

# Northville Record



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Thursday, March 30, 2006

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Volume 136 Number 37

Northville, Michigan

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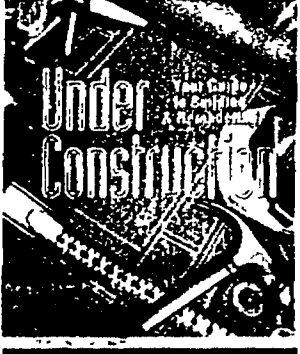
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**Coming Next Week**



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## 2 tests: bullies, bonds

# Bully pulpit

By Victoria Mitchell  
RECORD STAFF WRITER

Northville Township police detective Matt MacKenzie maneuvered through school halls, pursuing a student-teacher death threat.

He entered the Northville High School teacher's special-education classroom.

"She stated (a cognitively impaired student) just said he was going to kill me," his report said. "She appeared visibly upset."

The teacher told police she was trying to help the student with an assignment when he said "you're not my teacher, you can't tell me what to do." According to the report, the student eventually told the teacher he was going to kill her.

Northville High School principal Dennis Colligan said bullying can be student-to-student, student-to-teacher or teacher-to-student.

"The thing that we watch for the most, I think is student-to-student, but it can take on the look of its own," he said. "We always talk to our teachers about sensitivity issues and in our orientation programs for new teachers we talk about it like the very, very selective use of sarcasm."

### Take action

Colligan said student bullying at the high school level is less overt.

"We worry more about the subtleties of some bullying, the antagonistic comments, that really fit the description of bullying," he said.

Colligan said immediate action is taken against high school bullies, under the guidance of policies including improper communication, hazing, discriminatory harassment, intimidation, threats, fighting, violent assault and verbal assault.

Northville parent Cecilia Bruck feels intervening against bullies in the higher grades is too late.

She is rallying for an anti-bullying policy at the elementary school level.

"It is all about stepping up the anti-bullying program at the elementary school," Bruck said. "I

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### GOVERNOR'S EDICT

Granholtz says every district should have official bullying policy; three years after local hazing incident, Northville remains without one

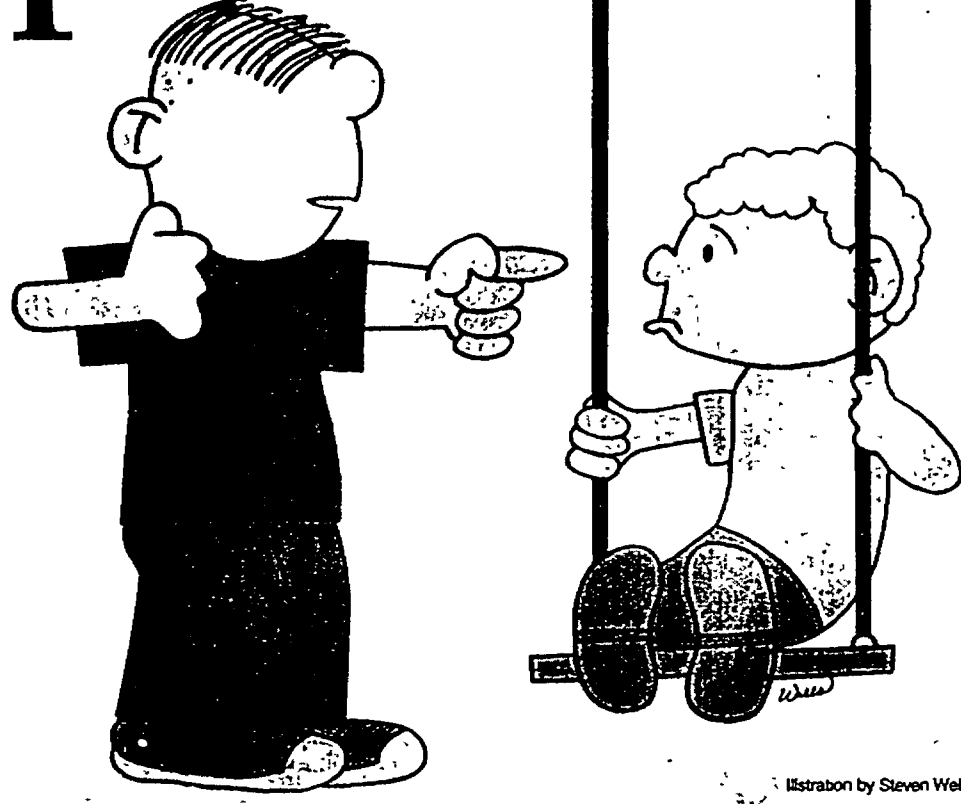


Illustration by Steven Wells

### What's inside:

■ **Talk to me**  
How do you get your kids to tell you they're being bullied at school? How can you help prevent bullying? Page 10A.

### Bully bills:

■ **What's being proposed?**  
Two bullying bills reside in the state legislature, including one co-sponsored by local State Rep. John Stewart (R-Plymouth).

### Next week:

■ **Northville's policy**  
Northville Public Schools does not have an official bullying policy. Instead officials rely on school principals to make decisions and host appropriate anti-bullying programming on a case-by-case basis. Find out who's really calling the shots.

■ **'I lost my son'**  
Hear how one Michigan man lost his son to school bullies and a hazing ritual left unchecked.

■ **Moraine meeting**  
One local parent is taking matters into her own hands.

### NORTHVILLE: SCHOOL VIOLENCE

■ **Oct. 28, 2003**  
During a football ritual monitored by three coaches, Meads Mill Middle School seventh grader Garret Drogosch is hit several times by eighth grade players, resulting in multiple bone fractures. State Sen. Nancy Cassis (R-Novi) calls the incident hazing. The coaches are fired. Statewide scrutiny results in Michigan anti-hazing legislation.

■ **December 2004**  
A group of Meads Mill Middle School females reportedly threaten a fellow classmate as part of a "hate club" targeting the girl. Police reports indicate the girl was repeatedly taunted, concluding with a downloaded death threat played over the telephone. The accused girls say the clip from the movie "Phone Booth" is just a prank call. The 13-year-old victim is removed from public school by her parents and enrolled in private school. The suspects, also 13, tell police the incident is just a "joke." District officials take no action, citing the alleged incident occurred off school premises.

■ **Challenge Day 2005**  
Hillside Middle School seventh graders participate in the first Challenge Day event, widely viewed as a necessary mechanism for shifting dangerous peer pressure to positive support, and helping students see past race, social status and personal differences. The two-day program is funded by the Hillside Middle School PTSA, Northville Youth Assistance and community donations. The school will host the event again in 2006. No other school has sponsored the program.

■ **Death threats 2006**  
According to police reports, two Northville High School students are suspended at the beginning of the school year after posting teacher death threats on the Internet. The students allegedly posted the threats against a Northville High School teacher on a Myspace.com blog. Both boys say they are not serious and are ordered to appear in juvenile court for threatening language. Earlier this month, a police report is filed after a special needs student threatens to kill a Northville High School teacher. The teacher does not press charges.

## Schools: August election 'unlikely'

Officials hedge on November; 2007 next stop?

By Victoria Mitchell  
RECORD STAFF WRITER

It doesn't look like voters will be casting late summer ballots during a Northville Public Schools bond election.

"It is highly unlikely we will be coming back in August," said Karen Paciorek, Northville Public Schools Board of Education president.

District officials said holding an August election is the last opportunity to have a seventh elementary school open for the 2007-08 school year.

The message Northville Township Supervisor Mark Abbo received is a bit stronger.

"The school administration has communicated to us that they will not bring forward a millage question to the voters in August," he said.

This August, the City of Northville and Northville Township will be asking voters to approve their own millage requests.

Paciorek said a residential survey would likely be the district's next step, followed by plotting a new strategy. She said board officials and district administrators would first have to meet.

"We haven't had time to do that," she said.

Last month, voters soundly rejected, by about 1,200 votes apiece, two bond proposals totaling nearly \$71 million. The pro-

continued on Page 19A

### What do you think?

Would school district officials be making the right move, if they chose not to hold an August bond election? Do you think the district can afford to wait another year before beginning work on what officials called "urgent needs" in the Feb. 28 bond? E-mail us a letter to the editor (400 words or less): daguilair@gannett.com



## Raising the stakes

Officials defend additional \$18K for historic barn

By Tracy Mishler  
RECORD STAFF WRITER

Marv Gans needed more money to restore a historic Northville Township barn.

So he asked his fellow township board members for help.

Due to unexpected expenses during the township's plan to relocate a barn from Six Mile and Sheldon roads to Thayer Corner's Park in October, Gans recently asked the board for an additional

\$18,000, above and beyond the \$62,500 approved by the board last year.

"We didn't anticipate having two mailings (to inform residents of the barn relocation)," Gans said, a board trustee. "We also had attorney fees relevant to the barn, acquiring the barn and what we would have to do on the original site to restore it."

Gans said attorney fees cost about \$1,400.

He cited an electrical line had to be taken down the day of the move, traffic light fees from Wayne County and requirements needed for getting the barn up to

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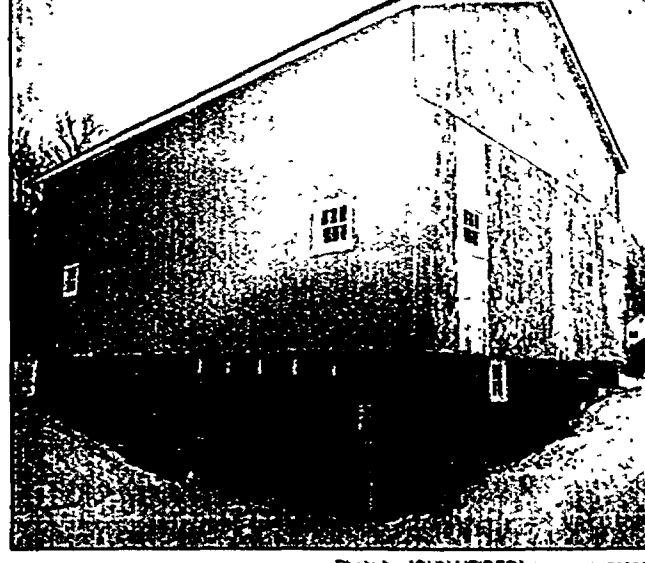


Photo by JOHN HEIDER/NORTHVILLE RECORD

A historic barn is under renovation at Thayer Corner's Park, located at Napier and Six Mile roads



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# Giving is receiving

## Executive slowed by illness, guided by mantra

By Maureen Johnston  
RECORD STAFF WRITER

Linda Marshall was used to traveling at the speed of a cell phone connection.

Boardroom leadership, global travel and executive decisions charged the telecommunications industry veteran.

Then, reception began to fade and the always-healthy yoga enthusiast fell ill.

Afflicted by Stevens-Johnson Syndrome, a rare disease blistering her entire body, Marshall defied statistics by rebounding from death's door.

After an arduous recovery, she has programmed her gratitude and professional aptitude into charitable contributions and rededicated herself to her lifelong mantra: "Giving is receiving."

"When you just get too busy, you don't listen," Marshall said. "You're not aware. I was forced to listen."

### Soul searching

A self-described Type-A personality, Marshall said she was always used to doing things for others — her employer, her family, her friends and charitable causes. In her 40s, she was active and dedicated to yoga's breathing, meditation and stretching regimen.

"The greatest thing I've learned is to be open to embrace change," she said. "We all should affect something, whatever it is."

In the year following her hospital stay, Marshall left behind the corporate trappings and went soul-searching.

"I forced myself not to go back to work," she said. "I really furthered my yoga and I spent a lot of time just learning to be."

Marshall said she learned to slow down and savor the people in her life.

"I'd always been doing charity work," she said. "When I got sick, I had to learn to receive."

For months, she stayed inside her Pheasant Hills home, recovering, and baking banana nut bread for friends, and dog cookies for the humane society.

### Against all odds

Marshall said a neighbor recognized her cough and rash as a drug reaction. It's probably what saved her life.

In June 2004, she had been taking prescription pain relievers for an injury she suffered while tending to her grandmother's nursing home bedside during the final four months of her life. Hours after her grandmother's death, Marshall was rushed to the hospital for her own rapidly progressing illness.

"My eyes were bleeding," she said. "Every inch of me was blisters."

"They told my family I would have a 10 percent chance of living."

During her drug-numbed hospital stay, Marshall said dreamed she would not be able to enjoy people

and yoga again. Blistered, bandaged and barely able to move, she dialed up her strength seeking a different outcome.

### Healing energy

Marshall attributes her recovery to her dedication to yoga, strength of will and the support of friends and family who supported her through the ordeal.

"There's nothing like the power of quiet, silence and that healing energy," she said. "The wealth of my life is the people in my life. Nothing else touches that."

Marshall's non-profit employers became the Judson Center for foster care in southeastern Michigan, the Cranbrook Art Academy, Northville Civic Concern and Childhelp USA for abused children.

"I've used my business experience for fund-raising," she said. "People have always come to me for ideas. I finally found my answer."

"I can help people help other people."

Marshall also provides transportation for people in need of cancer treatment and to yoga classes.

"Until I was in the hospital and at the nursing home, I had no idea how many people are sick and alone," Marshall said. "I had no idea. I'm thankful every day."

### Giving and receiving

On Sept. 11, Marshall hosted an "I'm alive" party when she asked guests to bring gifts for community service organizations.

"People don't know how to get involved," she said. "It's not that they don't want to."

When Marshall's mother died six weeks ago, she practiced her new skill of asking for help by introducing her stepfather to Civic Concern. Already his volunteer hours are giving him a renewed sense of purpose. And around the circle goes, Marshall said.

"If you listen to what people don't say, you can hear what they're saying," Marshall said. "They really need help, but they're afraid to ask for help."

"Giving is receiving. It just kind of goes around in a circle."

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



Photo by JOHN HEIDER/NORTHVILLE RECORD

Linda Marshall gives a treat to her pomeranian, Webster.



Photo by JOHN HEIDER/NORTHVILLE RECORD

Linda Marshall talks about how a life-threatening illness changed her life.

### What is SJS?

Stevens-Johnson Syndrome is a serious medical condition commonly caused by an allergic reaction to drugs such as penicillin, sulfa's and prescription pain relievers, Celebrex.

Linda Marshall said she didn't realize how ill she was until she looked in a mirror.

"I looked awful," she said. Doctors told her 70 percent of the people afflicted with SJS die and 50 percent go blind.

"The rest never go back to work again," she

said. Marshall said she has to protect her skin from the sun, but her skin is not scarred. And, the fingernails and toenails she lost have grown back.

"My neighbors think it's the yoga or the power drinks I drink. When I look at it, I'm still mesmerized."

SJS patients suffer from inflammation of the skin and mucous membranes, affecting the lungs, eyes, mouth, stomach, intestines and virtually every major organ. In some cases, it can be fatal.

Source: www.meddata.com

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# Post office goes 24/7

## Customers benefit from competition

By Maureen Johnston  
RECORD STAFF WRITER

At 3 p.m. last Wednesday, Glenn Brown was in and out in a flash.

The retired Northville Township resident said his schedule allows him to climb the Wing Street post office steps when lines are short and counters are staffed.

Still, he said the Northville post office extending service to 24 hours seven days a week held appeal.

"I would probably use it," Brown said. "Probably not very often. I usually do get by during the day."

The post office recently stepped up its service: Around-the-clock package weighing, stamping and posting will be available at 200 S. Wing St. starting Saturday.

"We're all so busy," said Northville Postmaster Tony Hubbard. "We just want to make the post office more accessible. During our regular hours, in the middle of the night or whenever it might be, we're available for them."

### Increasing competition

Late-night shipping is nothing new for Northville. A block away, UPS store owner Mike Ladwig said service is the name of the game for businesses competing for customers.

His international-shipping parent company promotes UPS's "three free" options: automatic package tracking, free e-mail notification of package delivery and up to \$100 worth of insurance free.

But, Ladwig said, the main advantage of his independently-owned Center Street business is his personable staff.

"The post office can duplicate our hours, but they can't duplicate our level of service," he said. "You can get a box there, but we pack the box."

"Our lines are shorter."

Since the post office added evenings and a full-day Saturday last September, more customers have been taking advantage of walk-in hours, Hubbard said. Likewise, use of the year-old automated system in the lobby has picked up, he said.

"People have said it's pretty user-friendly and they would use it again," he said. "When we added the hours, it started slow."

"A lot more of our customers are becoming aware of it and we're seeing more people come in later hours."

Twenty-four hour lobby accessibility has been piloted successfully at nearby branches, he said, in Ann Arbor and Saline. Northville's turn starts April 1.

### Vying for customers

A stop at Northville's post office can be as quick as Brown's, or a line-up wrapping around the corner and out the lobby door.

The national postal service knows independent businesses are nibbling at their once exclusive domain.

"Everything is competitively driven," Hubbard said. "That did drive some of our decision making."

In addition to 24/7 access, he said the post office will be adding a coin-operated copier customers will be able to use during retail hours. Packages shipped via the automated system are

### Staying put

Northville Postmaster Tony Hubbard said despite cramped quarters and bustling business the post office has no plans to move from 200 S. Wing Street.

Plans to find an annex location to serve the growing 48167-48168 ZIP code population are on hold, he said.

"Even when we were entertaining creating an annex hot and heavy, we never anticipated moving from this location," Hubbard said. "I don't know of any plans to move from this location."

Nationally, the postal service is reconsidering space requirements, Hubbard said, as processing mail shifts to more automated systems from manual labor.

### Upcoming events

• **Passport Acceptance Day:** 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday, April 1 at the Northville District Library, 215 W. Main St. The post office is adding the Saturday off-site opportunity to apply for a passport to regular 10 a.m.-3 p.m. hours for the service.

• **USPS.com live presentation:** also April 1. Staff members will explain which services are available online, Postmaster Tony Hubbard said. Most people use the Web site for ZIP code and address information.

"There are a lot of useful tools there," he said. "Talking to business people, most already are aware of the site and use it on a daily basis."

• **Annual food drive for Northville Civic Concern:** coming in May.

**"The post office can duplicate our hours, but they can't duplicate our level of service."**

Mike Ladwig  
Owner, Northville UPS Store

limited to 12-by-20-inches, he added. "It can't be anything real big or you won't be able to get it into the drop-off slot," Hubbard said. Ladwig said the UPS store beats the competition by offering additional services, such as copying, selling office supplies, faxing, binding and laminating.

Hubbard said space constraints in the post office box lobby will prohibit 24-hour customer access to the copier.

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

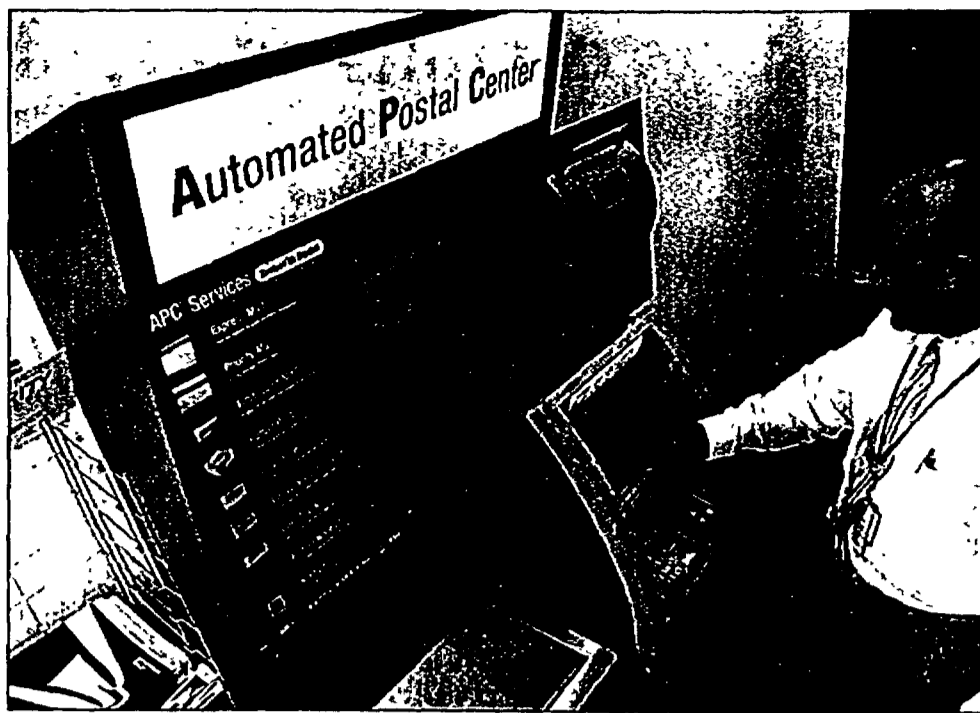


Photo by JOHN HEIDER/NORTHVILLE RECORD

Northville Post Master Tony Hubbard uses the new Automated Postal Center. The APC and post boxes behind Hubbard will be available 24 hours per day, beginning April 1.

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# Young artists invited to portray 'Awakening Spring'

Could your new neighbor be Josh McCown? It was at Northville's very own Main Street Bank that radio talk show host Mitch Albom caught up with the free agent quarterback signed by the Detroit Lions March 20. During Albom's live broadcast last Wednesday, McCown talked about getting his "housing stuff situated. ... We should be here by the middle of April." Taking the snap in yard near you: McCown, his wife and kids ...

Even with the City of Detroit water department, ask and ye shall receive ... eventually. Detroit crews were out last week to repair the broken water main sending streams down Wing Street the previous three weeks. City of Northville department of public works crews were right on their tail, lowering the protruding manhole cover — the cause of the problem in the first place — and removing the barricades.

What was that ruckus at Hillside Middle School Friday night? After a full night of games, raffles and food concession dining, happy Family Night visitors streaming toward the gym exit were taken aback by two adult volunteers arguing. Something about one of the prizes stolen ... Come on, let's think about the example set for the youngsters.

Wow, lots of great feedback from visitors to the Northville Record's "Wild, Wild West" booth at the Taste of Northville Business Showcase about how the paper should be changed. Among the suggestions: cheaper, a gambling column and "better grammar." On a serious note, look for winners of subscriptions and lunch with the "Gang" in next week's column.

It's fast approaching, the Northville Senior Community Center's "Ole' Bag Sale, with jewelry!" Now that all the predictable guffaws are out of the way... what's in your closet? Donations are being accepted now through the May 12 and 13 sale dates. For more information, call (248) 349-4140 or drop of "gently used" purses, jewelry, belts, scarves and wallets at 303 W. Main St. 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday.

Going, going, gone to the benefit of Northville Public Schools. The Northville Mothers' Club raked in more than \$26,000 during their March 18 strolling dinner event at the Inn at St. Johns organized by Laurie Wooderson and Libby Smith. Emcee Thom Barry led the live auction of donated items attended by more than 300 guests.

## In Northville



It's always something

Tomorrow's Friday Flick at the Northville Senior Community Center is "Dreamer," inspired by a true story and starring Kurt Russell, Dakota Fanning and Kris Kristofferson. Showtime is 1 p.m. Cost is \$1.

