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Thursday, December 22, 2005

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50¢

Volume 136 Number 23

Look inside for your **GREEN SHEET** Classifieds Greensheetclassifieds.com

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

Record Numbers







Baseline Battle

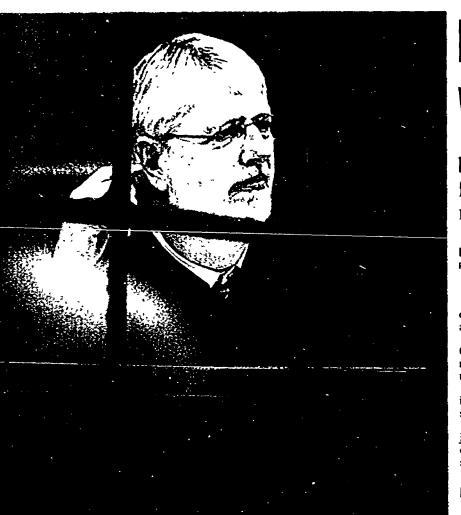
Northville and Novi faced off last Saturday at Compuware Ice Arena. See who came out the victor.

- Page 1B

ţ,



Want to know what's happening in Northville this weekend? Check out Northville's official local events calendar! - Page 15A



Christmas Court Photo Illustration by DIANA WELLS

Deck the halls with ... justice

For some, festive season still means jail time

By Victoria Mitchell RECORD STAFF WRITER

The sky is gray, dank. Winter clouds mean snow. The temperature is below freezing.

And inside the 52-1 District Court building in Novi, the reception many defendants receive today will be just as icy. There is no wreath proclaim-

ing Christmas and no jolly ole' soul bellowing "Ho! Ho! Ho!" Christmas time in the halls of

justice is many times frigid, a cold reality for those yearning to salvage a warm holiday season.

Behind the scenes

Snow flakes sailing outside a spacious wall of windows and a lone, tossed aside Christmas card are the only signs in 52-1 District Court Judge Brian MacKenzie's chambers that Christmas is three days away. Traffic on Interstate 96



Christmas Court 52-1 District Court in Novi will hear about 623 cases this week, a lighter docket than normal, according to court officials. Court business will be conducted through 4:15 p.m. Friday and will resume at 8 a.m. Tuesday.

whizzes by. Nearby malls are packed with frenzied lastminute shoppers where Santa holds center court, accepting

continued on 4A



Christmas, nine times over

Northville family of 11 ready for holiday season By Maureen Johnston

RECORD STAFF WRITER Carol Grimmer and her aunt



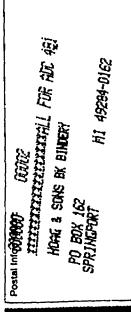
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Northville Churches

E First Baptist Church 217 N. Wing St. (248) 348-1020 Christmas Eve: 6 p.m. Christmas Day: 11 a.m.

First Church of the Nazarene 21260 Haggerty Road (248) 348-7600 Christmas Eve: 6:30 p.m. Christmas Day: 10:50 a.m.

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: 10:30 a.m.

First United Methodist Church of Northville 777 W. Eight Mile Road (248) 349-1144 Christmas Eve: 4 p.m., 6 p.m., 8:30 p.m., 11 p.m. Christmas Day: 10 a.m.

Northville Christian Academy 41335 Six Mile Road (248) 348-9030 Christmas Eve: 6 p.m. Christmas Day: 10:15 a.m.

Oak Pointe Church Northville High School 45700 Six Mile Road (248) 615-7050 Christmas Eve: 5 p.m , 6:15 p.m. Christmas Day: 10 a.m.

Our Lady of Victory

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

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church 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 p.m. Christmas Day: 10 20 a.m., 11:40 a m.

Alberta have a running joke about the number of stockings she hangs by the chimney with care.

Twenty years ago, the aunt knitted a stocking gift when Carol married David. Then the needles went to work as a new baby ioined the Grimmer family, Christmas after Christmas after Christmas.

The Northville Grimmers raise eyebrows traveling together, follow Marine-like routines and can't wait to spend a quiet Christmas Day together. Just the 11 of them.

"We get all the questions," Carol said with a laugh. "I'm not Jewish. I'm not Mormon. I'm not Catholic. None of the above. I'm not a weird cult leader.

Twe been in the same marriage for 20 years. And yes, they're all mine.'

Family dynamics

Sometimes the mom fumbles for a name and ends up pointing, "You!"

Sentence: 'Ridiculous'

part of faces to love.

"It wasn't enough

Jacob Phillips, who was convicted

in October of negligent homicide

for driving a 1997 Dodge Ram on

July 30, 2004, that ran over and

killed 2-year-old Jack Gallon.

for what he did."

Parents fume after man who killed their son gets 9-month jail sentence

By Lisa Roose-Church GANNETT NEWS SERVICES

The father of a 2-year-old Northville boy said Monday a nine-month county jail sentence is "ridiculous" for the man who ran over and killed his son as he played at the Island State Recreation Area in July 2004.

He killed a boy playing in the park; it's as simple as that." father Robert Gallon said about Damian

Photo by JOHN HEIDER/NORTHVILLE RECORD

Carol Grimmer and her son Nathan, 2, inspect nine Christmas stockings hung from their Northville Township fireplace mantle.

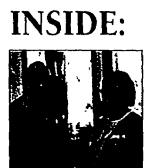
.. Even little children can do chores and they pride themselves in doing it well."

Carol Grimmer Resident, Northville

Grimmer knows nine children is higher than the average these days. But the mouths to feed are

There's "Chelle," nicknamed by her little brother away at

continued on 18A

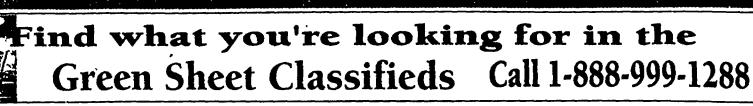


All Clear! Officials say a second water test has revealed no lead content in city water. Page 10A.

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Robert Gallon

Resident, Northville



Holiday Calorie **Burners** Decking the

halls-178 م ويتر تريخ Christmas shopping-164

Wrapping presents-107

Cleaning the house-250

Mingling & Socializing-143

Clearing table and washing dishes-164

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Building a snowman -- 285

Kissing under mistletow-71

SOURCE Physical Activities ACSM

Beat the (sugar) rush

Best way to keep off holiday fat is to keep active, talking

By Tracy Mishler RECORD STAFF WRITER

Janet Myers tries not to over eat during the holidays, but her plan never pans out.

The 42-year-old Northville Township resident said she visits several family members at Christmas and her plans are always sabotaged by the sweet temptations.

"Somehow I always end up gaining five or 10 pounds by the time January rolls around," Myers said.

This year, Myers said she's going to try and keep her mouth moving not by putting more food in, but by talking more with her relatives.

"I go to the gym on a regular basis, and the trainers always say, drink more water and come to the gym more, but they never say, talk more," Myers said. "Maybe if I keep myself busy instead of piling in appetizers, then I won't gain the weight."

Chris Klebba, general manager and fitness director of Northville's Water Wheel Health Club, said there is no way to stop people from overeating during the holidays.

There is a way to eat what you want and not gain weight," Klebba said. "Keeping busy is key. As long as you eat little amounts and keep moving, you won't gain as much weight.

Get moving

Klebba said any movement will increase the metabolism.

"You will actually burn calories and keep distracted from the food if you stay active," he said. "The more you keep your metabolism working, the more those cravings become minimized.

"Working out is very unrealistic this time of year. An average person can burn up to 1,500 calories in a typical workday. Imagine what you can burn during the holidays just making the rounds to all your relatives."

Kathy Hawraney said maintaining your weight during the holi-days should be the goal.

"A lot of times, people think their hungry when they're really thirsty," said the fitness director of the Novi Sports Club. "People don't like to hear it, but drinking water really can make you feel full?"

Hawraney said her best advice for avoiding sweet temptations during the holidays is to eat a snack before heading out for events.

"You can tell someone not to stand by the chip dip," she said, "but if they haven't eaten anything prior the event, chances are they will over eat.

"You don't have to starve, but you should be aware of what you're putting in your body." Both Hawraney and Klebba said

to make healthy choices.

"Think about what you're eat," Klebba said. "When you put high sugar food in your body, it spikes your blood sugar. Once the blood sugar drops, going below its normal level, you will crave the sweets more."

Cheryl Mattison said she eats the healthy foods with low calories and tries to keep moving.

"We live in a community of over indulgences," said the Novi resident. "I know if I overeat, I feel really bad after. Why do we do that to ourselves?"

According to the American College of Sports Medicine, mingling and socializing during the holidays can burn up to 143 calories.

Hawraney said having a little extra is good once in a while.

"But, we should remember that one pound of fat is 3,500 calories," she said. "If you eat 116 extra calories a day for the 30 days between Thanksgiving and Christmas, then you will gain one pound."

Klebba said there is nothing wrong with splurging during the holidays.

"We should allow ourselves to splurge, but with a limit," he said.

Tracy Mishler is a staff writer for the Northville Record. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 107, or at tmishler@gannett.com

ENGAGEMENTS



Northville announce the engage-

The groom-elect is a 1997 gradivil Engineer at TetraTech as a



Drake to Lisa Ann Nowacki, daughter of John and Carol Nowacki of Livonia.

The bride-elect is a 2001 gradu-



also



Į.

Child Car Trip Holiday returns Activities

For some local

his way home for the holidays.

By Victoria Mitchell

RECORD STAFF WRITER

Even with the dog.

residents, the road home

takes unconventional turn

Sandwiched between two strangers and

As he approached Haggerty and Eight

"The Labrador didn't like toll booth

Mile roads from midtown New York, he

thought the cost savings was worth it.

operators," he said. "Every time we

approached one he would hang his slob-

For some local residents, getting home

bery head over my shoulder and bark."

a Labrador retriever, Matt Mitchell made



For Babies

ie slick-laasiber bieck

- Toys of Interesting shapes Han texas
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- Pre-scheel
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- Paper ju
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quotic lotters and motal tin **He to Second Grade**

- Activity books
- Press-en talle
- · Stick-on pizy sets
- Travel size Magna-Decile Beb-a-Stolet
- Threading sets (pictures with yars)
 Feit beards
- Travel Desk sets
- LeapFreg Leapste
- Swall magnetic puzzles
- Ge-Fish cards
- Silly pully Colored becsust
- (in mold with it doesn't slick)
- Walkman for songs and stories
- Pertable ga ni siterina and DVD player

SOURCE: Translativistic about com



Harmony at Home

When it comes to remodeling a home, selecting floor covering involves the same concerns for comfort, good taste and fashion that dressing suitably for a particular occasion demands.

World wide wend

- · www.ridecheck.com www.erideshare.com
- www.craigslist.org
- www.ionelyplanet.com
- www.travellerspoint.com

Engelland said agencies, like Brookside Travel, mainly focus on vacation packages.

But unlike the popular discount travel arrangement Web sites, Internet spots like Craigslist, allow for an even cheaper avenue. If you're willing to risk the unknown and drive.

According to the Bureau of "the Transportation Statistics, Thanksgiving and Christmas/New Year's holiday periods are among the busiest long-distance travel periods of the year."

According to data released by the bureau, 91 percent of long-distance holiday travel is by personal vehicle and only 5 to 6 percent of holiday trips are by air.

Data shows the average Christmas long-distance drive is 275 miles, traveled by drivers between 34-36.

Mitchell, 35, fits the age profile, although his drive is more than double the miles reported by the bureau.

For Christmas, he is going to mix things up a little.

Mitchell said he found a girl with a car on Craigslist.org driving to Midland, leaving Dec. 21.

"All I need to do is split gas and drive time," he said. "I'm going to her meet her and her Dachshund at 3 a.m. right in downtown and then we will leave."

Victoria Mitchell can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 122 or vemitchell@gannett.com.

Holiday travel need not be a pain

"All that traveling can be rough on your body," says Dr. Kenneth Stopa, a Northville doctor of chiropractic. "Long hours in a car or on an airplane can leave you stressed,

tired, stiff and sore." Warm Up, Cool Down:

 Treat travel like an athletic event. Warm up before settling into a car or plane, and cool down once you reach your destination. Take a brisk walk to stretch your hamstring and calf muscles.

In The Car:

 Adjust the seat so you are as close to the steering wheel as comfortably possible. Your knees should be slightly higher than your hips. Place four fingers behind the back of your thigh closest to your knee. If you cannot easily slide your fingers in and out of that space, you need to re-adjust your seat.

· Consider a back support. Using a support behind your back may reduce the risk of low-back strain, pain or injury. The widest part of the support should be between the bottom of your rib cage and your waistline.

· Exercise your legs while driving to reduce the risk of swelling, fatigue or discomfort. Open your toes as wide as you can and count to 10. Count to five while you tighten your calf muscles, then your thigh muscles, and then your gluteal muscles. Roll your shoulders forward and back, making sure to keep your hands on the steering wheel and your eyes on the road.

• To minimize arm and hand tension while driving, hold the steering wheel at approximately 3 o'clock and 7 o'clock, periodically switching to 10 o'clock and 5 o'clock.

 Don't grip the steering wheel, instead, tighten and loosen your grip to improve hand circulation and decrease muscle fatigue in your arms, wrists and hands.

 While always being careful to keep your eyes on the road, vary your focal point while driving to reduce the risk of eve fatigue and tension headaches.

In An Airplane:

 Stand up straight and feel the normal "S" curve of your spine. Then, use rolledup pillows or blankets to maintain that curve when you sit on your seat. Tuck a pillow behind your back and just above the bettline and lay another pillow across the gap between your neck and the headrest. If the seat is hollowed from wear, use folded blankets to raise your buttocks a little.

. Check all bags heavier than 5-10 percent of your body weight. Overhead lifting of any significance amount of weight should be avoided to reduce the risk of pain in the lower back or neck. While lifting your bags, stand right in front of the overhead compartment so the spine is not rotated. Do not lift your bags over your head, or turn or twist your head and neck in the process.

Safe Travel for Children:

· Always use a car seat when traveling with children under the age of four and weighing less than 40 pounds. Some experts recommend using car seats until the child reaches the age of eight and/or eighty pounds. And, all children under age 12 should always ride in the back seat.

· Car seats for infants should always face the rear. In this position, the forces and impact of a crash will be spread more evenly along the back and shoulders, providing more protection for the neck. Chiropractic Care Can Help

If you follow these simple tips, you can enjoy pain-free, safe travel. If you do experience pain and stress on your back, doctors of chiropractic are trained and licensed to diagnose and treat problems of the spine and nervous system. For more information on chiropractic ' atment, contact

Dr. Stopa, (248) 735-98. J.

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for the holidays means spending time on the information super highway. Mitchell hooked up with the two

females and the dog, on the Web site Craigslist.org.

"I'm on it all the time," he said.

The Web site, among just about anything else, allows people to arrange ride shares.

Mitchell logged on looking for someone going from New York to the Northville area for Thanksgiving.

He said they split the cost of the car rental and gas.

"Thankfully, because of the dog we were upgraded to a SUV at the car rental place," Mitchell said.

Ginny Engelland, associate at Brookside Travel in Northville, said going online for home travel arrangements is the trend.

"Most people will go through the Internet to purchase plane tickets," she said.

And just like your appearance, you'll want decorating materials to harmonize with all other designer elements.

Begin by considering the mood and decorating style you want to create.

Do you want contemporary or country? Casual or formal? Are the colors of furnishings, wall and other decorating products bright, rich or subdued?

These considerations affect not only your choice of floor coverings, but window treatments and other interior decorating products as well.

There are six basic flooring categories - carpet, area rugs, resilient (or vinyl), hardwood, ceramic tile and laminate each with its own performance, appearance and cost characteristics.

Some are more appropriate for specific areas, traffic patterns and lifestyles than others. Your local flooring retailer can help you choose the best product and grade that meets your budget and lifestyle needs.

After selecting your new floor, it's time to focus on choosing other decorative elements which, when similarly selected, bring to your home the function and fashion you envisioned.





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H2319-N15 xx/xxxx

COURT: as holiday season proceeds, so do court proceedings

continued from 1A

Christmas wishes and passing out candy to wide-eyed children. But at 52-1, it's business as usval.

In court, Santa dons a black robe, offers stern lectures and doles out jail sentences to those who've been naughty.

"I don't think anyone would expect the criminal justice system to close down at the holidays." MacKenzie said.

Attorneys file in and out of his chambers prior to court. One is holding a red file folder; others are wearing red suits.

Some exchange holiday greetings, but most pre-courtroom talk is of drunk drivers and aggravated assault.

MacKenzie, despite parole officer urgings, decides to allow an area man a holiday Florida trip.

You know he is going to stay there to live," the parole officer said.

MacKenzie doesn't waiver. Good will? No, good judgment MacKenzie insists.

"How can you not be aware it is Christmas?" he said. "I don't think it affects my decision-making, but I don't know, it might."

Lighten the load

52-1 District Court Judge Robert Bondy said the holiday season features a lighter court docket, but don't be mistaken. Crime doesn't let up. Police offi-cers, attorneys and ~'her key court players simply take noliday time off to spend with their families.

"The wheels of justice seem to grind forward and the pace as a general rule is a little lighter," he said.

Bondy said January will deliver an influx of retail fraud and drunk driving cases. These are the remnants of excessive holiday libation, and everyone will have an excuse.

"Sometimes it is a lapse in judgment, from an office party or holiday occasion." Bondy said.

MacKenzie feels the ease of a lightened holiday load, especially when it comes to civil litigation.

"It is easier to settle civil cases," he said. "They don't want to go to trial. They want to go shopping."

Holiday families

Standing in court, wearing a red sweatshirt, a young man is charged with armed robbery, you in jail. I can taste it." assault.

GOLDEN GLOBE AWARD NOMINEE

"I don't think anyone would expect the criminal justice system to close down at the holidays."

> Judge Brian MacKenzie 52-1 District Court, Novi

He already spent the night in jail. The real question: Will he stay there?

"I put people in jail this week," MacKenzie said. "I knew what I was doing.

"I knew it, but they still belong in jail. The world doesn't stop."

Another young man standing before MacKenzie during the holidays will eat Christmas dinner across from his 3-month-old son. after all. He'll join the boy's mother, the woman the young man allegedly beat.

Despite the charges, Joseph, nestled in an infant carrier, and his mother appear in court, on daddy's behalf.

MacKenzie explains life lessons to the man, talks about respecting women, staying drugfree and giving children the very best every day.

His holiday sentence: a long lecture, probation, community service and counseling.

It's a ruling Joseph's mother asked the judge to consider, ensuring a complete family table. "I hope you enjoy your Christmas holidays with your kid," MacKenzie said.

"I'll keep the court costs low so you can have a little money left' over to buy a present for your kid."

There is no Santa Claus

MacKenzie said he is no Santa Claus, not even at Christmas.

Aside from obvious physical differences - his beard is peppergray, not white; his robe is more toga-like than red velvet lined with fur trim - the senior judge is not guided solely by happy endings

MacKenzie bellows to yet another defendant: "Let's you and I understand each other, I want

ized greeting card: Merry

> 62 12

-',

Photos by JOHN HEIDER/NORTHVILLE RECORD 52-1 Judge Brian MacKenzie works in chambers with employee Joyce McKay.

Christmas, now straighten up your act.

He checks a list, often more than twice, before handing out gifts, ones he said are delivered from the bench on behalf of the community which has elected him. His lists include parole sheets and criminal records, rather than wish lists for coveted toys.

His favorite holiday gift: keeping drunk drivers off the road.

'I think the people who put me in this office expect me to make the roads safer," MacKenzie said. His nightmare: a Christmas tree lined with unopened gifts, and a

family devastated by news their kids were killed by a drunk driver. A man charged with drinking and driving stands before MacKenzie, whose courtroom candor is part ballast and part

walking stick. "You are an alcoholic and a

drug addict," MacKenzie said. "Last year people like you killed 17,000. "I'm not going to let you kill

some 3-year-old." MacKenzie sentences the man

mandatory rehabilitation, ťo

because that is what the law stipulates. It's the same legal system allowing a man accused of beating his baby's mother to go home and enjoy a warm holiday meal.

list has more to do with effort and accountability than coy smiles or springy pigtails.

A judge's gift

received his Christmas gift this year. She stands before him at the holidays, clean and sober now for five months.

That woman, I almost put in jail," MacKenzie said. "For a year, nothing seemed to be work-"Lord knows, there it was,

something clicked for her." She was enrolled in Sobriety Court, a program begun at

MacKenzie's urging, which allows selected drunk driving defendants a chance at treatment, accountability and a new chance at life.

This year she will be sober during the holidays, for maybe the

first time in years. 'We've achieved something here," MacKenzie said. "Her life is better and so are those in the community."

Not even a mouse

Back in his office, MacKenzie fiddles at Christmas with a few clicks of his computer mouse. He proudly shows off a limited edition Ford roadster pedal car his 10-month-old grandson will receive.

The car is still too big for him, he concedes. But who cares? It's Christmas.

"I love Christmas. We have a 12-foot Christmas tree we put up the day after Thanksgiving," he said. "I listen to Christmas music in my car, everything from jazz to Handel's Messiah.

"I enjoy all the festivities that go along with Christmas. I love giving presents better than receiving and all that sort of stuff."

Victoria Mitchell can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 122 or vemitchell@gannett.com.



52-1 Court **Administrator Joyce Renfrow poses in her** office, decked out in holiday decor.

🖀 North star

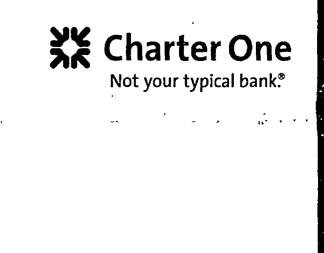
Away from the district courtroom, court administrator Joyce Renfrow's office provides a little Joy to the World in an often downtrodden 52-1 scene. True, it's hardly the shining star Mary and Joseph followed, but . it offers a glimpse of hope in what can be a depressing holiday scene.

A Christmas tree graces the meeting table in her spacious office. A ceramic tree on her desk beams conspicuously. She urges all court employees to bring an ornament from home for. the lunch-room tree.

"I stress good customer service at all times," Renfrow said. "I don't think of it as different at Christmas.

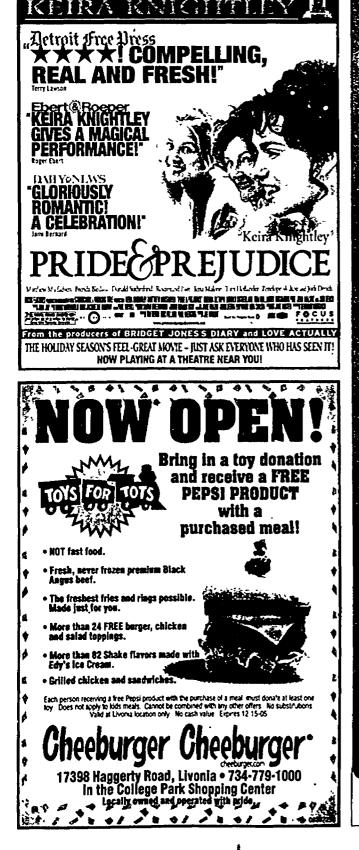
But I do tell every one, even though we're in a festive mood the person on the other end of the counter is not."





BORROW

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Making MacKenzie's "good"

MacKenzie said he already



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Reason for the season

Local family discovers, shares true meaning of Christmas

By Maureen Johnston RECORD STAFF WRITER

Isabella and Baylee Caldbeck wore wide smiles above their wrong-size coats with broken zippers.

A surprise awaited the Silver Spring Elementary students as they tumbled through their Innsbrook apartment door after school last week. An early gift: jackets that looked like new.

Andy and Rebecca Keebaugh had gratefully accepted the donated winter wear for their

"We're giving thanks to God for all the nice stuff we've been given."

Andy Keebaugh Resident, Northville

daughters earlier that day. The girls and their three brothers need things their parents can't afford.

Still, their parents insist their family is rich with faith and love.



The Keebaugh family, from left: Andy, Maxwell, 6 months, Isabella, 7, Bayle, 5, Rebecca, and Dominic, 2.

Off season

Andy and Rebecca, both 29, concede bad decisions along the way brought them to their current circumstances.

The couple first met in 1996. then went their separate ways before reuniting eight years later.

When they married in October 2004, they blended their families: her two daughters, Isabella, 7, and Baylee, 5, and son, Dominic, 2, and his son, Connor, 5. Their son Maxwell was born five months ago, with a hole in his lung, now healed. Always, they had love. But

not money.

Rebecca, a stay-at-home mom, and Andy, a part-time order clerk for a food supply company, couldn't make ends meet. His \$15 an hour job, food stamps and Women Infants Children federal assistance simply wasn't enough to bridge the financial divide. They prayed.

Mean season

This summer, the three-bedroom apartment was closing in on the family of seven when WIC staff referred them to Northville Civic Concern.

The agency was a stone's throw away from their Seven Mile Road home. Director Marlene Kunz said they qualified for assistance.

"I've never seen a more loving family than that family," Kunz said. She knows her agency's assistance came in the nick of time for the Keebaughs.

"I think we probably would have lost the apartment if it wasn't for Civic Concern," Rebecca said. "I didn't think they would have something like that in the Northville community."

Season of faith

The Keebaughs said they believe God sent Kunz into their lives. A common faith was the

connection, Rebecca said. "Marlene is like a blessing, a Godsend, an angel," Andy said. We know she loves God and has faith in God."

After humbly accepting Civic Concern gifts, the family is now

planning to return the favors. "We'd like to do what she's



Photos by JOHN HEIDER/NORTHVILLE RECORD Andy Keebaugh is thankful this Christmas for his six-month-old son, Maxwell.

Help Civic Concern

To donate non-perishable food items, household goods or gift cards, contact Civic Concern at (248) 344-1033 or visit 42951 Seven Mile Road in the Highland Lakes Shopping Center 10 a m -12:30 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and the first and third Friday.

doing for other people." Andy said. "We didn't want to be on all this.

"We would rather help people, it's better to give than receive."

Season of gifts

Andy recently earned a fulltime position with his company, soon to include a bump up in

pay. "My medical benefits just kicked in," he said. "We can get off Medicaid now." He picks up overtime when he

can.

"We want to eventually move into a house," he said. "We're saving to get out of debt."

The couple still is tending to financial decisions made in the past. "We've got stuff from before we were married," Rebecca said.

"We don't use credit cards. We



Bayle Keebaugh, 5.

budget every month. We cut coupons. We have to live within our means.

"Part of that is being willing to accept help. We have a big

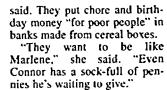
family."

Season of hope

The one material wish the Keebaughs share is for a van to replace their 1992 Ford Tempo. So they can travel together.

Being unable to attend the same NorthRidge Church service together is what hurts the most, Rebecca said. They want to travel as a family, sharing their Christian foundation.

Isabella and Baylee imitate Kunz's generosity, Rebecca



The couple said they believe God will continue to help open doors for them.

Their Christmas celebration will include gifts like underwear and pencils, crafts created at home and baked goods.

"One fact that is very important to us is celebrating that it is Jesus' birthday." Andy said. "We're giving thanks to God for all the nice stuff we've been given."

The family will be together. Rebecca said her children have a daddy.

"You can get out of the hole if you work hard." she said. "God doesn't base your future on your past.

"Like Marlene says, 'So you're in this situation right now. It's only for right now. That's why we 're helping you. That's what we're here for.'

Maureen Johnston can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 103, or via e-mail at mjohnston@gannett com.



POLICE BRIEFS

Car Accident

No one was injured after a 23year-old Oak Park man failed to yield to traffic on Haggerty Road Dec. 13. According to reports, the driver disobeyed the flashing red light while turning left onto southbound Haggerty Road from Eight Mile Road.

Police said the driver had a suspended drivers license and was arrested for driving while license is suspended. He was also cited for failure to yield and given a Dec. 29 court date at the 35th District Court in Plymouth. The man was advised not to drive until his license was valid.

Mail found

A 47-year-old Northville Township man called police after finding several piles of mail in a parking lot near the Hampton Inn. off Haggerty Road. According to reports, the man used rubber gloves to pick the mail up and place in a plastic bag. The man told police he found more mail in a small trash can at the northeast corner of the hotel. According to reports, the mail was taken from a group of 19 mailboxes at the entrance of the Golfview subdivision. Police notified the Northville Township Post Office, and the mail was turned over to the United States Postal Inspection Service who will continue the investigation.

Broken windows

Α 43-year-old Northville Township woman called police



Photo by TRACY MISHLER/NORTHVILLE RECORD

Baseline bash!

A 25-year-old Rochester Hills woman was treated and released from the hospital Monday following a car accident on eastbound Eight Mile and Novi Street. The woman was a passenger in a silver Nissan attempting to turn left from westbound Eight Mile Road onto Novi Street when it struck a Ford Ranger, according to police. Police said the 23-year-old driving the Nissan was cited for failure to yield, and the 27-year-old male driving the Ranger was arrested for driving on a revoked license.

after returning from vacation to find holes in her home office windows. According to reports, police found aluminum pellets from a BB gun outside the window. Police questioned several neighbors, who claimed they saw nothing suspicious while the family was away. The case remains open.

Fighting at Farmer Jack

Police were called to Farmer Jack on Haggerty Road after a fight broke out between two Detroit women over \$17,000. According to reports, the victim, a 48-year-old Detroit woman, owed the suspect, a 34-year-old Detroit woman, money from a property sale. The victim told police she was trying to leave the store when the suspect grabbed her arm and pushed her to the ground. Police arrested the suspect for assault and battery. She was given a Dec. 29 court date at the 35th District Court in Plymouth.

Stolen meat

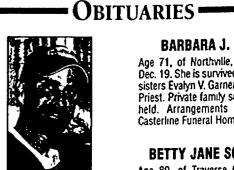
Police were called to Meijer on Haggerty Road after store officials noticed a \$194 sale of meat voided from a cash register. According to reports, the cashier who made the transaction gave the meat to her mother. The cashier was arrested and cited for retail fraud. She was given a Dec. 29 court date at the 35th District Court in Plymouth.

Domestic violence

A 30-year-old Pontiac woman called police after her boyfriend, a 26-year-old Northville Township man, allegedly punched her. According to reports, the two were arguing about whether the man had been faithful to her. Police were concerned for the woman's threeyear-old child, who was also visiting in the apartment. The man was arrested. But according to police, the Wayne County prosecutor's office denied a warrant to charge the man for domestic violence because the victim was uncooperative. The man was released, and the case was closed.

