Northville, Michigan

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Christmas Kiss



Civic Concern

Northville Civic Concern hosted its annual party Monday, helping local familes who value the community support offered by the non-profit organization.

- Page 21A

From the Heart



Student Gifts

What gift would local students give their parents - if they couldn't spend a dime? And how would they prepare a holiday meal. See for yourself!

-- Page 12A

Obituaries

Obituaries

Nofa M. LeSage, 68 Donald W. Naar, 85

- Page 9A

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BINDERY SONS

Cold relief?

Bitter cold, snow sets up busy holiday weekend

By Kim Koveile RECORD STAFF WRITER

'Twas two days before Christmas and so we've been told, the weekend will be snowy - and also quite cold!

Bearer of the wintry news this week was the National Weather Service, predicting a 12-degree high with a chance of snow on Santa's big day.

A Wednesday night snowstorm

The City of Northville's fire department responded to 23 calls last weekend. See what fire prevention tips people are being asked to remember. Page 5A.

was expected to blanket town with as many as six inches of snow or as little as one.

"Either way we're going to have a white Christmas," said Danny Costello, meteorologist at White Lake's National Weather Service post. "That's going to be followed by another arctic blast. It's going to be pretty cold Friday and Saturday."

That follows frigid weather earlier this week. Sunday's windchill dipped as low as 30 degrees in areas

Costello said Metro Detroit's normal high temp this time of year is 34 degrees, while the low is 22 degrees.

In other words, it'll be chilly, so bundle up.

"Dress in layers," said Regina Simone, general family physician in Northville. "If it is bitterly cold

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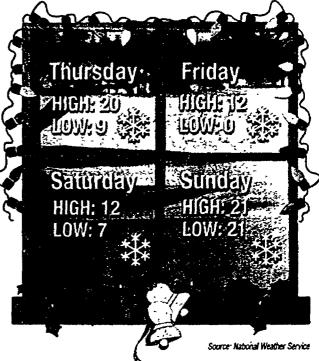




Photo by JOHN HEIDER/NORTHVILLE RECORD

SANTA CLAUS made one final stop before heading back to the North Pole for last-minute Christmas Eve preparations. The Great Elf stopped by the Northville Record office and designed his ideal front-page. "Merry Christmas, Northville!" he exclaimed. "See you in 24 hours!"

'Merry Christmas!

With 48 hours to go, the final shopping rush is on — so keep your patience, experts say

By Kim Kovelle RECORD STAFF WRITER

Chrissy Curvin made final holiday shopping stops in Northville last weekend.

"I still do have a few more things to go," said Curvin, who'd just picked up gift supplies from Great Harvest Bread Co. "My Christmas Shopping Christmas Eve." husband notoriously is out

With about 48 hours to go, odds are high many procrastinators will join him. If you're one, go with patience — and a plan.

Handling the onslaught

If you're headed into the fray, Eccept one fact: It's a jungle out

"Keep your sense of humor, that's probably No. 1," said Tom Scott, spokesman for the flichigan Retailers Association. It does get frantic, especially this year with Christmas being En a Saturday. Lunch hours and after work and in between, peo-File will be really jammed for

Last-minute holiday preparations got you down? We have you covered. Need to know what to do with the kids during Along with her mother-in-law their week off? Searching for a suitable dinner toast? Or and three young daughters, are you simply preparing for church services and pending gift returns? Page 19A.

Make a list of possibilities ahead of time, as well as back-

"Retailers are keeping leaner inventories. If there's a very popular item, there is a chance it could be gone," Scott said. "You might want to check first or think of a couple places."

Keep in mind that stores may be iammed, too, so be patient with customer service, cashiers and fellow shoppers.

Last minute ideas

If you're still at square one for gift ideas, try local suggestions. Practical and multi-purpose, a gift basket might do the trick. At Northville Township's Good Time Party Store, liquor and wine baskets with other goodies are pre-made from \$19.95. They're open 9 a.m.-6 p.m.

Christmas Eve. "We have a bunch of them



we custom make them too, owner Dave Tuer said. "It's kind of personalized. We have pistachios, we have different glasses, things of that nature."

For stocking-stuffers or seasonal fare, various downtown Northville shops feature smaller items, from ornaments to toothbrushes.

The Northville Chamber of Commerce, open until 4:30 p.m. tomorrow, has "Certifichecks," good at nearly 75 town shops. In city and township, many stores



Jackie Schoendorf and Northville's Good Time Party Store on Seven Mile Road have plenty of ready-to-go gifts for the last minute shopper, including wine and cheese gift baskets.

host pre-Christmas sales.

There's been more and more discounting up front," Scott said. Gone are the days when you had to wait until after Christmas to get good sales."

Preferences, open tomorrow, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., has a store-wide, 20 percent off discounts.

One of the best last minute (gifts) of course are potpourri and candles," employee Linda

Burnia said. For food, there may be something extra at Cassel's Catering on Seven Mile Road,

open Friday, 8 a.m.-1 p.m..
"I usually get deliveries two days a week," Dennis Tringovski, manager, said. "Last minute, I can come up with some veggie trays (or) some kind of sandwiches."

continued on 19A

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COLD: Old Man Winter throws fresh snowfall into Christmas mix

continued from 1 A

and you're elderly, you should just stay inside."

Remember these cold-weather tips from the American Red Cross and other sources:

- Exposure to low tempera-tures and high wind speeds can cause frostbite, hypothermia and other injuries. For extra warmth, wear mittens rather than gloves, waterproof insulated boots and a hat - preferably one with ear coverage.
- Pain and numbness can start after just a few minutes of exposure, Simone said. Seek medical attention immediately at the first signs of frostbite which may include gray, white or yellow skin discoloration; numbness; and waxy-feeling skin.
- · Once inside, quickly swap wet clothes for dry attire and increase your body temperature with a blanket or warm fluids, such as hot cider or soup.
- · Watch food intake in general. Simone suggests eating healthier and not skipping meals. Also, drinking alcohol can lower the body temperature, so moderate if you're headed

SNOW? OR NO?

Get the latest on holiday weather from the National Weather Service:

- Phone: (248) 620-9804, 8 a.m.-4 p.m., Monday-Friday
- Web: www.weather.gov
- · Remember kids. Instead of leaving them at the bus stop, Simone said you might want to
- consider driving them to school.
 Take care of pets, too. Wipe salt and snow from paws after walks. Michigan Humane Society Spokeswoman Nancy Gunnigle said, "Always error on the side of bringing your dog inside."
- When traveling during the holidays, give yourself extra time and pay attention to weather advisories and weather condi-
- · Stock vehicles with an emergency winter kit including blankets, food, flares, chains, gloves and first aid supplies. Keep up

with regular maintenance, too.
Stay safe and warm this Christmas weekend.

"Saturday morning might be pretty cold," Costello said. "It's that time of year."

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Township makes hospital property plans

.Board agrees to bring on extra professionals

By Kim Kovelle RECORD STAFF WRITER

Township officials will be asking for a little help when it comes to developing the former Northville -Psychiatric Hospital property on Seven Mile Road.

By a 6-1 margin, the board of trustees approved Supervisor Mark Abbo's motion to seek extra professional services to help the township with prospective developer Real Estate Interests.

Clerk Sue Hillebrand dissented. "It's a complex development with difficult issues, and I want to be assured that any action or reacresult in undue hardship," Abbo result in union marking, said. "What we're doing is making sure we just have additional coun-

Services could include attorneys,

appraisers, land planners or other consultants, Abbo said.

No bidding process is required for these services. However, as part the proposal, Abbo will join planning commission chair George McCarthy and member Bob Nix to help select services.

We will be meeting and speaking with whatever professionals need to be brought onboard," Abbo said. "But that group will not be meeting with representatives from

"I expect there to be more activity at this point and time than there was previously. We're waiting for a formal site plan submittal."

Abbo said that will likely happen after Jan. 1.

In October, the State of Michigan Department of Budget and Management, current owner of the 415 acres, extended REI's purchase deadline to Apr. 30.

The developer also has the option of pushing the closing to June at a maximum cost of \$500,000.

"Our recent discussions with the subcommittees and REI have led us

to believe that REI is approaching that point where their due diligence is bearing out a plan," Township Manager Chip Snider said. "It does make good sense to have another

The township's current general counsel attorney is Jim Tamm of Bloomfield Hills-based O'Connor, DeGrazia, Tamm & O'Connor, P.C.

Brad Strader of Royal Oak's LSL Planning is the consultant for land Township Director of Community Development Jennifer Frey, formerly with LSL, also aids in-house, Snider said.

Hillebrand was concerned about costs. Abbo said counsel would be covered by the township's general

"It isn't a blank check," Abbo said. "I view it as an investment. I want more power on this one."

Kim Kovelle can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext., 107, or via e-

kkovelle@ht.homecomm.net.

POLICE REPORT

Larcenies hit high school

In the span of two days, five Northville High School students told police their personal items were stolen.

Three cell phones reportedly went missing Dec. 8. Two allegedly were connected to a trio of females at the school: a Northville 16-yearold, a Northville 14-year-old and a Novi 14-year-old, according to police reports.

A \$350 Sony Ericson was traced to the 16-year-old when the owner checked Internet records and saw calls were made on the cell phone after it went missing, police said. The other Northville female reportedly was traced to a \$200 Samsung cell phone.



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A third phone was reported stolen Dec. 6, but was not attributed to the trio.

The Novi female also was a suspect the case of a backpack that went missing Dec. 8. According to police, the assistant principal saw

her hand in the bag. Another pack was reported missing that same day. It was later found in the girls' bathroom, sans keys. There are no suspects.

Jewelry, lost and found

A Northville female discovered \$87,000 in jewelry missing Dec. 5 before it was returned the same day.

The woman recently had a diamond necklace, rings and earrings cleaned, police said, and placed the items in the master bedroom before leaving her home at 9:30 p.m. Dec. 4. When she returned at 12:30 a.m., the jewelry reportedly was gone, and 13 of her 16-year-old son's

continued on 5A

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Happy New Year



POLICE REPORT

continued from 4A

friends were over. The son reportedly had given a "tour" of the home to the friends, whom police documented as suspects. Police said the items were returned in the woman's mailbox at 10 a.m. the next day. She reportedly wants to prosecute.

Wedding punch-up

Fists flew at a Dec. 11 wedding reception at the Meadowbrook Country Club in Northville Township, When two men starting fighting, a 26-year-old Detroit male standing near the bar attempted to break up the fight, according to police A 25-year-old Commerce is Township in the tiff reportedly bit the Detroit male's right pinkie fingerand also thrust his fingers into the intercessor's left eye!

Bike found by tennis courts

A' black and silver boy's bicycle was found Dec. 12 behind tennis courts in the 20000 block of Silver Springs. The 20-inch bike is being held at the police station. Call (248) 349-9400 for information.

Intoxicated man earns fourth citation

A 49-year-old Commerce Township male earned his fourth 'operating while intoxicated' citation when he reportedly was found in drunken slumber. Police said they discovered the male sleeping in his 2005 Ford Escape Dec. 12 in Northville Place apartments' parking lot. Upon being woken by police at 7:43 a.m., the male reportedly said he had been giving baseball lessons at Northville High School "on Eight Mile Road," and was planning to meet his ex-wife, who lives in the apartments. The male, whose vehicle was blocking a carport, allegedly had a blood alcohol content of .28. The legal limit is .08. Police said they found two vodka bottles, one empty and the other half-empty, and



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ALL NEW STADIUM SEATING

City fire fighters respond to 23 weekend calls

By Maureen Johnston RECORD STAFF WRITER

A steady stream of emergency calls kept local fire fighters in the chill of last weekend's pre-winter blast.

Northville residents crashed into each other's cars, knocked traffic signals askew and dug into electrical wires. The city's paid-on-call rescue team responded to 23 calls over 48 hours.

"You've got to watch your driving," Fire Chief Jim Allen said Monday. "These light snows are worse than the real heavy onesyou get the black ice.

"Just slow down, allow stopping distance. And keep your eyes on the road."

Five cars were involved in an accident about 2 p.m., Dec. 18, near Seven Mile Road and Center Street No serious injuries were reported, although one of the occua woman eight months pregnant --

was taken to the hospital for a checkup, Allen said.

There was no controlling your car coming down that icy hill," he said. "I think they ended up towing four cars out of there."

The first rescue call dispatched Friday night was to the Our Lady of Victory property where heavy equipment ran into electrical wires, Allen said. Two days of emergency responses around town took off from

"It's been a wild weekend, a little bit of everything," he said. "But no fires."

One driver hit a guide wire to a traffic signal pole at the Eight Mile and Taft roads around midnight Saturday, Allen said. That collision tilted the pole enough that the signals interfered with traffic at the intersection

so the road had to be closed, he said. City fire fighters were on the scene in an assortment of vehicles for four hours, he said. They used personal cars to block the intersection and re-route westbound vehicles to Nine Mile or Seven Mile roads.

After county road workers re-hung the lights around 4 a.m., Eight Mile Road reopened to traffic, Allen said. "It was very cold," he said. The 13 city rescue workers wrapped up at the station around 4:30 a.m.,

Allen said common sense is also wellspent around the home. He offered the following tips:

- Keep live indoor trees watered.
- · When branches feel dry, remove live trees from your home.
- · Turn off the decorative lights before
- · Don't burn candles close to anything flammable and don't leave them burning.
- · When preparing food over a hot stove, don't wear robes with long, floppy sleeves. "Some people still have a tendency to try to burn their gift wrap or tree in their fire-

"These light snows are worse than the real heavy ones — you get the black ice."

> Jim Alien Fire Chief, city of Northwile

place," Allen said. "Just set it out with the

"It just takes a lot of good common

Maureen Johnston can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 103, mjohnston@ht homecomm net



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Mothers' Club of Northville All Aglow Illumination for Education Ceremony

The ceremony began with the special holiday music sung by the Hillside and Meads Mill girls' choirs. To recognize the more than 400 donations received in honor of or in memory of someone special, the PTA President's children: Sam and Olivia McCutcheon and David, Jonathon and Andrew Mertz assisted with the illumination of the tree in downtown Northville. Mothers' Club of Northville would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to those that helped us illuminate Northville. We are so grateful for all of the donations. We have received more than \$12,500 which will help brighten the future of Northville School Children. Our warmest gratitude is also given to those who chose to donate anonymously.

Diamond Honor of Chad & Trevor Kelterborn Class of 2005 Gaidica Kids Holloway & Fetters Families Karlek & Tollie Johnson Lynne & Daniel Darga Mary Cicala Meads Mill 6th Grade Teachers Mr. Cracraft & Hillside Staff NHS Senior Class NHS Staff Northville Board of Education Northville Students
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Mrs. Gibbs. 8C Hillside Mrs. Gibbs, 8C Hillside Mrs. Treganowan, Hillside Nana Anne Holloway NHS Staff Nolan & Elliot Handyside Northville Students Northville Teachers Patrick McDonough Pearl E. Stephens Pearl E. Stephens Rita Werner Robert Watson Rosemary Bartlette Sandi Maynard Sandra Dunn Sara Elisabeth Poulos Schleh Family Scott Maxfield Sheila Brown

Silver Springs 3rd Grade Teachers & Students Specialist E-4 R. Dixon, Army Sylvia Zannis Tina DiTullio Tom Silak

Pearl Honor of Bob Taylor Casey Cromas Cheri Warner Coach S. Woolfall Debbie Arindaeng Diana Hoffman Ed Gabrys Eric Maise Erin Fox Fran Karen Metz Jared Cromas.

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Paul Sr, Paul & Jim Shock & Fred Smith
Rommel Hachache Steven Carter William Schultz

Ruby Memory of Andrew Hartke Bernard R. Ballelli **Bob Mudge** Brad Hogan Chris Mudge Dorothy Bray Dorothy Clarkson Dr. Jerome A. Smith Ed Perpich Edward Hogan Edward Hogan
Elaine Wolf
Harvey & Phyllis Verhines
Helen Bauman
James H. Karoub
Joe & Barb Eckert
Joseph Lombardo
Lynn Travis Schlicher Lynn Travis Schlicher Margo Conn Mary Maczka Mr & Mrs Melvin Nield Nick Simkins Norman A. Wood Ozzie Saratian Rob Boss Scott Evans Tad Evans Wyndam Mills

Emerald Memory of Abigail Grimes Anastasia Challis Barb & Dick Kruse Bob Seaman Bradley Hogan
Carl Hanner
Carmine J. Castellano
Caroline A. Rumble

Chris & Butch Prain Dale Richmond Dan Sornson Dave Sturtz David Naysmith Debbie Comb Delores Brennan Despina Kargilis Ed Hogan Frances Cunningway Frances Petersen George Krause Gladys B. Boring Greg Boswell Helen Tyszka Hugh J. Montgomery Irvin Barry Jack Lee Jim Blanchard Jim Neelands JoAnne Stadtmiller Johnson & Dorothy Quick Jonathan Galloway Julie Houle Kasi Kimbrell Lucille Clark Margie Davis Marie Ottino Mark R. Fisher Jr. Mary Gallagher Mindy Sievert Mr & Mrs Emil Zabell Mr & Mrs Ernest Lamberty Mr & Mrs Louis Folino Mr & Mrs Wayne Van Houten Newman & Mae Church Niles Beaugrand Novena Woods Paul & Pryetta Dumbleton Phyllis Hoist Phyllis Kirkpatrick Rachel Lypka Rachel Lypka Richard Clark Robert Line Roberta Paul Roy Sather Scott Anderson Susan Birdsall Tom Heenan Travis Ely

ngs caforfonisM. conconsists and Al & Rose Abraham Anna Russin Aunt Lillian **Becky Hilger** Becky Hilger Betty Stack Brett Poupard Brian D. Cornett Charles Quinn Chelsea Clifford Denton Cragi & Pearl Black Daniel Sornson Donald & Mary Wolfe Doug McFeggan Edward L. Perpich Elaine & Bob Elliott G. Donavan Dean Genevieve Smetana Genevieve Smetana
George M. Marston
Georgina Isherwood
Grandpa
Heidi VanArnean
Helen & Walter Siepierski
Jack Callon
Jack Gallon James Liska Joan Law Joe & Frances Martin John Kaczar Josephine Bognetti Josephine Bognetti
Judy Manarina
Judy Valenti
Lewyn Minard
Margot I. Schaumann
Mark J Foucher, Sr.
Martha (Betty) Lemon
Mary Ann Davenport
Mick & Georgianna Traicoff
Mick Thomas
Nel LaPla Nel LaPla Orlo Maxfield Paul M. Hoff Jr. Peter Russin Phyllis Raines Rachel Lypka
Ray (Butch) Casterline
Raymond Maise
Robert McKay Ron Horwath Stan & Betty Nunn Susan Krywko William Stach

> Pearl Memory of Cindy Butcher Eleanor Dzendzel Grandma Helgoth Jenna Marguardt Jim Poulos Lona Sprader Pearl Stephens Penny Poulos Peter Lewis Salim Adraham Wilfred Koilpillai Olga Jackson-Reynolds

Shuttle scuttled by downtown

manently park the downtown

Members of Northville's

downtown development authori-

ty Tuesday morning voted unan-

imously to pull the plug on the

service they initiated on a trial

basis Dec. 1. They cited too few

riders to justify the \$1,050 per

"It just hasn't been the suc-

cess we had hoped," said Lori

Ward, development authority

director. The Monday-Saturday

service was intended to appease

downtown workers who had

expressed dismay at parking program changes shifting them

away from the most convenient

Six riders at most took advan-

tage of the door-to-door treat-

ment; most days four or fewer

climbed on at the Northville

Downs parking lot starting

shuttle.

week bill.

spaces.

133 W. Main: What's the future?

By Maureen Johnston RECORD STAFF WRITER

All Bob and Margene Buckhave want for Christmas is a junior retail anchor, a restaurant, a covered walkway, a redesigned facade, office and retail tenants, a parking deck - and a three-story building in which to house them.

But first Santa and his reindeer need a place to park.

Tuesday morning the Buckhaves described to Northville's downtown development authority an ambitious list of projects they hope to accomplish next year at the 133 W. Main Street building they plan to pur-

The couple, along with partners Barbara and Erwin Tonch, hope to finalize the purchase in February.

The foursome plans to augment the downtown retail mix and boost office space by adding a third floor to the 91,000-square-foot building.

Pending closing, that part of the project would come first, Margene Buckhave said. Rejuvenating the wholesale mall with a collection of retailers and restaurants accessible from Main, Wing and Cady streets would follow.

Originally a public indoor mall. the 1973 building currently is home to the Michigan Gift Mart wholesale showrooms.

"We're hopeful for a junior anchor," Bob Buckhave said. We've been approached by three different people already.'

Margene said visitors to her Stampeddler stores have supported nameplates like Crate and Barrel and Trader Joe's. She said one interested party is considering using 10,000-square feet at the Main Street level for a restaurant.

"I've had a lot of comment from a lot of people from all over," Margene said. "We keep asking people to give us recommendations

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of what they'd like to see down-

Other possible concepts include: exterior redesign to better complement the historic downtown; maintaining the current wholesale tenants; and creating a covered walkway from the building's upper floor to a Cady Street parking deck located behind the building.

"I've got it in my mind's eye," Bob said. "It would create the most beautiful walkway."

Changing landscapes

The brown brick 133 W. Main St. building, coupled with Jim Long's 120 West Main building under construction directly across the street, will pull downtown one block west

- and drag up questions as they go. Long's concrete cavern will see steel beams in two weeks on its way to becoming 22,000-square feet of office and retail space by summer's end. Across the street, the Buckhaves and Tonchs are pursuing tenants and considering how to accommodate them.

How will they affect downtown's identity? Who will occupy the buildings? Where will they park?

Board members said local business owners' development goals cast a new light on the commercial planning study of downtown business conducted during the past three months. Part of the Birmingham-based Gibbs Planning Group's projections were causes and impacts for a range of growth scenarios.

In addition to the two Main Street projects west of Center, the combined residential/commercial development proposed on Cady Street east of Center remains on the drawing board.

"A lot is going to happen differently even than we envisioned a year ago," Mayor Christopher

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The current use of the Buckhave/Tonch building, known as "MAGS," draws merchants only two to three days per month; it is not open to the public.

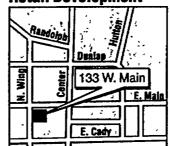
Reconfiguration and expansion of the mall will increase traffic and parking demand in that section of downtown. At the same time, Long's main-floor retail tenants and second- and third-floor office occupants will likewise will require more parking spaces.

Now what?

The commercial planning study's steering committee agreed last week to follow up the Gibbs Report findings at an expedient pace. The dozen volunteers said soliciting community input on the different downtown growth scenarios was the best first tack.

The development authority members agreed Tuesday a steering committee subgroup should simultaneously study parking specifics.

City leaders in recent months have revised the downtown parking management program — shifting Proposed Retail Development



employees out and tightening enforcement. Some believe those are short-term fixes.

Building a parking deck behind the 133 W. Main Street building, as proposed by the Buckhaves, is not the only option being considered. The group also discussed possible expansion of the Cady Street deck.

Now again, we're only limited

by our imagination," Johnson said. Bob Buckhave said he hopes the community can work together to decide what is the collective best interest

"We've never been the kind of people to try to ram anything down anyone's throat," he said. "Plan B would be to just turn it into office and let people fight for the parking. We don't have to go there.

development authority

point, Ward said. The day the shuttle started,

By Maureen Johnston RECORD STAFF WRITER downtown lost electricity for four early morning hours and Tomorrow the city will perthere were no riders. "It was

kind of an omen," Ward said. During the holidays, people are used to running errands so they wanted their vehicle more accessible, she said. "I think a lot of people have realized Cady Street isn't that far," she said. "I think people are getting used to parking there.'

In an effort to keep parking spaces close to stores available to patrons, the city has suggested downtown retailers and office workers use free all-day parking lots on the south side of Cady Street. The police department has stepped up issuing violations for vehicles parked more than three hours in the city's Main Street surface lots.

Maureen Johnston can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. mjohnston@ht homecomm.net.

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Rotary Club restores clubs have been asked to take on a special vintage clock, plans public return

By Maureen Johnston RECORD STAFF WRITER

The vintage-looking clock that once graced Main Street soon will measure time In Northville's historic playground.

The Northville City Council Monday night accepted the Rotary Club's offer to repair the 1890 street clock that previously stood in the benter of downtown.

The club plans to place it on city property, east of Ford Field, north of the Fort Griswold ¹play area and southwest of the Mill Race Historic Village on Griswold Road.

After a 1999 car crash toppled the original timepiece, an insurance settlement helped Perect an identical replacement in the Main Street median.

b The damaged clock languished at the city's department of public works yard until Hocal Rotarians picked up the \$3,000 repair project as a way of celebrating their 100th anniversary.

Jim Gallogly, public works director and Rotary Club member, told the council all

Rotary Centennial Project.

"If at all possible and the weather cooperates, we hope to do this in February," Gallogly said. That timing would coincide with the club's February 1905 origin.

"We ordered parts from California," he said. "It depends on how quickly they get here.

Part of the repair plan is to replace the cast iron base damaged in the accident with masonry. The timepiece also will require new crystals to cover the faces, Gallogly said, but the actual working parts of the clock seem to be undamaged.

Advance planning by the Northville Parks and Recreation Department staff ran electrical power to the proposed location when Ford Field was improved a few years ago. Gallogly said there will be limited excavation and disruption to the park.

Unlike the Main Street location, the foundation for the proposed clock will be gradelevel so it will not be as tall, he said.

The Rotary Club will cover all costs related to the restoration and placement of the clock, Gallogly said.

Mayor Christopher Johnson and council members Jerry Mittman and Tom Swigart voted for the project. Mayor Pro-tem CarolAnn Ayers and councilman Kevin Hartshorne were absent.

"If at all possible and the weather cooperates, we hope to do this in February."

> Jim Gallogly Northville Rotary Club

The mayor asked about the clock potentially being hit by a long-ball hitter from the Ford Field diamond. Gallogly said he would look into it. The "crystals" actually will be Plexiglas, he added.

Also, the Rotary Club's clock will be silent, Gallogly said. It does not have

Maureen Johnston can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. mjohnston@ht.homecomm.net.

Photo by DAVID AGUILAR/RECORD EDITOR Jim Gallogly tinkers with the damaged clock the Northville Rotary Club plans to restore and re-install.

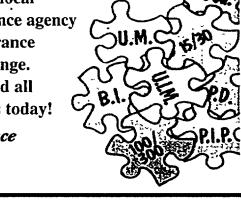


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Press Argus

On Feb. 3, 2005, the Livingston County Daily Press & Argus will be launching a new special section entitled, "Oh Baby!" and your baby could be the main attrac-

This new section will feature photos of all babies born in 2004, along with editorial and advertising for new parents

Each participant will receive a space similar to



Christina Louise Smith March 22, 2004 Sant Joseph Mercy Enringston Mike and Mary Smith

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Oh Baby!

To publish your 2004 arrival in Oh Babyl, send a photo and \$20 to: HomeTown Newspapers P.O. Box 230P Howell, MI 48844 Attn: Leslie.	All entries must be received include a SASE if you want your photo returne's.	
Piease Print Child's Name (First, Middle & La	st)	
Date of Birth	Hospital	
Parents' Name (First & Last)		
Address		
☐ My check for \$20 is enclosed. Please bill my ☐ VIsa ☐ Mastel	rCard ☐ American Express	or □ Discover card.