Buy one, get one to give. Through Saturday, you can purchase pre-bagged groceries for \$10 at the Meijer store at 8 Mile and Haggerty Road that will go to the Northville Senior Community Center. The Northville Community Foundation will deliver the purchased bags for distribution. Senior adult services coordinator Sue Koivula said she will let local needy seniors know and

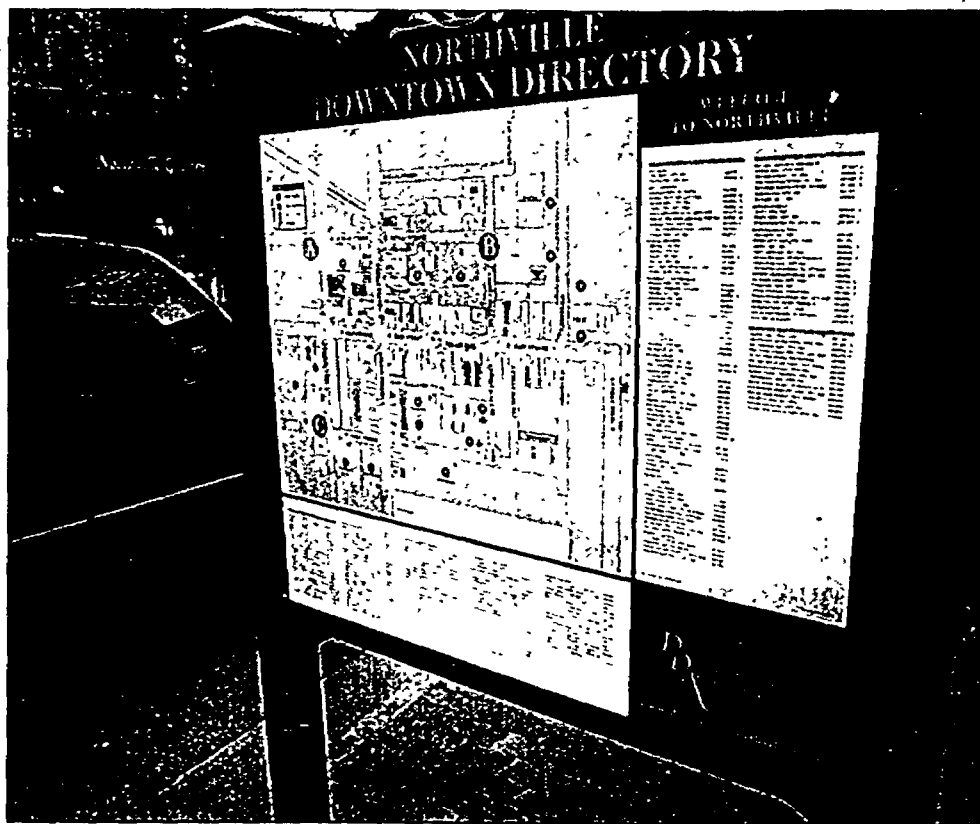


Photo by JOHN HEIDER/NORTHVILLE RECORD

### Finally!

The two "You are Here" directional signs — the ones the downtown development authority hoped to have in place to beat the Christmas shopping rush — have been erected downtown. The directory of stores, restaurants, services and public restrooms can be found near the gazebo, the other by Old Church Square.

make sure Northville Civic Concern benefits, too.

Are you amazed by your little Picasso's artistic ability? Awakening ... the Artist Inside

is offering a chance to showcase it during an April 25-30 "Awakening Spring" exhibit. Starting Saturday, parents of children ages 3-12 can pick up an application to enter an original

artwork in the contest. The deadline is April 25. Winners will be announced during a noon- 2 p.m. April 29 cookie reception. Prizes for different age categories.

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## POTHOLE PATROL

Freezing and thawing cycles can produce potholes this time of year when weather starts to take a toll on Michigan roads. The Michigan Department of Transportation has a toll-free number available for motorists to report potholes they observe on state roads. Information about trouble spots also can be e-mailed to the department. Reports of potholes on state roads will be routed to the nearest MDOT Transportation Service Center.

"The pothole hotline is an easy and efficient way for residents to help us identify potholes which need to be repaired on state roads," said State Transportation Director Kirk T. Steudle. "We are committed to fixing potholes as quickly as possible in order to ensure a smoother, more dependable ride for everyone who uses roads maintained by MDOT."

To report a pothole, call (888) 296-4546, or use the "Report Potholes" link on the MDOT

Web site ([www.michigan.gov/mdot](http://www.michigan.gov/mdot)). Those reporting pothole locations are asked to provide the route name, county, nearest community and the closest cross street or interchange. Potholes on non-state-owned roads should be reported to local road commissions.

Information about how potholes are formed is available on the MDOT Web site at [www.michigan.gov/mdot](http://www.michigan.gov/mdot).

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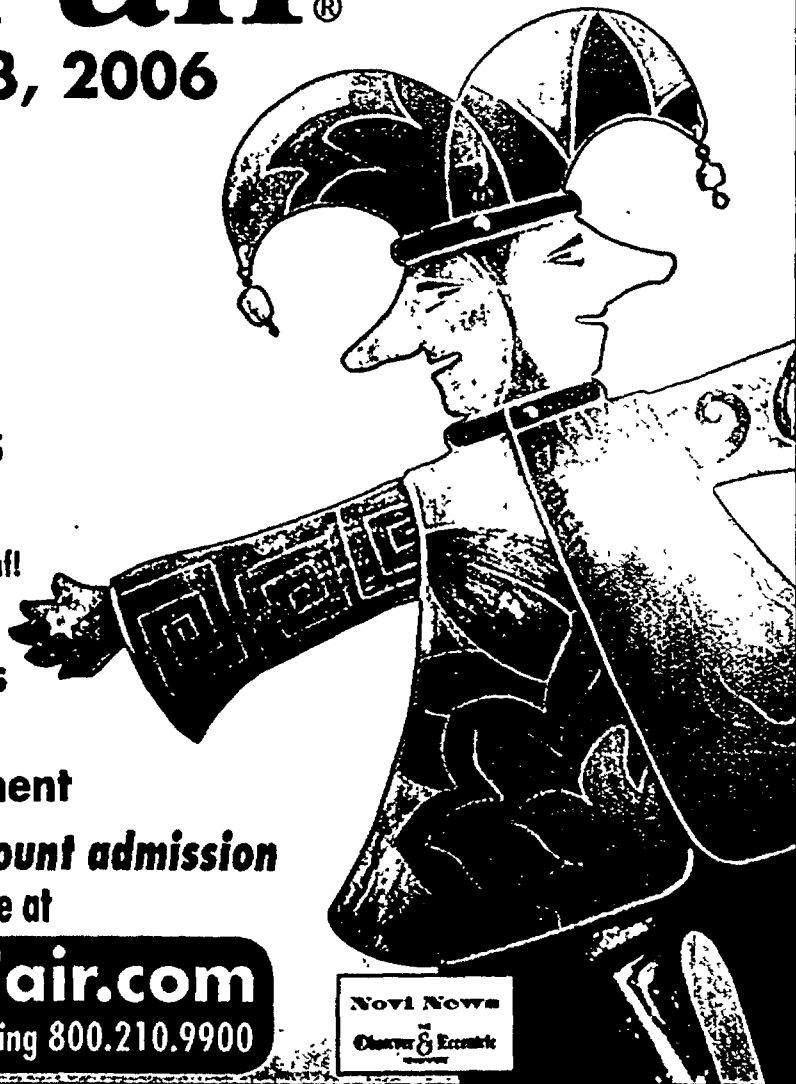
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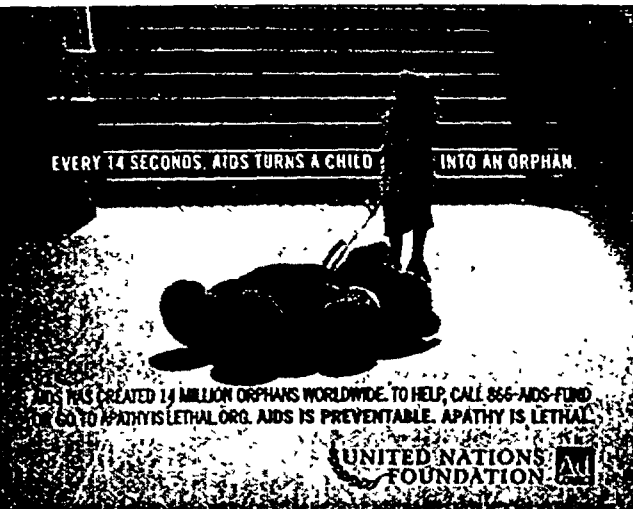
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UNITED NATIONS FOUNDATION



# BARN: unexpected costs lead to \$18K township board approval

continued from 1A

code for public use. "I don't think (citizens) will look at this as impractical spending because we've raised \$176,000 from the public, not from the township," Gans said.

He said those donations may reduce the need for using the entire \$18,000 approved by the board two weeks ago.

Township Clerk Sue Hillebrand said Gans' work on the barn has been remarkable, even though she was opposed to committing too quickly.

"I wasn't in favor of it until it was budgeted," Hillebrand said. "When this was all being proposed (last year), I asked the Ravines (subdivision) to sit on it, and if (the project) fit into our budget, we'd wait to move it this spring."

"I've heard it may not have lasted that long, however."

Hillebrand said all the money spent on the barn was used to restore the barn to sound condition.

### Time's up

"I'm at the point where I want to stop (work) right now, work on the master plan and figure out what we want to do with that park," she said. "The work that was being requested and over budget was to get the barn in good condition for the future."

Township manager Chip Snider said all projects have the potential

for unexpected situations.

"I think with any redevelopment and any site that incurs moving one structure to another location," Snider said, "you are bound to come across circumstances that are uncontrollable."

Snider said he is not concerned about the public perceiving the additional spending negatively.

"The input that I've been receiving has been nothing but positive," he said.

Gans said the additional money will also be used for remaining barn repairs, before shutting its doors.

Board members said local residents will be asked prior to the August operating millage election about possible Thayer Corner's Park uses, during a telephone survey.

"I think we've gotten our value for (the barn)," said township supervisor Mark Abbo. "I think it's a worthwhile project ... I'm interested in getting it to that point when we first authorized it."

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.

### Money needed

To complete the 8250 Napier Road barn, located at Thayer Corner's Park, trustee Marv Gans said it will cost about \$22,000. There is still \$4,000 left over from the previously approved budget. Two weeks ago, the Board of Trustees approved an additional \$18,000. Remaining repairs include:

- decking for the floor
- finishing of the staircase
- priming and painting of the

building's exterior

- labor
- electricity
- floor joists

### Unexpected costs:

- Total: \$18,000
- Second mailing: \$594
- Attorney fees: \$1,417
- Electrical line removal: \$1,500
- Traffic light fees: \$6,542
- Getting up to code: about \$8,000

## TOWNSHIP BRIEFS

### Registration required

Monday, April 3 is the last day to register for the May school board election.

### Closed

Township Hall will be closed Friday, April 14 for Good Friday.

### Drivers needed

The Northville Senior Community Center needs drivers to transport residents to events and medical appointments. The center is offering part-time positions with flexible hours and free tickets to events. For more information, call (248) 349-4140.

To contribute an item for consideration in this column, e-mail [tmishler@gannett.com](mailto:tmishler@gannett.com).

## ENGAGEMENTS



### Schleh-Kasak

Carl and Robin Schleh of Northville announce the engagement of their son, Lauren Carl Schleh to Krystin Elizabeth Kasak, daughter of Robert Kasak of Tampa, Fla. and Marcella Kasak of Washington D.C.

The groom-elect is a 2001 graduate of Northville High School and a 2005 graduate of the University of Michigan earning a bachelor of science degree in electrical engineering. He is currently pursuing a law degree at the John Marshall School of Law, Chicago.

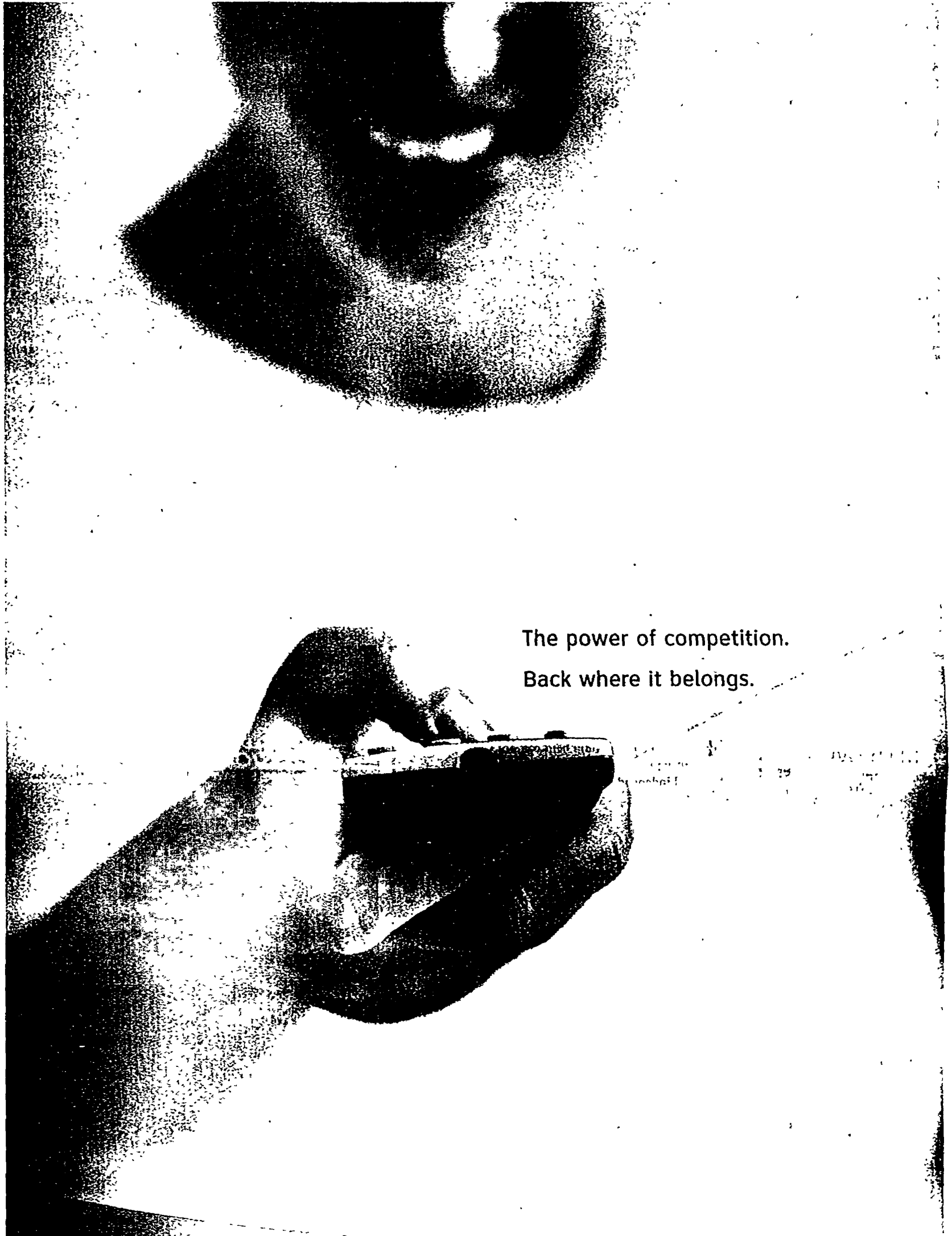
The bride-elect is a 2001 graduate of Wharton High School, Tampa. She is also a 2005 graduate of the University of Michigan earning a bachelor of arts degree in communications. She will begin studies at Northwestern University for a master's degree in journalism this summer.

A September 2006 wedding is planned.

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## CLASS NOTES

### Board Meeting

The next Northville Board of Education regular meeting is 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 11 at Old Village School (Early Childhood Program), 405 W. Main St. For more information, call (248) 349-3400.

### High School Musical

Northville High School's Drama Department will perform "Seussical" 7 p.m. today, Friday and Saturday in the high school auditorium. There will also be a matinee performance 2 p.m. Saturday. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for students and senior citizens. For ticket reservations, call the school office, (248) 344-8420.

### Parent Program Cancelled

The Parent Awareness Committee at NHS regrets that its April 12 evening with motivational speaker Jeff Yalden has been cancelled. Due to unforeseen circumstances, Yalden will not be able to meet with students or parents as originally planned.

### Open Enrollment Policy

The Northville Public Schools open enrollment deadline for 2006-07 is April 7. The policy addresses situations in which parents would like students to attend a school within the district that is not in their attendance area. Should you choose to make an open enrollment request to attend or remain at a school other than your designated school, letters must be submitted to the district no later than Thursday, April 7. Letters should be directed to Dr. Casey Reason, Assistant Superintendent for Instructional Services, with copies sent to each of the building principals involved. Open enrollment letters must be submitted on an annual basis. Please be aware that final decisions regarding open enrollment are often not made until one to two weeks prior to the start of the school year due to enrollment fluctuations over the summer.

### Camp Invention

Northville Public Schools hosts Camp Invention, a week-long summer day experience for children entering grades one-six. The program will take place July 31-Aug. 4 at Ridge Wood Elementary School. Camp Invention is designed to inspire creativity and inventive-thinking through hands-on activities and fun. The program integrates science, mathematics, history and the arts in an environment conducive to learning. Ridge Wood teacher Tom Boomer will be the camp director with local certified teachers leading the lessons. For more information, visit [www.campinvention.org](http://www.campinvention.org) or contact Kathy Gualtieri, (248) 879-9535.

### Teacher of the Year Award

Marie Thomas, first grade teacher at Ridge Wood Elementary School, has been nominated for the 2006 Wayne RESA Outstanding Teacher of the Year Award. Northville Public Schools in partnership with Wayne County Regional Educational Service Agency and Ford-Motor Company gives this award annually to an elementary school teacher. A "Celebration of Excellence" ceremony will be held May 3 to honor all county honored teachers. Mrs. Thomas has taught in the Northville schools for 17 years.

### Kindergarten

Northville Public Schools is accepting kindergarten registrations for fall 2006. Guardians of children age 5 on or before Dec. 1 should contact their local elementary school for registration information. Ridge Wood area kindergarten students for the 2006-07 school year will attend other district schools as follows: Moraine: Fox Hollow, Pine Creek and Paramount Estates; Silver Springs: Woodlands North, Woods of Edenderry, Hills of Crestwood and Links of Northville; Thornton Creek: Northville Ridge and Stone Water; and Winchester: Northville Hills West and Woodlands subdivisions. All

Arcadia Ridge subdivision students will attend Thornton Creek for the 2006-07 school year.

### ECC Registration

New Northville school district families may download an Early Childhood Center Program request form from the center's Web site beginning March 25 for summer programs and the 2006-07 school year. Completed forms may be mailed or dropped off now through April 6 at the Early Childhood Center Office, 49775 Six Mile Road. Families will be contacted with placement information by May 1. Families with children attending private elementary schools interested in school-age programs may contact the ECC office in July and out-of-district families in August. The ECC Web site is [www.northville.k12.mi.us/earlychildhood](http://www.northville.k12.mi.us/earlychildhood).

### Literature Exhibit

The Northville Public Schools Early Childhood Center is planning a community exhibit, The Children's Exhibit-Learning through Literacy, highlighting the importance of literature in early childhood and school age care programs. The exhibit will provide an opportunity to share children's work with the community, express the thoughts of young children and to advocate for young children. It will be held at the Northville Senior Center, 303 W. Main St. in the lobby. The exhibit is open April 7-11.

### Drivers Education Training

Northville Public Schools will host driver's education training the summer of 2006. The cost per pupil is \$375 and classes will be held at the high school. A minimum of 50 students must participate and students will be further added in increments of 25.

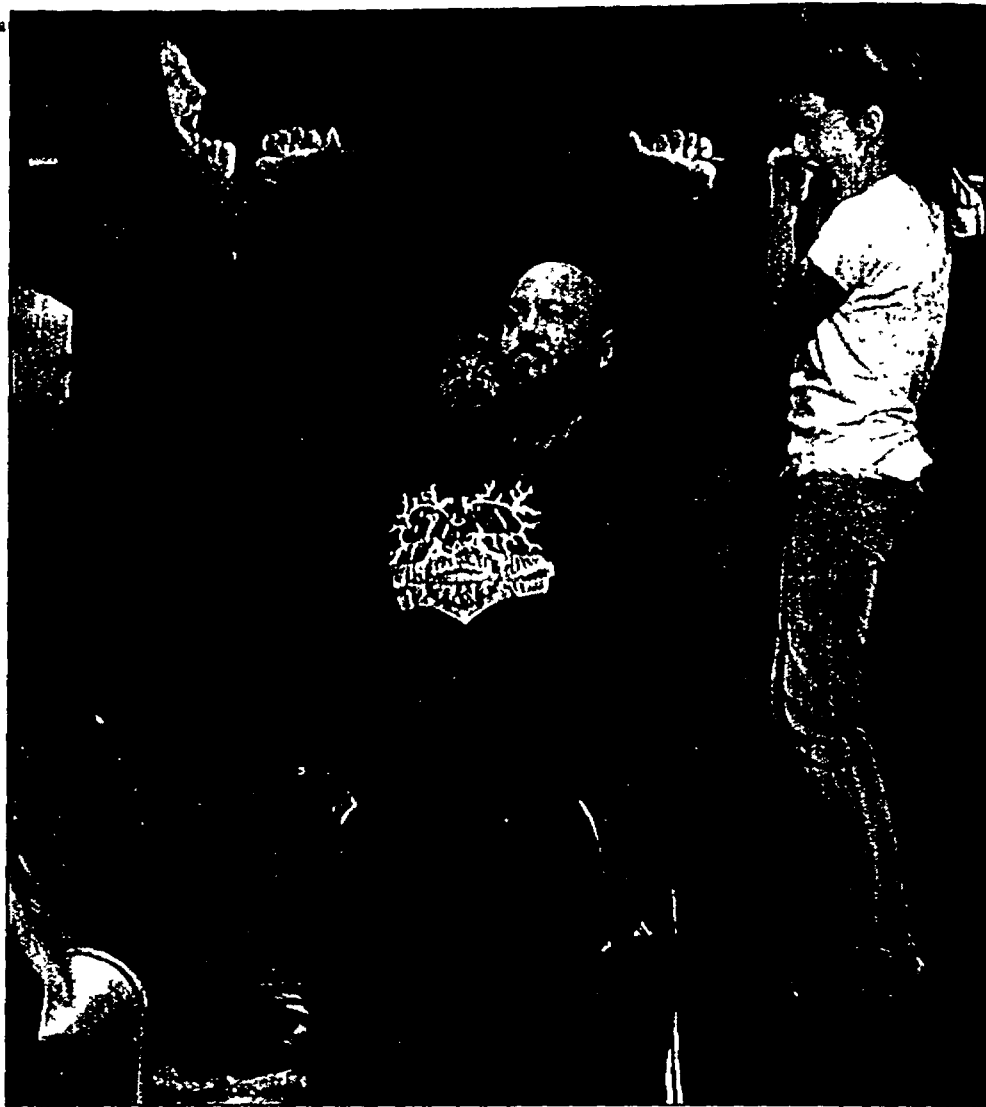


Photo by JOHN HEIDER/NORTHVILLE RECORD

Hillside Middle School students Hannah Craik, left, and Annie Thurber were lifted last week by Bryan Dorsey, a member of the Stand Strength Team during an assembly at Northville's First Baptist Church. The event attempted to inspire pupils to believe in themselves, resist drugs and alcohol and follow their dreams.

# A

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The American Cancer Society Relay For Life is coming to Northville on May 20-21 for 24 hours of cancer fighting fun, remembrance and celebration.

Event planners are currently looking to local businesses and organizations for help in sponsoring or donating to the Relay For Life. If you are interested, please call Barb Iovan of the American Cancer Society at 248.483.4317 or visit [www.acsevents.org/relay/mi/northville](http://www.acsevents.org/relay/mi/northville).



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## SCHOOL BOARD NOTEBOOK

### March 28 Meeting

- Board trustee Judy Handley was absent
- Next Meeting: April 11

### NHS boys varsity swimming

Members of the Northville High School varsity boys swimming team were congratulated by school officials Tuesday for finishing the season as conference champions and finishing fourth in the state championships. The team of 35 boys was led by head coach Rich Bennetts, assistant coach Bob Holdridge and diving coach Danya Azzopardi.

### Thornton Creek

Principal Sharon Irvine presented to members of the board of education steps taken toward reaching Thornton Creek's school improvement goals and initiatives. Irvine said school goals include looking at

optimal student learning for all students, writing improvement and increasing understanding of economic principles. The entire school will also continue championing for Thornton Creek's new building theme: Making a Difference in Our Own Backyard.

### On-line learning

Members of the board of education unanimously approved the first reading of existing public school policy outlining online learning. Currently, high school students may earn a maximum of two credits (four classes) of academic credit to be applied toward graduation requirements by completing board approved on-line courses offered by an accredited institution of higher education during the regular school year. Added to the existing policy: The superintendent shall establish procedures regarding online courses. Northville Public Schools Superintendent Leonard

Rezmierski said reviewing the policy couldn't be more timely—as mandatory online courses are part of the new high school graduation requirements proposed by the state.

### Standard & Poor's

Northville Public Schools Superintendent Leonard Rezmierski said the newly released Standard & Poor's school match report analyzing all districts in the country will be posted on the Northville Public School Web site this week. Log on to [www.northville.k12.mi.us](http://www.northville.k12.mi.us) for more information.

