molly. Unlike my grandfather, I feel that we should find ways to encourage them in establishing their own Christmas traditions.

Visiting them on their turf seems a gentle way to get that started. However, when we pack our bags, we'll include the old Christmas stockings for the entire family, including Scott's and one we got for Molly last year. Funny how much emotion and memory can accompany something as sim-

ple as a stocking ...
Finally, my holiday wish for everybody is best captured in an Irish blessing that came on a friend's Christmas card:

May you have warm words on a cold

A full moon on a dark night, And the road downhill all the way to your

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.



We've lied to you. Sorry to admit it, but we've lied to you.

We lied to you because even though this newspaper is stamped with the date December 25, 2003, I'm here to tell you that it was out on the streets on December twenty-fourth.

Oh, the shame...the shame of being part of a fabrication on this scale! It's been said there are no good reasons to

tell a fib, and that little white lies have a way of coming back to haunt. laybe they're right, and if they are, well, I

guess l'Il just

rap for being

awful conspira-

cy to make you

hink you were

ie, bona ilge

getting a gen-

Christmas

Day edition

part of this

have to take the



Chris C. Davis

of the Northville Record, when you were instead getting a reasonable facsimile.

There's a perfectly good reason for all of this, of course --- Christmas is upon us, and (few exceptions notwithstanding) by 3 p.m. today, most of the free world will come to a halt for the next 24 hours. We'll enjoy the few moments of stillness and quiet that mark the zenith of the madness of the last four weeks we've all experienced.

But before you settle in for that long winter's nap, allow me to remind you of a few last-last-last minute things you'll need to attend to so you, too, can partake in the

Norman Rockwell-ian fantasy:

 You should try to pick up some egg nog on the way home. Chances are you did one of two things - either you tried planning ahead bought some two weeks ago, and it's now. looking like cottage cheese, or you decided to wait it out. (If you're the latter variety, good luck. I think I just bought the last carton.)

The batteries in your camera are dead to the world. No worries! you say. We've got spares set aside. Wrong again. Your kids used them to power up their Game Boy systems this week. (Better add some AAs to the shop-

 Just a gentle suggestion here...add some water to the Christmas tree. I'm not saying it's a dry, but a slight breeze knocks off half the

No matter how many times you've insisted she not do it, Aunt Millie will be bringing her annual fruitcake to dinner tomorrow. Tipping the scales at Herculean sizes, that speckled menagerie of candied fruit and dough dense enough to be used for ocean freighter ballast will be made part of the meal. Make sure you crowd the dinner table with enough food so that the faux dessert doesn't have a chance to enter the fray.

• If you haven't started with the "some assembly required" bicycle, pony up the extra forty bucks and get that ride in the hands of someone who knows how to put a bike together. It's noble that you wanted to go the frugal route, but you really should have started the process sooner than now.

Do yourself a big favor and make sure the damper to the fireplace is open. Nothing kills the Christmas spirit like a living room that looks like the Los Angeles skyline at day-

• Get some gasoline right now. If you're traveling somewhere, expect that either a)

every gas station you're planning on hitting along the way will be closed, or b) the gas stations that are open will have jacked up their rates to the point that traveling by air - ele-

Before you set-

nap, allow me to

remind you of a

last-last minute

things you need

you can partake

to attend to so

of the holiday.

tle in for that

long winter's

few last-last-

vated terror warnings or not --- will be more tolerable. • If there's

someone on your shopping list who you haven't bought for yet, just cut your losses and fess up to the oversight. Two 12-packs of Coke, while centainly refreshing, iust isn't going to get the job done and impress

your friends. Yes. there's plenty yet to do, no matter how much you've done to this point in time. But no matter what remains on the to-do list, I sincerely wish you and those close to you a merry Christmas. Take a breather and enjoy it. You

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.

Dearborn for a bachelor's of business

I later went to Wayne State University

This will also be a very uncertain time

for Northville Schools as its administration

decides how to deal with recent state budg-

dents know budget-cut related decisions

along with other actions by the Northville

School Board. I do have to admit though, I

am really excited to attend my first assem-

I had the opportunity to meet a few of

Northville's finest young residents when

announcing the winners of the Christmas

As I make the transition into my new

position, I urge any resident with an inter-

est in the district to give me a call or send

Any help in the beginning would be

It was so much fun seeing the excitement

It will be my responsibility to let all resi-

administration.

for journalism.

coloring contest.

on the faces of the winners.

A new job was my early present

Christmas presents do not always come in nicely-wrapped packages - a lesson I've learned many times before, but reminded of late last week.



Record editor Chris Davis extended an offer to join the paper as its education reporter. There isn't anything in a store that I

My holi-

early when

would have appreciated

Northville

day gift came

Victoria Sadlocha

The reason is actually twofold. I worked for Hometown Newspapers before as a city reporter for the Novi News.

I spent nearly two years reporting on Novi city and police happenings in the same office with the Northville Record

During that time, I became familiar with Northville along with gaining a great respect for Chris.

I then reluctantly accepted an offer from a sister publication of Hometown newspapers closer to my home. I spent a short time as a city editor of the

Ferndale-Pleasant Ridge Mirror. That was a good experience too, but just

not home.

When I learned there was an opportunity to rejoin the Hometown staff along with working for Chris, my first reaction was, "it's a Čhristmas miracle." The other reason I am so excited is the

There isn't much in life that can't be

traced back to a child's developmental The importance the educational system

plays in our society is insurmountable. Learning basic skills, advanced skills, socialization, respect, how to prioritize and

so much more starts the first day of kinder-And then there is all the fun stuff rang-

ing from dating to choosing a college to trying to figure out who you are to finding your best friends for life. And one of the most mystifying factors

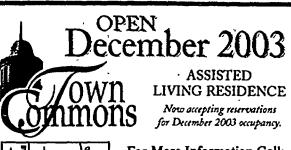
about school is you just never know what will have a significant impact on a child. An assembly, conversation with a teacher or meeting with a school counselor might

just change a young person's life forever. I remember mine - one small comment a teacher made to me in my junior year at Plymouth Canton High School spurred me

on to The University of Michigan-

greatly appreciated. I hope everyone has a merry Christmas and receives a present that does not come in a box.

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



For More Information Call: 517-540-1926 Memory Loss Care Available Town Commons is located on M-59 West of Michigan Avenue in Howell.



Christmas Eve Candlelight Services

December 24, 2003 4:00*, 5:30*, 7:00 & 11:00 p.m. *childcare through age 4

New Years Eve Service December 31, 2003

10:00 p.m. hor d'oeuvres and fellowship 11:00 p.m. service in the Sanctuary



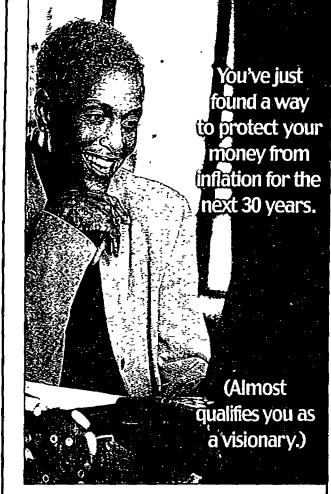
40000 Six Mile Rd. (Just West of Haggerty) 248-374-7400 www.wardchurch.org



THE OTHER NOBLE METAL

Compared with gold and platinum, silver has always enjoyed the status of the more casual member of this group of noble metals. While it is never out of style, it is currently enjoying peak popularity as an accent to current haute hippie looks and Western wear. Aside from classic styles, silver jewelry is incorporating some fresh new looks in the form of bright enameling, pairing with pastel-colored gemotiones, and designs with a decidedly Bohemian edge, sterling silver jewelry is stamped "Sterling" or "925," which is representative of the fact that sterling silver is an alloy of 92.5 percent silver and 7.5 percent copper (which is necessary to lend strength to silver, a relatively soft metal).

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A public service of this newspaper



Here's what people about town have in mind for the ushering-in of 2004

By Maureen Johnston STAFF WRITER

The local welcome for 2004 sounds like more like hugs and videos than hoots and party

A quick, informal poll of local residents found more than ever planning on spending New Year's Eve with family members or close friends, mostly at home.

"I'm going to stay home and hunker down," said Northville Township Manager Chip Snider. "I'm going to be in front of the fireplace with a couple of movies and a warm blanket. I'm not going anywhere."

Mammoth Video is filled with customers during the daytime hours of Dec. 31, said Carlo Koza, manager of the Six Mile Road store. "It's all-day business," said Koza, a seven-year veteran of the holiday rush. "It dies down around eight o'clock. That's our busiest night of the year.'

Since the millennium celebration, people have turned to more intimate gatherings that "the big hoopla," said Northville Chamber of Commerce executive director Laurie Marrs. For example, she pointed to local event Northville Nite, a big draw for parents with children, which has grown in popularity the last seven years.

"From the people I know, they're making it more of a family-centered event," Marrs said. She plans to welcome the new year with her husband and two daughters, albeit in the warmth of Florida

Northville Nite, a celebration hosted by the parks and recreation department, is again expected to draw 1,000, said Emily Sherman, special events and arts programming supervisor. If tickets remain next Wednesday, people can buy them at the door, she said.

The 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. event, to be held at the Recreation Center at Hillside at the corner of Eight Mile and Center streets, includes a buffet dinner, swimming, a coffee house, putt-putt golf, a carnival, inflatable structures, and a variety of other entertainment for all ages.

The concept allows parents and children to spend a fun evening together and still allow the adults an opportunity to ring in the new year together, Sherman said. "I think that's what a lot of people do. They come here, and then go home and celebrate."

Joan Wadsworth, president of the Northville Board of Education, also commented on the popularity of Northville Nite. "I don't know of anything else in Northville, per se.'

Her own plans were still "up in the air," she said. "We may be off skiing. A lot of people are heading up north."

Local establishments, reflecting the trend of people making an early night of it, almost all will be closed by midnight. Several area restaurants recommended dinner reservations; some will close early.

Bonfire Bistro on Seven Mile Road, Little Italy Ristorante on Huron Street, MacKinnons bn Main Street, P.F. Chang's on Haggerty Road will take reservations for holiday dining. Genitti's Hole-In-The-Wall also recommended calling in advance to save a seat for the 6 p.m.

Police to be on patrol for partiers

planning to toast to the new year's arrival with an adult beverage need to stay home in shead if going out.

ding a party at a hotel and consuming alcohol, rent a room for the night, he suggested. This big a party also bears responsibility, the chief said. He suggested the following tips

vide some non-alcoholic beverages. Attention to how much your guests are drinking. u determine a guest has consumed too much, make alternate arrangements for him or as de home or an invitation to spend the night.

III be the first New Year's Eve since the new blood-alcohol level law went into effect Petres said. Officers now can charge drivers with drunk driving who test at .08, which resulted in an impaired driving citation. Like the limit of .1; now the lower level is intoxicated and will result in more severe penalties.

have been some New Year's Eves that we haven't had any (drunk driving arrests),

officers will be watching for the usual telitale signs of drunk driving," Petres said,

	WHU'S UPEN N	IEW YEAR'S EV	/E·
BONFIRE BISTRO	248-735-4570	11 a.m10 p.m	Bar open until midnite reservations recommended
BRANN'S	734-420-1400	11 a m10 p m ,	Bar open until 1:30 a m no reservations
DEADWOOD BAR AND GRILL	248-347-4353	11 a.m10 p.m	Bar open until 11 p m. no reservations
GENITTI'S	248-349-0522	Dinner theater	Reservations-yes
HELEN S UPTOWN CAFE	248-449-4040	11 a m -3 p m.	No reservations
LITTLE ITALY	248-348-0575	11 a mmidnite	Reservations recommended Special dinner menu
MACKINNON'S	248-348-1991	5 p m -10 30 p m.	Reservations recommended
MICHELLE S HEARTH	248-374-6244	8 a mnoon	Bakery, sit-down, catering
NORTHVILLE CROSSINGS	248-348-4220	6 a m -3 p m.	No reservations
PF CHANG'S	248-675-0066	11 a m -11 p m.	Reservations accepted
POOLE'S TAVERN	248-349-1715	11 a m -6 p m	No reservations

10 a m - 5 p m

11 a m.-6 p m.

live dinner-theater presentation of "My Big Fat Michigan Holiday.'

248-349-5660

248-349-8686

STARTING GATE

WAGON WHEEL

"I think a lot of other people tend to have more parties at home rather than at a restaurant," Marrs said. "I think more and more people are not wanting to deal with the traffic and the crowds.

The increase in people staying closer home might be attributed to people more knowledgeable about drunk driving penalties, Snider said. "I'm seeing a lot less attendance at formal par-

No reservations

No reservations

"If anyone is going out anymore, it seems to be house parties and coming home early."

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



Baird-Cooper

Lindsey Tennille Cooper and Matthew Thomas Baird were mar-ried Oct. 11. Dr. James McGuire; officated the ceremony.

The bride is the daughter of James and Diane Cooper of Elkhart, Ind. She is a graduate of. Purdue University with a degree in mechanical engineering. She is employed by Hayes-Lemmerz Corp. The groom is the son of John and Betty Baird of Northville. He is a graduate of Northville High School, and also graduated from Purdue University with a degree in mechanical engineering. He is employed by Detroit Diesel.

The maid of honor was Lauren; Bridesmaids were Deborah Yoder, Amy Przbylinski. and Janine Hudson. Flower girl. was Katherine Baird. Paul Baird; served as best man. Groomsmen were David Baird, James B. Cooper, and Ryan Behrle. Ring Bearer was Christopher Baird. Ushers were Joseph Hammond! and Brian Buss.

A reception was held at the Sheraton-Novi and the couple, went on a Caribbean Cruise foc their honeymoon. The now reside

NORTHVILLE SCHOOL BRIEFS

ANONYMOUS NEIGH-BOR HELPS FAMILIES: Cooke School hosted a "Secret Santa" this year.

The school was assisted by an anonymous donation of several toys this season.

This is the second year in a row that this gentleman has done this for the school," said principal Marilyn Bachorik, principal."He came twice during this holiday season. The first time, he brought a bag of about 10 stuffed teddy bears. The second time, he brought two large bags of boxed toys," she said.

Barchorik said the toys went to students' families who were really in need of some help at Christmas.

"He does this completely anonymously. He won't give his name and doesn't want any recognition. We just know that he's one of our neighbors," Bachorik said.

"This is the second year he's

done this, and we greatly appreciate his generosity," she said.

Cooke School had a food coi: lection at the school and sent home packages of food, clothing and toys to 12 needy families associated with the school, Bachorik said.

CHILDREN'S WORKSHOP SET: Northville Public Schools' Early Childhood Center will have a free workshop for Northville community parents of children from birth to age 5 from 9:30 to 11:30 a mC Jan. 10 at Ridge Wood Elementary School Northville.

Children will explore visual, motor, visual memory and gross motor skills at the workshop.

This workshop is part of the center's Early Learning Series that runs from October through

For more information or to register, call (248) 344-8465



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HomeTown Shutterbugs - Photos From Our Readers





"The Wizard of Oz" will is now playing at the Marquis Theatre in Northville. For more information, call (248) 349-8110.

submitted photo

Captain Steven M. Eggers, chaplain of the Sixgate **Composite Squadron Civil** Air Patrol was promoted to the rank of major in a ceremony at Northville City Council chambers on Nov. 18. Lt. Colonel Richard Samples (left) presented Eggers with his certificate, while Squadron Commander 11t Terry Danol (right) placed the gold oak leaf epulets on Eggers' uniform. For more information on the program, which is open to to all youths 12 and up, call (248) 349-5282.

Seventh-graders in Mary Goode's class at Our Lady of Victory School in Northville graduated Dec. 16 from a Drug Abuse Resistance Education (D.A.R.E.) refresher course. Northville Chief of Police James Petres and Sgt. Dustin Krueger presented the 36 students with a D.A.R.E. T-shirt, CD case and certificate. With Petres and Krueger, left to right, are Jacob Lyon of Plymouth; Sarah Wojcik of Northville; Garrett Quick of Northville; and Alyssa Paul of Novi. Principal Jaylee Lynch said the original D.A.R.E. class is taught in fifth grade.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

THIS WEEK •

Northville Nite DATE: Dec. 31 LOCATION: Hillside Recreation Center (700 W. Eight Mile Road) TIME: 5 p.m. - 9 p.m. **DETAILS:** The New Year's Eve celebration is family-oriented. Admission is \$15 for adults, \$10 for children and \$5 for tots. PHONE: (248) 349-0203, ext. 1411

Service of Healing and Prayer DATE: Jan. 5 (first Monday of each month) **LOCATION: First United Methodist** Church (777 W. Eight Mile Road) TIME: 4 p.m. **DETAILS:** Call for info PHONE: (248) 349-1144

GLARIFICATION

COMING UP •

Northville Woman's Club meeting DATE: Jan. 9 LOCATION: First Presbyterian Church of Northville (200 E. Main Street) TIME: 1:30 p.m. **DETAILS:** The meeting's topic will be "Healthy Women." PHONE: (248) 349-5446

Ladies Bible study DATE: Begins Jan. 6 **LOCATION:** Detroit First Church of the Nazarene (21260 Haggerty Road)

TIME: 9:30 a.m. (childsitting and preschool provided) or 7 p.m. **DETAILS:** The class will focus on the life of David, based on the books I Samuel and II Samuel. PHONE: (248) 348-7600

Art historian to lecture on Italy's best

will turn his attention to Italy during a series of lectures hosted by the Northville Arts Commission.

"Under the Tuscan Sun" is the theme of the Windsor College professor's lecture and slideshow presentations. The series will move from a previous location at the Recreation Center at Hillside to Northville City Hall, 215 W. Main Street. All lectures will be

Art historian Michael Farrell held at 7:30 p.m. Wednesdays on the following dates:

Jan. 28 • "Florentine Art" —

The City of Florence as a Work of Feb. 11 • "Giotto" - 14th

Century paintings March 24 • "Founders of Renaissance" Italian Donatello, Brunelleschi and oth-

April "Florentine Experimentalists" Francesca and Uccello.

"It will be the great cities of Italy," said Sharon Rossow, arts commission organizer of the event. "It will be for students, people interested in traveling. people interested in art.

Farrell has presented art history lectures in the area more than 15 years, Rossow said. "He's not a dry-professor lecturer. I think it's

- Della really interesting for the community. It gives us another venue to present to people.

Tickets for each lecture are \$10 for adults and \$5 for students. They are available at the door or can be purchased in advance at the parks and recreation office at Hillside Middle School at Eight Mile Road and Center. For more information, call the arts commission at (248) 449-9950.







Gracey Nora Metz cest gft of a TWe one vouse

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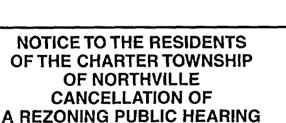


Crosmos o special and biessed day for us of. We one you Sweets each Line York, Oath, Gravery & Graves



James Logan Tufnell fost Autre loves you! Have a fun 1st Crinstmas. Love. Arme Hearner, Lince Dove

É cousts Ottstopter é Da c



A business brief in the Dec. 11 edition of the Northville Record cred-

ited Walter Coponon with having a hand in the design of several Northville and Northville Township businesses and residential living areas. In reality, Coponon was the architect for the projects named.

Date: January 13, 2004 Time. 7.00 p m. Place: Northville Township Crvic Center

41600 Six Mile Road A public hearing will not be held on January 13, 2004 at 7:00 p m. at the Northwile Township Cryc Center, 41600 Six Mile Road, Northwille, MI 48167. The Planning Commission previously held a public hearing to consider a rezoning request for 307 acres on the south side of Six Mile Road, east of Ridge Road from R-3 (Single Family Residential) and R&D (Research and Development) to PUD (Ptanned Unit Development). Minutes from that meeting are available at Township Half during regular

(12-25-03 NR 104252)



03-06-03 "se Christmas to our from God May you aways feel our love 1 your heart Lave, York & Doco



You're our Joy. You're me perfect Grandos E Grandma Porto



Lenski, our best belared Crosmas gift even Happy ng Grandparems Rose, Je™. S.c. Greg €



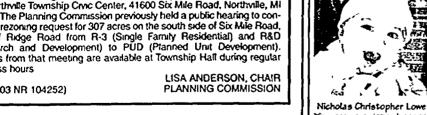
Your smile and laughter fills our name with love. You've made our lives compete.
With love,

Dod, Mort, Nichalds, Daniele and Even



Kyle Joseph Panaretos You are here now and deeply laved. Born T-3-03. Merry

Love others. Mor E Dea Unde Todd, Amarda, Unde Joe, Aum Lairen E Grandmas E Grandpas





Gary D. Greely D.D.S., P.C.

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May your smile keep warming hearts for the rest of your life We like you!