Exp. Date

(Required)

Around Town

City Hall notes

City hall offices will be closed for the holidays:

• Thursday and Friday, Dec. 23-

Thursday and Friday, Dec. 30-

Curbside pickup

Because Christmas and New Year's holidays fall on Saturday this year, regular trash collection will not be affected.

Christmas trees will be picked up at the curb throughout the city for three Tuesdays following Christmas Day for disposal in a compost facility.

Pickup dates are Dec. 28, Jan. 4 and 11. After Jan. 11, trees will be disposed of in a landfill. Trees must be free of ornaments, tinsel and plastic snow.

CBITUARIES

Nola M. LeSage, 68

Nota LeSage of Northville died Dec. 14, 2004 at Providence Park Medical Center, Novi. She was 68. Mrs. LeSage was born Oct. 21, 1936 in Detroit to the late Elmer Dekay and Bessie Pardee.

She had lived in Northville all her life and graduated from Northville High School. She was employed in Customer Service for Kroger.

Survivors include two children, William '(Beverly) Earehart of Hesperia and Cheryl Dresselhouse of Northville; four grandchildren, Tracy (Donald) McCullough,

As snow falls

The city's solid waste contractor, Painter and Ruthenburg, will send trucks out on schedule except in extreme conditions.

Crews ask residents to place rubbish on top of the snow. Bags and cans must be accessible from the road. Dark bags are easiest to see.

Due to safety considerations, crews cannot "dig out" frozen recycling bins — they will take what they can.

Northville City Council members at their meeting Monday night reminded residents not to blow snow into the street. Violators of the ordinance will be ticketed.

Planning your write-off

Property tax payments to be posted in 2004 are to be postmarked no later than Dec. 31.

As Northville City Hall offices will be closed Thursday and Friday, Dec. 30 and 31, any envelope found in the drop box on Monday, Jan. 3, will be entered as having been received in 2004. The drop box is located on the east wall of the outer entrance to city hall.

(Shannon) McGovern, Graham Dresselhouse and Casey Dresselhouse and one great-grandchild, Maverick.

Her husband, Robert W. LeSage preceded her in death in 1997. A funeral service was held Dec. 17, 2004 at Casterline Funeral Home, Northville with Dr. James N. McGuire of Ward Presbyterian Church, Northville, officiating.

Memorials may be made to the American Heart Association, Memorial and Tributes Program, Dept. 77-3968, Chicago, Ill, 60678. Arrangements were made by Casterline Funeral Home, Inc., Nonhville.

Donald W. Naar, 85

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need for urgent care, emergency room visits, or inpatient services due to asthma

regularly prescribed asthma medica-

If you would like additional informa-

des: or who have difficulty taking

Donald Naar, longtime resident of Northville, died Dec. 17, 2004 at

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Still time to give

Novi Bowl, 21700 Novi Rd., is selling snowflakes to raise cash for Northville Civic Concern. They also are collecting gift cards, toys and clothing through Dec. 31 for the local agency. For more information, call (248) 348-9120.

Call for artists

The Northville Arts Commission requests submissions from all Northville area artists, age 18 and older for inclusion in "Celebrating Northville Arts and Community" at the Art House grand opening March

Artists may submit one or two photos of recent work in any medium (JPEG file format preferable) to artcommission@ci.northville.mi.us by Jan. 15. Several pieces will be selected for exhibition and all pieces will be shown via computergenerated slide show during the grand opening reception and through the month of March.

Artists are asked to include their name, address, phone number, e-mail address, artwork medium, size, title, a brief biog-

Garden City Hospital. He was 85. Mr.

Naar was born in Detroit to the late

John and Catherine (Harrington) Naar

on April 16, 1919. He served in the

U.S. Army during World War II

receiving the Bronze Star for action

during the Battle of the Bulge in 1944.

He worked in the scrap metal business.

Clayton (Pamala) of Pawleys Island,

S.C., Lee Ann Smith of Westland, Lisa

Naar of Strovel, Okla., John (Kristian)

of Fair Oaks, Calif. and David

(Kristin) of Dearborn; 12 grandchil-

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Survivors include six children, Erick (Marie) of Lompas, Calif.,

directed to the above e-mail address or (248) 449-9950. Watch the Northville Arts Commission Web site: www.northvillearts.org upcoming exhibition, consignment and teaching opportunities at the Art House.

raphy and a two-sentence artist

statement. Questions should be

Blankets needed

Edward Jones investment representatives David Boyd, Todd Knickerbocker and Chris Knickerbocker and Willerer are supporting the American Red Cross Blanket Days program by using their offices as a drop-off location for this year's blanket drive. Local residents can help the homeless in the area by bringing in a new blanket to their Northville offices at 117 E. Dunlap, 128 N. Center St. and 1039 Novi Rd. Hours are 9 a.m.-5 p.m. through Jan. 31.

To contribute an item for consideration in this column, e-mail mjohnston@ht.homecomm.net.

dren and three great-grandchildren.

A funeral service was held Dec. 20, 2004 at the Northrop-Sassaman Funeral Home, Northville with Pastor Bobby Blevins of the Fellowship Free Will Baptist Church of Taylor officiating. The VFW Post of Northville also officiated with an Honor Guard from the Army participating at a graveside service at Rural Hill Cemetery. A wake will be held Tuesday, Dec. 28, at the VFW Hall, Northville from 6-9 p.m.

Arrangements were made by Northrop-Sassaman Funeral Home, Northville.

Northville Nite Tickets still available for

annual family celebration

By Maureen Johnston RECORD STAFF WRITER

A Spiderman moonwalk, a mural project, massages and Max & Erma's chocolate cookies are among the new temptations at the Northville Parks and Recreation's New Year's Eve celebration. Area residents already have purchased more than 500 tickets for

the seventh annual Northville Nite. The 5-9 p.m. event is Friday, Dec. 31, at the Recreation Center at Hillside, 700 W. Baseline Rd. 'We've sold substantially more than last year at this time," said Emily Sherman, special events and arts programming supervisor.

We're about half way there. 'I do expect us to sell out (1,000 tickets) again this year."

Tickets are available at the center through Wednesday, Dec. 29, at \$15 for adults, \$10 for children ages 2-12, and \$5 for children ages 12-23 months. If tickets remain, they will be sold at the door, she

"If people definitely want to get tickets, they should come in Monday or Tuesday if that's at all possible."

Sherman said the recreation department staff kept favorites and added a new line-up of activities for regular attendees.

Back are a variety of inflatable games, The Home Depot wood craft kits, open pool, slot racing, temporary tattoos and face paint-

Margo's of Northville will provide massages for the first time. Oak Pointe Church, which also hosts a variety of carnival games,

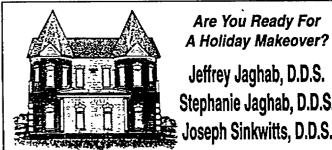
invited a new band this year for the coffee house setting. "It's supposed to be more teen friendly, but just as appealing to

adults," Sherman said. The event requires about 80 volunteers to staff different stations throughout the recreation center, she said. For more information, call (248) 349-0203, ext. 1411.

Maureen Johnston can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 103, or mjohnston@ht.homecomm.net.



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CITY OF NORTHVILLE NOTICE OF BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS

The City of Northwile Board of Zoning Appeals will consider a request for appeal of an approval of final site plan granted by the City of Northville Planning Commission for the Our Lady of Victory Catholic Elementary School. The final site plan was approved on November 2, 2004.

The school proposes to relocate from the current site to property located 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 48-003-02-0048-000) Northville, Michigan 48167. The Board of Zoning Appeals shall meet and consider the request for appeal on January 5, 2005 at 7:30 p.m. at the Northville Senior

Community Center, 303 W. Main St., Northville, Michigan 48167. The complete appeal 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. Wrtten comments will also be received at the address listed below.

This notice is sent as required by Article 25, Section 25.03 of the City of Northville Zoning Ordinance to all persons to whom real property is assessed within three hundred (300) feet of the boundary of the property in questions, and to the occupants of all structures within three hundred

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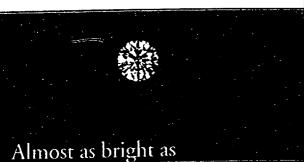
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TAPPLE VACATIONS....

Local students will write books for hospitalized children

By Maureen Johnston RECORD STAFF WRITER

Three local teachers made a multi-purpose room full of youngsters laugh with an impromptu tale of a beautiful lady named Crystal who played scary video games and tripped over a plant in the land of Bugabuga.

Familiar fast-food restaurant character Ronald McDonald prompted the creative storytelling exercise by alternately tapping the teachers' shoulder when it was their turn to insert a word in his blank-filled tale. His point: reading with excitement makes stories come alive.

The red-and-yellow clad clown visited Moraine Elementary firstfifth graders to kick off a first-ofits type project to benefit the Ronald McDonald House in

Detroit. Students who attend Cooke School and Northville High School will assist the youngsters in creating books for the families who seek temporary lodging in the home next to Children's Hospital.

Anne Hoyt, Ronald McDonald House board member, described the 25-bedroom house and the circumstances that bring parents to stay there. She opened the series of assemblies by asking the pupils if they had ever been in the hospital and who they wanted to be near during a hospital stay.

Close comfort

Parents can get meals and the sleep they need in a house near their children who are undergoing treatment from getting their tonsils out to something more serious, she said.

"It's just a really special, special place," Hoyt said. "It's for the families — the moms and dads - while their little boys and girls are being treated at Children's Hospital.

ous illness, like open-heart sur-

Hoyt's description of the

"Many times it's a very seri-

Ronald McDonald House helped the children understand how their efforts will help. The books the Moraine youngsters provide will be read by the young patients themselves when parents take them along to the hospital and by siblings who visit most often on weekends.

Sometimes families stay at the Ronald McDonald House for two-three weeks, Hoyt said. "Sometimes families are in the home up to a year."

Ready to write

A roomful of young voices urged Lennox, Moraine teacher assistant Julie Dalton and second-grade teacher Holly Piantedosi to join Ronald McDonald for his demonstration at the front of the room. The first and second graders in the initial assembly responded to the clown's antics with laughter and applause.

After the adults' amusing turn at story telling, the children enthusiastically volunteered for the writing project with raised

Moraine teacher Verna Birk, high school teacher Art Lennox,

www.st-matthew.org

Millord Times

Cooke teacher Elizabeth Alotta and Moraine principal Mary Kay Gallagher are coordinating the community service project.

On Friday, study skills stu-dents Rammel Tinsly and Jemal Allen read to their younger peers. They will participate as partner-authors from Lennox's high school class to help Moraine "publish" at least 200 hard-cover books starting in January.

"We've never done anything like this before," Hoyt said. "It's by a child, for a child.

"It's a special gift for the families of the children at the hospi-

Gallagher was supportive of school-wide the project. "They're high school and elementary students coming together for the benefit of other people.

"When people have an opportunity to write for a real audience, it makes a difference in their writing. Real children are actually going to be reading their

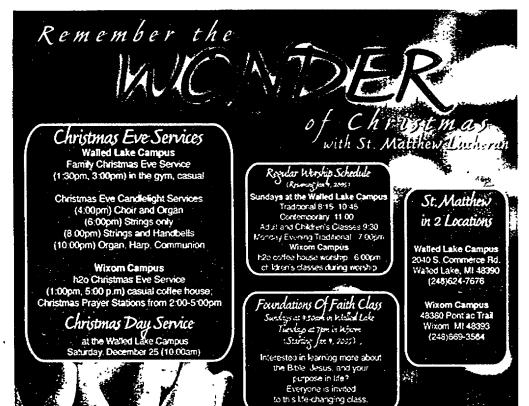
Maureen Johnston can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext.

mjohnston@ht.homecomm.net.



Photo by JOHN HEIDER/NORTHYLLE RECOR

Northville High School student Rommel Tinsley read his book, "My Dog Never Says Please," to a group of Moraine Elementary School pupils last Friday. Moraine students will be writing books for families who stay in local Ronald McDonald homes.





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The Joy Musical & Christmas Pageant

Friday, December 24, 2004

8:30 p.m. Traditional Festive Worship Service

Friday, December 24, 2004 6:00 p.m. Joyful Celebration Contemporary Service

Friday, December 24, 2004

11:00 p.m. Quiet Meditative Service with Communion

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1/03/2005. See dealer for complete details.

Attalla honored!



Northville resident Tim Attalla received the "Community Leadership Award" Dec. 13 for his dedication and hard work on behalf of Seeds of Peace. About 150 people attended the annual fund-raiser which raised more than \$200,000 and served as the premier gala for "Seeds," a documentary about the organization's work.

The Attalla family (left to right): Yusef, 14, Fatina, Allie, 9, Tim and Omar, 15.





Book donations!

Photo by JOHN HEIDER/ NORTHYILLE RECORD

Silver Springs Elementary student James Carpenter hands a bag of books to Robert B., a resident of a **Detroit area temporary** home for teens, last Monday afternoon. Silver Springs' students, Remerica HomeTown and the Northville Fraternal Order of Eagles made the donation of books and some cookies possible.

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If you couldn't spend any money, what would you give your parents for Christmas?

AMERMAN ELEMENTARY

Mrs. Frayne 2nd Grade

If I couldn't spend any money what would I give them? I would give them love! Like a kiss and a

If I didn't want to spend any money but want to give a gift to my parents I will give them a card. Yes, a card, a beautiful, shiny, colorful card. And I know my parents will love it. Ziyang

A present for my parents. I will give my parents a hug and a I love you. I will also give my parents a John

I would give my Mom and Dad and dog a hug and a card.

If I couldn't spend any money and I wanted to give a present to my parents, I would draw a picture for my Mom and for my Dad a hug and a kiss. Madeline

If I couldn't spend any money and I wanted to give a present to my parents, I would build a chair out of wood and I will stain it too. On Christmas morning I will tell my parents to shut their eyes then open their eyes and then they will see the chair I made. They will be so happy.

If I cannot spend any money I would make a present but what should I make? A Christmas popout card and a collage and a pretty picture. Nick

I would give my parent a picture of them of our house or a collage of a cat or love and kisses and hugs. I'de also make a card and it would have lots of the col-

Chris

I would do all my chores, I would give you a poem. I love breakfast, dinner and lunch when ever I eat there is a big crunch. Maguire

make Christmas Time-I spowflakes for them, I turn on the piano. I hug them. Anna

I would give a snowflake made by me at home for Christmas. I would give a big, big hug for Valentine's Day. I would give for my Mom and Dad at their birthdays a picture. Justus

A present for my parents. I would give a kiss to my Mom and Dad. I would give a hug too. I would say...Merry Christmas!! I love you so much Mom and Dad! Kelci

If I could not spend any money on Christmas presents, I would give my parent a hug and a kiss.

I would draw them a picture. I would make them a book. I would give them a hug. Joseph

I would give them a hug, a snowflake that I made and a necklace. The End! Merry Christmas! Kristen

If I could not spend any money for my parent's Christmas present, I would make a reindeer out of popsicle sticks. I would make that for my parents because it does not cost any money.

I would make a craft for my parents because it would be fun to make and my parents would be

Gabrielle

Make a collage. Make a craft. Help Mom and Dad by doing

The present I will give my par-

ents breakfast up stairs too. I will make a craft too. John

I am making a present for my Mom and Dad. Can you help me? I made two things, a gingerbread man for Mom and a stocking for Dad, yianni and athena is next. What should I make for them? Write the answer below.

Christopher

If I could not spend any money for my Mom and Dad I would...make a collage for my parents and make my Mom a bracelet. I love my Mom and Dad. Sofia

Mrs. Ramey 2nd Grade

makes their hearts glow. Zach

Rachel

I will make a paper doll for my Mom for Christmas and I will make a picture frame for my Dad for Christmas. The paper doll will be Miss. Closs and the picture frame will be blue with white stars on it. So my parents will have a good Christmas.

Rebecca

thing I would make them a book about them. And draw a picture of them. I also will make a card for

I would make a picture of me and my Dad or my Mom. Or I would get something from my attic for them. Or I would make some bread for them., . . .

give them a huge hug.

If I was broke and I had to give my parents a gift I would make them'a book. It's title name will be "If I Was Broke on Christmas". It would be about a little boy that was broke on Christmas.

Matt

I would give them something that I made at school. I would make a craft for them. I would make breakfast for them.

Ben

I would make them both a man of candy land. I would also make them botha Christmas tree bulb. Shayla

I would make my parents a book for Christmas. I bet my parents would like that because I like to write stories.

I would make a jewelry case for my Mom out of a walnut shell with glue. For my Dad I would make a fishing rod out of a stick with a string and an omament hanger.

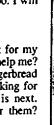
Sophie

I would give my Mom and Dad a real good Christmas tree. I would wrap with a note.

Robert

I would make them a book for Christmas. I would make them a picture of us. I would make them a bird house.

Owen



I think a good present for my Mom and Dad is me playing Christmas songs on my piano. This is a good present because I'm the only one who knows how to play in my family. My music

If I couldn't spend any money to buy a Christmas present for my parents this is what I would make. I would bind all the stories I ever wrote in elementary school together and make a big book full of stories. I think my parents would like that because they always like my stories.

I would make a Christmas present for my parents. I would make a paper angel. It would be a paper ornament angel.

If I could not buy them any-

dies 1941

I would give them a picture of my Mom and Dad. I would make a model of my parents. I would

sicle sticks. The colors will be red and green. The front of the sled will be curving up. David

If I couldn't spend any money on my parents Christmas presents I would make my Dad brunch. I would make my Mom the same thing so they can eat together.

I would make cookies for them.

I would make a sled out of pop-

I make cookies with my cousins. I

would make chocolate chip.

I would give my parents breakfast. I would also give my Mom a star that would say "Best Mom" and my Dad the same thing except it will say "Best Dad." I also will give my parents love. Jacob

Mrs. Wells 2nd Grade

Love! Meaning hugs and kisses, being nice and being happy for what I have. Madalyn

I would give them a hug. They love hugs. They will be happy. Ian

I would give Mom and Dad a book about how I love them. A big hug and a lot of love and no talking back. Grace

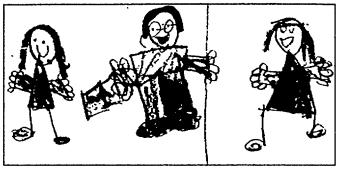
for her. I will give my Mom a kiss. I can give my Dad a hug. Maybe I should help around the

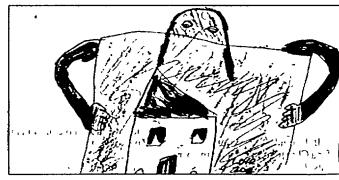
I will give my Mom a present



Photo by JOHN HEIDER/NORTHVILLE RECORD

Amerman Elementary School student John Rogers ponders what he'd get his parents for Christmas if he had no money to purchase a gift.





tree because it would be pretty.

Love all day because it is nice and fun. Eddie

No talking back for a whole year. I would make my Mom a beautiful picture and give her lots of hugs and kisses to make her happy.

I would give my parents love by

a big hug and a kiss. Maybe I

would tell them how much I love

them and maybe do a thing or two

for them, like, help wash the dish-

es, or wash the car, or clean my

room or make my bed.

Dillon

me mom

I would give my parents a picture of how much I love them. Rory

Help them and be a good kid and keep my promise forever. I

would keep them from smoking. Joey I would give them love. I love

my parents and my toys. Maddy

I would make my parents a jingle bracelet. It would have jingle bells on it and red and green lights. I would give it to them because they like Christmas lights, and jingle bells.

I would do the dishes So my Mom won't need to do it. I would do it because they would be happy.

Christopher

I would give them a tree. I would decorate the tree with pinecones. I would give them a

I would give love, because I love them. I will give hugs too. Sean

I would give (make) my Mom a bracelet and a card. I would give my Dad a card and make him a book. I would make my bed because I haven't been. Rachel

I would give my Mom a shiny rock that I painted pink because it would be pretty for her. Matt

I would make a picture of me on it. I would read every night for them because I just want to make them happy.

Alec

Help Mom and Dad cook. De'Mari

Mrs. Bartlett 1st Grade

If I couldn't spend any money for a Christmas present for my parents. I would put the Christmas lights on the window.

If I couldn't spend any money for a Christmas present for my parents, I would draw them a pic-

Angelina

If I couldn't spend any money for a Christmas present for my parents, would fill the Advent calendar with treats. Madeline

If I couldn't spend any money for a Christmas present for my parents I would make their bed. Kaitlin

If I couldn't spend any money for a Christmas present for my parents, I would give them a kiss. Adrienne

If I couldn't spend any money for a Christmas present for my present. I would clean the house. Samantha

for a Christmas present for my parents, I would decorate the tree. If I couldn't spend any money

If I couldn't spend any money

for a Christmas present for my parents, I would clean my room. Molly If I couldn't spend any money

for a Christmas presents for my

parents, I would shovel the drive-

Melissa

Noah

If I couldn't spend any money for a Christmas present for my parents, I would give them a hug. David

If I couldn't spend any money for a Christmas present for my parents, I would give my bracelet to them.

continued on 13A





Recipes from the heart!



Photo by JOHN HEIDER/NORTHYILLE RECORD

A group of Winchester Elementary School kindergartners watch as their classmates compose a few holiday recipe suggestions. From left are Jacob Delis, Evan Treiber, Veronica Johnston, Maggie O'Meara, and Emma Cemalovic.

continued from 12A

If I couldn't spend any money for a Christmas present for my parents. I would do all my chores. Neha

If I couldn't spend any money for a Christmas present for my parents, I would clean the basement.

If I couldn't spend any money for a Christmas present for my parents, I would give them my ring.

If I couldn't spend any money for a Christmas present for my parents, I would give them my neck-

Elizabeth

If I couldn't spend any money for a Christmas present for my parents, I would give them my crystals. Jos

If I couldn't spend any money for a Christmas present for my parents, I would make a card.

If I couldn't spend any money for a Christmas Present for my parents I would clean the carpet.

If I couldn't spend any money for a Christmas present for my parents, I would draw ten pictures for

Ryan

Mrs. Comben 1st Grade

If I couldn't spend any money on presents for my parents I would give them Jesus' love. Jack

If I couldn't spend any money on presents for my parents, I would give them flowers I picked. Sophie

If I couldn't spend any money for presents for my parents, I would do anything they ask.

If I couldn't spend any money on presents for my parents, I would clean the chimney.

Gavin

If I couldn't spend any money for presents for my parents, I would give them a beaded necklace I made.

Alexander

If I couldn't spend any money on presents for my parents, I woud give them presents I made. Emily

If I couldn't spend any money on presents for my parents, I would give them a picture I made. Cooper

If I couldn't spend any money on presents, I would give them presents.

Samantha

If I couldn't spend any money on presents for my parents, I would give them flowers I picked.

If I couldn't spend any money on presents for my parents, I would do the laundry. Garret

If I couldn't spend any money on presents for my parents, I would give them a clay cat.

If I couldn't spend any money on presents for my parents, I would give them a picture I made. VZoe '

If I couldn't spend any money on presents for my parents, I would give them a cat. Emma

If I couldn't spend any money

on presents, I would give them my own things.

If I couldn't spend any money on presents for my parents, I give them paper snowflakes.

Marie

If I couldn't spend any money on presents for my parents, I would give them something I made out of clay. Kristina

If I couldn't spend any money, I

would do the chores. Christian

Miss Sagona 1st Grade

If I had no money I would give my Mom a big hug, because I love

Deanna

If I had no money I would give my parents, a picture of a duck. Olivia

If I had no money I would put up the Christmas tree, and I would decorate it. Dylan

If I had no money I would make them a house and mow the lawn and clean the house and make clothes out of tree, and all of the

Brendan If I had no money I would clean the house and mow the lawn for

my Mom and for my Dad.

If I had no money I would mow the lawn and love and fun to play games with Mom and Dad for

Christmas. Timmy

If I had no money I would give my love and attention and fun to my parents for Christmas presents.

If I had no money I would mow the lawn for my parents for Christmas.

Patrick

If I had no money I would give them love. I love them a lot.

If I had no money I would give my parents clothes made out of leaves and food for good health for a Christmas present.

All of the love in the world and I would make a wood house for both of them and I would clean the whole house for both of them I love my parents a ton. Sophia

If I had no money I would give my parents a card or all the love in

the world Maria

If I had no money I would clean the house. Get food from trees. Feed my cat. Andrew

If I had no money I would give my Dad a wooden book and my Mom a wooden chair. Dana

If I had no money I would get my family a new billboard and a new plants.

If I had no money I would give my parents all the love in the whole world because I love her. Shae

I would give them love and happiness and fun and I wil build them a house to and I would make them clothes.

Mattison

If I had no money, I would make my Mom a necklace and give my Dad love.

Bridget

If I had no money I would give my Mom a pair of clothes out of

Eveline

Mrs. Oliverio 1st Grade

It is fun to give gifts. If I had no money I would give them a flower. Then I would give them breakfast in bed.

Natalie

It is fun to give gifts. If I had no money, I would make them jewelry. Then I would give them breakfast in bed.

money, I would give them a kiss, then I would them a hug. Emma It is fun to give gifts. If I had no

It is fun to give gifts. If I had no

money, I would take them for a walk, then I would give them

breakfast in bed.

Jenna 55 m , 25% It is fun to give gifts. I had no money I would draw a picture, then I would give them breakfast in

Cecylia

It is fun to give gifts. If I had no money, I would make them a card. Then I would give them breakfast in bed. Elizabeth

Holidays are special. If I had no money, I would decorate a Christmas tree. Then I would give them breakfast in bed. Paige

It is fun to give gifts. If I had no money, I would give her a book I made. Then I would give them breakfaast in bed. **Emily**

It is fun to give gifts. If I had no money, I would play a game with them, then I would read to them.

Eric

It is fun to give gifts. If I had no money, I would make her an ornament, then I would give them a

Natalia

It is fun to give gifts. If I had no money, I would make them a puppet. Then I would give them breakfast in bed.

Johnny

It is fun to give gifts. If I had no money, I would give them a hug. Then I would play a game with them.

Spencer

How do you prepare the perfect Christmas dinner?

WINCHESTER ELEMENTARY

Mrs. Roney Kindergarten Class

We have a beautiful table with fruit. We have turkey, but we only eat after midnight. Yага

My sister and I play with our new gifts and listen to Christmas music while my Mommy cooks. I will help make a Christmas cake (I will lick the bowl and my sister will lick the spoon). Alana

Make turkey, Christmas cookies and have everyone wear a Santa Claus hat and take a big picture.

Brandon

My perfect Christmas dinner will have gingerbread cookies, Santa Claus muffines, and candy cake. Maya

I would cook cookies. I would make noodles with butter and some broccoli. I would have regular bread with butter. Maggie

Set the table with candles and music. Have cookies and milk. Emma

I would make fried shrimp because I like it and because it's a Chines food and I like Chines food. I would make cupcakes with Christmas trees and white frosting on top for dessert. I would share my dinner with my

family. Brian

Making mashed potatoes, making rolls, and having cookies and cake for dessert. You have jello or hors d'oeuvres for waiting. There's more you have for dinner.