### Cable cast

The regular board meeting was taped by Brad Leidal for cable casting in cooperation with Comcast programming. The meeting will air to Comcast subscribers 9 p.m. Channel 18 on Monday, April 3.

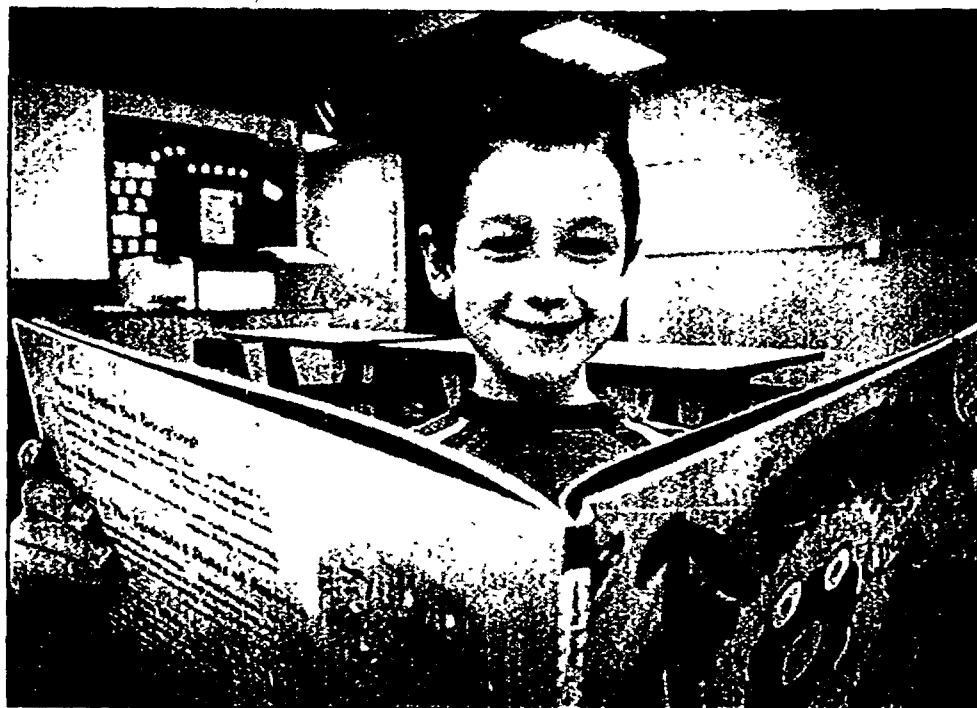


Photo by JOHN HEIDER/NORTHVILLE RECORD

### An open book!

Ridge Wood student Tony Miller reads "Arnie the Doughnut" by Laurie Keller.

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## Back from Chicago, Come in to see what's "IN"



**Margo's**  
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During the weekend of March 3rd, Margo Kramar and a few of her staff members attended the Midwest Beauty Show in Chicago. This is the largest show of its kind in the Midwest, which all stylists should see. During this weekend each year, business owners and cosmetology professionals learn what the spring seasons hottest looks and trends will be.

Do you want to be "in style" this year? Do you want to be there before everyone else? If your answer is yes, then you should definitely schedule your next appointment today. The staff of Margo's of Northville is continuously re-educating themselves in the techniques and trends of today. "We have an energetic staff that want to learn so that they can pass it along to their guests." Seeing that spark in my staff and how it rubs off to one another and their guests is what really makes it special." Margo says.

Over the last several months, Margo has expanded the number of skilled stylists with the additions of Sheri Mazurek and Sheri Morgan. Each brings new style and experience to the expanding salon.

Sheri Mazurek brings an up-beat, vibrant style. With her well defined artistic touch, she has the ability to really make you happy that you came in. Sheri's services include formal up-do's, chemical straightening, pedicures and manicures including acrylic, gels and nail art. "It feels like family the second you walk through the door" Sheri has said of Margo's salon and spa.

Sheri Morgan is a new member of our team. She brings with her quality, integrity, experience and an impeccable personality the whole family will enjoy. Call or come in to make an appointment today. It will be the best time you'll spend all week. Walk-ins are welcome, so come in to see us anytime Tuesday through Saturday, opening at 8 a.m.

Margo's of Northville salon and spa is located at 141 E. Cady Street, Northville MI 48167. Margo's offers gift certificates, skin and hair-care products. For more information, call (248) 348-9130 or visit [www.Margossalon.com](http://www.Margossalon.com).



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We would like to congratulate these staffers who were recognized at our Annual Awards Event for their contributions in 2005.



**Jim Totten**  
Howell Editorial  
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**Lew Crawford**  
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**Kim Demetriou**  
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**Al Ward**  
Howell Editorial  
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**Lon Medd, Eron Powers, Donna Goodin, Diana Wells and Lisa Dranginis**  
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# EDUCATION

Have an education story? Contact Victoria Mitchell at (248) 349-1700, ext. 122.



Photo by JOHN HEIDER/NORTHVILLE RECORD

Meads Mill Middle School seventh grader Steven Townsend will participate tomorrow in the National Geographic Geography Bee.

## You're here

### Meads geography expert heads to bee

Victoria Mitchell  
RECORD STAFF WRITER

Steven Townsend will be nervous tomorrow.

As he steps onto the campus of Central Michigan University, stomach butterflies will multiply into bats while he psychs himself up for the 2006 Michigan Geographic Bee.

"I will be trying to hope I do well," Townsend said.

As he waits for his name to be called, then steps before the microphone, Townsend will wish hard for a state geography question. That is his specialty. His dad will cheer him on.

Townsend, a Meads Mill Middle School seventh grader, said he doesn't really have a particular weakness.

"Don't believe him? Take a look at his credentials.

According to rules set by the National Geographic Society, the only way to the state finals stage is by scoring in the top 100 of all Michigan school-level winners on a standardized geography bee test.

Townsend won the Meads Mill Middle School geography bee this winter, completing step one.

"I only had one question wrong," Townsend said.

He then joined all Michigan school bee winners in grades fourth-eighth, taking the National Geographic Society qualifying test where he emerged among the top 100 scores.

"It was a lot of questions," Townsend said. "There were questions about rivers and state capitals."

But that is all in the past. Now the focus is tomorrow.

"I'm reading atlases and stuff like that every day," Townsend said.

"He is like a living MapQuest."

Ray Balutowicz  
Assistant Principal, Meads Mill Middle School

"I study about 45 minutes to 1 hour a day."

It's not a chore, he said, more like an enjoyable hobby.

"He is like a living MapQuest," said Ray Balutowicz, Meads Mill Middle School assistant principal.

Townsend shyly skirts his accomplishment, coming up short as to why he does so well.

"My mom says I have a good memory," he said.

Meads Mill staff and students

will be thinking positive thoughts tomorrow, sending long-distance well wishes.

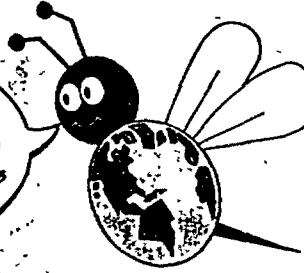
"He is a really good student and overall well-rounded academically," said Shelley Woodrich, Meads Mill Middle School teacher.

If Townsend takes the state title, he will represent Michigan in an expense-paid trip to the national finals at the National Geographic Society headquarters in Washington, D.C. this spring. Townsend would also win \$100 and the shot at becoming the national champion with a \$25,000 college scholarship.

Townsend is hopeful.

"It would be a good thing to put on a college application or resume," he said.

Victoria Mitchell can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 122 or [vmitchell@gannett.com](mailto:vmitchell@gannett.com).



**How would you fare as a Michigan National Geographic Society Bee contestant? At the school bee level this year, students answered questions like these:**

- Carson Sink, Black Rock Desert and Yucca Flats are physical features found in which arid state?
- Zurich is a major banking center in which European country?
- The Parthenon is an ancient temple on the Acropolis, a hill overlooking which European capital city?
- The St. Lawrence river flows out of the easternmost of the Great Lakes. Name this lake.
- Which mountain is Africa's tallest peak and one of the most photographed landmarks of the continent?

ANSWERS: A. Nevada B. Switzerland C. Athens D. L.A. Ontario E. Mt. Kilimanjaro

SOURCE: Meads Mill Middle School

"I'm reading atlases and stuff like that every day. I study about 45 minutes to 1 hour a day."

Steven Townsend  
Seventh Grader, Meads Mill Middle School

#### ■ Being in the Bee

The last time Meads Mill Middle School student Steven Townsend participated in a knowledge contest was fourth grade. He participated in a spelling bee while a student at Amerman Elementary School.

Townsend said his performance wasn't memorable.

"They are fun," he said. "I like the competition."

According to the Washington Post, more than 10 million children compete in spelling competitions across the country.

Last year, 273 students participated in the Scripps Howard National Spelling Bee, airing on ESPN Television.

The sports broadcasting station began airing the national competition live in 1994.

According to the Scripps Howard National Spelling Bee organization, bees have seen a recent surge in popularity, with the biggest increase in corporate and senior citizen competitions.

The competitions have also received publicity on the big screen. Spelling bees were the focus of the Academy Award-nominated documentary "Spellbound" and the off-Broadway musical "The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee."

# Winging it

Fish Hatchery Park project earns high school student Eagle wings

By Victoria Mitchell  
RECORD STAFF WRITER

For Eric Rohlf, becoming an Eagle Scout was a future investment.

"Lots of people that get Eagle Scout go on to greater things," he said. "Almost every person that has stepped on the moon was an Eagle Scout at some point ... and most business leaders and like CEOs know what Eagle Scouts are and how much work is put into it."

A member of the First Presbyterian Church of Northville Troop 755, Rohlf reached scouting's highest honor believing the accomplishment would add significant value to the rest of his life.

"When you apply for jobs and colleges they know you are dedicated, that you will carry something on to the end and you are a hard worker," he said. "It shows some really strong character plus you kind of get some bragging rights."

Rohlf, 16, said hours and years of dedication go into the honor.

One requirement of reaching



"It is like the most highly nerve-racking experience."

Eric Rohlf, Eagle Scout  
Troop 755, First Presbyterian Church of Northville

the rank of Eagle Scout includes completing a community service project.

Rohlf's project was improving the trails at Northville Fish Hatchery Park. He and a team of 18 scouts cleared debris, added mulch and installed signs.

"It is like the most highly nerve-racking experience," Rohlf said. "You literally have to go out into your community, find something that needs to be

fixed, make a plan and fix it."

He said planning and implementing an Eagle project takes a minimum 70 hours and the help of other scouts.

"There is a lot of relief that it is over," he said. "There is so much pressure and deadlines."

Eagle scouts must also face a daunting board of review, years of scouting and completion of at least 21 merit badges.

Rohlf said the urge to become an Eagle hit him at 13, an age when he decided scouting wasn't just a passing fancy.

"Usually after first class, most kids drop out of boys scouts because they don't want to do the work to get on," he said. "But I just kind of thought to myself I'm already half way there, I've been with scouts for a long time, I might as well follow through to the end."

Along with scouting and studies, the Northville High School junior is the first chair tuba in the symphonic band and plays the sousaphone in the marching band.

Rohlf is also a member of the gaming club and quiz bowl team.

In his spare spare time, he enjoys reading and playing tennis.

"Scouting is a big-time commitment, but it is an easy time commitment," Rohlf said.

Victoria Mitchell can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 122 or [vmitchell@gannett.com](mailto:vmitchell@gannett.com).

He and his team also repainted the backboards and cleaned up the horseshoe pits.

Paul, 16, is a member of the National Honors Society and would like to attend UCLA.

His career goal is to become a police officer in New York City and eventually join the FBI.

Paul plays varsity baseball and also enjoys recreational basketball.

His Eagle project was building generator pads near the picnic pavilions at Maybury State Park.

The project consisted of building forms and pouring cement to accommodate generators used for recreational purposes by park visitors.

Peter and Paul join Eric Rohlf as the newest Eagle Scouts of First Presbyterian Church of Northville Troop 755.



Photo by JOHN HEIDER/NORTHVILLE RECORD

Northville High School student Eric Rohlf recently completed work on rehabilitating the trails at Fish Hatchery Park, earning him Eagle Scout honors.

#### ■ Brother Eagles

For Peter and Paul Hernandez, becoming Eagle Scouts was a brotherly effort.

Both students at Detroit Catholic Central High School in Novi, Peter reached scouting's highest honor as a sophomore and Paul did the same as a junior at the private, all boys school.

Peter, 15, has a 3.5 grade point average and is a member of the National Honors Society.

He is on the wrestling team and plays recreational basketball.

Peter's Eagle project was rebuilding four horseshoe pits at Maybury State Park.

The project included building side rails, adding and cementing stakes.







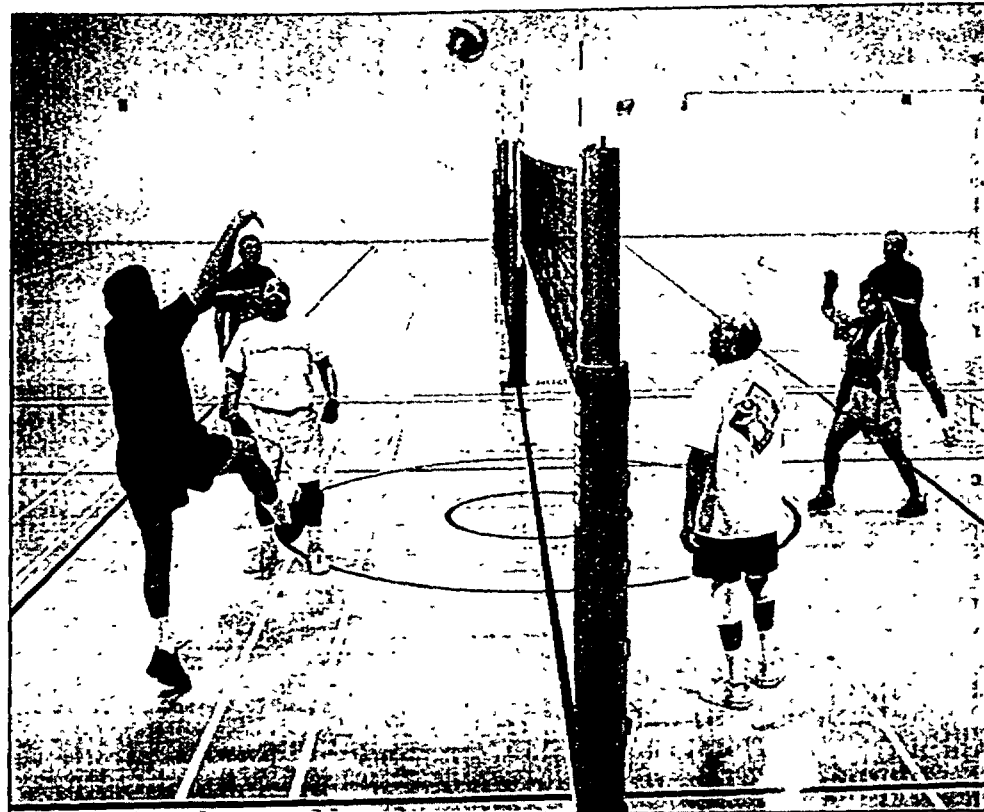




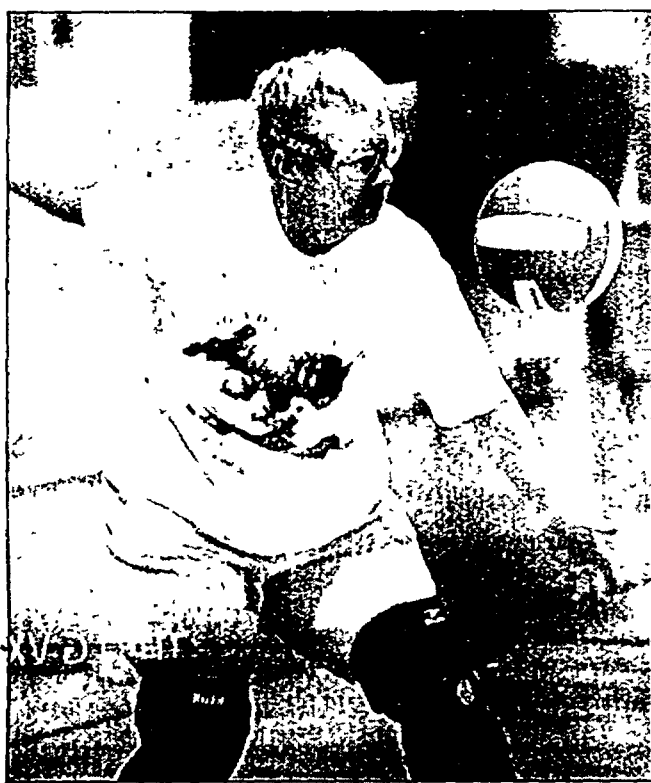
# SENIORS

## Take your best shot

Photos by JOHN HEIDER/Northville Record



An active group hits the floor for Senior Volleyball at the recreation center located at Hillside Middle School. Senior Volleyball is scheduled Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 10 a.m.-noon. The fee is \$1.



**LEFT:** Vanita Sink prepares to serve during a senior volleyball game at the recreation center located at Hillside Middle School.

**FAR LEFT:** Ali Hamadeh serves.

## Preventing free fall

Adjusting environment can prevent serious falls

By Tracy Mishler  
RECORD STAFF WRITER

Alice Johnston relies on her wheelchair instead of her own two feet.

The 78-year-old Novi resident has the ability to walk, but said she feels safer in her mobile chair.

"I broke my leg a few years ago," Johnston said. "I don't feel I'm strong enough to be walking around."

Johnston's daughter, Susan, said she believes her mother's dependence on her wheelchair is a result of fear from falling again, a common among many seniors.

"No one wants to see their parents sick or in pain," said Susan, 56. "I just want to make sure she's safe. And if the chair makes her feel comfortable, then so be it."

According to the Michigan Department of Public Health, more than two-thirds of seniors who fall will fall again in the next six months.

It is also the number one reason people die of injuries, said Kay Renny, registered nurse and manager of community programs for the Visiting Nurses Association of Southeast Michigan.

"It's sad, but a lot of seniors fall," Renny said. "It may be as simple as wearing improper shoes."

"There are little things (seniors) can do to prevent falling," she added.

The Visiting Nurses Association of Southeast Michigan offers seniors, age 65 and older living in Oakland, Macomb and Wayne counties, a no-cost falls prevention assessment to reduce the risk of falling in the home.

"We go into the home and do a free falls assessment, focusing on four major areas: environment, medication, vision and muscle strength," Renny said. "When was the last time they had their eyes checked? Who fills their prescriptions? Are (medications) they are taking leading to drug interactions?"

Renny said nurses also perform the "Get Up and Go" test.

"We ask them to sit, stand up and walk out about 10-feet, turn around and come back and sit down," she said. "Most people can do this is about 10 seconds."

"But this way we can see how they sit, how they turn and how they walk. We can relay the information back to their physicians and they may need physical therapy."

Renny said nurses will also assess each room in their client's home.

"Bathrooms are the number one place where most falls occur," Renny said. "When we're done, we leave behind recommendations and 40 ways to prevent a fall."

### Preventing a fall

- Exercise regularly to maintain strength, flexibility, mobility and balance
- Check your vision at least once a year. Poor vision can increase your chance of falling.
- Remove throw rugs or secure them firmly.
- Clear electrical and telephone cords from pathways.
- Use handrails to steady your balance; install handrails on staircases if needed.
- Use reflecting tape at the top and bottom of the stairs to see them better
- Do not climb stairs while carrying packages that obstruct your field of vision.
- Paint door sills a different color to prevent tripping.

*Source: Visiting Nurses Association of Southeast Michigan*

### Getting in shape

Sue Koivula said falling can be a problem for many seniors, but not all.

"It's a problem for seniors in that age range when (falling) does become a problem," said the senior adult service coordinator for the Northville Senior Community Center. "There are many organizations that provide home health assessments and it's a valuable tool."

Senior centers in both Northville and Novi offer several classes to keep seniors in shape and on the move.

Northville's center offers strength training, yoga and tai chi, and Koivula said even basic walking helps.

Tony Logan said the best way to avoid falling is to stay active and in shape.

"As people get older, their bones get brittle," said Logan, wellness coordinator for Novi-based Fox Run Senior Community. "We in America have become lazy ... The bones get weaker."

Logan recommends a solid 15 to 25 minutes of continuous exercise five to seven days a week.

"Getting up and staying active could be as little as walking up and down the street or to the mailbox," he said. "Strength in bones adapt to the amount of pressure put on them. When you don't use them, your bones get brittle and you could fall."

*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.*

## SAVVY SENIOR

### Practical solutions for those who suffer from heartburn problems

#### Dear Savvy Senior

Can heartburn lead to other serious health problems? My husband, who's 54, has a belching problem along with occasional heartburn and I would like to help him. What can you tell me?

#### Ignoring the Burn

Heartburn is so common in the United States today that most people don't think much about it—but they should. It's estimated that 40 million Americans experience heartburn at least once a week, most of who are over age 45. Here's what you should know:

#### Dangers of Heartburn

Heartburn symptoms can show up in a variety of ways—as a painful burning sensation in the chest sometimes spreading to the throat, a sour or bitter taste in the mouth, frequent belching, coughing, wheezing or a sore throat. If your husband is experiencing some of these symptoms at least twice a week, he needs to see a doctor. Frequent heartburn symptoms may indicate gastroesophageal reflux disease (GERD), which if left untreated, can lead to serious health problems such as asthma, trouble swallowing, debilitating sleep problems, Barrett's esophagus, esophageal cancer and more.

#### Lifestyle Remedies

Depending on the frequency and severity of the symptoms, there are several things you can do to prevent or reduce heartburn. Here are some lifestyle tips to help you get started:

• Diet changes: Certain foods can trigger heartburn symptoms like citrus fruits and juices, toma-

toes and tomato products, fatty foods, chocolate, garlic, onions, spicy foods, mints, alcohol, coffee and sodas. Keep a food diary to track which foods cause you the most problems and avoid them.

• Eating habits: Eat slower and take smaller portions. Having a full stomach can cause acid reflux. Also avoid exercising, bending or lying down for two hours after eating. And don't eat at least 2 to 3 hours before bedtime.

• Monitor your meds: Drugs used to treat arthritis pain, asthma, osteoporosis, depression, insomnia, high blood pressure and more can cause heartburn. Consult your doctor.

• Weight management: Being overweight is a big contributor to heartburn because the excess pounds put pressure on your abdomen, pushing up your stomach and causing acid to back up into your esophagus. A 10 percent drop in weight can improve heartburn symptoms.

• Stop smoking: Smoking can increase stomach acid and weaken the valve that prevents stomach acid from entering the esophagus.

• Loosen your belt: Clothes that fit tightly around your waist puts pressure on your abdomen and can cause heartburn.

• Relax: Over 50 percent of heartburn sufferers say stress increases their heartburn.

• Sleeping tips: To help keep the acid down in your stomach while you sleep, elevate the head of your bed six to eight inches by placing blocks under the legs or insert a wedge between your mattress and box spring to elevate your body from the waist up. Sleeping on your left side may also help keep the acid down.

#### Medical Remedies

If the lifestyle adjustments don't solve the problem, there are a variety of over-the-counter and prescription medications that can help. Talk to your doctor about which one is best for you:

• Antacids: These provide fast, short term relief by neutralizing the acid in your stomach. You know them as Alka-Seltzer, Maalox, Mylanta, Roloids and Tums.

• H-2 Blockers: Available both over-the-counter and prescription strength, H-2 blockers (Pepcid, Tagamet and Zantac) reduce how much acid your stomach makes but may not be strong enough for serious symptoms.

• Proton-pump inhibitors (PPI): If you have frequent and severe heartburn symptoms, PPIs are long-acting prescription medications that block acid production and allow time for damaged esophageal tissue to heal. They include Nexium, Prevacid, Prilosec, Protonix and Aciphex. Prilosec is also available over-the-counter.

• Surgical option: An alternative to drug treatment is antireflux surgery, a procedure that tightens the leaky valve so gastric fluids can't wash back up into the esophagus.

**Savvy Tip:** The National Heartburn Alliance offers two practical brochures on heartburn and the foods that can trigger heartburn. Visit [www.heartburnalliance.org](http://www.heartburnalliance.org) or call 877-471-2081 to order your free copies.