You are our Christmas argel. On Sept. 18, 2003 you prought exertasting sunshine res our nes We one you Grandma & Grandos Porte



May 11, 2003 ion of Jason & Janete & sister Rochel, Grondporents Bruce & Linda Kamp of Napenille, L. E. Juden Morer of Brighton بهجر ی حص۱۱۸



and wax

one this day. Love you more Yorny E Doccy



Merry 1st Construct We low

~o~. Dod c-d

by sister America

Eden Brianne Smith family fee's so ven blessed to have you with us Savor's brth. Merry first



Your smiles, cockles, grows and grins brighten our every ar you, Sweet Pea. Love you so much! Morrry & Doddy



Menry 1st Christmas to the precaus little one who brings lave you Molly. Merry Christmas, Love, Montry & Doddy

A TOTAL STATE OF THE STATE OF T



1y name is Alicia Lee, born on 5/8/03. I'm lucky to have the things that I have & God bless the ones that do not have it as fortunate as L

Love, Alco



Lyon, ML Born 2-27-03, Hopey fruit forth, we will discus remember the our tree for the first time! We love you · Doday, Morrry, Luke & Rochel

TIME FOR A **CHANGE?**



Change the batteries in your smoke detector at least once a year.

United States Fire Administration Federal Emergency Management Agency http://www.usfa.fema.gov

HEMETOWN 517-548-2000

Christmas tree disposal option is available



Brickscape employee and Christmas Tree lot attendant, Paul Dirado gathers some plne branches to be used for wreath making

GOLDEN GLOBE NOMINATIONS &

ONE OF THE BEST FILMS OF THE YEAR
1HIS MARVIL OF A MOVIL LIVES UP TO 115
BUZZ AS AN OSCAR CONTENDER
1PTITE WAYER BOUNDSTONE

While the tree and its trimmings seem newly in place the time for the take-down will soon be at hand. In Northville Township tree pickup is scheduled during the three weeks following Christmas dy saud township clerk. Sue Hillsbrand. With the holliday liding on Thursday regular Friday pickup will be pushed to Monday Dec 29.

Dec 29
The following week, township trash collection will resume recording to the regular schedule including pick up of Christinas trees. I don't hunk they have to be in a bag or anything. Hillebrand ind.

kind to the earth. Climstmas tree pickup this season. The city made special arrangements with its con-tractor to deliver clean, non-con-taminated trees to a compost facil

tammated trees to a compose facility
Cay residents who want to dispose of that races through composting must remove first of ormanistral atoms. The schools 1900 per low to provide the property of the proper

BIG FISH IS I IM BURTON S

Sweet surprises



ten Terrace resident Edna Stephens, right, accepts a cookie from a troop of Brownie Girl Scouts last Thursday ernoon including Taylor Dempsey, left, 8 The Brownies went door-to-door at the Northville senior housing mglex caroling and distributing hot foca mix and cookies.

52-1 Court might have different look

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No City Min ger Rick Helwig told city i in embers that he's been i i fin two other minor ple in i that it cit be a trait end to like tog over the court of his technology over the court of his tog over the

mg Hugh Crawford Novi s Oakland County commissioner and, its probably a win win for everybody. He said there were some preliminary discussions on the subject several years ago but hey never went anywhere. That might be because it is unclear if the court is a money

unclear if the court is a money maker or a money loser. Powers told Now City Council members that after years of opposing the shift from second to third class status many Oakland County commussioners especially those in Southeast Oakland County are now supporting it because they think the county is subsidizing the count.

However Powers institled the court which handles more than 60 000 cases ment but 60 000 cases and shifting control of the court from the country to the local community would make that more apparent.

MacKenze cand that the 48th Distinct Court, a third class court that serves a portion of Oakland court of the country to the court from the court to the court of the court from the court of the court from the court of the

puters from the county cost his court \$3 800 a unit "Just see what you can get at CompUSA these days for \$3 800" MacKenzie said.

Complex these days for 35 800 Markfenze said.

The county also own the court's building on Grand River Assume and leases it to the court. Their regioning use on rent, "offered or counted member Daved Laurhor counted member Daved Laurhor and class court, after the state take its portion of fires 60 percent of the bulance, uses to the count for cross" and the remander its split between the county and the Joedan Community with the local community with the local community with the local community getting 13.

He said that all of the communities in the district that agree, to become part of the new courts.

NORTHVILLE CHRISTIAN ASSEMBLY

CHURCH OF THE HOLY OSS EMSCOPAL (Anglic

10 Mile between Taff & Beck, Nov Phone 349-1175 Sun. 7.45 & 10:00 am Hoty Eucharis Sunday School & Nutsery 10 am

FAITH COMMUNITY
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
44400W 10 Me Novi. 248-349-2345

Dr. Richard J. Henderson, Pasta no & Church School 9 & 10:30 am :

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ICH OF THE HOLY FAMILY

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Holy Days P ca. Fr. John G Budde, Pcs F Ruel Bollon, Associate Parsh O*ce 339-83

funding authority would share in the two-birds that now goes to Pontase. The deschowled-mg that communities in the funding authority could be held risponsible for finding the court, if there was a short fall MacKenne and the court has shown a stead wincrease in morner fall MacKenne, sud the shift to a fund class court is the metal fogued step." followin a sense of tennishil meetings in 1998 Those most tigs, he said, have led the court to take a sense of steps to make it more community oriented.

If the 52.1 becomes a third class court, it would be known as the 49th District Court.

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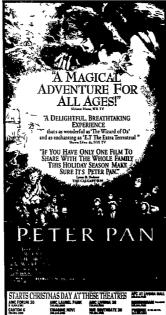
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Northville High School varisty cheerleader Juli Peterson, right, exhorts the crowd at the Mustangs' first home game of 2003.

Cheerleading takes third at UCA Regional

By Sam Eggleston SPORTS WRITER

So far this year, it's been tough to be a Northville Mustang competitive cheerleader.

The girls were not only on the short end of training thanks to tryouts being held in November instead of early August. The reason? The Mustangs split their team into a competitive squad and a sideline squad for the 2003-04 sea-

"What that means is that we've just had three weeks, with Thanksgiving in there, to put our routine together," Northville competitive cheer coach Sarah Hawthorne said, "Most teams have been working on their routines since August.

But it didn't change the way the Mustangs came out and performed. In the Universal Cheer

Association Regional, held at Plymouth High School, the Mustangs came away with a thirdplace finish behind winner Grand Ledge and runner-up Schwartz

"We were within 30 points of winning," Hawthome said.

The UCA style of cheer is one round that lasts two minutes and 20 seconds.

"We worked really hard for three weeks and it shows that we have a ton of talent to be able to put it together." Hawthorne said "It was remarkable determination. They wanted to perform well, and

The Mustangs will be back in action January 31 when they compete on the road. February 14 will give the girls a chance to reclaim the conference title, which slipped through the team's fingers last

Hawthorne can appreciate the determination and desire the girls have - especially when it comes to winning the WLAA title.

Not only did she win conference titles as a high school cheerleader, but Hawthorne did it right in Northville. The 2000 graduate, who went on to cheer at Grand Valley State University, was part of the winning tradition that found the title going to Northville year

aller year aller year. Hawthorne said that she has confidence her girls will be able to pull it off.

"In three weeks, they were already better than most teams they competed against," she said. "They weren't the best yet, but they have the drive to be the best They can see what they are able to do if they work on it, they just have to keep believing they are amazing They just have to work at it."

Northville falls short to Mavs

By Matt Simich SPECIAL WRITER

In the game before the holiday break, the Mustangs boys' basketball team fell to Mavericks in a contest that came down to the last few seconds. Playing their third straight game on the road, the Northville cagers battled against a small, but fierce, Milford squad.

The final score was 47-44 in the Mav's favor with an intense last second volley of three-point shots between senior Mark Sorenson and Milford sopho-Nathan Kunst. Unfortunately Milford had the last word with Kunst's threepoint bomb going unanswered.

Northville started out strong with junior Alan Shanoski win-ning the tip off. Both teams fought hard for the first four minutes with no score on the board. The Mays controlled the ball with their slow offensive pace. Senior Brett Asher notched the only hoops for the 'Stangs putting up six points to the Maverick's 10.

The second quarter, however, was a different story. The Mustangs came alive and showed great ball movement through out the quarter. For instance, Sorensen had the ball and was dribbling down to half court. He passed it to Shanoski over on the wing. Meanwhile Asher took the cut inside and received the pass for an easy lay-up. This was one of many shots the Mustangs had in the second. However, the 'Stangs ran into some foul trouble.

You can't wait for the calls to go your way. You've got to make stuff happen on your own," said Nonhville coach Darrel Schumacher.

The Mustangs pulled within two points as the seconds ticked away in the half with the score 16-14 Milford.

Coming into the third quarter the Mustangs showed much of the same energy that propelled them through the second. Junior Marcus Davis drove down the court and faked out the opponent, looking one way but passing the other to Tim Singleton, who was wide open for the easy two points.

Senior Chris Oakland came off the bench in hot pursuit of

"Oakie is a real scrapper at both ends," said Schumacher.

Even though scoring was at its peak for Northville, they still trailed Millord by one at the end of three quarters with a score of

In the fourth it was a contest of who would outlast whom. Each team traded shot after shot, keeping the lead for only the time it took to run down the court. Sorenson tied the score off of a steal at half court and got the easy shot. Almost immediately Sorenson again stole the ball near the opponents basket and added another two points to scoreboard."

The Mavericks just stalled the entire game and played at their tempo," said Sorenson. "In the second half we picked it up and played more at our pace."

Late in the quarter Northville was down by two when Asher grabbed the ball in the paint and went up for the basket getting fouled in process. The basket counted and this set up Asher for the three-point play making the 40-39 Mustangs. After Asher made his free throw the Mavericks took a time out with 1:49 left to play.

When play resumed the pace was frantic. Asher was again fouled and bumped Northville into the bonus. Asher shot one for two making the score 42-41 Milford. Then Milford drove down and was intentionally fouled to save time with 50 seconds left on the clock. Milford's senior Pat Petrucci made both free throws putting Mavs on top by three with a score of 44-41.

The Mustangs, now desperate, called a time out. Northville in-bounded the ball and secondby-second, the clock ticked until Sorenson put up a pressurepacked three-point shot with 14 seconds left and tied the game up 44-44. The 'Stang fans in the crowd went wild. It seemed that the game was headed for over-time until Kunst weaved in and out of traffic to throw in his own miracle three-pointer putting the Mavericks back in the lead 47-44 with just five seconds to go in

The Mustangs called a last timeout and Schumacher successfully argued for more time on the clock. A half second was put back and Northville brought the ball down the court. Sorenson had a great look at the basket from the top of the key but the ball bounced off the rim just as the buzzer sounded. The Mavericks beat the Mustangs by

"If you can't win out right, you've got to at least get a good look at the basket," said Schumacher, "And that's what Sorenson did on that last shot."

Asher led the 'Stangs with 21 points and was 5-for-7 from the free throw line.

"Brett Asher is a great hard working young man. He gives 100-percent every game and every

Sorenson had nine points, two steals and a blocked shot. Davis, Singleton and Shanoski each chipped in four points and Oakland followed it up with two points and a steal.

"We just weren't playing our (defense)," said Schumacher. Our preparation is key."

Although the Mustangs will take the week off for the holidays, they will be back in action on the hardcourt for the tournament Dexter December 29-30.

Santa keeps track of all your doings



Sam Eggleston

It has just been one of those years that fly by, hasn't it? On the positive side of things, that means that we're starting a new year with hopefully some fresh starts across the globe and in our own little communities. On the negative side, it means we didn't have much time to reflect on just how good - or bad - we were this year.

But, as always, there's one guy who does keep track of it all. He lives up north some-where (I think even further up than the Upper Peninsula!) and he has an affection for the color red. Some know him as Santa Clause, and others, like myself, just call him St. Nick.

This jolly fellow with his big white beard must have some of the best networking on the planet to keep up with everyone. I've been hoping, especially this year, that his system wasn't designed by the same folks who put together the BCS for NCAA football — because it would take me years to figure out if I've been naughty or nice. Instead, I wouldn't mind a simple points system that is based directly on the good things (and, ahem, bad things) I've done this year. That way, I could pretty much keep a running tally of where I might end

Unfortunately, this year, I may end up on the cusp. You see, I've done my fair share of nice things, but when it comes to staying nice all year I just ? end up blowing it. I last usually until about January 2 before I do something I probably should know better than, yet I still do it. It's one of those urges you ? just can't put up on a shelf and it just keeps nagging at you until you finally give in to the

I like to think that even though I do have plenty of red marks, that old St. Nick grades on a curve and I might still slide in there. Yeah, I could have done myself good by doing a few more helpful things around the house for my wife, or gave my daughter something she likes to eat for lunch instead of something I like to eat. Or maybe I should have volunteered more time to organizations, or donated a few more items. I could have even helped out a fellow co-worker or not been so snide when it comes to my bosses (really, they deserve my snide remarks and attitude though).

Overall, I think this year is pretty balanced when it comes to the good and the bad I've done. When you break that down, it would be like saying you got half right on a test in school, which, if I remember right, wasn't all that good.

Hopefully, it get graded so that all the right answers are worth double and the negatives just count for zero points then I might stand a chance at: getting a present.

But, then again, all the presents I need are at home with me in my wife and my daughter which is just a polite way of saying I'm not getting squat. Coal, anyone?

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 through email at seggleston@ht.homecomm.net.



Mustangs fall to Baseline rival 'Cats

By Sam Eggleston SPORTS WRITER

The Northville Mustangs hockey team is having trouble getting their game started in the first period - and the Novi Wildcats knew they could take advantage of that to get their season jumpstarted. After a tough loss earlier this

season to the Northville Mustangs, the Wildcats fell into a slump that took them five games to get out of. Then, with three recent victories under their belt. they got it back with a 4-2 win over Northville December 20.

Novi managed to put 30 shots on goal against Northville junior Jimmy Gates and sneaked four of

The Wildcats were the first team to get on the board as Jordan Collins took a pass from Zach Flavin and notched the goal. Collins, who has been out with an injury, looked crisp.

"He looked great," Northville coach Brad O'Neill said. "We told the guys that he might be a little rusty, but that definitely

wasn't the case." Two minutes later, Ryan Fox made it a 2-0 game with 6:42 left on the clock. Mark Eberline and

Chaz Bulbuk were credited with the assists

team's most prolific scorer thus far this year, added another tally to his statistics as he notched an unassisted goal with just under three minutes left in the first penod of play.

The two squads skated to a the 4-0 lead.

though official statistics show it to have been unassisted, after a hard shot bounced onto the ice in front of the net and Lenn quickly sent it home past Novi's Danny

'Morrison played an outstanding game against us," O'Neill

quality goalie for Novi."

Bulbuk, who has been the

dead-even second period draw with neither notching a goal, but Novi came out strong as he took a pass from Bulbuk and put it past Northville's netminder for

The Northville Mustangs weren't about to be denied though. Sophomores Max Lenn and Matt Long took things into their own hands.

Lenn scored off a rebound,

said. There were a couple of times we thought we had him with two-on-one situations but he made some great saves. He's a



Mustang co-Captain Donny McKinnon circles the Ice in an early season home game at the Novi Ice Arena.

left in the game, Long scored a goal of his own. Skating into the defensive zone, Long pulled up and fired a hard shot from just inside the blue line and notched the score.

"It was a great shot," O'Neill With just about three minutes said. "He used the defensman as

The first of the second cold that the second se

a screen and got the goal."

Though the Mustangs finished the game out strong, it wasn't enough to overcome the impressive first-period showing by the surging Wildcats.

Novi climbed to 3-5 on the year, while Novi dropped to 8-3

following the loss.

The Mustangs are slated to be back in action January 7 when they host Allen Park at 6:10 p.m. before playing host once again January 10 against a strong Salem Rocks club, which also starts at 6:10 p.m.

By Sam Eggleston SPORTS WRITER

It's one thing to be an athlete - it's another to be the kind of athlete that basically puts in a full day of work to practice your

That's exactly what the swimmers and divers at Northville High School do.

Sure, it means they have much thinner numbers than other sports — but it really doesn't matter in the end.

"I run my program differently than others," Northville coach Rich Bennetts said. "A lot of kids just can't make that time commitment. The guys that are here are the guys who want to be here and it shows."

It isn't the easiest thing to convince a high school athlete that getting up for a 5:20 a.m. practice three times a week is needed in their sport - especially when they know they have another practice at 7 p.m. every day following school and on some Saturdays.

"We have about 20 hours of practice a week," Bennetts said. "And then you have to add in the time for meets and you realize just what kind of time commitment this is. Kids, in general, are involved in a lot more than when I was in high school. They go to school, but they play a sport, plus there are all kids of other extracurriculars. You can get spread thin really fast."

The Northville program lost three kids during the few couple weeks of practice -- one-seventh of their team.

The 18 swimmers and divers who remain are here to stay though -- and that's what really matters

"We're talented," Bennetts said. 'When it comes to dual

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CITY OF NORTHVILLE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

at 116 224, and 132 Orchard and property located on Main Street, (for lots 48 49 50, 51, 52 and 53 Orchard Heights Subdivision - Tax Parcel ID Numbers 48-003-02-0053-001, 48-003-02-0053-002, 48-003-02-0052-002 and 48-003-02-0053-001, Vorthville, Michigan, 48167. The new school facility will include classrooms, media center, gymnasium,

cafeteria and office space. On site parking for approximately 36 cars is

also proposed The property is zoned First Density Residential R-1B. Public parochial and other private elementary, intermediate schools offering courses in general education are allowed as a special use in

accordance with Article 3 and Article 16 of the City of Northville Zoning

Planning Commission at a public hearing on January 6, 2004 at 7:30 p.m. at the City of Northville Municipal Building - Council Chambers, 215 West Main Street, Northville, MI 48167. The purpose of this public

hearing will be to receive public input on the Special Use Permit for Our Lady of Victory Church - School. The complete application can be reviewed at the Building Department during normal business hours of 8 00 a m until 4 30 p m., Monday through Friday, local prevailing time. Due to the holidays, the City Hall will be closed on December 24, 25, and

31, 2003 and January 1, 2004. Written comments will also be received at

Northy, e Zoning Ordinance to all persons to whom real property is assessed within three hundred (300) feet of the boundary of the proper-

ty in question, and to the occupants of all structures within three hundred

This notice is sent as required by Section 16.01 of the City of

the above address during business hours.

The proposed special use permit will be considered by the

The Cry of Northville Planning Commission will consider a request for a Special Use Permit submitted by Our Lady of Victory Church - School, to relocate the school from its current site to the property located

meets, we're going to be just . fine. There are a couple of tournaments that we don't stand a chance at winning, but we'll still win what we can and be happy

with it."
One such tournament will be the Salem Invitational, which will have teams like Plymouth Salem, Cauton, Ann Arbor Pioneer and Dearborn. Pioneer has won four state titles in a row and look to be working on their

fifth this year.
"It will be interesting to see how some of my guys respond to swimming against the top guys in the state," Bennetts said. "Especially my freshmen. I'm anxious to see how they do."

Swimming takes a lot of dedication and determination to be successful at, and it's easy to have athletes lured away even at the younger ages.

"I'm a year-round coach with an age group club and you notice it in all the age groups," Bennetts said. There might be 50 or 60 girls and just 10 or 12 boys. Most of the time, they are involved in other sports."

And don't think the popularity of other sports doesn't play a

"It sounds kind of stupid, but girls don't come to watch swim meets," Bennetts said. "They go watch basketball and hockey and those other sports."

And Bennetts doesn't mind working with the guys he has.

"I like the 18 guys that are on my team," he said. "They want to be there and they are some talented swimmers. It's a tightknit group too, which helps.

"Sure, we wouldn't mind having 25 instead of 18, but we'll play with the hand we were dealt and we'll get the most we can out of each and every one of them."

DIANNE MASSA, CITY CLERK CITY OF NORTHVILLE

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HOLE IN ONE

They say that good things happen to those who wait. Warren Stoddard, a Northville resident, got his first hole-inone 65 years after he started golfing — at the age of 87years young to the day. What more could a golfer ask for than a hole-in-one on their birthday? Stoddard hit the ace December 9th at the Myerlee Country Club in Ft. Myers, Florida. It was the first hole, a par three at 130 yards.

SPORTS SHORTS

AAU Wolfpack tryouts

2004 Western Wayne Wolfpack (Northville) AAU Girl's Basketball Tryouts will be held Tuesday, Jan. 6 and Thursday, Jan 8 for 14's, 15's and 16's from 7:30-9 p.m. at Northville High School; Sunday, Jan. 11 from 5-6:30 p.m. at Hillside Middle School (Northville Recreation Gyms) and Monday, Jan. 12 from 7:30-9 p.m. at Northville High School for 12's and 13's; and Tuesday Jan. 13 and Friday, Jan. 16 from 4:30-6 p.m. at

Hillside Middle School (Northville Recreation Gyms) for 11's.

For more information contact Jeanne Holmes at (248) 347-6425

Ski and snowboard club registration

· Northville Parks and Rec is currently taking registrations for the popular ski and snowboard 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 non-residents. Please bring a current school photo and last year's club ID card.

Hockey has a New Year's resolution

Slow starts are definitely plaguing the Northville Mustangs hockey team - but they're still managing to get wins.

Though the squad found itself in much closer contests than it would have liked last week, Northville managed to pull out victories over Walled Lake Northern, 11-4, and Franklin, 10-2.

Against Northern December 20. the Mustangs found themselves in a 6-3 contest at one point - a lot closer than the team was expecting.

"We mercied them 12-0 the first time we played them," Northville coach Brad O'Neill said. "You have to give Northern credit. They came out with some great effort and wasn't going to give up. They were playing hard and aggressive and that's a credit to their coach-

Northville gained three goals

from Donny McKinnon, while junior Greg Jones notched two.