Stolen backpack

Police were called to Northville High School after a 15-year-old siudent had his backpack stolen. According to reports, the student left his backpack in the classroom while at lunch and when he returned his backpack was gone. Police said two other backpacks were also missing. The case was closed due to lack of investigative leads.



DANIEL P. NIELSEN

The funeral mass for Daniel P. Nielsen of Crystal Lake, IL was held on Friday December 16, 2006 at 10 00 AM at St. Thomas the Apostle Church in Crystal Lake, IL, Msgr. Daniel Hermes officiating Interment at the Crystal Lake Memorial Park in Crystal Lake. He was born in Detroit, MI on August 31, 1965 the son of Dennis and Sandra (Lyons) Nielsen. He worked at the Golf Course of Illinois as a superintendent and belonged to the Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents. Daniel loved sports, especially baseball, and he played in the minor leagues in the Pittsburgh Pirates organization. Daniel passed away December 12, 2005 after a short battle with Pancreatic cancer. Survivors include his wrife, Kıra Nielsen nee Galioto; two sons, Tyler and Travis Nielsen; two stepsons, Zach and Nick Siedlecki; his parents, Dennis and Sandra Nielsen; a brother, Michael Nielsen, his mother-in-law, Maridy Galioto; and brothers-in-law, Brien(Jennifer) Galioto, and Marcus Galioto and many aunts & uncles. Arrangements by Skaja Bachmann Funeral Home. In lieu of flowers memorials to the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network (PanCan), 2141 Rosecrans Ave. Suite 7000 El Segundio, CA 90245 or

masses appreciated. Information 815-455-2233.

Funeral

BARBARA J. SPESS

Age 71, of Northville, passed away Dec. 19. She is survived by her loving sisters Evalyn V. Garner and Charlene Priest, Private family services will be held. Arrangements entrusted to Casterline Funeral Home, Inc.

BETTY JANE SCHRADER

Age 89, of Traverse City, and for-merty of Northville, died Tuesday, December 13, 2005 at Munson Medical Center. She was the widow of Nelson Schrader, Jr. Survivors include her children, Nelson (Diane) Schrader, III, of Traverse City, Sarah (Wade) Deal of Onekema and 4 grandchildren. Memorial services will be held at a later time. Memorial contributions in Betty's name may be directed to The National Kidney Foundation. The family is being served by the Reynolds-Jonkhoff Funeral Home of Traverse City.

OBITUARY POLICY

The first seven lines of an obituary are published free of charge. After that, there is a fee of \$3 a line. Pictures may be published for \$25.

*Deadline for obituaries is Tuesday at 10:00 a.m. for publication in Thursday's newspaper.

For more information, call 888-999-1288, or contact your funeral home. *Holiday deadhnes are subject to change.

TOWNSHIP BRIEFS

Graduation

The newest Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) members were honored at the Northville Township Board of Trustees meeting last Thursday for completing the basic training program that began in October and ended in November.

Emergency Community Response volunteers are now on an emergency call out list in the event of a natural disaster, major event or any support to police and fire operations.

The next basic CERT training class will start at 7 pm. Jan. 25. Interested volunteers can download

application an twp.northville.mi.us/cert.htm or call Detective. Sgt. Matthew Mayes or Samantha Bowlin at (248) 349-9400.

Holiday trash pickup

Northville Township trash collec-tor Painter & Ruthenberg will observe the Christmas holiday Monday, Dec. 26 and the New Years holiday on Monday, Jan. 2. Trash pickup for those weeks will be delayed one day.

Closed

Township Hall will be closed Dec. 23-27 for the Christmas Holiday.

Polar Bear Plunge

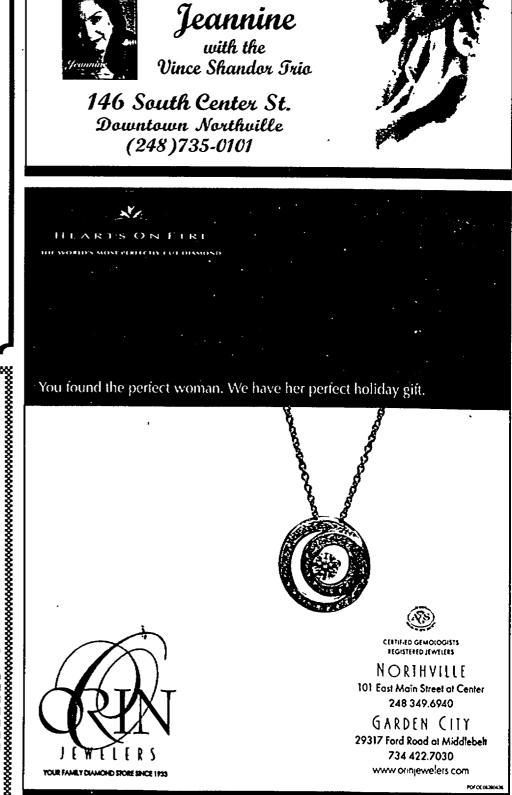
of Novi

The Kiwanis Polar Bear Plunge along with the Northville Chamber Fire and Ice Festival will take place noon, Jan. 28. There will also be a pre-costume parade from the Water Wheel Health Club to the plunge site at 11:45 a.m. Registration begins at 10 a.m. and a post-Plunge party will follow. For more information, contact John Miller at (248) 596-9193.

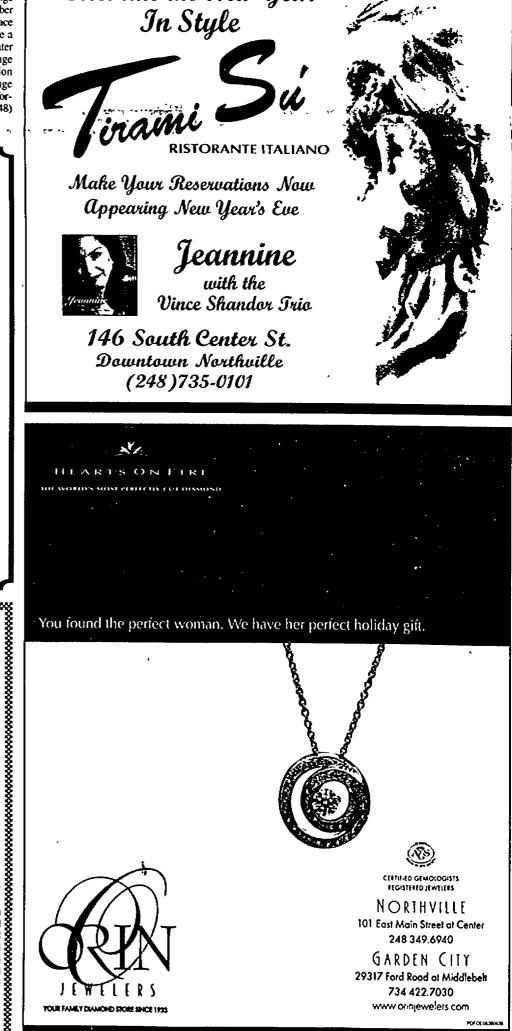
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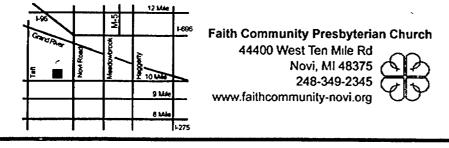


You're Invited

Christmus Eve Services Saturday, December 24 at 5 00, 8 00 & 11.00 PM 5 00 PM - Family Orientated Service 8.00 PM - Traditional Candlelight Service 11.00 PM - Traditional Candlelight Service - Communion

Christmas Day Service Sunday, December 25, one service at 10 30 AM

New Year's Day Service Sunday, January 1, one service at 10 30 AM



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Photos by LISA ROOSE-CHURCH/GANNETT NEWS SERVICES New Hudson resident Damian Jacob Phillips, standing, turns to apologize to the parents of 2-year-old Jack

Gallon, who died in July 2004 when Phillips ran over t boy as Phillips drove through a pavilion at the Island State Recreation Area in Green Oak Township.

OME RENOVATION

SENTENCE: man gets jail time for killing Northville boy, 2

continued from 1A

Livingston County Circuit Judge Stanley J. Latreille sentenced Phillips to nine months in the Livingston County Jail and five years of probation.

"It wasn't enough for what he did," Robert Gallon said.

Latreille acknowledged that the case was "heart-wrenching," but he said he had "no compelling reasons to depart from the (sentencing) guidelines," which were zero months to nine months in the county jail.

"This is the kind of case that makes you wonder why God allows such evil things to happen," Latreille said. "I accept the verdict of the jury."

The 25-year-old Phillips, of New Hudson, had been charged with manslaughter with a motor vehicle, a 15-year felony, but the three-man, nine-woman jury convicted him of the lesser charge, negligent homicide.

Assistant Prosecutor Pamela Maas and probation officials recommended prison time. Maas acknowledged the Gallon family's

based her recommendation on information that was excluded by the judge from the trial, including witnesses who reportedly observed Phillips "carelessly and recklessly" using a tractor on the beach earlier in the day.

Parents in the area were so concerned with Phillips' actions that they moved their children off the beach that day, Maas noted. "This was beyond ordinary

negligence," Maas said. Defense attorney Mitchell

Ribitwer disagreed. "Every negligent homicide involves a death," the defense attorney said. " ... He didn't ... He didn't

intend to kill Jack Gallon. There is no reason to go outside the guidelines." Prior to sentencing, Phillips

apologized to the toddler's parents, saying, "I would gladly exchange places with him."

"You lied," Robert Gallon replied. Phillips said he "accepts

responsibility" for the accident that killed Jack Gallon, and loss. He also noted that his family suffered, too, and that he has lost two jobs and a career in law enforcement as a result of the fatal accident.

"I accept responsibility," Phillips said. "I am, however, begging (that) the punishment not include incarceration" so he can stay home and care for his ailing mother.

Latreille denied the defense's request to allow Phillips to begin serving his jail sentence after-Christmas.

Jack's mother, Marianne Gallon, described Phillips as an "arrogant" man who "had a bad attitude" that day at the park. The Gallon couple agreed they did not believe Phillips' trial testimony that he was "riding the brake" while driving through the pavilion, or that he exercised care while driving the Dodge Ram

through the narrow pavilion. Marianne Gallon, who was at the park with her son the day he was killed, said Phillips lied about the details from that day.

"He took my son's life."

Marianne Gallon, right, and **Robert Gallon, second** from right, listen as a **Livingston County Circuit** Court judge sentences the man convicted of running over and killing their son, Jack Gallon, 2, in July 2004

Marianne Gallon said, noting that her daughter witnessed the accident. "Unfortunately Jack's not here. He should be?

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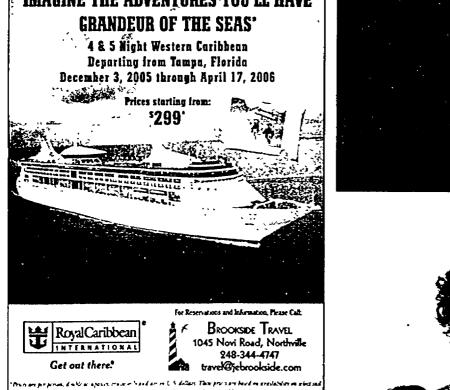
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Hanging in there

Holiday ornament sale benefits Maybury State Park, commemorates former sanatorium

By Tracy Mishler RECORD STAFF WRITER

Dr. John Romanik remembers the long, hard years he spent working at the Maybury Sanatorium.

From 1964 to 1969, Romanik worked with children suffering from Tuberculosis and said he will never forget those who died.

"Tuberculosis killed more Americans than any war ever did," Romanik said. "The fact that today's modern medicine has made such good strides toward preventing this disease is amazing.

Romanik is among many Northville residents who anticipate the completion of the Maybury Sanatorium history trails at Maybury State Park.

"Anything that restores the memory of what Tuberculosis did to this country is very important," he said. "It's important, especially for the young people, to know about this disease and what took place on that land from 1919 to 1969."

The Friends of Maybury are currently offering hand-made glass ornaments for a \$20 taxdeductible donation with proceeds going toward the trail markers of the former sanatorium.

"I just saw the saw ornaments and I plan to pick one up," Romanik said. "It's such a great thing and I'm flabbergasted at how many they've already sold."

Holiday donations

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Jennifer McFall, historical commission member and board member of the Friends of Maybury State Park, said when



Koliday ornaments

What: Hand-painted glass ornaments with Santa Claus holding the original American Lung Association seal for Tuberculosis.

Price: \$20 tax-deductible donation Sold: Tuscan Cafe, Northville District Library, Maybury State Park offices, American Spoon, Northville Candle & Gifts and Northville

Camera & Digital Imaging Contact: Ornaments can also be purchased by calling Jennifer McFall at (248) 374-9928.

"It's such a great thing and I'm flabbergasted at how many they've already sold."

> Dr. John Romanik Resident, Northville

completed, the project will have cost about \$500,000.

With only \$2,000 raised so far, McFall said she hoped the ornaments would bring enough money to have the trail completed by Fall 2006.

Ornaments will remain on sale after Christmas.

"The markers are for the self guided tour to inform people about the story behind the sanatorium," McFall said.

"The markers will have pictures and quotes representing the people who worked and lived there and showing where the buildings would have been before they were demolished."

The ornaments, contributed bу the American Lung Association, were hand-painted

SOUTH LYON

IHEATER Sewly Renovated Theater

Starts Fri Dec 23^h

by internationally acclaimed artist and Michigan native Peggy Abrams in 2004.

Haggerty, Chrystal spokesperson for the American Lung Association, said the ornaments were created for the association's 100th anniversary.

The design painted on each ornament is Santa Claus holding the original American Lung Association seal, which is based on what our organization was founded for." Haggerty said. "(The seal) represents the treatment, care and research for Tuberculosis.

Haggerty said the association was approached by the Friends of Maybury to help with the project and there was no way they could pass it up.

We thought it was a perfect partnership since we were tounded solely to treat Tuberculosis," she said. "We



Photo by JOHN HEIDER/NORTHVILLE RED

Jennifer McFall, left, and Dr. John Romanik are Friends of Maybury who are selling Christmas ornamnents to raise funds for the state park and maintain its trail system.

didn't have any grant money to give them and it was just coincidental that we still had several cases of the ornaments."

Haggerty said the association has donated 12 cases and will keep giving more as long as the

ornaments are selling. These ornaments are so beautiful and for a really good

cause," McFall said. "People really do need to learn the history the sanatorium and we're trying to help them do that."

Tracy Mishler is a staff writer for the Northville Record. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 107, or at tmishler@gannett.com



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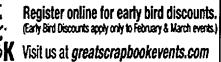
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One empty chair

Local families find ways to remember loved ones during holidays

By Tracy Mishler

RECORD STAFF WRITER

Nolan and R.J. Transou miss their mom, Linda, but will always remember the good times they shared together.

The boys father, Robert, said although his wife died in June from skin cancer at the age of 35, the family won't shy away from their memories of her.

"It is hard recognizing her chair will be empty this Christmas," said the 36-year-old Northville Township resident. "We've just taken it a day at a time.

"The boys know what happened to their mom, and I think it's helped all of us being able to talk about it."

Transou said he and his sons, Nolan, 7, and R.J., 9, will take a different approach to Christmas this year and visit family members instead of having a house full of guests.

"The holidays are hard because we know she's not with us," Transou said. "But we will always keep her memories with us and continue on."

Like the Transou family, many people have an empty chair during the holidays.

"When a family member dies, that changes the structure of the family," said Maryjane Bottonari, director of BraveHeart Grief Services and Arbor Hospice and Home Care. "Many families are very reluctant to bring up a loved ones name because it's difficult.

"You need to find a way to bring that person's name into the conversation - to bring that person's memory into the group and bring their presence back."

Grief support

Bottonari said the Transou's are among many families who have sought help through grief support groups.

"Being among other children who've lost a loved one really helped my boys," Transou said. "It made it easier for them to talk about it and understand their feelings."

Remembering loved ones

Holidays can create feelings of dread and anxiety in those who are bereaved. Creating new rituals and traditions that pay tribute to the memory of the deceased is one way to survive the holidays when a loved one has died. Here are some suggestions of what you can do:

• Tell stories behind the ornaments on the Christmas Tree and the role your loved one played in making those memories.

 Piace a candle on the table and light it during meal time in memory of your loved one.

· Place a trinket, stocking or balloon in the seat where your loved one would have sat.

· Encourage children to draw pictures and create gifts inspired by their memories of the deceased to give to other family members.

· Bring your loved ones favorite food to share at a holiday dinner.

 Decorate a wreath with pictures and items that were loved by the person and place it at his or her grave.

. If it's hard to be in the same place where you spent holidays together with your loved one, opt for a change of scenery and go somewhere new. Source Bravelleart Gref Services

Grief Support Services

Location: Tuesday, Northville Library, 212 W. Cady St.: Wednesday, Arbor Hospice and Home Care, 331 Center St.

Time: 7-8:30 p.m.

What: Group begins Jan. 17-March 7 and is open to both city and township residents. Non-residents are also welcome. No fee is required.

Contact: Sandy Van Koevering for advanced registration at (248) 348-4980.

Bottonari said many people do different things to keep the empty chair filled.

Some people will put a balloon in the chair or a special trinket at the person's place setting," she said. Some people hang holiday stockings and have family members put special memories in it.

There's is no right way to grieve and there is no set time limit. Everyone is different, and people we've loved and lost should not be forgotten." Transou said even though his wife of 11 years in

mom and every time we look at the tree we think of her.' Transou also said Linda loved cardinal birds,

which are scattered throughout the home. "Losing someone close feels like a hole in your heart," said Sandy Van Koevering, grief support

October is gone, he will always feel her presence. "When Linda died, we were given a tree to plant

in our backyard in her memory," he said. "The boys placed a garden stone under it with messages to their

representing their mother, Linda, who died in June from skin cancer.

Photo by TRACY MISHLER/NORTHVILLE RECORD

Robert Transou and his sons, Nolan, 7, (left) and R.J., 9, (right) hold a glass cardinal

coordinator for BraveHeart. "Because society tells

us we're suppose to have the perfect holiday, people are afraid to show their grief. "Keeping the person's memory alive is what's important. There may be an empty chair at the table. but the person's spirit who sat their will live on."

Tracy Mishler is a staff writer for the Northville Record. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 107, or at tmishler@gannett.com



Sounds of the season!

Alterra Wynwood of Northville and other area residents listen as Brownie troops 89 and 1050 sing carols recently at the assisted living facility. The girls are first and second graders at Ridge Wood Elementary School in Northville.

BIRTHS



Elizabeth Claire (Libby) Morante

David and Jennifer Morante of Northville are proud to announce the birth of their daughter, Elizabeth Claire (Libby) Morante on Sept. 17, 2005. Libby was born at St. Joseph's Hospital, Ann Arbor and weighed 8 pounds and 13 ounces. Proud grandparents are Karl and Beth Sekerka and Luis and Judy Morante, and great-great Aunt Blanche Gaurilowicz, all of Novi.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF NORTHVILL

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Submitted Photo

Drink up: Northville officials say city water is lead-free

Follow-up test 🗋 clears up previous lead content concerns, officials say

By Maureen Johnston RECORD STAFF WRITER

The City of Northville's water is in the clear.

A second test at the home that turned up lead showed the initial results were a fluke, said Jim Gallogly, the city's department of public works director.

"I know I feel a lot better seeing the results," he said. "I just think that people don't have to worry.

"We don't believe lead is a problem."

Linda Lestock is just happy she is back to drinking from her

"I'm relieved, l really am."

> Linda Lestock Resident, City of Northville

tap without concerns.

After agreeing this summer to the city's routine measure for lead and copper, she was as surprised as anyone levels exceeded the federal limit.

"I'm relieved, I really am." Lestock said. "I didn't think there was a problem. Just like (Gallogly) said he thought it was a fluke and it was."

Her 17-year-old Abbey Knoll home was the only one of five houses tested throughout the city that showed lead, triggering a state-mandated information campaign earlier this month.

"It's unfortunate we were forced to alarm people," Gallogly said. "But it's good for people to know. It's good common sense to be running the tap a little first.

"I wish we could have done it a little softer way."

The city's most recent samples at the Lestock house were from the kitchen tap and the downstairs powder room initially tested.

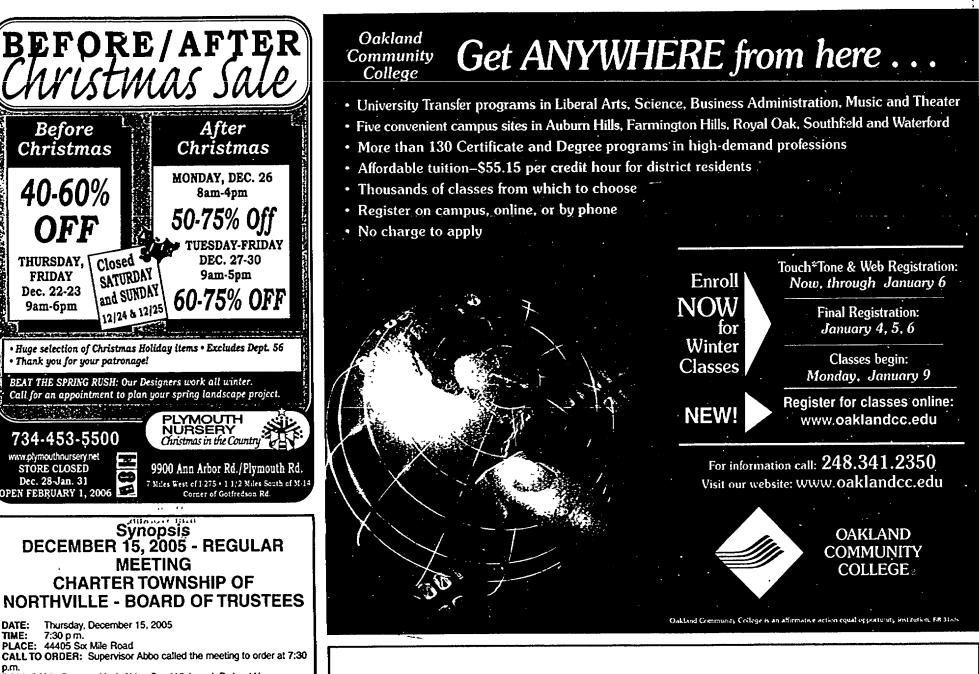
Gallogly said water sitting in pipes in the little-used room was probably the reason the first test showed lead.

Maureen Johnston can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 103, or via e-mail at mjohnston@gannett.com.



Photo by MICHAEL SHUSTER

Jim Gallogly, the city of Northville's Department of Public Works director, and city res ident Linda Lestock are once again tipping their glass to Northville's water supply.



p.m. ROLL CALL - Present: Mark Abbo, Sue Hillebrand, Richard Henni Marjorie Banner, Marv Gans, Christopher Roosen, Brad Werner PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: 1. Agendas: Approve Consent and Regular Agendas - approved 2. Appointments, Presentations, Resolutions & Announcements: A. Cruzen's Emergency Response Team (C E.R.T) graduates approved B. Appoint Janet Naughton to NYA - approved C. Appoint Michael Hale & Tim Sheehan to the Ordinance Review Committee - approved D. Re-appoint David Hursey & Bill James to Election Canvasser approved E. Re-appoint Ken Romine to NYA – approved F. Re-appoint Carol Poenisch to P & R – approved G. Re-appoint Kellianne Nagy to Board of Review – approved
 H. Re-appoint James Nield to Planning Commission – approved **3. Public Hearings:** A. 2nd Public Hearing - Clement Road Water & Sanitary Sewer SAD no action - removed B. CDBG Public Hearing – Budget – conducted and budget approved 4. Brief Public Comments & Questions: Resident expressed concerns re: Six Mile Rd. improvements 5. New Business: A. Solid Waste Collection/Disposal Contract - approved B. Booster Water Station - Engineering Design Services - approved C. Police 800 Megahertz Control Station - approved D. Seven Mile Sub Area Plan - approved E. Liquor License Change - George's Senate Bar & Grill - approved F. Enhanced Access Policy - approved G. GIS Fee Schedule - approved

H. Clement W & S Extension - Change order #4 - approved

M. 2006 Township Holiday Schedule - approved N. Board of Trustees 2006 Meeting Dates - approved O. Michigan Social Security Number Privacy Act - approved

J. Financial Institutions for 2006 - approved

K. W & S Meter Installation Vehicle - approved L. W & S Sanitary Sewer Equipment - approved

11. Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

approved

approved

Woodlands

(12-22-05 NR 259317)

Depression strikes millions indiscriminately

Depression is MOST dangerous when it goes

unrecognized. Always be aware of the threat,

and don't always believe everything you feel.

Public Senice message from Save + Succe Excernise per of Pa

6. Unfinished Business: None 7. Ordinances: None

1. Haggerty Five Gateway Center - Utility Agreement & Resolution

P. Year-end Budget Amendments - approved Q. Land Agreement with the Northville Public School District

8. Bills Psyable: A. Bills payable in the amount \$1,291,113 89 - approved 9. Board Communication & Reports: Reports from the following were given: Mark Abbo, Sue Hillebrand, Richard Henningsen, Chip Snider, Marjorie Banner, Marv Gans, Christopher Roosen, Brad Werner

10. Any other business: Resident spoke on the High School Traffic in

Its enset can be so subtle you for t return it.

RECOGNIZE

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RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED. SUE A. HILLEBRAND, CMC

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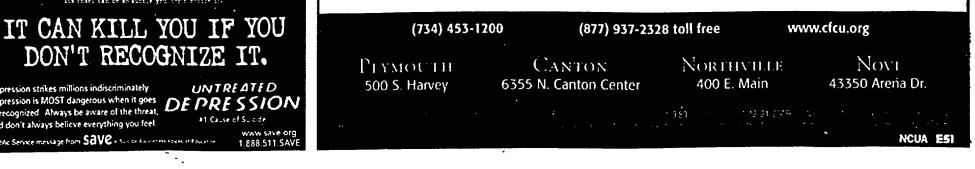
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2005 All Aglow ~Illumination for Education MOTHERS' CLUB OF NORTHVILLE

On Friday, December 9, 2005, downtown Northville twinkled with the lighting of the tree in recognition of over 300 donations in the name of loved ones. "Throwing the switch" were PTA Presidents' children Adam and Rachel Crittenden, Sam McCutcheon, Hank Blickle, and Steven Collareno. This acknowledgment of someone special, whether anonymously or by honoring or memorializing them, helped raise over \$10,000 for the educational enrichment of Northville School Children. Mothers' Club of Northville wishes to extend its sincere appreciation to all the generous contributors.