*Send your senior questions to: Savvy Senior, P.O. Box 5443, Norman, OK 73070, or visit [www.savvysenior.org](http://www.savvysenior.org). Jim Miller is a regular contributor to the NBC Today Show and author of "The Savvy Senior" book.*





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# listening2life

**Botsford General Hospital is a leader in the battle against the high rate of heart disease found in Michigan.** Our nationally-recognized medical staff brings demonstrated excellence and advanced technologies and treatment options to individuals suffering from a full range of cardiovascular disorders.

## Why should you choose Botsford?

- The first accredited Chest Pain Center Program in southeastern Michigan
- The first Observational Heart Failure Program in Michigan
- An accredited angioplasty program with many of the most experienced cardiologists performing angioplasty in Michigan
- A national consumer guide ranks Botsford General Hospital as outstanding in cardiac care, including heart attack and heart failure

## The Difference is being prepared; regular checkups and healthy heart awareness.

### Symptoms of a heart attack in men

- The most common symptom of a heart attack is not chest pain, but is really chest pressure. The uncomfortable pressure increases with activity, like shoveling snow, and decreases with resting.
- Discomfort in other areas of the upper body including one or both arms, back or stomach
- Shortness of breath, with or without chest pain
- Other signs include cold sweat, nausea or lightheadedness

### Symptoms of a heart attack in women

- Shortness of breath or fatigue which may be combined with chest pressure.
- Nausea or vomiting.
- Back, neck, shoulder, abdominal or jaw pain.

**If I have chest pain or pressure, should I go to the hospital?**  
Absolutely. Go to a hospital, like Botsford General Hospital, with an accredited Chest Pain Center.

### What is a Chest Pain Center?

While a large percentage of hospitals maintain chest pain units, the definition of these centers varies by institution. If you choose to go to a hospital with an accredited chest pain center, you are partnering with physicians and nurses who have initiated care processes, which will give you the best possible medical outcome.

### If I am having a heart attack, can Botsford treat me?

Yes. Botsford is one of the few community hospitals in Michigan where you can receive primary angioplasty treatment for a heart attack. If you have low-risk chest pain, our board-certified cardiologists will place you in the Chest Pain Center program where stress testing is available seven days a week.

### What is a cardiac catheterization?

A cardiac cath, or angiogram, is a procedure used to take x-rays of the heart muscle and valves. It shows how well these are working, the extent of the damage after a heart attack, which coronary arteries are narrowed, and the degree of narrowing.

The procedure uses a catheter (a long, thin, flexible tube) inserted through an artery (blood vessel) usually in the thigh up to the heart. A colorless dye is injected in the catheter and x-ray pictures are taken of the heart and coronary arteries. This is a nonsurgical procedure and a patient receives a mild sedative but remains awake during the procedure.

### What is the difference between cardiac cath and angioplasty?

A cardiac cath is used to take x-rays or pictures of the heart. Once done, an angioplasty, or balloon angioplasty, may be immediately performed.

The angioplasty procedure uses a catheter, like the cardiac cath, with a deflated balloon on the tip and is inserted through an artery to the heart. When the catheter reaches the narrowed artery in the heart, the balloon is then inflated and deflated several times to open up the artery.

### What do stress tests show?

These tests show heart functions and malfunctions - at rest and while under stress through exercise or IV medications to simulate exercise. There are four types of medical tests - two using echocardiography and two using nuclear imaging. Botsford General Hospital was instrumental in pioneering ultrasound procedures. Testing is available seven days a week at our Chest Pain Center.

An electrocardiogram is a test used to record the electrical activity of the heart through electrodes placed on the chest, arms, and legs. It helps tell if there is a decreased supply of blood and oxygen to the heart, if there are any irregular heartbeats or rhythm and if a heart attack has occurred. It also tells what part of the heart was damaged.

A stress echocardiogram produces images of the beating heart made by bouncing high-frequency (ultrasound) waves off the heart. This is generally more accurate to diagnose blockage in arteries than an electrocardiogram. It also helps determine if more cardiac tests and treatment are needed.

A nuclear medicine exercise treadmill stress test evaluates coronary blood flow to determine which areas of the heart are not getting enough blood and oxygen, how quickly the heart recovers after exercise, any irregular heart rhythms and if a heart attack has occurred in the past. During this test, electrodes are placed on the chest and an intravenous line allows the medicine to flow in the heart. A special camera to record blood flow photographs the medicine.

### My relative has congestive heart failure and, when admitted to a hospital, stays seven or more days. I heard Botsford has a program to reduce this stay.

Yes, some patients may be treated and leave within 24 hours with excellent results in our Observational Heart Failure Program. Botsford developed this specialized program in partnership with physicians at the Cleveland Clinic. It is one of the first of its kind in Michigan.

### A lot of hospitals seem to be advertising that they give excellent heart care. How can I compare area hospitals and treatments?

The federal government has already done this for you. You can go to [www.hospitalscompare.hhs.gov](http://www.hospitalscompare.hhs.gov) to compare hospitals in Michigan and review their compliance in treating heart failure and heart attacks. If you experience a heart problem, Botsford's board-certified physicians are ready to provide the treatment and care you will need.

**The Botsford Health Care Continuum is an integrated system of care which includes Botsford General Hospital, the Botsford Physician Network, Community Emergency Medical Service, the Botsford Continuing Care Corporation and the Botsford Center for Health Improvement.**

**Your heart health, it's personal. Let us care for you.**  
For a Botsford physician, call our toll-free HealthMatch number at 1-877-442-7900.  
28050 Grand River Ave. | Farmington Hills, MI 48336-5919

cardiology



**botsford  
general  
hospital**

[www.botsford.org](http://www.botsford.org)



#### Double trouble

The Murphy twins have never been the competitive type. In fact, this is the first year they've even been on the same athletic team together.  
— Page 3B

#### Regional Marketplace — Page 6B



#### Opening-day victory

The Northville Mustangs lacrosse team notched an 8-6 victory over the visiting Howell Highlanders Monday.  
— Page 4B



# RECORD SPORTS

www.northvillerecord.com

Thursday, March 30, 2006

NORTHVILLE RECORD, PAGE B1

## SWING AWAY



Photo by JOHN HEIDER/NORTHVILLE RECORD

Mustang Charlie Thomas takes a swing as spring baseball season begins.

## Mustangs senior baseball captain Charlie Thomas says personal sacrifices worthwhile

By Sam Eggleston  
RECORD SPORTS WRITER

Charlie Thomas had a tough choice to make last fall.

The Northville senior was an all-conference and all-area football player with a bright future on the baseball diamond. Nagging injuries hampered him during high school baseball, due to time spent on the football field, so he thought long and hard about a solution.

Then he announced he wouldn't be back on the gridiron.

"I don't regret it," Thomas said. "I definitely missed playing football though. It was tough going to the games because I still wanted to play. But I knew in the long run it wasn't the right decision for me and I wouldn't be happy."

So Thomas stayed away from Northville's athletics during the fall season. He worked on his baseball ability, attending a camp in New York and drawing collegiate interest.

He knew he'd have to face his peers in the halls of the high school and expected to be in the occasional awkward situation because of it. Instead, he was pleasantly surprised.

"Everyone was actually very supportive of my decision and were very understanding," Thomas said. "I appreciated the way everyone responded. It meant a lot to me."

And Thomas made the best of it.

He said he believes his defensive capabilities have increased along with his batting. Thomas said he focused on defense for the majority of his workouts, a field he wanted to shore up before showcasing his ability in front of college coaches during the camp in New York.

"It was a good experience," he said of the camp. "I got some (college interest) letters as a result. It was kind of cool because I got the chance to experience that different kind of life. I think I really benefited from it."

Thomas' focus is on three schools at the moment, though he admitted that could change. Michigan State, Purdue University and Kalamazoo College are currently leading as his top choices.

MSU has indicated the most baseball interest, though they haven't brought a scholarship to the table yet.

"Anything could happen this season," Thomas said. "If I have a good year, then I may end up dealing with coaches I haven't even talked to yet."

Thomas, who is a captain for the Mustangs this spring, is hoping to lead his team to a division and conference title.



Photo by JOHN HEIDER/NORTHVILLE RECORD

Charlie Thomas is looking forward to his senior year on the baseball diamond.

Then, he said, as far into the playoffs as his team can go.

#### Diamond mining

Thomas knows it takes more than a strong bat to fulfill those goals.

"Our team is going to be good this year," he said. "I think we have the potential to go real far in the playoffs, further than we ever have. We have a deep pitching staff and some very good players."

Thomas said he's ready for the season to begin. He has no regrets about an off-season schedule, which included three-day-per-week morning workout sessions stacked with swimming, weight lifting and running as well as batting, agility and fielding work.

All he can do is play his best. "There's always a pressure, especially since I don't know where I'm going to school yet and that can be stressful," Thomas said. "The past two years there has been pressure, too, and I've pulled through that. I'm confident in my ability. I've done

"I've done everything I can to prepare myself and whatever happens, happens."

Charlie Thomas  
Baseball Captain, Northville High School

everything I can to prepare myself and whatever happens, happens.

"There is nothing more I can do to get ready. I can't think there was more I could do. I have to throw that out the window. The season is on top of us and I've got to go out and play."

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

## Playing through pain

### Northville softball standout Jenna Dumbleton refuses to let injury keep her sidelined

By Sam Eggleston  
RECORD SPORTS WRITER

Jenna Dumbleton is disappointed.

The Northville sophomore varsity softball standout had high expectations for her season with the Mustangs this year. But an injury during her summer league with a Compuware-sponsored team has hampered those expectations.

Dumbleton injured the ulnar collateral ligament on her right arm during a slide into second base. The injury resulted in physical therapy and some additional complications, like numbness in her elbow.

"I'm incredibly disappointed," Dumbleton said. "I thought by the time the season started I'd be able to pitch fully. I can practice at full speed, but it starts hurting."

Dumbleton said she believes she's around 85-90 percent of her capabilities, but hopes to be back up to speed by mid-season.

The biggest disappointment doesn't come from Dumbleton's reduced ability, but rather her reduced responsibility.

Since the pain is more prominent when she throws overhand, Dumbleton said she will not be playing in her normal shortstop position. Instead, she may find herself spending some time at first base or not on the field at all unless she's pitching. Her batting is most likely out of the question, too.

"I was really looking forward to playing short and pitching this year," Dumbleton said. "I guess I should be happy I can still play."

Dumbleton's injury came in late June, but she didn't go see a doctor until August. She said the pain wasn't so intense that she thought she needed to seek med-

"Jenna will be a huge part of this team's success."

Teryn Fox  
Northville Softball Coach

ical treatment.

As the closing weeks of her summer season began dwindling, Dumbleton said the pain began to increase. It was then she went to see a doctor. The initial outlook wasn't a bright one.

"They thought it could have been a stress fracture," she said. "Worse, it could have been a complete tear of the ligament and it would have required surgery. Instead, it's a partial tear and I had to go to physical therapy instead."

For three days a week, Dumbleton went to therapy to work on her biceps and triceps muscle groups in order to help strengthen the ligament. In the process, she started to feel a numbness in her elbow, a sensation she also experiences while pitching.

#### Armed, but not quite ready

Dumbleton said when she throws, her elbow sometimes strikes her hip and it goes numb as though she just hit her funny bone. Doctors have indicated she may need to undergo an electromyogram, or an EMG, to test nerve conductivity. If needed, Dumbleton may have a surgery that will bury the nerve in the muscle tissue to prevent it from being exposed.

continued on 2B



Photo courtesy of the Snow family

From left to right: Phillip Snow, 17, Debra Snow, Phil Snow and Jacob Snow, 14.

## A Lions' share of Snow in Northville

### Detroit Lions linebacker coach Phil Snow is home in Northville

By Ramez Khuri  
GANNETT NEWS SERVICE

backers in the National Football League.

Phil Snow is a happy guy.

The Northville resident has two boys attending Northville High School, lives near a golf course, and he can boast he's one of only 32 people in the world who gets paid for coaching line-

Snow has been coaching football for over 30 years, and is about to start his second year on the job with the Detroit Lions. "When you work for the NFL you're in an elite group," he said.

continued on 2B



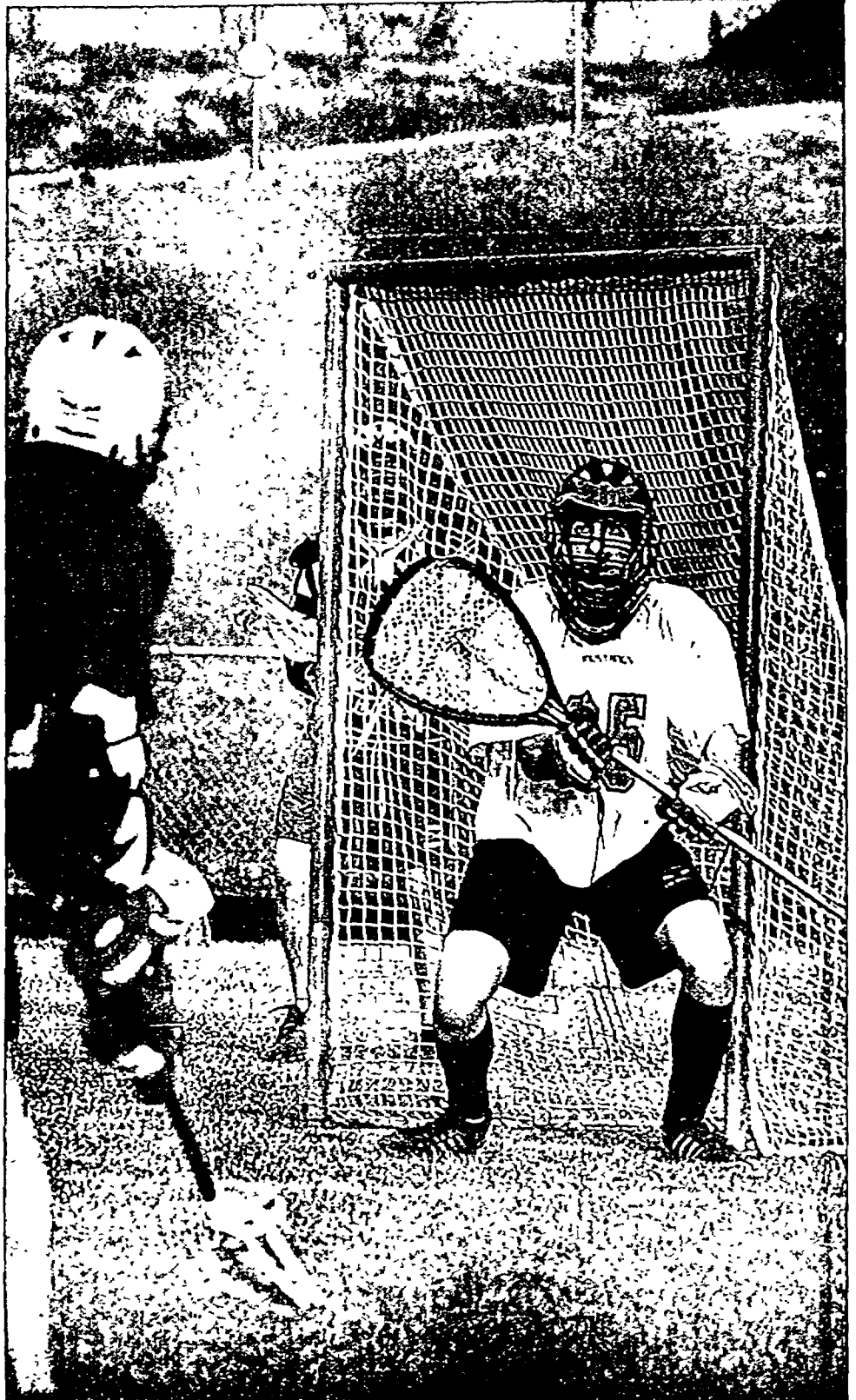


# Notch one for the Mustangs

## Lacrosse team earns win, 8-6, in first game of the season



Mustangs defender Chris Jeffery uses his stick to knock the ball loose.



Northville goalie Michael Zervos watches the ball after it was fired at the goal by a Howell attacker. Howell scored on the play.



Mustang Erik Rieger tries to defend the outer edge of the field.



Northville's Nick Thurber keeps tabs on a Howell player trying to make his way into the Mustangs' zone.



Mustangs attacker Patrick Larabell works his way through the defense. He had two goals and two assists. Jackson Doyle also had two goals and two assists in the win.



A Mustangs defender uses his stick to keep a Howell player at bay Monday.

Photos by  
**SAM EGGLESTON/Record Sports**

# IN THE KITCHEN



## geography is a flavor

FAMILY FEATURES EDITORIAL SYNDICATE

**B**etween the tropics of Cancer and Capricorn, a "coffee belt" encircles the globe. Here, abundant sunshine, moderate rainfall and year-round warm temperatures nurture coffee trees. At harvest time, those trees are laden with bright red coffee cherries. Encased in a thin layer of fruit is a coffee bean — the seed of the coffee cherry.

Coffee is harvested primarily in three areas: Latin America, the Pacific region and Africa. The soil, climate, altitude and surrounding plants that a coffee tree is exposed to, as well as the method by which the bean is extracted from the fruit, all affect the flavor of the coffee. In the tasting room at Starbucks Coffee Company, coffee experts often experience and describe "the taste of the place."

To evaluate coffees, Starbucks tasters use a technique called "cupping." Small batches of coffee are roasted, ground and brewed without a filter. Each coffee's aroma, body, acidity and flavor are at a peak, and the tasters pick out nuances in each coffee's character and discuss them.

The tasters expect certain characteristics from each coffee, depending on their respective growing regions. Coffees from Latin America are generally light- to medium-bodied, with clean, lively flavors. Pacific coffees — such as those from Indonesia — are on the opposite end of the taste spectrum. They are typically full-bodied, smooth and earthy, with very low acidity and occasionally herbal flavor notes. Finally, coffees of East Africa and the Arabian Peninsula often combine the crisp, clean acidity found in Latin American coffees with intense floral aroma and enticing fruit or wine flavors.

The next time you pick up a bag of coffee, take a look at where it was grown. When you drink it, see if you too can recognize the taste of the place.

### Tasting Terminology

Starbucks coffee tasters use a specific glossary of terms to describe coffees. The critical components of any coffee are as follows:

#### Aroma

The scent of a coffee is a very important component of its flavor. Much of our sense of taste is created through the nose and its olfactory glands, which add the thousands of subtleties that are tasted in food and drink every day.

#### Acidity

This term refers to the lively, palate-cleansing characteristic of all coffees grown at high elevation, which is experienced primarily on the sides of the tongue. Acidity is not the same as bitterness, but is rather a sensation reminiscent of fresh-squeezed juice.

#### Body

The tactile impression of brewed coffee in your mouth can be described as light, medium or full. Some coffees naturally have more body than others. The brewing method also affects the perception of body. Coffees made in a coffee press or an espresso machine seem

fuller in body than those brewed by other methods.

#### Flavor

The most important tasting term describes the total impression of aroma, acidity and body. It can be used generally — "this coffee is flavorful" — or with specific attributes in mind — "this coffee has a chocolaty flavor."

Starbucks coffee tasters Anthony Carroll, Dub Hay and Andrew Linnemann experience the taste of the place by cupping coffee.



Starbucks coffee tasters Anthony Carroll, Dub Hay and Andrew Linnemann experience the taste of the place by cupping coffee.

For more information on coffee, visit [www.starbucks.com](http://www.starbucks.com).

Bright red coffee cherries are ready to be hand-picked from the tree.

### Caffè Diable

Great coffee with dramatic presentation  
Serves 4

- 1/2 cup Starbucks Colombia coffee
- 2 1/2 cups cold, filtered water
- 8 sugar cubes
- 2 teaspoons orange extract
- 4 lemon peel twists
- 4 cinnamon sticks

Brew coffee according to appropriate proportions and brewing instructions. While brewing, drop 2 sugar cubes into each of four 10-ounce mugs. Saturate each set of sugar cubes with 1/2 teaspoon orange extract. Remove coffee pot from brewer and arrange mugs around it. Dim room lights and light sugar cubes. When the cubes are burning brightly, top with fresh, hot coffee. Garnish with lemon peels and cinnamon sticks.

### Hot Coffee Cocoa

Coffee and chocolate blended together  
Serves 6 to 8

- For the coffee:
- 1/2 cup ground Starbucks French Roast coffee
  - 4 cups water

#### For the cocoa:

- 1 cup water
- 1/3 cup unsweetened cocoa powder
- 1/3 cup granulated sugar
- Pinch of salt
- 3 cups milk or half-and-half
- 1/4 teaspoon vanilla extract

1. To make coffee, brew measured amounts of coffee and water, using customary method. Keep coffee hot.
2. To make cocoa, in saucepan over medium heat, stir together water, cocoa powder, sugar and salt. Cook, whisking constantly, until mixture is smooth; then bring just to boil. Add milk and return to simmer. Remove from heat and stir in vanilla.
3. Combine hot coffee and hot cocoa. Serve in mugs or heat-resistant glasses.

### Spiced Coffee

Elegant spices paired with heavy-bodied Sumatra coffee  
Serves 8

- 2/3 cup ground Starbucks Sumatra coffee
- 4 cinnamon sticks, crushed or broken into small pieces
- 6 cups water
- 1/2 teaspoon ground cardamom
- 2/3 cup honey
- Half-and-half or milk

1. Mix together coffee and cinnamon sticks. Using coffee-cinnamon mixture and water, brew coffee by customary method.
2. Add cardamom and honey to hot coffee and stir until honey dissolves.
3. Serve warm. Pour about 2/3 cup coffee into each cup. Pass half-and-half or milk.



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## Tips for Selecting a Repair Shop and Maintaining Your Vehicle

WIXOM, Mich., March 30, 2006 — When it comes to car care, the two challenges most people face are where to go and what to do. Louis Kirby with Allstate Insurance Company is offering tips on selecting a repair shop and creating a checklist of preventive maintenance activities.

"Recent studies show that about five percent of all motor vehicle fatalities are caused by automobile maintenance neglect," said Executive Director of the National Car Care Council Richard D. White. "The National Car Care Council, like Allstate, encourages drivers to take an active role in maintaining their vehicle. It is the best way to avoid costly repairs down the road and ensure the safe up-keep of your automobile."

Louis Kirby says that many of his customers are not familiar with the preventive checks and are also unsure of how to select a repair shop. "I work with my customers to help them understand the importance of automobile maintenance," said Louis Kirby. "Preventive service will extend the life of the vehicle and, more importantly, ensure proper and reliable operation, which may mean increased safety for drivers and passengers."

Allstate, the largest insurer of private passenger vehicles in the state, provides its customers with the following tips for finding and working with a repair shop:

- Recommendations are typically reliable. Friends, family members, colleagues, and others whom you trust can sometimes be the best resources for selecting a repair shop.
- Find a repair shop before you need a repair shop. Decisions made at the last minute or under duress may not have the best results. Research and select your repair shop before you are pressured to do so.
- Seek a seal. When visiting a repair shop, look for appropriate licenses and certifications. Typically, those certifications indicate that some or all of the technicians on staff have met basic standards of knowledge. Also, check to be sure the certifications are recent.
- Shop around. Research capabilities, prices, and technicians for the best deal and most efficient service. Also, try to find a shop that honors your vehicle's warranty, if applicable.
- Get Estimates and Keep Receipts. Always get and keep a signed written cost estimate for the work to be performed. Make sure the estimate is detailed and states that the shop will contact you for approval before going forward with work. When completed, get a repair order that offers a detailed description of the work that has been done.

As Agent Kirby explains further, Allstate will always honor customer choice and work with any repair shop that the customer selects. However, if a customer makes a specific request to his or her claims professional about where to go for service, then Allstate may be able to suggest a local independent repair shop through the company's Direct Repair Program (DRP). The DRP program consists of independent repair shops and dealerships across the country recommended by Allstate. With DRP, there is no need for a claim representative to estimate the damages as the estimates and repairs are performed by the repair shop. Finally, if a customer uses the DRP program, then there is also a guarantee on workmanship of the repairs for as long as you own your vehicle.

In addition, Allstate is offering the below preventive maintenance checklist so that all drivers have an itemized list of preventive service checks to be done.