You can always buy a turkey and make it for Christmas. And buy mashed potatoes and sweet potatoes. But, I really want pizza with it.

Noah
Short bloom

noame of outs

Cut up Theat to look like Candles. Put on top the stems of broccoli. Cook in oven till 1 p.m. and brown. Add pears on top = Pear Pie. Jacob

Put out fancy, fancy decorations and fancy forks. Have a big red tablecloth. I would cook special cakes for my family.

Gillian Put red flowers on the table and have lots of good food. Invite Nana and Papa, Grandma and Grandpa and have

Make turkey, ham, mashed potatoes, gravy, sugar cookies, and stuffing. Set the table.

Christmas cookies.

Bake pies. Then we eat it all. Jacob Bulgogi '(roast beef), Carve beef thinly. Make flavor (soy

sauce, sugar, sesame oil, garlic,

pepper, asta pears), Mix flavor

It is fun to give gifts. If I had no money, I would make a wreath and make them something to eat. Mason

Holidays are special. If I had no money, I would make them something to eat, then I would give them a kiss.

Jack

It is fun to give gifts. If I had no money, I would read to them. Then I would play with them.

Samantha

and beef. Bake. Minyoung

Gavin

Just have lots of mashed

Cook a turkey with stuffing along with mashed potatoes, green beans, ice cream and pie for dessert. Ian

"I don't know, you're the chef." (Gavin said this to his Mom after having the question asked of him).

We go to a Chinese Restaurant. Christine

You need frosting. Put in on cookies. Put them out for Santa. **Nicholas**

Well, you make cookies and gingerbread men and rice krispies for dessert. You prepare ham, broccoli, green beans, steak, roast beef, and carrots and chicken with ketchup. That's how you prepare the perfect Christmas dinner. Clark

Invite lots of friends and family over. Have fun games to ; play. Order out for food and have it delivered. Stephen

"I prepare it with Christmas

Michael

Daria

guess."

Kyra I set the table for my family to enjoy good food and cookies.

Tree cookies and family. And

don't forget milk. That's all I

I set the table and Mom makes the food. Then we have a party and everyone comes over after church to eat.

turkey, noodles, macaroni and cheese, and apple juice. I would hang Christmas lights and put up Christmas trees. I would

I would make chicken,

the table. Anna Max

24 First, buy all the food. Then, my Mom makes the food like turkey and mashed potatoes. And then we buy lots of cakes for me to eat.

Nikolai I cook the meatballs. I make broccoli. I bake peanut butter and gingerbread cookies. Dominic

The perfect Christmas dinner would have our favorite foods. The best part of our dinner would be homemade Christmas cookies. Lastly, we would need our loving family to share in our perfect Christmas. Isabella

You get corn and mashed potatoes. You put the food on a plate and eat it.

Cookies, cake, ribs, broccoli. Melissa

It is fun to give gifts. If I had no money, I would play with them.

Holidays are special. If I had no money, I would make them a blanket. Then I would give an orna-

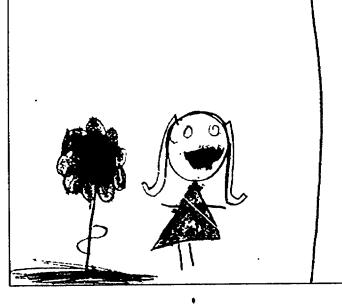
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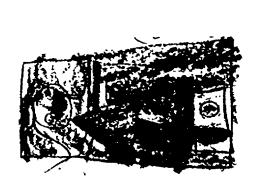
Holidays are special. If I had no money, I would make a clay sculpture. Then I would give them a

Leo



Photo by JOHN HEIDER/NORTHYILLE RECORD Amerman Elementary School second grader Kristen Shoup put a lot of thought into what she'd get her parents for Christmast if she didn't have any money for a gift.





SPORTS

Just one more minute

Last Friday, the Milford Mavericks basketball team defeated the Mustangs, 45-44.

Milford's Sean Bednarsh scored the game winning lay-up that put the Mavericks ahead by one with 30.2 seconds left in the game. The Mustangs were not able to convert in the time remaining and Milford came out victorious. Bednarsh had 10 points that night along with Dana Pitcock with 13 points and Nathan Kunst with 10 points. Northville's Alvin Storrs lead the team with 16 points and J.D. Gerblick had 14 points.

"This first half we really didn't play with passion," said Northville coach Darrel Northville coach Schumacher of his Mustangs, which fell to 2-1. "We kind of dug ourselves in a hole but to the credit of our players, they decided to come back and play with some heart. Our defensive intensity picked up and we got things done."

The game started in favor of the Mavericks as Kunst scored the game's first basket with a three-pointer in the corner. But Northville answered right back with Gerblick getting a threepointer of his own. Midway through the quarter, Gerblick struck again with another shot from behind the arc putting his team ahead 8-5. The Mavericks came charging back with Kunst knocking in a fade-away shot with a minute and half left in the first quarter. Although the Mavericks had the ball for the remainder of the quarter the Northville defense prevented further scoring and the quarter ended with an 11-8 Milford lead.

In the beginning of the second, John Crowley furthered the Milford lead by scoring a three-pointer. Northville tried to keep within reaching distance of the lead but the outside perimeter shooting of Milford was too much. Bednarsh added the final three-pointer of the half, increasing the score to 24-16 when the buzzer sounded.

The Mustangs upped the ante with a full court press in the second half. Alan Shanoski and Storrs provided Northville with a steady supply of points while Gerblick kept the ball out of Maverick hands grabbing any and all defensive rebounds. But, the Mavericks held strong. Kunst rolled his ankle but kept Pitcock who scored inside the plaint to keep a small but comfortable lead. At the end of the third the scoreboard glowed 30-25 Milford lead.

The fourth quarter proved to a nail biting shootout between ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN

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these two teams. Scoring went back and forth throughout the quarter but the Mustangs would not give up as final minutes loomed. Northville's Storrs had control of the ball and dribbled around the perimeter. He shot with 45 seconds remaining swooshing the three-pointer and giving the Mustangs a one point

Then Milford calmly took the floor, dribbling and looking for the right moment to strike. After 15 seconds passed, Bednarsh scored with half a minute remaining in the fourth quarter. Northville, knowing they needed to score, charged down the court. With 3.9 seconds remaining, Lorente again started out with the ball. He passed it over to Mike Jameson, who launched the ball from behind the arc. The ball hit the backboard and bounced off the front of the rim out of the basket to end the

"When you win by one, you think of the 20 or 30 plays that you did make and when you lose, you think of the 20 or 30 plays that you didn't make," said Milford coach Don Palmer. This one went in our favor but it could have easily been lost." Milford climbed to 3-1 with the victory.

Successes and failure

There are plenty of bumps and bruises on the way to learning the ins and outs of wrestling.

The Mustangs grappling team earned two wins and five losses in their last two competitions Dec. 11 and Dec. 15, but found several individuals climbing through the ranks.

Against Breckenridge, the Mustangs earned a win, 63-30. Brian Dulzo earned a void at 103 pounds while Joe Gholami notched three points for his squad at 112.

Joe Marotta notched a pin at 1:31 in the second period at 130 for six points and Jared Arter showed speed kills with a pin in just 51 seconds in the 135pound weight class. Northville voided at 140 pounds but earned the points back when Justin Swanson collected a pin in the second period at 152. Dave Cain (171) and Tim Resnick (215) notched pins in just 59 seconds of the first period to help Northville to victory while Todd Milford together with help-from- ESchoenheide (189) and Dave? Stewart (heavyweight) were awarded six points each with

> Against John Glenn, the Mustangs earned a 48-33

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Continued on A15



Photo by JOHN HEIDER/NORTHYILLE RECORD

Northville's Brian Basian seems to be in a tough position as Novi's Nick Lichorobiec, wrestling at the 112 pound category, has the upper hand.

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Continued from A14

victory. Earning pins were Gholami, Schoenheide, Cain, Resnick, Sean Hughes (145) and Stewart. Wins went to Matt Ladhoff (119) and Brian Bagian (125) through voids.

The Mustangs took losses to Davidson, Davidson's "B" squad and Eisenhower through the remainder of Dec. 11 tournament.

Earning pins against Davidson's "B" team were Gholami, Ladhoff, Joe Marotta (130) and Resnick while Dulzo earned a win via void and Justin Swanson (152) earned an 8-4 decision. Northville lost the match 41-39.

Though the squad took a 54-21 loss against Eisenhower, Northville found several bright spots. Cain earned a pin in the third period for six points while Dulzo and Gholami notched victories via voids in their weight classes. Resnick had his work cut out for him but earned an 8-6 win over his foe in the

Northville was on the wrong end of a 75-3 beating from one of the top teams in the state as they fell to Davidson. The only win came through a 7-2 victory from Gholami over Chris Hildreth.

Northville lost both of their

matches Dec. 15 when they fell to Allen Park, 42-36, and Divine Child, 47-18.

Against Allen Park, the Mustangs collected void victories from Dulzo and Jon Junca (130) while Swanson earned a 10-9 win and Resnick scrapped out a 7-4 victory. Notching pins were Jared Arter (135), Nick Didia (140) and Cain.

The Mustangs had a similar showing against Divine Child, where pins were earned by Schoenheide and Cain. Swanson earned a 9-6 victory and Arter collected a 9-3 win.

Baseline game goes to Novi Wildcats

The Northville Mustangs couldn't engineer enough offense to keep the Novi Wildcats at bay at Novi Ice

Arena last Friday.

The skaters fell to their Baseline rivals, 3-2, after Novi's Mark Eberline notched a tally with just 10 seconds remaining in the game to seal the victory

Northville found themselves in the lead on a power play goal with three minutes remaining in the first period but the Wildcats were quick to knot things up as Tom Ciaverilla put one past Jimmy Gates for the 1-1 game.

The second period was all Novi as the

HOME

'Cats added their second tally off the stick of Chris Zarem for the 2-1 lead. With time expiring in the

third period, the Mustang were able to tie the game with one minute left on the clock. Unfortunately, they

weren't able to hold off the Wildcats' final score of the

Tankers shell Knights

The Northville Mustangs swimming and diving team started their vacation early as they casually kicked their way by Walled Lake Northern, 132-

The team, coached by Rich Bennetts, dominated their league foes before heading into their Christmas break that finds them off until early January.

"A very good effort on the part of boys," said Bennetts.
"We were short a couple of swimmers due some school activities that were going on that night

stepped up huge for us. It's very nice to get all three of our relay state cut out of the way this early in the season, as well as some of the indi-

and

guys

the

rest of the

vidual cuts. We have a long way to go, with a lot of improvement that must take place.'

State cuts abounded in the early meet as the 200-meter medley relay team of Chris Keady, Weston Laabs, Ryan Smith and Brad Farris swam a 1:44.55 for first place and a trip to the state meet. Also going will be the team of Farris, Brody Blickle, Chris Culkin and Will Blickle in the 400 free relay. They swam a 3:22.78.

Going to the state meet as individuals will be Keady in the 200 individual medley along with Brody Blickle in the same event. Keady swam a 2:00.96

for his cut and a pool record while Blickle took second with his qualifying time of 2:04.70.

Farris earned his state cut in the 50 free with an impressive swim of 22.63 seconds before notching a 48.70-second swim in the 100 free to earn a state cut and the pool record.

Despite having so many state cuts in just their second meet of the season, the Mustangs are well aware the conference can't be claimed as their own yet.

"Stevenson and Salem swam very fast in their opening week as well, so we will have our work cut out for us from here on out," Bennetts said. "We now have three weeks just to train our butts off and see how we stack up from that point."

The Mustangs had fine showings throughout the remainder of the meet as Will Blickle earned a first in the 200 freestyle event with a 1:50.36 and Greg Sheppard took second in 2:03.28.

In diving, Brad Lempke took second place with a total score of 205.40 to help his team to

Also taking a first was Brody Blickle in the 500 free with a grueling time of 4:04.03, while Sheppard was second in 5:20.43. Will Blickle captured the 100 butterfly with a time of

56.28 seconds and Culkin notched a second-place showing in the 100 free with a 53.25-second race.

The 200 free relay found the team of Keady, Mark Stubert, Laabs and Will Blickle winning in 1:35.82 while Culkin tob) first in the 100 backstroke with Jonathan Bardsley taking section ond in 1:03.89. Keady was second in the 100 breaststroke Try

The Mustangs will have their schedules full this Christings break as they look to come info January in full stride.

"We will only take Christmas Day and New Years Day offer said Bennetts. "Every other day we will be practicing, so We should come out of the holidas break in great shape and hope fully ready for the rest of the season.

The Mustangs will have to belt if they hope to reach some of their season goals - white include lofty expectations in the state meet as well as a hope 318 capture a long-awaited Western! Lakes Activities Association

— Compiled by Northville: Record sports writer Sam Eggleston and intern Matt Simieh

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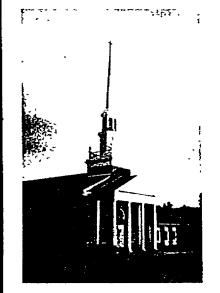
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Our fundamental purposes are to enhance the lives of our readers, nurture the home towns we serve and contribute to the business success of our customers.

O, Christmas Tree

We ask a pretty penny during the holiday season: family health, generous gifts, world peace and bright futures for our children.

No small order for even the most magical Christmas elf, sleigh packed with good intentions and steeped heavy with cotton-candy wishes.

But the real world can be cold and harsh.

War rages on in a distant place few of us truly understand, against an enemy fewer still can identify. Economies sputter and long-term employment seems always on the verge of fading into some distant sunset.

Local government officials scramble, expecting a pending budget ax wielded soon by a governor and a state legislature who talk about tough choices, but who predictably muster neither the fortitude, nor the consensus, to make more than a marginal difference.

Instead, they guard with entitlement coveted state pensions and career advancement opportunities. All for what?

Somewhere not far from you, someone sits chronically ill, alone perhaps, tired from a journey too often charted alone. They are a neighbor, a friend, a relative or a stranger.

We wish for all a happy holiday and a joyous, prosperous New Year. But the world needs more than hope.

We change things for the better by extending a hand across a fence line, to a neighbor with whom we've never before spoken, to an adversary we swore we'd never again defend.

The things we covet most cannot be delivered by a fictitious elf. one Christmas morning. Ultimately, they arrive only at our own hand: after a long night's work, and a trail of snowy footsteps leading from one house to the next.

The Greatest Love

What kind of love do you encounter as you go from day to

Are there those with whom you feel close, or do they just push you

If you have a loving family, I'll tell you what to do. Just thank God daily for what

they mean to you.

Love can be shown from a hus-

band to his wife. With the giving of a single rose to

the "flower" of his life. The gift to show your love does-

n't have to be very much,

Just a glance, a kiss, or even a loving touch.

After you have lived a while, at times things may seem disconnect-

But the most precious of love may be wholly unexpected. We give gifts to our small chil-

dren, perhaps something to hold But as they grow older, be careful

not to give too much.

A gift to give your children who all want "presents of mine,"

Would be to change that gift when they grow older to "presence of mind."

In our family, we occasionally give what we call "a gift of love."

It could be a gift undeserving, like God's gift from above.

It could be a large gift, or one that's very small,

Given without Christmas or a birthday, given for no reason at all.

It could be something practical, or something given on a whim, A cute gift for a wife or something special just for him.

It could be a gift given to your kids, that they perhaps are unde-

But a gift given from your heart, wrapped up and tied with all your

love. One of the many things Jesus told us before his earthly life came to an

Was that a man has no greater love than to lay down his life for a

There aren't many people who would die so that someone else

might live. But Jesus did it for you and me;

He gave all that he could give. One day God sent his gift down from Heaven above.

But now, what will you do with "God's greatest Love?"

Warren Parkyn

Record Letters

Thank you!

Northville Mothers' Club Life Members annual Holiday Open House is thought of as a special beginning to the holiday season, 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 Dec. 4. 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

Northville Mothers' Club Life Members

Thanks, lifesavers!

I want to take this opportunity to thank every one that was involved in saving my husband's life on Dec. 1, 2004: Huron Valley Ambulance, Northville Twp. Fire Dept., St. Mary's Hospital, Med Flight and St. Joseph's Hospital, Ann Arbor.

You all were truly miraculous in doing everything possible to save Rick's life.

No one ever gave up on him, even after having two cardiac arrests. You have given us a second chance and we will never forget your hard work and dedica-

To all our friends in the community and Oak Point Church, you were remarkable.

Our cell group from Oak Point immediately rallied to make sure we had meals for a week which was wonderful, we never had to worry about food. (I could have dragged that out forever!)

Our football family gave us a generous gift of money which we are so grateful for. Our friends, Lynn Wilson, Jan and Amy Mninch brought food, pillows and blankets and sat with us until 3

a.m. during Rick's surgery. The outpouring was tremendous. We felt all your prayers and good wishes which were instrumental in Rick's recovery.

We wish you all a blessed New Year as we begin a new chapter in our lives.

We love you all and thank you for everything. Remember to count each day as a blessing and take care of each other.

The Rick Nejman Family



LEFT: Thornton Creek

Photos by JOHN HEIDER/

Elementary School students enjoyed a visit from the Ann Arbor Symphony last Friday.

BELOW: Emily Price-Dietz demonstrates her French



Who's been nice and who's been naughty?

Christmas is almost here, and it's time to sneak a peek into the stocking to see what Santa has brought some of our best-known folks. Make that, what Santa should be bringing them. First of all, it is ...

 Mud for Detroit Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick, who is refusing to sell a city-owned 80-foot by three-quarter mile strip of land in southwest Detroit that is needed to build a truck tunnel to Canada that would create thousands of jobs and reduce cross-border congestion.

A group called Detroit River Partnership is trying to put together a deal to build the tunnel, and they need the land to finish it off. But a new tunnel would mean competition for Manuel (Matty) Moroun, who makes a ton of money from the 10 million vehicles that use his Ambassador

The shadowy Moroun, whose mysterious business practices were the subject of a major recent piece in Forbes, is a big financial backer of Hizzonor. Word on the street [(and in the Detroit papers) is that Moroun is leaning on his pal to put the kibosh on the deal. Funny thing, however; Wayne County Executive Bob Ficano, Detroit Chief Development Officer Walt Watkins and Director of Development Activities Henry Haygood are all for it.

Phil Power

HOMETOWN COMMUNICATIONS

CHAIRMAN,

This, of course, reeks of corruption. Worse, if anything, it's a perfect instance of how things that could really make a difference to job-starved Michigan get killed by wealthy and influential special interests and compliant politicians.

• Brain candy for us all from the University of Michigan library, which at seven million volumes is one of the largest research libraries in the world. The

University announced last week that Google, one of whose co-founders is U-M grad Larry Page, will make virtually everything in its library holdings available to the public online.

Although it's not well known, the U-M's research library is on a par with Harvard's, Stanford's and Oxford's -- the other

major school libraries

included in Google's plan. The implications are remarkable. It signifies the coming of age of online access to information. Within a few years, ordinary people will have direct access to the scholarly resources of the world's greatest libraries without having to paw through dusty volumes in the stacks.

And that U of M library is included in this deal is further indication of the extraordinary world-class resource that the university represents to the entire state. That's a resource our law-

makers owe it to us to protect. Blue Cross-Blue Shield Card for the com pany's many "associates" in Michigan. Despite its popularity, Wal-Mart has come in recent months under increasing criticism for crushing Main Street merchants and

ruining small downtowns. Their attempt to build a new store in the Petoskey area was derailed by a local citizens' group earlier this year, and a similar group is now hard at work in Pittsfield Township near Ann Arbor to do the same

A new issue has arisen: Whether Wal-Mart's employment practices are driving its employees into state-financed medical programs like Medicare and the charity lines at hospitals. If so, it's a case in which a big company is offloading some costs onto the

taxpayers, as Medicare is a large and rapidly increasing cost in Michigan's budgetary mess. Wal-Mart, by the way, pays an average employee \$10 an hour and charges monthly health care premiums as high as \$264 a month, according to the New York Times. What's more, they make the eligibility requirements considerably steep.

Wal-Mart says it has no idea how many of its employees or their families are insured under state programs. The folks in Lansing I asked about it didn't know either. But if Michigan wants to cut the costs of state-paid health care, it might have a look to see how many folks employed by Wal-Mart are winding up getting their health care paid by Michigan taxpayers.

· Crystal balls for state school chief Tom Watkins and members of the State Board of Education. Recent research shows a crisis is brewing in funding state schools: Public school employee pension costs will rise from 15 percent of payroll in 2005 to more than 20 percent in 2008 and more than 30 percent by 2018. Moreover, health care and retirement benefit costs by 2008 will average \$1,200 per pupil, whereas the state's foundation education grant is only. \$6,700 per popil.
Watkins and the State Board are calling

for a fundamental restructuring of the K-12 system and its financial underpinnings. That's the right approach, rather than tinkering around the edges. But it will take a better crystal ball than mine to figure out whether anything will come of it.

And as for the rest of us ... Happy Holidays to all! May your Christmas stockings be filled with wonderful things and, most of all, may you and your family have a serene and happy holiday.

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.

Thinking Detroit public schools' dilemma doesn't affect you? Wrong

For the last month, it has been clear that if any city in the nation desperately needs a Christmas present, it is Detroit. And the city's school system is even more needy than the

Yet both are likely to get lumps of coal from an unsympathetic legislature and a state which increasingly seems to believe that Detroit's problems are none of its concern.

People in Traverse City and Monroe and even suburban Livonia think that the city's woes have nothing to do with their well-being.

Perhaps they should think again. It looks increasingly likely that the schools, despite five years of "reform," are near-financial collapse. They will soon be forced to close as many as 40 of the 255 school buildings and eliminate 4,000 jobs, in a district that has too few teachers to begin with.

But even then the schools, which have been hemorrhaging students for decades. may not be able to pay the bills. In that case, the legisla-

ture is likely to take control of them once again. Five years ago, Lansing disenfranchised an incompetent and largely corrupt school board and installed a mayor-appointed reform board, with a member appointed by the governor having a veto.

Jack Lessenberry

EDITORIAL VICE PRESIDENT,

HOMETOWN COMMUNICATIONS

This time, it would be much different. The legislature would likely install a military-style financial manager with dictatorial powers, charged with getting the schools' finances in order. That would be hugely unpopular in

Yet it is hard to see how that can be avoid-

If that happens, tensions are bound to increase between the nearly all-black city and the mostly white, Republican-dominated state

And now for the really bad news. Nobody is talking about this openly -- yet. But precisely the same fate could be in shape for the city itself, which is running a deficit between \$200 and \$300 million in a budget that by state law has to be balanced. The city can't expect help from the state, which has a budg-

et that is itself way out of whack and expects to cut what remains of revenue sharing.

More than likely, the only way for Detroit to comply with the law will be to slash jobs and services in a city that already doesn't have enough cops or streetlights and has far too many abandoned buildings and murders.

Eventually - probably not this year, but in a few years, the point may come when the politicians feel that nothing more can be slashed and yet the bills cannot be paid. When that happens, receivership may follow.

That would mean the elected politicians would lose all power, and Detroit would be run by a state-

appointed financial manager. Politically, that would effectively reduce Detroit to something like the status of an occupied city, like Baghdad. Some would argue that this might seem appropriate, since

there are areas that look like Fallujah. Tom Clay, perhaps the state's most respected budget analyst, says he doesn't know anybody who can say what the woes of the city and its schools are likely to cost state taxpay-

ers. "But it will be huge," he said.
What is clear is that Detroit had close to two million people half a century ago. The schools were so good suburban parents would try to sneak their kids into them. Today, there

are barely 910,000 people.

The schools are so bad that virtually any city dwellers who can afford it, including the self-styled "hip-hip mayor," send their children elsewhere,

Whose fault is all this? Whites, in private if not in public, largely blame blacks, who they say trashed and ruined a once rich and thriving city. Blacks blame the whites, who they say left for greener suburban pastures and took their jobs and money along. The truth is something very different.

"Elastic cities thrive. Inelastic cities don't, and Detroit is one of the most inelastic cities there is," said David Rusk, a former mayor of Albuquerque who is a leading national urban expert. What he means by elasticity is

If Detroit had been able to annex surrounding areas, as Los Angeles still does, it would have been fine. Or if Detroit and surrounding .Wayne County, or better yet Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties could have been combined, as is the case in Miami or Nashville, there would be resources for all.

But Detroit, surrounded by county lines and incorporated cities, hasn't been able to annex a parcel of land since 1926. And there is little sentiment for metropolitan government in the suburbs, which don't want to pay. or the city, where black politicians fear losing

political power. What many fear is that eventually, when the city and its schools collapse, there will be unified government, but not the kind anyone wants.

Stay tuned; you can expect to hearing lots more about this. The condition of Detroit is likely to be Michigan's greatest crisis of this decade, and it comes in an era when the state desperately needs a leader.

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

Northville Record



*Township officials make their cases to Santa

By Kim Kovelie RECORD STAFF WRITER

Santa's been mighty good to Northville Township this year.

The stocking's been stuffed with a new township hall and fire head-quarters, a major park underway and a budget in the black.

So, how "nice" do township officials think they've been the past 12 months? And what's on their wish list for 2005?

"I think the township has been very good, but I know that the residents are watching us closely and making a list and checking it twice," Manager Chip Snider said.

For the township, he wants a professional culture to match new buildings and to work with the current staff as financial times get tougher. For himself?

"I guess I want my personal pace to slow down somewhat," Snider said. "I want to spend more time... talking with people and less time putting out brush fires."

Supervisor Mark Abbo's hoping the board of trustees will work together.

"How about a lot of 7-0 votes?" he said, "I would say a good site plan for the (former) Northville Psychiatric (Hospital) property."
And in his stocking? "Another motorcycle would do good."

Visions of new a booster water station and elevated water tower are dancing through Director of Public Services Don Weaver's head.

"We've had a record number of inspections that we performed this year," Weaver said. "Of course, we had a lot of attention given to our fiscal building proj-

He's hoping for the best for his

One of the best films of the year."

son, who's getting married in July.
"We worked under a lot of stress," Clerk Sue Hillebrand said. When it came to irritating municipal buildings delays, she admitted, Of course, (we were) a little

naughty with the builder." On her dream list: "That the state hospital (land) would be donated to the township. We'll make really good use of it. I'd wish the state would live within the budget."

Director of Northville Parks and Recreation Traci Sincock was pleased the opening of the Senior Čenter Community Community Park progress in 2004.

"We just want our residents to be happy with services and facilities we provide," Sincock said. And, "My first nephew is expected to be born in January, and I just want him to be happy and healthy."

Jennifer Frey, director of community development, thinks the planning department's been proactive and consistent. On her wish

"One would be the continued implementation of our township pathway system," Frey said. "(I'm) also looking forward to utilizing the new video capabilities in the community room for planning commission meetings."

Pedestrian signs and informational hand-outs for residents covering frequent questions about deck locations and sizes are other hopes.

As work wraps up on police station renovations and with another police hire on the way, Police Chief John Werth has a few things on his gift list, too.