"Greg has some pretty good tools offensively," O'Neill said. "He's the kind of player we are hoping to see more goals from as he gains experience.

For the Mustangs, this game was just another example of why they have to get back to their quickscoring ways.

"For the last four games we've had poor showings in the first period," O'Neill said. "Our New Year's resolution is to get back to our quick starts and back to having three solid periods. That's our commitment as a group.'

Though the 'Stangs also has a slow start, a 2-1 first period to be against state-ranked Franklin, they managed to pull out a 10-2 win.

"We were lucky to be up 2-1,"

ly been down 3-1 or 4-1."

The Mustangs relied heavily on the play of goalie Jimmy Gates, who made save after save during the opening minutes of play.

"He played very well in net,"
O'Neill said. "Gates definitely kept us in that game."

Of course, it doesn't hurt when you have a defenseman that can

TIME: PLACE:

tear up the ice. Nick Guerro notched six points four goals and collected two assists. Blake Bratinna scored three goals on the night, while Joe Vitale scored two and Greg Jones scored one to help the Mustangs to

Franklin was ranked in the top-10 for Division II this year, and was undefeated in the division before taking on Northville.

- By Sam Eggleston

SYNOPSIS DECEMBER 18, 2003 -REGULAR MEETING **CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF** NORTHVILLE **BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

Thursday, December 18, 2003

7:30 p.m. 41600 W. Six Mile Road

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Abbo at 7:32 p.m.

PRESENT: Mark Abbo, Supervisor, Marjorie Banner, Trustee, Sue Hillebrand, Clerk, Marv Gans, Trustee, Richard Henningsen, Treasurer,

Shirley Klokkenga, Trustee, Brad Werner, Trustee PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Agendas: Approve Consent & Regular Agenda - approved Appointments, Petitions, Resolutions & Announcements: A. Re-appoint John Hill to Northville Youth Assistance - approved B. Re-appoint Mike Weaver to Recreation Commission approved

approved
Public Hearing:
A. Quail Ridge SAD - Public Hearing conducted
B. R & D - Public Hearing set date for 1/15/04 - approved
C. R & D Tax Abatement - Public Hearing set date for 1/15/04 -

approved
Brief Public Comments & Questions: A Representative from the State of Michigan - update on State Property - Several residents spoke in favor of the dog park, and R&D Enterprises New Business:

A. Municipal Building Project - Progress Payment #9

approved
Grand Vista Estates - Final Site Plan - approved
Community Park Expansion - approved
Stonewater Phase 5 - Final Plat - approved
Feasibility Study - Booster Station - approved

Saddle Ridge Storm Water Maintenance Agreement

2004 Meeting Schedule for Board of Trustees - approved

2003 Year End Budget Amendments - approved Approval of Financial Institutions - approved 2004 Water and Sewer Forecast - approved

Unfinished Business: None Ordinances:

A. First and Second Reading \$ Adoption of the Amendment to the Zoning Ordinance, Chapter 170 Article 20, and Development Options - approved Bills Payable: A. Bills payable in the amount of \$1,306,375.40 -

approved Board Communication: Reports were given by the following: Mark Abbo, Sue Hillebrand, Richard Henningsen, Chip Snider, Mary Gans, Marjorie Banner, Shirley Klokkenga, Brad Werner

10. No Other Business. Adjournment - 9:45 p.m.

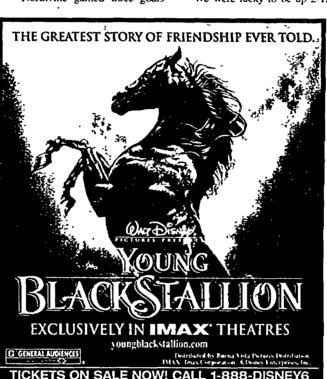
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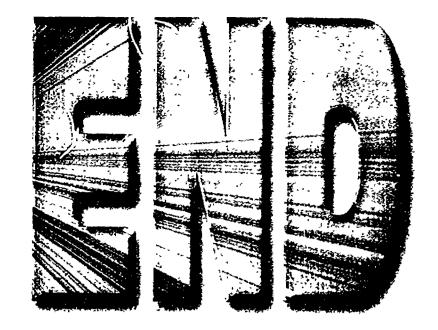
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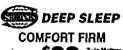


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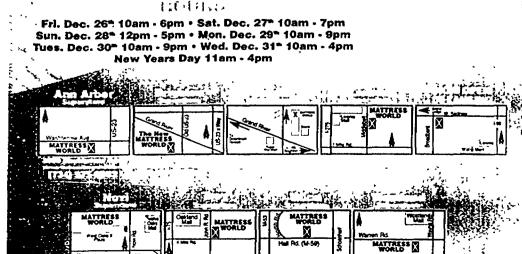
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Money Matters

Thanks Congress, but there's just one more thing

By Jack Faris NATIONAL FEDERATION OF INDEPENDENT BUSINESS

As the calendar winds down on 2003, America's small-business owners can look back with pride on winning some hardfought, grassroots political victories. But true to their heritage of hard work and determination, these steadfastly optimistic business-citizens will fix their focus on the tasks ahead, for much remains to be done in the political vineyards.

One key challenge not yet met is convincing Congress that a permanent solution must be found for the ailing, and often failing, system that is called health care-for lack of a better

On the one hand, those who keep the nation's small businesses running like well-oiled machines are bursting with optimism these days. The economy is gaining traction and their spirits are kicking into high gear. According to the latest NFIB Small Business Optimism Index, they are more upbeat now than at any time in the history of the survey.

Peering six months into 2004, more than half of these Main Street business owners view a better economy. This is the highest tally in 20 years. Sales trends are favorable, credit appears readily available and plans to restock their shelves are at historically strong levels.

But on the other hand, their spirits are dampened. Rising insurance costs, the survey notes, remains No. 1 on the small-business problem list. More than one-fourth-28 percent-said the cost and availability of insurance was the single, most important challenge they face, even beating out taxes and poor sales.

Although the House of Representatives has passed legislation allowing small businesses to obtain much-needed help through Association Health Plans (AHPs), which would allow small firms to band together to purchase altordable medical insurance, the Senate has yet to consider it. Some cause for relief, however, is the Health Savings Account (HSA) option that was tucked into the Medicare bill signed into law recently by President Bush.

While uncorking the bubbly on New Year's Day, the nation's small-business owners can also celebrate by opening HSAs. The new law takes effect Jan. 1. These tax-preferred accounts are intended for routine medical expenses and allow any taxpayer with high-deductible insurance plans to contribute up to \$2,600 for individuals and \$5,150 for families.

The bright spot for both those who provide jobs and those who have them is that employers will be able to contribute to employee accounts and those funds won't be counted against an employee's taxable income.

This option, which allows monies not spent to remain in the account and earn interest. also gives both entrepreneurs and employees incentives to live more healthy lifestyles so their HSAs can grow.

Health-policy researchers say HSAs could have a transforming effect on the nation's healthcare system because those who use them are likely to seek out physicians who prefer cash payments instead of operating within costly and inefficient insur-ance-based systems.

Appreciative that Congress created HSAs, small businesses will nevertheless continue their fight for true health-care reform in 2004, which means nothing short of passing AHP legisla-

Jack Faris is president of NFIB, the nation's largest small-business advocacy group. NFIB represents the views of members 600.000 Washington, D.C., and all 50 state capitals. Find more on-line at www.nfib.com.

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ADVERTORIAL

By Annette Jaworski SPECIAL WRITER

You don't have to travel to sunny Mexico or even to downtown Detroit for the genuine flavor of the Southwest. La Casa Del Rio Grande is located nearby offering authentic Mexican cuisine. You won't find the traditional cookie cutter food served by chains at this New Hudson location.

'There's nowhere else in this area to get this type of food," explains owner, Dawn Salvati, who's proud of their cuisine. "It's downtown Mexican food, not Americanized."

Inside the festive atmosphere sets the tone for fun and casual dining. Colorful sombreros and blankets are part of the cheerful décor. It's a friendly relaxed atmosphere, so go ahead use your fingers, invites the menu.

"It's family dining that's fun and casual. You can dress up if you want, but you can come as you are," said Salvati.

You won't need to brush up on your high school Spanish, either. The menu has the English translations for the entrees. Salvati or her staff will be happy to guide you through the menu. The first basket of tortilla chips and salsa is complementary, she added.

Why not try a couple of their specials such as Pedro's stacked Mexican sandwich. It comes with three flour tortillas layered with rice, refried beans and your choice of tender diced lean pork, shredded beef or chicken, and then topped with melted muenster cheese, jalapenos on request. Salvati assures the food is not overly spicy or hot. Since some like it hot, they can honor that request, too.

The menu starts with appetizers like Pedro's Mexican pizza, Nachos, Panchitos, Even the soups are unique like Consamme de Pollo - their Mexican style chicken and rice soup, with fresh tomatoes, avocados, onions and cilantro. It's served with a side of rice, tomatoes and three flour tor-

tillas. course it features chimichanga platters, fajitas, enchiladas and burritos. All dinners include beans and rice. For a blend, try the combination plates. Can't decide? Why not try a sampler; the Don Pedro sampler comes with a ground beef taco. enchilada, shredded beef flauta, ground beef tostada, rice and beans Or, the Rio Grande sampler includes a chicken taco, ground beef enchilada, small pork chimichanga, rice and beans

Other favorites include a seafood salad. It's a fresh garden salad topped with shrimp, crab meat, avocados, tomatoes, onions, olives and muenster

A quick delicious lunch

Don't have much time for lunch? No problem. Although the chefs prepare the freshest and most authentic Mexican food in the area, you don't have to wait forever.

"Our service is extremely quick. The staff always does their best," says Salvati.

Better yet, call ahead - your food will be ready and waiting. Carryouts and pre-orders are welcome and even encouraged. They understand sometimes you don't have a lot of time for lunch. If you call ahead, the order will be hot and on the table so you can enjoy the rest of your lunch time relaxing. Numerous local business people and area employees. like Wal-Mart employees, have already taken advantage of this convenience.

For an evening out, they offer a

"There's nowhere else in this area to get this type of food. It's downtown Mexican food, not Americanized."

> Dawn Salvati Owner, La Casa del Río Grande



Photos by ANNETTE JAWORSKI

Dawn Salvati, owner of La Casa del Rio Grande, displays one of the dishes from her authentic Mexican menu. Enjoy the great Mexican food during the holidays, too. The restaurant is open on Christmas Eve 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. and on New Year's Eve and New Year's Day from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.

full service bar with a large selection of both American and Mexican beer and of course multiple tequilas.

La Casa del Rio Grande is happy to accommodate special requests and needs. For example, most items are easily adaptable to a low carbohydrate diet.

"Mexican food is great for low carb diets. You just have to watch the beans, rice and tortillas," she added.

Their strategic location is another convenience, just west of Milford Road on Grand River Avenue, away from the hustle and bustle of Lyon Crossing and Lyon Towne Center. Even quicker, take the shortcut west on Lyon Center Drive off Milford Road through Lyon Crossing. La Casa del Rio Grande is right across the street.

Come in and enjoy the specials for even more reasonable prices. Daily lunch specials are offered at only \$3.99 with purchase of beverage. Nightly specials are offered Monday through Thursday. Join the happy hour from 3 p m. to 7 p m. seven days a week. Margarita days are Sunday and Wednesday with happy hour prices for Margaritas all day. Don't forget to check out the early bird specials from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. just ask your serv-

Affordable prices make it a great place to bring the family. Adult dinners average about \$7.50, and kids (little gringos) meals are \$3.50 including beverage. Saturday and Tuesday are kids' days, when meals are \$2.99 including beverage and ice cream. They also have a clown once a month for children to enjoy. Just call ahead for dates and times.

The history behind the home

La Casa Del Rio Grande is not just a restaurant to owner, Dawn Salvati, and her two children. Samantha and Carmen, She has a huge personal investment in the business because the land is part of her individual history. The building sits on property once owned by her father over 35 years ago. A little white house once stood there while the area

was still rural. The family lived there for years before moving to

Depot Street in South Lyon and

AT-A GLANCE

- La Casa Del Rio Grande is located at 57721 Grand River Ave. in New Hudson. To get there, follow the new loop (Lyon Center Drive) from Wal-Mart, or continue west on Grand River Avenue just past Milford Road. La Casa Del Rio Grand is located at 57721 Grand River Avenue directly across from Lyon Center Drive. Call (248) 446-7700 or fax (248) 446-7701.
- Hours are 7 days a week. Monday through Thursday from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Fridays, from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Saturday from 3 p.m. until 10 p.m. and Sunday from 3 p.m. until 9 p.m. New Year's Day they will be open regular business hours.
- Reservations accepted. party and catering available and all major credit cards accepted.
- Celebrate the holidays at La Casa del Rio Grande. The restaurant is open on Christmas Eve 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. and on New Year's Eve and New Year's Day from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.

later used it as rental. Eventually she and her ex-husband, Tom, bought the property. Tom also owns Don Pedro's located at 24366 Grand River Avenue in Detroit and was looking to expand into a new location. She credits him for laying the foundation for truly authentic Mexican cuisine at the establishment. And so it's fitting that they call the restaurant La Casa Del Rio Grande, which in Spanish means "the house on Grand



Everyday is a fiesta at La Casa Del Rio Grande, where helpful employees like Jennifer Putz can recommend tasty dishes in a festive atmosphere.



www.hometownlife.com

Look at things in black and white

By Rose Bennett Gilbert COPLEY NEWS SERVICE

Q: My uncle, who was a professional newspaper photographer, has left me his lifelong collection of black-and-white photographs, most in simple black frames. I want to do over our den, using the photos as the theme.

What colors would make the best background?

A: Take your cue from your new collection: Black and white is as newsworthy in decorating, and it's all the rage in photography today. These polar opposites always look fresh. crisp and new, even when they are couched in such familiar motifs as the checks and toiles in the sitting room we show here.

Although you might prefer a solid white wall to hang your cherished photographs on, pay attention to the lively interplay of different patterns here (all from Village Wallpaper's "Toiles & Florals" collection).

Black-and-white checked fabrics and wallpaper contrast against the black-and-white toile on the wall, leavened here and there by areas of solid white. Even the plates on the wall and the border on the sisal rug get into the black-andwhite act.

In such a context, a wall covered in your black-andwhite photos, outlined with their black frames and hung very close together, would be as interesting and pretty as, well, a picture.

Q: I really enjoy collecting native art and objects from around the world. My father was a missionary and we lived in a lot of places - for example, Africa and South America but I was too young to start collecting then. Now I'm thinking how nice it would be to bring some furnishings into



These black-and-white wall coverings and borders make headline news in a sitting room.

my home that represent places I've been — even places I haven't. My pension won't

allow me to be a major shopper. Maybe you can suggest some affordable sources?

· A: Two top-of-the-head suggestions: museum gift shops and Ten Thousand Villages.

I'm usually a lackluster shopper, but museum gift shops get my imagination flowing! Where else can you find a wall-sized silk scarf with my favorite Matisse painting? Or needlepoint pillows taken from the famous Unicom Tapestries? I confess to often heading first to the shops, then going into the museum proper for a look at the real, original

The very concept of living among museum reproductions is brilliant, I think, as long as you eschew the cliches ("Starry Night" on a coffee mug) and focus on the unusual and authentic.

Look up "museum gift shops" and just see what wonders the Internet brings. Or look up www.tenthousandvillages.com, the Web site for handmade articles gathered from some 32 countries, mostly Third World, including traditional rugs, fumiture, fabrics and other extraordinary fur-

Ten Thousand Villages now works with some 113 different groups of artisans, buying and marketing their creations at what they call "fair prices." To the craftspeople, that means an important source of income. To collectors and home decorators, it's a rich resource for eminently affordable - and highly individualistic - home furnishings and objets d'art.

There are also nearly 70 Ten Thousand Villages retail stores across the United States. Traveling there can take you around the world, decoratively speaking.

Rose Bennett Gilbert is the co-author of "Hampton Style" and associate editor of Country Decorating Ideas. Please send your questions to her at Copley News Service, P.O. Box 120190, San Diego, CA 92112-0190; or online at copleysd@copleynews.com.

Home Grown



How to care for poinsettias

Q: My daughter gives me a poinsettia every year and I've tried to get them to rebloom the next year, but something happens. I put them in the closet where it's dark for about two months, and then they die. Isn't this what I'm supposed to do?

A: Knock, knock ... it's reality tapping on your closet door. Considering that poinsettias are plants that grow outside in certain places in the world, where would you get 60 days of complete darkness? Remember that they don't grow at the South Pole; it's more like Mexico. You now have a quick look at what went so wrong. Since you will be given another poinsettia opportunity this holiday." season, here's the chance to do it right. When you get the plant, you will be treating it just like a respected member of the houseplant family for the winter. Keep it out of direct sunlight and keep it watered. Avoid putting it in front of heat ducts. Make sure to take it out of its little colored tinfoil wrapping that's around the pot. This holds water and the plant can't drain properly. Put it in a big saucer or shallow container. Fertilize it lightly during the winter and early spring. The plant is ready to go outside when all danger of frost has passed in mid- to late May. To induce reflowering, cut back the stems to about 6 inches from the soil line. Put the plant in the garden where it can receive plenty of sunlight, Either sink the pot in the ground to the rim or remove it from the pot and plant in the garden. Keep it watered and fertilized. As the new stems grow from buds on the shortened old wood, pinch them periodically to induce the plant to become bushy. By removing the terminal or end of a branch, it will send out lateral shoots. In September, your poinsettia will be ready to come back in. Do this before the night temperatures hit 40 degrees. If it was in a pot, repot in a larger pot with fresh soil-less potting medium. If you are digging it out of the garden, try to preserve as much of the roots as possible in a larger pot. To reflower in time for Christmas, poinsettias require 14 hours of continued, uninterrupted darkness daily from Oct. 1 onward. The 10 hours of light should be bright. The best way to do this is to get a cardboard box and upend it over the poinsettia for 14 hours. If you expose the plant to even just a few. minutes of turning on a light in a dark room, it won't initiate flower -

Q: I'm staring out the window at some bag-like stuff at the end of branches high in the treetops. I think these were some kind of nests in the fall. What are these and how do I get rid of them?

A: Class, it's science time, so settle down and learn about Fall Webworm 101. The webs are, indeed, fall webworm. You are what you make. These belong to the family of tiger moths and have the scientific name of Hyphantria cunea. They feed in more than 100 species of trees between August and October. The female lays her eggs near the ends of the branches during the early summer. The eggs hatch in late July or early August. All her little kiddies spin a web over the end of the branch for a home with built-in food. They feed and grow larger. The larvae are shades of brown to smoky black and have clusters of long, silky, pale hairs covering their bodies. When the larvae have grown as big as they are going to get, they leave the trees to pupate. Many let themselves down on long, silky threads. Others wander down the tree, and some just fall out. They pupate over the winter and the adult moths emerge next summer. After Moth Hot Date Night, the females lay their eggs in any one of a number of trees. They don't hurt the trees; they just look repulsive. Ignore them and lead a more stress-free life.

– Gretchen Voyle, MSU Extension-Livingston County horticulture agent, can be reached at (517) 546-3950.

Control isn't necessary.

There's more than one way to invest in real estate

By James M. Woodard COPLEY NEWS SERVICE

With the stock market fluctuating unpredictably, many people are looking for a more stable and secure investment. The investment of choice is not something that can crash in a day, like stocks and bonds, but something substantial, like buildings and real estate.

The choices in real estate vary widely. In addition to the direct purchase of investment properties, some people are turning to real estate investment trusts or existing mortgages and trust deeds.

Others keep their investment close to home, using their extra cash to pay down their mortgages or, in some cases, to pay off their mortgage. But is this a good idea?

A recent study and subsequent report carried in RealEstate-Journal com suggests that home-

owners who are considering such a move first obtain a current appraisal. This will determine how much their house has appreciated since its purchase.

The next step is to make a rough estimate of how long the owner is likely to remain in the home. Then compare the average annual gains in the home's value to the current rates of return on stocks and bonds. It can then be determined if the home's potential increase in value makes it a more desirable investment than stocks or bonds.

The report noted that homeowners who anticipate selling their home in a few years are usually better off not prepaying their mortgage, because the real benefit of prepayment is the substantial interest savings over time. If the homeowner prepays only to sell within a few years, he minimizes his monthly cash flow while gaining little in interest savings.

Paying off the mortgage is a particularly good investment when the owner retires. This can deliver a substantial financial boost to the retiree.

In many cases, the retiree will downsize to a smaller, less costly home, or perhaps relocate to an area where homes cost less. If the mortgage on his existing home is paid off, the sale of the home can generate a larger amount of equity at a time when it's needed to purchase the new home and finance other transition costs.

Q: With the improving economy, are more homeowners making their mortgage payments on time?

A: Mortgage delinquencies are down, according to a Mortgage Bankers Association report. Delinquencies during the third quarter of 2003 fell to the lowest level in three years.

"With the expectation of continued strong economic growth through the next several quarters, job growth should continue and accelerate," said Mortgage Bankers Association chief economist Doug Duncan. "While economic growth will lower delinquency rates, most loans have now been on the books less than three years, so some increase in delinquency might be expected as they age.