- Change oil filter every 3,000-4,000 miles
- Check brake fluid
- Check power steering fluid
- Check transmission/transaxle fluid
- Check windshield Washer solvent
- Check anti-freeze
- Check tire inflation
- Keep engine tuned
- Lubricate chassis
- Check battery cables and posts for corrosion
- Check battery fluid
- Check lighting system, i.e. headlights, signals, brake, and tail lights
- Inspect engine belts
- Check washer blades and replace at least annually
- Checked air filtration system
- Review vehicle owner's manual

For more information, visit [www.carcarecouncil.org](http://www.carcarecouncil.org) or contact Allstate Agent Louis Kirby at 248-669-0755.



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Proud homeowners, Bruce and Deana, stand in their recently renovated kitchen with members of the Jim Seghi Renovations crew: Kevin Barnes, Jim Seghi, and Mike Schmitt.

## Seghi Renovations: dream homes

### Local builder transforms vision into home reality

He may not use a crystal ball, but builder Jim Seghi does have a clear vision when it comes to home design and renovation. While many homeowners may see only four walls in desperate need of improvements, the New Hudson builder sees only potential.

"I have the vision. I've seen ugly is as ugly does. My job is turning dreams into reality," said Seghi. "That's our motto."

As a specialist in renovations, he knows clients are always pleasantly surprised when they realize what can be accomplished with their existing home. After all, considering the costs of moving and building, remodeling often is the most cost effective solution.

### Making It Happen

The first step is to focus on the homeowner's priorities.

"That's why I go to the job personally. I take the time to listen to them," Seghi explained.

The initial consultation usually lasts an hour to two hours, depending on the size of the project. At the time, he's brainstorming the possibilities with the prospective client. It's kind of like putting together the pieces of a puzzle, he remarked. Years of experience help him guide customers through the planning process.

"I pull the whole job together. I help them choose everything from soup to nuts."

Most often he brings up ideas the owner hasn't considered. Mitch of Northville says he was impressed with the suggestions Seghi made during the initial consultation for his kitchen remodel.

"He just had a good vision since



Submitted Photo

Jim Seghi Renovations leaves customers with the home of their dreams.

he's done so many remodels," Mitch noted.

For example, he suggested that a partial wall could be removed, giving a more open look. Mitch said they also wanted a granite work island but didn't think they had enough room.

"We actually had more than enough room ... Now there's no more bumping into people in the kitchen," he added. "We couldn't be happier with the way it turned out."

The costs came in within estimate and the project was finished ahead of time.

South Lyon homeowners, DeAnna and Bruce, were planning to remodel for several years before they contacted Jim Seghi. So, they had a pretty good idea of what they wanted. A couple who enjoys entertaining, their main goal was to "make the kitchen more user friendly and enjoyable," said Bruce. He credits his wife,

DeAnna with the original concept, and Seghi for showing them how it could be done.

One major change included removing two smaller windows and installing a large 10-foot window to open up the kitchen.

"That in itself opened up the area. It makes the kitchen warm and more alive," he added. The whole process "went more smoothly than we thought. Jim stayed on top of it, and cleaned up every day."

Upon completion, Bruce remarked it doesn't look like a "remodel" it blends perfectly with the rest of the home. "People are floored with the difference." It's now DeAnna's favorite room.

### Joining the 21st Century

Now joining the electronic generation, a laptop and the internet are now Seghi's latest planning tools. With the addition of a

"portable office" he's able to show customers before and after pictures for illustrations or hook up to a supplier's Web site to help select materials, such as new faucets. It's just one of many ways Seghi works to make the entire planning process run smoothly.

"This is such a good starting point. It saves lots of legwork," he added.

### True Value

As a contractor he understands the importance of providing value to the customer. He'll work hard to find the smartest choice by asking questions.

Is the investment worth the cost? Does the renovation and its products match the value of the home and the surrounding homes in the area? It doesn't make sense to use inexpensive cupboards in a \$500,000 home, the same as it doesn't make sense to overspend

### JIM SEGHI RENOVATIONS

Location: New Hudson  
Phone: (248) 437-2454.

as well. It's not unusual for him to drive around the block to get a feel for what fits best in the neighborhood.

"I'm there to prevent them from making mistakes," he adds.

Finally, his signature trademark is building a "wow" factor to polish off each home or project. "There are certain things you can do which don't cost a lot, but make the difference between ordinary and extraordinary," said Seghi. One of his favorites includes tumbled marble or ceramic backsplashes in the kitchen and or bath. Color is another way you can "spice up" a décor without spending extra cash.

"It doesn't have to be off white to be neutral. There are a lot of great colors that you can use that will blend well."

### Remodel Even If You Plan To Move

It may sound impractical at first, but in many cases, remodeling may be necessary to sell your home. Seghi says that often homeowners put their home for sale, and then realize they need to add features for marketability. Right now there are three popular items customers demand in the \$250,000 and up category, including a master suite with bath and walk in closet, three car garage and first floor laundry. It's not surprising that once improvements are complete, the home owners like it so well they decide to stay.

Ask Jim Seghi's to expand your home's possibilities. Contact his New Hudson office at (248) 437-2454.

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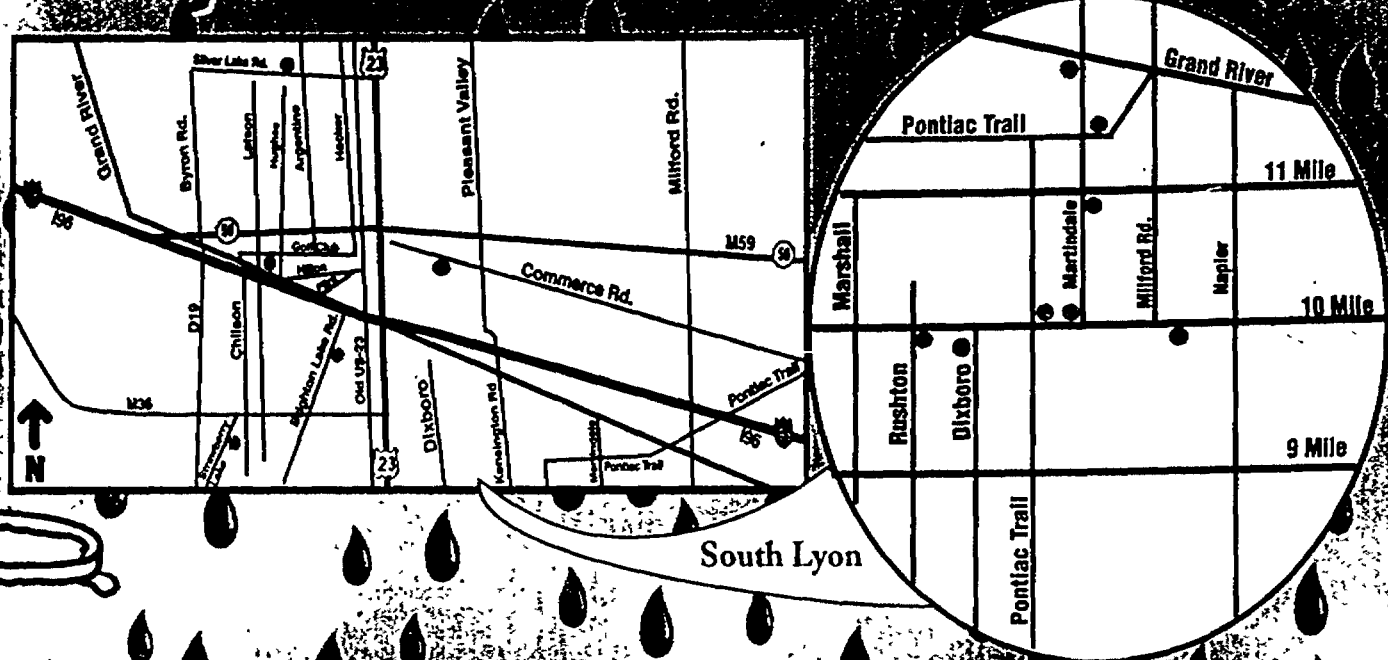








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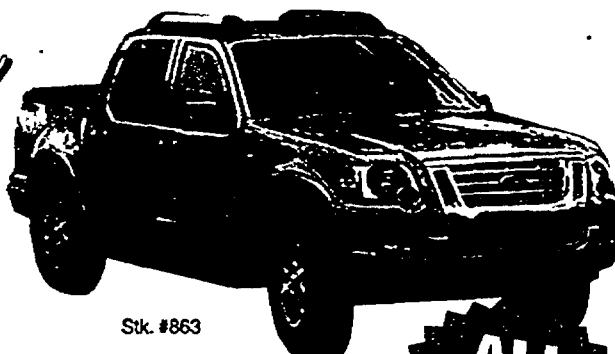
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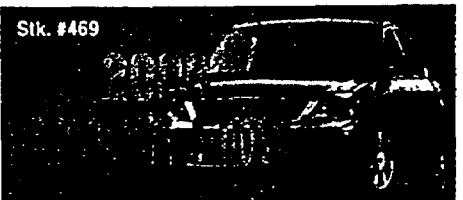
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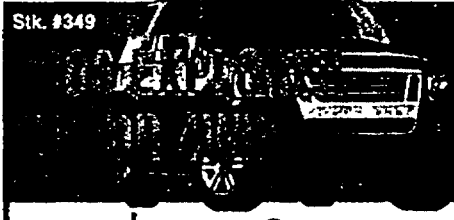
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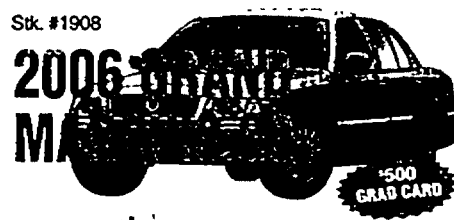
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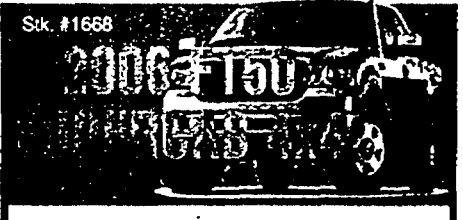
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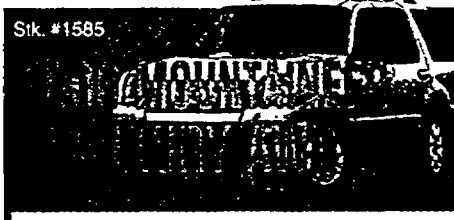
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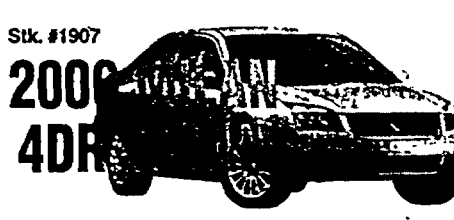
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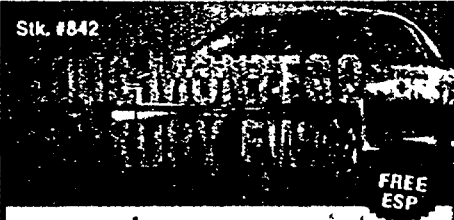
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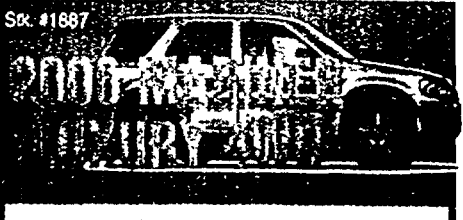
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**Can you  
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*page 12*

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*page 6*

**Create a  
home theater**  
*page 14*

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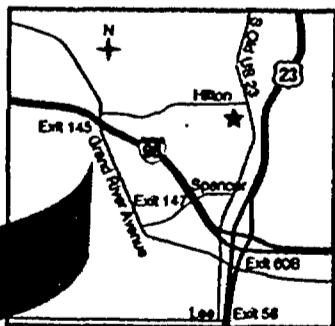
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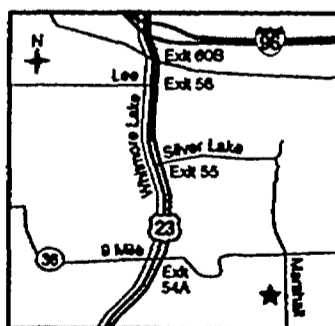
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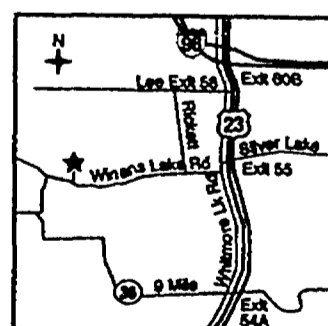
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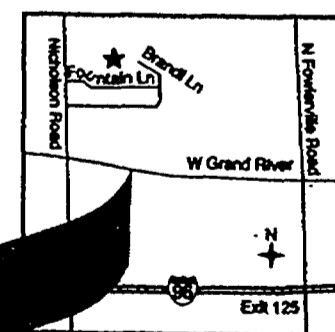
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Published by Novi News, Northville Record,  
South Lyon Herald and Milford Times.  
323 E. Grand River Ave.  
Howell, MI 48843, (517) 548-2000  
www.hometownlife.com

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# Create a low-maintenance home

**H**ectic schedules, long work hours and business travel leave little time for homeowners to keep up with the regular maintenance needed to care for a home. During the past several decades an abundance of products have been introduced that are designed to reduce the hassles and efforts needed to keep a home in top shape.

"The evolution of low-maintenance products is one of the greatest achievements in the building products industry," according to Don Zeman, host of the home improvement radio show, "Homefront with Don Zeman."

"From the introduction of vinyl window frames that never need painting to porch rail systems that don't rot, decay or attract termites, everyone wins with low-maintenance products," says Zeman, who was a contractor and builder for 25 years before starting his nationally syndicated show. "Homeowners find that the labor and money saved with low-maintenance products allow them more free time to enjoy their homes."

According to a survey of customer preferences conducted by the National Association of Home Builders, low maintenance figures prominently into building product purchase decisions. In the report "What 21st Century Home Buyers Want," low maintenance ranked as the second-highest reason for selecting wall materials for the front exterior of the home and the primary reason for choosing wall materials for the other three sides of the home. In the survey, low-maintenance brick and vinyl sidings were the most requested choices for siding.

"Two key things have occurred that make homeowners more conscious of low-maintenance materials," says Zeman, whose "News from the Homefront" television segments are seen nationwide. "First, the quality and variety of products in this category continue to increase each year. Second, the free time homeowners have available to spend on home maintenance continues to decrease so they're constantly seeking out ways to create an easy-care home."

From his vantage point of reviewing thousands of products and projects each year, Zeman offers several ways homeowners can make their homes easier to maintain.

**Project 1** — Accessorize the exterior of your home with durable urethane products. Easy-care shutters, window and door trim pieces, louvers and balustrade systems resist warping, weather damage and insect infestations. These products are longer-lasting than wood products because they don't absorb moisture and are weather resistant.

**Project 2** — Try composite decking. Made from plastic and wood fibers, this low-maintenance product installs and cuts like wood, but resists rot and insects. There's no painting or staining required and in many cases fasteners are hidden. The investment in composite decking pays back during the resale of a home and during all those weekends you're not forced to strip and reseal a wood deck.

**Project 3** — Invest in vinyl siding with insulator boards behind them to create the most energy-efficient and low-maintenance exterior possible. There are a wide variety of vinyl siding textures and colors available,

including woodgrain replications.

**Project 4** — Forget about hanging shades or blinds in areas of the home where you desire privacy. Instead, install obscure acrylic block windows that guarantee privacy. Both the blocks and vinyl frames are easy to maintain with mild soap and water. Acrylic block windows in operable casement and awning styles along with large, fixed picture windows are available.

**Project 5** — When ordering windows for your home, make sure to request the tilt-in sash option. This feature eliminates the need to clean the outside of your windows by standing on a ladder because you can use the tilt-in feature to quickly and easily clean the glass from the inside of the house.

**Project 6** — Install moisture resistant urethane mouldings and decorative millwork in extremely humid areas of the home, such as bathrooms and kitchens. No matter how much steam is produced from showers or cooking, these products won't warp.

**Project 7** — Invest in a solid-surface countertop for your kitchen. This man-made material can have the look and feel of stone or marble while offering the advantage of needing only soap and water for cleanup. Most solid-surface countertops are seamless and resist stains, chemicals and scratches. Color and style options are almost limitless and there are no veneers to chip, crack, peel or wear out.

For more tips and ideas on making your home more comfortable, along with information on products discussed here, visit [www.homefront.com](http://www.homefront.com).

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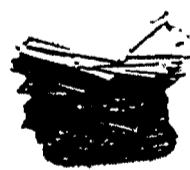
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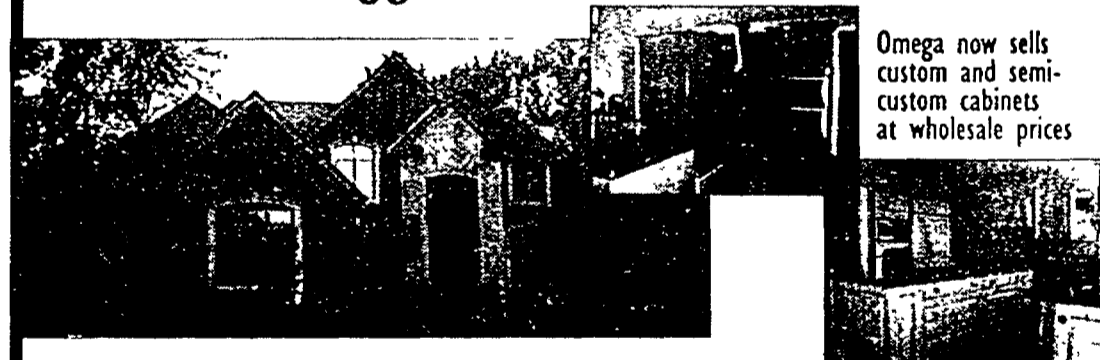
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Photo by METRO NEWS SERVICE

New home plans now include more of what homeowners want.

## Consumers want their homes to fit lifestyles

**T**he booming real-estate market of recent years has challenged builders to meet the demand of consumers in the way of new house construction. What's more, builders have also been given the task of producing not only more homes, but ones that are affordable and meet the evolving preferences of today's home buyer. As a result, homes are being built that cater to the lifestyles of the modern homeowner.

Drive around a new home development and you're likely to discover one obvious fact instantly: new homes are much larger than their older counterparts. According to the U.S. Bureau of the Census, square footage of homes built in 2004 was nearly 140 percent greater than homes built in 1950.

However, you may also notice that although houses are bigger, yards may be smaller or non-existent. Why? Homeowners want large homes to house their toys, but may have less interest in maintaining outdoor living spaces.

Here is a look at some of the interior home trends.

In addition to offering larger square footage, many of today's new homes are designed to include useful living spaces. As telecommuting becomes increasingly popular in today's business environment, dedicated home offices top the list of wants from home buyers, and these rooms are wired for business. A recent study by the Consumer Electronics Association said that approximately 60 percent of new homes include a network of high-speed data, voice and HDTV-capable wiring.

An open floor plan is also a common theme among new construction. Buyers are no longer interested in a formal dining room and living room to act as an unused showcase. Rather, some builders have nixed the living room in lieu of a great room, which includes a spacious eat-in-kitchen that opens up to a den or game room. The recreation area is decidedly designed around flat-screen televisions and

elaborate home-theater systems. Gone are the days when homeowners would house electronics within an entertainment center or behind closed doors. Today's gadget lovers want their top-of-the-line products on display and in use.

With living spaces adjacent to the kitchen/eating area, family members can congregate in the same area while enjoying their respective activities. These spaces are also great for homeowners who enjoy entertaining in their homes.

Elaborate laundry rooms have also been added to new construction master plans. Yet the jury is still out as to the preferred location of such laundry rooms. Some homeowners prefer it on the ground floor, off the kitchen, to act as a mudroom or transition space into the body of the home. Others want it upstairs or by the bedrooms where the majority of dirty laundry is generated.

Another room which has popped up as of late is a private space for some family members, like in-laws or caregivers. That is why bedrooms off the kitchen or garage have become common. And in regard to the garage: It's bigger than in past years. Many new garages are built two feet deeper so that minivans and SUVs will fit comfortably.

With homes much larger, energy costs are likely a concern for homeowners. That's why many builders are also including "smart home" features, equipping their houses with technology that controls home systems from one location. Heating, security, cooling, audio and other systems can be programmed, helping owners use fewer resources. These systems are also accessed via the Web, so homeowners can turn the heat down a notch anywhere they have access to the Internet.

As homeowners' preferences continue to evolve through the years, builders will surely have an ear open to their wants and needs to build homes that will offer the most bang for their buck.

— Metro News Service

## Desired features determine floorplan

By Candy Spiegel  
SPECIAL SECTIONS

Before finding deciding on a floor plan, make sure it has all of the features that are important to the family.

Use this worksheet to determine which features of a home are the most important.

Mark wish list-items with a "W" and necessary items with an "N."

Fill in additional details and take it to the builder. From this, they can help select the floor plan that will work best. And, they can make sure extra funds in the budget are spent on what is most important to the homeowners.

For example, if a fireplace in the master bedroom isn't important, but a large dressing room is, they can take the money from the fireplace and put it into building a dressing room.

Items to consider when designing or selecting a floor plan:

- Outside**
- Number of stories
  - Garage  
Number of cars: \_\_\_\_\_
  - Shed or outbuildings  
Description: \_\_\_\_\_
  - Pool or spa
  - Deck or large porch
  - Walk-out basement
  - Basement
- Rooms**
- Number of bedrooms
  - Number of full bathrooms
  - Number of half bathrooms
  - Formal dining room
  - Formal living room
  - Family room
  - Home office
  - Library
  - Bonus room

- Hearth room
- Additional master bedrooms
- Mother-in-law suite
- Great room
- Exercise room
- Morning room
- Theater or media room
- Laundry room
- Room for unique or special furnishings  
Explain: \_\_\_\_\_

### Details

- Eating area in kitchen
- Sitting room in master suite
- Walk-in closets  
Where? \_\_\_\_\_
- Fireplaces  
Where? \_\_\_\_\_
- Bar  
Where? \_\_\_\_\_
- Special considerations  
Explain: \_\_\_\_\_

### Notes

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# Add living space with a basement remodel

By Aaron O'Hanlon  
Special Writer

**The** easiest way to add a new room or rooms to your home is to better utilize the space you already have. Basement remodeling can be more economical than building an addition, because, with the walls, floor, ceiling and utilities in place, your space is already about 30 percent finished.

"Basements are the lowest cost living space you can add to a home," said Jim Faydenko president of Remodeling Remedies, located in South Lyon, Michigan. "Cost ranges from a low \$45 per square foot to over \$65 for high end remodels".

Also, since you're building within the existing envelope of the house, you don't have to worry about zoning issues such as setback from property lines, height restrictions, or solar shading of your neighbor.

Yet, before you even consider contacting a contractor there are some important things to consider about basement remodeling.

## Moisture

Basements are the largest source of moisture in homes and typically, let in over 15 gallons of moisture each day. That is much more than cooking and showering combined (3-5 gallons per day). Most moisture infiltrates into basements in the form of water vapor, which is invisible, unlike steam condensing above a pot with boiling water. Low air pressure inside buildings draws in soil

gas with water vapor from the ground through all openings and pores in the concrete. Concrete is not a rock. Just like wood, it needs a sealer — protection against water and deterioration. Seal the concrete before finishing the basement, enclosing the walls or covering the slab, or just painting concrete. It is a simple do-it-yourself project and avoids putting your basement remodeling investment, as well as your family's health, at risk.

## Safety

Both the Michigan Residential and the Michigan Building Codes require emergency escape and rescue openings in residential and I-1 use groups for buildings applicable to the bottom three stories and basement of buildings. If a basement contains rooms or spaces meeting the requirements for habitability an emergency escape and rescue window or exterior door is required.

Give special attention to the heating and ventilation system. Proper ventilation will keep basements from feeling damp and stagnant. When your home was first built, the odds are that there were few if any registers or vents installed in the basement. When you remodel your basement, you need to think about the need for good air circulation, adding openings where necessary. You'll also have to include a return air duct, but it's important that it be located far from the furnace. Otherwise, it may suck dangerous furnace exhaust fumes back into the house.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Because a basement exists in the envelope of the house, zoning issues, height restrictions and solar shading of neighbors are not considerations when remodeling a basement. These factors and more contribute to basements being the lowest-cost living space that can be added to a home.