"We've been very good girls and boys here," he said. "We've lived through a dispatch merger. We are putting up with the dust and the

Acomedy with a language all its own

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Photo by JOHN HEIDER/NORTHYLLE RECORD

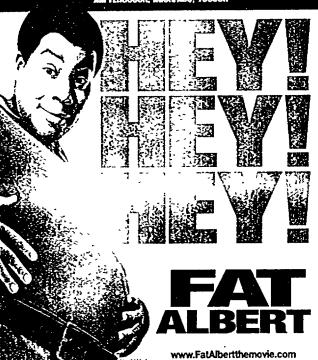
Northville Township adminstration staff, including Sue Hillebrand, Maureen Osiecki, Maria Gardner, Nancy Malloy, Debbie Wilhelm and Chip Snider gaze at their office's Christmas tree, wondering what will be under their tree on the morning following Santa's visit.

grime and the dirt from all the construction. We are joyfully waiting

for our new house. And one more little thing: "A Michigan victory on New Year's 40-foot Diesel Pusher Coachman."

Kim Kovelle can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 107, or e-mail via Wovelle@ht.homecomm.net.

Day in a new motor home. I want a



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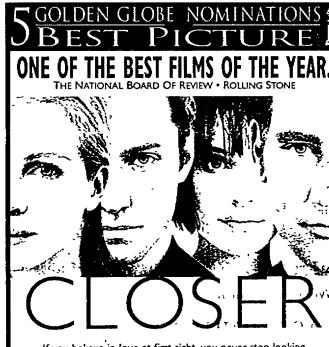
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Some local cures for post-holiday lament: 'Mom, I'm bored':

By Maureen Johnston RECORD STAFF WRITER

The "Incredibles" remote-control car has traveled every inch of the living room. Twister Moves wasn't quite as fun as it looked on television. The Magic Hair Beader has lost its magic.

Christmas has come and gone. but school won't resume for a whole week.

The excitement preceding holiday celebrations has evolved into the familiar expression on the little cherubs' faces. The children are asking, "Mom, what can I

There are play dates to make. Trips to the mall for exchanges can be planned.

December types of fun -- not too far and not too expensive.

Monday

· How about a trip to the gym? The Northville Senior Community Center, 303 W. Main St., is open for play from noon-5 p.m. through Thursday for basketball, volleyball or walking. The cost is \$2 per

· The Northville District Library, 212 W. Cady St, reopens after the holiday from 10 a.m.-9 p.m. through Thursday.

"There's so many things they can do in the library and take home with them," said Dorie Freebury, head of youth services.

There also are several end-of- In addition to checking out books, videos, CDs and computer games, younger children can amuse themselves at the puppet theater or youth computer station, she said.

New for the facility is its wireless capability, Freebury said. The library is a hot spot now. So that's cool."

· Just down the street, the Marquis Theatre musical production of "Rumplestiltskin" will continue Monday-Thursday. Tickets are \$7.50 for 2:30 p.m. performances at 135 E. Main St.

· The Northville Parks and Recreation Department is offering an open swim opportunity 10:30 a.m.-noon at the Hillside Recreation Center pool, 700 W. Baseline Rd. The cost is \$2 for an hour or \$3 for 90 minutes.

• Open gym continues noon-5 p.m. at the senior community cen-

· Bee's Knees, downtown's paint-your-own pottery gallery, is open 11 a.m-6 p.m. Tuesday and Wednesday. Rates for the studio, at 141 E. Main St., are \$8 per hour or \$10 for the entire day. Rates for groups - four or more reserved 24 hours in advance — are further reduced.

Wednesday

• Plan ahead for Friday night by picking up Northville Nite tickets

at the Hillside Recreation Center. The annual New Year's Eve event costs \$15 for adults, \$10 for children ages 2-12 and \$5 for children 12-23 months.

• Open gym continues noon-5 p.m. at the senior community cen-

Thursday

Bee's Knees is open 11 a.m.-9

· How about that white stuff Mother Nature sprinkled in the yard. Any child who's been driven just west of Center Street on Eight Mile Road knows the potential velocity of the Amerman Elementary hill.

• Open gym continues 12-5

p.m. at the senior community cen-

Friday

• Time for a family nap before the big family celebration of New Year's Eve at Northville Nite. The seventh annual event is 5-9 p.m. at the Hillside Recreation Center.

Saturday/Sunday

Reality sets in: these are the final days off before school resumes Monday.

But wait, the children will exclaim. They haven't had time to play with all the great gifts they received for Christmas.



Employees from Main Street Bank in Northville, along with volunteers Kathy Rafalski and Barbara Baker, helped pack special gifts for area seniors last week. The Northville Community Foundation each year prepares "Goodie Bags" for seniors who are residents at an assisted living facility. This year's gifts will go to Alterra Wynwood of Northville.

No Christmas plans? Don't fret By Kim Kovelle

RECORD STAFF WRITER

For many, holidays are a time for celebrating and spending time with family and friends. But as Christmas draws nigh, some individuals are without a home — or are simply look-

ing for respite from shopping and stress. Don't fret. There are options to make a lonely or harried season bright.

Take the edge off

Besides the stores luring last-minute shoppers, slower-paced avenues are open Christmas Eve.

Until dinner hours, that includes many local restaurants. Stop in and order a warm dish or coffee. Nestle into a window seat. Watch the snowfall, Relax.

"We have a fish fry, warm libations and it's decorated very nice," said Tim Sheehan, owner of Sheehans' on the Green in Northville. "It's just a warm atmosphere to come in and take a

Consider traditional winter activities you've been too busy to schedule.

Rent ice skates. The Novi Ice Arena is open

until 3:30 p.m. tomorrow. A pass is \$5 for those living outside the city.

How about a horse-drawn carriage ride in downtown Northville Christmas Eve? Elizabeth Vernasco, owner of Northville Carriage Co., has epenings.

"We go into the heart of the historic district," Vernasco said. "You get to see all the Christmas lights. It's kind of neat to see the city so quiet. It's peaceful."

Rides run from 4-9:30 p.m. and cost \$85 and up. Call (248) 486-8866 ahead for a reservation. Typically, 6-15 can climb onboard. Hot

chocolate and candy are served. For warmer refuge, seek a church service. Ward Evangelical Presbyterian on Six Mile

Road is one example. "We have four candle-light services," receptionist Alice Lundsten said. "There's special Christmas music.'

Filling Christmas

The silver screen's glow is a hearth open Christmas Day. On-screen bustle can provide

Novi's Emagine Entertainment's box office opens at 1 p.m.

"We'll have our whole theater open," Tricia Shea, theater supervisor, said. "Your bars can't be open. We get pretty busy."

For those not interested in or able to attend films, however, Christmas Day can present a

challenge. Dr. Amold Keller, executive director of Northville's Psychotherapy and Counseling Services, suggested walking or cleaning

"Exercise of course produces all those healthy brain chemicals that combat depression and anxiety," Keller said. "We always feel better when we clean things out and get ready

for the New Year." He encourages those who are alone or who have lost a loved one to reach out.

"Pick up loose strings by calling up old friends, maybe visiting the old neighborhood. It tends to renew happier times," Keller said.

Don't forget senior citizens and the homebound, he said.

What I recommend for people who know people like that is make sure they visit them," Keller said. 'They're pretty much out of luck unless they've found someone. The only way around that is to check on our senior citizens

Holiday etiquette: toasts, grace and nice things to say

By Kim Baker RECORD SPECIAL WRITER

A season of holiday merriment can easily turn into a moment of lasting embarrassment for those caught off-guard by sudden toast requests or unpolished social

During the holidays, proper etiquette is a gift unto itself. Therefore, heed a holiday etiquette primer before heading to grandma's: LÁST-MINUTE: shoppers make one last pitch

LOWER SHOPPING STRESS

· Make a plan the night before; know exactly what gifts you need

· Factor extra time to find parking, wait for service and stand in

· Watch your caffeine intake, from coffee to sweets. A stimulant,

· Pre-set spending limits; don't be tempted by items not on your

it can cause stress levels to surge. Try fresh fruit for natural energy.

· Plan a healthy, light lunch. It'll help you regroup, check your

· Have cash, checkbook, credit cards and identification cards

· Be pleasant with store staff. They may be stressed and over-

Source. Rick Allen, stress reduction workshop specialist and certified hypnotist in Otio (www.newide-

Keep cool on last minute shopping trips:

. Be flexible on choices like color and model.

Remain alert and keep valuables out of sight.

ready when you're checking out, to speed things up.

• There's no "right" time to give a toast. Go for it when the moment is right. · Don't lose your audience's attention. Limit a toast to two to

four minutes in length. · Always stand when making a toast and end the toast on a bright

· Never use a piece of flatware and a glass as a way of getting people's attention for a toast. Say in a loud, projecting voice, "May I have your attention, please?

• If you are being toasted, do not raise your glass with the others. It will seem as though you are toasting yourself.

 Only clink glasses if no one in particular is being toasted. Otherwise, raise the glass to shoulder height and gently gesture toward the honoree.

New Year's toasts

. "As we start the New Year. let's get down on our knees and

thank God we're on our feet." • "Here's champagne to our real friends and real pain to our sham

• "Stir the eggnog, lift the toddy. Happy New Year every-

Saying Grace

• One person — whether a host,

HOLIDAY HELPERS

Toasts/Grace · www.bhg.com

www.entertainment.about.com

Holiday Etiquette

 www.advancedetiquette.com www.susanroane.blogs.com

 www.healthnewsdigest.com · www.e-magnify.com

guest or clergy --- can say grace for the group.

 A group can say grace together, following along with a printed copy provided to all.

· Children can say grace for all. · Everyone can hold hands during grace, either seated or stand-

• Each person can have a turn and give thanks for something

· Non-denominational graces include a broader range of people at a holiday gathering.

Grace options

• "Be present at our table, Lord. Be here and everywhere adored. These mercies bless and grant that we may feast in fellowship with

· "God is great and God is good, and we thank him for our food; By his hand we are fed; Give us, Lord, our daily bread."

· "For health and strength and daily food, we praise thy name, D

Party etiquette

• Don't forget to locate the host when you arrive and leave, saying "hello" and "good-bye."

· Hand-write a thank-you note to the host(s) as soon as possible following the event.

· Approach someone at the party wearing holiday attire (like a Santa tie or wreath brooch) and start a conversation by compli-

menting their accessories. · Prepare an introduction for guests you will meet at the party. Make it a short and sweet pleas-

antry, with no sarcasm or negativ-· Don't just pretend to be interested in what other guests are saying. Listen to them and do not

think about things like your to-do list while they are talking. · Thank the host for inviting you and acknowledge his or her

hard work on the event. • It is often considered proper to bring the host a small gift if the

party is held at the host's home Do not be the Grinch of the party. Stay upbeat and put your most festive foot forward. If you look like you are having fun, you

just might end up having some. ; · Get to know others at the party, whether they are co-workers or friends of the host.

It's all in the pew

and stick to the list.

progress and relax.

Why do parishioners flock to certain seats?

By Kim Kovelle RECORD STAFF WRITER

continued from 1A

gingerbread houses.

have any expiration dates.

keep your budget in mind.

than go into a panic."

When all else fails, "big box" and

Best Buy in Novi, open today

until 11 p.m. and tomorrow from 8

a.m.-5 p.m., has gift certificates in a

"They're incredibly popular,"

said Don Stump, general manager.

gift cards. None of our gift cards

We have a line specifically to ring

Try hitting stores when people

aren't on lunch breaks or during

extended hours that aren't widely

advertised, Stump said. Finally,

before you shop," Scott said. "If you

can go out with a plan... you can

just orderly go down your list rather

"It's always important to think

hanes from stockings to

chain stores, from Meijer to CVS,

are open for the race with Santa.

Since 1985, Pat Hauser and her husband Dick have attended Sunday services at First United Methodist Church in Northville.

Without hesitation, she names where they've been sitting: for the 8 a.m. service in the chapel, it's in the second row to the right; if at the later ceremony in the main sanctuary, they can be found on the left-hand side, about halfway down.

'It's a feeling somehow of a closeness of God," said Hauser of her perch. And, "It's a habit."

Some stake out a pew based on breathing space or a better view. Others prefer migration and mingling. Though by no means an exact science, placement in worship houses means something to everyone.

Novi's First Free Will Baptist Church promotes "family integrated" environment. Pastor Gary Elfner said the church's 50 parishioners tend to sit by near and dear ones, related or not. They'll naturally tend towards what's comfort-

said. "We try not to put stigmas on people. The families work together." Through activities such as potluck held every fourth Sunday, people are joined in a "family

able for them, and everybody respects that," Elfner

reunion" atmosphere. At Holy Cross Episcopal Church in Novi, Senior Warden Larry Jansen suspects a recently tweaked seating arrangement plays a factor in pew pickings. At the front of the church, three rows on either side of sanctuary were shifted to face towards each

other — rather than facing the altar point-blank. "If you're sitting in rigid rows all facing for-

ward, you tend to interact less," said Senior Warden Larry Jansen. "Our church tends to be a little more fluid. Very few people have a traditional place they sit. People are always sliding around and making sure everybody has a place."

Although the mid-to-back sections tend to fill up first, there's a great deal of mixing among the church's 200

members. A Sunday school program releases youths to their parents partway through the ceremony, adding to

movement. "You'll see parents together and then being joined by

their chil-dren," Warden said. "I think you find newcomers tend to rather sit at the back and observe - at least the first time.' Back at First United Methodist, Rev. John Hice

finds that limited space for nearly 1,500 members lends to creativity - and, at times, snugness. 'We can't expand our seating any more than our

parking lot will allow," said Hice. Due to city green space mandates, only 1,000 square acres more can he developed.

Local Church Services

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH 217 N. Wing St. (248) 348-1020 Christmas Eve - 6 p.m. Christmas Day - None

FIRST CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE 21260 Haggerty Rd. (248) 348-7600 Christmas Eve - 6:30 p.m. Christmas Day - None

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF NORTHVILLE

200 E. Main St. (248) 349-0911 Christmas Eve - 5 p.m., 7 p.m., 9 p.m., 11 p.m. Christmas Day - None

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF NORTHVILLE

777 W. Eight Mile Rd. (248) 349-1144 Christms Eve - 4 p.m., 6 p.m., 8:30 p.m., 11

Christmas Day - None **NORTHVILLE CHRISTIAN ACADEMY** 41335 Six Mile Rd.

(248) 348-9030 So, a folding chair is placed at the end of each row, off the center aisle. During major services such as Christmas, the sanctuary extends into the lobby. Forty can even be squeezed into the choir

"I can name where particular people will be sit-

loft flanking the altar. Like the Hausers, many do gravitate to certain Christmas Eve - 6 and 8 p.m.

OAK POINTE CHURCH Northville High School 45700 Six Mile Rd. (248) 615-7050 Christmas Eve - 5 p.m., 6:15 p.m. Christmas Day - None

Christmas Day - None

770 Thayer St. (248) 349-2621 Christmas Eve - 4:00 p.m., 6 p.m., 11:30 p.m. Christmas Day - 8 a.m., 10 a m.

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201 Elm St. (248) 349-3140 Christmas Eve - 6 p.m., 8 p.m., 10 p.m. Christmas Day - 10 a.m.

WARD EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

40000 Six Mile Road (248) 374-7400 Christmas Eve - 4 p.m., 5:30 p.m., 7 p.m., 11

Christmas Day - None

ting usually," Hice said. "They often do sit in the same location. I think that that's true anywhere." A
No matter what the reason, Sunday crowds will continue to flock to their favorite people and pewg

Kim Kovelle can be reached at (248) 349-1700, 107, or via

kkovelle@ht.homecomm.net.

By Kim Kovelle RECORD STAFF WRITER

After the bow's plucked and the wrapping paper ripped, there it is: the unexpected, unwanted Christmas gift.

What do you do? Force a grin? Blurt a candid, honest response?

Chris Van Dam, owner of Van Dam's in Northville, recalled her peculiar present: "My husband bought me one year some really frilly lingerie," she said. "We had, at the time, a small child. It just was not my lifestyle. But, I didn't want to discourage him from the attempt. He was very proud."

The possibility's two days away, but there's a chance you'll Falso grapple with an outlandish

It may depend on who's doing the giving. Close family members or friends could be more

approachable. "That's probably more on a case-by-case basis," said Dan Jones, general manager, Twelve Oaks Mall. "I don't think there's

anybody who gives me gifts that I couldn't go to."

Happy returns

If you're one of the lucky ones with a gift receipt, the main trick is figuring out return policies.

Rules on time frame and even tags vary widely. Kohl's, which has a Northville locale, leans toward flexibility.

"In most cases, if we sell the item, we take it back," District Manager Chris Wilkenson said. 'We don't have any time frame. If you don't have a receipt, then we give our merchandise cred-

Although return lines are typically longer one to two weeks post-Christmas, the lack of a deadline leaves the luxury of

With boutiques or smaller shops, though, options might be limited.

- Van Dam's, for instance, offers cash-back for 10 days. In malls, the spectrum ranges from returns and exchanges to store credit or final sales. Chain stores might also have longer lines to

"We generally say make sure you ask and understanding the individual store policy," Jones said. "I would say the sooner the

Mercury

Grin and bear it

If a tacky turtleneck's here to stay, the reaction boils down to

etiquette.
"In the present, it's important to act graciously," said Gail Majcher, clinical psychologist in Northville. "We're talking about the people's feelings. At the moment, they're excited they've given you something.'

What if it's a big ticket item, and the giver wants to know if you'll truly use it?

"Then they need to be honest in a very grateful way," Majcher said. "It's OK to address that a day or two later. Again, graciously."

If it's from a boss, though, she recommends letting it go, regardless of cost.

Consider donating the item to a charity, or, if possible, passing along the Christmas turkey.

"Someone else's junk is another man's treasure," Northville writer Robin Franks said. She said she's passed items along for gag gifts and parties.
"I'll let them know," Franks

said. "I'll say, 'Someone gave me this and I can't use it. Can you use it?""

(248) 349-1700, ext. 107, or via

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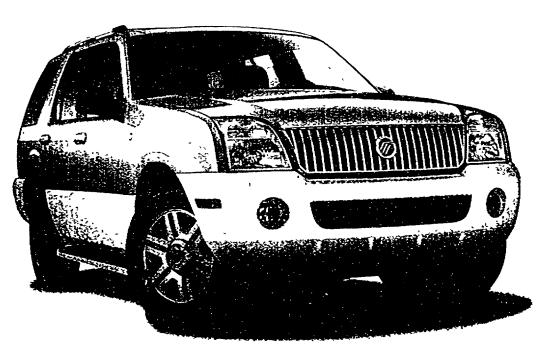
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:Community delivers the gifts for Civic Concern Christmas

By Maureen Johnston RECORD STAFF WRITER

Winter magic swirled through · Northville Township's former finance building last weekend and transformed it into Santa's work-

Even Frosty was dancing a jig. The scene was just what you might imagine — a crew of elves hustling packages, stacking toys and tying ribbons - under the watchful eye of the chief elf.

At the Six Mile Road location, it was Marlene Kunz, Northville Civic Concern's director, who was smiling, beaming.

Busy, busy, busy behind the long countertop, local mom Cheryl Hinds was happy to help. She and her fellow volunteers arranged in meticulous order the packages Santa presented to families Monday.

Inside might be a size 5 sweater for Megan, medium gloves for Mom or the gas card Sean needs to

It was Christmas six years ago when Hinds, her husband and two children received a much needed bundle of holiday donations.

"My husband was very sick --word got around - Civic Concern stepped in," she said. "It was a difficult time, for the teenagers, too.

"Marlene has changed our life. Civic Concern has changed our life. We wanted to give back what was given to us."

Giving back

This year, the local non-profit agency made Christmas merrier for 145 local families, including senior citizens, individuals and families of two to families of nine.

Volunteers stopped at Amerman, Ridge Wood and Winchester elementary schools and Our Lady of Victory church last Friday to pick up donations. Families who adopted families stopped in the township building 1-5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.

Karen Tryciecky dropped her gifts off Saturday. "My family just felt Christmas has gotten too com-mercial," she said. "We have way too much. We wanted to do something for someone else."

Northville resident Roxanne Barrick in August took over for Kunz the task of supervising the Adopt-A-Family project. She matched donors with Civic Concern clients and others identified by local agencies as people who might be without a Christmas this year.

"It's just so unbelievable, the help," Barrick said. "It's an unbelievable community. I'm humbled."

Inside the workshop

Pointing out the bags and bags of gifts lining every nook and cranny of the cubicles, offices and vault of the former bank, Barrick shed tears of awe and gratitude.

Third graders at Ridge Wood asked how they could help the Adopt-A-Family effort, she said. They colored and decorated the 145 tags the elves used to designate the parcels for each recipient.

"Those 60 little faces looking up at me... I was so proud of them," Barrick said.

It was the desire to share their Christmas spirit that prompted most of the elves to report to the Northville Pole.

Karla Ninivaggi, who recently relocated from New Jersey, called her parish to ask how she could volunteer this season. She and her daughter Kristina, a Northville High School junior, enjoyed their stint in the workshop.

"I am overwhelmed with the amount of gifts people are bringing in," Ninivaggi said. "I just cannot get over the generosity of people. This is definitely a giving year. I think people are back to the real meaning of Christmas."

Courtney Moore, a ninth grader at Mercy High School, just wanted to help. "I think my parents have taught me to give back — their actions have rubbed off on me."





Photos by JOHN HEIDER/NORTHYILLE RECORD

TOP: Marlene Kunz, director of Northville Civic Concern, gets a kiss from Tiffany Jordan; 10, during last Monday's party.

RIGHT: Rojean Massard sits with Santa Claus during a visit to Northville Civic Concern's holiday party last Monday. The party, held at the former township finance building on Six Mile Road, featured shopping bags full of food for the holidays and children's toys donated by Northville residents.

FAR RIGHT: Attendees of all ages stopped by the party hosted last Monday by Northville Civic Concern.



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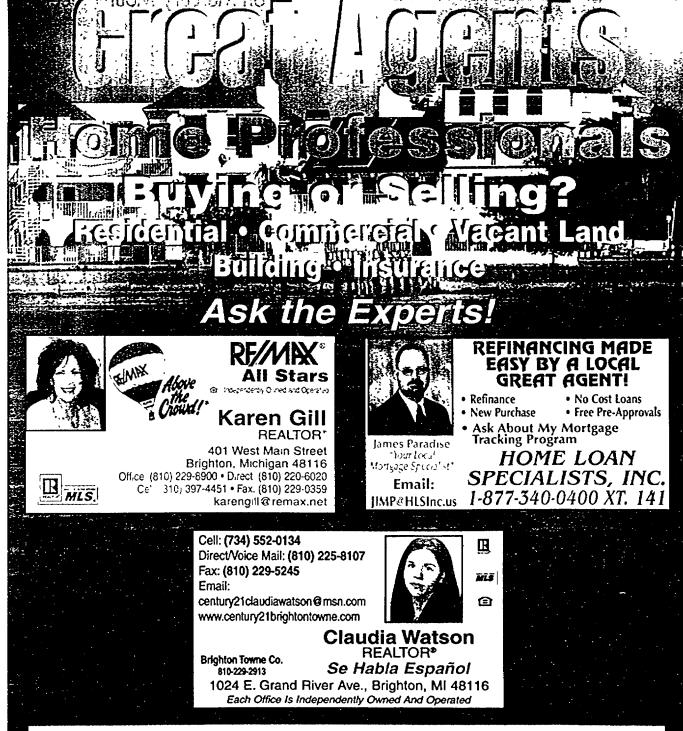
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Closed for Christmas

For the Christmas holidays, Northville Township's municipal offices will be closed today, Dec. 23, and Friday, Dec. 24.

On Friday, Dec. 31, offices will be closed to honor New Year's Eve. For more information, call township hall at (248) 348-5800.

Holiday garbage pick-up

In Northville township, garbage pick-up will not be affected on either Christmas or New Year's. It will run Monday-Thursday, as regularly scheduled.

Water pressure solutions

Township officials are looking to improve water pressure in an area flanked by Beck, Five Mile, Sheldon and Six Mile roads.

Ayres, Lewis, Norris & May, Inc. presented to the board of trustees Dec. 16 several main models for maximizing water flow from the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department.

The options topping the list included a water booster station at Five Mile and Sheldon Roads and a million-gallon water storage tank at Community Park.

Ayers gave a cost estimate of \$4.3 million, including the station, tank, valve and main installation along with fiscal, engineering and legal costs. The group noted that the area represents a quarter of the township's population and said Detroit's water costs increase 5-9 percent per year.

The board voted 7-0 to table the Issue until pending more information on the projected price, which some trustees considered high.

Township buys excess state land

At a non-budgeted cost of \$62,000, the township Dec. 16 agreed to buy nearly one-half an

acre of excess state land at the southeast corner of Eight Mile and Haggerty roads.

The board approved the measure 7-0. Supervisor Mark Abbo and Manager Chip Snider sald a cell phone tower might suit the area, which is a "dead zone" for reception. Snider was authorized to process a purchase agreement.

Police improvements approved

New dispatch receivers and four patrol vehicles for the township's police department were unanimously approved Dec. 16 by the board of trustees.

Police Chief John Werth reported that a "total area coverage" signal receiver system, purchased for the under-renovation station, wasn't compatible with fire station. Proper equipment for the station will cost \$32,092, but still keep the project \$22,492 under budget.

The department also will replace four patrol cars with three 2005 Ford Crown Vic Police Interceptors and one Ford Expedition, to be purchased from Signature Ford in Perry, Mich. for \$86,856. That's \$12,144 under budget.

Year-end budget numbers

Expenditures in the township's 2004 budget increased by \$2.256 million from original expectations.

Bringing the year's expenses to \$3.187 million, the higher-than-expected tally is due police, water and sewer, shared services and capital improvement costs.

Expected revenue is up \$213,221 due to higher fees, interest and sundry. Township Finance Director Thelma Kubitskey said numbers will be tallied once more before the year's over.

Township Treasurer Dick Henningsen reported that 10 percent of township taxes had been collected as of Dec. 16, totaling \$3.1 million. Kubitskey expects the number to reach about 35 percent by Dec. 31.

Nature area plan gets OK'd

The master plan for the 'Coldwater Springs Nature Area received unanimous approval Dec.

New Year's Eve

Friday, December 31, 2004

16 from Northville's board of trustees.

Brought forth by the Northville Department of Parks and Recreation, the nature area, to be located on the west side of Ridge Road between Five and Six Mile roads, was approved by the planning commission Dec. 7. The plan includes a linear park to the east of

The plan included pedestrian walkways and some elevated boardwalks, a shelter area and habitat enhancement near Johnson Creek.

Rouge Program Office Program provided 50 percent of the money and the township covered the other

Roadwork irks some resi-

Road improvements in the Quail Ridge subdivision are almost complete, but some residents are questioning the quality — and final cost

Repairs to failures in the roads'

about \$5,818, according to an update by engineering company Ayres, Lewis, Norris & May, Inc. at the township's Dec. 16 board meet-

The 12.7 percent hike means per homeowners now have to pay \$3,728 each, instead of an original \$3,308 estimate. The total project cost was about \$242,000.