Q: When are apartment rents likely to decline?

A: Apartment rents are coming down in most U.S. metropolitan areas. That's good news for individuals and families who depend on rental units for housing.

There are two key reasons for declining rents, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. First, more renters have been able to pur-

chase a home due to the availability of low-interest mortgages. Second, there's been a recent glut of new multifamily developments, leaving property owners and managers with increased pressure to fill vacant rental units.

Average rents per square foot have declined 4.8 percent nationwide from the fourth quarter of 2001, according to the National Real Estate Index report. The drop suggests the U.S. housing market has started to suffer from the same oversupply problems that have hindered manufacturers.

If mortgage interest rates continue their projected upward climb, more prospective homeowners will likely put off purchases and continue renting.

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

Protect and preserve wood paneling

By Gene Gary COPLEY NEWS SERVICE

Q: We installed real Spanish oak paneling in our family room 10 years ago. I have dusted it regularly for years. Is there any way to give it a deeper cleaning? It doesn't actually show the dirt, but I know it has collected some dirt and grime, particularly with the gas fireplace and smoking. What would you suggest?

A: Regardless of the type of wood used, most natural wood surfaces --- fine furniture, cabinets, flooring, woodwork, paneling -- are coated with a clear sealant such as polyurethane, lacquer, shellac or varnish that protects the wood from dirt, grime and moisture. It is important to maintain the optimal condition of the finish, however, and although this shield is made to be strong and resistant to many things, it is not indestructible.

While a regimen of regular dusting or vacuuming accompanied by occasional waxing and oiling can protect the finish, dirt and grime that remain on the surface can soften it over time. Once the finish is damaged, the wood will have to be refin-

Cleaning wood

To remove wax, greese and diri from wood surfaces, any from wood surfaces, use a recommended furniture-cleaning product such as Formby's Facelift or Almond Lustre. Periodic use with help maintain the finish on fine wood furniture and paneling.

1. Apply with a soft, clean cloth and rub with the grain of the wood,

2. Built with another clean, soft cloth after the cleaner has dried. Repeat, if necessary, until the cloth wipes clean.

M Murphy's Oil Bosp is another excellent wo is another excellent wood-cleaning product it is mild and can be used periodically to remove the normal accum-ulation of household cirt.

To prolong time between cleanings, always thoroughly clean the surface with a sudey solution of Murphy's Oil Scap before applying another cost of wax or an oil preservative. AMERICAL STREET

ished to restore the surface. Prevent this by using one of the numerous wood furniture cleaning products on the market that are formulated to cut through wax, grease and dirt. This type of product should be used periodically to maintain the finish on fine furniture as well as your wood paneling.





Copley News Ben/ce / Pate Changel

Apply a commercial cleaner with a soft, clean cloth and rub with the grain of the wood. Buff with another soft, clean cloth after the cleaner has dried. You may have to repeat the process. Buff the surface until the clean cloth comes away clean after buffing. One marketer of wood-

care products is Formby's. The firm's Almond Lustre is a deep-cleaning product that also acts to replace natural oils and restore luster. Formby's also markets a Furniture Face Lift that can be used on paneling as well as on fine wood furniture that is looking rather tired. It helps restore the shine in wood surfaces that often remain dull, even after cleaning and oil restoration. The Face Lift kit includes a cleansing liquid, buffing cream and Face Lift Finishing agent. This product restores wood finishes (if the finish has not severely deteriorated) without refinishing.

Another excellent wood-cleaning product is Murphy's Oil Soap. It is a mild cleaning product that can be used periodically to remove the normal accumulation of household dirt. Follow manufacturer's directions carefully and avoid saturating the wood surface with excessive moisture. Read and follow the label instructions carefully, and always thoroughly clean the surface with a sudsy solution of Murphy's Oil Soap before applying another coat of wax or an oil preservative.

Triplex is great for renting

By Scott McAlexander COPLEY NEWS SERVICE

The Greenridge 5 is a triplex that packs two bedrooms, two baths and several amenities into each unit's 1,011 square feet of living space. The Greenridge's facade is clean and traditional, providing each of the three units with a covered walkway leading from the front single-car garage doors to the entries.

Unit I has the entry on the right. To the left of the entry is a closet with the water heater tucked out of view. The washer and dryer set on the back wall and door to the garage is between the utility and the closet.

The kitchen is C-shaped with an island in the middle that contains the range and oven. The kitchen has a dishwasher, dual sinks and a bar that faces the dining and living areas.

While the dining and living areas are in fact one long room, there is ample space for the dining table and living room furniture. Sliding doors open onto the patio in the rear.
The right side of this unit has two bedrooms. The

master suite is in the rear with a large window overlooking the back yard. The master bathroom has a single sink and tub. Adjacent is the corner walk-in closet with a shelf in the corner.

Between Bedroom 2 and the master suite is the main bathroom. It has a single sink and a tub. Bedroom 2 has a wall closet and a large window that overlooks the front yard. Unit 2 is exactly like Unit 1, only the layout is reversed so the dining and living rooms are together.

Unit 3 is exactly like Unit 1. For a study plan of this design, call (800) 562-1151

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MAKING SPIRITS BRIGHT! Features included in this 2500 sq. 1, 4 bedroom 2.5 bath 1.5 story include

a pretty living room wiscaring cellings. Great room wilker ball family room will replace & door to Flonda room. We'll planned kitchen wonderful master suite

and part ally finished basement. Deck with gazebo & garaya' Einden Schnols \$209,900

lower level 2 car attached garage, 30 barn and Hart and Schools \$289,900

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3000

MAKE A WISH! Of a peaceful country road is the with spectacular wooded 2.7 acre setting features a natural fireplace in Great room with cultured shone surround and cak mantle. Kitchen/ching area leads to 20114 screened porch. Walkout basement with full



THE PERFECT GIFT! Beautiful brand new 4 bedroom 2.5 bath 2 story frome situated on 2 country acres. Nice design with generous room sizes. Features spacious fiving room with gas fireplace, formal dining room large lotchen, doonwall off dining area. Convenient 1st floor laundry. Full basement, unfinished bonus room and



room, master suite with 5 foot shower and double sink vanity, 6 panel doors thru out, open stanway and double windraws and

rolling Great perk Call for restrictions \$45,000

PRINCES AND ADDRESS. JUST LISTED! 1 acre paved road, east T407 sq. ft. ranch with many quality features expressway access! Wonderful 2130 sq. ft. 1-1/2 including vaulted ceilings in kitchen and Greal story home citiers 3 bedrooms, 35 baths main room, master suite with 5 loct shower and double foor master suite, main floor living and family foor master suite, main floor living and family

room formal dining room, finished walkout base leads to basement with daylight windows and rough plumbed for future bath! Plus 25 car garage and Carman Answorth Schools! \$164 900 and Carman Answorth Schools! \$164 900 ment charming covered porch, deck and 2 ca

HARTLAND SCHOOLS. Parcel 1 - Bullard Rd N of M-59 & W of Fenton Rd Beautiful 3.74 acre parcel with mature trees and great sandy soil conditions. Great location. Perk, survey & restrictions on file. Land contract terms available. \$119,000. PINCKNEY SCHOOLS, #2 Keywayosh Ct. North of Swarthout and East of Richardson Road. Newly created parcel backing to state land and Brighton recreation area. High and

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\$599,900 Waterfront All Sports Duck Lake! 4br. 25 baths, 3 car garage & w/o. immaculate! Neutral! Oak kit.& floors & views from inside & out! Marble fp. fashion mstr ste. This is it! (BGN38VER) 888-870-



MANCHESTER This Manchaster Beauty Awarts Your Call 1.3 acres along with a custom built home that is close to parks, walking trails. A private woods/widlife (BGN33ADR) 888-870-9123



\$330,000 Rave Reviews! Spacious 1/2 acre lot, 4br, 2.5 baths, library, formal fiving/dining rooms, family room w/fireplace, mstr bdrm w/glamour bath, professionally landscaped, & deck. (BGN51LYN) 888-870-



Wooded Views! This log home on 5 40 acres is anything but rustic Nearly \$300,000 in luxury improvements It's a showplace. (BGN65ROW) 888-870-9123



\$285,000 NOVI Custom Stunning Ranchi Wivaulted ceilings, great room w/fireplace, gourmet kitchen w/cooktop, formal dining/living rooms, 2320 sq ft, basement, 3.5 car garage & more. (BGN47HEA)



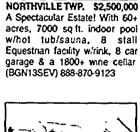
NORTHVILLE Great 4bdrm Brick Colonial in Northville Twp1 2 fireplaces, 25 baths, walkout basement, 3 car garage, great landscaping, twotiered deck off kitchen doorwall all on 3/4 acre (BGN75TAL) 888-



MILFORD Location, Privacy & Seclusion! In this 3 bdrm, 2 bath home in the village. Pretty kitchen, dining & great room, open to outdoors /great views/ Loft over garage has 3 skylights! This is nice!



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The second second



acuzzi/sep. shwr, Pella windows, bsmnt, 2 car att garage, 1st fir laundry (BGN26ASP) 888-870-



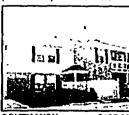
\$219,900 3 Bed, 2 Baths Charming Bungalow in Downtown, Gas fireplace, Central Air, hardwood floors, and lots of storage space. Partially finished basement, 1 car garage plus space for a boat (BGSLY10WLAK) 888-870-9131



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NORTHVILLE \$323,500 Original Owner! Selling 4br colonial w/2 baths, 2 lavs, howd floors, security system, home warranty, den, 2 car attached garage. Close to schools. (BGN15SUT) 888-870-9123



SOUTH LYON Instant equity. Upper end unit with vaulted ceilings. Private enclosed deck or work from your library. Pull down stairs to storage shives in attice, 2 carports, many upgrades. (BGSLY84GRE) 888-



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SYLVAN LAKE \$192,900 Fabulous Charmer! charming home is in a sub w'a private beach w boat launching priv. on all sports Sylvan Lake Fantastic master bedroom & bath addition. (BGN24AVO) 888-870-



Sharp Wixom Colonial! Popular

sub, hardwood floors, many

Well Maintained Detached

Condo! W.walkout bsmnt! New kit

fir furn, A.C. carpet & more, Lrg

livim wifp formal din rm, &

spacious mstr ste Both baths

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DEADLINES

South Lyon Herald, Novi News, Northville Record &

Wilford Times & all Real

Estate for Country Living & Creative Living Section for publish date of Dec 25th is Monday, Dec. 22 & Monday, Dec. 29 at 4pm.

Daily-Press Argus dead-

line for Thursday & Friday Dec 25th & 26th -January 1st & 2nd is Wednesday at 12 Noon

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3280

Northville



Northyille Woodlands Lot 107 - Central sub loca-tion Premium English gar-den stone patio Custom landscape, 3 car garage, 3 baths, 2 lavs Formal and informal staircases Cherry kitchen, lots of hardwood flooring Broker will consid er smaller home in trade for down payment or if no trade, broker will offer \$15,000 credit toward purse if closed by February

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3260

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Highland Ranch on 2.44 Acres - 3 Bedroom, 2 Bath extra large brick Ranch 3 fireplaces, 25 car fireplaces, 25 car attached garage w/work-shop, 1571 sq ft partly fin-ished basement with 4 rooms plus laundry room would be perfect for in-lay suite or home (\$229,000 (H-1930)

West Bloomfield w/Lake Privileges- 3 Bed 2 Bath ust 2 blocks from all sports Union Lake Updated light & Kit & ful Bath. 2 car Gar, all appliances stay New furnace, water sftr & carpet Large fenced yard \$179,900 (K-

Wixom Colonial- 2000 built 4 Bed, 2.5 Bath gor-geous builders model witneshed Bsmt, Bay windows, skylights, hardwood floors, maple cabinets, crown moldings, C/A, 3 dimensional roof & extensrve landscaping 2400 square feet! \$317,900 (P-754)

Village of Milford Ranch 3 Bed, 2 Bath walling dis tance to downtown shop ping & restaurants New windows, vinyl siding { newer carpeting 2 car att Gar, partly fin w/o, deck, 1547 sq ft & fireplace in Fam Rm The pristine Huron River is a 3 minute walk, \$189 500 (P-99)

BasidpiH Ranch nvestors and first time home buyers! Large Living Rm. & Kitchen, fabulous Rm & Kitchen, Tabulous fenced lot with mature trees & gardens, pole barn, 3 season porch wfake view and appliances stay Needs some work. \$130,000 (D-1051)

Birmingham Colonial-Renovated in '98 and again in 2003. All white Kitchen with ceramic and tons of space. Beautiful Mstr Suite w/shower

Bath W/snower a whiripool tub, Large 2+ car Garage, full Bsmt and wonderfully landscaped, fenced yard with perennials, \$290,000 (E-1487)

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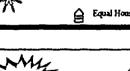
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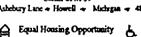
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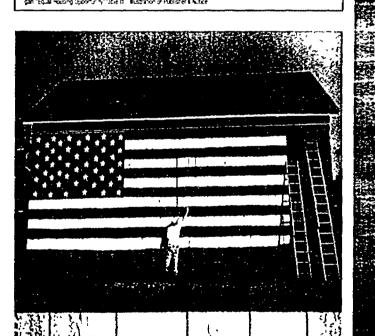
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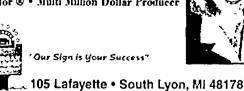
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entry garage. Golf course community Walk

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in 2 bedroom, 1.5 bath end unit condo?

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windows & root. This home is across from

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NORTHVILLE - Cabbagetown opportunity Move right in & start adding on, or become a landford. Well-kept 3 bedroom, 2 bath ranch with front & rear porch & deck. Lot opens to alley for easy access. Near downtown & Northville schools. Cider mill just blocks away \$192,000 (25ROU) 248-349-5600



FARMINGTON - Peaceful and private WESTLAND - Updated ranch, 3 bedroom, Excellent location in complex. End unit 1.5 bath home w/newer roof, windows, deck, furnace & AC. Hardwood floors, 2 ranch condo with 2 bedrooms and 2 fu'll ceramic baths 2 car attached garage car garage w'newer door and electric opener Finished lower level makes nice Newer carpet, roof and much more. Close to freeway & shopping \$189,900 (11HER) family room. Fenced yard and highly sought after Livonia schools \$164,900 (50SAN) 248-349-5600



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SOUTH LYON - Quick occupancy Impressive home w/2-story lover & family spacious grmt kit w'cherry wid cabs & granite ontr tops & oversize eating space Extensive wd firing Lavish MSTR w large tub, shower & hge WIC. 9' bsmt w/garden wndw Loft overlooking FR. Transfer forces



WALLED LAKE -Carefree lakeside living and bring your boat! This 2 bedrooms 2 bath condo in an adult 50+ community includes all appliances, deeded boat slip on Walled Lake, private beach w gazebo and picnic area + loads of



\$117,900 (26NOR) 248-343-5600



DEARBORN - Great starter home, 3 bedroom, 1 bath bungalow in west Dearborn. Roof & windows 02. Tub enclosure, update ed kitchen cabinets, freshly painted in neutral colors. Fenced yard, close to park and schools. Appliances stay. \$119,900 (00UNI) 248-349-5600



Entry level 2 BR, 2 BA ranch style condo. Updated kit, ceramic entry & newer carpet. Spacious living & dining rooms. Large utilrty room includes washer & dryer, 3 doorwalls to screened patio. Private entry, carport & pool. Walk to elementary school. \$136,500 (90UNI) 248-349-5600





LIVONIA - Lease or buy. Great Livonia





location. 3 bedroom, family room, 1.5 car garage, updates including windows, lutchen & bath. All appliances stay Large yard with privacy fence in rear. Newer carpet. Livonia schools. Immediate occupan-



bedroom ranch, hardwood floors, vinvl windows, plaster walls & coved ceilings, updates, include roof, furnace & C/A, electric & carpet. Neutral colors, ceramic tile in kitchen, large basement for added space. 2 car garage w/1 c door & S. Redford schools. \$130,000 (73ORA) 734-455-5600



REDFORD - Cute and cozy. 3 bedroom. bungatow with updated oak kitchen, roof, some windows, vinyl siding, and much more, plus 2 car garage with newer door and basement. \$131,900 (95DEN) 734-



NORTHVILLE - Bed & breakfast feel Wonderful colonial sitting on 2 beautiful acres, w'stocked pondi traditional layout, fiving room, formal dining room, huge fam-By room w/panoramic view, spa room Master suite w/wa/k-in closet. Unique keeping rm 2 fpls bsmt, huge deck & tennis ct \$449 900 (11APP) 734-455-5600



WESTLAND - Slope the car! Tri-level with neutral colors, open floor plan and cathedral ceitings, newer kitchen, ceramic bath, newer .5 bath, newer carpeting, 2 car garage and shed, newer deck off doorwall. Close to elementary school and park. Home warranty. \$138,900 (54BUR) 734-455-5600



CANTON - Stop the car & look at this home. Curb appeal 10+, 3 BR brick colonial LR w/bay window, newer Wilson art woodlike flooring in LR, kitchen & foyer Kit has white cabinets, newer counter, sink, dishwasher, micro, opens to FR wibnox FP, doorwall to deck, newer C/A, 6 panel



CANTON - Located on premium lot! Charming 2 story condo overlooking see nic pond Offers upgraded Pergo floor in kitchen, all kitchen appliances, fireplace in great room, finished basement with drywall, recessed lights and carpeting Also, lovely deck for entertaining (40NOL) 734-455-5600



LYONS - Country living Mint condition 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath colonial with 3 car attached garage, full basement, spacious great room with fireplace, 1st floor laundry, gourmet lutchen with eating area, all sitting on 1.11 acres \$289,900 (51FAI) 734-455-



WESTLAND - Wonderful court setting Just move in and enjoy! Beautiful hardwood floors, updated kitchen with oak cabinets, newer windows, roof, furnace, central air, cement. Partially finished basement with full bath, 2 car garage Fenced yard This home is very clean & well cared forl \$165,500 (458AL) 734-455-5600

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bedroom bungalow with newer roof, fur-

nace, air condition, windows, kitchen floor,

sink, disposal, counter top and newer

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private yard with patio & garage. Great location. \$133 899 (23ELM) 734-455-5600

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PLYMOUTH - No expense spared Magnificent cape god on premium lot w/4. bedrooms & 35 baths 3 car garage Every upgrade imaginable including doors. floors, trim, windows, electrical & plumbing too 2 tier Trex deck & brick paver patio 12 zone sprinkler system & custom landscap-



MILFORD - Former builders dream 4 BR. 2.5 BA colonial located in Orchard Estates on approx. 1.6 acres. High quality thruout. 3 fireplaces MBR suite w/garden tub & fireplace. Suproom leans to secluded deck. State of the art lutchen & appliances W/O LL Newer roof and furnace



SOUTHFIELD- Views of your own forest. Beautiful 1999 built 3 Br, 25 Ba raised ranch w/ DR, FR & large eat-in kitchen MBR w'master bath Built in gas fireplace in Fr 2 car garage Sliding door wall off the dining room Backs to a natural forest & sits back off the road \$239,900 (51NIN) 248-349-5600



REDFORD - Picture perfect. Better than renting 3 bedroom ranch with newer white kilchen, furnace, A/C, roof, concrete, landscaping and windows updated. Soft neutral color throughout. Move-in condition



SOUTH LYON - Shows like a model, Prof decorated 3 BR, 3 5 BA, 1.5 story condo w'open floor plan. 1st floor master bedroom. Vaulted ceilings, howd floor, fin LL offers 4th BR & entertainment room w/wet bar & exercise room. Many upgrades immaculate home Golf course community

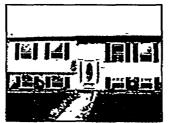


sale \$427 555 (56SHE) 248-349-5600

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NORTHVILLE 175 CadyCentre

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PLYMOUTH Updated Plymouth charmer. Absolute move in condition. Spacious 4 bedroom home with oak cabinets and Pergo floors. Newer windows, entry & patio doors Top rated Plymouth schools. Walk to elementary school \$205,000 (530RE) 248-349-5600



SOUTHFIELD - Great opportunity Brick ranch on approximately 1 beautiful acre w'2 bedroom, 1.5 bath, family room, large eat-in kitchen. Knotty pine interior for up north feel. Partially fin basement w built-in bar MBR w/WIC & built-ins Newer roof, furnace, HWH, C/A, & att 2 car garage. \$159,900 (14FOR) 248-349-5600



WESTLAND Awesome condo Absolutely lovely & spacious ground level condo Newly painted and carpeted with neutral decor. Large living room with fireplace, doorwall to pato overlooking beautiful pond w/lountain, air conditioned. Livonia schools & immediate occupancy A must see \$79,900 (65WOO) 248-349-5600



WALLED LAKE - Hot buy, seller says sell. 2-story duplex with woodsy view 2 bedrooms, 1.5 baths. Attached garage, full basement & lots of storage. Well maintained & many updates Refrigerator. stove, washer & dryer stay Spacious master bedroom w/3 closets. Close x-ways & hoos, \$155,900 (63WOO) 248-349-56