DIAMOND - IN HONOR OF Shirley Brost Children Rob, Jana, Rich, Randy, & Caralyn Mary Cicala Dennis Colligan & NHS Staff Lynne & Daniel Darga Grandchildren Richie, R.J., Maddy, & Nate Chad Kelterborn **Trevor Kelterborn** Anna & Ty Kilar Charles Lane The Staff @ NHS The Northville School Children The Northville School Children The Northville School Children The Great Teachers, Staff, & Administration of Northville Publicc Schools Our Troops fighting for freedom

DIAMOND - IN MEMORY OF Bernard R. Ballelli James H. Karoub Nell LePla Mark Malfese Judy Manarina Irv McLeod Claire & Chet Nowaczyk Norman David Postma Paul,Paul Jr.&Jim Shock&Fred Smith Doris Sixt Brian Zatkoff Sandy Zatkoff & John Kogut

RUBY - IN HONOR OF All Kids of Northville Parents & Staff at Amerman Amerman Staff My children's birth parents Children of Northville The Children of Northville Children of NPS Marie Durham Graduating Senior Andrea Engles Scott Evans Tad Evans Clará' Mae Fecht David Alexander Fecht Edward Hogan **Bradley Hogan** Karleck & Tollie Johnson Art & Agnes Kloian Brad & Stephen Lempke Jack, Helen, Tom&Eileen Lysaght 1ary Lynn,Brette,Amanda&Allison Mer, Lucy & Billy The Northville School Children The Northville School Children The Northville School Children The Northville School Children Office of Instruction of the NPS Jim and Cornelia Porter Mike Rabin Jaimee Risher Azad Sarafian Graham, Hannah&Sean Smith Patricia A. Stringer Zach & Jacob Taylor Dr. & Mrs. Alfred S. Thomas Bruce and Jane Wheatley Winchester Students & Staff Graduating Senior Kelsey Wright Mr. & Mrs. Richard Zabell



Chris & Butch Prain Don & Pat Probe Roy Sather Todd Schoenheide Mindy Sievert Nick Simkins Erin Sullivan Sonia Swigart Harvey & Phyllis Verhines Bessie Vest Mr. & Mrs. Emil Zabell

EMERALD - IN HONOR OF Eileen Beaugrand Irene Boelter Irma Boerma **Betty Bolitho** Robert Bolitho Elizabeth, Abby, & Joselyn Cadicamo Nate & Sam Cadicamo Carmine Castellano Kacey & Carter Cerretani The Children of Northville Mandy Deluca **Michael Deluca** Demarti team, Meads Mill 7th grade teachers Lauren & Caroline Deneszczuk Tammy Donovan Melissa & Jackson Doyle Mark Fisher Louis & Josephine Folino Mary Kay Gallagher&Moraine Office Staff Roy Hall, Hillside Middle School Lawrence E. Hastings The Hawksford Kids Principal Jim Cracraft & Asst Principal Heidi Capraro Hillside Middle School Teachers & Staff Hillside Teachers-Team 7B Hillside Team 7B Mrs. Keeler - Moraine Elementary Phyllis Kirkpatrick Helen Laidlaw Shirley Lockman Liz, David, & Joe Maier Chris Mantay Kevin Mantay Olivia McCutcheon Sam McCutcheon Meads Mill Families Susan Mihalik **Eleanor Miller Moraine Staff** Matthew Morrissey Charlotte Morrow Mark Morrow Adam Nix Andrew Nix Ashley Nix Northville HS Staff Northville Schools The Northville School Children The Northville School Children Northville Students Northville Broncos 11s 2005 State Champions Northville H.S. Freshmen Girls Basketball Team 17-0 Northville Public Schools Staff Northville Public School Staff **Carlton & Dorothy Olson** Karen Poulas, our Sr. All Night Party Queen! Dave Rabahy, Troop 777 Scouputmaster Carol & Mac Richardson's Grandchildren Joan Riley Ruth "Gram" Roesly **Roseberry Family** Jerry Rupley **Karen Stephens**

Patricia Stringer

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Jacob Taylor Jake Taylor Zachary Taylor Zach Taylor Kathy Thompson, Thornton Creek Teacher & Hillside Team 8B Brett Yuhasz Mike Zubor

EMERALD - IN MEMORY OF

Scott Anderson Nancy Jane Baldwin Attila Bandy Niles Beaugrand John D. Beeghly Susan Birdsall **Dorothy Bray** Delores Brennan Irvin Burry. Swede & Marjorie Carlson Anastasia Challis Lillian Cole G. Donavan Dean **Angelo DeRubeis** Harry Ellis **Gail Fournier** Máry Gallagher Jonathan Galloway George Gillies Carl Hanner James M. Harvey **Becky Hilger** Becky Hilger Kasi Kimbrell Dick & Barb Kruse Maurice Kuhlman **Dave Langston Rachel Lypka** Orin & Mary Mazzoni Irv McLeod Susan Mihalik Susan Mihalik-Her light forever shines Wyndham Mills Lewyn Minard Hugh J. Montgomery Justin Morris John Patrick Naughton, Sr. Stan & Betty Nunn Marie Ottino Victor & Margaret Pagano Johnson & Dorothy Quick Kenneth Jay Rosselot Peter & Ann Russin Lynn T. Schlicher George Stadtmiller **Dave Sturtz** Erin Sullivan Alice M. Taylor Mick & Geri Thomas Gordon (Lee) Townsend Frank A. Trott Helen Tyszka Wayne & Judy Van Houten Peggy Wagner Donald & Mary Wolfe Grace Yelanich

Gabriella Dittenber Chris Ford Mary Kay Gallagher Ardyce Hebal Hillside Team 6A teachers Hillside Staff **Grandma Holmes** Eric Maise Kelly Maise Zachary Matviku Sandi Maynard Caitlin McKee Daniel McKee McKee Grandchildren Mr. Tim McMaster Myrle McPherson & Andy McPherson Moraine Office and Staff Karen Motz NHS Staff The Northville School Children NHS Make a Difference Students Norhville Mothers' Club Northville Board of Education Our Grandsons Aidan & Simon Olson Jon Palmer **Ron Peper Ryan William Poulos** Sarah Elisabeth Poulos Mary Kay Pryce Mrs. Lola Ramey Lisa Rohde Ann Quay, Russ, & Rob Rushing Pearl E. Stephens Pearl E. Stephens **Raymond Stephens** Zachary & Jacob Taylor Jacob Taylor **Zachary Taylor Rob Watson** Alex Webb Amy Webb Rita Werner Griffin Working Grandfia Yocky Angelo Zannas Sylvia Zannas

SAPPHIRE - IN MEMORY OF Grandma & Grandpa Abraham Marianne Argenta Pearl & Craig Black Josephine Bognetti Margaret Carbott Sharon Carbott

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RUBY - IN MEMORY OF

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Edward Ancypa Irene Ancypa **Rob Boss** Steven Carter **Dorothy Clarkson Elaine Cracraft** Margie Davis Leonard Durham Barbara and Joe Eckert Alice Ely Scott Evans Jane Fidler **Phyllis Haist** John Handley Dad/Grandpa Tom Heenan Millie Herman Edward Hoban Julie Houle Roy Jobin Alvin Klarr Susan Krywko Mr. & Mrs. Ernest Lamberty Joseph Lombardo **Rachel Lypka** Susan Mihalik Justin Morris Christopher Mudge **Robert Mudge** Helen Neilen Dr. George Pappas Barbar Peraino

SAPPHIRE - IN HONOR OF

Debbie Arindaeng Joanne Beeghly Boy Scout Troop 755 Shelia Brown Charles Calcagno Marge Carmona Joe Cislo Dennis Colligan Jim Conzelman Diane Costlow Chris Cronin Joe & Flo Denton Brian D. Cornett Mark J. Foucher, Sr. Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Furdak Jack Gallon Orland Hougen Erin Mairead Hickey Ron Horwath George Krause Mr. Robert Line **Raechel Lypka** Mary Maczka Kathy Malek Judy Manarina George M. Marston Frances & Joseph Martin Doug McFeggan Susan Mihalik Jim & Penny Poulos John Raak **Phyllis Raines** Margot Schaumann Walter & Helen Siepierski Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Spigarelli Charlie Stilec Mike & Georgina Traicoff Novena Woods

PEARL - IN HONOR OF Heather Fuflough Debbie LaLonde Northville Teachers Northville School Children Our Grandson Stanley Olson Christine Parnin Alyssa Peterson Grandpa Stack Denise Stamm Bob Taylor Laura Taylor

PEARL - IN MEMORY OF Cynthia Butcher Eleanor Dzendzel Wilfred Koilpillai James "Big Jim" Montgomery Lona Sprader Grandma Stack

Living room musicians are stars at the Art House

Novi Bowl is definitely on Santa's "good" list On Christmas Eve, the Novi Road entertainment facility will host Northville Civic Concern's family dinner. The event will include dinner at 6 p.m., followed by open bowling. Novi Bowl has collected for the agency throughout the year. Civic Concern director Marlene Kunz said. Anyone who still wants to get involved — volunteering or bringing cookies, gifts or appetizers — can call (248) 344-1033.

There's still time to get that one-size-fits-all gift of certifichecks from the Northville Chamber of Commerce. Buy \$10 or \$25 denominations online at www.northville.org or at the chamber office, 195 S. Main \$1. For more information, call (248) 349-7640.

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Speaking of planning ahead ... Now is a great time to set a few goals for 2006, according to financial advisor Nicholas Hopwood. He said you need to develop rituals to increase the odds of achieving goals. Unlike discipline and willpower, which are pushes, he said a ritual is a pull. When you add powerful emotions and deeply held values to an activity, it no longer requires

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discipline or willpower to accomplish. Instead, it turns into a ritual.

If you ran into a slew of tiny shoppers pushing baskets in Target, chances are they were students from Winchester Elementary School. The students raised \$3,441 and had fun spending the loot, shopping for the Toys-for-Tots Foundation.

A variety of community projects will benefit from 2005 grants from the Northville Community Foundation, including anti-

smoking programs at Meads Mill and Hillside middle schools. Old Village School equipment for non-verbal students, the Northville senior adult program and 'scholarships for 2006 Northville High School seniors.

To bid a fond farewell, the city is hosting a reception 5-7 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 4 for Northville City Manager Gary Word. He accepted a position as village manager of Islamorada, Fla. The reception will be at the Northville Senior Community Center, including a brief program at 6 p.m. "It really is a community open house," said assistant city manager Nicki Bateson. "Everyone is invited so people can say 'hi' and 'good-bye' and 'good luck.""

Sue Laabs spends the third Saturday of each month strumming her guitar and singing folk songs with other performing residents at the Northville Art House. "I have always just been a living room musician," she said. "It takes a lot of guts to get up there and perform in front of people, but it is just a lot of fun." Laabs said the open-mic, acoustic night is full of residents, like her, growing up in the 70s.

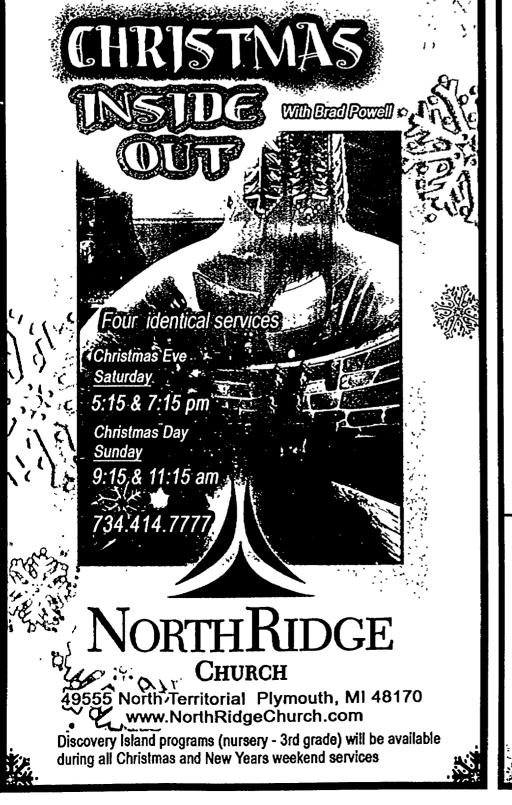


Photo by MICHAEL SHUSTER/NORTHVILLE RECORD

Jonathan (7), Patrick (5) and Jerome Zaremba take a break from shopping to enjoy some Ice cream at the American Spoon during Guys Night in down town Northville last Friday.







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Thursday, December 22, 2005-NORTHVILLE RECORD 13A

Are you on the list?

Library readies final donor list for publication

By Maureen Johnston RECORD STAFF WRITER

RECORD STAFF WHITEK

Al and Barbara Glover's names are on the books.

The Northville couple and nearly 200 other donors helped create the painted mural bookshelf in the Northville District Library.

The five-year fund-raising campaign ends Dec. 31. One-time or cumulative giving must reach \$250 by the deadline to earn a book designated as indicated by the donor.

selecting some-

thing in the next month or so," said

assistant library

"We'il

director

Mannisto.

Library holiday hours Today until 9 p.m. 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Dec. 27-29 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Dec. 30 Donations must be postmarked by Dec. 31.

Books available

37 one-inch spine @\$250 30 two-inch spine @\$1,000 3 three-inch spine @ \$5,000 1 atlas at \$10,000

She and her husband Keith contributed to the endowment fund, intended as an

be

Anne

ongoing income source for enhancing library services. ' Donations recognize family members or friends

and serve as a memorial, Mannisto said. They also qualify for Michigan tax credit of 50 percent. Former library board member Barbara Glover.

now endowment fund chair, came up with the idea for the original painting, Mannisto said.

"She has been the guiding force in establishing the mural."

Since the fund was created in 2001, people have contributed more than \$150,000, Mannisto said. The library board will designate interest proceeds from the total investment.

About 70 spines are still available. Mike and Karri Mohr of The Painted Garden

created the "trompe l'oeil" mural, meaning at a distance it looks real enough to "fool the eye," Mannisto said. They will add the final names in January, she said.

Resident, club and business names currently adorn richly colored bindings.

"It's very, very eye-catching," Mannisto said. "It does get a lot of people looking at names to see if they recognize anyone's.

"The mural is just so unusual. If you stand several feet away, it looks real."

In addition to various size volumes, the mural



Photo by MiCHAEL SHUSTER/Nortwei Pecond Anne Mannisto said local residents can still contribute to the library's mural campaign.

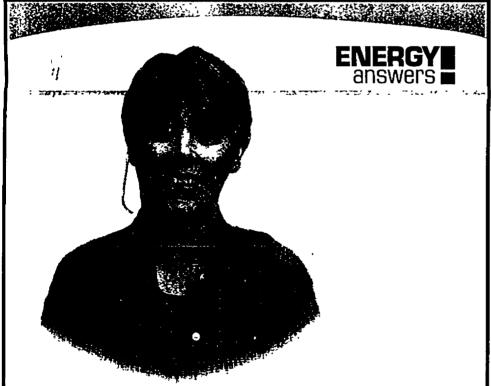
"It does get a lot of people looking at names to see if they recognize anyone's."

> Anne Mannisto Assistant Director, Northville District Library

features whimsical touches such as mice peeking out from behind books and a little girl reading. Donors write their check to the Community Foundation of Southeastern Michigan, which administers the library's endowment fund. In return, the library sends a card asking how they would like a name to appear, Mannisto said.

Forms are available at the 212 W. Cady St. library or online at www.northvillelibrary.org.

Maureen Johnston can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 103, or via e-mail at mjohnston@gannell.com.



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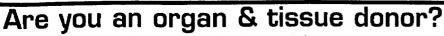
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- Find out how you can get help today. Visit
- consumersenergy.com/energyanswers, or call 800-477-5050. A customer service representative is ready to help.

Consumers Energy

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OPINION

Northville Record

Rich Ramhoff PRESIDENT & PUBLISHER **Grace Perez Perry** GENERAL MANAGER **David Aguilar** EDITOR **Richard Perlberg** EXECUTIVE EDITOR

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.

Wishing you a hopeful holiday

Editor, David Aguilar,

Northville Record, 104

W. Main St., Northville,

MI 48167. Fax: (248)

daguilar@gannett.com.

349-9832. E-mail:

The holidays don't always arrive as we hope. Rarely, are they wrapped quite like we imagined, or delivered at just the right time.

Despite all our planning and best intentions, somehow there always seems to be one or two projects left incomplete.

We crave bountiful holidays, steeped in presents and awash

with good cheer. We address recent loss of a loved one. best wishes to those we love and send them into the night, hoping the weekend snow storm does not hasten their swift arrival.

We plan, coordinate and research. Then shop, and shop some more, hoping our industry will yield happy memories, moments to one day cherish.

Let's not forget What do you think? simple gifts: acts We welcome your

of kindness. Letter to the Editor. Let us remem-Please include your ber that many this name, address and holiday season phone number for verwill go without ification. We ask your - without food, letters be 400 words shelter, affection, or less. We may edit family and hope. for clarity, space and Some will content. Letters to the

make a hospital bed their holiday home. Others are stationed overseas as part of a military assignment.

Some families are grieving the

A card, letter or phone call is sometimes the only gift the anonymous among us need. Take a moment this holiday season to remember how good most of us have it.

Then do something to make someone else's holiday a little brighter. That's a holiday tradition worth preserving.

City: Residents deserve public praise

A handful of Northville Township residents should be commended for their hard work and dedication upon completing the Community Emergency Response Team program. The township can now call upon 10 trained residents in the event of an emergency to help in any given situation. Having committed residents serve as backup to our police and fire departments is very impor tant to the community. It's not too late to sign up for the next program, starting Jan. 25. Getting involved and helping protect the ones you love and the place you live is what makes Northville a solid community.

CERT-ified!



The Northville Township Board of Trustees awarded graduates of the first Community Emergancy Response Team with certificates for completion of the basic training program.

Will dramatic change spark Michigan rebound?

Remember the old adage that it's always darkest just before dawn?

I'm inclined to believe that the potential for a real revival of our economy is lurking under the superficial but very painful surface froth on our present economic misery.

As evidence, consider this: "The bad news is

that there is an enormous crisis in the automobile industry; it's a terrific challenge to the state, the companies, the workers, the unions. But the good news is that it's creating a sense of urgency that will help get some things done in the industry that needed to be done for a long, long time.

That's the word from David Cole, the highly respected president of the Center for Automotive Research. Cole's point is that if you want to get big and important things done, it often takes a crisis to motivate people to make tough choices.

Phil Power "My biggest fear about what could happen to the domestic auto industry," Cole says, "is for people not to take sufficiently radical steps to get the industry back on its feet."

"The worst thing that could happen is to wake up some day and discover the entire industry is dead, the victim of a thousand little cuts.

Cole is absolutely right, of course. The entire auto industry (and much of manufacturing, for that matter) is in the middle of an enormous transformation of its old business model.

Today's economic realities will require labor and management to collaborate if both are to survive.

· The nature of work and pay. The days are over when high school dropouts could earn a good wage as an essentially unskilled auto worker Today's manufacturing requires workers with

a minimum two-year degree from a community college, and most guess that the high productivity, flexible manufacturing of the near future will require a four-year college degree. Today, it is high skills that are needed to lead to high productivity, and high productivity makes high wages economically possible.

· Competition. In the old days, auto companies competed to bring their own unique design and engineering features to their products. But going it alone today is just too expensive.

So you see Ford and General Motors collaborating on developing a new six-speed automatic transmission, and DaimlerChrysler, GM and BMW working together on hybrid technology for use on larger vehicles.

Cole calls this development "coopetition," and it's likely to become the norm in the relatively near future.

As a sign of what the future of the auto indusy might look like. Cole points to the joint venBut nearly everything else is different.

Thursday, December 22, 2005

The minimum requirement for a production employee is a two-year community college degree; many workers have four-year degrees, There are few work rules; workers are crosstrained and work in teams, so there is essentially only one job classification.

Outside suppliers, some union and some nonunion, provide some 45 different business services to the plant, including building and equipment maintenance. Management topsiders and leaders of UAW Local 723, which represents the workers, both think it's a great arrangement.

Cole thinks plants like Dundee represent a hopeful future for the auto industry. Even though the 2007 contracts between the Big Three and the UAW are in effect being re-negotiated right now, it's more likely that Dundee-like arrangements will bubble up from the bottom as local plant managers and union local leaders realize there is much more to be gained from collaboration than from conflict. ~

I suspect that when we come to write the his-tory of this period, we will realize the tipping point was the Delphi bankruptcy. It challenged the notion that great big companies would survive forever, regardless of what happened to their costs or the market. In a slightly perverse sense, it's the UAW leadership that is the greatest beneficiary of Delphi's restructuring, because it made it crystal clear that it can no longer be business as usual.

There's an old line that aptly catches today's requirement for collaboration, "Better to be in the train than on the tracks."

Here's hoping every body pays attention --- and



Schools: \$70M bond debate begins

As the new year approaches, Northville Public Schools prepares for its Feb. 28 \$70.7 million bond election. Officials are proposing construction of a new elementary school, transportation building, field house and other district-wide projects. Many questions loom. Beginning next week, the Northville Record will take an in-depth look into what voters will be asked at the polls.

Athletics: Applause, for the fans

Fans, by definition, are fanatical. Northville fans make that a good thing. The Mustangs faithful came out in force last Saturday for the Northville-Novi hockey game at Compuware arena. There were over 1,300 people in attendance and over 900 of them were backing the orange and black. That's school spirit.

RECORD CORRECTIONS

Future funeral plans

Contact information for a Dec. 8 story regarding "funerals of the future" should have read: Who: Guardian Memorial Society

Contact: (888) 251-2200 Hours: open 24-hours everyday

Web site: www.guardianmemorialsociety.com What: A nontraditional way for funeral planning in the future

Byline

Last week an article about holiday party planning should have included the author's name, Novi resident Margit Erickson.

There are three main components:

· The role of organized labor. A globalized economy means the United Auto Workers' union has lost the ability to define wages and benefits.

It could do that back when the auto industry was a closed domestic market, and relations between labor and management were confrontational but mutually dependent.

ture between DaimlerChrysler (Germany), Mitsubishi Motors Corp. (Japan) and Hyundai Motor Co. (Korea).

Located in union-friendly Dundee in Monroe County, the Global Engine Manufacturing Alliance employs a couple of hundred UAW members who earn standard union wages and benefits.

here's hoping your holidays are merry and bright,

Phil Power is a longtime observer of politics, economics and education issues in Michigan. He would be pleased to hear from readers at ppower@hcnnet.com.



U.S. presence in Irag justified

Perhaps many of our U.S. senators and representatives are just too old.

The United States has spent some of the best lives of our military and treasure to oust a tyrant and lift the possibilities for Iraqis. To choose a course summarily removing troops and abandon our currently evolving defensive military position will lead to a vicious, brutal unending civil war. This should be clearly understood. The death toll, the unrepairable new destruction and full partitioning of Iraq would certainly follow. The carnivores are at the borders of Iraq are waiting for the opportunity. We hope the Iraqis can capture the opportunity for a great future.

No one can satisfactorily write a suitable script for an attacking media or dissenting partisans when you are not thinking along the same path

> Jim Nowka Northvile

Life savers

The Northville Township rescue team responded promptly to a 911 call urged by my doctor whom I phoned after briefly losing vision. balance and muscle control. Two paramedics took a quick history, made a concise physical exam,

called in a colleague who performed a blood sugar measurement and reached the conclusion that the diagnosis was uncertain and further studies were needed. They didn't miss a thing; essentially the same conclusion was reached after a day and a half at the excellent University of Michigan Hospital, using X-ray, CAT scan and an array of blood tests in heart, brain and diabetes specialty work-ups. To this old retired M.D., the paramedics' performance seemed impressively efficient and expert, which reflects well on their training

After their professional service. policy matters intruded. Ambulance transport. restricted to local hospitals, barred my being conveyed to U of M Hospital, the location of my physicians and records of many years, and since I had become stable and ambulatory, there was no longer an emergency. That made it most reasonable to have my wife drive me to Ann Arbor for definitive medical care. The problem was that the big snow plus snow plows' roadside deposit had blocked the driveway, so she couldn't get out (The paramedies had walked in from Eight Mile Road.) So, before briefly stopping traffic to let her slip across Eight Mile Road without the usual long wait, they had cleared the driveway with my snow blower and some shovels, salted a slippery spot on the porch and refused a tip with the comment, "We like to help people." They served well beyond the call of duty and with good cheer. My wife and I think that was the best Christmas present we could have received.

> Bent G. Boving, M.D. & Renée L. Boving, M.D. Northvile

Thank you

I want to thank Donna Pallas and Barbara Davis for the fantastic article they wrote for the Victorian Trunk sale.

Also, the Chamber of Commerce and everyone involved for another very successful season at the farmers market.

There's no nicer time than Christmas to remember special people in Northville. See you in May.

> Sharon Vige Northvile

Stamped out

During this season of kindness to your fellow man and love thy neighbor, what a surprise I heard from the U.S. Post Office in Northville.

The Salvation Army Bellringers will not be allowed to stand against the building this year, as this is govemment property and no solicitors are wanted. All these years, I was under the conception that "we" were the government. I thought it

was meant "Of us, by us and for us." Was I wrong?

Mention was made that it gets too cold for the people working inside. Would their doors open and close even if the Salvation Army were not there? Could their people not put sweaters on, which is, after all, what the Salvation Army is trying to do, provide sweaters to all? Maybe it is the nerve-wracking of the "bells" that is bothersome. Could these two things have condemned the good samaritans to the corner sidewalk, without the protection of the building, which they had for years and years?

Do I have to point out that these wonderful volunteers are doing a good thing. It isn't easy standing for one or two hours out in the elements to collect a little money to help less fortunate people. This deed really brings out the meaning of the word cold.

Whoever banned these volunteers to the street, should open their eves and see the friendly people who deposit their money in the red kettles.

Shame. Shame on the post office for doing this.

All is not lost, though. Maybe their hearts will grow and be kind to those who are so desperately trying to provide for those who are in need.

A warm, giving and comfortable Merry Christmas is wished to each of them and a Happy New Year, too.

> Charlotte Zabell Northville

WHAT'S GOING ON?

ilar, editor (248) 349-1700, ext. 102 daquilar@gannett.c



tos by JOHN HEIDER/NORTHVILLE RECOR Members of the Northville High School "Treble Makers" choir, including Clara Fecht, left, entertain Thornton Creek Elementary School students with Christmas carols Monday.



Thornton Creek Elementary School students listen to the "Treble Makers."

NORTHVILLE EVENTS

Grief Support Groups

includes dinner and show.

Maybury Park/Farm Programs

LOCATION: Maybury State Park, Eight Mile Road between Beck and Napier roads. CONTACT: (248) 349-8390

Library Lines

LOCATION: 212 W. Cady St., near Northville City Hall; parking off Cady Street CONTACT: For information

about programs, services or to request or renew library materials, (248) 349-3020

Library Information

TIME/DAY: 10 a.m.-9 p.m., Monday-Thursday; 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Friday and Saturday; and 1-5 p.m., Sunday

Friends Store

DETAILS: The Friends Store,

Book Donations

ceeds benefit the library.

DETAILS: Used books and

located inside the library, offers a

veriety of gifts for all ages. All pro-

Thursday, Dec. 22 9 a.m.: Taking Off Pounds Sensibly 12:30 p.m.: Pinochle 1 p m.: Tai Chi 1 p.m.: Computer I By appointment: Massage Friday, Dec. 23 Senior Community Center closed Monday, Dec. 26 Senior Community Center closed Tuesday, Dec. 27 12:30 p.m.: Pinochle 1 p.m.: Computers I 1:30 p.m.: Games Wednesday, Dec. 28 10 a.m.: Oxycise Level I 11 a.m.: Oxycise Level II noon: Bridge 1 p.m.: Computer II By appointment: Foot reflexolo-

Senior Events

£У **Board Games**

DATE: Tuesday, ongoing TIME: 1 p.m. LOCATION: Senior Community Center, 303 W. Main St. CONTACT: (248) 349-4140

Ongoing Card Games

Bridge

Thursday, December 22, 2005-NORTHVILLE RECORD 15A





YOUR PEAK FLOW RATE & WHAT IT MEANS

lungs to move air. Knowing your personal best peak flow rate is important because it will help you monitor and manage your condition. When your measurements fall, for example, you may need more medication. A person's predicted peak flow rate is determined by genler, age, and height, but these measurer should not serve as your predicted rate. To determine your personal best, measure your peak flow when your asthma is under control, when you are suffering no symptoms, and your asthma is not bindering your normal daily activities. This number serves as your basel

At the ALLERGY AND ASTHMA CEN-TER OF MICHIGAN, we understand asthma can put limitations on the lifestyle you want to have. Under the care of Dr. Rowe, you

Your peak flow rate measures your ability can expect to learn about the newest treat-to push air from your lungs. During an asthments and medications. Our treatment proma flare-up, it becomes more difficult for your gram will allow your asthma to relinquish its center-stage role in your life for a more minor one. For questions about today's column, or to schedule an appointment, call us at (248) 473-6400. Our new office is located at 24120 Meadowbrook Road, STE 201, Novi. New patients are welcome. "The Caring Allergist Who Gets Results."

> P.S. To ensure you get the most accurate per-sonal best peak flow reading, give your optium effort during the



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Our deferred annuity plan will interest you.

f you're interested in earning high interest on your savings, tax deferred and with no-load, then we have the plan for you with Auto-Owners Insurance Company. Contributions to the

DATE/LOCATION: Tuesday, Northville Library, 212 W. Cady St.; Wednesday, Arbor Hospice and Home Care, 331 Center St.

TIME: 7-8:30 p.m. DETAILS: Groups begin Jan. 17-March 7 and are open to the community. There is no fee. Advance registration is required. Van

CONTACT: Sandy Koevering, (248) 348-4980

Art Exhibit

DATE: Through January TIME: 5-9 p.m. LOCATION: Studio 427, 122 W. Main SL Paintings DETAILS: by Stephanie Sarris will be on display. CONTACT: (248) 449-6501

Art Exhibit

DATE: Through December LOCATION: Sherrus Gallery of Fine Art. 109 N. Center St. DETAILS: This is a joint exhibit featuring two Michigan artists --abstract artist, Shadia Sassak and glass artist, Vic Leo. CONTACT: (248) 380-0470

Northville Night

DATE: New Year's Eve TIME: 5-9 p.m. LOCATION: Hillside Recreation Center, 700 W. Baseline Road DETAILS: This annual event includes giant toys, carnival games, coffee house, crafts, swimming, and dinner by Max & Erma's of Novi. Tickets are \$5 for ages 2 and under. \$10 for ages 2 to 12, and \$15 for ages 13 and up. CONTACT: Parks and Recreation, (248) 349-0203

Art Event

DATE: Friday, Jan. 6 TIME: 6 p.m.

LOCATION: Sherrus Gallery of Fine Art, 109 N. Center St.

DETAILS: This includes abstract and mixed media artist, Jeri Fellwock; abstract artist, Shadia Sassak; watercolorist, Gwen Tomkow; and acrylic/oil artist, Jeff Von Buskirk performing in 'The Painters' Play.

CONTACT: (248) 380-0470

DETAILS: The cost is \$22 and includes a lunch. The program will be "True Colors" by Barbara **DeGrazia**

College, VisTaTech Center, 18600

Schoolcraft

CONTACT: Mary Ann Stewart, (248) 449-7602

American Association of

DATE: Saturday, Jan. 7

University Women

TIME: 11:30 a.m. LOCATION:

Haggerty Road, Livonia

Open Mic Night DATE: Third Saturday of every month through May TIME: 6:15 p.m., sign-up; 7 p.m., performance LOCATION: Art House, 215 W. Cady St. DETAILS: Nonhville Arts Commission hosts this event for acoustic, folk and traditional musicians. The cost is \$5 at the door, performers are free. CONTACT: (248) 449-9950

Art Walk

DATE: First Friday of every month TIME: 5-9 p m. LOCATION: Downtown Northville DETAILS: Art galleries, arts and crafts stores and restaurants will be open; art demonstrations and exhibits available in shops. CONTACT: Tom James, Northville Camera and Digital Imaging, (248) 349-0105

Marquis Theater

LOCATION: 135 E. Main St. CONTACT: (248) 349-8110 or www.northvillemarquistheatre.com

"Pinochio"

DATE: Monday through Sunday, Dec. 26-Jan. 1. TIME: 2:30 p.m. DETAILS: Tickets are \$7.50 per person. Call for reservations.

Genitti's Little Theater

LOCATION: 108 E. Main St. CONTACT: (248) 349-0522 or www.genittis.com

Dinner Theater

DATES: Thursday, Friday and Saturday DETAILS: The theme is "Spaced Out." Tickets are \$45 per person and

materials are needed by the Friends of the Library. The library adds to the collection and donates the rest to the Friends for sale, with proceeds benefiting the library. Donations are tax deductible. If you need assistance unloading books from your car, call (248) 349-3020 in advance to make arrangements.

Library Board of Trustee Meetings

DATE: Fourth Thursday of the month TIME: 7:30 p.m. DETAILS: Public is welcome.

Church Events

Ward Evangelical **Presbyterian Church**

LOCATION: 40000 Six Mile Road

Single Adults

DATE: Sunday TIME: 11:30 j.m. CONTACT: (248) 374-5920

College Age

DATE: Sunday

TIME: 10:20 a.m. CONTACT: Mark Tarpinian, (248) 347-3525

First United Methodist Church

LOCATION: 777 W. Eight Mile Road

Healing Service

DATE: First Monday of each month TIME: 4 p.m. CONTACT: (248) 349-1144

Grief Support Group

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DATE: Fourth Monday of each month TIME: 7-8:30 p.m.

DETAILS: New Hope Center for Grief Support is offering this support group for those who have lost a loved one to suicide. No registration is necessary CONTACT: New Hope Center

for Grief Support, (248) 348-0115 or www.newhopecenter.net

TIME/DAY: noon-3:30 p.m., Wednesday

Pinochie (double deck)

TIME/DAY: 12:30-4:30 p.m., Monday and Thursday

Pinochie (single deck)

TIME/DAY: 12:30-3:30 p.m., Friday

Euchre

TIME/DAY: noon, Friday LOCATION: Senior Community Center, 303 W. Main St.