## Design

Think carefully about your family's needs — now and in the future. When you design, keep those changing needs in mind.

A playroom now will need to become something else in a few years. Plan for it

and you won't have to do a complete overhaul again.

"You want to work with a company that has a qualified design person. They can transform a basement into a lower level," said Faydenko.

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# Mortgages made simple

**S**o you want to buy a new home. Unless you have the cash to entirely finance the purchase, you'll need to get a mortgage — a legal contract that pledges a property as security for a loan. The property is basically the collateral for the mortgage that you take out. If you don't make payments as agreed in the mortgage contract, the lender can take possession of your home through foreclosure.

Since the cost of a home can run into hundreds of thousands of dollars, a mortgage loan tends to be for a very large sum of money that you get to pay off over a long period of time — usually around 15 to 30 years. You can obtain a mortgage from a bank, a mortgage broker or wholesale lender.

Since a mortgage represents a hefty investment on your part, and there are many kinds from which to choose, it's wise to be diligent in your research and selection of a particular mortgage loan. Be absolutely sure that it is well suited to your needs and that you can afford to pay it for as long as you plan to remain in the home.

To help you get started, here's a rundown on the different types of mortgages available, courtesy of MortgageLinks.org and Homestore.com, two online informational resources on home buying and mortgage loans.

## Most common mortgages

■ **Fixed Rate (FRM):** The mortgage-payment rate and loan payments remain fixed for the life of the loan, usually 30 years.

Shorter term fixed rates (usually 15 or 20 years) carry lower interest rates, higher payments, and less money paid out than with longer term loan mortgages.

Longer term fixed rates have smaller monthly payments and are easier to budget than shorter term mortgage loans.

■ **Adjustable Rate (ARM):** Interest rates start lower than with a fixed-rate mortgage, but then become variable. At specific intervals (typically every year), a lender adjusts the rate up or down as interest rates fluctuate.

Its lower initial rate can help you qualify for a larger mortgage loan. If you know your income will rise to keep pace with an ARM's periodic adjustment, and you plan to move in a few years, an ARM could be a good choice.

## Less common mortgages

Although the majority of buyers will go with the standard fixed-rate or adjustable-rate mortgages, there are other types of mortgages that are available to finance your piece of real estate:

■ **Balloon:** Gives borrowers lower rates and payments for a specific period of time — anywhere from three to 10 years. After that point, the borrower has to pay off the principal (amount borrowed) balance in a lump sum.

Under certain conditions, they can be converted to fixed-rate or adjustable-rate loans. Many borrowers either sell their homes before they get to their due dates, or end up refinancing their balances into new mortgages.

This is a great mortgage option for buyers



Photo by PHOTODISC, INC.

who don't plan on living in the property for long; disadvantage is that if your plans change and you decide to remain in your home, you will have to pay off your mortgage, or refinance the balance, which will result in more closing costs.

■ **Jumbo:** Considered a non-conforming loan because it exceeds the loan limit set by Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac (the two publicly chartered corporations that buy mortgage loans from lenders), thereby ensuring that mortgage money is available at all times in all locations around the country.

If you require more money in your loan, then a jumbo mortgage may be a good option. You'll have the opportunity to purchase larger, more expensive properties, but you'll also be paying a higher interest rate in exchange for the lender's higher risk.

■ **Subprime:** reserved for individuals with less-than-satisfactory credit, based on their FICO scores (FICO scores are a number assigned to you based on your credit rating).

These mortgage loans have higher interest rates and more burdensome terms than conventional loans, but they give bruised-credit borrowers a chance to reap the benefits of homeownership just like their more creditworthy cousins.

Be prepared for inconsistent terms because interest rates, fees, and underwriting guidelines can vary drastically among lenders.

■ **Assumable:** Relatively rare, but a home-

owner with an assumable loan can "hand off" the loan to a buyer instead of paying it off using proceeds from the home sale.

If rates are low and you can get one, by all means, do so. If rates rise, buyers will be able to assume your loan at the rate you currently pay (and will be willing to pay more for your house) because it will be much cheaper than any loan they could get from a bank or other source.

An advantage of an assumable mortgage is that it reduces monthly payments and saves money on closing costs.

A disadvantage is that sellers will charge more for their property, so buyers need more cash to cover the difference between the asking price and the loan balance.

■ **Two-step:** Combines elements of fixed and adjustable-rate mortgages. Features a fixed rate and payment for an initial period, followed by one adjustment, then a fixed rate and payment for the remainder of the loan term.

These mortgages will have names such as 2/28, 5/25 or 7/23. A 7/23 mortgage, for example, has an initial fixed period of seven years, an adjustment, and then 23 more years of payments following the adjustment. These mortgages give borrowers with damaged credit an opportunity to buy a home and to establish better credit.

However, if your credit does not improve, you could be stuck in a high-rate loan for much longer than two or three years.

■ **Biweekly:** a fixed-rate mortgage in which

payments are made every other week instead of monthly. It is a method used to shorten the life of a 30-year mortgage simply by dividing what would be your monthly payment into two. That means you will be paying 26 "half-payments" a year (the equivalent of 13 monthly payments), with the 13th monthly payment being applied entirely to the balance of the principal. By making more payments, you'll have a dramatic impact on the length of the loan.

For example, a 30-year loan can be paid off in about 23 years through this method. The only tricky part of changing to a biweekly mortgage is in making sure your lender accepts your payments and correctly credits the extra portion to the principal.

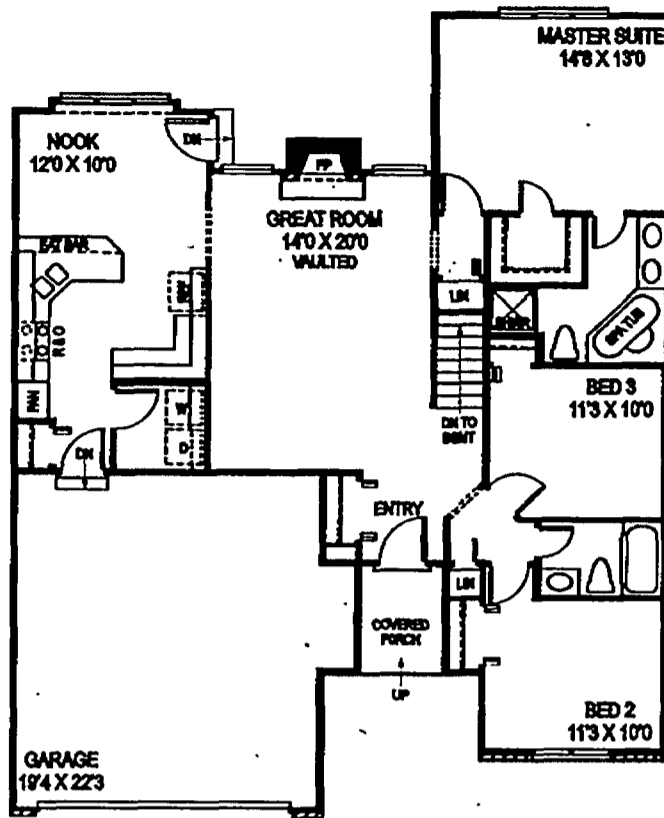
Besides cutting your mortgage short, biweekly payments could serve as a good budgeting tool for many people, although it is not recommended for people who may encounter financial problems since these payments are made so close together.

■ **Federal Housing Administration (FHA):** Eligible parties may qualify for a down payment (as low as three percent). Loans come from lenders approved by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

■ **VA loans:** The Department of Veterans Affairs helps eligible veterans and service personnel to get loans through conventional lenders. Down payments may not be required.

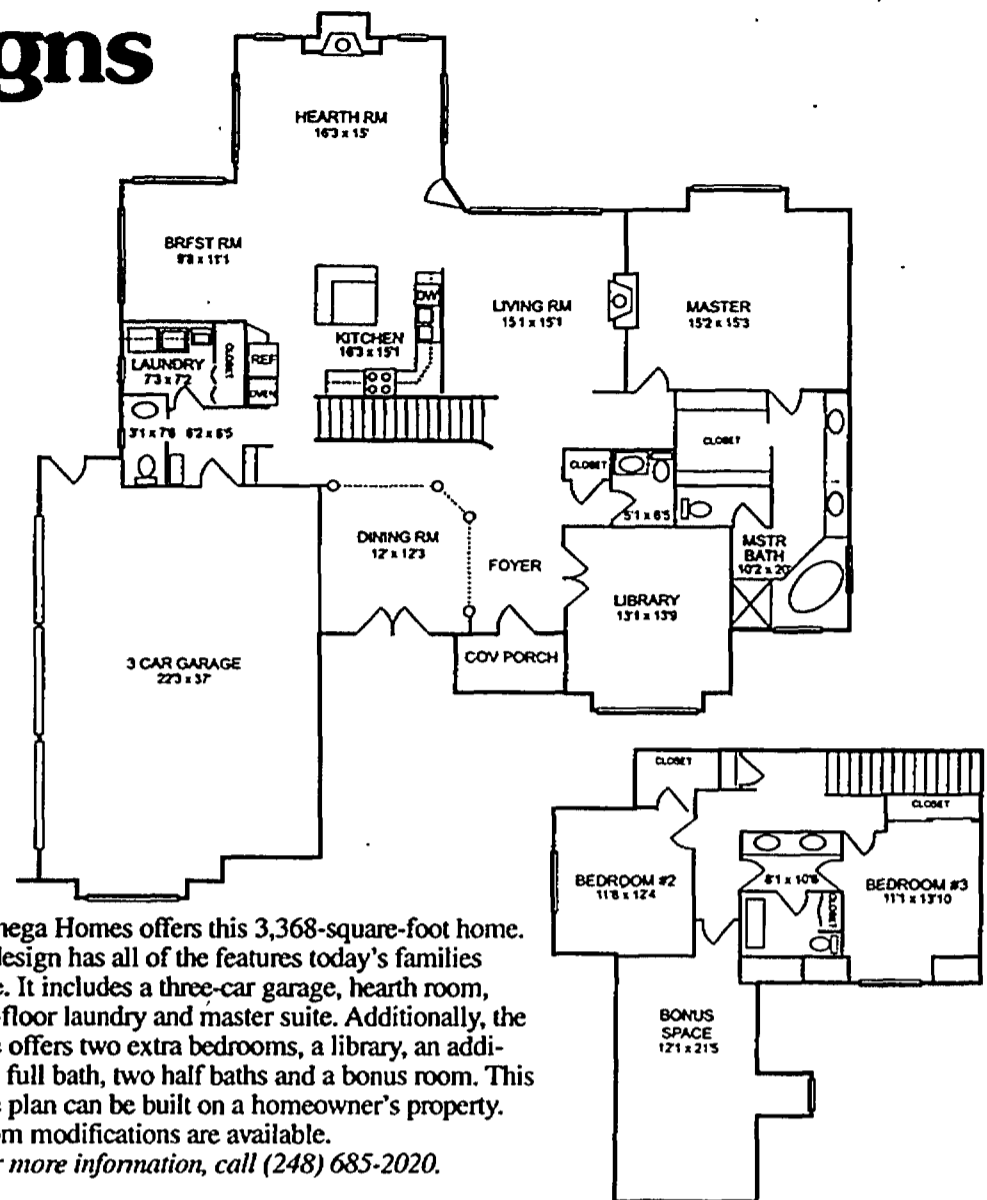
— Metro News Service

# Consider these new designs



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The Gabriel Bay is a compact home, ideal for the young couple just starting out. It has 1,392 square feet of open living area. The outside has a brick and wood façade, a covered porch with two pillars, and a decorative window. This home, being only 42 feet wide would be ideal for a smaller lot. The home features a two-car oversized garage, great room, window seat in the kitchen, a master suite, two additional bedrooms, and one additional bathroom. For a study plan of the Gabriel Bay (D8013), call (800) 562-1151 or visit [www.ldpians.com](http://www.ldpians.com).



Omega Homes offers this 3,368-square-foot home. The design has all of the features today's families desire. It includes a three-car garage, hearth room, main-floor laundry and master suite. Additionally, the house offers two extra bedrooms, a library, an additional full bath, two half baths and a bonus room. This house plan can be built on a homeowner's property. Custom modifications are available. For more information, call (248) 685-2020.

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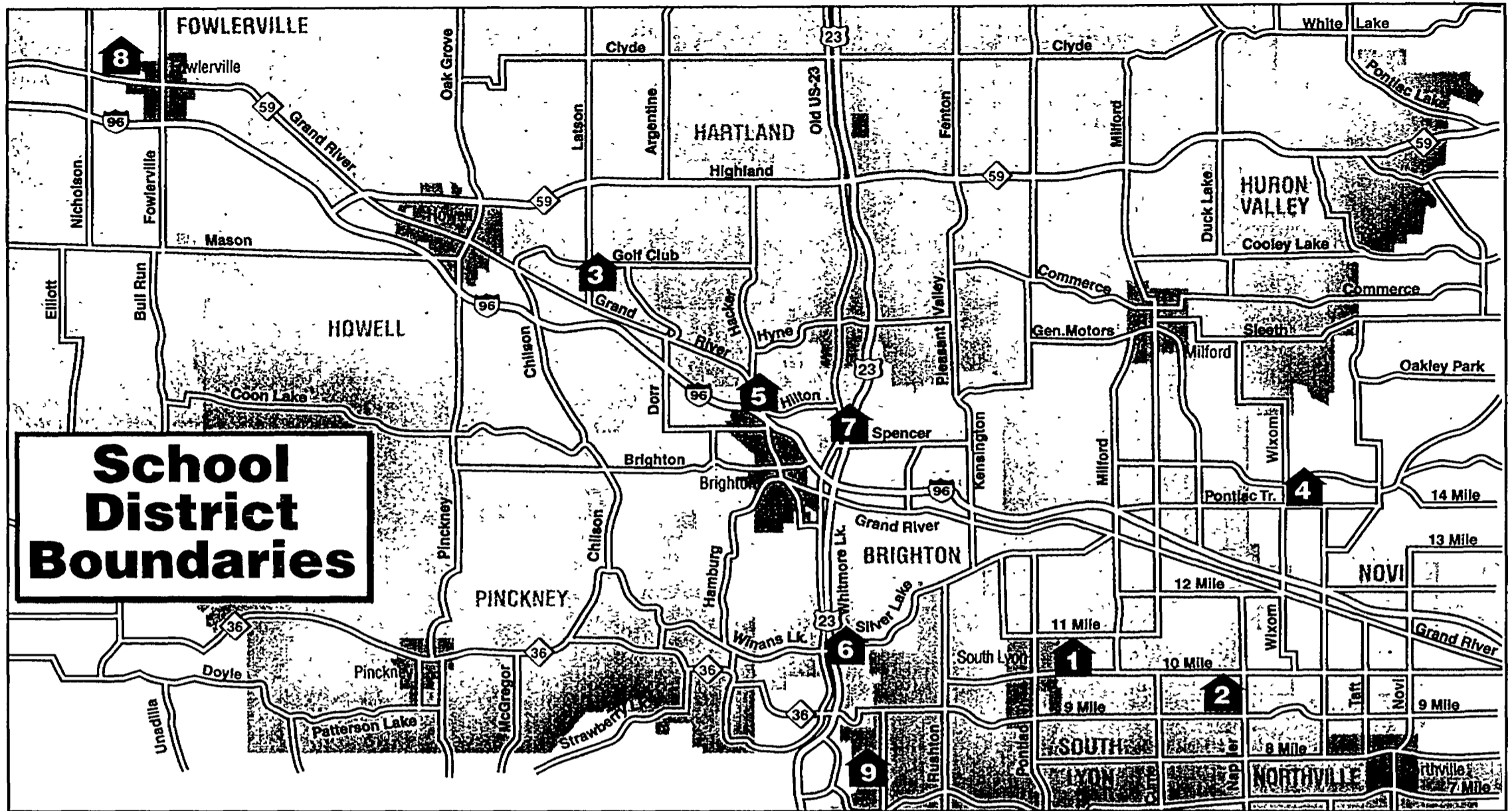
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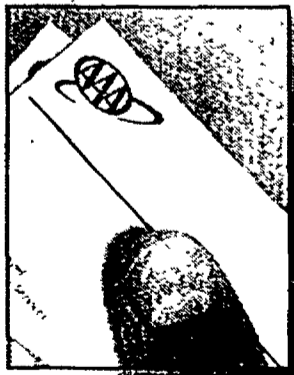


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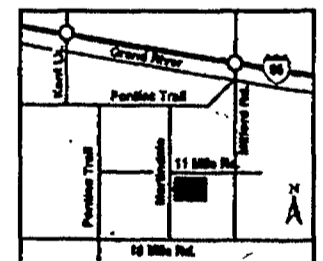
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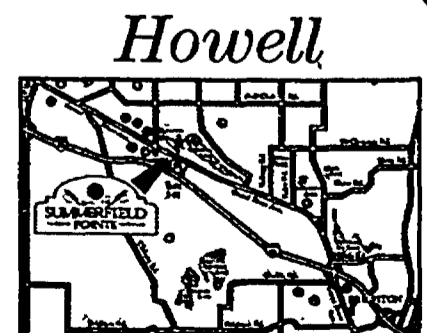
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# Consider school system when selecting new home

By Candy Spiegel  
SPECIAL SECTIONS

Location. Location. Location.

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In addition to finding the right house, today's families must also consider which school district their new home will be located in.

Although each of these area schools offer exceptional learning environments, parents may have a preference of one school over another. To make it easy, the map at the left shows where these new home developments fall in the local school districts.

*EDITOR'S NOTE: Locations are approximate. Contact the sales office for precise directions.*

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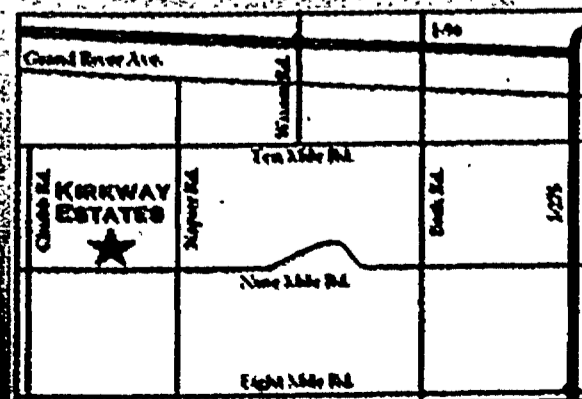
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# Plan energy efficiency into new construction

By Cynthia Grochowski  
DAILY PRESS & ARGUS

**The** best time to incorporate energy-efficient heating and cooling systems into a home is during initial construction. Some components may be pricey, but the savings in lower monthly energy bills will quickly add up.

## Insulation

When building a house, the first important energy-saving step a homeowner can take is having the correct insulation for the home installed properly.

Ask the builder to recommend a reputable insulation contractor, preferably someone the builder has worked with in the past. Ask the insulation contractor about his insulation packages. A basic new construction package may not offer the extra sealing and caulking around electrical boxes and outside wall outlets that will stop air leaks.

## Windows and doors

Since windows and doors are actually holes in a house's insulated walls, the biggest energy loss is due to what covers these holes.

Purchasing the best windows affordable with the lowest E coating and highest R value available is the next important step in building an energy efficient house.

Thermal windows with a low E coating barrier or argon gas between the double or triple panes prevent sun from heating up a cooled house or heated air from transferring to cold outdoor air.

Since wood is a natural insulator, wooden frames provide the best thermal gap, preventing conductivity between the inside and outside air.

When choosing outside doors for the new house, choose one with the highest R value affordable.

Door seals are rated according to the infiltration of air and are separate from the R rating of the door itself. When rating door seals, the lower the number the better the seal.

## Heating

When installing a new home's heating and cooling systems, "get the highest efficiency units you can," Paul Fallert recommended. Fallert, who has owned and operated Fallert Mechanical for the past 25 years, pointed out several energy saving options for heating.

"For natural gas and propane users, a furnace rated plus 90 is the way to go," he recommended. These furnaces operate at 90 percent or better efficiency.

"A geothermal unit is the best value for the dollar because of the rising price of gas and propane," Fallert said. "The initial cost is more but the payback is pretty quick."

Fallert said he is seeing growing interest in air heat pumps in Michigan as the cost of gas goes up.

## Air conditioning

For cooling the indoor air in the summer months, Fallert points to air-conditioning units with the new Department of Energy SEER rating of 13 or better.

"A 13 rating means you can realize a 30

percent savings on your cooling bill," Fallert said. "The higher the rating the higher the savings."

Fallert recommends air conditioners that use the new R410A refrigerant. Known as Puron in one manufacturer's line, R410A is safer for the environment and more efficient in the cooling process. Units with less efficient and environmentally unfriendly R22 and R12 are still available, but will be phased out by 2010.

## Water heater

How the home's water will be heated is another area to consider for energy savings when building. "The best thing is to get a well-insulated water heater," Fallert said. "Remember, most of the time, the hot water is just sitting there." On-demand hot water systems, where water is heated the instant it is needed, have been around for years in Europe. "Installing one of these during new construction makes sense since the unit has to be near an outside wall for a direct vent," Fallert explained. "They are expensive but the payback is pretty short."

## Mechanical ventilation

As houses are built tighter to prevent heating and cooling losses, air quality becomes more of a concern. According to Fallert, people planning new construction have the perfect opportunity to consider installing mechanical ventilation systems.

These systems, known as HRV for heat recovery ventilation or ERV for energy recovery ventilation, recover some of the heating or

## ENERGY-WISE BUILDING

New home construction is a perfect time to make the house energy efficient.

- Insulate home properly.
- Install wood frame thermal windows with the lowest E coating and highest R value available.
- Install outside doors with the highest R value available.
- Choose door seals with the lowest rating number available.
- Install a Plus 90 gas or propane furnace.
- Consider geothermal or air heat pumps.
- Install an air conditioner with a SEER rating of 13 or above.
- Install an insulated water heater or consider an on-demand unit.

cooling when air is exhausted from the house. A ventilation unit is separate from the heating and cooling systems but can use the existing duct system.

"There are a lot of them in use in northern areas like Wisconsin and Minnesota," Fallert said. "As houses get tighter, we'll see a lot more of these units in Michigan."

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# Tackle those remodeling projects with these tips

**H**ow do I find a contractor? Where should I invest my limited remodeling dollars? What building materials are the best to use? If these remodeling questions haunt you and cause sleepless nights, then step back and take some tips from a professional.

Remodeler Danny Lipford, host of the television show, "Today's Home-owner with Danny Lipford" and resident home-improvement expert on "The Weather Channel" and "The CBS Early Show," has identified 10 easy steps to tackling home improvement projects.

"Remodeling your home should be an exciting venture, not a trek through alligator-infested waters," says Lipford, who has operated his Alabama-based remodeling company for more than 20 years. "Knowledge is powerful. Understanding how contractors work and especially how you can work as a team with your contractor is your best step towards having a successful start-to-finish remodeling project."

Based on his extensive remodeling work, Lipford has identified the following tips for homeowners who are overseeing either large or small remodeling projects.

**Tip No. 1 — Spend More Time Checking Out Your Contractor Than Your Countertops.** The most critical factor in any remodel is your contractor — without him or her, nothing happens. First check out whether your candidates have current licenses and insurance (worker's comp and liability), and how reputable they are in business. Next, talk to several past clients (from a list of at least 10) and look at their work (one several years old and one that is currently being worked on). Finally, make sure you are comfortable with how this person works with you. Does he or she answer your questions? Pay attention to details? Listen to your wants and concerns?

**Tip No. 2 — Don't Take the Lowest Bid.** It's tempting to go for the lowest price, but this isn't like shopping for an item online or in a store. Every contractor offers a different level of service and skill. In most cases, the lowest bidder is offering the lowest level of these key ingredients — not sufficient for many homeowners when the inevitable complications start piling up.

**Tip No. 3 — Don't Bite Off More Than You Can Chew At One Time.** To maintain both your finances and your sanity, don't try to turn your dreams into reality all at once. Stage your project by deciding which things you need to correct first in your house — it may not always be the fun stuff like redoing a kitchen or creating a master bath. Start with projects that involve the structure including basics like windows and major systems; and then move on to updating finishes.