PLYMOUTH

705 South Main St.

734-455-5600

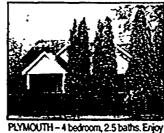
PLYMOUTH - Ranch has so many updates. Ready to move in! Freshly painted thruout, newer neutral carpet, blinds. kitchen has newer oak cabs, pantry, appliances, recessed lighting, newer vinyt siding, roof, windows Wonderful large lot. Newer 2.5 car garage with loads of storage \$184,900 (04ELM) 734-455-5600



SUMPTER - A little bit of country 3 bedroom ranch on approximately 1/2 acre fenced in lot backing to wood & wildlife Large 2.5 car garage, kitchen updated with custom oak cabinets & updated bath Wallside windows, all appliances, vinvi sxiing new in 02 + home warranty \$159,900 (85ELW) 734-455-5600



WARREN - Beautiful 1st floor condo Many updates in this 2 bedroom, 1.5 bath beauty Newer carpet, paint, recessed fights, remarkable kitchen with ceramic tile and light maple cabinets, plus new counters, sink, microwave and dishwasher all in 2003. A must see! \$85,900 (50HOO)



your almost 1 acre of treed property! Home has beautiful newer kitchen, wa out basement, some work to be done-but well worth the investment! \$250,000 (35ANN) 734-455-5600



ter Spacious brick bungalow Hardwood Boors through Natural woodwork leaded glass, 2 baths, & kitchen updated. Most windows replaced. Newer furnace, CA, roof, electric, insulation, HWH, & sprin-klers Formal DR, FR, basement, 2 car garage \$244,900 (05MOR) 734-455-5600



Y/ESTLAND - This is the one. Soacious 4 bedroom, 2 bath tri-level with large eat-in kitchen, newer windows, garage, central air, and nicely landscaped with pond in backyard. \$168 500 (55CHI) 734-455-5600







CANTON - What a beauty 3 bedroom 1.5 bath colonial with large cozy family room with fireplace, doorwall to deck and pool, partially finished basement, 2 car attached garage. \$211,900 (45MOR) 734-455-5600



CANTON - New construction condo 2

bedrooms, 1 full & 1 half baths, 2 car

attached garage, basement with garden

windows, central air, 1st floor laundry,

deck overlooking pond \$215 080 (58AVI)

734-455-5600

bedroom home with central air. Many updates include kitchen with oak cabinets, bath with ceramic tiles, plumbing and electric. Family room leads to lovely deck, plus garage \$79,900 (16LEH) 734-455-5600



has plenty of sweat equity, already has updated windows and vinyl siding HOme being sold "AS-IS" (45COL 734-455-5600

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3190 Hamburg 3200 Hartland 3220Holly 3230 Howell 3260 Millions

3270 New Hudson 3280 Northville 3290 Novi 3330 Prodote

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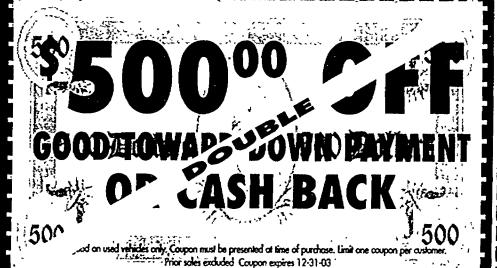


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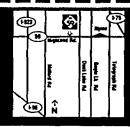


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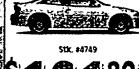


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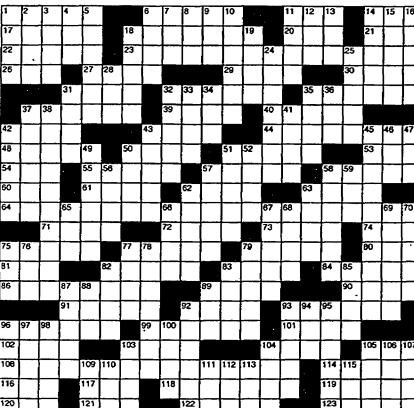
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ANSWERS TO LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE



FOUND Orange male cat about 1yr old in Brighton, med short hair, (810)220-8585

FOUND 12/21 - Female Black Lab. Whitmore Lk. & Lee Rd., Brighton. (810) 225-2114

FOUND CAT Orange Fowlerville Wearing Collar (517)223-1203

FOUND CAT Person who lost yellow/white cat last Summer call 517-548-7104 Hughes Rd.

Lost & Found-Pets 7930

FOUND CAT Male, gray w/ white paws & face, 59 & Oak Grove. (517)552-0932

FOUND dog 12/21 large, young Norton/Mason, Howell. Please Identify (517)540-0138

Rd area. (248)887-5248

LOST DOGS Black Lab mix, & Tri Color Hound mix, Mulford & Grand River 734-634-1110

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FOUND CAT 12/15, Orange, male, Village Edge Sub, Pinckney (734)878-1854 LAB Meadowbrook Glen Sub (248) 349-7447

Locations: HOWELL OFFICE MILFORD OFFICE 405 N. Main Street

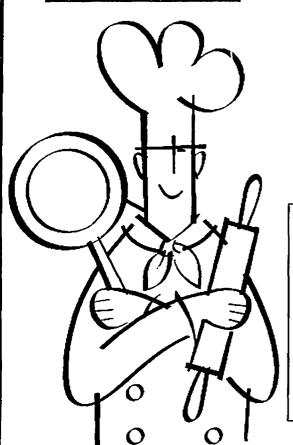
(248) 437-2011

LOST 12-12 Grange Tabby Cat, 14 yrs. Oak Creek Sub, South Lyon (248) 437-4974 LOST DOG, 12/20 Reward, 14
yr. old brown & white English
Pointer female. Goes by Ace
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0110 Asphalt/Blacktopping 0120 Asphalt Sealcoating 0130 Audio/Video Repair

0140 Auction Services 0150 Auto Services

0160 Auto &Truck Repair 0170 Avrungs

Accounting

* * *

CHRISTMAS &

NEW YEARS

CLASSIFIED EARLY

DEADLINES

South Lyon Herald Nov

News Northville Record & Milford Times & all Real Estate for Country Living

& Creative Living Section for publish date of Dec 25th is Monday Dec 22 & Monday Dec 29 at 4pm

Dai's Press Arous dead-

hine for Thursday & Friday Dec 25th & 26th January 1st & 2nd is

HAPPY HOLIDAYS &

A VERY HAPPY NEW YEAR

The GreenSheet Staff

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0290

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0200 Backhoe Services

70010-2980 SERVICE GUIDE Carpentry

0210 Badges/Trophies/Engraving

0240 Bicycle Sales/Service

0250 Blind Cleaning

0280 Bookkeeping Service 0290 Brick, Block &Cement

0300 Building/Home Inspection 0310 Building/Remodeling

0320 Buildozing 0330 Business Machine Repair

0400 Cabinetry/Formica 0410 Carpentry 0420 Carpets

0430 Carpet Cleaning/Dyeing 0440 Carpet/Repair Installations 0450 Catering, Flowers, Party Planning

0460 Cauting/Intenor/Extenor 0470 Ceiling Work 0480 Chimney Cleaning, Building &

Recar 0490 Cleaning Service 0500 Closet Systems & Organizers

0520 Clock Repair 0530 Commercial Cleaning 0540 Computer Sales & Service

0550 Concrete 0560 Construction 0570 Consulting

0580 Contracting 0590 Custom PCProgramming

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1080 Housedeaning 0710 Electronics

> 1110 Insulation 1120 Insurance - All Types

> > 1200 Kitchen

0860 Floor Service 0870 Framing

0880 Furnace/Duct Install/Repair 0890 Furniture/Building/Finishing & Repar

0930 GardenCare 0940 Graphics/Printing/Desktop Publishing

0970 Gravel/Driveway Repair 0980 Greenhouses

1070 Hot Tub/Spas

1100 Income Tax

1130 Insurance Photography 1140 Intenor Decorating

1150 Janitorial Service 1160 Jeweiry Repairs & Clocks

1210 Landscaping 1220 Laundry Service

1230 Lawn, Galden Maintenance/Service 1240 Lawn, Garden Rototilling 1250 Lawn Mower Repair

1260 Limousine Service 1270 Linoieum/Tile 1280 Lock Service

1300 Machinery

1310 Machine Shop 1320 Mailboxes-Sales/Installation

1330 Maintenance Service 1340 Meat Processing 1350 Mirrors

1360 Miscellaneous 1370 Mobile Home Service

1390 Musical Instrument Repair

1410 Office Equipment/Service

1420 Painting/Decorating 1430 Paralegal 1440 Pest Control

1380 Moving/Storage

1450 Photography 1460 Piano

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1480 Plumbing 1490 Pole Buildings 1500 Pools

1510 Pool Water Delivery 1520 Porcelain Refinishing

1530 Pressure Power Washing 1540 Printing

1600 Recreational Vehicle Service 1610 Refrigeration

1620 Remodeling 1630 Road Grading 1640 Roofing 1650 Rubbish Removal

1710 Screen Repair

1720 Seawall/Beach Construction

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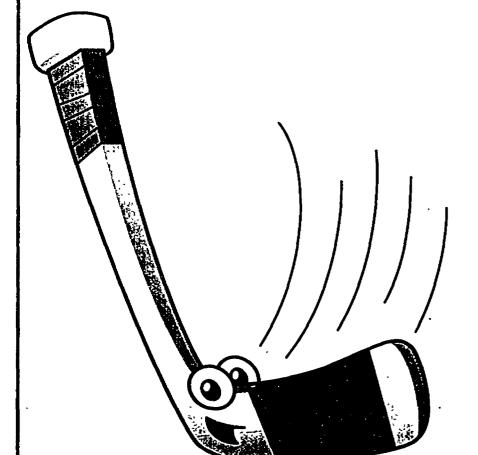
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2004 Model Year, 40/20/40 seat, V8 engine, 4-speed auto O/D, limited slip axle, sliding rear window, trailer tow package, fog lamps, privacy glass, and MUCH MUCH MORE! Stk. #34470 A-Plan Sales Price

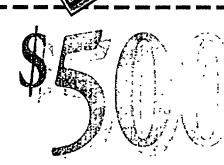
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2004 Model year. Rally gauge cluster, AMFM stereo/cik/CD player, 4-wheel ABS, a/c, V6 engine, O/D trans, 373 axle, sliding rear window, privacy glass, speed control/tilt strg whl, & MUCH MUCH MORE! Stk. #26576

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Premium sport group, convenience group, a/c, AM/FM stereo w/single CD/Cass, comfort

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SALE PRICE



2004 Model year. A/C, power side windows, power mirrors w/manual fold, power door locks, remote keyless entry, V6 engine, auto O/D trans, convenience group, floor mats, speed control, perimeter alarm, & MUCH MUCH MORE! Stk. #6207



Lease For

2004 Model year. XLT series, power black mirrors, AM/FM stereo/clock/single CD, overhead console, V6 engine, 4-spd auto O/D, fimited slip axe, sliding rear window, trailer towing group, cloth captain's chairs, & MUCH MUCH MORE! Stk. #13672R



A-Plan Sales Price

Lease For A-Plan Sales Price



Retail prices Slightly Higher

Charlotha Se

2004 Model year. Man. right hand/left hand door, speed control, a/c, 2nd/3rd row privacy glass, auto O/D trans, roof rack, 7 pass quad seats, floor console, elec am/fm stereo/disc/cass/clk, power driver seat, & MUCH MUCH MORE! Stk. #4735



A-Plan Sales Price

Lease For

Split rear seat, a/c, am/fm stereo cass/clock, 14" steel wheels, auto transaxle, & MUCH MUCH MORE! Stk. #231697



A-Plan Sales Price



A/C, alum wheels, remote keyless entry, speed control, rear window defroster, 6-cyl engine, auto O/D trans, rear spoiler, 5-pass console, 4-whl antilock brakes (ABS), & MUCH MUCH MORE! Stk. #113137



A-Plan Sales Price

Lease For

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Auto Misc

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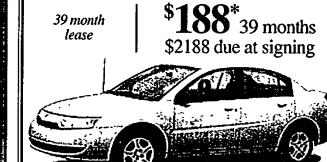
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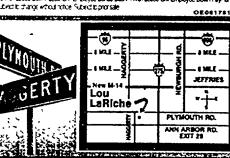
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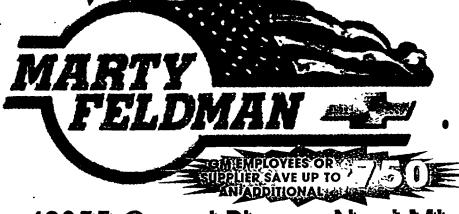
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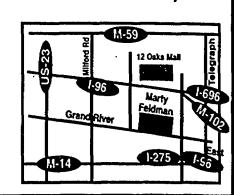
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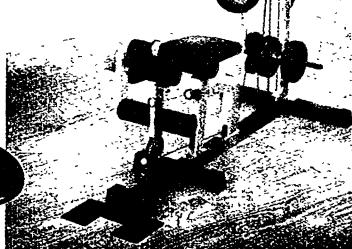
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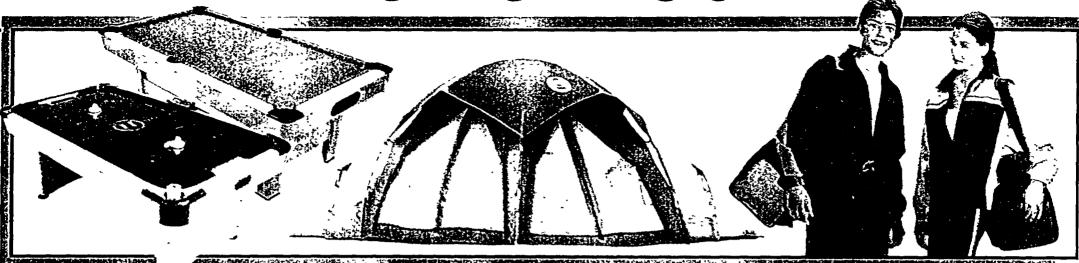
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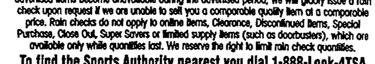
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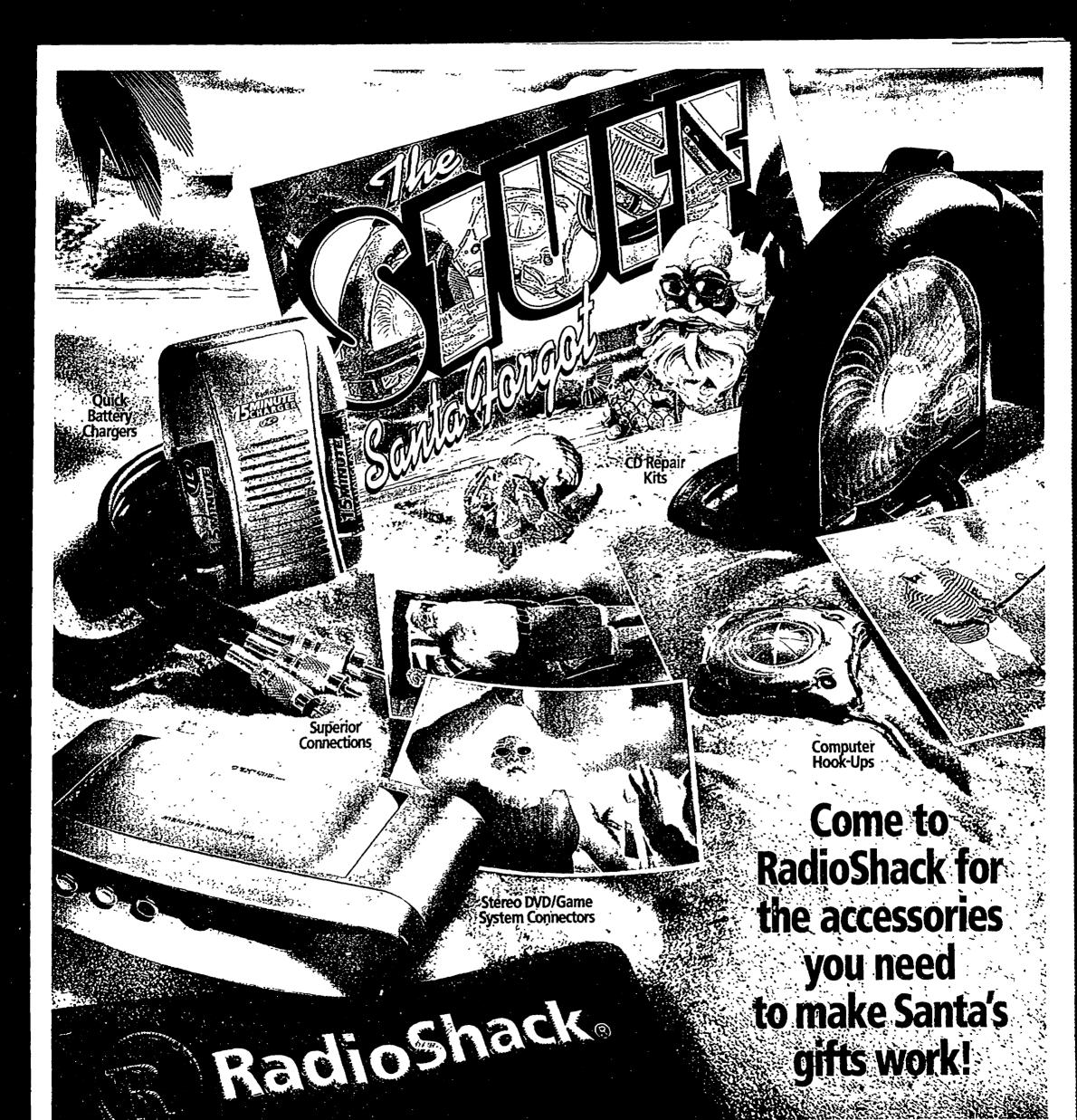
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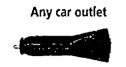


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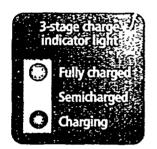


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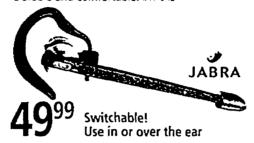
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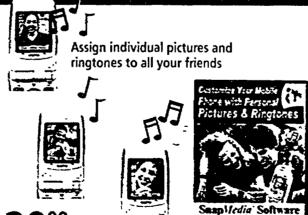


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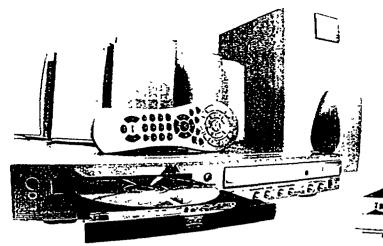


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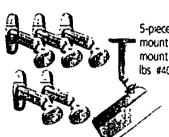
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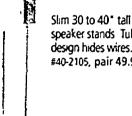
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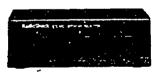
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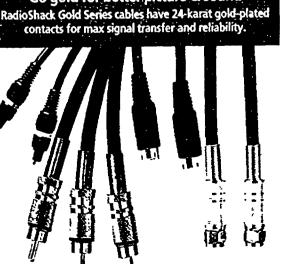
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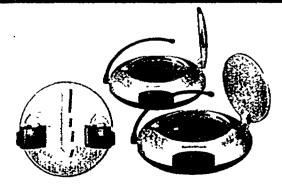
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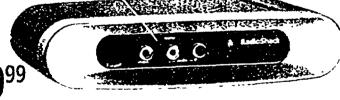


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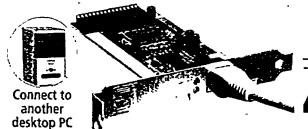
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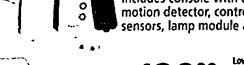


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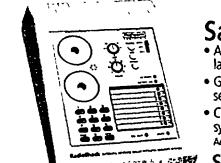
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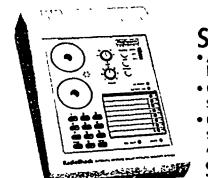
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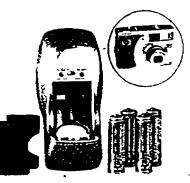
car or PC's USB port #26-818

Universal RF adapter. Hook up

multiple games simultaneously. For PS/PS2, Xbox™, GameCube,

8MB memory card for

PlayStation®2. #26-677



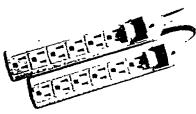
Economical power source for your new digital camera

24⁹⁹

Save Money! Charger Includes 4 "AA" Batteries Reusable Up to 1,000 Times

Great for games, portable CDs and walkie-talkies, too. #23-033

Don't let your new stuff get zapped 🕏



SALE 999
2-pack
6-Outlet Surge Protectors Help
Prevent Damage to Appliances
Perfect for your microwave, breadmaker,
sewing machine or workshop tools.
#61-2187 Reg. 14.99.
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Up to \$25,000 Connected Equipment Guarantee³



19⁹⁹

Help Protect Your New TV, VCR, DVD, Satellite System or Stereo 6-outlet surge protector guards against surges on AC plus cable-TV or antenna lines. #61-2431

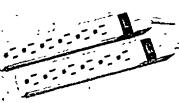
\$25,000 Connected Equipment Guarantee³



49⁹⁹

11-Outlet Surge Protector Helps Guard an Entire Home Theater Protects AC plus phone, cable-TV and antenna or satellite lines. Child-safety covers. #61-2433

Need more outlets? Get 12 for less than \$555



SALE 4 2-pack
6-Outlet AC Power Strips
Each has circuit breaker, on/off switch.
#61-2159 Reg. 8.99.
44% OFF



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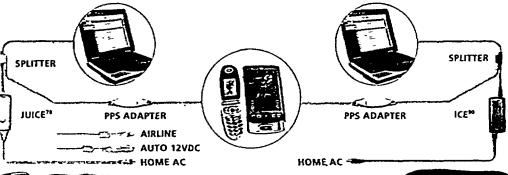
UPS Saves Open Files and Shuts Down Your PC if AC Power Fails

Minuteman® UPS provides dependable power backup plus surge protection for AC and modem lines. With software. #61-2313

Minuteman MN 525 UPS backup. Features of above but with six AC outlets. #61-2314, 69.99

RadioShack has the add-ons, you need for new electronics.