Healthy Walking

DATE: Monday through Friday TIME: 8-10 a.m. LOCATION: Senior Community Center gym, 303 W. Main St.

Computer Courses

TIME/DAY:1-3 p.m., Tuesday Beginning and Thursday; Computers I; 1-3 p m., Wednesday and 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Friday, Intermediate Computers II LOCATION: Library, 212 W. Cady St.

CONTACT: (248) 349-4140

Mill Race Historical Village

LOCATION: Griswold Avenue, north of Main Street, near Ford Field

CONTACT: (248) 348-1845 Thursday, Dec. 22: Brownie Scouts, 3:45 p.m.; Cub Scouts, 6:45 pm.

Sunday, Dec. 25: Mill Creek Church, 10 a.m.

29: Office closed

Looking for You

Civic Concern Donations

TIME/DATE: Drop-offs, 9 a.m.-8 p.m., Monday-Thursday; 9 a.m.-6 p.m., Friday and Saturday and 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Sunday, through December.

continued on 17A

plan can be made when it's convenient for you. Stop in our agency and see us today!

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> > **C. HAROLD BLOOM INSURANCE** 108 W. Main, Northville 349-1252

Christmas at Ward Church... A Family Tradition.

Christmas Eve Services 4:00, 5:30, 7:00 and 11:00 p.m. (childcare provided thru age 4 at 4:00 and 5:30 p.m.)

Christmas Day Services Traditional Christmas Service 10:20 a.m. **Contemporary Christmas Service** 11:40 a.m. (Childcare provided thru age 4)



40000 Six Mile Road • Northville (1/2 mile west of 1-275) 248 374-4000

> Muscular **Dystrophy Association** Jerry Lewis, National Chairman 1-800-572-1717 www.mdausa.org

State with 1.84

Monday, Dec. 26-Thursday, Dec.

*Grounds closed to public

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16A NORTHVILLE RECORD Thursday December 22, 2005

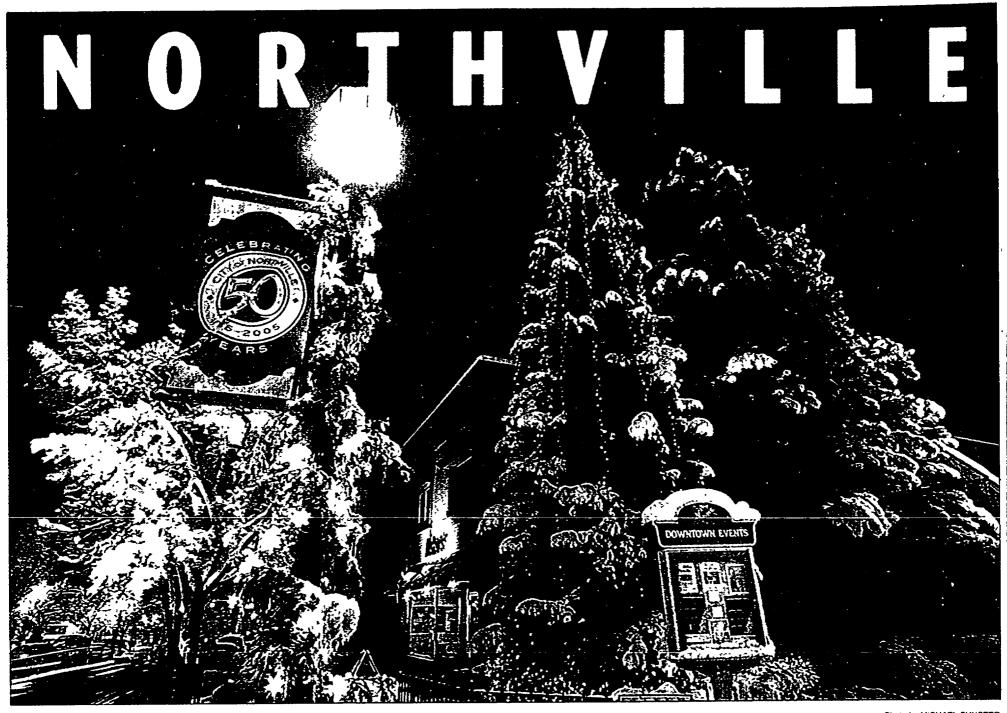


Photo by MICHAEL SHUSTER Main Street in downtown Northville following a winter snow storm last week. Local stores have been busy, helping last-minute shoppers prepare for the holiday season.

Christmas Portraits





Photo by JOHN HEIDER/NORTHNILE RECORD

Cassandra Kennedy gets a kiss from Marlene Kunz of Northville Civic Concern Tuesday during the Christmas distribution day. About 150 individuals and families stopped by the group's office on Seven Mile Road to pick up presents wrapped for them by "adopted" families.



Photo by JOHN HEIDER NORTHYLLE RECORD Hoisting bags filled with Christmas presents for local families, Maryann Cotterill and her daughter Jennifer, right, help out during the Northville Civic Concern Christmas distribution day. More than 150 families and individuals benefited from donations by Northville residents, civic organizations and churches.

Photo by JOHN HEIDER NORTHALLE RECORD

Everett Waldo, 7, and Spencer Waldo, 9, of Northville memorialize the bible verse: 'Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord."



Photo by JOHN HEIDER/

Old Village School student Danny Latour gets his photo taken with Santa Claus by Al Hambra member Ken Kress. The catholic fraternal organization has been visiting Old Village, with Santa, for the past 15 years.

What's Going On? (Cont'd)

continued from 15A

LOCATION: Century 21 Town and Country, 175 Cady Center St. DETAILS: Realtors at Century 21 Town and Country are organizing the collection and distribution of cash donations, canned goods, paper products, cleaning supplies and other useful items for the Northville Civic Concern. CONTACT: Amy Zubor, (248) 735-2569

Meals-on-Wheels

DATE: Ongoing TIME: 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. DETAILS: Permanent and substitute drivers needed

CONTACT: Eileen at Allen Terrace, (248) 231-9950, 10 a.m.-1 p.m., Monday-Friday or Judy LaManna, (248) 348-1761

Volunteers Wanted

DETAILS: There are a variety of volunteer opportunities available for all age groups. Assignments include Northville Senior Community Center front desk, special assistance and special park projects. Northville High School volunteer hours and scout badge projects are welcome. CONTACT:

recreation@ci.northville.mi.us

Camera Club

DATE: Second Tuesday CONTACT: Tom James of Northville Camera at northvillecamera@sbcglobal.net, Ken Naigus of the arts commission at kdn@comcast.net or Northville Arts Commission, (248) 449-9950

Arts Commission

- DATE: Second Wednesday of every month TIME: 7:30 p.m.
- LOCATION: Art House, 215 401 High St. W. Cady St.

HOLIDAY STORE HOURS: OPEN TODAY 8:00 AM TO 11:00 PM

Beautification Commission Youth Assistance

DATE: Second Tuesday of every month TIME: 7 p.m. LOCATION: Northville City Hall, 215 W. Main St., Meeting Room R

Housing Commission

DATE: Second Wednesday of every month TIME: 3 p.m.

LOCATION: Alten Terrace,

DATE: Second Tuesday of every month TIME: 8 a.m. LOCATION: Youth Assistance Allstate Offers office, 775 N. Center St. CONTACT: (248) 349-1300

Parks and Recreation Commission

DATE: Second Wednesday of every month TIME: 7:30 p.m. LOCATION: Senior Community Center, 303 W. Main St.

ADVERTISEMENT **Christmas** Tree Safety Tips For A **Brighter Holiday**

Wixom, Mich., December 22, 2005 -For many people, decorating the Christmas tree is a favorite part of the holiday and adds to the spirit of Christmas. However, with the addition of a Christmas tree to your home, the risk of fire and other household accidents increases. Each year, home fires and other accidents during the holiday season injure 2,000 individuals and cause over \$500 million in damage.

"There are simple life-saving steps you can take to ensure a safe and happy holiday," says Allstate Agent Louis Kirby. "By following these

beauty and the scent of pine. But a real tree can also pose a fire hazard. Select a fresh tree by looking for one that is green. The needles of pines and spruces should bend and not break and should be hard to pull off the branches. With fir trees, a needle pulled from a fresh tree will snap when bent, much like a fresh carrot. Also, look for a trunk sticky with sap.

2 Cut off about two inches of the trunk and put the tree in a sturdy, water-holding stand. Keep the stand filled with water so the tree does not

3 Stand your tree away from fireplaces, radiators and other heat sources. Make sure the tree does not block foot traffic or doorways.

4 If you use an artificial tree, choose one that is tested and labeled as fire resistant. Artificial trees with built-in electrical systems should=have the =

Tree lights

rations when you go to bed or leave



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GRIMMERS: family celebrates holidays — en masse

continued from 1A

school, the three musketeers, her quietone, her little guy and the one who looks just like her brother. They're athletes, scholars, scouts and helpers, age 2-19. "It wasn't like we planned all of

them," Grinner said "They just came along."

After the big snowfall last week, they teamed up to shovel the driveway. They alternate cleaning six bedrooms and five bathrooms.

"They're just like normal kids," Grimmer said "They're very close. They'll fight like cats and dogs

"Sometimes, they try to get out of their chores."

Even the 5-year-old is an old hand at setting the table.

"If he can go online, he can set the table," Grimmer said.

A 10-foot Christmas tree stands in the family room, decorated with

dozens of handmade ornaments, awatting Santa's visit Saturday night. Nine photograph portraits smile in neat rows over one loveseat.

Buying in bulk

Her husband's salary in corporate program management and her registered nurse wage as an intravenous specialist make financial ends meet.

His international travels are fre-

The Grimmer children Michelle, 19, sophomore,

University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

 Daniel, 18, senior, Northville High School
 Angela, 16, sophomore,

Northville High School • Stephen, 14, eighth grader,

Meads Mill Middle School • Natalie, 12, seventh grader,

Meads Mill Middle School • Brian, 11, fifth grader, Ridge

Wood Elementary School • Rachel, 8, third grader,

Ridge Wood Elementary School • Jacob, 5, kindergartner, Silver Springs Elementary

School • Nathan, 2

quent. Demand for her expertise and teaching ability take her all over Michigan and Ohio. Older sublings step in when Grimmer reports to work.

The family primarily patronizes Costco, usually two to three times per week, spending \$200-300 each trip. Five gallons of milk Grimmer purchased Wednesday afternoon are nearly gone Friday morning. "We should have our own cow."

she said "We drink a gallon to a gallon and a half every meal."

David Grimmer's military background helped oil the machine that



12 Days of Christmas with the Grimmers

- 1 A 20-year marriage between Carol and David
- 2 Vans to travel in
- 3 Birthdays between Thanksgiving and Christmas
- **4 Northville Public Schools**
- children are attending
- 5 Bathrooms to vie for
- 6 Bedrooms to sleep in
- . 7 Days for laundry
- 8 Gailons of milk every 8 meals

9 Brothers and sisters 10 Kids it sometimes seems like 11 Stockings on the lireplace

12 Months as a close-knit family

is their Hills of Crestwood housebold. There are chore charts and binders for school, sports and extra-curricular activities.

"My husband is very systematic," Grimmer said. "He's an ex-Marine, what can 1 say? Sometimes, you have to be overorganized to be a hig family."



Photo courtesy the Grammer lamity The Grimmers: husband and wife David and Carol and their kids Nathan, 2, Jacob, 5, Rachel, 8, Brian, 11, Natalie, 12, Stephen, 14, Angela, 16, Daniel, 18, and Michelle, 19.



Photo by JOHN KEIDER/NORTHVILLE RECORD

The Grimmer family (minus husband David and son Daniel) gather around the dining room table for a meal. Pictured are Nathan, 2, Jacob, 5, Rachel, 8, Brian, 11, Natalie, 12, Stephen, 14, Angela, 16, and Michelle, 19.

Stranger than fiction

Movies like "Cheaper by the Dozen" don't do giant families justice, Grimmer said. "It could never function if it were that dysfunctional.

"I have 18 years to teach them to be a responsible adult," she said. "They need to know that 'no' is 'no'.

"I have found that even little children can do chores and they pride themselves in doing it well." Keeping clothes clean is one of the endless tasks, Grimmer said.

She does about five laundry loads a



Photo by JOHN HEDER ADDRESS OF THE RECORD Nathan Grimmer, 2, stands in his family's kitchen pantry in their Northville Township home. day, divided by child to save sorting time.

"I must fold hundreds of socks every week," she said. "I do that at night when I'm trying to unwind. "I don't have any down time."

Production for "The Grimmers Go To Washington" was canceled, the mom said with a laugh. When the troupe visited the White House, a bumped Christopher Columbus bust had the security team abuzz.

"It was just hysterics," she said. "We've had some interesting vacations."

The "Home Alone" tale of the child left behind hits closest to the mark, the mom said. A little Grimmer has been left, then found, at Yellowstone, Six Flags and at a Tennessee national park.

Long waits, crowded quarters and a mandatory gratuity has taught the family to split into two groups when going out to dine, Grimmer said.

"We take two vans," she said. "We caravan.

"When we go on vacation for a week, it's like three weeks for anyone else." The cost to enter Disney World: more than \$500.

Holiday traditions

Christmas eve will be a family meal, followed by candlelight service at St. Paul's Lutheran Church.

"When we come back we have cookies, lots of cookies," Grimmer said. The family gathers around a small tree in the living room which memorializes two stillborn sub-

"We should have our own cow. We drink a gallon to a gallon and a half every meal."

Carol Grimmer Resident, Northville Township

lings. They share the story of Christ's birth, sing carols and exchange small gifts they've made, purchased and wrapped for each other.

On Christmas Day, the family unwraps gifts left by "Jesus" helper," Santa.

"It takes us a few hours, usually 'til noon, to get everything open," Grimmer said. "It's probably one of our most relaxing days. We just share each others' time.

"It's kind of just a family day." Grimmer smiles at the thought of Aunt Alberta.

"She kept saying, 'Am I going to knit yet?" Carol said. "I used to say never, after two, then after three.

"Now I never say never anymore."

Maureen Johnston can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext: 103, or via e-mail at mjohnston@gannett.com.





The captains

Max Lenn and Derek Mohacsi are two great captains for the Northville Mustangs hockey team. They're dedicated and they love the sport.



More hockey!

There's just way too much action from the Northville and Novi hockey game to not put more of it in this section! Check out the photopage this week. - Page 38



PAGE 18

RECORD SPORTS

www.northvillerecord.com



Wildcats slap Northville with rivalry loss

By Sam Eggleston RECORD SPORTS WRITER

Northville's special teams didn't look very special Saturday.

The Mustangs boys hockey team squared off against Novi at Compuware Arena and came away with a 6-3 loss.

"They were a lot faster than us out there tonight," said Northville coach Brad O'Neill. "They got to the puck faster that we did and they responded faster than we did.

"I was also very disappointed in our physical presence out there. They just outplayed us."

Northville, which won the first game between the two teams, 4-3, in overtime, couldn't capitalize on the majority of their powerplays and let the Wildcats score three times while short-handed.

The Wildcats tallied a shorthanded goal at 12:03 in the third period to take a 4-2 lead when Northville goalie Scott Ozog came out of the crease to

retrieve the puck. He bob-Novi 6, bled it, lost it Northville 3 and watched

as it was recovered by Novi's Tom Ciaverilla, who skated around the net and scored despite a quick Mustang defenseman w



took position between the posts.

Just 25 seconds later, the Wildcats put the game away for good when sophomore Ryan Timar notched a short-handed goal by skating between two defenders and fired home an off-balance wrist shot.

"I'm really proud of the way we played tonight," said Dan Phelps. "We sat down and watched some tape (of the 9-0 loss to South Lyon) and we talked about what kind of team we are going to be. This is the team we selected in November. They didn't surprise me tonight. because I knew this is what they could do."

Northville scored a final goal in the third period with a powerplay of their own. Senior Pat Ueiz wound up and slapped home a shot from just inside the blue line with 8:39 left on the clock for the final score of the game. Brandon Wales earned the assist.

Northville tallied the first goal of the night at 13:16 in the first period on a shot by Wales. unassisted, before Novi's Shamus Finnerty tied it up four minutes later with an assist Andrew Haggerty. from Northville added another from Derek Mohaesi at 2:20 with an assist from Tim Fick before Novi answered a minute later on a goal by captain Steve Rousseau with an assist from Ciaverilla to end the first period, 2-2.

Novi notched the lone goal of the second period on a short-handed play with 1:33 left. Timar skated in alone off a pass from Matt Ericson and fired it past Ozog for the score.

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King to 3 UTANEL.

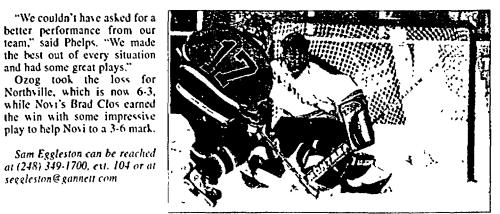
Novi goalie Brad Clos goes airborn after a collision with a Northville skater.

Bad Boys

seggleston@gannett com

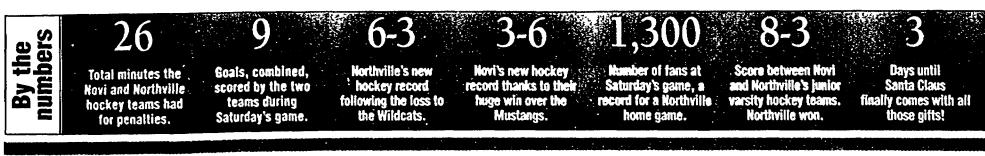
There were a few tense moments for both teams when it came to powerplays. Novi and Northville combined for a total of 26 penalty minutes in their game Saturday.

TEAM	PLAYER	TIME/PERIOD	PENALTY	MINUTES
*Northville	Matt Long	7:20/First	Unsportsman	2
*Novi	Ryan Fox	7:20/First	Hooking	2
*Northville	Kyle Storey	3:39/First	Unsportsman	2
*Novi	Scott Eberline	3:39/First	Unsportsman	2
Novi	Scott Eberline	15:55/Second	Hooking	2
Novi	Scott Eberline	11:07/Second	Hooking	2
Northville	Brandon Wales	5:50/Second	High Stick	2
Novi	Ryan Fox	3:43/Second	Unsportsman	2
Novi	Ryan Fox	3:43/Second	2nd Unsportsman	2
Novi	Greg Morisette	13:58/Third	High Stick	2
Northville	Matt Long	10.30/Third	Slashing	2
Novi	Brett Walczak	9 51/Third	Holding	2
Northville	Anthony Deneau	3.59/Third	Holding	2
* indicates off-	setting penalties		·	





ABOVE: Northville's Corey Campbell tries to take up position in front of Novi goalie Brad Clos. Defender Greg Morisette is preparing to clear him. LEFT: Novi's Ryan Timar tries to get a shot in for a goal while Scott Ozog defends.



1

Photos by MARK H CKS/WESTSIDE PHOTO



Northville captain Derek Mohacsi (right) goes for the puck during a face-off last Saturday against Novi.

Oh captain, my captain Derek Mohacsi fills leadership role with ease

By Sam Eggleston RECORD SPORTS WRITER

For some, hockey is just a game. For Northville senior captain Derek Mohaest, it's something special.

Mohacsi joined the Mustangs' ranks three years ago as a sophomore, stepping up and helping the squad to a state playoff semifinal game. Since then, he's been an integral part of Northville's success.

"Derek is a third-year player who really came into his own his sophomore year." said Northville coach Brad O'Neill. "That playoff performance really set the tone for his career with Northville."

And what a career it has become. Mohacsi was one of the team's leading scorers during the 2004-05 season and comes in as one of the best players in the conference and a team captain this year.

O'Neill said he's "gifted with a puck and has a great hockey sense Mohacsi plays power play, penalty kill and is one of the top Mustangs during faceoffs.

"Hockey is definitely special for me," Mohacsi said. "I've been playing hockey since I was seven or eight and I love it. "I've dabbled in basically

every other sport you can play, even high school football, but no other sport compares to hockey.

Mohacsi is built like a prototype center. At 5-feet-10-inches and 170 pounds, he ranks up with the largest players on the team

His skills, however, are what coaches dream of. Mohacsi was eighth all-time with 32 career goals at the start of the season. He's quickly climbing that ladder, passing such notables as Evan Edwards (1997-99) and Troy Engelland (2001-04). He's also four for single-season assists (26) and was sixth with career assists (41) at the beginning of the year. Mohacsi is also tied for fifth with single-season points (44) and was fifth for career points (73) at the beginning of the year.

"He's easily one of the top players in the league," said O'Neill. "He's not only a good leader by working hard in practice and setting an example in school, he's also verbal and knows the game very well.

"He will come up to the coaches and suggest some things during a game. He usually has some really good ideas that make you think as a coach and we benefit from that as a team.

Mohacsi wasn't always a Mustang. His freshman year, he played triple-A hockey --- widely considered as the best way to get college and junior hockey attention.

It just wasn't the way he wanted to spend his high school days. So, he turned to Northville's in-school program.

"With triple-A hockey, you're always traveling and I was missing out on my high school life." he said. "Hockey's a big part of my life, but I don't want to miss out on my high school career. High school hockey has allowed me to stay in town, be with my friends and my girlfriend and have a lot of fun in high school. It just feels a lot better representing your school and your city than playing triple-A.

Mohacsi plans on attending Michigan State University in the fall but isn't concerned about his hockey future. He'll play some form of the game.

It's just too hard to give up. said. "When I take long breaks" he said.

from hockey, I miss it," he said. "I just can't live without it any more.

Sam Eggleston can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 104 or at seggleston@gannett.com.

SPORTS SHORTS

Free skating event

On Jan. 2 from noon-1:50 p.m., Novi Ice Arena will host the "It's Great to Skate Celebration" in conjunction with the United States Figure Skating Association's National Skating Month. Free skating with Learn to Skate instructors available for semi-private lessons, skate rental, games, music, skating exhibitions from members of the Skating Club of Novi, raffles for great prizes and more will be available to all skaters during the event.

National Skating Month allows for USFSA member clubs and basic skills programs to reach out to new members in the community. The Skating Club of Novi and Learn to Skate Program are both housed by the Novi Ice Arena, and feature opportunities for skaters of all ages and ability levels. Call the Novi Ice Arena at 248-347-1010 or visit www.noviicearena com formore information.

Novi Arena to hold Learn to Skate Camp over Break

Novi Ice Arena will run a Holiday Learn to Skate Camp Dec. 27-29. Classes will be held from 11-11:45 a.m.

The camp is open to skaters ages 6 and up, with each group limited to just six skaters. The cost of enrollment is \$65, and skate rental is available for \$2 per day. As an added bonus, Learn to Skate camp participants are welcome to attend open skating immediately following class from noon-1:50 p.m. free of charge.

Don't forget about the other skating events taking place in December at Novi Ice Arena: the Skating Club of Novi will hold its Holiday Skating Exhibition on Saturday, Dec. 10 from noon-2 p.m., and the Skate with Santa will take place Dec. 18 from 3-4:50 pm. Registration for the winter session of Learn to Skate (Jan. 4-Feb. 18) gets underway Dec. 12. Bring in three canned food items during the month of December and receive 50 percent off admission to public skating. All food collected will be donated to the Oakland County Food Banks! There will also be a free skating event that is open to the public Jan. 2 from noon-1:50 p.m. in honor of United States Figure Skating's National Skating Month.

Registration for the Holiday Learn to Skate Camp is underway. For more information, call Novi Ice Arena at (248) 347-1010 or

www.noviicearena.com.

Enrollment underway for Christmas Clinics

and pivoting. Squirt/Pee Wee Puck Skills (ages 9-12) will emphasize puck protection, playmaking, scoring technique and stick checking. These clinics will be held at each facility. The Defense Clinic will run

at the Onyx as well as Suburban Ice in Farmington Hills and East Lansing. Players will learn backward skating and acceleration, proper positioning, footwork, pivoting and let-eral movement, as well as passing and shooting from the point and body contact and stick checking. Checking Clinics will run at the same locations, with emphasis on body checking technique, how to receive and avoid a check, angling and positioning, as well as strength on skates. The Scoring Clinic will run at the Onyx and Suburban Ice-Farmington Hills and will teach shooting, deflections, screening, rebounding and positioning.

Just added to the schedule is a Goaltending Clinic featuring former Team Canada and professional goaltender Manon Rheaume! Goalies ages 8-14 are welcome to sign-up for this clinic that will run at Suburban Ice-Farmington Hills on Dec. 22-23 from 9:30-11:20 a.m.

These clinics fill fast, so don't delay. Players who signup for more than one clinic will receive a discount.

For more information on classes and schedules, call Suburban Hockey Schools at (248) 478-1600 or www.suburbanhockey.com.

3-on-3 hockey shootout

Suburban Ice-Farmington Hills will be the site of the Mission Hockey Holiday 3-on-3 Shootout for 'B' level mini mite, mite, squirt and pee wee teams, 2-7 p.m. Monday, Dec. 26. The tournament features a three-game guarantee, with games consisting of two 10minute running time periods. Teams will play one game per hour and the top two teams in each division will play for the championship. Awards will be given to each member of the championship team (four skaters and one goaltender per team).

In addition, Suburban Ice will hold two sessions of Sticks and Pucks, 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. and 1:30-3:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 21-Friday, Dec. 23 and Monday, Dec. 26, Saturday, Dec. 31 and Monday, Jan. 2. There will also be two sessions, train.-I p.m. and I-3 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 24. Players of all ages and ability levels are encouraged to come out and work on their skating and puck handling skills. No pick-up games will be allowed and full equipment is required. Players will be accepted on a first come, first served basis.

Call (248) 888-1400 or visit

Holiday Baseball and Softball Camp

Baseball and softball camp will be separate. Players divided into appropriate age groups. Total Baseball's Baseball/Softball Camp will feature professional instruction from Barbero Garbey, Detroit Tigers former Hitting Coach, Lee Bjerke- Michigan High School Coaches Hall of Fame member, a Tampa Devilrays scout, former major leaguers. plus Jessie Milosek, Bowling Green University softball, will instruct in these educating camps, Hitting, pitching, fielding, baserunning and more will be covered in this fundamental camp. Participants will be put on the radar gun for arm speed. Great for all levels. Camp will run 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Dec. 27-29 at Total Sports Complex, 30990 Wixom Road, Wixom. The fee is \$145 per player/ \$10 discount for 2nd child. This camp is for ages 7-17 and space is limited. To register. call (248) 668-0166 or e-mail. baseball@totalsportscomplex.c om or www.total-baseball.com.

Pitch and Hit Leagues

The Total Baseball's Indoor Pitch and Hit Baseball Leagues will be a great way to stay in shape for the spring. Leagues will consist of live pitchers throwing to live hitters in a 55 minute game, with 5 players per team. 5 games per season. plus a playoff system. Runs and outs are awarded on the location of each hit, in our specially designed dirt mound cages. Stats will be kept for all teams and individual players with the results posted on our website. Awards for the top hitter, top pitcher and top team. Better yourself by seeing live pitches and real hitters. The league runs Jan. 5-Feb. 17. The fee is \$50 per players or \$200 per team. Age divisions: U-12. U-14, U18 High School. Registers at www.total-baseball.com or call (248) 668-0166.



NORTHVILLE HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS SCHEDULE

Basketball

Varsity

1

12-27	Away	Chadsey	5 p.m.
12-28		Dexter	TBA
Junior	Away Varsity	Dexter	IBA
12-27	Away	Chadsey	1 p.m.
12-28	Away	Dexter	TBA

Suburban Hockey Schools will hold various two-day Christmas Clinics for ages 6-14 at Novi Ice Arena (Dec. 22-23 and 29-30), the Onyx-Rochester Ice Arena (Dec. 22-23 and 27-30). Suburban Ice facilities in East Lansing (Dec. 27-30), Farmington Hills (Dec. 22-23 and 27-30) and Macomb (Dec.22-23 and 27-28).

Mite Power Skating (ages 6-8) will focus on balance and agility, edge control and stopping, crossovers and acceleration, as well as forward and backward stride. Mite Puck Skills (ages 6-8) will emphasize stickhandling, passing and shooting technique. Squirt/Pee Wee Power Skating (ages 9-12) will focus on powerful stride. explosive starts, edge control, as well as backward skating

OUTRAGEOUSLY FUNNY! THE HOLIDAY FAMILY EVENT It's the Holiday comedy you've been waiting for OF THE SEASON "Hilarious, lwo laugh-out-loud thumbs up." funny."== SALA ABOTT HLINE 'SPECTACULAR!" "ASTONISHING! 13 <u>**O**GOLDEN GLOBE NOMINATIONS</u> Based on a true rumor. WALT DISNEY PICTURES 400 WALDEN MEDIA PARENT THE CHRONICLES OF nas it PG-13 man constantanterie can THE LON. THE WITCH ZED THE WARDROBE **OPENS SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25** AMC LIVORA 26 HODDITY & 7 Min 734:542 \$908 Sty Thighes BOCHEST 200 Bardoy Circle BOOF MICHINGO F838 Star Theolee BOWTH #1 12 Mill & Telepioph BOD/FANDARDO #839 PG oung ng 14/754 5863 NUR PHORE SOUTHEATE CONTRA 2 1565 L TRIVIOL PH 734/284 3456 WHERE A Hospendert SHORES THEATHE 8 Mais & Wook 586/775 6800 ANC LAUREL PARK AFC LIVONA MALL AMC FORUM 30 CHIENA 26 15 Mil & Yon Dyn 566/264 1516 BEACON EAST DOWNTOWN INCOMPONT ENAGINE CANTON Sig TheRes TATLOR 72265 Eurole Nd BODY ANDANGO 8543 National Amuserne ShowCase DEAR 24105 Michigan J 313:541 3449 M Enogre Entertainnen NOVE 44425 W 12 tr 868-319 3456 serve MUR HARKETPLACE CINERA 70 MUR SOUTHGATE PHOENIX BELLAR CTR. NONICO F832 SHOWCASE DEARBORN SHOWCASE WESTLAND STAR FAIRLANE Phones Thedres WEST BYES CENTRE Grand Door w of thedrical 248/788 6572 serve Uptown Entertainen PALLADRUM 12 250 % Old Woods 242/644 FLW per counting Check National Amagemer Showcasa witsh 6800 H Wayne Re 734.729 1080 STAR GREAT LAVES CROSSING STAR JOHN R IN 14 MILE STAR ROCHESTER HILLS STAR SOUTHFIELD STAR TAYLOR UA COMMERCE STADUE SE UPTOWN PALLADIUM 12 NO PASSES ACCEPTED

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NAMAA: CHEATING THE LICH, THE WITCH & THE WANCH

suburbanice.com.