In a public hearing, several residents alleged the new pavement is cracking and buckling in areas. One man said his car's undercarriage has been damaged because of road-

The project began in August. The board tabled the issue 7-0.

The township board of trustees approved progress payments and changes on municipal buildings and Community Park at a Dec. 16 meet-

Payments for the new township

order called for nearly \$44,549, which largely includes clay liner for ponds and concrete work.

Gas pipeline to expand

Consumers Energy Company is planning to expand a gas pipeline in along Five Mile Road in spring 2006, and the township's trustee board Dec. 16 granted them some wiggle room.

The company offered about \$33,400 for a 35-foot work easement, as well as \$24,150 to compensate for predominant Box Elder trees that will be cut along Community Park.

The board also voted 6-1 to recommend Consumers also help with costs to install bike path. Clerk Sue Hillebrand dissented.

Infor Global Solutions, which has a Northville office, announced Dec. 16 that it's forged a partnership with GrapeCity, Inc.

The goal is to strengthen Infor's position in the Asia Pacific market as a global provider of enterprise software solutions for select manufacturing and distribution indus-

As a partner, GrapeCity, an international software and services company, will help Infor establish a network of trained and certified consultants, re-sellers and implementers in China for Infor's products. The focus will be automotive and discrete manufacturing indus-

Infor's township address is 41780 Six Mile Rd.

ZF names Benz VP, CFO

Matthias Benz recently was appointed vice president and chief financial officer of the ZF Group North American Operations, located in Northville, and ZF Sachs Automotive.

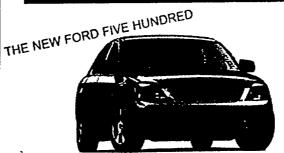
Benz will take over his positions Jan. 1, 2005, moving on from a current role in ZF's corporate development mergers and acquisitions department. He'll be moving from Friedrichshafen, Germany to

ZF is a worldwide supplier of automotive driveline and chassis technology; it's technical center is

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Includes security deposit and acquisition fee; excludes tax, title and license fee Customer cash due at signing is net of all rebates Payment includes \$500 renewal cash, \$1,500 RCL cash, \$1,750 Ford Credit Cash, \$500 employee bonus cash, and \$500 Holiday Bonus Cash

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bonus cash and \$500 employee bonus cash OPEN SATURDAYS

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all rebates Payment includes \$4,000 RCL cash, \$1,000 Ford Credit bonus cash, \$500 employee bonus cash

and \$500 renewal cash

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and ficense fee. Customer cash due at signing is net of all rebates. Payment includes \$2,000 RCL cash, \$500 Ford Credit

(1) For special \$500 Holiday Bonus Cash on selected 2005 models, take new vehicle retail delivery from dealer stock by 1/3/05. Restrictions apply. See dealer for complete details. "Some payments higher, some lower. Not all Lessees will qualify for lowest payment. For special lesse terms, ROL Cash, Ford Credt Bonus Cash (\$500 Employee bonus cash on 2004 F-150FX4), take new retail delivery from dealer stock by 13/2005. ROL Cash may be taken in cash, but is used lowards down payment in examples shown. Lease renewal cash only available to customers itemmnating their Ford Division Red Carpet Lease and re-lease for 24 months by 1/3/2006. Leases terminated early qualify it lemmnated within program dates. Supplies are limited, not all uealers will have all leatured models. Residency restrictions apply. See dealer for complete details. All payment examples are for Current Ford Employee and eligible tamily member Lessees.

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about \$135,970, An eighth change

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KIDS DAY **NEW YEAR'S PRE-PARTY COMPUWARE SPORTS ARENA**

Christmas strings!



Photo by JOHN HEIDER/NORTHYILLE RECORD Northville harpist Christa Grix plays some Christmas tunes for an assembly of Moraine Elementary School students last Monday morning.

Tidy up finances during holiday break

Spend time off getting personal records in order

Managing

By Kim Kovelle RECORD STAFF WRITER

Dec. 26 is National Whiners' Day, reason enough for some to use this Sunday - or any other holiday vacation day -- to tackle some year-end finances.

Doing so may wane whining when January's holiday bills and February's tax deadlines arrive.

Though you shouldn't expect to do it all, tidying up financial loose ends can help.

Sleigh bills ring

Holiday spirits tend to over-

spend. If the Christmas charge cent, Titus said, recall you're still card is involved, the bill's sure to increasing your home's mortgage. follow.

"It happens to a big percent of people," said Lee Holland, Northville CPA. They never plan for that. They pay very little for it in January or February."

Foremost, he said, pay off bills every month.

They should only keep one credit card. Since the interest is so high on the credit card debt, that

should be paid first," Holland said.
If debt hits, cautiously consider taking out an equity line of credit typically capped at 80 percent on your home.

Instead of borrowing on a tight payback deadline, this taxdeductible option has lower inter-

Wayne Titus, personal finance specialist at AMDG Financial in Northville, said the trick is keeping a strict payment schedule.

"You want to aggressively plan to pay that debt off as quickly as possible," Titus said. "A lot of times, because rates are so low. (people) begin to live like they don't really have that payment. As the rates go up, they will incur more interest expense.

Though rates are about 5 per-

increasing your home's mortgage.

'There's a whopping savings there (but) you've got to be very careful," Holland said. 'This is your home that you're incurring

Another option is selling investments to offset debt.

Tax man comin' to town

There's still time to get winter taxes post-marked by Dec. 31, the cut-off for a deduction.

"Paying property taxes before the end of the year... that can be a pretty significant reduction," Titus

There are other options as well. "The big things they can do at this point are to make sure that they've maximized their contribution to their retirement plans," Titus said. 'That reduces the amount of taxable income."

For the motivated, Holland recommends getting records in order.

"It starts with a net worth statement: you just list your homes, your 401(k) savings account, life insurance," Holland said.

Planning ahead for 2005 is also ideal. Start by tracking Christmas expenses, Holland said.

FINANCE SOURCES

To help you track your finances and plan ahead for next year, tap into some of

these sources: • 360 Degrees of Financial Literacy: www.360financialliter-

CCH Financial Planning

Toolkit: www.finance.cch.com Michigan Association of

www.michcpa.org USAA Educational Foundation: www.usaaedfoundation.org

Certified Public Accountants:

In any preliminary budget, include an emergency fund. Consider college expenses andretirement too, Titus said.

"With the New Year starting people want to make resolutions, he said. "There's no better time like the present to start thinking. and planning."

But focus on holiday debt, first.'
"Pay the balance off," Holland "They're feeling better already when they're sitting down' with their taxes."

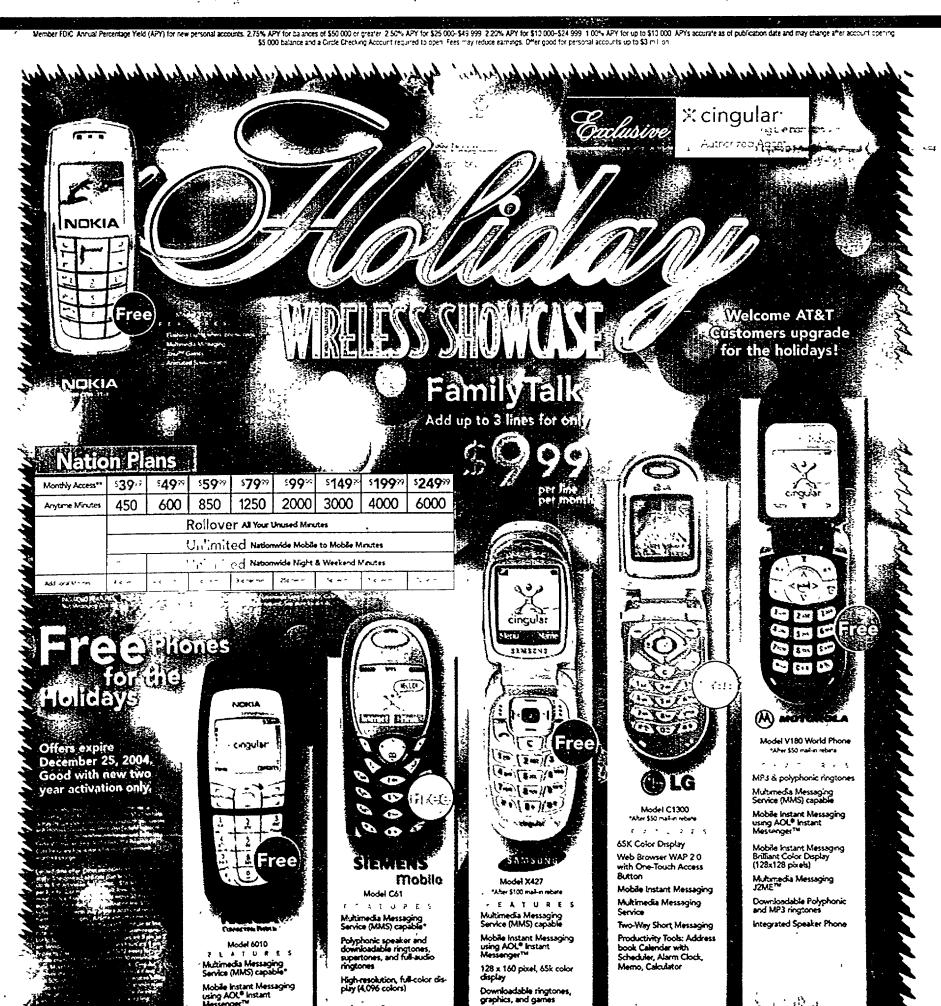
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Who's been naughty?

With the Christmas season in full swing, holiday shoppers are in a mad rush to find just the right thing for that special someone on their gift list. For those who are ready to wrap the big gifts, how about a new armoire for the family television — originally priced at \$425, now available for only \$295. The natural oak cabinet has two doors and adjustable shelves to make room for the family DVD and VCR players.

Or if you're looking to give something



Jack Faris

cushioned wedge outsole, reduced half-price lo just \$8.

soft,

and thick.

Unless you're shopping on behalf of federal agencies such as the Department of Homeland Security or the Pentagon, don't expect to get your hands on these bargains. They are just some of the items available at a clearance sale going on now at Unicor, also known as Federal Prison Industries (FPI), a corporation that is wholly owned by the feder-

al government. Created 70 years ago to help rehabilitate inmates, FPI has taken full advantage of cheap prison labor and protected status to become a huge operation that enjoys an unfair advantage over our nation's small businesses. In 2002, this monopoly ran 111 factories that benefited from the work of more than 20,000 prisoners who were paid a sub-minimum wage (\$1.23 per hour or less). Over 300 products and services were produced by federal prisoners, totaling nearly \$680 million in sales to the federal government

in 2002. With cheap labor and exempt from many mandates small businesses must comply with every day, FPI provides clothing and textiles - including custom-made draperies and curtains - vehicle repair, industrial products, office furniture, recycling and a variety of services such as printing.

Surely, among the millions of small businesses in America, the government could find a few that meet its requirements to produce these goods and provide these services. Instead, denied the ability to fairly compete, small businesses have found the walls of government contracting too high to scale. Since FPI was given preferential status in the government procurement process. tederal agencies have been locked into buying only from Unicor even if a small-business owner could provide the service or product cheaper, faster, and of better quality a disservice to small business and to taxpayers forced to pay more money for goods and services.

Dayton, Ohio, businesswoman and NFIB member Bobbie Gentile, in testimony before Congress, confirmed that the bidding process for government contracts excluded small firms. Her firm, Q-Mark Inc., a manufacturer's representative company offering the services of 15 small businesses, was automatically shut out of the bidding process even though the price she offered was lower than FPI's. She told lawmakers, "In all cases, my price was lower than the price offered by FPI."

Congress, however, has been paying attention. They may not have wrapped it in pretty paper, but in early December, lawmakers passed and the president signed a bill that bans FPI from locking out small businesses from federal government contracts. For American small-business owners, it's one of the most sought after gifts on their wish lists: the ability to compete for business that for too long has automatically been awarded to those who have been naughty rather than nice.

Jack Faris is president of the Federation Independent Business, nation's largest small-business advocacy group. More information is available on-line at www.NFIB.com.

Story idea?

Our readers have great ideas and we want to hear them. Send us your ideas.

Send it to: Northville Record 104 W. Main St. Northville, MI 48167 Fax: (248) 349-9832 daguitar@ht.homecomm.net

Restaurant offers taste of Southwest

You don't have to travel to sunny Mexico or even to downtown Detroit for the genuine flavor of the Southwest. Just come to La Casa del Rio Grande located on Grand River Avenue in new Hudson for authentic Mexican cuisine. You won't find the traditional cookie cutter food served by the chains at this local restaurant.

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

The festive atmosphere at La Casa del Rio Grande sets the tone for fun and casual dining. Colorful blankets and sombreros are part of the cheerful décor. It's a friendly atmosphere, so go ahead and 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 and bring the whole family," Salvati said.

Everyone is invited to come home for the holidays to the "house on Grand River," that's La Casa del Rio Grande in Spanish. The restaurant is open on Christmas eve and New Year's eve but closed on Christmas and New Year's Day.

Patrons don't need to brush up on their high school Spanish either as the menu explains everything in English. Salvati or her staff will be happy to guide folks through the menu and the first basket of tortilla chips with salsa is on the house.

Come for delicious lunch or dinner

La Casa del Rio Grande offers something for everyone in the family serving lunch and dinner six days a week with a variety of Mexican appetizers, lunch and dinner specials, desserts and a full-service bar for their patrons.

Why not try one of its favorite lunch specials offered Monday through Friday, such as Mexican Pizza. It's made with two fried flour tortillas with your favorite meat-inside and-topped with cheese and vegetables.

"The food is not overly spicy or hot but we'll make it hotter upon your request," Salvati said. 'For those who don't have much time for lunch, our service is extremely fast and you don't have to wait long."

Better yet, call ahead and your order will be waiting for you when you arrive, she added. Carry-out and pre-orders are encouraged for customers with little time for lunch.

Try starting with one of their many appetizers, such as the customer favorite, Mexican Flaming Cheese without the fire. They recently introduced the new Chicken Tortilla soup, a consume with black beans and veg-



The sun always shines at La Casa del Rio Grande with the popular decoration hanging on the wall at the authentic Mexican restaurant.

The selection of entrees features chimichanga platters, fajitas, enchiladas and burritos with all dinners including beans and rice. "We have the best fajitas in town," said Salvati.

Pedro's stacked sandwich. It starts with three flour tortillas layered with rice, refried beans and your choice of tender diced pork, shredded beef or chicken. and topped with melted muenster cheese and jalapeños on

Can't decide which to have? Why not try the Don Pedro sampler that comes with a ground beef taco, enchilada, shredded beef flauta, ground beef tostada, beans and rice. Or the Rio Grand sampler includes a chicken taco. ground beef enchilada, small pork chimichanga, beans and

Another favorite is the seafood salad, a fresh garden salad topped with shrimp, crab meat, avocados, tomatoes, onions, olives and muenster cheese. On Mondays, they offer all tacos you can eat at \$7.25 for corn and \$8.25 for fried flour tacos.

The chef's take great pride in preparing unique dinner specials created Monday through Saturday with a different special each night. Early bird specials are available from 3 to 5 pm. when patrons buy one dinner and receive the second at half price.

Affordable prices make it a great place to bring the family. Adult dinners average about \$7.50 and kids' meals are \$3.50 including beverage. Tuesdays and Saturdays are kid's days when meals are just \$2.99 including the meal with a drink and ice cream for dessert.

La Casa del Rio Grand is happy to accommodate special needs and requests, she added. Most items are easily adaptable to a low carbohydrate diet, so just request it from your server.

"Mexican food is great for low carb diets. You just have to cut down on the beans, rice and tortillas," Salvati said.

The restaurant recently introduced "smoke free nights" in the dining room on Friday and Saturday. On those nights, patrons are allowed to smoke at the bar or on the patio when weather permits.

"Be sure to save room for dessert because our desserts are awesome," said Salvati. "We recently added three new desserts to the menu."

Turtle Ice Cream Cake includes vanilla ice cream rippled with caramel, praline pecans on a dark chocolate cook-

Chocolate Peanut Butter Cake surrounds chocolate cake with peanut butter mousse icing, dripping with ganache and heaped with crushed Reese's peanut but-

Xango features cheesecake inside flour tortillas, deep fried to golden brown and served with ice cream, cinnamon and sugar topping and whipped cream.

Special events and promotions

Families pack the place on clown night held once a month when local clown, Jannie Annie entertains patrons from 6 to 8 p.m. on Saturday nights. Mark your calendars for upcoming clown dates on Jan. 15, Feb. 19 and March 19 and Salvati suggests calling ahead for reserva-

"We have a regular crowd on clown night and Jannie Annie knows everyone," said Salvati.

For those looking for a night out, they have a full-service bar with a large selection of both American and Mexican beer. Happy hour prices are available on beer and alcoholic drinks from 3 to 7 p.m. daily.

Monthly beer specials offer special prices on domestic and imported beer, available only in bottles. In December, MGD, Miller and Miller Lite are on special for \$2 per bottle. The January special features Dos Equis Amber and Special Lager imported from Mexico for \$2.25 per bottle.

They also offer liquor promo-tions and drink specials. In January, the special will be Willaniese Coffee, a blend of vodka, hazelnut liqueur, kahlua, Irish cream and coffee.

Wednesdays and Sundays are 'Margarita Days" when all house margaritas are available at happy hour prices. The house specialty, a margarita called the Spyder, is Dawn's special recipe made with citrus tequila.

"We have the best margaritas in town," she insists.

Check out La Casa del Rio Grande's web site www.riogrande-restaurant.com for the dates of special promotions. Patrons are encouraged to sign up for the Email Club on the web site or at the restaurant to receive coupons and updates on promotions.

"The closing of Putters Restaurant (a nearby competitor at Grand River and Milford Road) actually hurt our business. Their traffic helped us when they were open," said Salvati.

They want to attract more people going to stores and restaurants at Lyon Town Center at Milford Road and I-96. Just follow Lyon Center Drive across Milford Road and around to La Casa del Rio Grand where the drive ends on Grand River.

"More people are coming from Detroit since Don Pedro's

AT A GLANCE

La Casa del Rio Grande is located at 57721

Grand River Avenue in New Hudson. Just west of Milford Road on Grand River or follow the loop Lyon Center Drive from Wal-Mart across Milford Road and around to Grand River.

Call (248) 446-7700 or Fax (248) 446-7701 www.riogranderestaurant.com

■ Hours are Monday through Thursday from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Friday, 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Saturday, 4 p.m. to 10 p.m. Sunday, noon to 9 p.m.

■ Celebrate the holidays Christmas Eve: 11 a.m. to

Christmas Day: Closed New Year's Eve: 11 a.m. to 10 p.m.

New Years Day: Closed

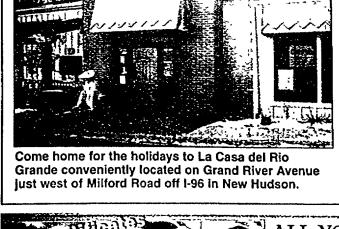
Reservations accepted. Party and catering menus available. All major credit cards

accepted.

closed there," Salvati said of the former Mexican restaurant owned by her ex-husband Tom. "It's easy for people to find since we're right off I-96 at Milford Road and a quarter mile west on Grand River."

La Casa del Rio Grande is not just a restaurant to owner Dawn Salvati who grew up in the family's former home on that property. That's why the name of the restaurant, "the house of Grande River," is so appropriate.

"It's a small-town family atmosphere where my aunt, mother, and two children, Samantha and Carmen, all work," Salvati said



O GRANDI



www.hometownlife.com

The hang-ups of placing pictures on the wall,

By Gene Gary COPLEY NEWS SERVICE

• What is the best method of hanging pictures on drywall? Should I use nails, screws or what, to cause the least damage. The pictures range from 3 to 20 pounds.

A. Whenever possible, attach an item that has any significant weight to a stud. You can locate studs with an electronic stud finder, or try taping the wall lightly with your knuckles or a hammer wrapped in cloth and listen for a solid (dull

thud) rather

Here's How

than a hollow Locate one stud, and you'll usually find the others 16 or 24 inches apart on center. This spacing can vary if a door or window partition is on the wall, and the studs are doubled. Lag bolts and hanger bolts are ideal when attaching to a stud, but nails or long screws will also work. Drill

a pilot hole when using screws. For metal studs, use sheet metal screws; drill up to the stud, dent it with a center punch and drill a small pilot hole that is half the width of your screw's diameter. Use a No. 4 screw for light loads and up to a No. 8 for heavier loads.

To do it all in one step, install self-drilling metal stud screws with an electric drill.

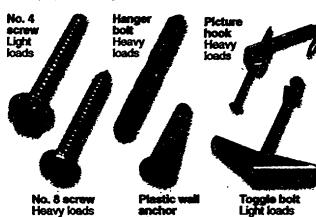
For heavy items such as a cabinet, heavy mirror or 20-pound picture, install a board horizontally between studs using lag bolts. Then screw the object to the board or use sturdy hooks screwed into the board for hanging the item. For each lag bolt, drill a hole in the board slightly larger than the bolt's diameter. Then use the hole as a guide to drill a hole into the stud that's slightly smaller than the bolt's

You can also attach a heavy load using hanger bolts. You screw a hanger bolt into a stud. Then use a nut on the machine threaded end of the bolt to attach the load or a hook for it. To

HOME HOW-TO

Picture-perfect fasteners

For the most bang out of each hang, use the appropriate strength hook, screw or bolt.



Copley News Service / Pete Chanard

install a hanger bolt, drill a pilot hole and screw it in with lockinggrip pliers on its unthreaded mid-

Heavy loads

To mount light loads between studs on a plaster or plasterboard wall, use hollow-wall anchors or toggle bolts. Reserve plastic anchors for very light loads. The more hollow-wall fasteners you use to hold an object, the lighter the load on each fastener. For all but the lightest loads, try to use at least two fasteners for each. item you put up.

The length of the hollow-wall anchors or toggle bolts you need depends on the thickness of the

To determine a wall's thickness, drill a small hole in it, then bend a thin, stiff wire into a hook and curve the hook through the hole. Pull the hook against the inside of the wall and mark the wire at the point it comes out of the wall. Remove the hook and measure between the end of the hook and your mark.

To install a hollow-wall anchor, drill a hole the same size as the anchor; then insert the anchor and tighten the screw to flatten the end of the anchor against the inside of the wall. After that; you can take but and

put in the screw as often as yourlike. A toggle bolt holds an object more securely than a hollow-wall anchor. But a toggle bolt is trickier to install. You must drill a hold large enough for its folded wings to pass through, and you must attach the object (the hook) to the toggle bolt before you put the bolt into the wall. Once the bolt is installed, you can't move it without losing

the winged toggle inside the

For anything weighing more than 5 pounds, be sure that the hanging wire is securely fastened to the object. For standard pictures, use a screw eye on each side of the frame, positioned onethird of the way down from the top of the frame. Cut the hanging wire 8 inches longer than the frame's width. Slip one end through a screw eye, pull it out 4 inches, slip it through again, then twist the short end tightly around the main wire. Repeat with the other screw eye.

If the frame is extra heavy, put two screw eyes on each side and use two picture hooks, either installed into the studs or nailed into a board which is secured to two studs, bridging the distance

• I have a roll-top desk that is in good condition, except for the top which sticks. Is there anyway I can fix this, or do I need professional help?

. The rolling part of your A desk is actually a tambour - a flexible sliding shutter. The tambour is a series of closely set wooden ribs. They are glued to a backing of strong cloth, and move in guiding grooves. Tambours that are capable of moving in their tracks, but do not respond to fingertip pressure, can usually be fixed easily. What usually has happened is that the framework in which the track or groove is cut has moved out of alignment. It often only needs the slightest shift in position to hinder a smooth passage of the tam-

To tackle a stubborn roll-top, first make sure that the desk stands firm and all joints are tight. Then remove the backboard. You can then unscrew, from the inside, the leader or bar that houses the lock, to which the handle and pull are attached. Once detached, the tambour can be passed through the back of the desk. By looking along the edges of the slats and inside the grooves, it should be easy to spot

the areas of excess friction.

Try reducing any high spots, using a chisel for the grooves, a wood rasp for the slats and a low-angled block plane for trimming the end grain. Try another fitting of the tambour to see if it now moves comfortably. Paraffin applied along the edges will provide a smoother run, or you can use silicone spray lubricant, to facilitate the glide.

While the tambour is out, inspect its backing. See if the fabric is threadbare. Where necessary, the backing should be reinforced with patches of lightweight canvas prior to rein-

Send e-mail to copleysd@copleynews.com or write to Here's How, Copley News Service, P.O. Box 120190, San Diego, CA 92112-0190. Only questions of general interest can be answered in the column.

Highland Twp.

3300 Maple Rdg \$29,500 3350 Giddings Blvd. \$105,000 3165 Milford Road N. \$140,000 \$162,900 140 Meribah 2368 Estate \$278,000

Lyon Twp.

58100 Pontiac Trail	\$125,000
60534 Lamplighter Dr.	\$220,000
58718 Hunter Ct.	\$70,000
23638 Shinnecock Dr.	\$95,000
53986 Shinnecock Dr.	\$95,000
26501 Martindale Road	\$167,000

Milford Village

	0
123 Lafayette St. E.	\$198,000
734 Byron Dr.	\$167,000
486 Village Lane	\$172,240

Novi City

25714 Beck Road	\$213,000
25842 Island Lake Dr.	\$560,186
44850 11 Mile Road	\$105,000
25893 Clark	\$200,000
25886 Petros Blvd.	\$267,500
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44659 Midway Dr.	\$349,900
29353 Whistler	\$59,000
44783 Larkspur	\$333,710
31204 Kingswood Blvd.	\$415,000

South Lyon City

,	,
1348 Cartwright Lane	\$90,000
1216 Gentry Dr.	\$90,000
373 Stanford St.	\$184,000
804 Stoney Dr.	\$227,000



Information provided by First American Real Estate Solutions

No vice here: Put your collections on proud display

O.I have a secret "vice." I collect everything! I'm not kidding ... there are closets filled with shells, with Victorian paperweights, bird decoys, miniature chairs ... I can blame my grandmother, who left me enough stuff to launch my career as a collector. The problem now is that Decor I'm getting re-mar-

ried in six months Store and will be merging my household with my fiancee's. Should I just call in an appraiser and divest myself of my col-

lections, or is there a way to

bring them out in the open -

tastefully? A . It would be a tragedy to keep your "vice" a secret any longer. Collecting can be a compulsion, yes, but what we collect has a lot to say about who we are and what we cherish. Assuming you have kept your grandmother's legacy because you like the things she passed along, I'd urge you to come out

your collections on proud dis-How you do that depends on what you are dealing with. In the rich and interesting room we show here, an avid collector puts every available space to work showing off his diverse collec-

of the closet, so to speak, and put

The glass cabinet holds an old railroad lantern and seashells he's been gathering since childhood. The shells look perfectly athome, since he lives in Nantucket, Mass. (We borrowed the photo from a lovely new book called "At Home in Nantucket" by Lisa McGee, published by Chronicle Books).