**Tip No. 4 — Don't Cheap Out on What's Inside The Walls, Roof and Floors.** The finishes are what you'll be showing off to friends and neighbors, but it's the structure, insulation, and electrical, plumbing, and heating/cooling systems that make your home safe and comfortable long after the finishes wear out. Spend the extra dollar here, and everything else works better. If you don't spend, it is very expensive to go back and correct your mistakes later.

**Tip No. 5 — Invest in Windows and Doors**

— You Won't Regret It. Windows and exterior doors can be a big part of your remodeling budget, but they aren't the place to cut costs. When you research window options, for instance, look for the brands with the best energy efficiency and lowest maintenance possible. For both doors and windows, pay attention to how well they operate, how they seal to the weather, and the quality of the hardware used.

**Tip No. 6 — Plan On Spending At Least 15 Percent More Than The Contract Price.** If you've talked to friends, family or neighbors about their remodeling efforts, you know that the final bill always costs more than the estimate. Why? Undiscovered surprises and the "While we're at it ..." decisions. There's not much you can do about the former — you don't always know that there's an electrical line running through the wall where you wanted an opening — and the latter is laced with both good opportunity and overspending danger.

**Tip No. 7 — Get Some Design Help Early On With Floor Plans.** The key to how well your remodeled home will "live" is the new floor plan you create. There are lots of standards that need to be applied that will help you size rooms effectively and create a traffic flow that works. Contractors who work with designers (design-build firms) are a great source for this information. So are independent designers, who sometimes set up their own offices, but more typically work with a kitchen and bath showroom or even home centers. Architects, though more expensive, should be considered if you're considering major changes to your home.

**Tip No. 8 — Consider Non-Traditional Materials — They're Often Better.** Many of today's look-alike materials have been engineered to be better than what they replace. Medium- and high-density fiberboard (MDF and HDF), for instance, are stable, dense substrates used in the best cabinets, furniture, and flooring. Interior trim like moldings, walls niches, and ceiling medallions are another example. Urethane pieces are lighter in weight and less expensive than plaster, and aren't affected by moisture or insects like the same products available in wood.

**Tip No. 9 — Choose Classic For a Finished Look That Will Last.** It's fun to create a kitchen with the latest look, but if you keep the trendiest elements to easily replaceable finishes, it will be easier and less expensive to update in the future. Better yet, use classic materials, styles, and colors throughout the room and updating won't be a topic anytime soon.

**Tip No. 10 — Never Let Your Payments Get Ahead of the Work.** Contractors, like anyone in business, are anxious to please their customers in order to secure the next payment. It's important to keep this leverage so your contractor's attention doesn't wander. (Remember that you are competing with your contractor's other clients to a degree.) Always withhold 10 percent to 15 percent of the job cost at the end of the remodel to make sure your contractor completes everything to your satisfaction.

For more information on remodeling projects, products and ideas, visit [www.dannylipford.com](http://www.dannylipford.com). — Metro News Service

# Lending institutions can help determine house affordability

By Cynthia Grochowski  
DAILY PRESS & ARGUS

**B**efore the floorplan books are leafed through, before any touring is done through model homes, a future home-builder needs to determine how much house he can afford.

"People tend to put the cart before the horse. They find the home first, then look at financing," said Don Oleske, the real estate lending manager for Telcom Credit Union in Novi. "They need to get themselves in line financially before they shop."

Their first stop when building a new home, according to Oleske, should be to a lender. "See what you can afford first, then go out and plan your dream house," Oleske said.

## Pre-approval

A visit to a bank, credit union or mortgage company is in order to fill out an application for pre-approval. Applying for pre-approval can be done in person at the lending institution or online through the institution's Web site. Applicants need to have on hand a recent pay stub and monthly bill and income statements to complete the form.

The lender will run a credit report and interview the applicant to gain a general idea of how they intend to go about the down payment and closing costs.

"With this information a lender can give an opinion on what a person can qualify for," Oleske said. Once an individual is approved they are given a pre-approval certificate.

"Real estate agents and builders will ask to see the certificate," Oleske said. "They want to make sure the person can obtain financing."

Oleske warns that pre-approval is not the same as pre-qualifying. "To pre-qualify means that given these circumstances you could probably qualify for the loan," he explained. "Pre-approval means that you do qualify for the loan, and the lender will back that up with a letter saying you do."

The pre-approval process can assist people in other ways outside of building a new home. "Maybe they don't qualify right now, but the pre-approval process is a nice time to sit down with them, go over their credit and determine how they can best put themselves in a position to build a home in the future," Oleske pointed out. "It's good to hear from a professional on how to get a better credit score."

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"Maybe they don't qualify right now, but the pre-approval process is a nice time to sit down with them, go over their credit and determine how they can best put themselves in a position to build a home in the future," Oleske pointed out. "It's good to hear from a professional on how to get a better credit score."

## Basic rule of thumb

A quick formula to judge how much house a person can afford says that the total house payment (including tax and insurance) and car payment should come to 45 percent of a person's monthly income. Automated underwriting programs may put the number as high as 60 percent.

That doesn't mean a person should jump on it, according to Oleske. "A person can be approved for that, but they have to look at their lifestyle and their other expenses," Oleske said, saying that a lending institution will "make sure the numbers fit the client."



Photo By METRO NEWS SERVICE

Lending institutions such as banks and credit unions can assist individuals in determining their financial standing and how much house they can afford to build.

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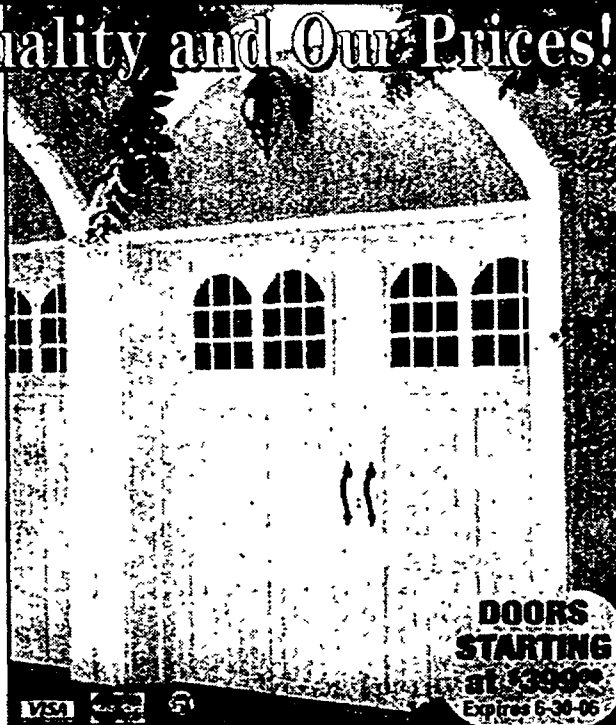
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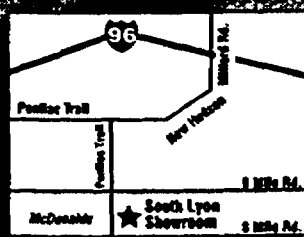
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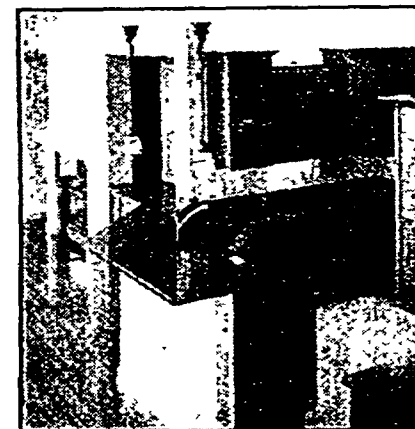


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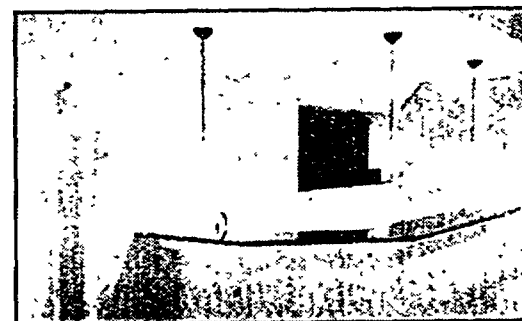
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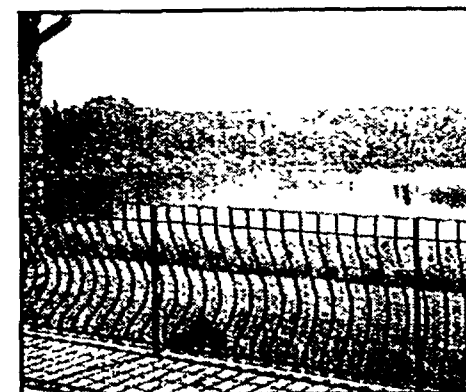
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# Create a home-theater system of your own

**W**alk into any of the major electronics/appliances chains these days and, chances are, your desire to begin building your own home-theater system will skyrocket.

Advancements with respect to televisions, surround sound, and just about all things entertainment make having your own private, personal movie theater a winning idea.

But with electronics prices that can make this project a costly venture, you'll want to know exactly what you'll need and want before starting out.

## Television

The first thing you'll want to do is decide on your centerpiece, otherwise known as your television.

There are many televisions from which to choose, but keep your home-theater room size in mind before picking out your television — you don't want one that will overconsume the space.

Thanks to advancements, though, many televisions are now of the wall-mounted variety, meaning you can essentially get any television you want (regardless of screen size) so long as it fits into your budget and onto your wall.

## Build the room

After you've chosen where to put your television, it's time to start building the room around your sweet spot, the spot in your home theater where you can hear each speaker

exactly the same. This spot is essentially the whole point of having a home-theater system, so create it wisely.

The best way to do that is to follow the triangle method. Place each of your television's front-channel speakers on either side of your TV (angle them in slightly), with each equidistant and between 8 feet and 12 feet from your TV. Use the parallel distance between these two speakers to form the base of a triangle. You can then fill out the rest of the triangle by creating two imaginary lines, each coming from one of the speakers, which will eventually converge to form your triangle. Somewhere in this triangle should be your viewing area.

After you've determined where to put your couch or easy chair, place the rear speakers directly behind and equidistant from your seating. It's also best to put these speakers at ear level. These speakers can also be wall mounted or ceiling mounted, but only if that is their suggested and intended use.

You'll likely have a center channel speaker that's best placed directly above your TV screen. If you have a wall-mounted TV, try and keep the screen at the eye level of your viewers when seated.

After you've placed everything, it's also important to consider the type of furniture you'll have in your new home theater.

Fabric drapes and soft furniture are best, as they will absorb sound and not cause any distortion. Avoid glass or marble furnishings if possible, as they reflect sound and might negate the theater atmosphere you've worked so hard to create.

## Master control

It is possible to get a master control center where you can control everything from your television, stereo system, volume and even your home theater's lighting. If you want something such as this, it will add considerably to your home-theater budget. Master control home-theater systems typically can cost several thousand dollars, not to mention these usually require a professional to install. Such installations can cost up to \$1,000 or more depending on the number of speakers you have. Also, prices will go up should you need help mounting your television. Should you choose to go the master control route, you'll want to place this behind your seating area, as it will only be a distraction if it is anywhere near your TV screen.

## Conceal cables

The last thing you'll want to do is conceal your cables.

This can be a more difficult process than you might think, as the more appliances you have as part of your home theater, the more cables you'll have as well. Leaving these cables exposed opens up the possibility for disaster, as people might trip over them or pets might chew on them.

These can be concealed in a number of ways, be it in the wall, in the ceiling or beneath moldings. Split-loom tubing is also an option. With split-loom tubing, you can route all your cables into one tube. This is

## MAKING SENSE OF SOUND

Deciphering between the different types of surround sound for your home-theater system can be akin to trying to read a language you don't speak.

Here's a quick guide to the differences between the two most common systems:

■ **5.1-Channel Movie Formats:** This is the most common, as it is the standard format for audio delivery in the DVD format. The Low Frequency Effects channel works especially well for movie special effects, enhancing their impact in a fashion similar to an actual theater experience.

■ **6.1-Channel Extended Surround:** Building on the 5.1, 6.1 provides greater continuity in the rearward soundfield, enhancing your surround sound by making it more seamless and enveloping.

also beneficial if you think you'll be adding any cables, as you can just slide any additional cables in without having to undo the existing bundle.

— Metro News Service

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**80# Bag \$10.74**

Prices include Delivery. No Limit. Not Valid with any other offer. Coupon must be Presented at the Time of Delivery. Expires 4-30-06.



248-437-0135



# Building A New Home? Don't Know Where To Begin?



Join the many satisfied customers who are glad they compared and chose

## IVERSON'S CONSTRUCTION LOAN MANAGEMENT

Iverson's offers the "Customer Friendly" Construction Loan!

- Low Interest Rate
- Unlimited Draws in less than 24 Hours
- No Holdbacks
- No Hidden Fees
- No Builder's License Required
- Free Cost Estimating
- Materials at Maximum Discounts
- Ask about Our Rebate Plan

**CALL US  
NOW!  
YOU'LL  
BE GLAD  
YOU DID**

**(248) 685-8765**

**Ext. 120**



**BETTER HOMES.**  
**BETTER LOCATION.**  
**BETTER HURRY!**



**HERITAGE SERIES**  
 from the low \$140's  
**SPORTY RANCH CONDOMINIUMS**  
 with 2 Bedrooms, Plus Den  
 2 Baths & Attached Garages  
 248-960-1102

**LEGACY SERIES**  
 from the mid \$160's  
**ELEGANT ATTACHED CONDOMINIUMS**  
 Featuring 2 Bedrooms, 2 Baths, Den  
 & 2 Car Tandem Attached Garages  
 248-669-3819

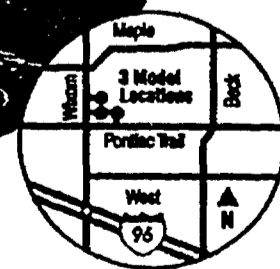
**COLONIAL SERIES**  
 from the low \$200's  
**SOPHISTICATED TOWNHOMES**  
 with 2 bedrooms plus loft or 3 bedrooms,  
 Attached Garages and Space Galore  
 248-960-0415

A New Kind of Living in  
**Downtown Wixom.**

[www.wixomvillage.com](http://www.wixomvillage.com)

Models open Noon - 6pm, 7 days a week.

**DIRECTIONS TO MODELS:** Townhome models located off the north side of Pontiac Trail, east of Wixom Rd.; Ranch-style models located off Wixom Rd., north of Pontiac Trail.





Posturepedic  
Support you trust. Comfort you'll love.™



STEARNS & FOSTER



Beautyrest  
Better Sleep For The Two Of You.™



BackCare  
restore your body.™



TEMPUR-PEDIC  
PRESSURE RELIEVING  
SWEDISH MATTRESSES AND PILLOWS

- Novi • Lansing • Howell
- Okemos • Livonia
- Westland • Brighton
- Troy • Utica/Lakeside
- Ann Arbor • Royal Oak
- Woodhaven

All The Best Brands... One Superstore!

# ROLLBACK

Plus Bonus Saving

Bonus Coupon!

COUPONS

\$100  
-TO-  
\$500  
SLEEP SETS

Simmons Beautyrest  
Better Sleep For The Two Of You.™

# The PRICES!

Truckloads of Beautyrest® and selected Sealy® Posturepedic at Huge Savings

Beautyrest SUPER PREMIUM PILLOWTOP

~~\$899~~ **\$200 OFF** **\$699**  
ROLL BACK! NOW

Reg Sale Price ~~\$899~~ QUEEN 2PC. SET

Sealy Posturepedic ULTIMATE PASSION PLUSH

~~\$1099~~ **\$300 OFF** **\$799**  
ROLL BACK! NOW

Reg Sale Price ~~\$1099~~ QUEEN 2PC. SET



# Mattress World SUPERSTORE

We Simply Do it Better!™

FREE Expert Delivery, Set-Up & Removal\*  
SLEEP FREE Up To One Year!

Your Choice!

Bonus Coupon!

An Additional...  
**10% OFF**

Yes! Take an additional 10% Off Already  
Drastically Reduced Sale Prices  
Apr 23, 2006

Bonus Coupon!

Pay No Sales Tax!  
ON ALL...  
Signature Collection  
Mattresses  
As Low As \$59

Bonus Coupon!

FREE "HARVARD" BEDFRAME OR

Receive a heavy duty "Harvard" Roller Bedframe  
with any sleep set purchase \$599 & up  
Apr 23, 2006

Bonus Coupon!

FREE "Contour Pillows"  
RECEIVE 2 FREE VISCO-ELASTIC  
MEMORY PILLOWS



**Bassett**  
FURNITURE DIRECT

# APRIL HOME SALE

## Storewide Savings

No Interest, No Payments For 18 Months\*



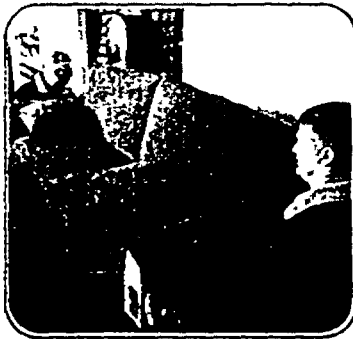
**5TH AVENUE**  
**Leather Sleigh Bed**  
European style bed with upholstered headboard in rich leather. Choose from a variety of leathers or microfiber fabric colors.  
Reg. \$1,499  
Now \$999



**EXCEPTIONAL STYLE**  
Together with a Bassett Design Consultant, you can simply and easily create a look and feel that is a true reflection of your personality. From individual pieces to creating whole interiors, Bassett's your source for style.



**COMPLIMENTARY DESIGN HELP**  
When we say complimentary, we mean it in every sense of the word. Our Design Consultants are here to offer the expertise you need to bring your dreams to life. Come in and ask about our complimentary in-home design help.



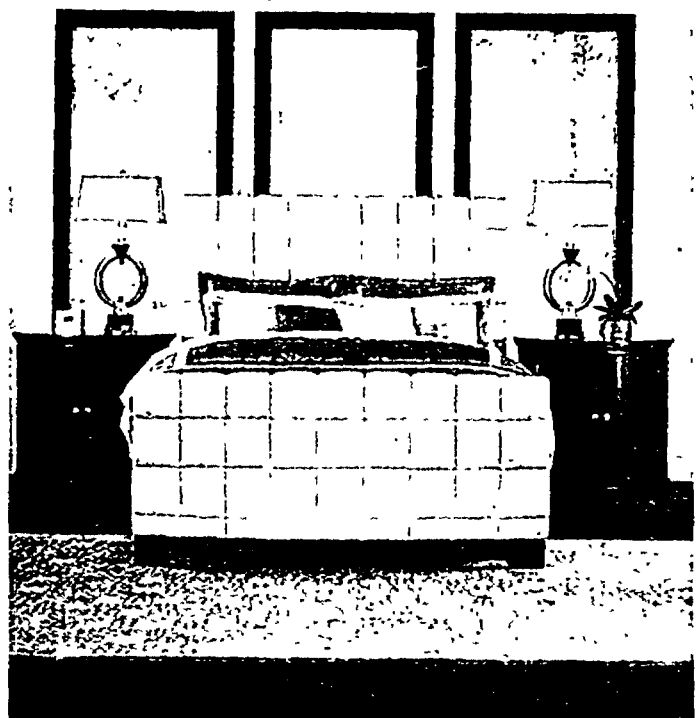
**WE DELIVER CUSTOM SOLUTIONS FAST**  
Once you approve your plan and the options that match your style, we'll custom build your furniture and deliver it faster than you ever thought possible.

# April Home Sale

**Come In For Customized Style, Personalized Service, Uncompromised Quality. That's The Bassett Difference.**



**SIMPLY YOURS® SLEIGH QUEEN BED \$599**  
Choose from 5 finish options  
All Beds Available in Queen, King and California King Sizes.



**WEST END**  
**Queen Leather Bed**  
Available in a variety of leathers. Espresso finish base, headboard, footboard and rails. King and California King. Reg. \$1,999  
As Shown \$1,389

**Bassett**  
FURNITURE DIRECT

Now Open

**Sale Hours**  
Mon-Fri 10am to 9pm  
Sat 10am to 7pm  
Sun Noon to 5pm



\*With approved credit. See salesperson for details.

# Bassett

FURNITURE DIRECT

You've Never Bought Furniture Like This Before

## April Home Sale

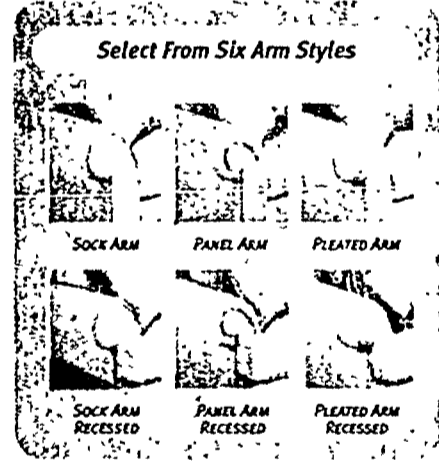
### Storewide Savings

#### No Interest - No Payments for 18 Months

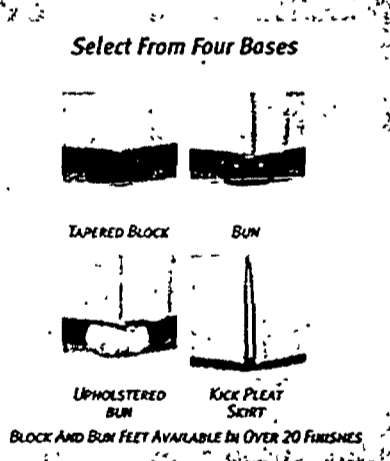
## SIMPLY YOURS® MANOR CUSTOM UPHOLSTERY

### SOFAS STARTING AT \$999

Anyone can offer choices in fabrics (we have over 1000 fabrics and leathers), but only at Bassett do you have options in arm, leg, cushion and back styles. So you can design a sofa that is truly one of a kind.

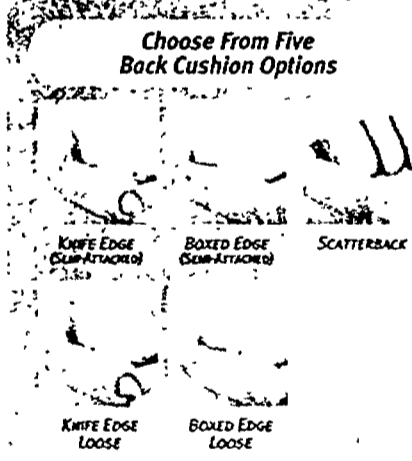


Select From Six Arm Styles



Select From Four Bases

Block and Bun feet available in over 20 finishes.



Choose From Five Back Cushion Options

**SIMPLY YOURS® CUSTOM UPHOLSTERY**  
*Custom Furniture Without the Customary Wait* If you've been furniture shopping lately, you know the drill. Custom furniture takes an eternity. Faster service requires settling for a limited selection of what's available on the showroom floor. Well, now you have a choice. At Bassett, you can choose your own fabrics and finishes. You can even choose the firmness of your cushions. Get custom furniture and, here's the clincher, get it quickly. It's revolutionary. It's our Simply Yours® Collection.



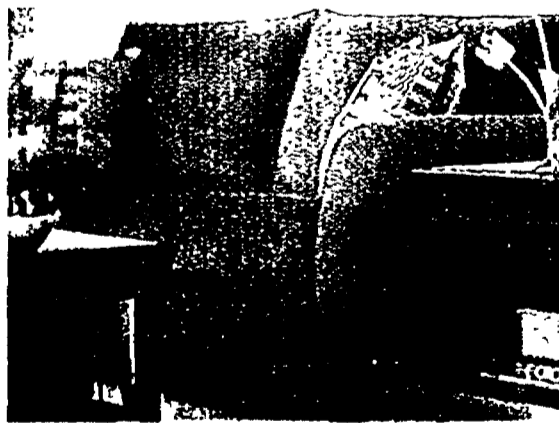
### SIMPLY YOURS® TOWNHOUSE

#### 2Pc. Sectional with Chaise

Shown with sock arm, nickel-tip turned leg and knife-edge back cushions. Also available in leather. Shown with two accent pillows, extra.