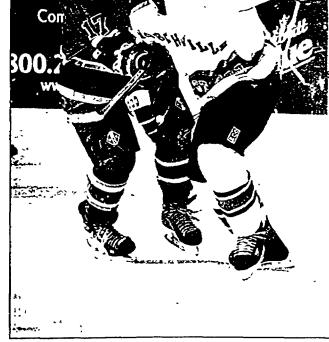
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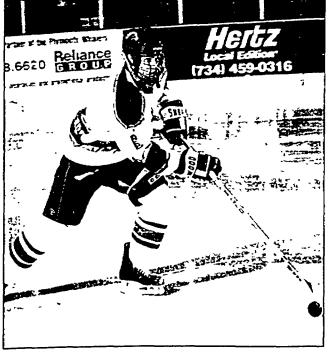
NO CONTEST

Northville can't find a way to whoop their weight in Wildcats





Northville's Kenny Papich works against Novi's Ryan Timar.



Northville senior Pat Uetz takes the puck up the ice. He scored a goal in the 6-3 loss to Novi.



Northville head coach Brad O'Neill talks with his players during a break in the action



LEFT: Captain Max Lenn skates up the ice on the look out for some very physical Novi Wildcats. Lenn is a four-year member of the team. Check page 4B for more details.



Northville senior Matt Long brings the puck up the Ice during a 6-3 loss to Novi last Saturday.

Photos by MARK HICKS/WESTSIDE PHOTO

Three years in the making

Lenn, hockey boosters see long-awaited dream a reality

Bill Lenn stoed at the door of Compuware Ice Arena, shaking hands with people as they entered to watch the Northville-Novi Battle of the Baseline Saturday.

He smiled, which he often does, and then thanked them for coming. It was a goal of Lenn's, from the

day he took over the hockey boosters three years ago,

to see the Mustangs play their crosstown rivals in a large venue in front of a lot of fans.

He watched as his goal bloomed into fruition like a blossom in the spring. "Bill really

deserves a lot of credit for putting Sam Eggleston that all together,

said girls hockey coach Bill Holden. "He's a focused individual who doesn't give up."

It wasn't all great moments for Lenn, who watched his son and the Mustangs fall, 6-3, to the Wildcats. He knew it was a potential outcome of the game despite Novi's 2-6 record and Northville's 6-2 record coming into the game.

Records, between Novi and

BER

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734-453-8400

FAMILY

Northville, don't mean anything. But it was worth it. He watched his son, Max, play in front of the largest turnout in Northville hockey history. They cheered, let out boos and banged on the glass.

"My dad loves seeing my play and this game is especially great for him," said Max Lenn before the

game. "It's my tast chance to play Novi in a game like this and it's everyone's chance to see one of the best games ever between these two teams.

"I know this is exciting for him and he's going to enjoy it, no matter what the outcome

is." Lenn has been a big part of the hockey booster's

success since he became president. He's organized fund-raising events, sold old jerseys and has found ways to keep the kids on the ice no matter how the costs have climbed. It's what he does best, said

Holden. "Bill Lenn likes fund-raising like I like coaching," he said. "It's

something he's great at. Who

ticketmaster

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DECEMBER 30TH 7:30PM

ERIE OTTERS

WINDSOR SPITFIRES

knows where we'd be if it weren't for Bill and the booster club.'

Northville boys coach Brad O'Neill said the boosters have helped the Mustangs keep the price of playing down.

They help pay for equipment, ice time and anything else the team nceds.

"We live and die with the hockey boosters and what they do for our program," said O'Neill. "They've done such a great job, everyone that's involved. From security to fund-raising, they do it all.

"They let me coach, which means a lot. They let me focus on coaching while they take care of the things a lot of other coaches have to worry about."

So when Lenn and the boosters asked O'Neill if he'd be willing to drop a home game in trade for a stint at Compuware Ice Arena, there was no question to what the answer was going to be.

"My dad has been talking about this game and this kind of venue for three years," Max Lenn said. "I'm glad to see it has worked out for him. I'm really happy for him.".

Sam Explesion can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 104 or at seggleston@gannett.com

Work hard, play harder

By Sam Eggleston RECORD SPORTS WRITER

Max Lenn skated onto the ice, looked around in awe and then smiled to himself. He was a freshman on Northville's varsity hockey team.

In his fourth season, he still smiles when he skates onto the ice. It could be because he's a three-year captain and the only four-year member of the hockey

team. Or it could be something else.

just absolutely love it," he said. "I enjoy every bit of it. It's never been a hassled to me. I just want to go out, skate hard and work my hardest every day."

Lenn's is a career that hasn't been the kindest to him. His freshman year his club skated to a .500 record and had it's head coach fired just before the post-season. The following year was much better, sending Northville to the state playoff semifinals, but his junior year was hampered with a knee surgery, physical therapy and a cautiousness on the ice that hobbled the usually aggressive defenseman.

Now with his senior season, Lenn wants to make the best of every situation.

"I never want to look back and regret anything," he said. "When

it's 10 years down the road and I look back on my senior year in hockey, I don't want to say I could have worked harder. If I do, then I've failed."

Lenn isn't the kind of player his coaches worry about seeing at offseason workouts or skating his hardest during practice.

In fact, he's so dedicated to that aspect of hockey other players don't believe they can keep up.

"Max is a rare breed," said Northville coach Brad O'Neill. We try and get the kids to do office conditioning and in our weight program. Through the grapevine I hear the comments some of the kids make and when we get on them about not working at it enough they'll often say 'Not everybody can be a Max Lenn.""

Lenn admits he isn't blessed with the greatest hockey talent. He's small compared to most defensemen, standing 5-feet-6inches and weighing in at 152 pounds.

But his work ethic makes up for it. He lifts weights, runs, swims

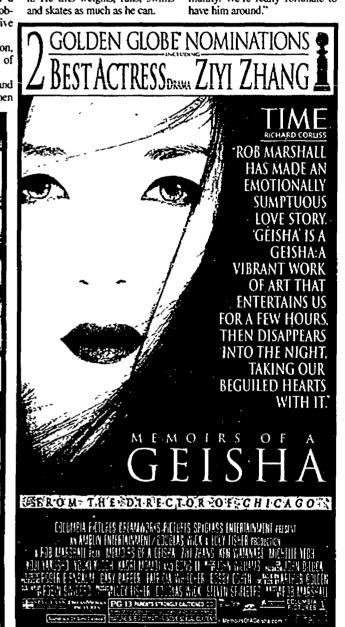
"I just want to be good at what I do," he said. "I always work hard, especially since I'm one of the smaller guys out there. Not being very big and not being very strong doesn't help me out much, so I have to work hard so my size and strength don't hold me back."

When it comes to his off-ice life, Lenn works just as hard. He maintains a high grade-point average and has been accepted to Indiana, Wisconsin, Miami of Ohio, Michigan State University and Western Michigan. Two of the schools have even offered him academic scholarships.

He hopes to study physical therapy, especially after his knee injury his junior year and a youth baseball injury that had him rehabilitating his shoulder.

Until then, he said he's going to focus on hockey and then lacrosse in the spring.

"Max Lenn goes out and does what has to be done," said O'Neill. "He's a remarkable athlete and a real credit to his school and community. We're really fortunate to







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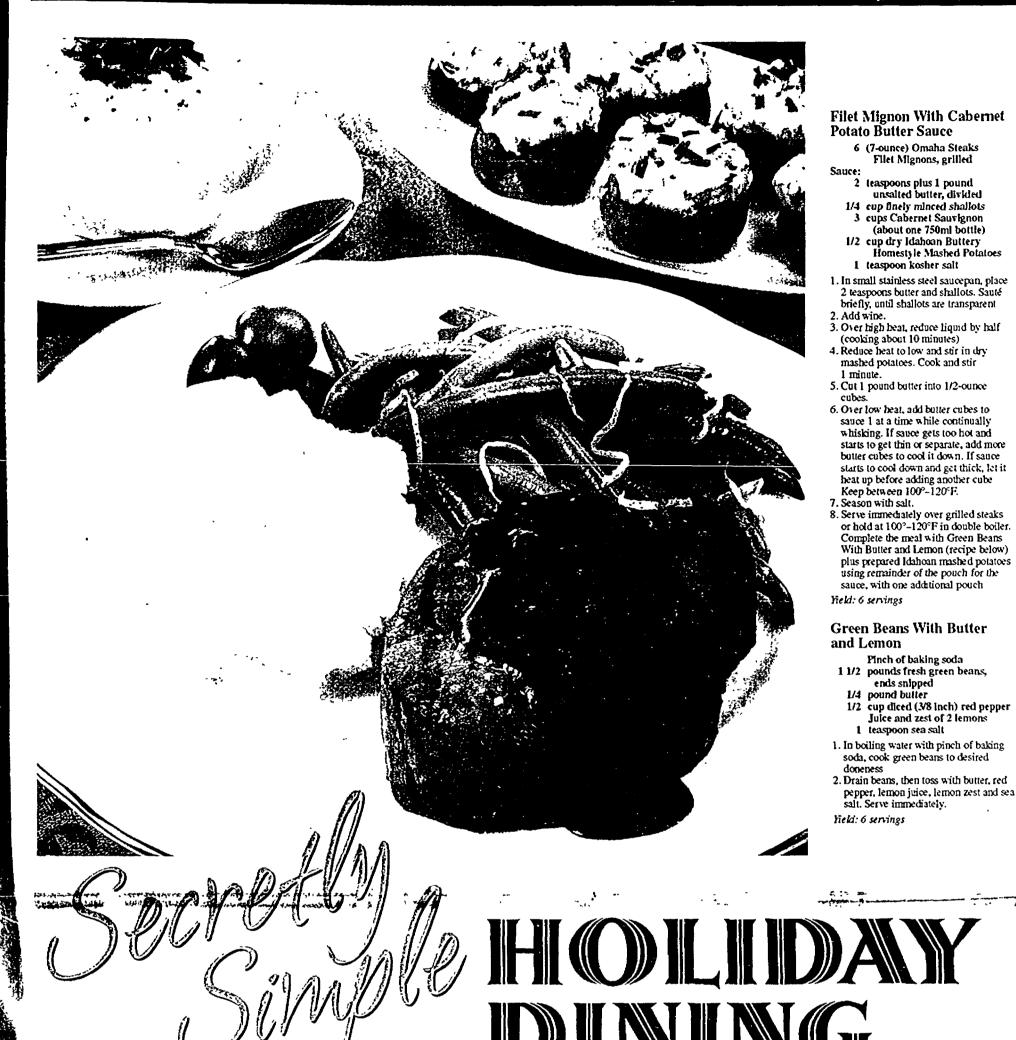
AMC FORUM 30

NOW PLAYING

AMC LAUREL PARK

IN THE KITCHEN

PAGE 58



FAMILY FEATURES EDITORIAL SYNDICATE

the family on a busy

weeknight

Potato Chocolate Cake

- 1 cup margarine or
- shortening 2 cups sugar
- eggs
- squares chocolate, melted teaspoon vanilla extract
- cup cold, prepared Idahoan **Original Mashed Potatoes**
- 2 cups flour, sifted
- teaspoon baking soda teaspoon salt
- 3/4 cup buttermilk 1 tub chocolate frosting
- 1. Preheat oven to 375°F.
- 2. Cream together margarine or shortening and sugar Beat in eggs one at a time.
- 3. Stir in melted chocolate and vanilla. Add mashed potatoes and mix well.
- 4. Combine flour, baking soda and salt. Add this sifted, dry mix alternately to batter with buttermilk. Blend well with each addition
- 5. Grease and flour baking pans. Distribute batter evenly between three 9-inch layer pans. Bake 20 minutes
- 6. Frost with favorite chocolate frosting. Garnish as desired.

Variation: For Chocolate Spice Cake, add 1 teaspoon each cinnamon and allspice to sifted dry mix. One cup raisins or puts also may be added

Yield 12 servings

ith the hustle and bustle of the holidays, it can feel like days, even weeks, go by without sitting down to dinner with your family. Entice them back to the table this holiday season, with a meal that is elegant enough to serve to company, but simple enough to prepare for



These delicious recipes look and taste like you've been in the kitchen for hours, but don't worry, we won't tell your secret. They're created by using versatile pantry staples --- including pouches of 100% Idaho mashed potatoes (so you don't have to spend time peeling), and a frozen asset you'll always want keep on hand — grain-fed, well-marbled, tender Midwestern beef. With these items, you can make almost any night 'secretly simple."

Everyone loves appetizers that feel like party food — these savory mushroom caps are perfect to pass around as the meal is cooking. Or, for those really chilly nights, serve creamy roasted garlie potato soup. Your family will surely ohh and ahh as you present them with the main course of sizzling hot filet mignons, drizzled with wine sauce and served with festive green beans and the classic companion to a steak buttery mashed potatoes. After dinner, wow the kids with a moist chocolate cake. With all of these quick and tasty recipes, you might actually need to remind everyone to save room for dessent!

Four Cheese

- **Potato-Stuffed Mushrooms**
 - 1 (4-ounce) pouch Idahoan Four Cheese Mashed Potatoes
 - 12 large or 18 medium mushrooms
 - 3 tablespoons butter, margarine or olive oil
 - 3 tablespoons chopped chives, divided
 - 3/4 teaspoon salt
- 1. Preheat oven to 450°F.
- 2. Prepare mashed potatoes as package directs.
- 3. Remove stems from mushrooms, chop stems and set aside.
- 4. Carefully scoop out center of each mushroom cap with spoon, leaving 1/2-inch shell.
- 5. Melt butter in 10-inch skallet over medium heat. Add chopped mush-room stems and cook 3 minutes or until tender. Remove from heat and stir in mashed potatoes, 2 tablespoons chives and salt.
- 6. Fill each mushroom cap with potato mixture, mounding slightly Bake 10 minutes or until potatoes are lightly golden. Sprinkle mushrooms with remaining 1 tablespoon chives Yield: 12 appenzer servings

Roasted Garlic Potato Soup

- 3 tablespoons butter or
- margarine large leeks, sliced
- 2 (13 3/4-ounce) cans
- vegetable or chicken broth 1/8 teaspoon ground black pepper
- 1 (4-ounce) pouch Idahoan Roasted Garlic Mashed Potatoes, dry
- 1. Melt butter in 3-quart saucepan over medium heat. Add sliced leeks and cook 5 minutes or until tender, stirring occasionally.
- Add broth and pepper. Heat to boiling. Stir in dry mashed potatoes until mixture has thickened

Yield: 6 servings

For more

recipes and usage

suggestions visit

www.omahasteaks.com

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REGIONAL MARKETPLACE

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Allstate Offers **Christmas** Tree Safety Tips For A **Brighter Holiday**

Wixom, Mich , December 22, 2005 -For many people, decorating the Christmas tree is a favorite part of the holiday and adds to the spirit of Christmas. However, with the addition of a Christmas tree to your home, the risk of fire and other household accidents increases Each year, home fires and other accidents during the holiday season injure 2,000 individuals and cause over \$500 million in damage.

"There are simple life-saving steps you can take to ensure a safe and happy holiday," says Allstate Agent Louis Kirby, "By following these steps, individuals can greatly reduce their chances of becoming a holiday casualty."

Allstate Insurance Co. and the National Safety Council offer the following safety tips to ensure a fire or other accident doesn't spoil your holiday season:

Christmas trees

1 A real tree can fill your home with beauty and the scent of pine. But a real tree can also pose a fire hazard Select a fresh tree by looking for one that is green. The needles of pines and spruces should bend and not break and should be hard to pull off the branches. With fir trees, a needle pulled from a fresh tree will snap when bent, much like a fresh carrot Also, look for a trunk sticky with sap.

2 Cut off about two inches of the trunk and put the tree in a sturdy. water-holding stand. Keep the stand filled with water so the tree does not dry out quickly.

3 Stand your tree away from fireplaces, radiators and other heat sources. Make sure the tree does not block foot traffic or doorways.

4 If you use an artificial tree, choose one that is tested and labeled as fire resistant. Artificial trees with built-in electrical systems should have the Underwriters Laboratory (UL) label.

Tree lights

Turn off all lights on trees and decorations when you go to bed or leave the house.

Tree ornaments

I Always use the proper step stool or ladder to reach high places.

2 Read labels before you use materials that come in jars, cans and spray cans.

Restaurant offers authentic Mexican food Drop by for a chimichanga and a fun night out

By Kate Phillips SPECIAL WRITER

After one bite of the food at La Casa del Rio Grande customers never go back to chain restaurants. The authentic Mexican flavor at La Casa is nothing like other restaurants, which often serve spicy Tex-Mex. The food recipes were actu-ally imported directly from Central and Southern Mexico.

"There's nowhere else in the area to get this type of food," said owner Dawn Salvati. "It's real Mexican food, not Americanized Tex-Mex'

Try a bite

La Casa del Rio Grande offers something for every member of the family. It serves lunch and dinner seven days a week. There are a variety of Mexican appetizers. lunch and dinner specials, unique dessens and a full-service bar.

Lunch specials offered Monday through Friday include favorites like Mexican Pizza. It's made with two fried flour tortillas with a choice of meats inside and topped with cheese and vegetables.

"The food is not overly spicy or hot but we'll make it hot upon request," said Salvati.

The restaurant is home to several groups of regulars who like the fast lunch-time service. For those looking for a quick lunch, Salvati suggests calling in orders ahead of time Those who place phone orders can pick up, carry-out or dine in the restaurant.

"Your meals will be on the table waiting for you when you arrive," said Salvati.

Of all the appetizers, a customer favonte is the Mexican flaming cheese - without the fire. The restaurant has also brought back a winter time favorite, the chicken tortilla soup. The hearty chicken soup includes black beans and vegetables.

The selection of entrees features chimichanga platters, fajitas, enchiladas and burritos.

"We have the best fajitas around," said Salvati.

Pedro's stacked sandwich is another recommended dish. It starts with three flour tortillas laycred with rice, refried beans and your choice of tender diced pork. shredded beef or chicken. It's topped with melted muenster cheese and jalepenos by request. Another favorite is the seafood salad, a fresh garden salad topped with shrimp, crab meat, avocados, tomatoes, onions, olives and muenster cheese. On Monday there is dine-in allyou-can-eat taco special for \$7.25. Hungry guests can order up as many tacos as they like, filled with ground beef, shredded beef, chicken or traditional bean and potato. Some try one of each. For only \$8.25 chefs will fry up soft flour torullas into crispy taco shells for the all-you-can-eat-special. The flour tacos are absolutely amazing," said Salvati. Since plenty of people can't choose just one item, sampler platters provide a taste of several. A Don Pedro sampler comes with a ground beef taco, enchilada. ground beef, shredded beef flauta, ground beef tostada, beans and rice. Or the Rio Grande sampler includes a chicken taco, ground beef enchilada, small pork chimichanga, beans and rice Early birds that come in for din-



Owner Dawn Salvati (right) and Melissa Littlemyer serve up real Mexican food at La Casa del Rio Grande.

ner between 3 and 5 p.m. can cash in with a "buy one get the second dinner half off," by request.

With huge serving sizes, it's hard to save room for dessert. But the Xango is tempting. It's made of cheesecake inside of flour tortillas, deep fried to a golden brown and served with ice cream, cinnamon and sugar topping and whipped cream

Party down

The festive atmosphere at La Casa del Rio Grande sets the tone for fun, casual dining. Colorful blankets, wooden benches and sombreros are part of the cheerful decor. "Don't be afraid to use your fingers," the menu explains. It's about having a good time.

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

With free chips and salsa, the fun starts as soon as the family takes a seat.



The bar at La Casa Del Rio Grande.

dessert.

The restaurant is happy to accommodate special requests and

allergy concerns. No lard or chicken stock is used in the beans and rice to provide a vegetarian friendly experience. to a low carbohydrate diet.

also ongoing mixed drink specials. Wednesday and Sunday are "margarita days" with all house margaritas at happy hour prices. The Spyder margarita is Salvati's own secret recipe, made with citrus tequila.

There's even Spyder parties to celebrate every month. The next spyder party is coming up Dec. 21 from 6 to 9 p.m. The Spyder margarita is specially priced at \$4.50,

AT A GLANCE

• La Casa del Rio Grande is located at 57721 Grand River Ave. in New Hudson. The restaurant is just west of Milford Road, or drivers can follow the Lyon Center Drive loop from Wal-Mart to Grand River Avenue.

• Call (248) 446-7700 or fax (248) 446-7701 or go to the Web:

www.riogrande-restaurant.com · Open for lunch and

dinner 7 days a week with a full-service bar.

• Reservations accepted. Carry-out and call-ahead meals can save time. Party and catering menus available. All major credit cards accepted.

Celebrate the holidays

• Christmas Eve: 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Christmas: Closed



Thursday, December 22, 2005

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3 Never place lighted candles on a tree or near any flammable materials

4 Avoid placing breakable tree ornaments or ones with small, detachable parts on lower branches where small children or pets can reach them.

5 Do not hang popcorn chains and candy canes on the tree when small children are present. They may think that other tree ornaments are also edible.

For more information on this and other safety topics, contact Allstate Agent Louis Kirby, located at 49357 Pontiac Trail, Suite 103 in Wixom Louis can be reached at 248-669-0755.



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Two purchase necessary A complete quote must be completed to be eligible. Three writers will be selected on January 2 2005. Employees of the Louis Kirby Insurance Agoncy and their lamby members are not eligible. Tsi prize is a \$50 driner conflicate 2 and 3rd prizes are \$25 soch Winner will be notified by telephone. Prize must be clarined by writiner, in person at the Louis Kirby Insurance Agency office. Must be 18 or older to be eligible

The dining room keeps the atmosphere moving with festive Mexican music, while the bar plays classic rock. It was the cus-

tomers who came up with the musical preferences. The community is invited to come home from the holidays, to the home on Grand River, which in Spanish is called La Casa del Rio Grande. The restaurant is open on Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve.

But no one needs a refresher course in Spanish, because the menu explains everything in English. The staff is glad to help folks find their way around the menu and make a dinner choice.

Treating you right

Affordable pricing makes La Casa del Rio Grande a great place to bring the entire family. Adult dinners average about \$7.50 and kids meals are \$3.50, including beverage. Tuesday and Saturday are kids days with meals for just \$2.99, including a beverage and have to cut down the beans, rice and tortillas.

Most items are easily adaptable

"Mexican food is great for low

carb diets," said Salvati. "You just

The restaurant also offers smoke free nights in the dining room on Friday and Saturday. On those nights patrons are allowed to smoke in the bar or on the patio when weather permits.

Special nights

Families pack the place on clown night. A side-splitting clown known as Jannie Annie entertains the kids and the adults, too. Jannie Annie is coming Dec. 17, Jan. 14, Feb. 18 and March 18, from 6 to 8 p.m. Children enjoy the \$2.99 kids days meals.

For adults looking for a night out, La Casa del Rio Grande stocks a full-service bar with a large selection of both American and Mexican beer. Happy hour prices run on beer and alcoholic drinks from 3 to 7 p m. daily.

There are always running beer specials. In December Labatt and Labatt Light beer is on special for \$2.25 a bottle. In January Coors Light is only \$2 a bottle. There are plus bar items, like T-shirts, are given away as prizes.

Check out the Web site at riogrande-restaurant.com for more information on special promotions. Diners can also sign up for an e-mail club to receive a free dinner on their birthday and wedding anniversary plus buy one, get one half off coupons. To join go to theemailclub com/riogrande.

A family effort

Owner Dawn Salvati actually operates the restaurant in the home where she lived as a child. Her father bought it more than 35 years ago. New Hudson is Salvati's beloved hometown, through and through.

After operating Don Pedro's Restaurant in Detroit with ex-husband Tom Salvati, she saw how much folks loved the food, and decided that New Hudson would be the perfect place to open another restaurant.

Since the home on Grand River was still in the family, Salvati

 New Year's Eve: Noon to 10 p.m. Temporary delivery

service available weekdays Dec. 26 through Jan. 31 from 11 a m. to 1:30 p.m. for all orders over \$25 within 10 miles.

 New Year's Day delivery service available, from 1 to 8 p.m. for all orders over \$25 within 10 miles.

decided to transform the building into a homestyle restaurant, hence the Spanish name for "the house on Grand River."

The food at Don Pedro's and La Casa del Rio Grande is the same, so many loyal customers drive out to La Casa now that Don Pedro's has closed.

Most of the staff are family members of some sort, including Salvati's mother and two daughters, Samantha and Carmen.

"It's a small-town family atmosphere," said Salvati "You can feel the love of family here?



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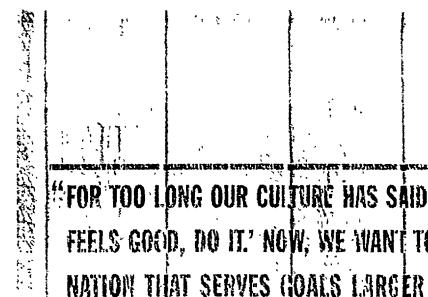
CREATIVE LIVING Thursday December 22, 2005

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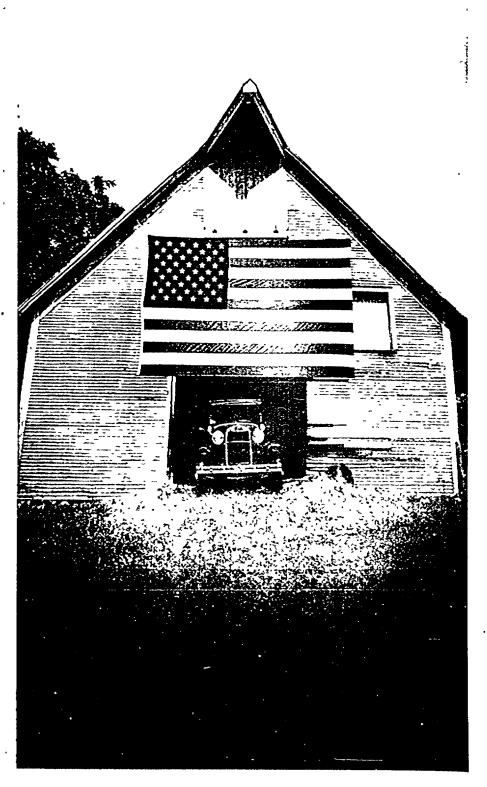
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DESIRABLE COURT LOCATION WESTLAND'S HIDDEN JEWEL AMENITIES GALORE Spacious CUTE AS CAN BEI Huge from OUSE ON A LARGE DESIRABLE COURT LOCATION WESTLEND'S HIDDEN JEWEL AMENTITIES GALORE Spacous CUTE AS CAN BET Huge front CLEAN AND CONTEMPORARY A SHOWPLACE Lavishy yol updates in this little Spacous and updated Canton Private wooded view on a quet Livona ranch on a correr lot with a porch for relaxing summer nights. Livonia ranch with many quality landscaped lot, prenium in a new root on the colonial with formal living/fining, cut-de-sac backing to three Buit privacy lenced yard and a solar hardwood floors, coved ceilings, updates' Gorgeous finished elevation, patied elevation, patied in-ground pool. Beautiful large family room and Florida basement, remodeled heated Romeo & Juliet baloony, great lewer windows and fireplace and French doors to the a spacious neutral floor plan, tied entry, updated root, windows, room, finished basement, a white Hardwood under all patio. New carpeting, new root, finished basement, sprinkers and interior doors, and family room, kitchen with appliances and a big New hot water heater central air and 1st floor laundry lots more \$184,900 (C-358PE) Diving room w/full brick walled back yard. \$164,000 (P-585DO) fireplace \$239,900 (P-498YA) \$339,000 (C-291LA)

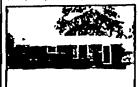




CLEAN AND CONTEMPORARY



SHOWPLACE A Lavishiv \$399,000 (C-291LA)



WELCOMING HOME Well



2850A)

FARMINGTON HILLS RANCH IN THE HEART OF CANTON COUNTRY CONTEMPORARY RANCH ON & ACRES! Located & GREAT BUY! Nice 2 bedroot WELCOMING HOME Well FARMINGTON HILLS HARTCH IN THE HEART OF CANTON COUNTRY CONTEMPORARY RANCH ON 4 ACREST Located A GREAT BUYT Nice 2 bedroom EXQUISITE CONDO Just 2 years maintained brick ranch in Livonia. On over a 14 acre lot with many Super Cape Cod with a striking Wonderful ranch in Huron school in Canton, offering a large floor ranch in the Downriver area with new, this light and airy Updated bath, windows, roof and updates like a new roak fiber, great room floor plan offering district. Plenty of cabinets in plan with over 4 acres (possible all of the big toket items updated condo floors, to encod yard, oak floor and chair molding, a fireplace, finished basement, Kitchen wideep sink and spacious split), 3 bedrooms, 15 baths and for you. Windows, siding, furnace, Hardwood floors, toy ingressible all of the big toket items updated condo floors, toy upgraded floors, toy ingressible all of the big toket items updated condo floors, toy upgraded floors, toy ingressible all of the big toket items updated condo floors, upgraded floors, then wideep sink and spacious split), 3 bedrooms, 15 baths and for you. Windows, siding, furnace, Hardwood floors, then wideep sink and spacious split), 3 bedrooms, to, cement work, water heater, carpeting and light furthes, finished basement. Put this one at furnace and electrical Nice fenced for summer enjoyment. Clean WIC and jetted tub. Home is freplace and appliances remain. remodeled kitchen & more fireplace, tst floor laundry & great the top of your list! \$164,900 yard with a shed and kennel. 2 car and inviting home \$299,900 (C-433CA) (C-433CA) \$39,900 (C-830KA) master. This is a 10 plus! (C-961LY) garage w/atbc storage. \$169,900 214 SA) (P-44SMO)







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• 1 Bedroom \$627/mo.

pets welcome

apartments

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private entrance/patio

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Ten Mile Road 3/4

Mile E. of Pontiac Trail

Mon - Fri 9am - 5pm

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FOWLERVILLE - 2 Br. Apts.

w' appliances washers & dry-ers incl., \$650 + security NO PETS Senior discounts Com

PETS Senior discounts Call (248) 330-2370, 9-5pm only

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credit toward utilities thru April 2 br \$665/mo + securi-ty deposit Call 517-404 7737

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1.2 or 3 br., w'air & laundry room Country setting \$425-\$625 M-59 & Duck Lake Rd. (248) 335-9400

HOWELL downtown, 1 br. re-

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Fully equipped kitchen Dulet Country setting close to Downtown & main hwys 1

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Come Home to Our Town...



of Writing a **Classified Ad that** WORKS

Avoid Abbreviations.