In his charming little island cottage, the Victorian pieces also fit cozily. Paintings crowd the walls in pleasing profusion; art objects include a handmade checker set, ivory ball and stained glass at the windows. In all, it's a merry mix that reflects the personality of the person who lives here

Of course, if your fiancee has collections of her own, you'll have to share display space. Use the approach museum curators must follow, and take turns rotating your treasures in - and out - of sight. That way you, too, will be able to look at even old favorites with a fresh eve.

I just helped clean out a late friend's home and was appalled at how much used clothing, curtains, linens and other fabrics we had to throw away. It wasn't good enough to give to a charity so we just put it in the garbage, thence to the landfill. It's easy to see why we're running out of landfill space - my friend had a pile of old clothes as tall as I, and she was just one person. Isn't there a better way to deal with fabrics?

. The original recyclers, A rag pickers, are still with us, you know, sorting and reselling old fabrics to be made into quality rag paper or recycled into fabrics that are labeled "reclaimed."

Is there a better way? One home furnishings company thinks it has found it: Rowe Furniture recently introduced a group of upholstered pieces called "The Earth & Element Collection" because it's made, they say, of all eco-friendly materials. The upholstery fabrics themselves are borrowed from casual wearing apparel; the fibers that fill the cushions are a trademarked fiberfill material called Ingeo fiber that is made from com through a process developed by Cargill Dow. The company claims that Ingeo is the first manmade fiber from a 100 percent annually renewable resource: fermented plant sugars that can be composted so they fully degrade into natural ingredients.

If you want to know more about Ingeo, click on www.ingeofibers.com. For more about The Earth & Element Collection go to www.rowefurniture.com.

Rose Bennett Gilbert is the coauthor 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.

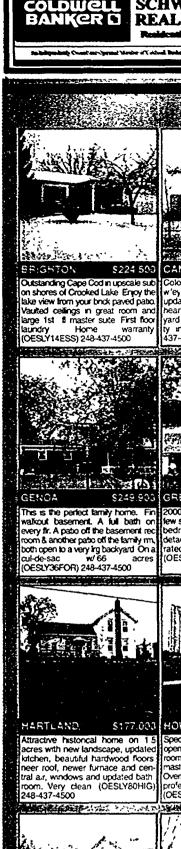


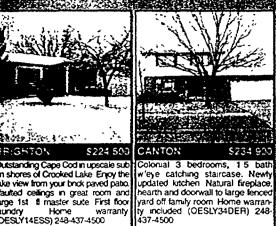
CNS Photo courtesy of Paul Whicheloe.

This living room leaves no doubt that an avid collector lives here.

lateral exist a fair and the contraction of the con Wishing You A MERRY CHRISTMAS and a HAPPY NEW YEAR! ast consideration of the same

#1 Coldwell Banker in Michigan

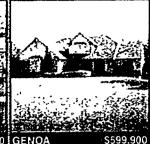




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ake view from your brick paved pabl laundry Home war (OESLY68OAK) 248-437-4500



landscaped (OESLY79GRO) 248-437-4500



Attractive colonial with all extras! 16X32 deck, spnnker tem, formal dining room, 1st floor laundry, family room with natural fireplace, finished basement and much more! (OESLY49AYL) 248-



1997 2400 sq.ft., 3 bedroom OESLY25AQU) 248-437-4500



A great opportunity to own lake from view & privileges w/o having to pay lakefront taxes. Home remolded 1990



Enjoy The Tranqui Retreat Dunham Lake This Comple Remodeled Home On Apprx 1 Acr Sorrounded Be Mature Trees Oper And Airy Floor Pla Entertaining Rooms Incl W 1p (OEN23BRI) 248-347-3050



Spotless 4 br, 2.5 bath Colonial or 82 acres. Island kitchen w'butlers pantry. Hardwood firs Vo first fir Master bath w/jacuzzi tub & sepa rate shower Princess suite w'direct access to 2nd bath. Daylight bsm (OESLY69CLO) 248-437-4500



Spectacular, spacious colonial with open floor plan, neutral colors, great room with fireplace and extra large master suite with bath and walk-in Oversized garage, full basement and professionally landscaped OESLY84ASH) 248-437-4500



Now! Great family home great lot and curb appeal galore? Newer roof furnace air H2O heater and gutter helmets. Excellent location! Partially finished basement with possible 4th bedroom. (OESLY61GLE) 248-437-



The Palm Cale, Turnkey and prof-table! Brand new equipment strong client base pre-paid advertising Want your own business? Here is your chance (OESLY60GRA) 248-437-4500



Riverfront - Bring your cance and fishing poles! 1850 sq ft 3 bed, 2 bath or 1 acre parktike setting with 3 car garage. Meticulous home with fire-place. Priced to sell quickly Hurry! (OESLY82ALL) 248-437-4500



that leads to inground pool, heater poolhouse and hot tub. 3 16 acres 2 outbuildings. New roofs on all buildings! (OESLY40DOU) 248-437-4500



indirect lighting in great rm. Ceramic in lut. & DR.Merrillat cabinets Separate shower&tub in master panel doors, wood blinds.2 car ga w.2car sized workshop attached8.2n fl (OESLY57CAS) 248-437-4500





This is in the control of the contro



Doors On 1st FI Data/cable T/o, 2 Frpf's, Large Covered Porch/deck (OEN40WIN) 248-347-3050



Unsurpassed Elegance & Beauty Almost Never Lived In, Dramatic 2 Story Entry Open To 2 Story Fam, Rin Whrey Ceiling Bridge, Gas Fry Wimarble Surround Parlor Forma Dring Rm. Lib Witrench Dr. Gourne Krt (OEN74DOR) 248-347-3050 Gas Frpl for Forma.



Totally Custom Whop Of The Line Tite Immediate Occupancy! Backs T Note Gourmet Kit Wipu'll Outs (OEN08ST) 248-347 3050



NORTHVILLE Condo Is Very Clean & Neutral Wonderful Updated Eat-in Kitchen & Formal Dring Too! A Relaying Pato Fit For Summer & Fall Socials (OEN75NOR) 248-347-3050



Suites - One Approx. 1200 Sq Suries - Oile Attack Marble Floor I Acruum W/2 Sky ghts W adjoinin Inground Pool W. Spa, Kr. Remodeled (OEh65N'N) 248-347-3050



Designer Perfect- Meticulous Onginal Diviners Have Turned This Gorgeous forne Into A Showcase! Premium Lot



Make A Grand Entrance In This Spectacular 2-story Home Custom Built Widetall & Quality Workmansh. Home Into A Showcasel Premium Lot Built W detal & Oua ty Workmanship Badong To Woods Fin LI W custom To Dramsto 2 Story Foyer, Formal Bath & Wet Bar Beauful Addit Dring Rm Custom Frpl, Gournet Mt Wivews Of Woods & Put Pato Is W 42 Cabhets Mistr Ste W glamour Fabutous (OEN87CAR) 248-347-3050 Bath (OEN46SUN) 248-347-3050



Distinctive Architecture Plus A Serene Setting! Don't Miss This Spectacular Custom Beauty On Over 3 Scenic Incredible Chef's Delight Kritchen Whilang Stove, Granite Counters, Living Rm Wifieldstone Frpl. (OEN2SPRI) 248-347-3050 ALCONOMICS IN THE RESIDENCE



Ste Uostairs, New Pella Windows except Frontinew Roof, new Decl Carpet (OEN19AMH) 248-347-3050



Custom Built/energy Eff. Full Brick Ranch Wimmed Occupancy Backing To Park/woods! New Vinyl Clad Casement Windows (8/04), néw Root tearoff W/25 Yr Dm. Shingles (01), xtra Deep Bsmt, sprinklers, Alarm, cedar Deok. (OEN85HIG) 248-347-3050



Transferred Owners Hate To Leave This Deatched Home/condo That Has Been Totally Redecorated Within The Last 6 Months Including Plush New Carpet T o & An Interior Beaut fully Pairied In "potiery Barn" Colors. (OEN38SEN) 248-347 3050



'warm & inviting' This Exceptiona Condo Is Completely Done W/ Warn 1st Fir Lau, Window Treatments Topline Appl's, Just Turn Key & Move In (OEN13MIT) 248-347-3050 A COMPANY OF THE PARTY OF



Jirnatchable Value W/space To Roam*exceptional Orchard Hills Trees & Evergreens For Year Round Windows Furn Alo Hath & Garagi Privacy formal Living Rm Wibuttan Dr. Huge Living Rm Opens To Dinux Shelves family Rm Windows Furn Alo Hath & Garagi Privacy formal Living Rm Opens To Dinux (DEN11BOR) 248-347-3050 Ptan (DEN28GLE) 248-347-3050



Wow! Super Privacy Facing Woods Stand Alone Carriage Ranch All In Neutral Tones Updates Inclisome



Totally Updated Townhouse! New Cabinets Tio Baths & Kit (01), Newer Appris, New Poof (01), New Deck (02) New Balcorry (02), Wood Brinds Tio Newer Elec Service, New Interior Doors New Viry! Siding (04) ,OEN12BAS) 248-347-3050



Tranquil Country Setting For The Custom Built Cape Cod On 1.4 Wooded Acres Gorgeous Woo Firs & 9'ceilings Krt W1oads Of Laund & Mstr Ste Wiglamour Batt (OEN79ABI) 248 347-3050



Acre Lot Weil Back From 7 Mili Wigof Course On 2 Sides PM Drive Almost 3000 Sqift Plus Lower Wigo 2 Wet Bars & Full Bsmot



248-437-4500



Virtually Every Window 1st Fir Mst Ste, Fin Wo Is An Entertainings Dream (OEN06SAW) 248-347-3050



built newer construction places, hardwood floors, morning island kitchen that flows into family floor and master with jacuza tub and irroom w.fiireplace Formal dining and glass shower Beautidity landscaped. fiving rooms. (OESLY90POL.) 248-(OESLY39GLE) 248-437-4500 437-4500



er construction Welcoma home!! Everything your craftmanship booking for is right here! 4 beds, 2.5 ture. Two fires baths Great master suite. Nice floors, morning island kitchen that flows into family



car garage. 2 story great room whee-place. French door to den. Tray ceiling & jetted tub in mistr born. Fabulous 16X40 fiberglass inground pool. (OESLY87EAG) 248-437-4500



Wow! Lots Of Good Things in This Spicoous 1 Story Condo. Wooded Setting, Huge Mor WWIC. Lig Bath. Nice Deck Off Gr Faces Woods, Direct Access To Gar New Gar Dr Main Fir Laundry, Home Warr Open Fir Plan. (OEN67HID) 248-347-3050



Why rent? Great condo with take access! Boat dock and taunch available with this nicely update one bedroom condo in Walled Lake (OESLY75PON) 248-437-4500



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Perfect Family Home Deep In A Great Sub. Outstanding Condition, Highly Maintained, & Very Clean, Flowing Fir Plan & Very Lg Kitchenforldst Area Huge 1st Fir Jdry 3 Large Br's, 2.5 Baths, Mc Suite Witnonster WiC (OEN15HUN) 248-347-3050

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LOCATION - Almost 11,000 sq ft. this property has very diverse possibilities. Split into addresses all w/segarated utilities so you can use it all or rent out a portion. Paved parking. Land contract terms available. \$725,000 (073MI)



EXCLUSIVE WOODS OF EDENDERRY - This splendid 3800 sq ft Cape Cod has a luxurious 1st floor master, 3 more upstairs, bedrooms uncompromising floor plan & design features you'll love. A must see! \$678,500 (199ST)



NATURE'S CALLING Option to purchase this country colonial on 10 or 4.25 acres in a growing area w/excetent property appreciation. Horse barn, pastures, and plenty of room for horses or hobbies. Close to S. Lyon High School. \$132,900 (8210C)

A TRUE BEAUTY - Simply PEACEFUL SETTING - Situated purchase this country colonial on a nice neighborhood, this comfy Jasmund custom built model Novi colonial with wooded views - Custom model home with over a large private wooded on an x-large lot and premium of colonial with wooded views - Custom model home with over a large private wooded on an x-large lot and premium of colonial with wooded views - Custom model home with over on an x-large lot and premium of colonial with wooded views - Custom model home with over on an x-large lot and premium of colonial with wooded views - Custom model home with over on an x-large lot and premium of colonial with wooded views - Custom model home with over on an x-large lot and premium of colonial with wooded views - Custom model home with over on an x-large lot and premium of colonial with wooded views - Custom model home with over on an x-large lot and premium on an x-large lot and premium of colonial with wooded views - Custom model home with over on an x-large lot and premium on a large private wooded on an x-large lot and premium on an x-large lot and prem NATURE'S' CALLING! Option to



(348ET)



COMFORT & CONVENIENCE



FANTASTIC FIND IN LIVONIA - MAINTENANCE FREE LIVING - INVESTOR SPECIAL - Brick SUPER SHARP & UNIQUE - Muti ALL THE BELLS & WHISTLES - BRICK BEAUTY - Large 38RV COBBLESTONE FANTASTIC FIND IN LIVONIA - MAINTENANCE PREE LIVING - INVESTOR SPECIAL - Brick SUPER SHARP & UNIQUE - Multi ALL THE BELLS & WHISTLES - BRICK BEAUTY - Large 38RV COBBLESTONE VILLAGE - Over 1/2 acre wooded lot on a Quiet updated ranch with 3 beds, ranch with 2 beds and a 3rd in the level condo in Novi. Master w/WIC Amerities galore in this 2.58A bungalow with 8ft. dorso beside location, larger lot in the level condo in Novi. Master w/WIC Amerities galore in this 2.58A bungalow with 8ft. dorso beside costion, larger lot in the level condo in Novi. Master w/WIC Amerities galore in this 2.58A bungalow with 8ft. dorso beside costion, larger lot in the level condo in Novi. Master w/WIC Amerities galore in this 2.58A bungalow with 8ft. dorso beside costion, larger lot in the level condo in Novi. Master w/WIC Amerities galore in this 2.58A bungalow with 8ft. dorso beside costion, larger lot in the level condo in Novi. Master w/WIC Amerities galore in this 2.58A bungalow with 8ft. dorso beside costion, larger lot in the level condo in Novi. Master w/WIC Amerities galore in this 2.58A bungalow with 8ft. dorso beside costion, larger lot in the level condo in Novi. Master w/WIC Amerities galore in this 2.58A bungalow with 8ft. dorso beside costion, larger lot in the level condo in Novi. Master w/WIC Amerities galore in this 2.58A bungalow with 8ft. dorso beside costion, larger lot in the level condo in Novi. Master w/WIC Amerities galore in this 2.58A bungalow with 8ft. dorso dorso with 8ft. dorso heading all condo in Novi. Master w/WIC Amerities galore in this 2.58A bungalow with 8ft. dorso heading all condo in Novi. Master w/WIC Amerities galore in this 2.58A bungalow with 8ft. dorso heading all condo in Novi. Master w/WIC Amerities galore in this 2.58A bungalow with 8ft. dorso heading all condo in Novi. Master w/WIC Amerities galore in this 2.58A bungalow with 8ft. dorso heading all condo in Novi. Master w/WIC Amerities galore in this 2.58A bungalow with 8ft. dorso heading all condo in Novi. Master w/WIC Amerities galore this great value \$139,900 great area. \$87,500 (625AR) (820EU) Oversized garage w/workshop. this \$165,900 (920BE)



FIRST TIME BUYERS! Great opportunity for home ownership in Redford. Situated on a large lot with 3 bdrms, new windows, furnace, AC, electrical, doors & furnace, AC, electricar, more.\$104,900 (422OR)









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\$1,199,900 (650PE)





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COMPLETE PACKAGE Livonia beauty has everything you need for peace of mind. New maple kitchen, new roof, carpet.

cement work, doors, fixtures and updated baths. 3 bedrooms, 1.5

baths, Come take a look, \$212,900 (905HA)

PRIVATE RETREAT - Custom built on a 2.82 acre lot with a

beautiful view. Beautiful custom workmanship throughout, finished

walkout w/ full bath, bar, and breezeway leading to the 1500 sq. ft. glass enclosed pool room. A rare beauty \$1,199,000 (141SA)

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> > Sincerely, The Coldwell Banker Preferred, Realtors



CONSTRUCTION A TRUE BEAUTY - Simply PEACEFUL SETTING - Situated NEW







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overlooking awesome backyard with deck & sunken hot tub. \$547,770 (974CO)

Almost

CHARMING CAPE COD CHARMING CAPE COD Luxuriate in the comfort of a first floor master with a deluxe bath. Eat-in oak kitchen, great room with cozy fireplace, study with bay window, finished basement, sprinklers - they don't come much nicer than this! \$294,900 (141CO)

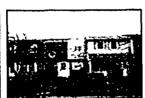


BROOKFIELD VILLAGE - CHIC CONTEMPORANT - NATURE 15 15011 and a large Beautiful 2-story with 4BR/2-58A Exclusive Hillsborough sub. Pleasant brick colonial on a large and less than a year old! Superb 2-story w/ formal areas, private lot. Formal dining, Upgrades include central vac, volume cettings, fireplace & hardwood floors & Berber carpet, marble fireplace, sprinkler system, custom window treatments. Bright kitchen and great location cathedralled master, addt'i. Luxury master w/glamour bath & with Northville schools make this electrical outlets and more. Over island fit. w/bay window. an outstanding value. \$274,900 coop square feet. \$269,900 \$315,000 (059CA) (174EM)



CONTEMPORARY

Mark Control Con . w



COMFORT & CONVENIENCE Room to stretch in this 48R/2-58a
home backing to trees in a private has been tastefully updated with home in losco. Finished basement with a full kitchen in poor to downtown with 4BR/2BA and Neat and clean brick ranch that offered with this 3 bedroom, 4 basement with a spenial point ranch that of downtown with 4BR/2BA and Neat and clear points ranch that of downtown with 4BR/2BA and Neat and clear points ranch that of downtown with 4BR/2BA and Neat and clear points ranch that of downtown with 4BR/2BA and Neat and clear points ranch that of downtown with 4BR/2BA and Neat and clear points ranch that of downtown with 4BR/2BA and Neat and clear points ranch that of downtown with 4BR/2BA and Neat and clear points ranch that of downtown with 4BR/2BA and Neat and clear points ranch that of downtown with 4BR/2BA and Neat and clear points ranch that of downtown with 4BR/2BA and Neat and clear points ranch that of downtown with 4BR/2BA and Neat and clear points ranch that of downtown with 4BR/2BA and Neat and clear points ranch that of downtown with 4BR/2BA and Neat and clear



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(250BR)











attached 2 car garage. Master on bedrooms, a nice updated kitchen newer carpet, kitchen floor and rm. fireplace, deck and a partly central air, Walside windows, with a maintainence-free brick main floor, 2 additional bidrms, on with oak cabinets, refinished paint. Master with balcony and finished lower level, All appliances neutral vinyl siding, siding, siding, siding, siding, sometral extension of the great room, attached garage, new the great room, attached garage, common pool and clubhouse, and the beach. Large bedrooms, and the beach targe bedrooms, a library and an extra large lot and deck overlooking the fountain. deck and more. Nice tamity Great location. \$91,900 (124JA) \$140,000 (290NO) \$215,000 (478KI) \$224,900 (250CA)









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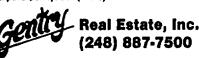
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canal with access to all

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Homes

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Homes





in the Village of Webberville within walking distance to schools and downtown area. Features 1440 so

ft. of fiving space 3 bedrooms, 2 baths new flooring throughout this home plus new latchen lupdated

electrical, newer roof and siding. Move in conditions

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home features 3 bedrooms, large 15 x 18 living room, 11 x 14 littoren, 15 x 16 dising room Well-maintained home only minutes from H56 with great

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GREAT PRICE! For a brand new ranch on just

under an acre! Features 1400 sq. ft. of living space

great room with cathedral ceiling, 3 bedrooms, 2 full baths, central air and 1st floor laundry Walkout

basement with large daylight wildows, and a 2 car attached garage. Fowlerville Schools \$189,900

1

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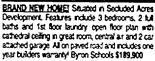




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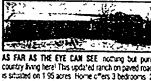
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country fining here! This updated ranch on pared road is situated on 1.95 acres. Home offers 3 bedrooms 2 batts hartwood flooring thru-out, large Great Room whereit of oors leading to nice ceck, first floor lamidly bestment and 2 car attacked side entry garage whosener finiteness.



BRING YOUR ICESTATES! Wonderfully designed newer 2 story home on private all sports Lake Tyrone. Home includes beautiful kitchen wimaple cabnets and ceramic floor, spanious dising room whatural fireplace and pine floors Living room wiscenic views. All 3 bidrooms have walk in closess 2 covered porties. 30x16 cedar dock. 22x50 garage wi2nd level bonus room and 220 a ice Dock included loc! Hartland Schools \$487 000



ALL IS CALM, ALL IS BRIGHT in this very rice 3 bedroom trach in rice Hardand neighborhood with easy access to M 59! Convenent U-shaped kitchen wirefacent dining area leads to comfortable tamby room whateral brick fireplace and 2 doormats leading to decks for entertaining! Partially finished basement, 2 car att. garage, invisible fence, sprinking system and blacktop drive Hartland Schools \$209,500 YACANT LAND

office. Plus unfinished bonus room with outside entrance (would be perfect for workshop or hobby craft room). 2 car attached garage and more! Byron Schools. \$216,900. and the state of t



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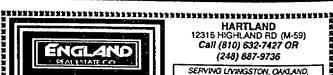
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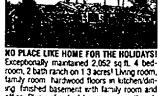
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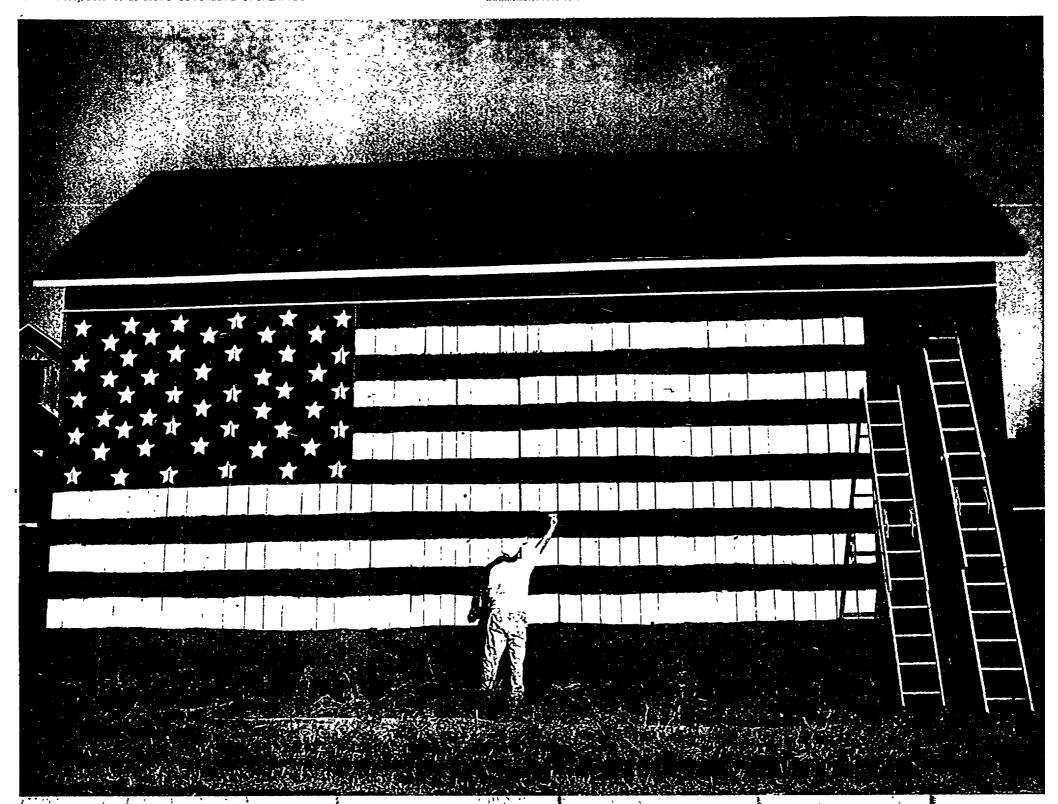
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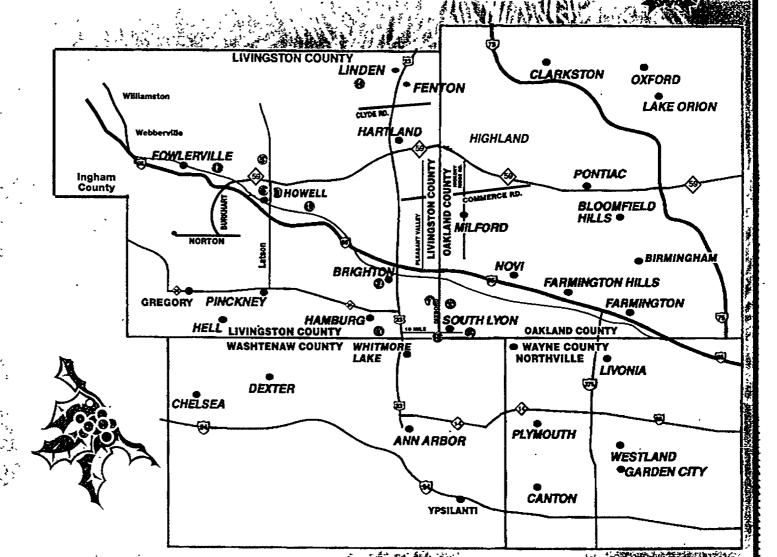




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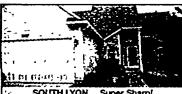
HIGHLAND Pristine Inside & Out Three BR, 2 BA home, Intahen oak cabinets & sky lights. Living noon fireplace Master walk-in closed & fail bath. Family room with surround sound, wet bar & built-in refineration full ceramic bath on main floor, laundry walk-out. All appliances stay (F51NEW) 248-349-5600 \$199,900



CANTON Light, Bright Colonial
Three bedroon, 1's bath home with opdates throughout.
Updated latcher opening to family room with natural freebace,
windows galone, 2 car parage, rec room in lower level and
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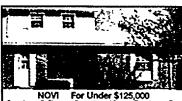
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This awesome hone was just newly parted carpeted 8
hardwood flooring installed Bacis to Freedom Park Offers s
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Spacous 2 bedroom, 3 bath Condo Great room wo cellings. Kitchen with oak cabinets & ceramic floor. Third bedroom in lower level with fabulous jet hith Dooer loft. First



NOVI Mint Townhouse
Beautifut 2 bedroom Condo features updated lutchen, 2 stylights, valitad ceilings, finished basenerit, walk in close to master. News carps & not firesh paint throughout. Cose to pool & tennis courts. Come buy and ency life at Crasswinds (F70PON) 248-349-5600 \$164,900



Priced to sell Clean, well-maintained 2 story Townhome. Two bedroom 1½ bath with private entrance and private pation back. Updated kitchen, newer windows throughout newer carnet and newer front door (F84OLD) 248-349-5600 \$119,800



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CANTON Gourmet Kitchen Applances, Sanily noon with gas fireplace & Nathwood floor Door to 2 set deck, Updates, noof windows, furnace, not water heater pank, carpets Covered find port & extern of our Covern modify Master with cathedral ceiling, attached garage & basement. (F21BEL) 248-349-5600 \$220,000



LIVONIA Looking For A Ranch? by to go! Three bedrooms, living, during and 2 buths. Eat-in ten Family room in over level with Employe. Appliances stay three three three three trees bedrooms, large tenced hardwood floors throughout. Glass block windows, large fen rear yard, garage-insulated & drywalled central air plus more (F93DEE) 248-349-5600 \$169,000



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LIVONIA Honey, Stop The Car Awsome brick Ranch with 3 bedroons and 2 hill baths. Super finished basement has wet bar & office. Let's party Great house for extertaining inside & out. Fireplace & updated kitchen. Most mechanicals & windows updated.