Pure power for your notebook computer!



Juice'

119⁹⁹ \$10 Per Month*

Juice⁷⁰ Powers Your Notebook Computer at Home, in a Car or a Plane

Traveler's friend! Powers your notebook PC from home AC plus car and airline DC. Includes 10 plugs to fit most notebooks and a zippered travel case #273-1867 Corporar not included



NEW 999 S10 Per Month*
ice® Is the Ideal AC Adapter for Today's

Power-Hungry Notebooks

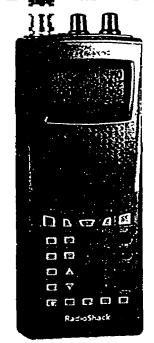
Great for larger-screen and desktop replacement notebooks. Delivers up to 90 watts and has power to spare for peripherals, cell phone or PDA. Fits virtually all namebrand notebooks. With case #273-1780 Computer not included



NEW 29⁹⁹ each
Add a PPS Adapter to Charge Your PDA
or Cell Phone While Powering Your Notebook

Connect to ice⁵⁰ or Juice⁷⁰ to power a secondary item, including most popular wireless phones and PDAs. They recharge up to 3 times faster than trickle-charge USB adapters #273-1781 to 1784

Hear more on your radio scanner!



14⁹⁹

Upgrade antenna for handheld scanners is specifically designed to boost 800MHz reception. 7" high. BNC connector. #20-283

65⁹⁹

Our best outdoor scanner antenna! Discone design provides wide 25-1,300MHz coverage. Also for transmitting on Ham VHF/UHF bands. About 44* high. #20-043 Mast sold separately

LOWEST PRICE EVER 149 S10 Month Radio Shack's Best-Selling Radio Scanner

1000-channel memory, dual trunking¹. Great for advanced users and listening to most analog police/fire radio systems in metro or rural areas. NOAA weather alert. Backlit alphanumeric display. #20-525 Reg 199 99 Add 4 "AA" battenes or adapter

SAVE \$50

FREE² programming when you buy select RadioShack radio scanners

*Actual payments vary with your RadioShack AnswersPlus® Card account balance; taxes not included. Offers/prices not available in all stores. Please inquire. *Follows analog trunked Motorola I, II and I/II plus GE/Ericsson police/fire/EMS radio systems. Mobile use of scanners may be unlawful in some areas or may require a permit—check with local authorities. *One-time free programming service offered with purchase of select scanners at participating RadioShack stores and when data is available. *During warranty period, reimbursement up to stated dollar limit for repair or replacement of properly connected equipment damaged by a power surge.

One-stop shopping for headphones, adapters, chargers, more.





RadioShack has accessories for your new audio gear!

PHILIPS

69⁹⁹

The Perfect Headphones for Any Noisy Environment–Plane, Bus, Outdoors, Dorm

Comfortable, great-sounding Philips® headphones detect surrounding noise and instantly create a soundwave to cancel it out. Includes home stereo and airliner plug adapters. #33-1224





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Play Your Portable CD or MP3 Player Through Any FM Radio-Car or Home

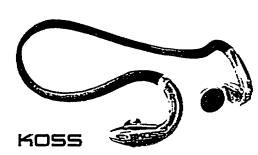
No wires required, just plug this irock!™ adapter into your portable player's headphone jack. Includes DC power cord. Also operates on 2 "AAA" batteries (extra) #12-2053



Sale **59**99

Enjoy Your Stereo or TV Sound Anywhere in the House

Up to 125-foot range. RCA® 900MHz wireless headphones work through walls, floors or ceilings. #33-1164 Reg 69 99 SAVE \$10



NEW 14⁹⁹
Great for Workouts!
Water-Resistant KOSS* Earbuds

Sound great, stay in place. Hairstyle-friendly behindthe-head design. In-line volume control. #33-1220



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Play your Portable CD or MP3 Through Your Car Cassette Player

Just load this RadioShack CD/cassette adapter like a tape. #12-1999

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29⁹⁹

Recharge Your New RadioShack GMRS/FRS 2-Way Radios in Only 2½ Hours

Compatible with RadioShack 2-way radios #21-1902 through #21-1905. Shuts off automatically. Keep your radios in the charger and they'll always be ready to use. #21-1930



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7199

Talk and Listen Hands Free

Comfortable RadioShack headset fits Motorola®, many RadioShack and other 2-way radios that have a single jack for headset and mic. Coiled cord. #21-1897



Select in-stock toys only. Availability varies by store. No rain checks or phone orders. Excludes ZipZaps™ micro RC and accessories, XMODS™ custom RCs and accessories, and LeapFroq.

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RadioShack® You've got questions. We've got answers.*

Offers/prices not available at all stores. Please inquire. Sale prices good through 1/1/04.

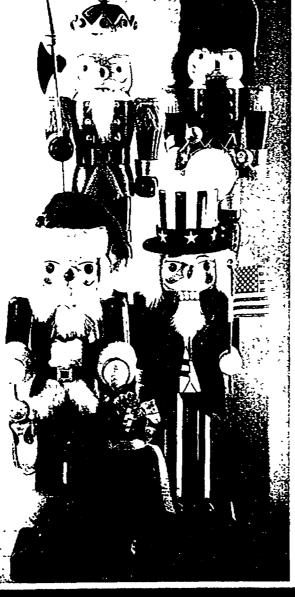
December 25, 2003

122503 BS

STARTS 7A.M. FRIDAY! 2 DAY AFTER CHRISTMAS CHRISTMAS & CLEARANCE! FRIDAY & SATURDAY - DEC. 26 & 27 ONLY!

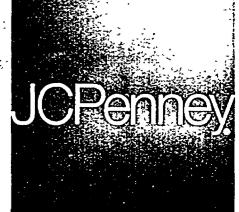








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COLD-WEATHER GLOVES, SCARVES & SETS FOR HER Shown: 3-pc. set









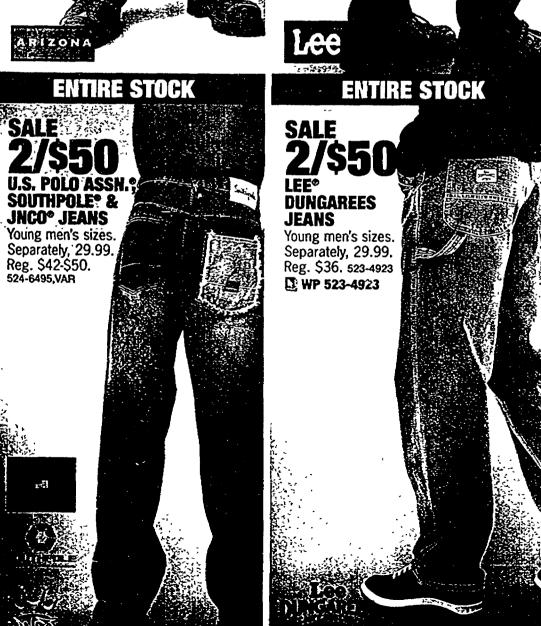
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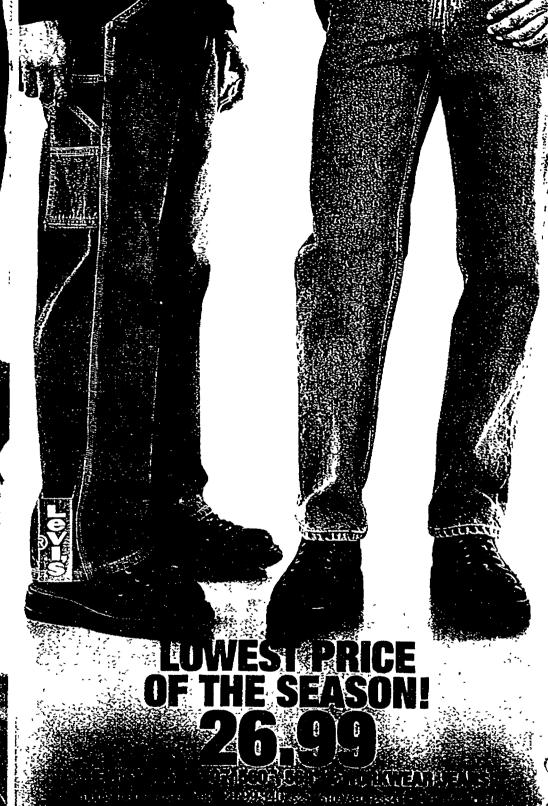
lei

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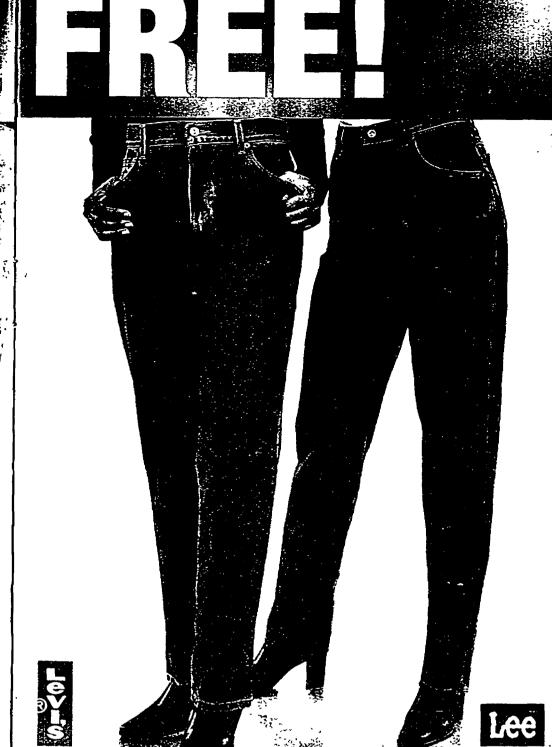
JCPenney 6





THE MEN'S LEVIS: JEANS IN-STOCK SIZE CHART . - In store, online or by phone.

.evi's® 505® and 550™ stonewash Jeans 523-4078,4510 in sizes indicated on the above chart.



SALE 26.99

LEVI'S* 550" JEANS

Misses' sizes 4-16 V.

Misses' sizes 4-16 V.

Women's sizes 8V.

Reg. 34.99 364 1000

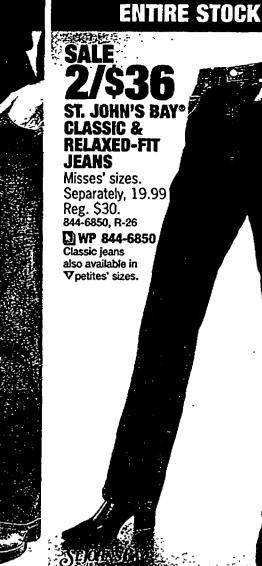
Available only in cold.

In store, online or by phone.

Levi's and Lee in-Stock Guarantee: We guarantee to have your size in stock. If we cannot have it shipped into your local JCPenney store within 5 working days, you will receive the jeans FREE!*

Limit one per customer. There is a 7-working day difference in Puerto Rico, Alaska and rural stores. Guarantee covers Levi's 550 stonewash jeans 844-8103 and Lee® relaxed-fit pepperstone jeans 844-8165 in the sizes indicated on the above charts









ENTIRE STOCK

🗅 - Online or by phone: jcpenney.com or 1-800-222-6161

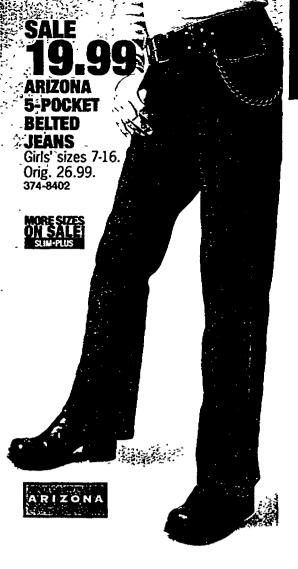
Levi's* in-Stock Guarantee:

We guarantee to have your size in stock. If we cannot have it shipped into your local JCPenney store within 5 working days, you will receive the jeans FREE!*

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ENTIRE STOCK





GIRLS' ARIZONA 5-POCKET JEANS IN-STOCK SIZE CHART															
SIZES	4	5	6	67	7	8	10	100	12	124	14	14	16	15	18
RAJUDS	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•		•		•		
SLIM	\$	S	S	\$	•	•	•		•		•		S	Γ	
PLUS								S		•		•		•	•

- 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 14 16 18 20 22 26
- Available in store, online or by phone: jcpenney.com or 1-800-222-6161
- S Available in JCPenney Stores only
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ARIZONA IN-STOCK GUARANTEE: We guarantee to have your size in stock. If we cannot have it shipped into your local JCPenney store within 5 working days, you will receive the jeans FREE!*

*Limit one per customer. There is a 7-working day difference in Puerto Rico, Alaska and rural stores. Guarantee covers girls' Arizona 5-pocket stonewash jeans 374-8084,85,354-8084,85 and 389-8084 and boys' Arizona 5-pocket relaxed stonewash jeans 423-8110/11, 413-6560,61 and 430-1110 in the sizes Indicated on the above chart.



รัสทัศษาสาร์เสสสังการ์สังค์เลา โดยการเการาการกระบานสังเกา เพิ่ม เล็กแล้งการ

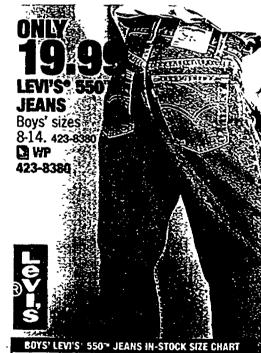
CARGO

JEANS

Girls' sizes 7-16.

Orig. 26.99. 374-8392, R-451 WP 374-8392

CARPENTER JEANS. Boys' sizes 8-20. Reg. 21.99. 423-8018, R-484 Husky and slim: sizes also available. WP 423-8018 ARIZONA BOYS' ARIZONA CARPENTER JEANS IN-STOCK SIZE CHART 4 5 6 7 8 10 12 14 16 18 20 22 26 REGULAR • • • • • • • • • •



BOYS' LEVI'S' 550™ JEANS IN-STOCK SIZE CHART 4 5 6 7 7x 8 9 10 11 12 14 16 REGULAR • • • • • D • D • • • • • • • • • • • • •

SIZES 10 12 14 16 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 36 • • • 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 HUSKY

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A Available online or phone: Jopenney.com or 1-LEVPS IN-STOCK GUARANTEE

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Limit one per customer. There is a 7-working day difference in Puerto Rico, Alaska and hard stores. Guarantee covers in Puerto Rico, Alaska and hard stores. Guarantee covers in Puerto Rico, Storewish jeans 423-8380,81,413-6580,81 and 430-1370 in the sizes indicated on the above chart.



IRE STOCK NIKE, NEW BALANCE, REEBOK. AND AVIA. SHOES ON SALE



Women's Air Monarch II crosstrainer. Reg. 59.95: 610-9411; R-271 WP 610-9411

> Men's 600 crosstrai Reg. 59.95. 609-9343, B-425 NP 609-9343

> > new balance

YOUR CHOICE **29.9**9

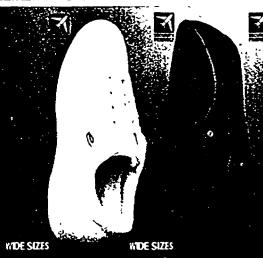




\$100.000,000 SHOE CLEARANCE ORIGINAL PRICES WHEN YOU TAKE AN ADDITIONAL 20% OFF ALREADY-REDUCED CLEARANCE PRICES

new balance

ENTIRE STOCK AVIA® Reg. 39.95 Men's 264 running st YOUR CHOICE



Women's Ace. Women's Motion. Leather, Also wheat. thite, Reg. 59 95. 026-1900, R-268 II WP 026-1900

Women's Jobi. Leather. Reg. 59.95. IN WP 026-3019

easus on the IT ONLY HAPPENS ONCE A YEAR. HURRY IN FOR THE BEST SELECTION!

609-9110

WIDE SIZES

Women's Bliss. Reg. 69.95. 026-3013. R-269 T WP 026-3013

Women's Threshold. Leather, Also white. Reg. 69.<mark>95. 026-301</mark>7 Women's Energetic. Leather. Also black. Only 49.95. 026-3039, R-269 IT WP 026-3039





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Leather.

026-3006

Reg. 59.95.

Items with this symbol are also available at Jopenney.com or by phone: 1-800-222-2343. See back cover for more details. Shoe selection varies by store. Excludes Value Right shoes. Wide sizes available in select stores

FINE BUERN GUSEUUS

\$199

AFTER EXTRA 25% OFF

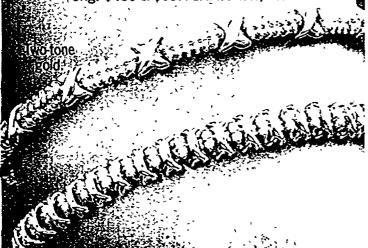
2 CT.T.W.

\$129_{EA.}

AFTER EXTRA 25% OFF

1 CT.T.W.

Bracelet: 10k gold.
Clearance 174.40 & 266.80
Orig: \$436 & \$667. 270/470-4060,9600



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40% OFF
CLEARANCE WATCHES
PLUS EXTRA
25% OFF

20-60% OFF FINE JEWELRY AND WATCHES

68.99 EA

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Sapphire/diamond ring or sapphire bracelet. 10k gold. Clearance 91.99 Orig. 229.99.

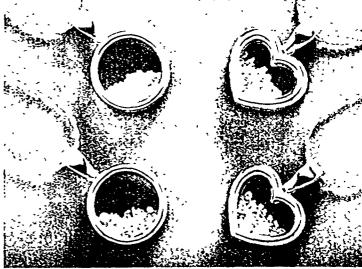


97,99 EA.

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1/2 CT.T.W.

Pendant. 10k gold. Clearance 131.60 Orig. \$329. 247/447-3367,66,69,68



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49.99 EA.

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Diamond accent ring. 10k gold. Clearance 71.99 Orig. 179.99. 247/447-3364,259-3256,57



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\$199 EA.

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1/2 CT.T.W. Pendant. 14k gold. Clearance 286.40 Orig. \$716.

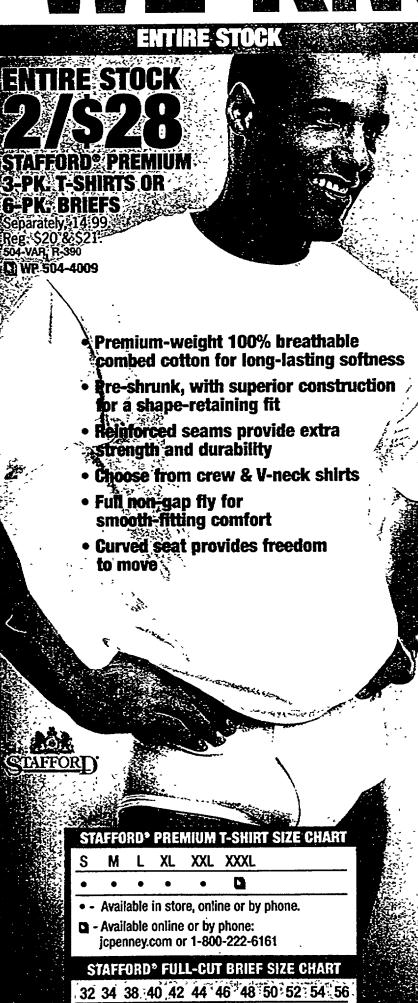
JEWELRY SALE PRICES EFFECTIVE THROUGH 1/3/04. Regular prices reflect offening prices which may not have resulted in actual sales. Any event designated as a "sale" always excludes Special Buys. Trunk Shows, Custom-ordered Fine Jewelry, re-owned Jewelry. Catalog/Internet Jewelry, items sold every day in 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. Gemstones 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.