A few accepted and recognizable abbreviations are OK, but an ad full of them just confuses the readers. They will go on to the next ad rather than decipher yours. A good rule of thumb is "Spell it out, or leave it out."

Boat Car Hou

Be Available.

List your telephone number so that potential buyers will know how to contact you. State the best hours to call so they'll know when you can be reached.



Consider Your Readers.

Put yourself in the readers' place. If you were considering buying this item, what would you want to know about it? Give the item's age, condition, size, color, brand name and any other important information needed to describe it completely and accurately. Sell the benefits of owning the item.

Don't Exaggerate.

Misleading information may bring potential buyers to your home but it will not help you make the sale. You'll lose the prospect's trust and faith as well as the sale.



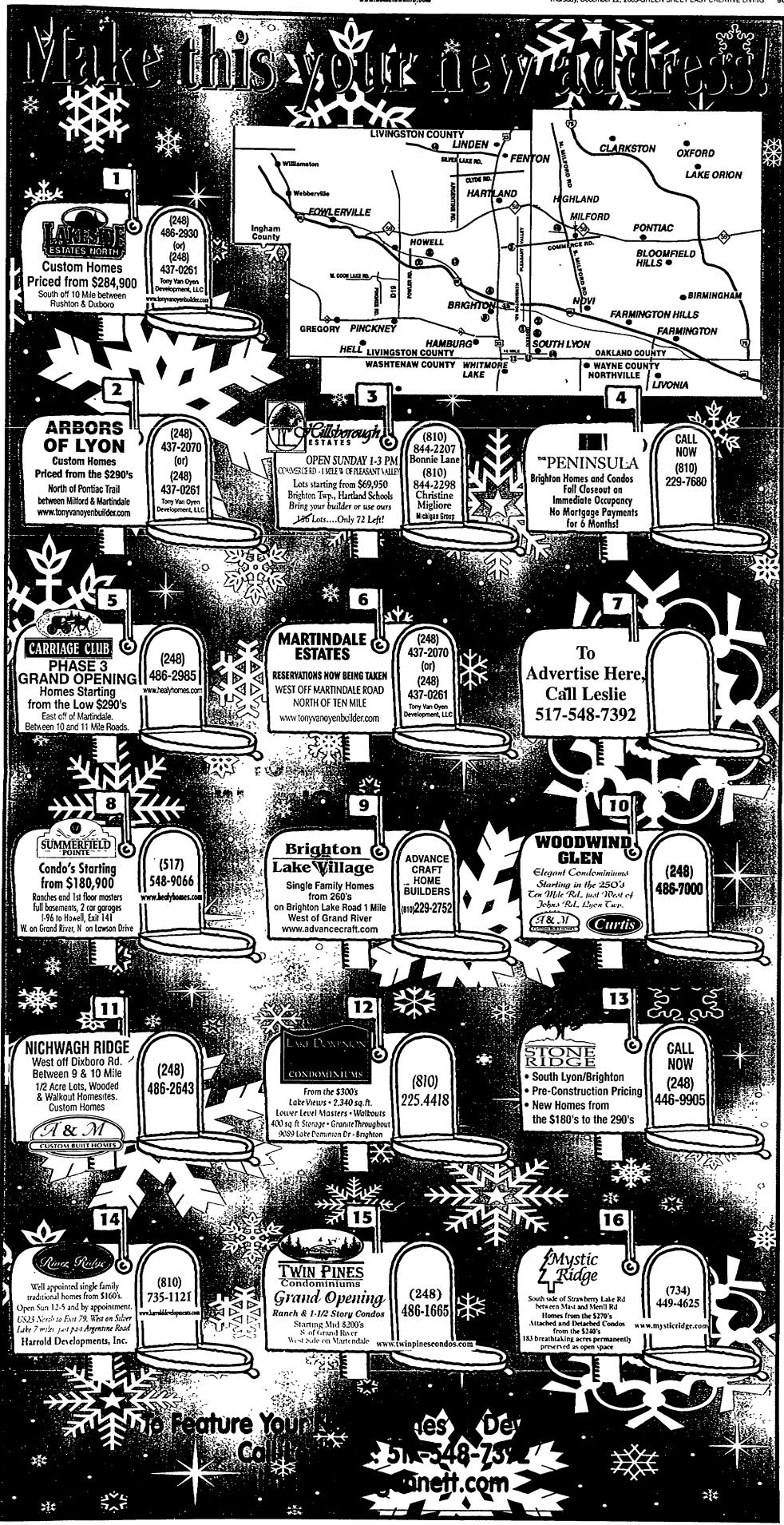
Include the Price.

Price is one of the biggest concerns of classified shoppers. Ads that list prices will get their attention first. Including price also helps you avoid inquiries from callers not in your price range.



GREEN SHEET Call Mon. & Fri. 8–5 p.m., Tues. thru Thurs. 8:30–5 p.m. to place your ad. **CLASSIFIEDS** 88-999-1288





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Thursday, December 22, 2005-GREEN SHEET EAST/CREATIVE LIVING 1D

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Gallagher Security, Inc

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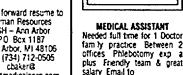


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S&R INSULATION

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LONG PLUMBING CO."

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Northville

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Pote Buildings

sending money Green Sheet Classifieds SITTER - FULL TIME Mon.-Fr., to watch 3 children. 7 45 am to 5:30pm Call Gloria 248-860-5002 888-999-1288 TIRED OF LIVING PAYCHECK TO PAYCHECK Concerned exc ref background check performed (248) 939-0243 about today s economy? Take positive action today Call 313-438-0492, code K3

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 Faucet Repairs Building Remodeling (1319) 15 yrs. exp Small jobs wel-come. Scott, (810) 714-3477. ROSE EXCAVATING Interior/Exterior & cabinetry. (248)634-0215 Sinks Septic systems Bsmt. dug, property cleared Bulldozing work, backhoe work. Topsoil, sand gravel delivered Licensed & insured Visa & Bailding/remodeling garages, FINISHED BASEMENTS sus-26-27 is Friday. December 23 at 4pm Deadline for Sunday-Monday-Tuesday. January 1-2-3 is Friday. December 30 at 4pm **Drywall Repair** Sump Pumps (1110) kitchens, bathrooms, bsmt Lic/Ins Howell 517-294-0353 nsulation 1110 Snow Removal JACKS HANDYMAN SERVICE Wallpapering/Removal In Floor Heating pended ceilings, decks, 32 yrs exp lic/ins 810-220-0249 Experienced, prompt, reliable 248- 348-9233, 248-982-5879

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Hauling/Clean Up

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ices available 734-368-5006

CARLSON HOMES Kitchens ballis, 5smis, jetc Remodeling new construction Family owned & operated, 40 vrs exp Ref avail Lic/ins (248) 887-0484

Real Estate deadline to hursday December 29 Friday December 23 at 4pm. Thursday, January deadline is Friday December 30 at 4pm

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ADORABLE long haired.

healthy kittens, \$20 (248)437-6714 248-224-1841

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4 year old, grey, male, neutered cat. Current medical record Needs a single cat home, very social, good with

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Delivered \$50 facecord, min. 2 cord, 4x8x16 (734)216-6310

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CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR'S EARLY DEADLINES The Livingston County Daily Press & Arens Green Sheel deadhne Sunday-Monday-Tuesday, December 25-Tuesday, December Friday 26-27 December 23 at 4pm Deadline for Sunday Monday-Tuesday

Green

888-999-1288

Some restrictions may apply

PLACE YOUR OWN

CLASSIFIED AD

Classifieds lodar

Call



5 misc household, 20 misc, boxes/bags,

20 clothing

2 recreation equipment

10 other misc, items

Christopher Kaser, Sp. #215

8 misc. boxes/bags,

4 hand tools.

5 power tools,

1 recreation equipment,

ANSWERS TO

LAST WEEK'S

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Dogs



READY FOR CHRISTMAS Pit bull pup 1 female \$200, 517-304 7008 SCOTTISH TERRIER PUP. 5

mo old male shots CKC reg-istered \$550 (989,619-6106

Horses & Equipment (1860)

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Columbian Red Tail Boa \$175

Brazilian Ranbow Boa \$175 Female Albino Corn Snake \$100 Pink toe Tarantula \$35

All come with complete set ups (734) 754-1134

FOUND 12/12 -Small Black

Cat, declawed Female Fisher Chyde Rd 810-459-3557

FOUND Nov Black/white male

cat, yellow eyes, declawed 8 Mi area (248) 486-2929

LOST 12/16 Black standard male pooce, School Lake a 23/Haton (517)861-7479

LOST CAT. 12/5 Calco

female collar, Grand River in Fowlerville 810-220-3614

LOST DOG 12/13 Black/white

Shih-tzu female Highlander & Grand River 517-552 0705

AUTOMOTIVE/REC. VEHICLES

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CHRISTMAS &

NEW YEAR'S EARLY DEADLINES

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106302y December 23-26-27 is Friday December 23 at 4pm Oeadline for Sunday-Monday-Tuesday January 1-2-3 is Friday December 30 at 4pm

Real Estate deadline for

Thursday December 29

is Friday December 23 at 4pm Thursday January 5 deadline is Friday December 30 at 4pm

HAVE & MERRY

CHRISTMAS & A HAPPY NEW YEAR

The GreenSheel Staff

Airplanes

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Lost & Found-Pets

7878

7880

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Vans

8150 Auto Misc. **V-8 FORD FOCUS 7X3 2000** Yeliow 347 Stroker motor auto AC Loaded, Asking \$20 000/Best 517-223-1374 or 517-490-4820

\$2500 Ca1 (517) 546-6979 WRANGLER X 2004 22 000 miles hard top auto 6 cyl \$17 900 best 810-225-7935 Pontiac 8680 $\mathbb{C}^{(n)} = \mathbb{C}^{(n)}$



LEXUS 🛩 AUD ULBOR

8680 Pontiac

() See Red...Save Some Green '06 Pontiac G6 SIX#60750



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JO-ANN COM Experience the creativity" online.

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Merchandise selection varies by store. Fabric contents & writins may vary









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Jo-Ann Gift Cards!

Essentials" stickers. Reg 1 29-14 99 ea Sale 90¢-10.49 ea

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PATCHES



oel & 'Tis the Season'' Chilstmas Fabrics 4.99 yd/pnl



• PACKAGED HOLIDAY GIETS 'Tis the

- HOLIDAY STOCKINGS Tis the Season HOLIDAY TRIM Tis the Season KIDS! CRAFTS GLASS BULBS



CHRISTMASYOOD ARTISAN DECORTOUUEGITON HOUDAYA TOMETRIA (BRANCE CANDUE GOULEGITON

CHRISTMAS TREES

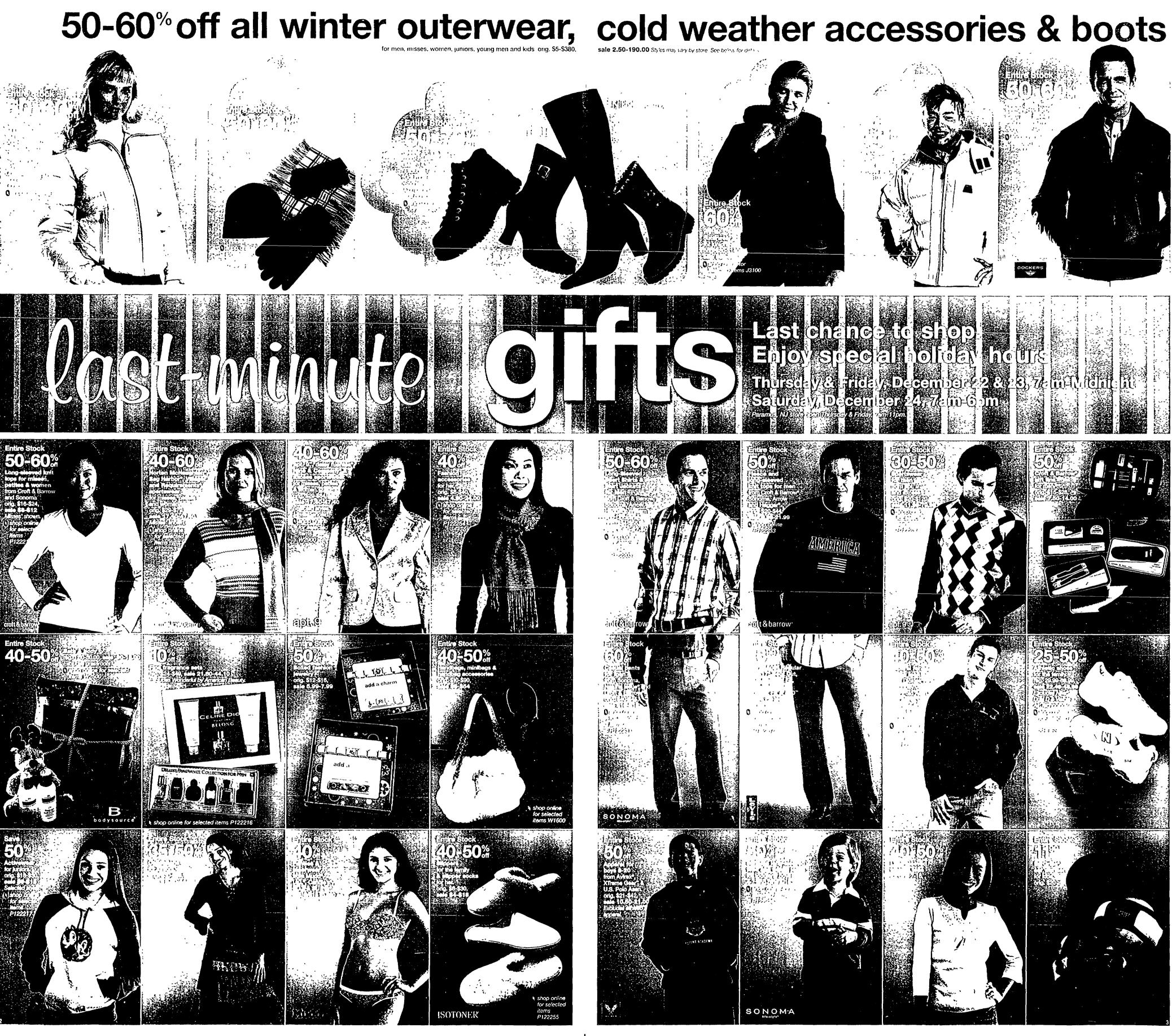
HOLIDAY LIGHTING Reg. 796-99.99 ea Sale 396-49

GOURMET FOODS 2.99 ea - Sale 49e-6.49 e

JOANN STR Economics The creat

Merchandise selection varies by store. Fabric con





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Prices good Thursday, Dec. 22-Saturday, Dec. 24, 2005.



"Sale" prices and percentage savings offered in this advertisement are discounts from Kohl s "Regular" or "Original" prices. The "Regular" or "Original" price of an item is the former or future offered price for the item or a comparable item by Kohl s or another retailer. Actual sales may not have been made at the "Regular" or "Original" prices, and intermediate markdowns may have been taken. Clearance merchandse is excluded from "Entre Stock" promotions in this advertisement in some events actual savings may exceed the percent savings shown. KOHL SB and KOHL S brand names are trademarks of Kohl s tillnos, Inc. @2005 Kohl's Department Stores, Inc



shipping 99¢ standard shipping on every item at Kohls com New (Xearcher 41, 21)

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> ATHLETIC FOOTWEAR

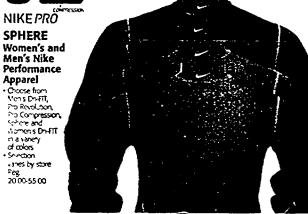




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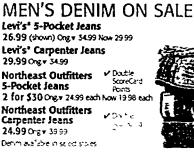
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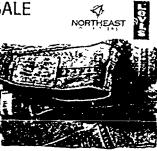
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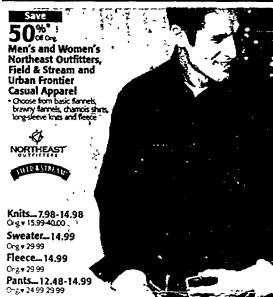






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C2005 Kmart Corporation Select Hems in this circular may not be available at our White Lake, MI store or our Peorla, IL stores.

3 (1-20) JOB# 1221-0/6/7ST

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SALE Women's character pullover fleece Sizes S-XL.

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40%off Holiday motif women's and plus size apparel

reg. 14.99 SALE Athletech^e women's supreme fleece separates 799 Teach

50*OFF STERLING SILVER

70*OFF FINE JEWELRY

BUY ONE, GET ONE FREE* Joe Boxer women's flannel pajamas, reg. 16.99 40% off other women's fall and winter sleepwear.

reg. 12.99

also on sale. Not included in the buy one, get one offer

SALE All Joe Boxer

25

SALE Joe Boxer men's novelty boxers. Sizes S-XL 25% off all other Joe Boxer men's hovelty pants or licensed boxers or pants.

JOE BOXER

women's slippers Other family slippers

50% off Joe Boxer women's fleece robes, reg. 29.99. Buy one at the regular price and get the second one (of equal or lesser value) FREEI Excludes buy more & save offers, women's feam Sports and character sleepwear.

ELRY

kt. gold 2-pair earrings set

Men's authentic rock 'n roll concert tees, 30% off other men's graphic tees. FINE JEWELRY POLICY: Ticketed prices reflect offering prices at which sales may or may not have been made. Sale does not apply to red-tag price-reduced clearance, gold-filled, family jewelry or class rings. Jewelry photos may be enlarged to show detail. Diamond weights are not exact. Jewelry shown is representative of assortment and may vary by store. If an advertised item is not available at your nearest store, we will be happy to order it for you. Sterling silver rings are not available by special order. Colors and assortment of merchandise on page may vary by store.

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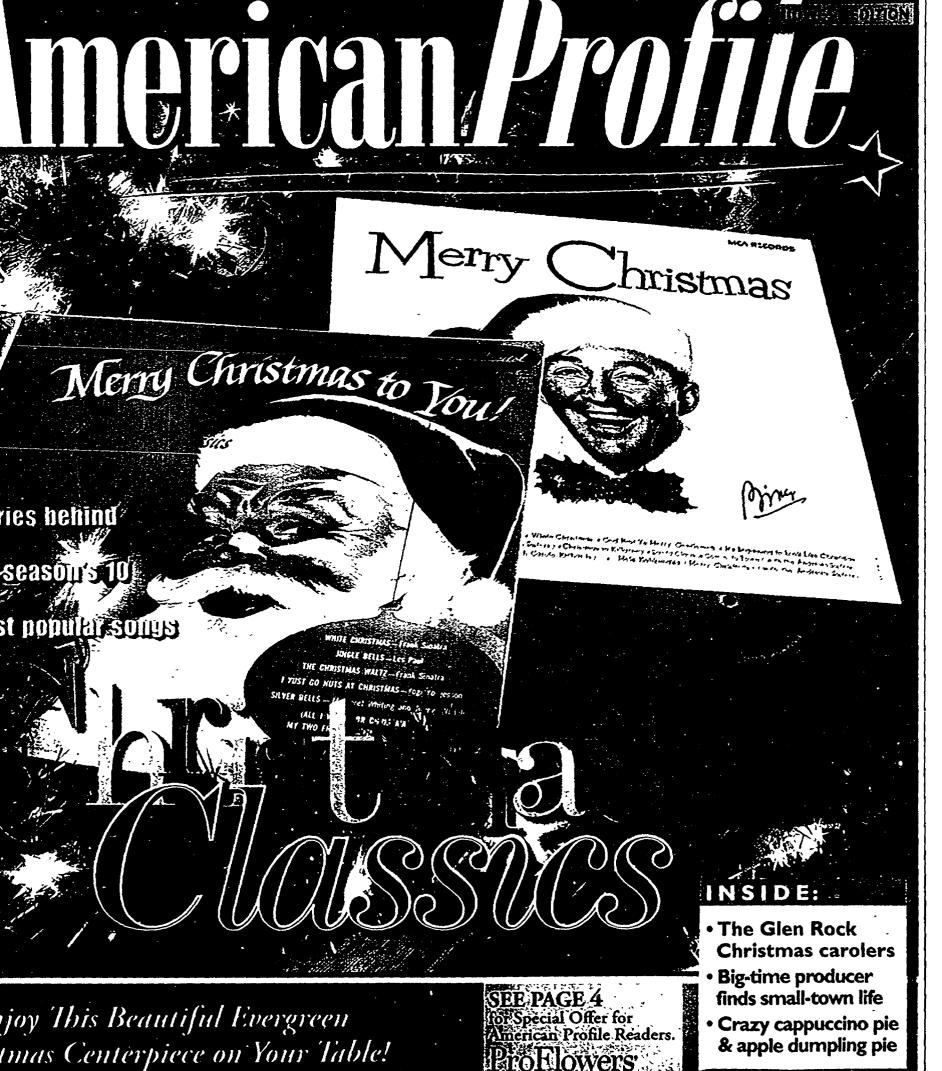
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Prices effective Wednesday, December 21 thru Saturday, December 24, 2005. SuperCenter prices are effective starting at 6 a.m. Wednesday, December 21 thru midnight Saturday, December 24, 2005.

robe

SALE 14.99



Ask American Profile

Q I always love watching A Christmas Story every year. Whatever became of the actor who played the little boy who wanted the Red Ryder BB gun?

---Robert T., Marthaville, La. Now 34, Peter Billingsky, who played the bespectacked Ralphie in the 1983 movie A Christmas Story, is a successful Hollywood producer with several projects to his credit, including the TV

scries Dinner for Fine and the upcoming movie The Breakup, starring Vince Vaughn and Jennifer Anniston. But if you just can't get enough of Ralphie, you can watch the 24-hour Christmas Story marathon on TBS, which runs Christmas Eve into Christmas morning.

Is the rock band Deep Purple still around?

---Mark Hillman, Sunnyside, Wash. Yes. The British band that gave the world the durable hard-rock classic "Smoke on the Water" in 1972 still is touring and recording. Although the band has undergone numerous personnel changes, original member and drummer Ian Paice soldiers on, as do members Roger Glover and Ian Gillan, and they've just released a new album, *Rapture of the Dap.* "There is only one thing that would stop me from continuing what I'm doing---if I lost the physical ability to live up to my standards," says Paice, 57. "I wouldn't want to go out with a whimper."



Coming Home

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Off to War, the Discovery Times Channel's critically acclaimed original series, has taken viewers along for the experience with a group of citizen

soldiers from the Arkansas National Guard. As the series spotlights these ordinary men discovering the harsh realities of war, it also reveals the lives of the families and friends they left behind. In the finale, which airs Saturday, Dec. 24 (10 p.m. Eastern), the series follows the soldiers as they return home from Iraq and try to settle back into their civilian lives. They all struggle with how different they feel now after an 18-month deployment in a combat zone and a set of experiences to which few back home can relate.



Peter Billingsley has a disappointing encounter with Santa Claus in A Christmos Story.

Q I was wondering about the red-haired girl in the "If you can find a better car, buy it," commercial with Lee lacocca. Is she really his granddaughter?

—Beverly Gherardi, Hibbing, Minn. No, the little girl is an actress, hired to look cute in the role of the automotive icon's granddaughter. Iacocca, the former chairman of Chrysler Corp. who retired in 1992, shot more than 60 commercials for the car company in the 1980s and '90s. Now 80, he agreed to return to film some more commercials, including the one with the child, one with *Seinfeld* actor Jason Alexander and another with rap artist Snoop Dogg.



Lee lacocca came out of retirement to film new spots for Chrysler.

* Cover photo by David Mudd

Want to know more about a celebrity or public figure? Send your questions to:

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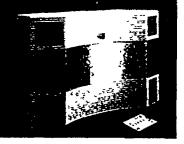
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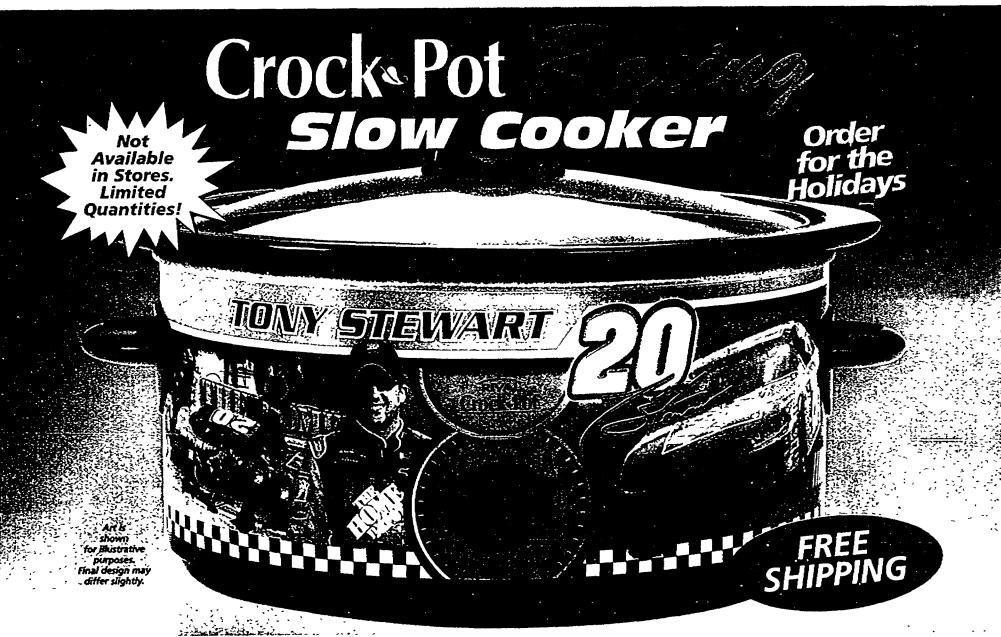


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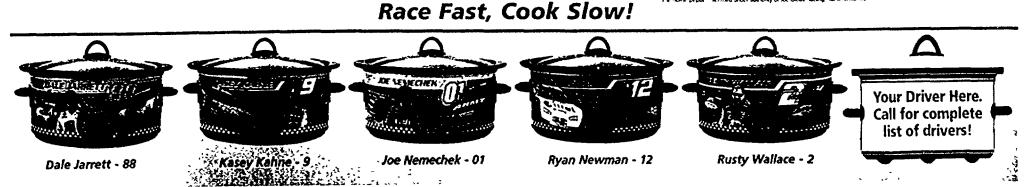
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Grammy Award-winning producer Bill Szymczyk traded rock's fast lane for a more peaceful lifestyle.



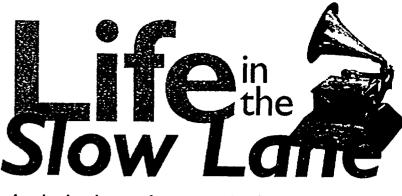
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As he's done for nearly four decades, music producer Bill Szymczyk sits behind a recording studio console as a drummer adds his part to a song. After the session is completed, Szymczyk (pronounced *sim-*zik) retreats to the lobby of a nearby hotel to soak up the soothing strains of a pianist playing a classical tune.

But this isn't just business as usual for Szymczyk, 62, one of rock music's most successful producers. Although he's worked with acts such as the Eagles, the Who, Bob Seger, Joe Walsh and B.B. King, his activities on this particular day are a family affair: His son, Michael, 18, is the drummer in Szymczyk's basement studio, while son Daniel, 13, is the one tickling the ivories in the hotel lobby after a family dinner at the Switzerland Inn near their home in Little Switzerland, N.C.

Although Szymczyk spent most of his career working in top-line recording studios in New York, Los Angeles and Miami, he moved to Little Switzerland, a resort community along the Blue Ridge Parkway, in 1990 to raise his sons in a more child-friendly environment. Truly committed to fatherhood, he vows to have a better balance between work and family than his hectic, 12-hour-a-day, six-days-a-week schedule had allowed in decades past.

"I really wasn't there, because of my work schedule, for my first two children," says Szymczyk, who also has two grown children from his first marriage. "So when my wife, Lisi, and I made the commitment to have children, I decided to be there for every basketball game, soccer game and piano recital. It's very fulfilling."

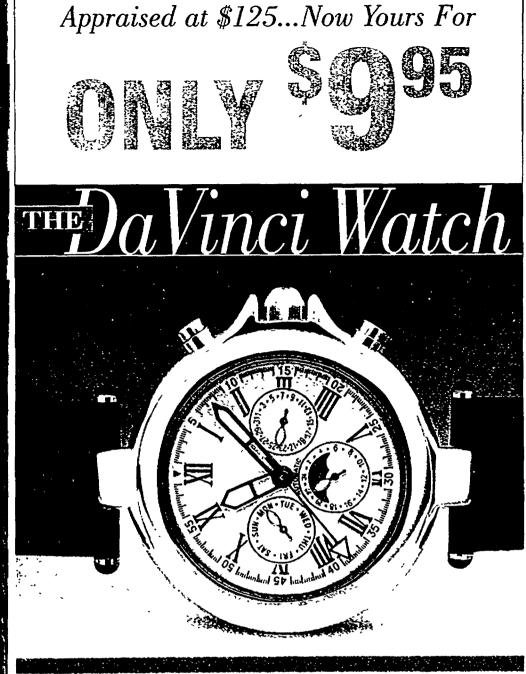
Finding the perfect balance—at least in the recording studio—has always seemed to come easily for Szymczyk, who is praised for his attentive ears, sense of perfection and patience for creating the right mix of sound. "He pioneered the careful making of records," says his friend, producer/musician Al Kooper. "With his work with the Eagles, every little piece of music on the record was made perfect. That really hadn't been done before."

Musicians who've worked with Szymczyk adore him for his infectious sense of humor, booming voice and larger-than-life personality that complements his 6-foot-4-inch frame. He's always had the knack of getting along with band members who can't seem to get along with each other, such as the Who and the Eagles, who called him "Coach."

Szymczyk grew up near the shores of Lake Michigan in Muskegon, Mich. (pop. 40,105), where his mother was a nurse and his

Szymczyk "pioneered the careful making of records," says a colleague





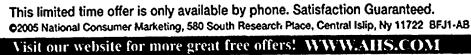
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As a favorite holiday song reminds us, it's beginning to look a lot like Christmas. And sound a lot like it, too-everywhere you go.