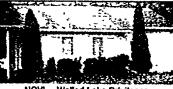
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NOVI Walled Lake Privileges
Two bedroom Ranch remodeled in 2001. Two full baths, nower mind windows not fernance but water heater, capting stell entry door. Newer which buthen cabinets Appliances stay. Come take a look at the possibilities. (E59PEN) 248-349-5600 \$189,900



NORTHYILLE Northville Township Loong for land to build your dream home? Don't look any further these 2 parcels come to approximately 276 acres. Currently zoned residential with the right developer it could be RM 1 material. (F91RID) 248-349-5600 \$500,000



MORTHVILLE End Unit Ranch Condo Bright, clean and neutral upper end-unit with open floor pan-cathedral ceilings in great room, dining room & likether include. First floor master study first floor bundh; all appliances and deck overlooking pool area. Close to lown and express rays. (F55SUR) 248-349-5600





FARMINGTON HILLS Pottery Barn Cute! Looking for an adorable place with great from space? This 2 bedroom Ranch leatures a remodeled likethen with ceramic tile, spotsted bath, hardwood floor and 2 car garage on a large (F16WAL) 248-349-5600 \$149,000



ELIVONIA Super Sharp Ranch
Beauthilly decorated and immacsistiely clean bone with a
hune fenced-in yard. Home boasts hardwood floors, coved
callings, custom window treatments, never bath, large
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REDFORD Charming Ranch
Brick 3 bedroom home with tak kitchen, living room & draing
room. Master with tole closed doors. Yorky immore, never
concrete & finished basement with block windows. Patro,
never concrete and 2 car garage. Well maintained. (F90TEC) 248-349-5600 \$144,900



CANTON Ranch End Unit

Great location. Newer windows, carpet and neutral
throughout Spacous fiving room and childrens' play area.
Plymouth-Cartion schools. Why pay rent, when you can own.
A must see.



DEARBORN HEIGHTS Perfection Plus Great location for this 2 bedroom, 25 bath Condo backing to Hines Park. Open floor plan, second floor laundry, deck off kitchen, full basement and 2 car attached garage. \$170,000 (F12LEG) 734-455-5600



PLYMOUTH Fabulously Renovated four bedroom, 24 bath Colonal in "004 Vilage" just a short wate to downtown often first from reaster soits, second floor tambly room with firstlace, first floor fireplace in living room, finished basement, 2 car garage with opener & latteren appliances. (F61ADA) 734-455-5600 \$359,600



GARDEN CITY Curb Appeal, Updated & Clean Spacous open floor plan, living room with crown midding, custom wood work & open starrase. Klethea with oak rabmets, never floor & eat-in kloten. Never soling & windows. Spectacular finished basement and 2 car garage. (F42RUS) 734-455-5600 \$141,900



LIVONIA Pride Of Ownership This home has many updates throughout. Family room has cory freplace with doorwall that leads to deck. Kitchen has never counter, floor & dishwasher. Popular sub with easy access to everything. Not a drive by (F17SWA) 734-455-5600 \$274,900



PLYMOUTH Traditional Colonial Sting on a tre-lined stret within walking distance to downlown Pymoun Family room with freplace overlooking tred back yard + part-firshed basement and 2 car stached gange, all offered in this 4 bedroom, 25 bath home (F16HAR) 734-455-5600





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VAN BUREN End Unit Overlooking Pond Saacous 2 bedroom, 11 bath Ranch-style Condo with lot, finished basement with family room, cak butcher with hardwood floors, cerame the bath, first floor laundry kitchen appliances, doorwal to deck plus attached garaye.



LINCOLN PARK Honey 4 The Money So many updates make this 3 bedroom, 13 bath a great home five car garage, finished basement plas newer roof, carpet, bath with cerainc ble windows doors light fortures and freshly painted.

(F68MIL) 734-455-5600 \$114,900



CANTON Oversized Interior Lot four bedroom, 23 tath Colonal with a great architectural design Open floor plan with soaring ceilings, hardwood floors & spacous rooms. Gournet kinden with magle cabnets opens to family room plus 3 car artached garage & basement. (F01FLU) 734-455-5600 \$469,000



PLYMOUTH Fabulous Yet Casual
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sty lights, bay window first floor bundry with stadiable
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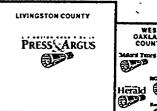
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January 10, 2005

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119 Language suffix

110 Heed

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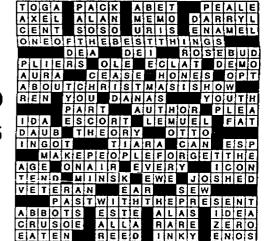
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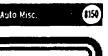
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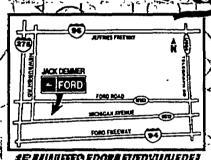
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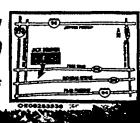
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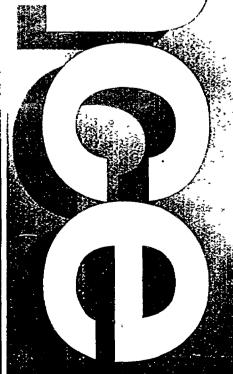
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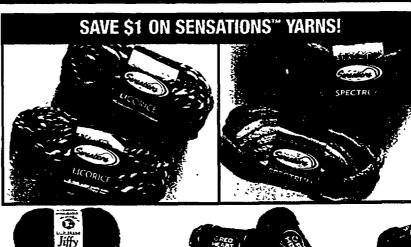
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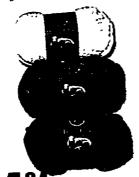
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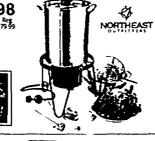
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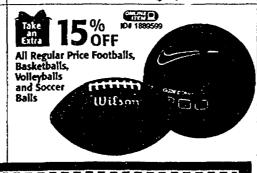


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Ventilation syste dual lens, plush



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Durable 12.5 oz. cotton duck

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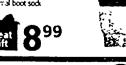
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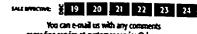
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orig. S30-S380, sale 15.00-149.99
Excludes Columbia Sportswear Company
à athletic outerwear, Styles vary by store.

days to save

Thursday, December 23, 7am-Minight and Friday, December 24, 7am-2pm



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50% off all slippers for the family and slipper socks for her.
orig. \$25, \$26, sale \$4-\$13

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29.99 pr.
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18 ct. I W
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earrings.



Super buy 39.99 pr. 14k gold 1/10 ct. T.W. princess cut diamond stud earrings. reg. \$125 pr.

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Diamond Total Weights are approximate.

T.W. may vary up to .05 ct. Actual savings may exceed the percent savings shown.



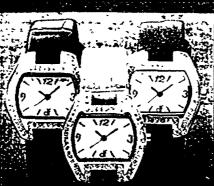
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Entire stock 40-50% Cold weather accessories for her. orig. \$5-\$50, sale \$3-\$25 Excludes Columbia Sportswear Company*. 3 shop online for selected items W4360

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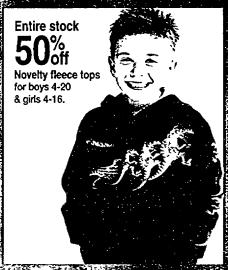
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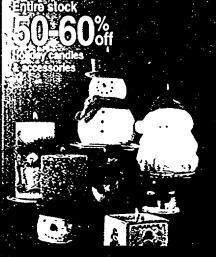
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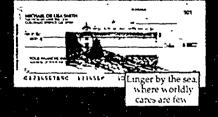
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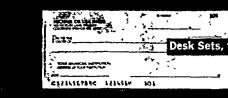


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Friendship by Kathy Davis 👍 🕞

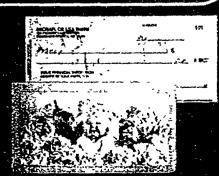
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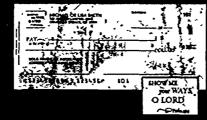


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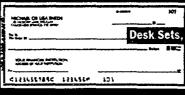
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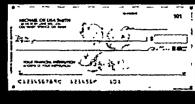
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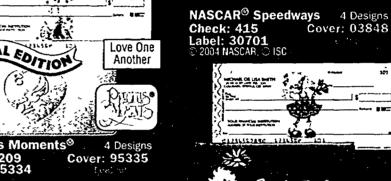
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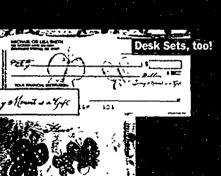


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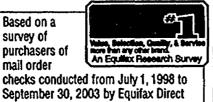
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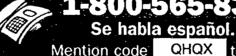
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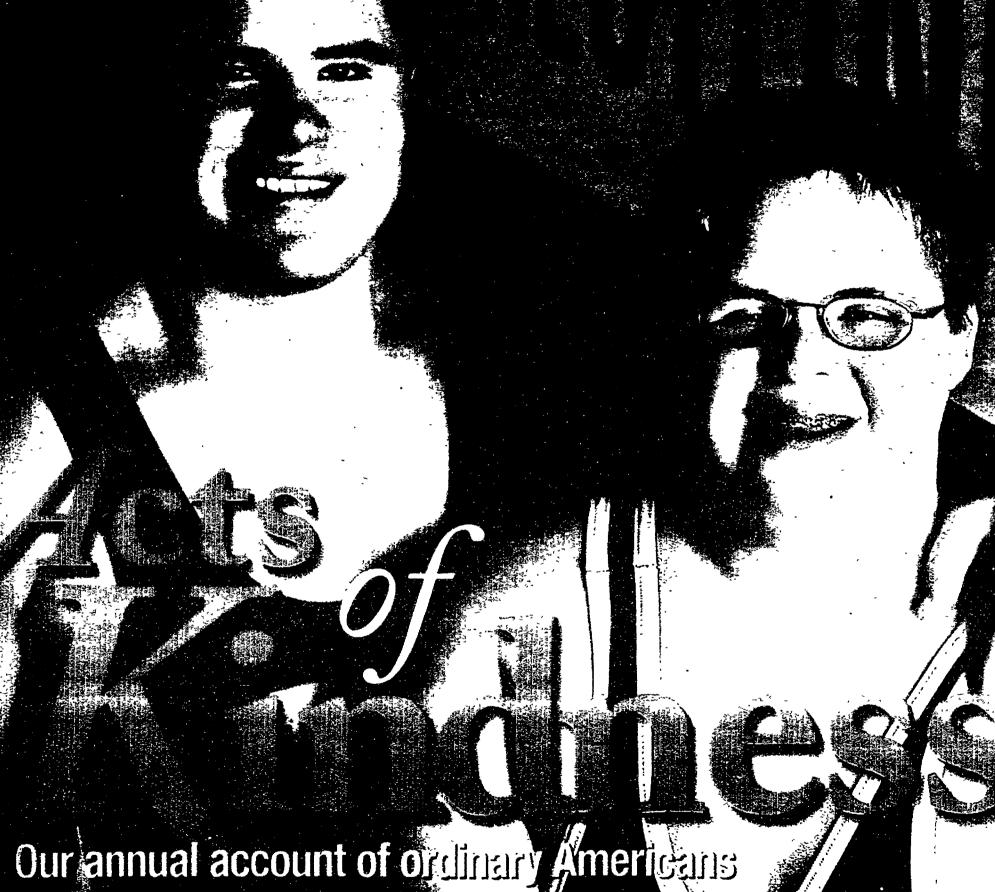
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doing good deeds for one another

Sto**ry on** page 4



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INSIDE:

- Tom Valent instills the Santa Claus spirit
- Columbus Washboard Co. is awash with pride
- Pasta with beans & tasty tomato cups

Ask American Profile

Where is the late Oscar winner Katharine Hepburn buried?

—Chris W., Arizona

Hepburn, who died last year at age 96, specified in her will that she be cremated and her ashes interred in her family plot at Cedar Hill Cemetery in Hartford, Conn. She was interred during a private, invitation-only service in the "very plain, Yankee" family plot, says Irene McHugh, the cemetery's education and marketing associate. The cemetery, which contains the graves of tycoon J.P. Morgan, poet Wallace Stevens and other notables, provides regular tours. Known for playing smart, independent women, Hepburn bought the rights to a comedy about a spoiled heiress and took it to the New York stage. The 1940 film version of that play was The Philadelphia Story, co-starring James Stewart and Cary Grant. The four-time Oscar winner was married briefly to Ludlow Ogden Smith, but the love of her life was actor Spencer Tracy, with whom she made nine films, including Guess Who's Coming to Dinner and Adam's Rib. Her 1991 autobiography, Me, was a bestseller. She also cooperated with biographer A. Scott Berg on Kate Remembered, which was published 13 days after her death.



Screen legend Katharine Hepburn



Vern Gosdin is still making music.

I was wondering who

-Marcia M., South Carolina

always been a right hander, but sometimes I think I was intended to be a southpaw because there are some things I just do automatically with my left hand-like shooting a gun."

What has happened to my favorite singer, Vern Gosdin?

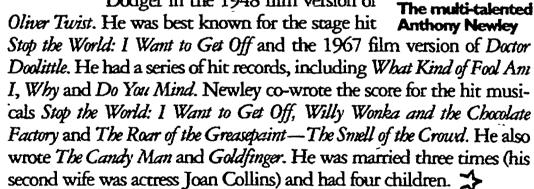
-Marie H., Oklahoma

Vern Gosdin, nicknamed "The Voice," cut back on performing after suffering a second stroke in 1999. "I'm sort of taking it easy. If I think I'll have fun doing a show, I'll do it," says Gosdin, 70. The singer, whose hits include Set 'en Up Joe and Chiseled in Stone, recently performed with Merle Haggard at the Alabama Country Music Hall of Fame in Muscle Shoals, Ala. (pop. 11,924). Gosdin says he's writing, but doesn't pitch his songs to other artists. The native of Woodland, Ala. (pop. 192), recently released a self-titled three-CD box set that includes 10 new songs. It costs \$35 and can be ordered through The Vern Gosdin Fan Club, 7904 Stallion Dr., Nashville, Tenn., 37221, or via e-mail at vgosdin@yahoo.com. He's also re-released The Voice album as Back in the Swing of Things. Gosdin, who lives in Nashville, Tenn., says he has recovered completely from his stroke.

I would like to know what happened to Anthony Newley, who was a singer and did some acting years ago.

-Ron B., Indiana

Sadly, the British actor, singer and composer died of cancer in 1999 at age 67. Newley became famous at age 17 for his role as the Artful Dodger in the 1948 film version of

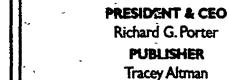


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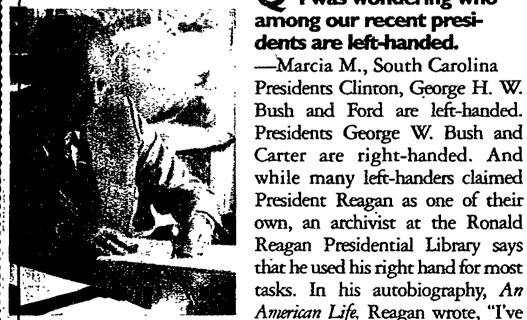
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President Ford is left-handed.

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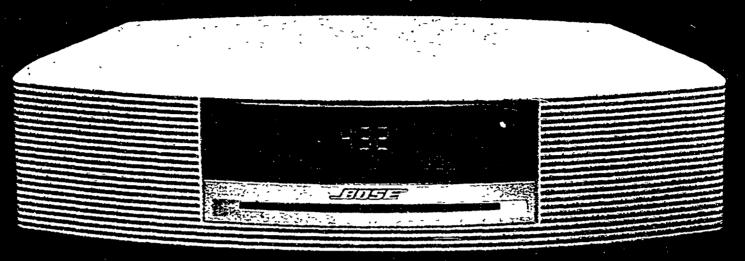


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Ordinary Americans doing good deeds for one another



by VICKI

BROWN

Dr. Sara Loetscher (right) found a feline riend for patient

American Profile gets hundreds

of letters from readers each year describing the generous acts of friends, neighbors and anonymous individuals. This year, readers once again nominated Good Samaritans whose selfless deeds renew one's faith in humanity.

Holiday spirit

A kind stranger brightened a sad Christmas for Zona Shreves and her four children 11 years ago.

Shreves was struggling to get into the holiday spirit after her husband's death. She got home late from work on Christmas Eve to decorate their small tree but realized she had failed to buy tinsel-her daughter Meri's favorite part of trimming the tree.

The only store open in Akron, N.Y. (pop. 3,085), was out of tinsel, Shreves and her 15-yearold soon learned.

"Meri started to cry, and my shoulders sagged as we headed out of the store," Shreves recalls. Then, a woman behind them spoke up.

"I have an extra box if you'd like it," the stranger offered, writing down her address and handing it to them.

"We went to her house, and not only did she give us tinsel, but a small plate of gingerbread cookies, too," Shreves says. "Her little act of kindness gave us hope that everything would work out all right for us."

Need a lift?

Sheri Woody, a hairdresser, often discussed her sister's struggles with multiple sclerosis with Sara Cody, her client in Fort Worth, Texas. Cody offered sympathy, as well as her own disabled sister's telephone number, suggesting that she could help Woody's sister, Cindy Alexander, learn what resources—such as transportation assistance-were available in Texas.

When doctors told Alexander it was time to stop working because her symptoms from the disease had worsened, Woody mentioned to Cody that her sister could keep her powered wheelchair (provided for work) but didn't have a lift on her car to carry it.

"She started asking questions about what kind of lift she needed and what did it cost, and then she said she was going to see what she could do," recalls Woody, who lives in Burleson, Texas (pop. 20,976). Within three months, Cody raised money for the lift from friends, colleagues and out of her own pocket, Woody says.

"I was overwhelmed that she would do this not knowing my sister, just knowing her need," Woody says.

Good medicine

Ernestine "Tina" Hutter's world got a little brighter the Thanksgiving Day her doctor showed up with a kitten—and so did her son's.

Dr. Sara Loetscher brought a black kitten, along with a carrying case, food, litter and a scratching post to Hutter's home in Albuquerque, N.M.

"The cat was such a godsend for my son and now is a godsend for me," says Hutter, explaining that she had cancer and her son was battling depression and never spoke. That soon changed.

"I could hear him in the bedroom talking to the cat (named Neeko)," Hutter recalls, adding that her son has since recovered and moved to Orlando, Fla., for work.

The doctor did not forget Hutter the next year, either. "She came with Thanksgiving dinner, complete with two pieces of pie—cherry and pecan," Hutter says.

Hutter, who beat glandular cancer, recently learned she has lung cancer but remains upbeat—thanks to her cat and her doctor.

"I still can't believe how wonderful it is to be thought of."



A flower angel

Inez "Sally" Diede Chalk was speechless when a woman with a little girl standing in a check-out line in Fort Collins, Colo., handed her a bouquet of flowers and said with a smile, "It's be-nice-to-someone day."

"I'm not even sure if I thanked her. I hope I did," Chalk says. "However, I have her on my prayer list and have repeatedly asked the Lord to bless her. Since I did not know her name—I refer to her as 'My Flower Angel," Chalk says.

(Continued on page 6)

-that after school I'll be at football practice, and than I'll take

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And, the winner is ...

Brandon Teel's selflessness in allowing Trevor Howe, a Lincoln (Neb.) East High School wrestler with Down Syndrome, to pin him at a high school wrestling match last year attracted plenty of attention, including that of Robert McTygue of Overton, Neb. (pop. 646), who wrote to praise the youth even though he didn't know him.

Howe's coach said the 15-year-old with the genetic disorder loves wrestling but struggles with coordination difficulties and cannot safely compete in just any match. So Marty McCurdy asked fellow coaches at Kearney (Neb.) High School if someone could wrestle Howe.

Teel agreed to keep the match going for three periods, then pin Howe.

"All of a sudden instead of pinning Trevor, he let Trevor turn him over and pin him. He did that on his own," McCurdy says.

Teel says he knew it would mean a lot to Howe to pin him.

"I knew it was the right thing to do," Teel says, adding that he's been amazed at the media attention that the match has received.

McCurdy also praises another teenager, Casey Dahlke, captain of Lincoln Southwest's wrestling team. "I spoke with Trevor's mother, and we thought he needed to understand it wasn't all easy," McCurdy says. So a few weeks after Howe's match with Teel, Dahlke wrestled him and pinned him.

"I think that was even harder," McCurdy says.

A helping hand

When Wayne Clem offered to take over her trash collection after her companion died, Marge Killmon thought it would be temporary.

More than two years later, he still takes her trash to the curb every Wednesday.

"It makes me feel respected and valuable and lucky that I have such a kind-hearted neighbor," says the 71-year-old Annandale, Va. (pop. 54,994), resident. "He comes home tired after a long, hard day as a diesel mechanic. He's not 20-years-old."

Clem, 60, is modest about his weekly good deed.

"She doesn't have a lot of trash," he says.

Life-saving assist

Clarence W. Brown and his daughter, Judi, were riding their motorcycles on a sweltering summer day when traffic on the New Jersey Turnpike slowed to a crawl.

"Pop began shutting off his BMW's engine and restarting it when traffic inched forward a few feet. I could see my father's stamina declining as rapidly as the heat was rising. He needed shade and water quick," recalls Judi Brown, who mistakenly thought her father, then in his mid-80s, was behind her as she made her way to the turnpike shoulder.

"Pop's bike stalled and wouldn't restart. How was I going to help him get out of there?" she wondered with rising panic.

Suddenly, two brawny bikers came to her father's rescue.

"One begged for passage through the snarl of traffic, while the other pushed Pop on the heavy K-100 BMW toward the side of the road," Brown says. Once clear of

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as someone performed

traffic, they pushed the bike to jump-start it, then disappeared back onto the turnpike.

"Without the wonderful kindness of those two anonymous bikers, I dread to think what might have happened to Pop on that very hot and humid July afternoon," says Brown of Rising Sun, Md. (pop. 1,702).

Neighborly chores

Finding time for yard work was tough for Nancy Ramsey of Morris, Ill. (pop. 11,928), as she juggled a full-time job with caring for two young children after her divorce.

Her neighbor, Frank Kulig and his wife, Georgine, came to her rescue.

"Many times over the last 25 years, this very kind and loving couple have trimmed my shrubs and trees, cut my grass, raked my leaves and shoveled snow from my sidewalks, never asking anything in return," Ramsey wrote of her neighbors, who are now in their 80s. "You've got to have a real heart to do something over and over."

Vicki Brown is a freelance writer in Nashville, Tenn.

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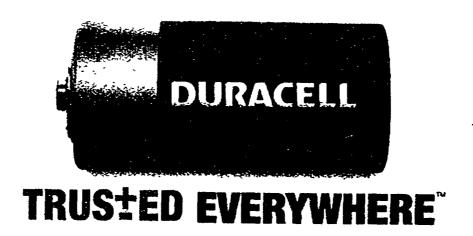
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by ELIZABETH **JOHNSON**

Photos by Danielle Rappaport

Instilling the Santa

Tom Valent places his hands over his red sweater and chuckles a deep, rich laugh, "Ho, ho, ho!" With a twinkle in his eyes, he urges his students.

to give it a try, but instructs, "Not too loud. You don't

want to scare the little ones."



Jolly old Saint Nick welcomes children to the Santa House.

Soon the room echoes with the merry ho-ho-hos of dozens of Santas in the making-some sporting full white beards, others clean-shaven, many with tummies that won't require any additional padding come Christmas. These aspiring Saint Nicks have gathered in Midland, Mich. (pop. 41,685), where they are learning the tools of the trade from Valent, dean of the Charles W. Howard Santa Claus School, the oldest Santa school in the nation.

For three days each October, Valent teaches 50 Santas from across the United States and Canada everything they need to know about portraying the beloved Christmas icon. The curriculum includes the history of St. Nicholas and Santa Claus, proper dress and hygiene, how to handle media interviews, reindeer facts, and how to tell stories. He also educates on how to work with different groups of children, including babies, kids in the hospital, and children with physical and mental disabilities. The \$300 tuition includes classes, field trips to Toys 'R' Us and Bronner's Christmas Wonderland in Frankenmuth, Mich. (pop. 4,838), and a closing banquet during which students receive their official red Santa hat.

"People want to believe in Santa. Santa stands for all good things," says Valent, a 54-year-old engineer, whose job for most of the year is executive vice president of Gerace Construction, a Midland-area general contractor.

Valent brings 28 years of Santa experience to his role as head of the Santa Claus School.

Along with guest speakers, Valent and his wife, Holly, try to impart Charles W. Howard's belief that "to be Santa is a privilege, not a

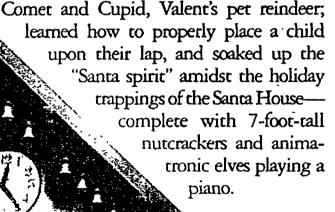
Howard was a Macy's department store Santa and consultant for the 1947 Christmas film Miracle on

34th Street. He began teaching Santa Claus School in his Albion, N.Y., barn in 1937. When Howard retired in 1966, his successor moved the school to Bay City, Mich.

Valent, who took up the Santa persona after the birth of his first child, began attending Santa classes in 1976. In 1987, he took over leadership of the school and moved it to Midland, where his construction company had been commissioned by the Midland Area Community Foundation to build a permanent Santa House for the community's holiday festivities.

"Walking into the school for the first time takes your breath away," says John "Jolly" Rhodes, a Flint, Mich., resident who attended the school in 2002 and 2003. "There's so much to take in; it's hard to experience it all."

More than 700 aspiring Santas have learned their craft from Valent over the last 17 years. They have fed



Aspiring Santas from across the country take part in three days of Santa Claus curriculum.

Valent dons his own Santa suit each year as part of Midland's free Christmas celebration, where he and four other Santa school graduates welcome 20,000 children. The holiday season begins on the Tuesday after Thanksgiving when Valent leads a parade up Main Street to the Midland County Courthouse, where he receives the keys to the Santa House and oversees the lighting of the town's Christmas decorations. Then he takes his seat and greets children of all ages, eager to share their Christmas wishes.

"My time with that child may be the most important minute of the year for them," Valent says. "My goal is to get them to feel the Santa spirit."

Rick Hyman, a retired federal employee from Snellville, Ga. (pop. 15,351), says he learned more in three days at the school last fall than he did during 30 years of playing Santa.

"I learned that the suit doesn't make the Santa," Hyman says. "Santa Claus comes from your heart-you can't do it any other way. When Tom puts on his Santa suit, he is Santa Claus. He lives the Santa spirit every day."