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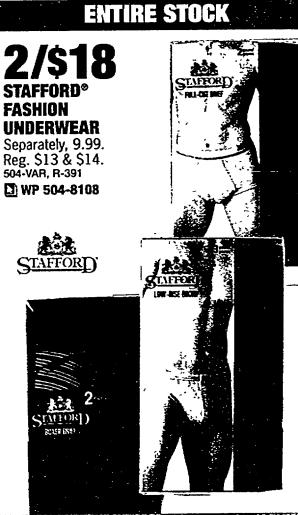
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FOR EXPANDED SIZES AND SELECTION ON EVERYDAY ESSENTIALS,
CALL OUR CATALOG AT 1.800.222.2343 OR GO TO JCPENNEY.COM

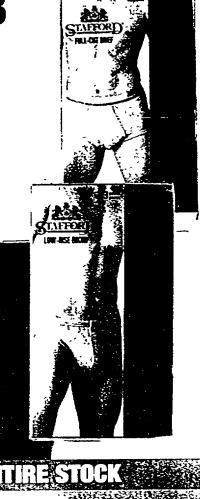


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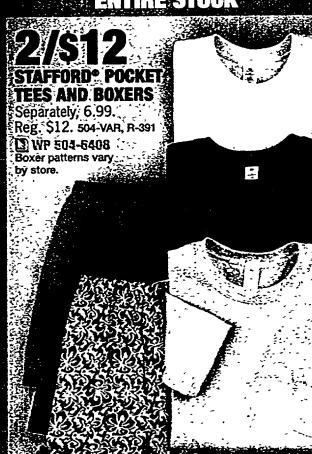


Separately, 11.99 Reg. \$16. 504-VAR,R-394



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ENTIRE STOCK

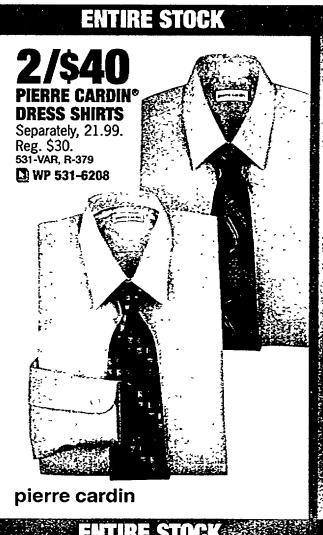


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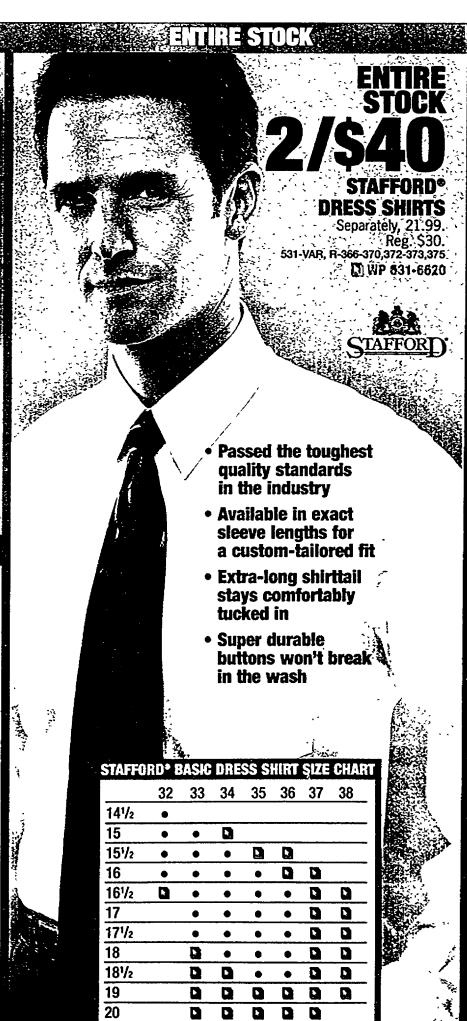
BRIEFS OR BOXER BRIEFS Separately, 11.99. Reg. \$16. 504-VAR, R-393 WP 504-5015



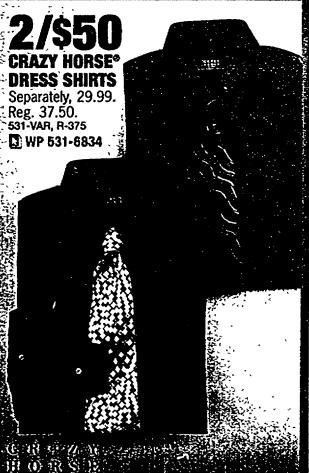
FOR EXPANDED SIZES AND SELECTION ON EVERYDAY ESSENTIALS, CALL OUR CATALOG AT 1.800.222.2343 OR GO TO JCPENNEY.COM

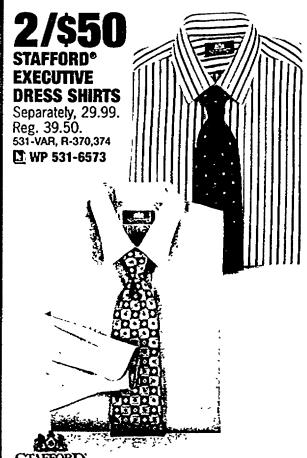




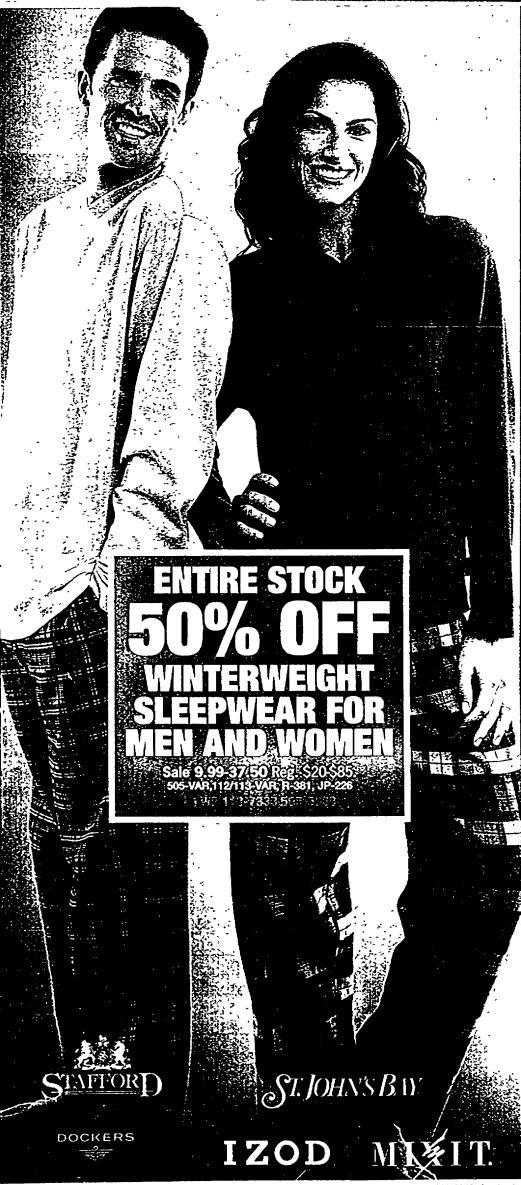








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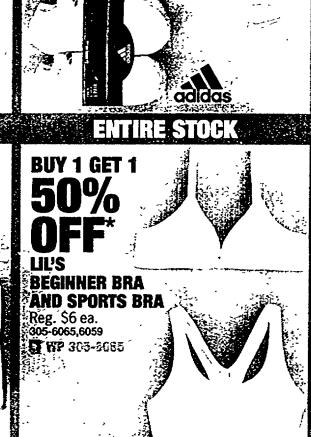




Crewwood







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SOCKS & ONESIES

FOR INFANTS

& TODDLERS

BUY 1 GET 1

SOCKS FOR BOYS

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WP 402-2225



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ANY SIZE includes microfiber comforter, sham(s) and pillow(s)

LIGHT WARMTH

FORTERS

ST. MORITZ COMFORTER Reg. \$210-\$230. TO WP 721-6801

SUPER WARMTH 199,99 ANY SIZE MASTERPIECE ** COMFORTER

550 fill power, Reg. \$280-\$300. 721-7111R, R-966 ₩P 721-7111

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5.99 TWIN FLAT OR FITTED SHEET 250-thread count Egyptian cotton, Reg. 12.99. 723-2324.25, R-983 Additional sizes on sale.

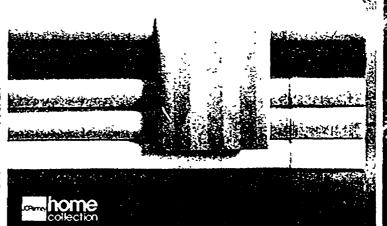
TWIN FLAT OR FITTED SHEET 270-thread count Sateen. Reg. 14.99, 723-2134,35. Additional sizes on sale.

*Excludes therapeutic pitlows and pads.

home collection



Sale 11.99-101.99 Reg. 19.99 720-VAR, R-963



275-thread count. Reg. 49.99. 723-2554,2674, R-984 Additional sizes on sale.



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69.99 ANY SIZE

QUEBEC COMFORTER

Reg. \$100-\$140_

MP 721-6600

OVERSIZED

SIGGER ONE COMFORTER

Oversized to fit deeper attress. Reg. \$180-\$220.

721-6710R

WP 721-6710

ANY SIZE

* Sheet sets include pillowcase(s), flat & fitted sheets.

230-thread count. Reg. 29.99. 723-1074, R-980

Section 1

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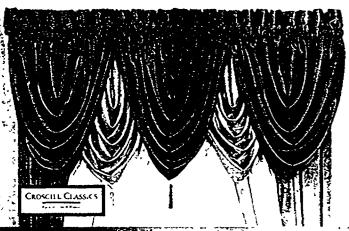
/OLOR® MADE-TO-MEASURE

CELLULAR SHADES On orders placed by 12/27/03 50% OFF ALL OTHER MADE-TO-MEASURE BLINDS, SHADES AND DRAPERIES





Reg. \$25. 731-5275,9290; R-800,809 * __Art E-771, 32-0 'Available 3 days only, 12/26-12/28!



84" panel or valance. Reg. \$40. 732-2284,85, R-771

20% Off All Decorative Hardware & Accessories



BUY 1

GET 1

50x84' pair, pinch-pleated draperies. Reg. \$45. Ascot or 732-1305, R-829/830 festoon valance. Sale 27.99 Reg. \$35, 732-1418,1343

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FOR JUST

ENTIRE STOCK SENSATION SHEERS 84" panel. \$25 731-5271, R-794 Scarf. \$70 731-5272, R-794

*Available 3 days only, 12/26-12/28!

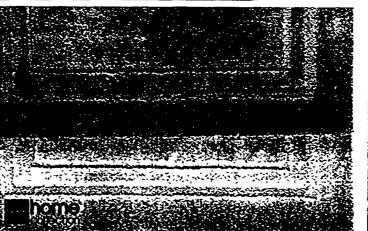
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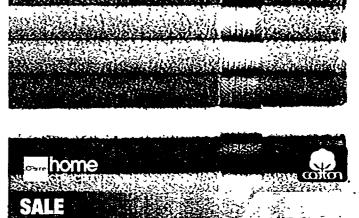




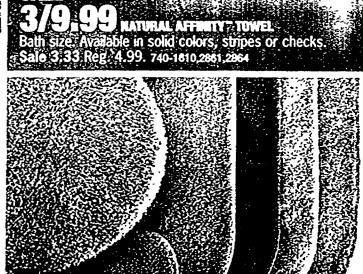
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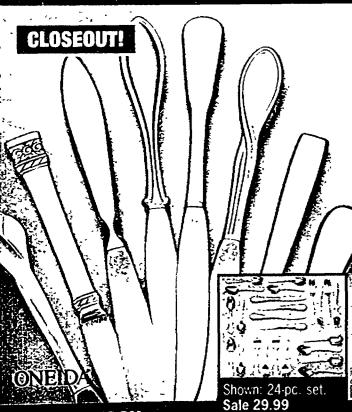
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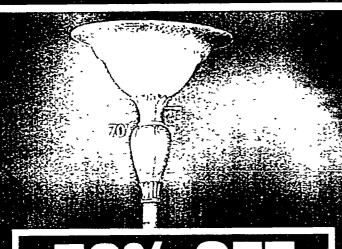
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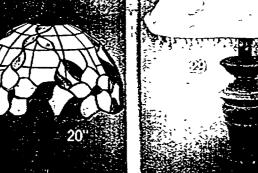


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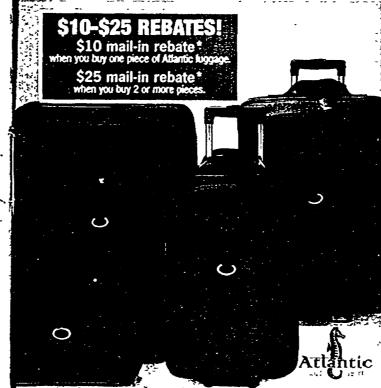


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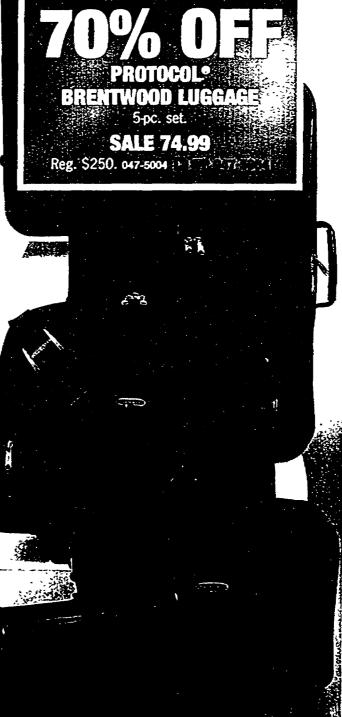
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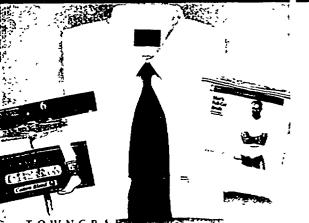
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FRIDAY, DECEMBER



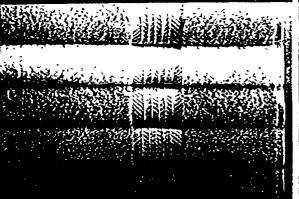
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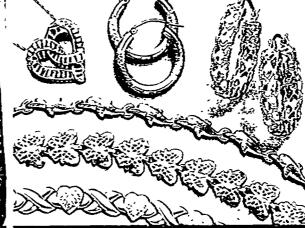
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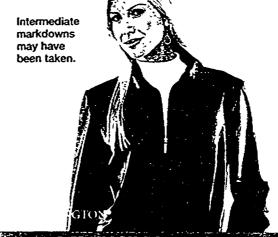
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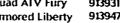
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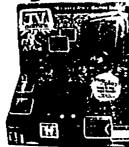
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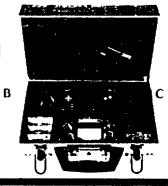
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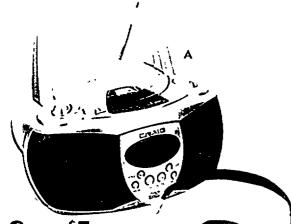




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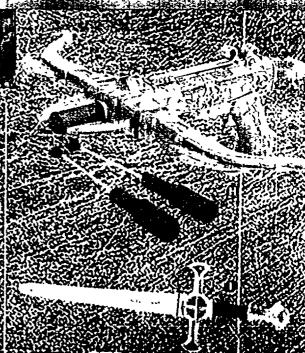
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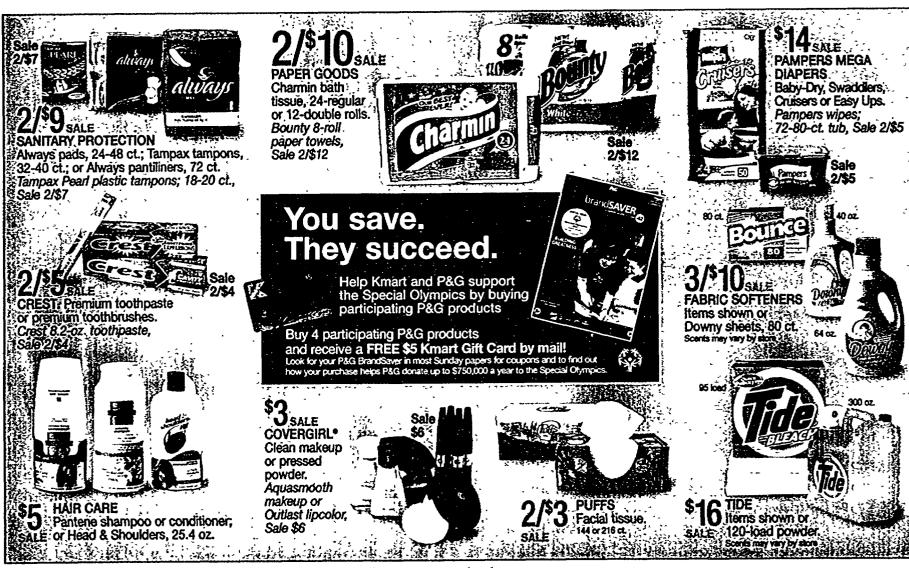
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Prices effective Friday, December 26 thru Saturday, December 27, 2003



AMELIAN POSE

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Mory on page 8

INSIDE

- Ste. Genevieve, Mo.
- · Wild rice salad

HEROES: The Tsui family feeds the notables

Ask American. Profile

Q The country group Trick Pony has been doing very well lately. Can you tell me something about how they got together?

-Bill F., New York

It all started when Trick Pony guitarist Keith Burns decided he wanted to form a trio made up of three distinct and unique members. At the time he was playing with Joe Diffie's band. He approached bassist Ira Dean, who worked with Tanya Tucker, because he liked his flashy style, sense of humor and musical chops. At about the

same time, singer Heidi Newfield got into a conversation with Burns' now ex-wife. She thought Newfield would make the perfect lead singer and passed the word on to Burns. When the three finally got together to see if they meshed musically, as well as theoretically, they knew they had something. Their first single, *Pour Me.* proved it. "Professionally, we all share the same vision for this group and the sky is the limit," Newfield says. "We all share a similar work ethic, which makes it easier on all three of us. And we all share a love of performing and writing... so though we may not always agree on songs and/or arrangements, we have learned how to listen to one another and work off of one another's strengths. Oh, we also have bi-monthly wrestling matches, which tends to take the edge off ... just kidding!"

Q I love Dr. Phil. What can you tell me about him? —Richard J., Arizona

Phillip C. McGraw, the self-help expert who refuses to sugar-coat his advice, was born on Sept. 1, 1950, to a salesman father and stay-at-home mom. He has three sisters, which may explain his understanding of women. Growing up in Texas and Oklahoma,

Dr. Phil McCo azz tell, it like he scesat

McGraw excelled as a football player, winning a scholarship to the University of Tulsa. He went on to earn his doctorate in psychology and open a practice with his father, who also had decided to study psychology. Though he practiced for a number of years, he never felt comfortable in the job. "From the very beginning, it wasn't for me. I didn't have the patience for it," he says. Instead, he opened a business called Courtroom Sciences, which helps lawyers with behavior analysis of those involved in a trial. He met talk show host Oprah Winfrey when she hired his company to help defend her against a lawsuit by the beef industry. His nononsense style led to his appearance on her show, and a new career was born. As for his qualifications in

relationship

giving

two sons.



Trick Pony's bassist Ira Dean (left), singer Heidi Newfield and guitarist Keith Burns share a laugh.

Q I remember Miguel Ferrer's father in movies. He looks so much like his father. What can you tell us about Miguel?

—Janyth S., Ohio Miguel Ferrer, a regular cast member of Crasing Jordan. is the son of actor Jose Ferrer, who passed away in 1992, and the late entertainer Rosemary Clooney (which makes him a cousin to actor George Clooney). At first, Miguel chose to follow his mother's career footsteps rather than his father's, embarking on a musical career. He worked as a studio musician, and had a band with Billy Murny, who was perhaps best known as young Will Robinson on the sci-fi series Lost In

Space. It was Murny who lured his

friend into acting, casting him in the



Actor Miguel Ferrer.

short-lived series Sunshine. Though he still keeps a hand in music, Miguel is best known as an actor, having appeared on ER. The Stand and recently off-Broadway in The Exonerated. He and his wife have two sons. Jose Ferrer also started on a different career path, planning to become an architect before he realized that acting was his true calling. Born in Puerto Rico in 1909, Jose studied drama at Princeton University, and soon went on to Broadway. In addition to acting, he built a reputation as a director, but is probably best known for his Academy Award-winning performance in

1950's Cyrano de Bergerac. He also appeared in the films
The Caine Mutiny, The Greatest Story Ever Told and A
Midsummer Night's Sex Comedy.

* Cover photo by Todd Yarrington

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advice: He and his wife,

Robin, have been married

for 26 years, and they have



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INDIANA—In 1840, Father Joseph Kundek platted Ferdinand (pop. 2,277) and named the German settlement after the emperor of Austria.

IOWA—The 1927 George M. Verity, the first river steamboat to move barges between St. Louis and St. Paul on the Mississippi River, is berthed at Keokuk (pop. 11,427) and open as a museum.

KANSAS-Students at the University of Kansas Medical Center in Kansas City operate the JayDoc Free Clinic for Wyandotte County residents who lack adequate health insurance. Students are supervised by volunteer physicians.

MICHIGAN—In 2001, Melvin Hemker of St. Charles (pop. 3,393) grew a world-record sunflower with 837 flowers on a single plant.