For weeks leading up to Dec. 25, Christmas songs abound. You hear them on the radio and television, in shopping malls and stores, as you're wandering the grocery aisles or waiting to get your transmission repaired. They flow from concert halls, school auditoriums and church sanctuaries. In many neighborhoods, groups of carolers deliver them door-to-door.

Clearly, no other holiday has a soundtrack like Christmas.

Over the centuries, thousands of carols, hymns, anthems, ballads and even novelty songs have been written about Christmas and everything associated with it. But of those thousands, only a relative handful continue to endure as evergreens from generation to generation, according to William Studwell, a music historian and retired Northern Illinois University professor who is nationally recognized as an expert on Christmas songs.

Studwell estimates that "handful" of tunes to be no more than 50.

"Those 50 songs, which might change a little bit from generation to generation, are very powerful culturally." says Studwell, who has written four definitive books about Christmas music. "Just about everybody, except for a few Christmas grouches, sings and hears them for a month or more. You don't have to be a Christian or even like Christmas, but you're exposed to them. They have a great deal of impact."

Like the gifts in Santa's sack, the songs of Christmas are a mixed bag. They represent a variety of themes, topics and timelines. Some are distinctly American; others have roots in our country's European ancestry. Some are serious and formal; others light, lively and even silly.

So sit back, pour yourself some eggnog and put on your favorite Christmas CD as we unwrap the stories behind 10 of the most popular songs of the season.

Jingle Bells

This festive, well-known Christmas song didn't actually begin as a Christmas song at all. It was written by James Pierpoint for his father's Sunday school class in Boston for children to perform as part of a Thanksgiving service in 1857. It's not surprising, then, that it doesn't contain a single reference to Christmas, the Nativity or any of the icons typically associated with the holiday. Yet, with its

The stories behind the season's 10

most popular songs

jaunty melody, colorful sleigh-ride imagery and join-in, sing-a-long chorus, it has been a musical staple of holiday programs for nearly 150 years and is possibly one of the best-known songs in the world.

White Christmas

Unquestionably America's most popular Christmas song, this warm, sentimental classic is also the most commercially successful in history. Bing Crosby's rendition alone sold more than 31 million copies. Written by Broadway and show-tune composer Irving Berlin for the 1942 movie Holiday Inn, starring Crosby and Fred Astaire, it won the Academy Award that year for the best original song. When Hollywood remade the film in color in 1954, the title of the movie was changed-to White Christmas, of course.



God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen

A misplaced typesetter's comma somewhere along the way in this carol's early life led many people, even to this day, to think of it as "God Rest Ye, Merry Gentlemen." But the word "rest" meant much the same as "keep," and the song was a boisterous exhortation of love and brotherhood with a blessing that "God keep you merry." Its authorship is unknown, but it probably dates from England and the 1600s, where it was presumably sung on the streets by strolling, serenading carolers during the Christmas season. (In Charles Dickens' classic A Christmas Carol, the happy sound of a caroler-singing "God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen"-infuriates Ebenezer Scrooge.) The song's unusual, minor-key arrangement makes it somewhat unique among traditional Christmas tunes.

Away in a Manger

Often misattributed to Protestant reformer Martin Luther, this gentle, lullaby-like song actually was written in 1855 by an unknown Pennsylvanian, who likely drew inspiration from an old German folk tune. A byline in an 1887 songbook gave credit (perhaps mistakenly or possibly deliberately, to hype sales) to Luther, who actually did write the words for many hymns and other songs-but not this one.

What Child Is This?

William Chatterton Dix, an insurance company executive by trade, wrote this soft and sweet ode to the

State



baby Jesus sometime in the late 1800s. It was one of the first Christmas songs to depict the traditional Nativity scene in detail----the gifts of the "wise men," the shepherds, even the ox and ass. Dix set his song to the tune of "Greensleeves," a traditional melody so ancient it's mentioned in two of Shakespeare's plays.

We Three Kings of Orient Are

This stately, richly detailed carol was penned around 1857 by Pittsburgh native John Henry Hopkins Jr., who worked as a newspaper reporter, attended law school, edited a religious magazine and designed stained-glass windows before finally becoming ordained as a deacon-at the ripe old age of 72. Its narrative structure, depicting the three wise men bringing gifts to the Christ child, gives it a reverent, scriptural feel. But the wise men barely made it into the Bible-they are mentioned only in one account of Jesus' birth (in Matthew). In the years before this song was written, the (Continued on page 13)





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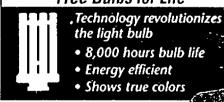
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(Continued from page 4)

father was a factory worker and school maintenance worker. "It was a rural Midwest town in the 1950s—very open doors, nonlocked cars and kids in the neighborhood," he says. "It was mellow



and unthreatening. The upper Midwest upbringing and school of thought

is just real down-home, basic common sense." He found this same mellowness and sense of security in North Carolina, where he and Lisi became active members of the community. They don't hesitate to dash off a letter to the editor of the local newspaper, or vocalize their opinions at school board meetings. When efforts began in the late 1990s to raise money for a domestic-violence shelter, they tirelessly called upon their famous friends to donate unique items for two auctions they hosted that raised \$30,000 for the Mitchell County Safe Place.

"He does a lot of community work, and a lot of it is quiet," says his friend and golf partner, Jim Meyer, owner of Wiklflowers Natural Foods & Etc. in nearby Spruce Pine (pop. 2,030). "We met when we were out picking up yard-sale items for a project to develop a tile wall at one of the schools. He is a regular guy, even though he's a musical genius."

Szymczyk continues to produce both big-name acts, like the Eagles (they've recorded 17 tracks for a new album), as well as local musicians, such as singer/songwriter Grant Sparks, but nowadays his travel is self-limited and the schedule is based on his terms. "I still produce and I still love to do it, but I am not angsting if the phone doesn't ring anymore," he says.

"I was born and raised in a nice small-town environment, [then] went to all the big cities and did all the rock and roll things and accomplished a ton," Szymczyk says. "I'm very comfortable with how much I've done, and I don't have to do anymore. I am not driven; I'm not a Type A.

"It's almost full circle," he says. "Here I am back in the country again."

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When Szymczyk and wife Lisi were looking for a place to raise their sons, Daniel (left) and Michael, out of the urban sprawl, they found it along the Blue Ridge Parkway in Little Switzerland, N.C.





Music Director Darryl Engler leads the Glen Rock (Pa.) Carolers in song as residents gather in the square.

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Hark the Herald Glen Rock Sings

At the stroke of midnight on Christmas morn, the Glen Rock Carolers gather in the town square of Glen Rock, Pa. (pop. 1,809), to begin a celebration of song that takes them throughout the town and into the dawn of the day. Onlookers also gather in the square to hear the sounds of yuletide songs and watch as the carolers carry on a 158-year-old town tradition.

"The square is packed," says Darryl Engler, music director for the Glen Rock Carolers. "There must be a thousand or more people. They come from all over, and every year it gets bigger."

The holiday tradition began on Christmas in 1848, when four newly arrived settlers grew homesick for the carol singing they left behind in England. With the help of a bassoon player, the four men walked to each of the town's 12 homes, singing the same four carols at each stop.

Today, the carolers-all male, ranging in age from 10 to 87--still perform those original four songs, along with 10 new songs.

"Since 1848, not wars, illness or weather has caused a break in the tradition," says Engler, 58. "We're the custodians of this tradition, and we take it very seriously."

The singing group has 50 official "Caped Carolers," who sport the Dickens-style caped coars and enjoy the privilege of voting on everything from awarding honorary memberships to filling a vacancy. Sixteen associate members, dressed in dark blue capes lined with red silk, accompany their singing brethren, practicing the songs, learning the tradition and waiting for an opening with the Caped Carolers.

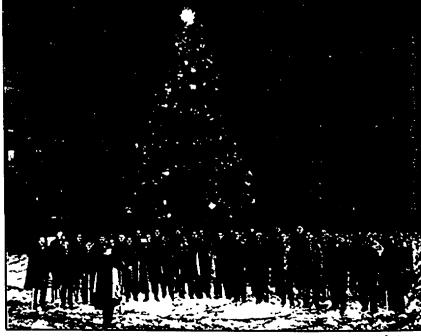
"Someone has to die or resign to take in a new member," says Engler, who has been with the group 34 years—13 singing and 21 directing.

In 1997, when White House officials extended an invitation for only 20 of the carolers to perform, the Caped Carolers voted to graciously decline.

During the group's annual trek through Glen Rock, a town crier walks ahead of the singers handing out fresh roasted peanuts and announcing, "The carolers are corning! The carolers are corning!"

Some families follow the carolers through the streets. Many host allnight parties, gathering on their porches or at their windows to watch and listen as the carolers stop at each street light to sing. James Kroh, 87, who will mark his 71st Christmas caroling on the streets of Glen Rock this year, recalls listening to the singers as a child.

Carolers in the 1940s harmonize during their all-night trek through town.



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"I remember being a baby in my mother's arms, wrapped in a blanket as she held me up to the window to hear the carolers," says Kroh, whose family is a direct descendant of original caroler Mark Radcliffe. "I always knew I'd be a caroler one day."

Kroh's brother Mark, who died in April, would have celebrated his 76th year with the group. Still the family legacy continues on as both of the Kroh brothers have sons, grandsons, and even a great-grandson involved with the group.

The carolers usually make three stops along the way for food, drink and warmth. The home of Don Swartz and his wife, Janice Dean, is one of their rest stops.

"We moved here 20 years ago, and no one toki us about the carolers," says Swartz, recalling his introduction to the tradition. "Here it was the early hours of Christmas morning when we heard voices. When we got to our balcony, we were stunned. We had never heard or seen anything like it."

While much of America is waking at dawn to greet Christmas morning, many in Glen Rock are just falling into bed. And although aching legs and cold feet come with

the caroling tradition, the carolers wouldn't have it any other way.

"I have nothing better to do. Literally!" Engler says. "Truly, there isn't anything better in the whole world than being part of this tradition."

> Tracy Leinberger-Leonardi is a freelance writer in Elkton, Md.

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Christmas

caroler ames Kroh

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Instruments have accompanied the group since 1848, when the tradition began.



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Did You Know...

ILLINOIS—Actor, producer and director John Malkovich, a member of Chicago's Steppenwolf Theatre, may be best known for starring as a fantasy version of himself in the 1999 movie *Being John Malkovich*. He was born in 1953 in Christopher (pop. 2,836).

INDIANA—Squire Boone Caverns near Corydon (pop. 2,715) is named after the brother of Daniel Boone. Squire, a prominent explorer and woodsman, discovered the cave in 1790, considered it holy ground and asked to be buried there.

IOWA—Organized-labor leader John L. Lewis, born in 1880 to Welsh immigrants near Lucas (pop. 243), worked as a teenager in the local coalmines. He served as president of the United Mine Workers of America from 1920 to 1960, and died at his home in Alexandria, Va., in 1969.

KANSAS—The world's smallest presidential library will open in February in Atchison (pop. 10,232) to honor David Rice Atchison, who some say was president for one day in 1849 after newly elected Zachary Taylor refused to take the oath on Sunday.

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MICHIGAN—Ventriloquist Edgar Bergen and his wisecracking wooden puppet, Charlie McCarthy, were hits on their own radio show from 1937 to 1956, despite the fact that listeners couldn't see them. Bergen was born in 1903 in Decatur (pop. 3,916).

MINNESOTA—Minneapolis' most famous career woman is portrayed in a downtown statue of actress Mary Tyler Moore tossing her hat in the air as Mary Richards, Minneapolis TV producer on *The Mary Tyler Moore Show*, which aired on CBS from 1970 to 1977.

MISSOURI—In 1816, pioneer James Hart Stark settled in Louisiana (pop. 3,863) and planted the seeds of his world-famous Stark Bro's Nurseries and Orchards Co. Noted horticulturist Luther Burbank selected Stark to carry on his work and willed him 750 plant varieties.

NEBRASKA—The largest selection of licorice in the United States can be savored at Licorice International, a candy store in Lincoln with more than 100 varieties of licorice from 13 countries, including Australia, Denmark, Ireland, France, Holland and Germany. NORTH DAKOTA—Steam engines, antique tractors, threshers and other old farm implements, along with the Wolford school, which houses a clock collection, are preserved at the Dale and Martha Hawk Museum near Wolford (pop. 50). Tours, a picnic area and camping are offered.

OHIO — "Boneshaker" bicycles from the 1800s, balloontire classics of the 1940s and '50s and a one-of-a-kind 1936 Pedi-Plane are among bicycles from every era at the Bicycle Museum of America in New Bremen (pop. 2,909).

SOUTH DAKOTA—The Turner County Fair in Parker (pop. 1,031) celebrated its 125th anniversary in August and has the distinction of being the state's okkest county fair. The gathering existed nine years before statehood in 1889.

WISCONSIN—Completed in 1916, the world's largest round barn at the Central Wisconsin State Fairgrounds in Marshfield (pop. 18,800) was designed to hold bleachers and 250 head of cattle for shows and sales. The barn is 150 feet in diameter, ~0 feet high and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.



Soft baked bread, yummy Smucker's jam and creamy Peanut butter. Unbelievable PB&Js, right from your grocer's freezer!

(Continued from page 7)

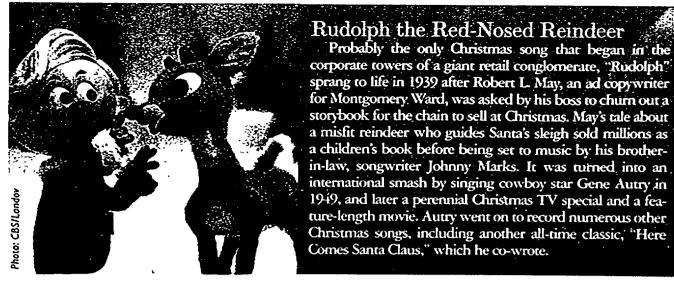
wise men-most likely astrologers from Persia-came to be described as "kings," a significant symbolic shift that denoted even royal rulers humbling themselves in the presence of the infant Son of God.

The First Noel

One of the most ancient of Christmas carols, this song married words from the 1600s with a much older melody dating perhaps as far back as the 13th century. It's been traced to France, but no one knows who wrote either the words or the music. Early English versions of the original French lyrics transcribed the word "noel" phonetically as "nowell," which was fancifully thought to be a contraction of what the angels might have spoken to calm the shepherds: "Now all is well." But actually, the French "noel" referred interchangeably to both "Christmas" and "carol," and may have even been a variation of an older Latin word, "natalis," which means "birthday."

Santa Claus Is Coming to Town

Pop star Eddie Cantor unveiled this new tune on his radio program in 1934, but didn't want to record it—he thought it was too juvenile. His wife loved it, however, and convinced him to give it a try. It became a smash hit after Cantor performed it later that year at the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade, at the climactic moment as Santa was making his entrance into Macy's department store. Written by Haven Gillespie, a Kentuckian transplanted to New York, and Brooklyn's



Fred Coots, a songwriter for Cantor's radio show, it's also been a hit for Bing Crosby, Perry Como, the Four Seasons, the Jackson Five and Bruce Springsteen.

Silent Night

Perhaps the most beloved of all Christmas carols, the tender "Silent Night" was written by a priest and hastily arranged by a church organist who had to improvise on guitar because the organ bellows had rusted and couldn't be played. The priest, Joseph Mohr, had written the words previously and the organist, Franz Guber, mapped out the melody shortly before its first performance on Christmas Eve 1818 in an Austrian village. It went on to become a worldwide standard. On a Christmas Eve during

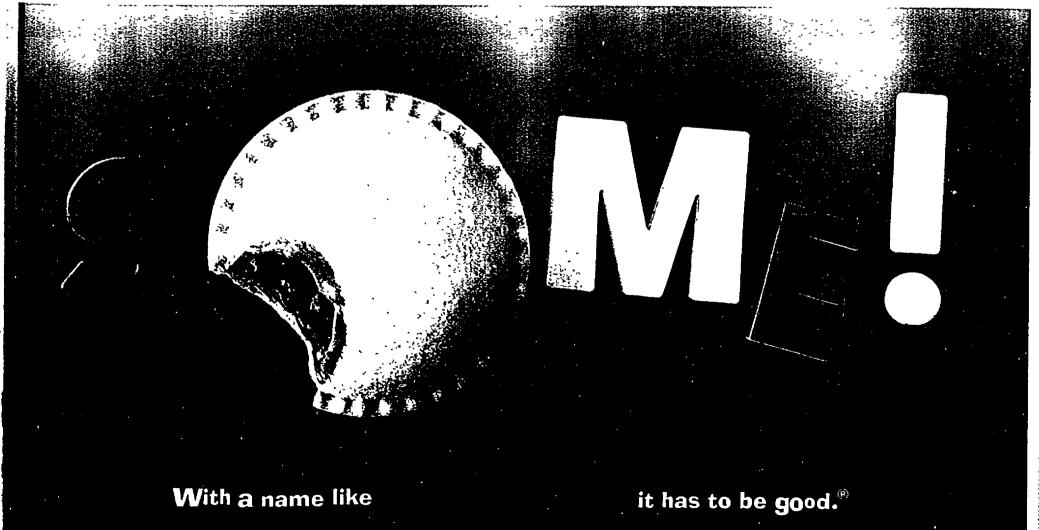
ture-length movie. Autry went on to record numerous other Christmas songs, including another all-time classic, "Here Comes Santa Claus," which he co-wrote. World War I, fighting was temporarily suspended along several fronts in Europe while soldiers on both sides turned on their radios to hear a broadcast of an internationally famous Austrian opera star performing the song. Her name was Ernestine Schumann Heinke, and she had two sons-one of them fighting for the Allies, and the other on the

Probably the only Christmas song that began in the

side of the Germans. For a few tranquil minutes during the world's first "great war," this song's powerful, hopeful message of "heavenly peace" rang dramatically true. 🍣

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Pies are as varied as the imaginations of their makers. With fillings that include fruit, sweet custards or ice creams, pies make great after-meal desserts and snacks.

Despite their versatility, many cooks shy away from pies because of the daunting challenge posed by the piecrust. Creating a perfectly flaky, tender crust is part science and part art and takes a lot of practice. So if your crust turns out to be the consistency of shoe leather, buy one ready-made. Today's varieties come packaged in an aluminum pan or folded or rolled so that you can unfurl them into your own pie pan and perhaps fool your diners into believing you made your own crust.

Mary Bishop, of North Platte, Neb., sent us her recipe for Crazy Cappuccino Pie. Proving that pies are ready ground for experimentation, Bishop says, "When a friend introduced me to Pennsylvania Shoofly Pie, I liked it and decided to create some variations. This one has been a hit with all who have tried it."

Another experimental pie maker, Christine Mauch of American Falls, Idaho, submitted her recipe for Apple Dumpling Pie. "My mother loved to bake. She baked love into her delicious apple dumplings, so I created a pie that combines her filling with an easy-to-make, no-roll pie crust from my sister," she explains.

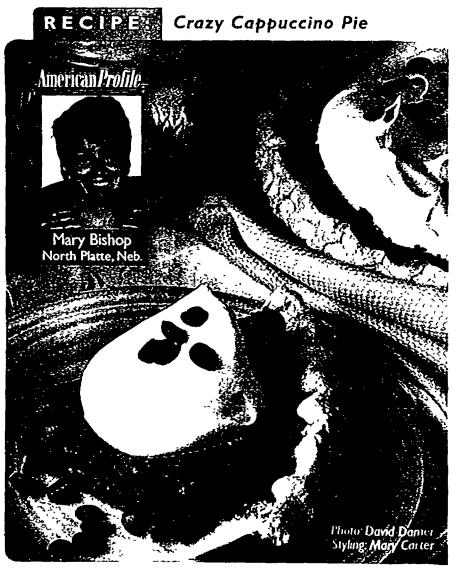
As always, American Profile looks forward to receiving—and publishing—your favorite recipes each week, and sharing them with our millions of readers across the nation.

What's your FAVORITE recipe?

Send us a favorite recipe for an appetizer, main dish, side dish, salad, sandwich, soup, baked good or another dish, along with the story behind it, to:

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Include a color photo of yourself, 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. (Sorry, we can't return any materials.)







ミ 132-1255

Crazy Cappuccino Pie I 9-inch unbaked piecrust

Filling:

I cup all-purpose flour 2/3 cup firmly packed brown sugar 2 tablespoons melted butter I cup very strong hot coffee I teaspoon baking soda I/2 cup chocolate syrup I/2 cup corn syrup I egg, beaten

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Combine flour, brown sugar and butter. Mix well. Set aside 1/2 cup of this mixture. Mix together 1/4 cup of coffee with baking soda. In a separate bowl, combine chocolate syrup, corn syrup and egg. Add remaining 3/4 cup of coffee and soda mixture and mix well. Add crumb mixture (excluding the 1/2 cup reserved) and mix well. Pour into piecrust. Sprinkle top with reserved crumbs. Cover loosely with foil. Bake for 30 to 35 minutes or until center is done. Cool. If desired, flavor 2 cups of whipped topping with 1 teaspoon instant coffee crystals dissolved in I teaspoon hot water. Serve each slice with plain or flavored whipped topping.

3

Apple Dumpling Pie

Crust: 1 and 1/2 cups all-purpose flour 1 and 1/2 tablespoons sugar 1 teaspoon salt 1/2 cup cooking oil 2 tablespoons milk Preheat oven to 425 degrees. Combine flour, sugar, salt, oil and milk. Press into an 8-inch deep-dish pie pan.

Filling:

- I cup sugar
- 2 tablespoons all-purpose flour
- 8 cups thinly sliced, peeled, tart baking apples (about 7 apples)

3 tablespoons butter or margarine Toss apples in sugar and flour. Place in piecrust and dot with the butter.

Topping:

- l cup all-purpose flour
- 1/2 cup sugar

1/2 cup butter

Combine flour and sugar, then cut in butter until mixture resembles coarse meal. Spread evenly over apples. Cover pie lightly with aluminum foil and bake for 40 to 50 minutes. Remove foil for the last 15 minutes of baking.



McLintock! (Authentic Collector's Edition) Paramount

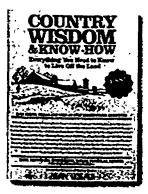


this DVD offer more than two hours of insight into the making of the rollicking, slapstick 1963 Western classic and John Wayne's famous macho persona. Interviews with co-stars Maureen O'Hara and Stephanie Powers are the next best thing to

The extras included with

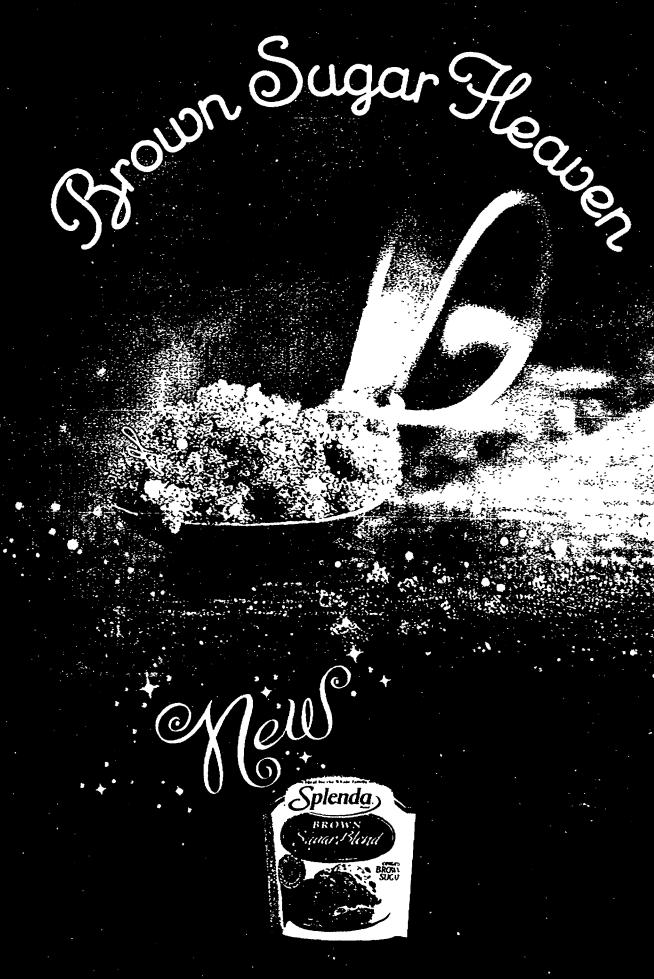
being on the set with "the Duke" himself. "When I read the script, I thought, 'They wrote it for the two of us,'" says O'Hara, the headstrong leading lady of *McLintock!* and several other Wayne pictures. Powers offers a little-known fact: Legendary moviemaker John Ford stepped in for a week of uncredited work when the director, Andrew McLaglen, was temporarily sidelined. Movie critic Leonard Maltin adds informative commentary about this sprawling comedy Western that one reviewer dubbed "the Duke at his two-fisted, brawlin' best!"

Country Wisdom & Know-How Black Dog/Leventhal



More than 30 years ago, the Country Wisdom Bulletin began as a series of 32-page booklets offering practical, hands-on advice for getting back to basics in a mindboggling assortment of activities, including raising rabbits, attract-

ing hummingbirds, concocting elixirs and home remedies, building a stone wall, making candles and crafting a chicken coop. Now collected into one oversized, 480-page volume with nearly 1,900 hand-drawn illustrations covering nearly 200 different topics, these detailed tutorials transport you to the "back-to-the-land" movement of the 1970s, when people from many walks of life were eager to learn how to do more for themselves. And like all wisdom that stands the test of time, the advice remains solid today, especially if you'd like to know how to build your own doghouse, learn beekeeping, keep your basement dry or buy a good horse.



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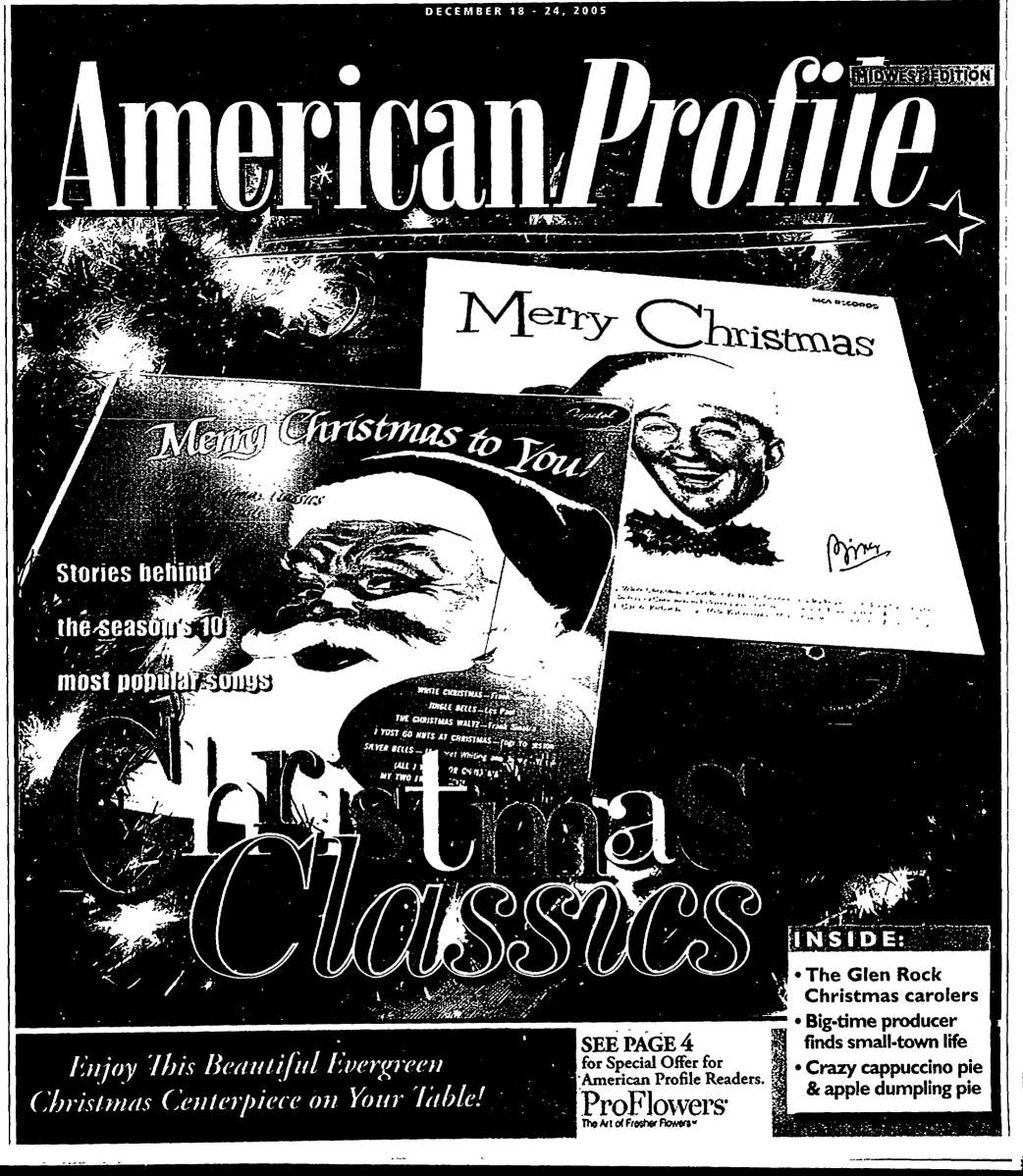
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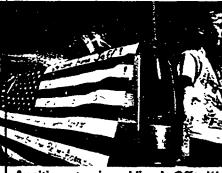
Q I always love watching A Christmos Story every year. Whatever became of the actor who played the little boy who wanted the Red Ryder BB gun?

---Robert T., Marthaville, La. Now 34, Peter Billingsley, who played the bespectacked Ralphie in the 1983 movie A Christmas Story, is a successful Hollywood producer with

several projects to his credit, including the TV Peter Billingsley series Dinner for Fine and the upcoming movie The Breakup, starring Vince Vaughn and Jennifer Anniston. But if you just can't get enough of Ralphie, you can watch the 24-hour Christmas Story marathon on TBS, which runs Christmas Eve into Christmas morning.

Q is the rock band Deep Purple still around? —Mark Hillman, Sunnyside, Wash.