Elizabeth Johnson is a freelance writer in Lansing. Mich.

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BRIEF SUMMARY Before prescribing NEXULAL, please see full Prescribing Information. INDICATIONS AND USAGE NEXILIAL is indicated for the short-term treatment (4 to 8 weeks) in the healing and symptomatic resolution of diagnostically confirmed erosive esophageis. CONTRAINDICATIONS NEXULA is contraindicated in patients with known hypersensitivity to any component of the formulation or to substituted benzimidazoles. PRECAUTIONS Symptomatic response to therapy with NEXULA does not preclude the presence of gastric malignancy. Atrophic gastries has been noted occasionally in gastric corpus biopsies from patients treated long-term with omeprazole, of which NEXIUM is an enantiomer. Information for Pottients NEXIUM Delayed-Release Capsides should be taken at least one hour before meals. For patients who have difficulty swallowing capsules, one tablespoon of appleaance can be added to an empty bowl and the NEXIUM Delayed-Riekase Capsule can be opened, and the pellets carefully emptied onto the appleaance. The pellets should be mixed with the appleaance and then swallowed immediately. The appleaance used should not be hot and should be soft enough to be swallowed without chewing. The pellets should not be chewed or crushed. The pellet/applesance mixture should not be stored for future use. Antacids may be used white taking NEXILIAL Drug Interactions. Esomeprazole is extensively metabolized in the liver by CYP2C19 and CYP3A4. In vitro and in vivo studies have shown that esomeprazole is not likely to inhibit CYPs 1A2, 2A6, 2C9, 2D6. 2E1 and 3A4. No clinically reterant interactions with drugs metabolized by these CYP enzymes would be expected. Drug interaction studies have shown that esomeprazole does not have any clinically significant interactions with phenytoin, wartarin, quinidine, clarithromycin or amoxicilia. Post-marketing reports of changes in prothrombin measures have been received among patients on concomitant warfarin and esomeprazole therapy, increases in INR and protivombin time may lead to abnormal bleeding and even death. Patients treated with proton pump inhibitors and warfarin concomitantly may need to be monitored for increases in INR and prothrombin time. Esomeprazole may potentially interfere with CYP2C19, the major esomeprazole metabolizing enzyme. Coadministration of esomeprazole 30 mg and diazepam, a CYP2C19 substrate, resulted in a 45% decrease in clearance of diazepam. Increased plasma levels of diazepam were observed 12 hours after dosing and onwards. However, at that time, the plasma levels of diazepam were below the therapeutic interval, and thus this interaction is unlikely to be of clinical relevance. Esomeprazole inhibits gastric acid secretion. Therefore, esomeprazole may interfere with the absorption of drugs where gastric pH is an important determinant of thoayalability (eg., ketoconazole, iron salts and digoxin). Coadministration of oral contraceptives, diazeparn, phenyloin, or quinidine did not seem to change the pharmacokinetic profile of esomeprazole. Corcinogenesis, Mutogenesis, Impoirment of Fertility The carcinogenic potential of esomeprazole was assessed using omeprazole studies. In two 24-month oral carcinogenicity studies in rats, omeprazole at daily doses of 1.7, 3.4. 13.8, 44.0 and 140.8 mg/kg/day (about 0.7 to 57 times the human dose of 20 mg/day expressed on a body surface area basis) produced gastric ECL cell carcinoids in a dose-related manner in both male and female rats; the incidence of this effect was markedly higher in female rats, which had higher blood levels of omeprazole. Gastric carcinoids seldom occur in the untreated rat. In addition, ECL cell hyperpiasia was present in all treated groups of both sexes. In one of these studies, female rats were freated with 13.8 mg omeprazole/ig/day (about 5.6 times the human dose on a body surface area basis) for 1 year, then followed for an additional year without the drug. No carcinoids were seen in these rats. An increased incidence of treatment-related ECL cell hyperplassa was observed at the end of 1 year (94% treated vs 10% controls). By the second year the difference between treated and control rats was much smaller (46% vs 26%) but still showed more hyperplassa in the treated group. Gastric adenocarcinoma was seen in one rat (2%). No similar tumor was seen in male or female rats treated for 2 years. For this strain of rat no similar tumor has been noted historically, but a finding involving only one tumor is difficult to interpret. A 78-week mouse carcinogenicity study of omeprazole did not show increased tumor occurrence, but the study was not conclusive. Esomeprazole was negative in the Ames mutation test, in the in vivo rat bone marrow cell chromosome aberration test, and the in vivo mouse micronucleus test. Esomeprazole, however, was positive in the *in vitro* human lymphocyte chromosome aberration test. Omeprazole was positive in the *in vitro* l human lymphocyte chromosome aberration test, the in vivo mouse bone marrow cell chromosome aberration test, and the in vivo mouse micronucleus test. The potential effects of esomeprazole on ferbility and reproductive performance were assessed using omeprazole studies. Omeprazole at oral doses up to 138 mg/kg/tay in rats (about 56 times the human dose on a body surface area basis) was found to have no effect on reproductive performance of parental animals. Pregnamcy Teratogenic Effects. Pregnamcy Category B—Teratology studies have been performed in rats at oral doses up to 280 mg/kg/day (about 57 times the human dose on a body surface area basis) and in rabbits at oral doses up to 86 mg/kg/day (about 35 times the human dose on a body surface area basis) and have revealed no evidence of impaired fertility or harm to the fetus due to esomeprazole. There are, however, no adequate and well-controlled studies in pregnant women. Because animal reproduction studies are not always predictive of human response, this drug should be used during pregnancy only if clearly needed. Teratology studies conducted with omeprazole in rats at oral doses up to 138 mg/kg/day (about 56 times the human dose on a body surface area basis) and in rabbits at doses up to 69 mg/kg/day (about 56 times the buman dose on a body surface area basis) did not disclose any evidence for a teratogenic potential of omeprazole. In rabbits, omeprazole in a dose range of 6.9 to 69.1 mg/kg/day (about 5.5 to 56 times the human dose on a body surface area basis) produced dose-related increases in embryo-lethality, fetal resorptions, and pregnancy disruptions. In rats, dose-related embryo-fetal toxicity and postnatal developmental toxicity were observed in offspring resulting from parents treated with omeprazole at 13.8 to 138.0 mg/kg/tay (about 5.6 to 56 times the human doses on a body surface area basis). There are no adequate and well-controlled studies in pregnant women. Sporadic reports have been received of congenital abnormalities occurring in initiatis from to women who have received omeprazole during pregnancy. Nursing Mothers The excretion of esomeprazole in milk has not been studied. However, omeprazole concentrations have been measured in breast milk of a woman following oral administration of 20 mg. Because esomeprazole is likely to be excreted in human milk, because of the potential for serious adverse reactions in nursing infants from esomeprazole, and because of the potential for tumorigenicity shown for omeprazole in rat carcinogenicity studies, a decision should be made whether to discontinue nursing or to discontinue the drug, laking into account the importance of the drug to the mother. Pedicatric Use Safety and effectiveness in pediatric patients have not been established. Gericatric Use Of the total number of patients who received MEXIUM in clinical trials, 778 were 65 to 74 years of age and 124 patients were ≥ 75 years of age. No overall differences in safety and efficacy were observed between the elderly and younger individuals, and other reported clinical experience has not identified differences in responses between the elderly and younger patients. but greater sensitivity of some older individuals cannot be ruled out. ADVERSE REACTIONS The safety of NEXULM was evaluated in over 10,000 patients (aged 18-84 years) in clinical brials workbride including over 7,400 patients in the United States and over 2,600 patients in Europe and Canada. Over 2,900 patients were treated in long-term studies for up to 6-12 months. In general, NEXULM was well tolerated in both short- and long-term clinical trials. The safety in the treatment of healing of erosive esophagais was assessed in four randomized comparative clinical trials, which included 1,240 patients on MEXIUM 20 mg. 2,434 patients on NEXIUM 40 mg. and 3,008 patients on omeprazole 20 mg daily. The most frequently occurring adverse events (21%) in all three groups was headache (5.5, 5.0 and 3.8, respectively) and diarrhea (no difference among the three groups). Hausea, flatulence, abdominal pain, constipation, and dry mouth occurred at similar rates among patients taking NEXULM or omegrazole. Additional adverse events that were reported as possibly or probably related to NEXULM with an incidence < 1% are listed below by body system: Body as a Whole: abdomen enlarged, allergic reaction, asthenia, back pain, chest pain, chest pain substemal facial edema, peripheral edema, hot flushes, fatigue, lever, flu-like disorder, generalized edema, leg edema, malaise, pain, rigors: Cardiovascular: flushing, hypertension, tachycardia: Endocrine: goter, Gastrointestinal: bowel irregularity, constipation aggravated, dyspepsia, dysphagia, dysplasia GI, epigastric pain, eructation, esophageal disorder, frequent stools, gastroenteritis, GI hemorrhage, GI symptoms not otherwise specified, hiccup, melena, mouth disorder, pharynx disorder, rectal disorder, serum gastrin increased, tongue disorder, tonque edema, elcerative stomatilis, vomiting; Hearing: ezrache, tirmisus; Hematologic: anemia, anemia hypochromic, cervical hymphoadenopathy, epistaxis, leukocytosis, leukocytosis, trumbo-cytopenia; Hepatic: bilipubinenia, hepatic function abnormal, SGOT increased, SGPT increased; Metabolic/Nutritional: glycosura, hyperuricemia, hyponatremia, increased alkaline phosphatase, thirst, vitamin B12 deficiency, weight increase, weight decrease; Musculoskeletal: arthralgia, arthritis aggravated, arthropathy, cramps, fibromyalgia syndrome, hemia, polymyalgia rheumatica: Nervous System/Psychiatric: anorexia, apathy, appetite increased, confusion, depression aggravated, dizziness, hypertonia, nervousness, hypoesthesia, impotence, insomnia, migraine, migraine aggravated, paresthesia, sleep disorder, somnolence, tremor, vertigo, visual field defect, Reproductive: dysmenorntea, menstrual disorder, vaginitis: Respiratory: asthma appravated, coughing, dyspoea, laryox edema, pharyogios, rhinitis, sinusitis; Skin and Appendages: acne, angioedema, dermaticis, prunitus, prunitus ani, rash, rash erythematous, rash maculo-paputar, ston Inflammation, sweating increased, unicaria; Special Senses: otds media parosmia, taste loss, taste perversion; Urogenital: abnormal unne, albumenuna, cystitis, dysuria, fungal infection, hematuria, micturition frequency, monitasis, genital monitasis, polyviria; **Visual**t conjunctivitis, vision abnormal, Endoscopic findings that were reported as adverse events include: duodentis, esophageal stricture, esophageal ulceration, esophageal varices, gastric ulcer, gastritis, herma, benign polyps or nodules, Barrett's esophagus, and mucosal discoloration. Postmarketing Reports - There have been spontaneous reports of adverse events with postmarketing use of esomeprazole. These reports have included rare cases of anaphylactic reaction. Other adverse events not observed with NEXIUM, but occurring with omeprazole can be found in the omeprazole package insert, AUVERSE REACTIONS section. OVERDOSAGE A single oral dose of esomeprazole at 510 mg/kg (about 103 times the human dose on a body surface area basis), was letital to rats. The major signs of acute toxicity were reduced motor activity, changes in respiratory frequency, tramor, ataxia, and intermettent clonic convolsions. There have been some reports of overdosage with esome prazole. Reports have been received of overdosage with emeprazole in humans. Doses ranged up to 2,400 mg (120 times the usual recommended clinical dose). Manifestations were variable, but included confusion, drowsmess, blurred vision, tachycardia, nausea, diaphoresis, flushing, headache, dry mouth, and other adverse reactions similar to those seen in normal clinical experience (see omeprazole package insert-ADVERSE REACTIONS). Ho specific antidate for esomeprazole is known. Since esomeprazole is extensively protein bound, it is not expected to be removed by dislysis. In the event of overdosage, treatment should be symptomatic and supportive. As with the management of any overdose, the possibility of multiple drug ingestion should be considered. For current information on treatment of any drug overdose, a certified Regional Poison Control Center should be contacted. Telephone numbers are listed in the Physicians' Desk Reference (PDR) or local telephone book.

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Product of France 21316503/03

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References:

'Castell DO, Kahrilas PJ, Richter JE, et al. Esomeprazole (40 mg) compared with lansoprazole (30 mg) in the treatment of erosive esophagitis. Am J Gastroenterol. 2002;97:575-583.

Data on file, DA-NEX-37 ALLEY CONTROL OF THE PROPERTY OF THE PARTY O



January is a great time to invigorate your mind, body, and spirit and set the tone for the coming months. Here are a few suggestions to jumpstart the New Year:

Get moving. Join a health club and take part in physical recreation. Water aerobics, swimming, volleyball, archery, Tai Chi, dance and yoga are invigorating. Exercise with a tennis or biking buddy. Camaraderie may make "winter blahs" disappear.

Practice meditation. Focus on your breathing or picture a favorite scene from nature to reduce stress and live in the moment.

Uncover and explore your talents and skills. Computer training, brèad baking, painting, carpentry or interior design may light a fire. Sing with a choir or checkmate your opponent. Have fun growing.

Reach out to others. Volunteer to dish out soup at a homeless shelter and gratitude will greet you. Is there a youngster who needs extra help with homework or a homebound neighbor who would welcome a visit from you?

Simplify your life. Sort through magazines and collectibles. Donate clothes you haven't worn in the last year. A streamlined home and closets make house cleaning and wardrobe decisions easier. Say no to extra projects. You deserve time to read, be with loved ones or just loaf.

Clear out high fat foods and leftover goodies from the holidays. Munching on fresh celery, carrots, or fruit will give you a lift without the extra calories. Drink a tall glass of water, when you feel hungry, to satisfy a momentary craving without the calories.

Dress for cooler weather and get outdoors. Sunlight provides vitamin D, a necessary element for calcium absorption and strong bones. Walking is aerobic, so run errands on foot. Fresh air and sunlight put many things into perspective.

Laugh at yourself and circumstances. Find an opportunity in a challenging event. When a friend of mine didn't get a promotion at work, it motivated her to open her own business. When you step lightly through your days, it puts a spring in your step and joy in your heart.

Nancy Andres is a freelance writer in Tucson. Ariz.



We're looking for the best recipes

Send us your favorite family recipe by Jan. 15 and you could Win up to \$600!

nch entry should fit into one of five categories: main disha, side dishes, deserts, appaizes, and soups & salads. One \$100 winner will be awarded in each category in each of our 5 regions plus one \$500 Grand Prize winner! Enter by Jan. 15, 2005. Include the story behind your recipe and an original color photo of you. The winners will be featured in upcoming issues of American Profile magazine. Send your entries to:

Annual Reader Recipe Contest 341 Cool Springs Blvd., Ste. 400 Franklin, TN 37067

De full list of rules, please visit unuamericanprofile.com.

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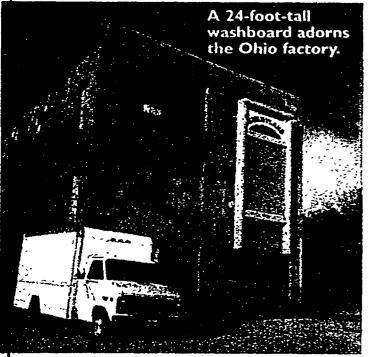


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Made in -America

MURRAY Awash Photos by Rick Fatica with Pride

In 1999, America's only remaining washboard manufacturer, the Columbus Washboard Co., was preparing to shut its doors after 104 years in business. That is, until a group of investors stepped in to save it.



"It was a nostalgia thing for us right away," says Jacqui Barnett of Logan, Ohio (pop. 6,704). Barnett, along with her husband, Bevan, and four other investors, decided that rather than see the company close, they would purchase it. "We all thought it was worth a try, especially since it's such a part of history," she says.

by LORI

The company's history dates back to 1895, when Frederic Martin Sr. of Columbus, Ohio, started building washboards in his backyard to sell. It's estimated that fewer than 1,000 washboards were produced and sold in any of the first 30 years of operation. During World War II, sales skyrocketed, with the company selling more than 1 million washboards in 1941. However, with advances in automated washing machines in the late 1960s, demand began to dwindle. By the late 1990s, after remaining in the family



Jacqui Barnett owns America's only washboard manufacturer, the Columbus Washboard Co.

Betty Ellinger assembles

each washboard by hand.

for three generations, interest in keeping the family business alive was gone.

For Barnett, the timing was perfect. Tired of her job as a seamstress, the New

Zealand native was searching for a career change. The Barnetts, along with friend George K. Richards in Columbus and members of his family, purchased the company, naming Jacqui the managing partner. To make the company more financially viable and bring it closer to their home, the Barnetts moved the Columbus Washboard Co.'s antique machinery 65 miles south to the town of Logan.

Today, Barnett and four other employees make the washboards by hand in an 11,000-square-foot factory, where visitors are always welcome to tour.

"It makes you feel good when people come in and they are really interested in what you're doing," says Betty Ellinger, a floor supervisor who can assemble a washboard in 45 seconds.

The washboards, which sell for \$14 to \$24, are produced in varying sizes with rubbing surfaces that include galvanized steel, stainless steel, brass and glass. Galvanized metal is the original choice, with a wavy crimp designed to keep the soap on the board so it doesn't run down into the water. A coarse, spiral crimp surface is used for tougher pieces such as socks and pants, while a rounded, smoother area is best for washing delicates.

Barnett markets the washboards not only for washing clothes but also as a decorative piece in the home, and as a percussion instrument for a growing number of washboard musicians, who play the board using thimbles or wooden spoons. As a tool for

washing clothes, the washboards are popular in the Amish and Mennonite communities and more recently with troops stationed overseas.

> Since March 2003, the company has sent 3,000 washboards—all at a breakeven price—to, American soldiers in Iraq, who often don't have access to washing machines.

> "The idea began with a request for a washboard from a soldier from Marysville, Ohio," Barnett says. "His mother had used our washboards, and he was familiar with us. After that, it was word-of-mouth, and we put it on our website and got many other requests from wives of soldiers and support groups." Barnett even sends washing

kits that include a tub, clothesline, clothespins, soap, foot powder and washboard instructions.

Last year, the company sold 35,000 washboards nationwide, with about 40 percent of those being used to wash clothes. But for Barnett, it's not about getting rich selling washboards; instead it's the pride associated with keeping a piece of history alive.

"If there wasn't the pride, there wouldn't be the company," she says. "It's a working museum, and if we don't stay enthusiastic about it, it will die."

Lori Murray is a freelance writer in Columbus,

For more information, log on to www.columbuswashboard.com or call (740) 380-3828.

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Did You Know...

ILLINOIS—Built in 1869, the limestone Chicago Water Tower is one of the few buildings that survived the Great Chicago Fire in 1871.

INDIANA-An 1864 six-sided brick privy behind the Switzerland County Courthouse in Vevay (pop. 1,735) was deemed a landmark latrine and preserved during courthouse expansion in 2004.

IOWA—Advertising jingle writer William D. Fries introduced the public to CB slang with the creation of the trucker character C.W. McCall and his 1976 hit Convoy, which inspired a 1978 film of the same name starring Kris Kristofferson. Fries was born in 1928 in Audubon (pop. 2,382).

KANSAS—The nation's only museum in a working salt mine, the Kansas Underground Salt Museum is under construction in Hutchinson (pop. 40,787) and is scheduled to open in the fall of 2005.

MICHIGAN—In the Upper Peninsula, Baraga County is home to the state's highest peak, Mount Avron at 1,979 feet. The county was named for Father Frederic Baraga, the first bishop of Marquette, author of A Short History of the North American Indians (1837) and compiler of the first known Ojibwa Indian grammar in 1850.

MINNESOTA—The first Target store opened in 1962 in Roseville (pop. 33,690), a St. Paul suburb in Ramsey County.

MISSOURI—The Edward "Ted" and Pat Jones-Confluence Point State Park opened in May 2004 in West Ashton (pop. 573), where two great rivers, the Missouri and the Mississippi, meet. Pat Jones and her late husband, Ted, were long-time park supporters.

NEBRASKA—The state's tallest building is the 46-story Tower at First National Center in Omaha.

NORTH DAKOTA—In 1861, President Abraham Lincoln appointed William Jayne the first governor of the Dakota Territory. Jayne was Lincoln's doctor, mayor of Springfield, Ill., and an Illinois lawmaker before accepting the appointment. After his term, nine more men served as territorial governor until statehood in 1889.

OHIO—In 1956, Joseph McVicker of Kutol Products in Cincinnati added a pleasant scent to his company's clay wallpaper cleaner and rolled it out on the toy market as Play-Doh. Three new colors-red, yellow and bluewere added to the original grayish white the following year.

SOUTH DAKOTA—Yellowstone Trail, one of the nation's first transcontinental roads, crosses the state from Big Stone City (pop. 605) to Lemmon (pop. 1,398).

WISCONSIN—One thousand accordions are squeezed into A World of Accordions Museum at the Harrington Arts Center in Superior (pop. 27,368). 🖈

Compiled by Marti Attoun of Joplin. Mo.

Hydrogen Peroxide Can Heal What?

SPECIAL) - Medical science has discovered that hydrogen peroxide is more than just a disinfectant, t's an amazing healer. Many doctors are using hydrogen peroxide to treat a wide variety of serious ailments such as: heart problems, clogged arteries, hest pain, allergies, asthma, migraine headaches, ascular headaches, cluster headaches, yeast infecions, type II diabetes, emphysema, chronic pain` syndromes, and more.

Average consumers are also discovering that hydrogen peroxide has tons of health, beauty and nousehold uses. A new handbook called "The Amazing Health and Household Uses of Hydrogen reroxide" is now available to the general public. It shows you home remedies using diluted hydrogen peroxide and how to mix it with ordinary household tems like baking soda, lemon, vinegar and salt to help:

- Soothe ARTHRITIS PAIN
- Make SORE THROATS feel better
- Ease the pain of BEE STINGS and INSECT BITES
- Treat ATHLETE'S FOOT
- Ease the PAIN OF RHEUMATISM
- Clear up FUNGUS and MINOR INFECTIONS

- Help treat minor BURNS
- Treat BRUISES and RASHES
- Soothe ACHING MUSCLES, JOINTS & SORE

FEET

Hydrogen peroxide is truly amazing. Scientists have found it is involved in virtually all of life's vital processes. It stimulates the immune system, helps your body fight off viruses, parasites and bacteria. It also regulates hormones and is involved in the production of energy in the body's cells. That's just a few of the amazing things it does.

It's also a great alternative to harsh toxic chemicals and cleaners around the house. "The Amazing Health and Household Uses of Hydrogen Peroxide" also shows you how to make easy peroxide recipes for:

- · A powerful bleaching formula for formica
- A fantastic homemade scouring powder
- The perfect drain cleaner for clogged drains
- A dishwasher detergent that makes dishes gleam
- An oven cleaner that eliminates elbow grease
- A great rust remover formula
- A tile cleaner that works like magic
- A little known formula that really cleans old porous tubs
- A solution to help house and garden plants flourish
- Use this formula to clean your pets
- This spray keeps a leftover salad fresher
- Ever wonder what happens to meats and fish before you bring them home? Here's a safetywash for meat and fish
- A spray that's great for sprouting seeds

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- Here's a sanitizing vegetable soak
- A denture soak that works great
- · A tooth whitener that makes teeth sparkle
- A super polish for copper and brass
- · A spot lifter for coffee, tea and wine stains

You'll learn all this and more in this remarkable book. In addition, you also get an extensive list of qualified doctors across the United States and even some in Canada who regularly use hydrogen peroxide in their practices to treat serious ailments.

Right now you can receive a special press run of "The Amazing Health and Household Uses of Hydrogen Peroxide" for only \$8.95 plus \$2.00 postage and handling. You must be completely satisfied, or simply return it in 90 days for a full refund.

HERE'S HOW TO ORDER: Simply PRINT your name and address and the words "Hydrogen Peroxide" on a piece of paper and mail it along with a check or money order for only \$10.95 to: THE LEADER CO., INC., Publishing Division, Dept. HPT837, P.O. Box 8347, Canton, OH 44711. VISA, MasterCard, send card number and expiration date. Act now. Orders are fulfilled on a first come, first served basis. © 2004 The Leader Co., Inc.



Quick & Easy Holiday Fare

While great-tasting food

always makes holiday gatherings more enjoyable, it's nice to have a few quick, easy-to-make recipes available that allow you more time to spend visiting with family and friends.

Therefore, American Profile selected two reader recipes that are perfect for holiday buffets as well as informal family dinners. The first is from Teresa Mourad of Ann Arbor, Mich., who sent in her recipe for pasta with garbanzo beans.

"This recipe is nutritious and easy to put together for a quick dinner or holiday buffet," Mourad says. "Because it pairs beans with pasta, it's a great complete protein dish for vegetarian diets."

The second recipe, for tomato cups, comes from Irene Tucker of Grenada, Miss. (pop. 14,879). "I won first place in a recipe contest with this dish," Tucker says. "That was my third try. My mother always said the third time's the charm. She was right." A fresh basil garnish will turn this into a great holiday appetizer.

As always, American Profile looks forward to receiving your favorite family recipes and sharing them with readers across the country.

What's your favorite BREAKFAST recipe?

We're putting together an expanded American Profile reader recipes cookbook! Send us your favorite breakfast recipe, along with the story behind it, to:

HOMETOWN RECIPES, 341 Cool Springs Blvd., Suite 400, Franklin, TN 37067.

Include a color photo of yourself (no print-outs or copies), your name, address, and telephone number.

If we publish your recipe, we'll send you an American Profile apron. All submissions and photos become the property of American Profile and cannot be returned.



Styling: Cheryl Barnes

Pasta with Garbanzo Beans

I pound fusill or gerriell posts

1/2 cup olive of

2 cloves garlic, minced

1 16-ounce can garbanzo beans, drained

I 15-ounce can diced tornatoes

2-3 tablespoons fresh basil, chopped

1/2 cup Parmesan cheese, graced

Prepare pasta according to package instructions, making sure not to overcook. When pasta is almost done, sauté garlic in olive oil in a separate saucepan. Stir tomatoes and beans into the oil and heat through. The pasta should be done at the same time the other ingredients are hot. Toss them together with the cheese and basil. Season to taste. Serves 4 to 6.

Tips From Our Test Kitchen:

Great northern or black beans can be used in place of the garbanzos. Add sliced red and green peppers to the vegetable mixture for a colorful flair.



Tomato Cups

I can large biscuits
I/2 cup mayonnaise
I cup shredded cheese
(mozzarella and cheddar
blend)

: 0-ounce can Rotei

tomatoes, drained teaspoon dried basil 1/2 onion, chopped pieces bacon, cooked and

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Separate each biscuit into two or three layers. Lightly grease the cups of a 12-muffin tin. Place and press a biscuit layer evenly into each cup. Mix remaining ingredients in a medium-size bowl. Spoon filling on top of the biscuit layers. Bake 20 to 25 minutes, until golden.

Tips From Our Test Kitchen: Garnish with fresh basil for a holiday appetizer.

GREAT BEAN DISHES REQUIRE SLOW COOKING TO REACH PERFECTION. AND THAT'S BEFORE YOU EVEN OPEN THE CAN.













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