MINNESOTA—Begun in 1912, the St. Olaf Christmas Festival at St. Olaf College in Northfield (pop. 17,147) is one of the nation's oldest musical celebrations of Christmas.

MISSOURI—The birthplace of sliced bread reportedly is M.F. Bench's Chillicothe Baking Co. in Chillicothe (pop. 8,968). The company installed inventor Otto Rohwedder's bread slicer and began marketing wrapped loaves of sliced bread in 1928.

NEBRASKA—The Hastings (pop. 24,064) Chamber of Commerce held a ribbon-cutting ceremony last September to welcome a restroom. Harriet McFeely nearly lost her catering business because it was equipped with only one restroom, instead of the two required by local zoning.

NORTH DAKOTA—Eight bridges span the Sheyenne River in Valley City (pop. 6,826), nicknamed City of Bridges.

OHIO—Woodward Opera House in Mount Vernon (pop. 14,375) stars as one of the nation's oldest opera houses. The first documented performance was in 1851.

SOUTH DAKOTA—Sculptor James Earl Fraser, who created the model for the 1913 buffalo nickel, grew up on a ranch near Mitchell (pop. 14,558).

WISCONSIN—The Round Table, the student newspaper at Beloit College in Beloit (pop. 35,775), marks its 150th anniversary this year.



Hometown Feeding the the Notables

A squadron of shiny black limousines stopped in front of a Chinese restaurant in Falls Church, Va., (pop. 10,377) not long ago. Tall men dressed in black leapt from the cars, whispering into their cufflinks as they opened the limo doors.

Inside the restaurant, the Tsui (pronounced "choy") family knew it was just another visit by one of their regular customers from across the Potomac River in Washington, D.C. And this time the man asking about the daily special was President George W. Bush.

Peking Gourmet Inn has long been a favorite of Washington's notables. Secretary of State Colin Powell visits often, as do National Security Adviser Condoleezza Rice and Tipper Gore, the wife of former Vice President Al Gore.

"But actually," says Robert Tsui, who runs the restaurant with siblings George, Lily, and Nina, "we consider all our customers VIPs. Over the years, many have become personal friends."

The Tsuis, who immigrated to the United States from Hong Kong in the 1970s, are living examples of the American dream, one realized not long after their father, Eddie, opened the family's first eatery in Hong Kong in the 1950s.

"My father was a gregarious guy, and he got to know lots of Americans in Hong Kong," Robert says. "Many of them were originally from the Washington area. They told him it was a great place to live, the weather was mild, and the air clean. He knew it was a new opportunity, and off we went."

In its first years, the new restaurant lost money. But through determination and old-fashioned hard work, its reputation for authentic northern Chinese cuisine spread.

And one by one, Eddie's children followed in his footsteps. George became a professional chef and joined the business early on. Robert earned a doctorate in organic chemistry and joined the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, but when their father became ill and could no longer run the restaurant, Robert stepped in.

"In some ways," Robert says, "I've been a traditional Chinese son-when my father needed help, I wanted to be there for him, because he was there for all of us when we were growing up."

> When they first arrived in America, the siblings confronted varying degrees of adjustment. Robert already was in college, so the change went smoothly. But Lily was only 13 when she enrolled in Thomas Jefferson High School.

> This was in the early 1970s, and I was the only Chinese kid in the whole school," Lily recalls. "I had long, black shiny hair, and oftentimes the other girls would come up and touch it, as they hadn't seen anything like this before."

> Lily soon made lasting friendships, though, and after earning a college degree in nutrition, she joined the family business and soon was followed by Nina.

Through it all, they've been each other's greatest supporters.

Robert Tsui poses with

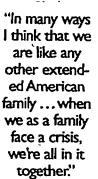
President George W. Bush.

"In many ways I think that we are like any other extended American family ... when we as a family face a crisis, we're all in it together, all in the firing line," Robert says. "Here everyone rolls up their sleeves and gets involved, whether it's creating a new dish or handling a funding problem."

Eddie Tsui died several years ago, but his wife, Yuk Yung Cheung, now 84 and the family matriarch, "still calls up every day and gives us orders," Robert says, laughing.

"My mom has come a long way," Lily adds. "She and Dad had an arranged marriage; they never even saw each other until the day they got married."

Lily and Robert know their own children will make choices for themselves.



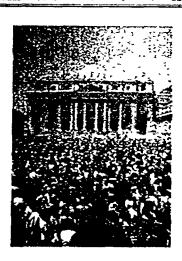


This new generation of ours, born and raised here, are typical Americans," Robert says. "But I think eventually . . . the Asian traits may surface when they're dealing with their kids, and they'll be true examples of the blending of two cultures."

And as for those famous patrons—they've come through in a pinch. Lily recalls the first time the elder George Bush visited the restaurant. After finishing his meal, the then-vice president pulled out his American Express card, and Lily had to inform the second-most powerful man in the world that they didn't take American Express.

"He then pulled out from his wallet this very old check," Lily says. "I don't know how long it had been there, but you could tell that it must have been ages . . . he was laughing, but it was so embarrassing for me." First thing the next morning, Lily phoned American Express.

Steven Knipp is a writer from Arlington. Va.



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Savoring a French Flavor

More than half a century before the United

States purchased the Louisiana Territory from France, French settlers from Canada were helping shape the future of a colonial settlement along the Mississippi River. Their legacies live on in Ste. Genevieve, Mo.

Settled about 1740, Ste. Genevieve (pop. 4,476)—named after the patroness of Paris—is among the best preserved French colonial communities in America and evidence of the town's original settlers survives in its architecture, street and family names, customs and celebrations.

"Ste. Genevieve has the most vertical log French colonial structures in North America," says Frank Myers, president of The Foundation for the Restoration of Ste. Genevieve.

The Amoreux, Vital Beauvais, and Bequette-Ribault homes are built in the *poteatix-en-terre* (post-in-ground) style with vertical log walls, made of cedar, set directly into the ground without a foundation. As many as 20 other Ste. Genevieve homes have vertical log walls with stone foundations, a construction method called *poteatix-sur-solle* (post-on-sill).

Some of the town's narrow streets bear French names such as DuBourg Place, Gabouri and LaHaye, and many buildings and homes in the downtown National

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The 1818 Felix Vallé House originally served as a merchant store and family quarters. Historic Landmark District have markers with names such as Beauvais, Buldoc, LeCompte and Hubardeau, some dating to the 1770s.

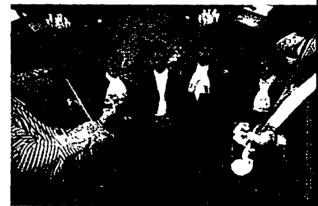
One French custom that survives in Ste. Genevieve is *la guignolée* (Gi-O-nee), in which 25 masked merrymakers dressed in outrageous outfits stop at inns, bars and other locations on New Year's Eve to sing a folk song in French welcoming the new year.

Some say la guignolée, which is analogous to the English custom of wassailing, dates back to medieval times in France. Others say the tradition started in Canada.

Today, Ste. Genevieve residents carry on the age-old tradition in honor of their ancestors. "My grandfather taught it to my cousins and me," says Steve Papin, 33. "I'm proud to sing it in honor of him."

Seven generations of the Papin family have participated in the event. Steve's uncle, Pete Papin, 67, taught the tradition to his granddaughter, Erin Martin, 7, who first sang with the group in 2001.

The roving wassailers, mostly men, are composed of four lead singers dressed in frock coats and top hats accompanied by two fiddle players and about 20 chanters. The leaders sing a verse followed by the chanters, dressed as trappers, soldiers, Oriental potentates, American Indians and pirates, repeating it while circling them in a shuffling march. Their reward is food and drink.



Lo guignolée revelers perform a French folk song.

Celebrations throughout the year honor the town's French heritage. Les Petits Chanteur (little singers), ages 4-19, perform at the King's Ball in February, La Fete Française (French Festival) on Memorial weekend, Jour dé Fete (Day of Celebration) in August (the largest art and craft fair in Missouri), and Christmas Walk in December. "We sing in French, German and English," says Patti Naeger, director of the singing troupe.

Led by Naeger playing an accordion, the children, dressed in French colonial costumes, skip along, singing songs.

Open house at the 1818 Felix Vallé House, a state historic site once home to a prominent merchant, is held each December. "We try to recreate some customs of the early 1800s that might have been here in Ste. Genevieve," says Jim Baker, administrator. French Christmas carols, decorations, customs and food are a part of the event.

Art Papin, 74, speaks for other local residents when he says, "We're dedicated to the town's history."

Diana West is a freelance writer in Joplin. Mo.

For more Information on Ste. Genevieve, located along the Mississippi River 60 miles south of St. Louis, call (573) 883-3686 or log onto www.sointegenevieve.org.



Wild Rice Salad

"I store this salad in a large plastic bag and turn it occasionally to marinate it evenly. It's even better the second day."

What's your FAVORITE recipe?

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HOMETOWN RECIPES, 341 Cool Springs Blvd., Suite 400, Franklin, TN 37067.

Include a color photo of yourself, 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 Americon Profile. (Sorry, we can't return any materials.)





6 ounces wild rice 1/4 cup rice vinegar 1/4 cup olive oil 1/4 cup soy sauce

2 cloves fresh garlic, minced

3 tablespoons fresh ginger root, minced 1/4 pound snow peas

3 cups bean sprouts

6-ounce can sliced water chestnuts, drained

7-ounce can sliced mushrooms, drained 1/4 cup chopped toasted cashews

Cook wild rice according to package instructions, drain and rinse. In a medium bowl, whisk together vinegar, oil, soy sauce, garlic, and ginger root. Add water chestnuts and mushrooms. Toss in rice, snow peas, and bean sprouts. Refrigerate and top with cashews at serving time.

Tips From Our Test Kitchen:

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

Happenings must be submitted four months prior to event.

Toss in some cherry tomatoes with the snow peas for a red and green holiday accent. This delightful salad is ideal with roast turkey, ham, or roast beef.



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Bald Eagle Days-Rock Island, Jan. 10-11. Watch live eagle shows presented by The World Bird Sanctuary, see a live Kodiak bear, and enjoy a wildlife art show and environmental fair at the QCCA Expo Center. (309) 788-5912.

INDIANA

Brown County Winter Hike and Festival-Nashville, Jan. 10. Join a 2.75-mile or 3.5-mile hike, enjoy a lunch buffer, and browse arts & crafts during this event at Brown County State Park and other locations around town. (800) 753-3255.

IOWA

Appliqué Anthology: Unique Artistry in Quilts-Waterloo, through Jan. 4. View antique and contemporary applique quilts and wall hangings during this exhibit at the Grout Museum of History and Science. (319) 234-6357.

KANSAS

Spirit of the Mask-Shawnee, through Jan. 4. See 100 masks representing cultures from around the world, and learn about their designs, stories, and cultural significance at the Johnson County Museum of History. (913) 631-6709.

MICHIGAN

Earth and Fire-Flint, through Feb. 1. This exhibit features Chinese ceramics, including utilitarian vessels, porcelain figures, and an earthenware horse from the Neolithic era to the Qing Dynasty at the Flint Institute of Arts. (810) 234-1695.

MINNESOTA

Ice Fest-Pequot Lakes, Jan. 9-10. Enjoy snowmobile races, snow golf, an ice auger contest, ice slide, dog sled rides, live music, a dance on ice, and Point Resort. (800) 950-0291

MISSOURI

Adventure Travels through Pakistan-Springfield, Jan. 9. Enjoy photographs and a talk by David Freeman about his journey down the lower Indus River on the Mohana Boat People's wooden houseboats. Library Station. (417) 874-8120.

NEBRASKA

Nebraska Territory-Plattsmouth. through Jan. 31. Celebrate the 150th anniversary of Plattsmouth and the Nebraska Territory during this exhibit featuring maps, photographs and paintings. Cass County Historical Society Museum. (402) 296-4770.

NORTH DAKOTA

Ice Fishing Derby—Harvey, Jan. 4. Participants of all ages fish for Northern pike, walleye, crappie and perch, and comfireworks during this event at Breezy pete for more than \$1,600 in cash prizes at

OHIO

Wilberforce: A Community of Leadership and Learning-Wilberforce, through June 6. Learn what life was like for African-Americans in this rural town from 1865 to 1974 during this exhibit at the National Afro-American Museum. (800) 752-2603.

SOUTH DAKOTA

Dakota Farm Show-Vermillion, Jan. 6-8. Browse farm machinery, vehicles, cultivation equipment, and agricultural products during this 21st annual event in the Dakota Dome at the University of South Dakota. (800) 873-1411.

WISCONSIN

World Championship Snowmobile Derby-Eagle River, Jan. 10-18. More than 300 professional and amateur "sledders" compete for cash prizes during this the Harvey Reservoir on the Sheyenne cointernational event at the Eagle River (701)/3/242/520. Defly trick (7/6)/4/92/27/55

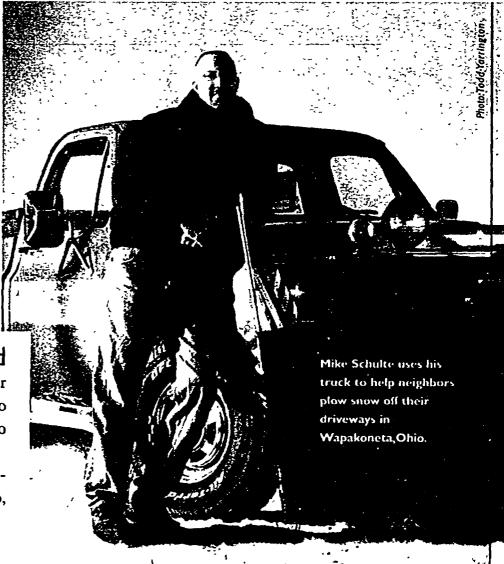
by CAROL DAVIS

Ordinary Americans doing good deeds for one another When American Profile asked

readers to tell us about acts of kindness done for them, we received hundreds of letters about kind souls who went miles out of their way or took hours from their day to make someone's journey a little easier.

"I didn't know they made people like you anymore," contributor Donna Hanback recalls saying to her "rescuer." Indeed, they do, as these stories show.

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Clearing the way
As a youngster, Mike Schulte frequently shoveled snow from elderly residents' driveways or offered to help in any way, yet he never asked for payment, says Lisa and Jon Barrett of Wapakoneta, Ohio.

"Well, Mike's all grown up now, yet he's still out clearing the neighbors' driveways, though now he has a pickup truck to plow with," they say.

When several inches of snow falls in the Ohio Valley, Schulte is hard at it, before work, clearing

"He's also been known to stop and plow for people he sees out struggling with shovels as he drives past an area," the Barretts write.

"We're pretty sure that not everyone chooses to pay Mike," they say, "but that doesn't stop him from clearing their drives."

Beauty inside and out

Verta Campbell, of Easley, S.C., decided to treat herself to a manicure and the affable Campbell easily struck up a conversation with another

When the manicurist asked her what she would like, Campbell replied she never had allowed herself such a "fancy" indulgence and simply wanted something nice for Thanksgiving.

The technician suggested "the works," but Campbell replied she couldn't afford anything that extravagant, says her son, Rock White.

To her amazement, the new friend said, 'Give her everything. I'll pay for it."

"Mother managed a tearful, 'I am so grateful,' as the thoughtful woman patted her on the back and wished her a wonderful holiday," White says.

Campbell didn't get the woman's name, but she'll never forget her.

"Perhaps she will never know how warmly she affected my family," White says, "but then, again, maybe she does and that's why she did it."

Compassion for a child

When Sammy and Donna Hanback's daughter, Tori, 3, was undergoing chemotherapy for lymphoma, they usually traveled to Nashville, Tenn., from their

Stranded on the highway, the Hanbacks found kindness in strangers when they needed it most.



home in Cypress Inn, Tenn., on Sunday afternoons and stayed overnight, so Tori wouldn't be so fatigued for Monday treatments.

Last January, en route to Nashville, the Hanbacks' car broke down on Interstate 65, near Franklin, Tenn., about 25 miles south of Nashville. No motorists stopped to help the young family.

Then, the Franklin Police Department came to our aid," Donna Hanback says.

Two officers-Hanback can't remember their names-called a tow truck and arranged for the Hanbacks and their car to get to a nearby motel.

The next morning, the tow truck driver, Chris Watson, came back and towed our car to be worked on. He didn't charge us anything for both towings," she says.

While Sammy Hanback waited with their car, Watson's brother-in-law, Tony Self, drove Donna and Tori to Vanderbilt University so the little girl wouldn't miss her chemo treatment. "Before we got out of the truck, he prayed for her," Donna Hanback says. "I told him, 'I didn't know they made people like you

We will forever be grateful for their kindness," she says.

Wrapped in warmth

Glenna Hoff, of Prescott, Ariz., has immersed herself in the area's rich history. As a museum volunteer, she dresses in authentic 1860s costumes to re-enact a settler's life on the prairie and teaches crafts and skills of that period.

Scott employee JENNIFER EGAN

The state of the s

scott tissue's thousand sheets last solong, there's always enough to go around.



Common Sense on a Roll



Glenna Hoff displays the shawl that brought tears of joy.

(Continued from page 8)

Anne Foster, the museum's young assistant archivist, asked Hoff to teach her to knit. Foster then left to do postgraduate work in Colorado.

Two years later, Hoff received a package from Foster with a note: "Dear Glenna: There is a Hopi tradition that says the first item you complete after learning a traditional craft should go to the person who taught you the skills. I think this is a wonderful idea. So, after almost two years, here it is-my first shawl."

The pattern was from an 1851 book of crafts.

"With tears in my eyes, I lifted the most beautiful shawl out of the box from a very special person, busy with studies and commitments, who took the time to give back," Hoff says.

Christmas cheer

Amy J. Gardner of Loogootee, Ind., was a recently divorced mother of three young children, ages 8, 6, and 4.

Wages from her factory job barely paid the rent, child care, and utilities.

The children knew we were poor, but we were getting by," she says. "Christmas approached, and I explained to them that were would be very little Santa would bring. They understood."

Co-workers talked about their children and off-handedly asked Gardner about hers.

"A couple of days before Christmas, our company put on a Christmas party and I reluctantly attend-

Back home again

Erik Rognlien, of Williston, N.D., immigrated in 1957 to North Dakota from Norway, married, and had two children. Yet his Norwegian family had never met Rognlien's new family.

With a wife, two small children, and having just purchased a house, we didn't know when we would be able to afford a trip to Norway to see Erik's family," his wife Linda says.

Friends who knew of their desire threw a surprise party for the couple and gave them four airline tickets to Norway.

"We were overwhelmed with the kindness and generosity of the people of this community who took it upon themselves to see that Erik and his family got to go to Norway and meet his family," Linda says. "I have never heard of such kindness anywhere else."



Friends bought Erik and Linda Rognlien airfare.

ed. As I walked into the room, all of the employees yelled, 'This is all for you!'

"I looked at the huge Christmas tree, then at the large piles of boxes under the tree." Gardner's co-workers gave her enough food and gifts to fill three vans. "It was," Gardner says, "a great Christmas after all."

One good deed

Rosetta E. Samuelian, of Warwick, R.I., was taking a coffee break when she confided to a store co-worker that if she couldn't pay off the remaining \$100 for her surgery, she would be taken to court.

A customer overheard the conversation and handed her a single bill.

"She said she was a born-again Christian and God told her to help someone out," Samuelian says. "After she left, I found out it was a \$100 bill."

Samuelian continues that stranger's kindness by aiding others. "When a homeless person asks me for money, I give it to them," she says. "One good deed deserves another good deed."

Feeding the spirit

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experienced in the last year.

an unexpected act of

Kristy Dryden of Canon City, Colo., like most young people, struggled financially in her early 20s.

"It took all my money to pay deposits, first and last month's rent, etc.," she says. "There was no money left for food and one had to work for two weeks to get the first paycheck."

A nurse at the hospital where Dryden worked

nearly 30 years ago seemed to understand the struggle.

"She showed up at my door with a box of food staples to get me through until payday. I felt that I was in heaven," she says.

The Good Samaritan wouldn't allow Dryden to repay her. "She just said, 'Do it for someone else along the way," Dryden says. "I have repaid that favor by doing just the same thing."

Helping hand

Martha Barham, of Bolivar, Tenn., and a friend had taken a shopping trip to a variety store in nearby Memphis and parked in a handicapped space because of Barham's severe arthritis.

When the store's loudspeaker paged the owner of the blue Lincoln parked in the handicapped space, Barham figured she'd forgotten to display her handicapped placard.

She was met by a young couple who noticed she had a flat tire and wanted to change it for her.

"I assumed they were store employees, but I later discovered they simply were customers leaving the store who had seen the flat tire," she says.

She tried to pay them, but the couple declined. "I have a grandmother and I'd like to think that if something like this happened to her, someone would help her," the young man said.

The young strangers' kindness touched Barham.

"Their thoughtfulness and concern for someone they didn't even know will forever be a cherished memory for me." 🆈

Compiled by Carol Davis, a Nashville, Tem., freelance writer.

by TOM MILNER



"Too bad these plates only have three sections. By the time I get meat bread and dessert there's no room for vegetables."

American Profile · Page 10

Think of them as a Mute button for the world around you.

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