Yes. The British band that gave the world the durable hard-rock classic "Smoke on the Water" in 1972 still is touring and recording. Although the band has undergone numerous personnel changes, original member and drummer Ian Paice sokliers on, as do members Roger Glover and Ian Gillan, and they've just released a new album, *Rapture of the Deep*. "There is only one thing that would stop me from continuing what I'm doing----if I lost the physical ability to live up to my standards," says Paice, 57. "I wouldn't want to go out with a whimper."



Coming Home

TUNE IN...

Off to War, the Discovery Times Channel's critically acclaimed original series, has taken viewers along for the experience

Awaiting returning soldiers in Off to War with a group of citizen soldiers from the Arkansas National Guard. As the series spotlights these ordinary men discovering the harsh realities of war, it also reveals the lives of the families and friends they left behind. In the finale, which airs Saturday, Dec. 24 (10 p.m. Eastern), the series follows the soldiers as they return home from Iraq and try to settle back into their civilian lives. They all struggle with how different they feel now after an 18-month deployment in a combat zone and a set of experiences to which few back home can relate.

Peter Billingsley has a disappointing encounter with Santa Claus in A Christmos Story.

Q I was wondering about the red-haired girl in the "If you can find a better car, buy it," commercial with Lee lacocca. Is she really his granddaughter?

—Beverly Gherardi, Hibbing, Minn. No, the little girl is an actress, hired to look cute in the role of the automotive icon's granddaughter. Iacocca, the former chairman of Chrysler Corp. who retired in 1992, shot more than 60 commercials for the car company in the 1980s and '90s. Now 80, he agreed to return to film some more commercials, including the one with the child, one with *Seinfeld* actor Jason Alexander and another with rap artist Snoop Dogg.



Lee lacocca came out of retirement to film new spots for Chrysler.

* Cover photo by David Mudd

Want to know more about a celebrity or public figure? Send your questions to:

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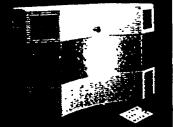
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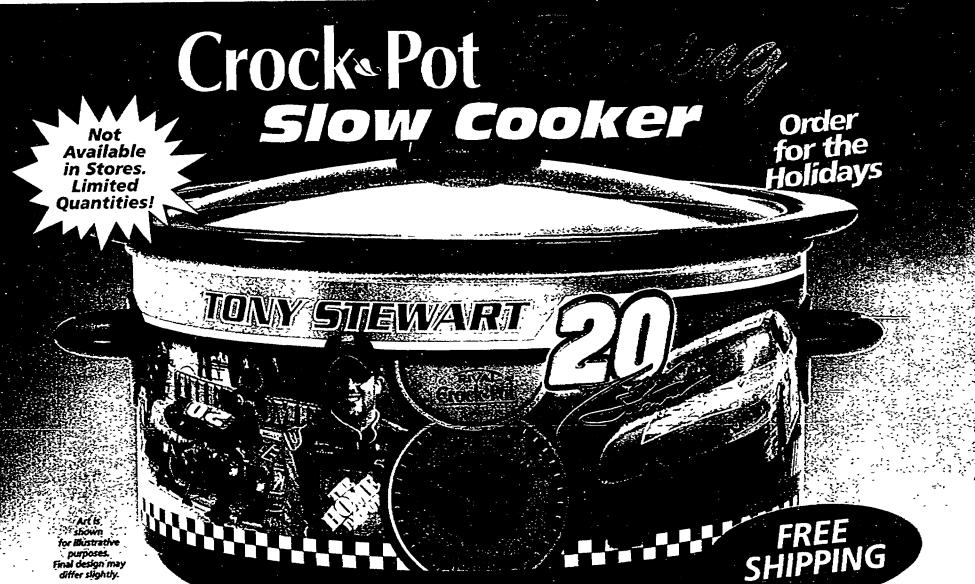


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Grammy Award-winning producer Bill Szymczyk traded rock's fast lane for a more peaceful lifestyle.



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As he's done for nearly four decades, music producer Bill Szymczyk sits behind a recording studio console as a drummer adds his part to a song. After the session is completed, Szymczyk (pronounced sim-zik) retreats to the lobby of a nearby horel to soak up the soothing strains of a pianist playing a classical tune.

But this isn't just business as usual for Szymczyk, 62, one of rock music's most successful producers. Although he's worked with acts such as the Eagles, the Who, Bob Seger, Joe Walsh and B.B. King, his activities on this particular day are a family affair: His son, Michael, 18, is the drummer in Szymczyk's basement studio, while son Daniel, 13, is the one tickling the ivories in the hotel lobby after a family dinner at the Switzerland Inn near their home in Little Switzerland, N.C.

Although Szymczyk spent most of his career working in top-line recording studios in New York, Los Angeles and Miami, he moved to Little Switzerland, a resort community along the Blue Ridge Parkway, in 1990 to raise his sons in a more child-friendly environment. Truly committed to fatherhood, he vows to have a better balance between work and family than his bectic, 12-hour-a-day, six-days-a-week schedule had allowed in decades past.

"I really wasn't there, because of my work schedule, for my first two children," says Szymczyk, who also has two grown children from his first marriage. "So when my wife, Lisi, and I made the commitment to have children, I decided to be there for every basketball game, soccer game and piano recital. It's very fulfilling."

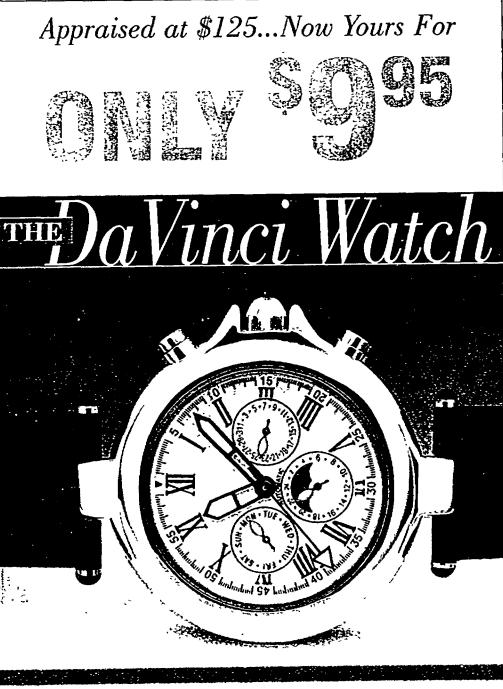
Finding the perfect balance—at least in the recording studio—has always seemed to come easily for Szymczyk, who is praised for his attentive ears, sense of perfection and patience for creating the right mix of sound. "He pioneered the careful making of records," says his friend, producer/musician Al Kooper. "With his work with the Eagles, every little piece of music on the record was made perfect. That really hadn't been done before."

Musicians who've worked with Szymczyk adore him for his infectious sense of humor, booming voice and larger-than-life personality that complements his 6-foot-4-inch frame. He's always had the knack of getting along with band members who can't seem to get along with each other, such as the Who and the Eagles, who called him "Coach."

Szymczyk grew up near the shores of Lake Michigan in Muskegon, Mich. (pop. 40,105), where his mother was a nurse and his

Szymczyk "pioneered the careful making of records," says a colleague.





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by NEIL POND Entertainment Editor

As a favorite holiday song reminds us, it's beginning to look a lot like Christmas.

story

And sound a lot like it, too—everywhere you go. For weeks leading up to Dec. 25, Christmas songs abound. You hear them on the radio and television, in shopping malls and stores, as you're wandering the grocery aisles or waiting to get your transmission repaired. They flow from concert halls, school auditoriums and church sanctuaries. In many neighborhoods, groups of carolers deliver them door-to-door.

Clearly, no other holiday has a soundtrack like Christmas.

Over the centuries, thousands of carols, hymns, anthems, ballads and even novelty songs have been written about Christmas and everything associated with it. But of those thousands, only a relative handful continue to endure as evergreens from generation to generation, according to William Studwell, a music historian and retired Northern Illinois University professor who is nationally recognized as an expert on Christmas songs.

Studwell estimates that "handful" of tunes to be no more than 50.

"Those 50 songs, which might change a little bit from generation to generation, are very powerful culturally," says Studwell, who has written four definitive books about Christmas music. "Just about everybody, except for a few Christmas grouches, sings and hears them for a month or more. You don't have to be a Christian or even like Christmas, but you're exposed to them. They have a great deal of impact."

Like the gifts in Santa's sack, the songs of Christmas are a mixed bag. They represent a variety of themes, topics and timelines. Some are distinctly American; others have roots in our country's European ancestry. Some are serious and formal; others light, lively and even silly.

So sit back, pour yourself some eggnog and put on your favorite Christmas CD as we unwrap the stories behind 10 of the most popular songs of the season.

Jingle Bells

The stories behind

the season's 10

most popular songs

This festive, well-known Christmas song didn't actually begin as a Christmas song at all. It was written by James Pierpoint for his father's Sunday school class in Boston for children to perform as part of a Thanksgiving service in 1857. It's not surprising, then, that it doesn't contain a single reference to Christmas, the Nativity or any of the icons typically associated with the holiday. Yet, with its

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jaunty melody, colorful sleigh-ride imagery and join-in, sing-a-long chorus, it has been a musical staple of holiday programs for nearly 150 years and is possibly one of the best-known songs in the world.

White Christmas

Unquestionably America's most popular Christmas song, this warm, sentimental classic is also the most commercially successful in history. Bing Crosby's rendition alone sold more than 31 million copies. Written by Broadway and show-tune composer Irving Berlin for the 1942 movie *Holiday Inn*, starring Crosby and Fred Astaire, it won the Academy Award that year for the best original song. When Hollywood remade the film in color in 1954, the title of the movie was changed—to *White Christmas*, of course.



God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen

A misplaced typesetter's comma somewhere along the way in this carol's early life led many people, even to this day, to think of it as "God Rest Ye, Merry Gentlemen." But the word "rest" meant much the same as "keep," and the song was a boisterous exhortation of love and brotherhood with a blessing that "God keep you merry." Its authorship is unknown, but it probably dates from England and the 1600s, where it was presumably sung on the streets by strolling, serenading carolers during the Christmas season. (In Charles Dickens' classic A Christmas Carol, the happy sound of a caroler—singing "God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen"—infuriates Ebenezer Scrooge.) The song's unusual, minor-key arrangement makes it somewhat unique among traditional Christmas tunes.

Away in a Manger

Often misattributed to Protestant reformer Martin Luther, this gentle, lullaby-like song actually was written in 1855 by an unknown Pennsylvanian, who likely drew inspiration from an old German folk tune. A byline in an 1887 songbook gave credit (perhaps mistakenly or possibly deliberately, to hype sales) to Luther, who actually *did* write the words for many hymns and other songs—but not this one.

What Child Is This?

William Chatterton Dix, an insurance company executive by trade, wrote this soft and sweet ode to the



baby Jesus sometime in the late 1800s. It was one of the first Christmas songs to depict the traditional Nativity scene in detail—the gifts of the "wise men," the shepherds, even the ox and ass. Dix set his song to the tune of "Greensleeves," a traditional melody so ancient it's mentioned in two of Shakespeare's plays.

We Three Kings of Orient Are

This stately, richly detailed carol was penned around 1857 by Pittsburgh native John Henry Hopkins Jr., who worked as a newspaper reporter, attended law school, edited a religious magazine and designed stained-glass windows before finally becoming ordained as a deacon—at the ripe old age of 72. Its narrative structure, depicting the three wise men bringing gifts to the Christ child, gives it a reverent, scriptural feel. But the wise men barely made it into the Bible—they are mentioned only in one account of Jesus' birth (in Matthew). In the years before this song was written, the *(Continued on page 13)*



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*Source "Lighting the Way to Energy Savings", 1999



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(Continued from page 4)

father was a factory worker and school maintenance worker. "It was a rural Midwest town in the 1950s—very open doors, nonlocked cars and kids in the neighborhood," he says. "It was mellow



Gold records line his home studio walks

and unthreatening. The upper Midwest upbringing and school of thought

is just real down-home, basic common sense."

He found this same mellowness and sense of security in North Carolina, where he and Lisi became active members of the community. They don't hesitate to dash off a letter to the editor of the local newspaper, or vocalize their opinions at school board meetings. When efforts began in the late 1990s to raise money for a domestic-violence shelter, they tirelessly called upon their famous friends to donate unique items for two auctions they hosted that raised \$30,000 for the Mitchell County Safe Place.

"He does a lot of community work, and a lot of it is quiet," says his friend and golf partner, Jim Meyer, owner of Wildflowers Natural Foods & Etc. in nearby Spruce Pine (pop. 2,030). "We met when we were out picking up yard-sale items for a project to develop a tile wall at one of the schools. He is a regular guy, even though he's a musical genius."

Szymczyk continues to produce both big-name acts, like the Eagles (they've recorded 17 tracks for a new album), as well as local musicians, such as singer/songwriter Grant Sparks, but nowadays his travel is self-limited and the schedule is based on his terms. "I still produce and I still love to do it, but I am not angsting if the phone doesn't ring anymore," he says.

"I was born and raised in a nice small-town environment, [then] went to all the big cities and did all the rock and roll things and accomplished a ton," Szymczyk says. "I'm very comfortable with how much I've done, and I don't have to do anymore. I am not driven; I'm not a Type A.

"It's almost full circle," he says. "Here I am back in the country again."

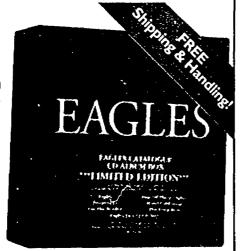
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When Szymczyk and wife Lisi were looking for a place to raise their sons, Daniel (left) and Michael, out of the urban sprawl, they found it along the Blue Ridge Parkway in Little Switzerland, N.C.





Music Director Darryl Engler leads the Glen Rock (Pa.) Carolers in song as residents gather in the square.

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Hark the Herald Glen Rock Sings

At the stroke of midnight on Christmas morn, the Glen Rock Carolers gather in the town square of Glen Rock, Pa. (pop. 1,809), to begin a celebration of song that takes them throughout the town and into the dawn of the day. Onlookers also gather in the square to hear the sounds of yuleticle songs and watch as the carolers carry on a 158-year-old town tradition.

"The square is packed," says Darryl Engler, music director for the Glen Rock Carolers. "There must be a thousand or more people. They come from all over, and every year it gets bigger."

The holiday tradition began on Christmas in 1848, when four newly arrived settlers grew homesick for the carol singing they left behind in England. With the help of a bassoon player, the four men walked to each of the town's 12 homes, singing the same four carols at each stop.

Today, the carolers-all male, ranging in age from 10 to 87-still perform those original four songs, along with 10 new songs.

"Since 1848, not wars, illness or weather has caused a break in the tradition," says Engler, 58. "We're the custodians of this tradition, and we take it very seriously."

The singing group has 50 official "Caped Carolers," who sport the Dickens-style caped coars and enjoy the privilege of voting on everything from awarding honorary memberships to filling a vacancy. Sixteen associate members, dressed in dark blue capes lined with red silk, accompany their singing brethren, practicing the songs, learning the tradition and waiting for an opening with the Caped Carolers.

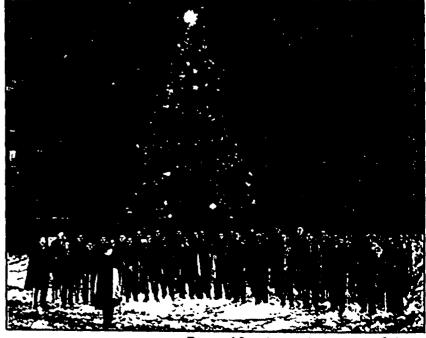
"Someone has to die or resign to take in a new member," says Engler, who has been with the group 34 years-13 singing and 21 directing.

In 1997, when White House officials extended an invitation for only 20 of the carolers to perform, the Caped Carolers voted to graciously decline.

During the group's annual trek through Glen Rock, a town crier walks ahead of the singers handing out fresh roasted peanuts and announcing, "The carolers are corning! The carolers are corning!"

Some families follow the carolers through the streets. Many host allnight parties, gathering on their porches or at their windows to watch and listen as the carolers stop at each street light to sing. James Kroh, 87, who will mark his 71st Christmas caroling on the streets of Glen Rock this year, recalls listening to the singers as a child.

Carolers in the 1940s harmonize during their all-night trek through town.



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"I remember being a baby in my mother's arms, wrapped in a blanket as she held me up to the window to hear the carolers," says Kroh, whose family is a direct descendant of original caroler Mark Radcliffe. "I always knew I'd be a caroler one day."

Kroh's brother Mark, who died in April, would have celebrated his 76th year with the group. Still the family legacy continues on as both of the Kroh brothers have sons, grandsons, and even a great-grandson involved with the group.

The carolers usually make three stops along the way for food, drink and warmth. The home of Don Swartz and his wife, Janice Dean, is one of their rest stops.

Wrangler

NUNALO

"We moved here 20 years ago, and no one rold us about the carolers," says Swartz, recalling his introduction to the tradition. "Here it was the early hours of Christmas morning when we heard voices. When we got to our balcony, we were stunned. We had never heard or seen anything like it."

While much of America is waking at dawn to greet Christmas morning, many in Glen Rock are just falling into bed. And although aching legs and cold feet come with the caroling tradition, the carolers wouldn't have it any other way.

"I have nothing better to do. Literally!" Engler says. "Truly, there isn't anything better in the whole world than being part of this tradition."

> Tracy Leinberger-Leonardi is a freelance uriter in Elkson, Md.

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Christmas

lames Kroh

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Instruments have accompanied the group since 1848, when the tradition began.

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Did You Know ...

ILLINOIS—Actor, producer and director John Malkovich, a member of Chicago's Steppenwolf Theatre, may be best known for starring as a fantasy version of himself in the 1999 movie *Being John Malkovich*. He was born in 1953 in Christopher (pop. 2,836).

INDIANA—Squire Boone Caverns near Corydon (pop. 2,715) is named after the brother of Daniel Boone. Squire, a prominent explorer and woodsman, discovered the cave in 1790, considered it holy ground and asked to be buried there.

IOWA—Organized-labor leader John L. Lewis, born in 1880 to Welsh immigrants near Lucas (pop. 243), worked as a teenager in the local coalmines. He served as president of the United Mine Workers of America from 1920 to 1960, and died at his home in Alexandria, Va., in 1969.

KANSAS—The world's smallest presidential library will open in February in Atchison (pop. 10,232) to honor David Rice Atchison, who some say was president for one day in 1849 after newly elected Zachary Taylor refused to take the oath on Sunday.

MICHIGAN—Ventriloquist Edgar Bergen and his wisecracking wooden pupper, Charlie McCarthy, were hits on their own radio show from 1937 to 1956, despite the fact that listeners couldn't see them. Bergen was born in 1903 in Decarur (pop. 3,916).

Florida Escape

Shopping & Family Entertainment

MINNESOTA—Minneapolis' most famous career woman is portrayed in a downtown statue of actress Mary Tyler Moore tossing her hat in the air as Mary Richards, Minneapolis TV producer on *The Mary Tyler Moore Show*, which aired on CBS from 1970 to 1977.

MISSOURI—In 1816, pioneer James Hart Stark settled in Louisiana (pop. 3,863) and planted the seeds of his world-famous Stark Bro's Nurseries and Orchards Co. Noted horticulturist Luther Burbank selected Stark to carry on his work and willed him 750 plant varieties.

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NORTH DAKOTA—Steam engines, antique tractors, threshers and other old farm implements, along with the Wolford school, which houses a clock collection, are preserved at the Dale and Martha Hawk Museum near Wolford (pop. 50). Tours, a picnic area and camping are offered.

OHIO—"Boneshaker" bicycles from the 1800s, balloontire classics of the 1940s and '50s and a one-of-a-kind 1936 Pedi-Plane are among bicycles from every era at the Bicycle Museum of America in New Bremen (pop. 2,909).

SOUTH DAKOTA—The Turner County Fair in Parker (pop. 1,031) celebrated its 125th anniversary in August and has the distinction of being the state's oldest county fair. The gathering existed nine years before statehood in 1889.

WISCONSIN—Completed in 1916, the world's largest round barn at the Central Wisconsin State Fairgrounds in Marshfield (pop. 18,800) was designed to hold bleachers and 250 head of cattle for shows and sales. The barn is 150 feet in diameter, 70 feet high and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.



(Continued from page 7)

wise men---most likely astrologers from Persia---came to be described as "kings," a significant symbolic shift that denoted even royal rulers humbling themselves in the presence of the infant Son of God.

The First Noel

One of the most ancient of Christmas carols, this song married words from the 1600s with a much older melody dating perhaps as far back as the 13th century. It's been traced to France, but no one knows who wrote either the words or the music. Early English versions of the original French lyrics transcribed the word "noel" phonetically as "nowell," which was fancifully thought to be a contraction of what the angels might have spoken to calm the shepherds: "Now all is well." But actually, the French "noel" referred interchangeably to both "Christmas" and "carol," and may have even been a variation of an older Latin word, "natalis," which means "birthday."

Santa Claus Is Coming to Town

Pop star Eddie Cantor unveiled this new tune on his radio program in 1934, but didn't want to record it—he thought it was too juvenile. His wife loved it, however, and convinced him to give it a try. It became a smash hit after Cantor performed it later that year at the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade, at the climactic moment as Santa was making his entrance into Macy's department store. Written by Haven Gillespie, a Kentuckian transplanted to New York, and Brooklyn's



Fred Coots, a songwriter for Cantor's radio show, it's also been a hit for Bing Crosby, Perry Como, the Four Seasons, the Jackson Five and Bruce Springsteen.

Silent Night

Perhaps the most beloved of all Christmas carols, the tender "Silent Night" was written by a priest and hastily arranged by a church organist who had to improvise on guitar because the organ bellows had rusted and couldn't be played. The priest, Joseph Mohr, had written the words previously and the organist, Franz Guber, mapped out the melody shortly before its first performance on Christmas Eve 1818 in an Austrian village. It went on to become a worldwide standard. On a Christmas Eve during

Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer

Probably the only Christmas song that began in the corporate towers of a giant retail conglomerate, "Rudolph" sprang to life in 1939 after Robert L. May, an ad copywriter for Montgomery Ward, was asked by his boss to churn out a storybook for the chain to sell at Christmas. May's tale about a misfit reindeer who guides Santa's sleigh sold millions as a children's book before being set to music by his brotherin-law, songwriter Johnny Marks. It was turned into an international smash by singing cowboy star Gene Autry in 1949, and later a perennial Christmas TV special and a feature-length movie. Autry went on to record numerous other Christmas songs, including another all-time classic, "Here Comes Santa Claus," which he co-wrote.

> World War I, fighting was temporarily suspended along several fronts in Europe while soldiers on both sides turned on their radios to hear a broadcast of an internationally famous Austrian opera star performing the song. Her name was Ernestine Schumann Heinke, and she had two sons—one of them fighting for the Allies, and the other on the side of the Germans. For a few tranquil minutes during the world's first "great war," this song's powerful, hopeful message of "heavenly peace" rang dramatically true.

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Hometown Recipes

Improvised Pies

Pies are as varied as the imaginations of their makers. With fillings that include fruit, sweet custards or ice creams, pies make great after-meal desserts and snacks.

Despite their versatility, many cooks shy away from pies because of the daunting challenge posed by the piecrust. Creating a perfectly flaky, tender crust is part science and part art and takes a lot of practice. So if your crust turns out to be the consistency of shoe leather, buy one ready-made. Today's varieties come packaged in an aluminum pan or folded or rolled so that you can unfurl, them into your own pie pan and perhaps fool your diners into believing you made your own crust.

Mary Bishop, of North Platte, Neb., sent us her recipe for Crazy Cappuccino Pie. Proving that pies are ready ground for experimentation, Bishop says, "When a friend introduced me to Pennsylvania Shoofly Pie, I liked it and decided to create some variations. This one has been a hit with all who have tried it."

Another experimental pie maker, Christine Mauch of American Falls, Idaho, submitted her recipe for Apple Dumpling Pie. "My mother loved to bake. She baked love into her delicious apple dumplings, so I created a pie that combines her filling with an easy-to-make, no-roll pie crust from my sister," she explains.

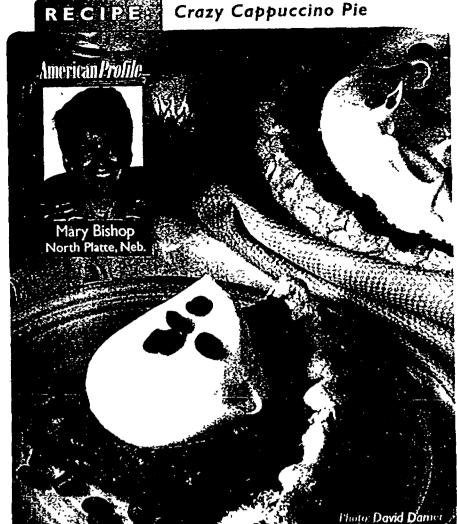
As always, American Profile looks forward to receiving—and publishing—your favorite recipes each week, and sharing them with our millions of readers across the nation.

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3

Crazy Cappuccino Pie I 9-inch unbaked piecrust

Filling:

l cup all-purpose flour 2/3 cup firmly packed brown sugar 2 tablespoons melted butter l cup very strong hot coffee l teaspoon baking soda 1/2 cup chocolate syrup l/2 cup corn syrup l egg, beaten

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Combine flour, brown sugar and butter. Mix well. Set aside 1/2 cup of this mixture. Mix together 1/4 cup of coffee with baking soda. In a separate bowl, combine chocolate syrup, corn syrup and egg. Add remaining 3/4 cup of coffee and soda mixture and mix well. Add crumb mixture (excluding the 1/2 cup reserved) and mix well. Pour into piecrust. Sprinkle top with reserved crumbs. Cover loosely with foil. Bake for 30 to 35 minutes or until center is done. Cool. If desired, flavor 2 cups of whipped topping with 1 teaspoon instant coffee crystals dissolved in I teaspoon hot water. Serve each slice with plain or flavored whipped topping.



Apple Dumpling Pie

Crust:

Styling: Mary Carter

- 1 and 1/2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 and 1/2 tablespoons sugar
- l teaspoon salt
- 1/2 cup cooking oil
- 2 tablespoons milk

Preheat oven to 425 degrees. Combine flour, sugar, salt, oil and milk. Press into an 8-inch deep-dish pie pan.

Filling:

- l cup sugar
- 2 tablespoons all-purpose flour
- 8 cups thinly sliced, peeled, tart baking apples (about 7 apples)
- 3 tablespoons butter or margarine Toss apples in sugar and flour. Place in piecrust and dot with the butter.

Topping:

- 1 cup all-purpose flour 1/2 cup sugar
- 1/2 cup butter
- Combine flour and sugar, then cut in butter until mixture resembles coarse meal. Spread evenly over apples. Cover pie lightly with aluminum foil and bake for 40 to 50 minutes. Remove foil for the last 15 minutes of baking.



McLintock! (Authentic Collector's Edition) Paramount



The extras included with this DVD offer more than two hours of insight into the making of the rollicking, slapstick 1963 Western classic and John Wayne's famous macho persona. Interviews with co-stars Maureen O'Hara and Stephanie Powers are the next best thing to

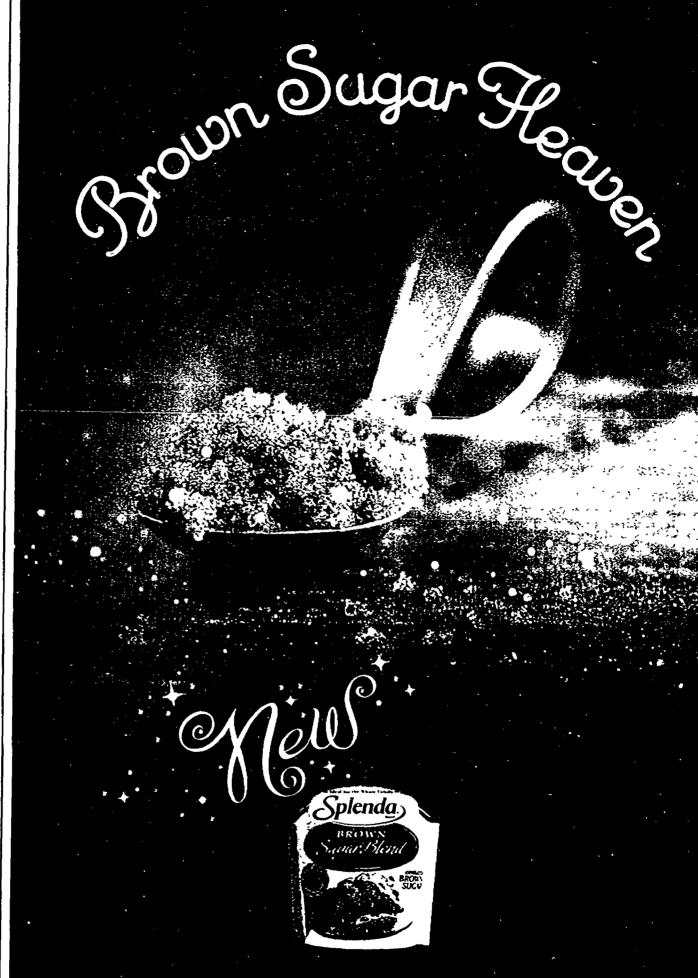
being on the set with "the Duke" himself. "When I read the script, I thought, 'They wrote it for the two of us," says O'Hara, the headstrong leading lady of *McLintuck!* and several other Wayne pictures. Powers offers a little-known fact: Legendary moviemaker John Ford stepped in for a week of uncredited work when the director, Andrew McLaglen, was temporarily sidelined. Movie critic Leonard Maltin adds informative commentary about this sprawling comedy Western that one reviewer dubbed "the Duke at his two-fisted, brawlin' best!"

Country Wisdom & Know-How Black Dog/Leventhal



More than 30 years ago, the Country Wisdom Bulletin began as a series of 32-page booklets offering practical, hands-on advice for getting back to basics in a mindboggling assortment of activities, including raising rabbits, attract-

ing hummingbirds, concocting elixirs and home remedies, building a stone wall, making candles and crafting a chicken coop. Now collected into one oversized, 480-page volume with nearly 1,900 hand-drawn illustrations covering nearly 200 different topics, these detailed tutorials transport you to the "back-to-the-land" movement of the 1970s, when people from many walks of life were eager to learn how to do more for themselves. And like all wisdom that stands the test of time, the advice remains solid today, especially if you'd like to know how to build your own doghouse, learn beekeeping, keep your basement dry or buy a good horse.



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