Reg. \$2,499

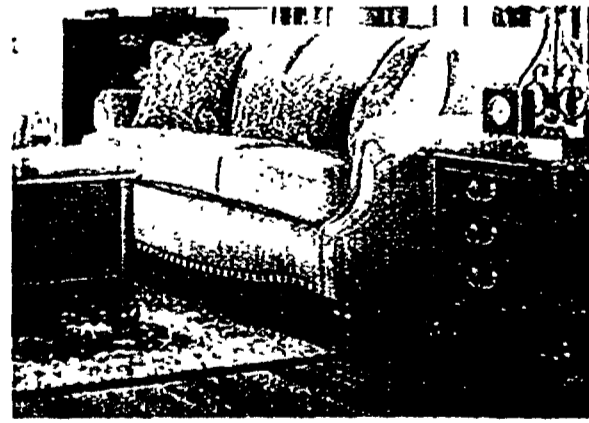
As Shown \$1,999



### GISELLE SOFA \$799

Transitional frame that features loose backs, boxed welted seat cushions and flared welted arms. Exposed wood legs available in Java and Chestnut finishes.

As Shown \$795



### CLUB ROOM \$899

This transitional group features a tight back that is sectioned, boxed seat cushions, rounded shaped arms with individual nail head trim around the arm panel and large individual nail head trim around the shaped base. Large accent pillows and a rectangular kidney pillow are standard.

As Shown \$899

# Bassett

FURNITURE DIRECT

You've Never Bought Furniture Like This Before

**NOW OPEN IN HOWELL**  
"MICHIGAN'S ONLY BASSETT  
FURNITURE DIRECT STORE"  
4050 GRAND RIVER @ LATSON ROAD  
**(517) 552-9080**

**Sale Hours**  
Mon-Fri 10am to 9pm  
Sat 10am to 7pm  
Sun Noon to 5pm



\* With approved credit. Ask salesperson for details.

# KOHL'S

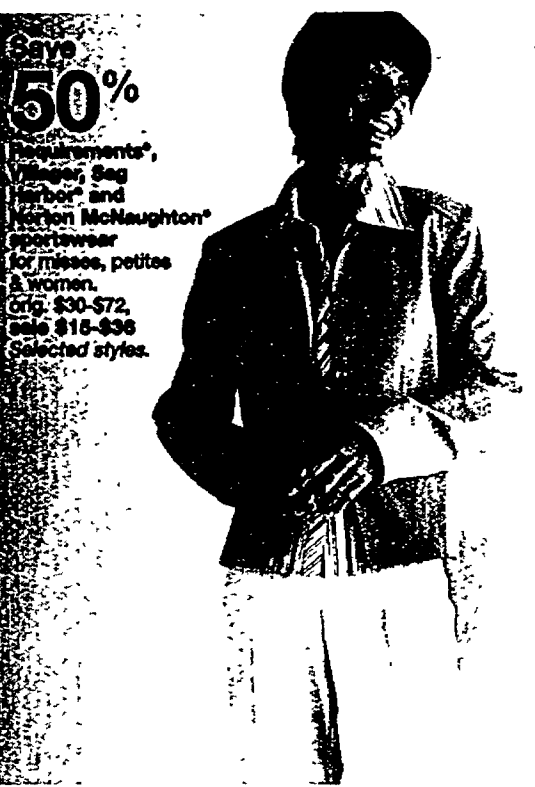
expect great things

**2 days only**

Friday & Saturday,  
March 31 & April 1

# 1/2 off sale

**1/2 OFF EVERYTHING  
IN THIS AD**



**Save 50%**  
Requirements:  
Vince, Bag  
Harbor, and  
Heron McNaughton®  
Sportswear  
for misses, petites  
& women.  
Orig. \$30-\$72,  
Sale \$15-\$36  
Selected styles.



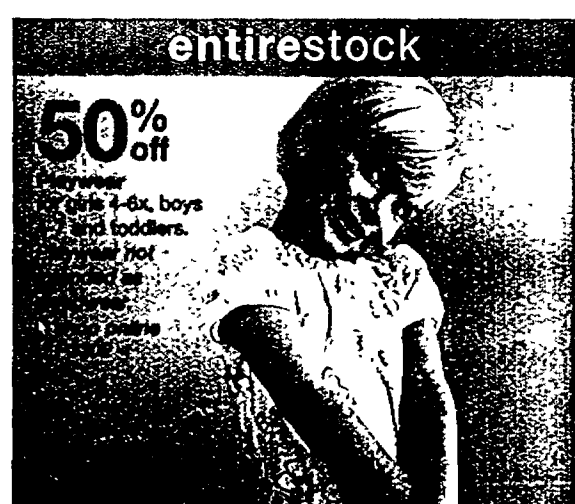
entirestock



entirestock

**50% off**  
graphic tees for  
juniors, kids  
and young  
men

Orig. \$12-\$24,  
Sale \$6-\$12  
Excludes athletic  
apparel and  
collections.



entirestock

**50% off**

Requirements:  
girls 4-6x, boys  
and toddlers.  
Selected styles.



**50% off**  
 apt. 9 sportswear for misses, petites & women.  
 orig. \$20-\$30, sale \$10-\$15  
 Selected styles  
 shop online P3303

**50% off**  
 ERIKA  
 Women's sportswear for misses, petites and women.  
 orig. \$25-\$40, sale \$13-\$20  
 Selected styles  
 shop online P3304

**50% off**  
 Handbags  
 orig. \$10-\$20, sale \$5-\$10  
 Selected styles  
 shop online P3305

**50% off**  
 Sportswear, underwear and robes for her.  
 orig. \$12-\$40, sale \$6-\$20  
 Selected styles  
 shop online P3306

**50% off**  
 bras from Playtex®, Olga®, Vanity Fair® & Warner's®  
 orig. \$20-\$30, sale \$10-\$15  
 Selected styles  
 shop online P3311



**50% off**  
 access, daisy fuentes, Nine & Company and AB Studio sportswear  
 for misses, petites & women.  
 orig. \$24-\$78, sale \$12-\$39  
 Selected styles  
 shop selected items online P3308

**50% off**  
 Sportswear from Sonoma, Croft & Barrow®, Sag Harbor®, daisy fuentes® and more.  
 orig. \$18-\$78, sale \$9-\$39.50  
 Selected styles  
 shop online P3304

**50% off**  
 Maternity apparel from Oh Baby!™ by Motherhood™.  
 orig. \$18-\$28, sale \$9-\$14  
 Selected styles  
 shop online P3304

**50% off**  
 Sunglasses, 2 1/2" her or him and fashion accessories for her.  
 orig. \$5-\$40, sale \$2-\$20  
 Selected styles.  
 Styles may vary by store.

**50% off**  
 Flip-flops for her.  
 orig. \$14-\$16, sale \$7-\$7.99  
 Selected styles.  
 Accessories dept.

**50% off**  
 Socks for her.  
 orig. \$5-\$12, sale 2.50-\$6.00  
 Selected styles.

**50% off**  
 Panties & Innerwear from Mudd®, L.L.®, SO®, and St. Eve®.  
 reg. \$3-\$15 to \$18.50 ea., sale \$1.75-\$9.75 ea.  
 Selected styles.

# 1/2 OFF EVERYTHING IN THIS AD

# 1/2 off sale

2 days only  
 Friday & Saturday,  
 March 31 & April 1

**50% off**  
 Sportswear for misses, petites and women.  
 orig. \$18-\$40, sale \$9-\$20  
 Selected styles  
 shop online P3309

**50% off**  
 Croft & Barrow® sportswear for misses, petites and women.  
 orig. \$18-\$40, sale \$9-\$20  
 Selected styles  
 shop online P3309

**50% off**  
 Women's sportswear from Sonoma, Croft & Barrow®, apt. 9®, Sag Harbor® and more.  
 orig. \$14-\$78, sale \$7-\$39  
 Selected styles.  
 shop online P3306

**entirestock**  
**55% off plus save an extra 10%**  
 on sterling silver jewelry  
 reg. \$10-\$150, sale 4.50-\$7.50, final price 4.05-\$6.75  
 shop selected items online P2200

**Final Price 71.99 pr.**  
 1/4 ct. T.W. diamond solitaire earrings 14k gold.  
 reg. \$250 pr., sale 79.99 pr.

**Final Price 98.99 pr.**  
 Entire stock 1/4 ct. T.W. diamond earrings 10k gold.  
 reg. \$300 pr., sale 109.99 pr.

**60% off plus save an extra 10%**  
 on entire stock of fine jewelry  
 Solitaire earrings available in both 10k and 14k gold. Some jewelry photos enlarged to show detail. Diamond Total Weights are approximate. T.W. may vary up to .05 ct. Actual savings may exceed the percent savings shown.  
 shop selected items online P399



**entirestock**  
**50% off**  
 Outerwear for misses.  
 orig. \$50-\$80, sale \$25-\$40  
 Selected styles  
 shop online P3310

**50% off**  
 Activewear for misses from N.Y.L., Gloria Vanderbilt® Sport, daisy fuentes® sport and more.  
 orig. \$18-\$38, sale \$9-\$19  
 Selected styles  
 shop online P3310

**50% off**  
 Gear for misses wear for misses.  
 orig. \$14-\$34, sale \$7-\$17  
 Selected styles  
 shop online P3310

**entirestock**  
**50% off**  
 Boxed watches from Vivara® and Studio Time.  
 orig. 29.99-\$99.99, sale 14.99-\$49.99  
 Selected items online P3310

**entirestock**  
**50% off**  
 Boxed fashion jewelry  
 orig. \$12-\$25, sale 6.00-\$12.50  
 Selected items online P2500

**Final Price 17.99 pr.**  
 Entire stock 14k gold earrings  
 reg. \$50 pr., sale 19.99 pr.

**Final Price 26.99 pr.**  
 Entire stock 14k gold earrings  
 reg. \$50 pr., sale 29.99 pr.

**Final Price 39.99 ea.**  
 1/4 ct. T.W. diamond bracelets  
 reg. \$125 ea., sale 79.99 ea.

**Final Price 69.99 ea.**  
 10k gold bangle bracelets  
 reg. \$200 ea., sale 77.77 ea.

**entirestock**

50% off  
Dresses for girls 4-16, boys 4-20, toddlers & infants. Selected items online P3313

**50% off**

Separate tops for juniors. orig. \$22-\$28, sale \$11-\$14. Selected styles. Selected items online P3313

**50% off**

Separate tops for juniors. orig. \$22-\$28, sale \$11-\$14. Selected styles. Selected items online P3313

**entirestock**

50% off  
Sonoma separates for infants & newborns. Selected items online P3317

**entirestock**

50% off  
Dresses for girls 4-16, boys 4-20, toddlers & infants. Selected items online P3313

**entirestock**

50% off  
Outerwear for girls 4-16, boys 4-20, toddlers & infants. Selected items online P3300

**entire stock**

50% off  
tops & bottoms for girls 4-16, boys 4-7 and toddlers from SO... and Sonoma.

**entirestock**

50% off  
Active capris for juniors. orig. \$26, sale \$13. Excludes MJ Softer. Selected items online P3316

**entirestock**

50% off  
Active capris for juniors. orig. \$26, sale \$13. Excludes MJ Softer. Selected items online P3316

**entirestock**

50% off  
Active capris for juniors. orig. \$26, sale \$13. Excludes MJ Softer. Selected items online P3316

**entirestock**

50% off  
Active capris for juniors. orig. \$26, sale \$13. Excludes MJ Softer. Selected items online P3316

**entirestock**

50% off  
Active capris for juniors. orig. \$26, sale \$13. Excludes MJ Softer. Selected items online P3316

**entirestock**

50% off  
Active capris for juniors. orig. \$26, sale \$13. Excludes MJ Softer. Selected items online P3316

**entirestock**

50% off  
Active capris for juniors. orig. \$26, sale \$13. Excludes MJ Softer. Selected items online P3316

**1/2 OFF EVERYTHING IN THIS AD**

# 1/2 off sale

**2 days only**  
Friday & Saturday,  
March 31 & April 1

**21.99**  
Sonoma Kendall sandals for women. orig. 44.99

**21.99**  
LeI\* Xitol shoes for juniors. orig. 44.99

**21.99**  
Croft & Barnum Skyler sandals for women. orig. 44.99

**21.99**  
Muddy Put shoes for juniors. orig. 44.99

**11.99**  
Speedo\* Breathwalker sandals for women. orig. 24.99

**50% off**

Shoes and sandals for men. orig. 39.99-59.99, sale 19.99-29.99. Selected styles. Selected items online SHOES

**29.99**  
GBX\* Nebes. orig. 59.99

**24.99**  
Sonoma Base. orig. 49.99

**24.99**  
Sonoma Piper. orig. 49.99

**entirestock**

**14.99**

Sandals for girls from Sonoma and SO... orig. 29.99

Sonoma Lorbel, Sonoma Regan, Sonoma Britney, Sonoma Valentina

**entirestock**

50% off  
Sonoma tops and bottoms for toddlers and boys 4-7. Selected items online P3318

**entirestock**

50% off  
Tops for boys 8-20 from Sonoma and Urban Pipeline\*. orig. \$12-\$26, sale \$6-\$13. Selected items online P3319

**entirestock**

50% off  
Dressy apparel for boys 4-20. orig. \$18-\$70, sale \$9-\$35

**entirestock**

50% off  
Shirts for boys 4-7, girls 4-6x and toddlers. Selected items online P3320

**entirestock**

50% off  
Urban Pipeline\* shorts for boys 8-20. orig. \$22-\$28, sale \$11-\$14. Selected items online P3321

**entirestock**

50% off  
Spring outerwear for kids. orig. \$24-\$42, sale \$12-\$21

**entire stock**

50% off  
Tek Gear athletic apparel for boys 8-20. orig. \$18-\$20, sale \$9-\$10

final markdowns taken on sweaters, fleece tops, winter outerwear, cold weather accessories, shoes, boots and home items.

**FINAL CLEARANCE**

now **\$2**  
all items originally \$8 to \$11

now **\$3**  
all items originally \$12 to \$18

now **\$5**  
all items originally \$19 to \$26

now **\$7**  
all items originally \$27 to \$37

Prices are as marked. Clearance prices represent savings off original prices. Selection varies by store. Interim markdowns may have been taken. Sorry, no price adjustments given on prior purchases. Clearance not yet available at our new Columbia, MO; Beckley, WV; Owensboro, KY; Washington, PA; Grand Blanc, MI & St. George, UT stores.



entirestock

**50% off**

Knit tops for men from Arrow, Huggar, Sonoma and Croft & Barrow. orig. \$14-\$46, sale 9.99-\$22.99  
 selected items online P3322

ARROW Huggar

entirestock

**50% off**

Shorts and swimwear for men from Sonoma and Croft & Barrow. orig. \$24-\$34, sale 11.99-\$16.99  
 shop online P3324

SONOMA

entirestock

**50% off**

Classic pants for men from Sonoma and Croft & Barrow. orig. \$40, sale \$20  
 shop online P3325

SONOMA

entirestock

**50-60% off**

Travel bags orig. \$79.99-\$109.99, sale 24.99-\$39.99  
 selected items online P3326

entirestock

**50% off**

Solid bath rugs reg. 9.99-\$4.99, sale 4.99-\$2.49  
 selected items online P3327

entirestock

**50% off**

Solid bath towels reg. \$3.99-\$5.00, sale 1.99-\$2.49  
 shop online P3330

entirestock

**50% off**

Dress shirts for men from Croft & Barrow and Avist. orig. \$28-\$44, sale \$14-\$22

entirestock

**50% off**

Boxers for men from Sonoma & Croft & Barrow. reg. \$12, sale \$6

entirestock

**50% off**

Loungepants for men from Sonoma and Croft & Barrow. orig. \$20, sale \$10

entirestock

**50% off**

Dress pants for men from Braggi, Avist Essentials and Croft & Barrow. reg. \$45, sale 22.50  
 shop online P3328

BRAGGI

entirestock

**50% off**

Sheet sets orig. 28.99-\$179.99, sale 12.99-\$9.99  
 Excludes coordinate sheet sets.  
 selected items online P3331

entirestock

**50% off**

Bed pillows and mattress pads reg. 9.99-\$39.99, sale 4.99-\$19.99  
 shop online P3332

memory foam home classics FOAM CORE

entirestock

**50% off**

AeroBed Classic Inflates in less than 60 seconds; includes storage bag. reg. 129.99-\$199.99, sale 64.99-\$99.99

entirestock

**50% off**

Blankets orig. 29.99-\$199.99, sale 14.99-\$99.99  
 selected items online P3333

# 1/2 OFF EVERYTHING IN THIS AD

# 1/2 off

# sale

**2 days only**  
 Friday & Saturday,  
 March 31 & April 1

**entire stock**

**50% off**

Tek Gear athletic apparel for men. orig. \$20-\$25, sale 10.00-\$12.50  
 shop online P3327

entirestock

**50% off**

Netro suit separates for young men. orig. \$38-\$100, sale \$19-\$50

entirestock

**50% off**

Shorts and jeans for young men from U.S. Polo Assn. & Unionbay. orig. \$40-\$58, sale \$20-\$29

entirestock

**50% off**

Sonoma jeans for men. Regular and Relaxed Fits. orig. 24.99, sale 12.49  
 selected items online P3360

SONOMA

entirestock

**50% off**

Solid and sleeveless tees for young men. orig. \$12, sale \$6

entirestock

**50% off**

Urban Pipeline Shorts for young men. orig. \$24, sale \$12

entirestock

**50% off**

Shorts for young men from Plugg and U.S. Expedition. orig. \$36, sale \$18

**50% off**

Personal care Selected styles. shop online P3334

**11.99**  
 Your choice Winsor Pilates Deluxe Resistance Tubing or Deluxe Exercise Ball. orig. 23.99, sale 11.99

Winsor Pilates doisy fuentes

**50% off**

Floor care Selected styles. shop online P3335

**49.99**  
 Eureka Maxima Vacuum. reg. 99.99

**99.99**  
 Bissell PowerTeam deep cleaner. orig. 199.99

**50% off**

Kitchen electrics Selected styles. selected items online P3336

**19.99**  
 Black & Decker 12" skillet. reg. 49.99

**19.99**  
 Smoothie Plus smoothie maker. Also available in black. orig. 49.99

**19.99**  
 George Foreman family size grill. reg. 39.99

**19.99**  
 22x17" Big Griddle. reg. 49.99

entirestock

**50% off**

Bombay

entirestock

**50% off**

Pyrex metal bakeware

entirestock

**50% off**

Farberware Classic Open Stock cookware

**50% off**

Cutlery Selected styles. selected items online P3337

**14.99**  
 Essentials 50% colored handle cutlery 13 piece triple set. reg. 29.99

**50% off entire stock**  
accent, area and kitchen rugs  
and doormats  
selected items online P3338

**50% off entire stock**  
frames, albums, scrapbooks,  
storage boxes and shelving  
selected items online P3339

**1/2 days only** Friday & Saturday, March 31 & April 1

# 1/2 off Sale

**1/2 OFF EVERYTHING IN THIS AD**

entirestock

**50% off**  
Bed in one  
bag sets  
selected items  
online P3340

49.99

Verice Lace

entirestock

**50% off**  
Quilt sets  
orig. 69.99-119.99  
sale 29.99-59.99

Provence

entirestock

**50% off**  
Decorative art

selected items  
online H4150

entirestock

**50% off**  
Easter decor  
and gifts  
Excludes  
Hallmark®

**50% off entire stock**  
table linens  
and kitchen textiles  
orig. 1.99-59.99, sale .99-29.99

Georgina

Villager Solid Damask

Melody

**50% off entire stock**  
Summer Living® Patio Shop  
Includes floral, planters, garden decor, birdhouses, bird feeders,  
wind chimes, flags, acrylic tabletop & more.  
selected items online H4500

entirestock

**50% off**  
Decorative pillows  
orig. 17.99-34.99,  
sale 8.99-17.80  
selected items  
online P3341

entirestock

**50% off**  
Beach towels  
orig. 17.99-39.99,  
sale 8.99-19.99

entirestock

**50% off**  
Summer Living®  
furniture  
Some assembly  
may be required.  
selected items  
online P3342

99.99  
Wood arbor  
orig. 199.99

entirestock

**50% off**  
homestudio™ home  
accent collections  
Includes candles,  
decor and more.  
Styles may vary  
by store.

Bali Hal

**KOHL'S**  
expect great things

Prices good Friday, March 31 & Saturday, April 1, 2006.  
Store Hours: Friday & Saturday, March 31 & April 1 8am-11pm  
Oxford Valley, PA store open 8am-10pm.

\*Sale\* prices and percentage savings offered in this advertisement are discounts from Kohl's "Regular" or "Original" prices. The "Regular" or "Original" price of an item is the former or future offered price for the item or a comparable item by Kohl's or another retailer. Actual sales may not have been made at the "Regular" or "Original" prices, and intermediate markdowns may have been taken. Clearance merchandise is excluded from "Entire Stock" promotions in this advertisement. In some events, actual savings may exceed the percent savings shown. KOHL'S® and KOHL'S brand names are trademarks of Kohl's Illinois, Inc. ©2006 Kohl's Department Stores, Inc.

**more savings**

Open a Kohl's Charge and receive additional discounts 12 times a year.  
Subject to credit approval. See store for details.

For the Kohl's Store nearest you call 1-800-837-1500  
or visit us on the Web at Kohls.com

EVERY SEASON STARTS AT

# DICK'S

SPORTING GOODS

# STEP UP YOUR GAME

See for Yourself with our Bat Demo Program!

Stealth CNT and Vexxum Baseball Bats are available for you to try at home! See store for details.



Louisville Slugger

A. 329.99 ONLINE ITEM ID# 2171708  
**Exogrid** Baseball Bat

EASTON

B. 299.99 ONLINE ITEM ID# 2164169  
**Stealth CNT** Baseball Bat

DeMARINI

C. Save \$30 249.98 ONLINE ITEM ID# 1991344  
**Vexxum** Baseball Bat

MIZUNO

D. Save \$100 ONLINE ITEM ID# 1993525  
 Off 149.98  
**Envy** Slow Pitch Bat

EASTON

E. Save \$10 59.98 ONLINE ITEM ID# 2214191  
**Reflex** Little League Bat

**149.99** ONLINE ITEM ID# 2194663  
**Classic Series**  
 Closed-web design  
 Walnut colored cowhide  
 12", 12.5" or 13"  
 Selection varies by store

Save **50%** ONLINE ITEM ID# 2189596  
 Off 9.98  
 Original 19.99  
 Now 14.99  
**Adult or Youth Belt Loop Pants**  
 • Sizes S-XL  
 Online ID# 2189596  
**Adult or Youth Baseball Belt**  
 4.99

Save **\$30** ONLINE ITEM ID# 2188367  
**149.98** Reg. 169.99-179.99  
**Heart of the Hide Series**  
 Heart of the Hide leather  
 Deer-tanned cowhide palm  
 Pro-style, infielder and outfielder patterns available

**49.99** ONLINE ITEM ID# 2052072  
**Cage Bat Bag**  
 • Split main compartment  
 • Bat tunnel fits up to 3 bats  
 • Embroidered logo  
 • Lifetime warranty  
 • Available in black, navy and red

> CLEATS

Save **20%** ONLINE ITEM ID# 2214193  
 Off 59.98  
 Original 74.99  
 Now 64.99  
**Adult Air Conversion 3/4**  
 Conversion baseball cleat  
 Synthetic upper  
 Encapsulated heel  
 Sole unit interchangeable

Save **\$10** ONLINE ITEM ID# 2214193  
 Off 64.99  
 Original 74.99  
**Adult Air 5 Tool Mid Steel**  
 Metal baseball cleat  
 Lightweight synthetic upper  
 Molded heel for lateral support

> ACCESSORIES

**24.99 to 39.99** ONLINE ITEM ID# 2214192  
**Your Choice**  
 Men's, Women's or Youth  
**Shorts**

**19.99 to 44.99** ONLINE ITEM ID# 2214193  
**Your Choice PAIR PACK**  
 Adult or Youth  
**Batting Gloves**  
 • Color selection varies by store

**MORE BENEFITS  
 MORE REWARDS  
 APPLY TODAY!**

**Buy More. Throw More. Win Big.**  
 Visit any DICK'S Sporting Goods store, throw a strike and you could win great prizes!  
 No purchase necessary. See page 3 for details.  
 Today, March 26th 12pm-4pm



# Check Out Our Full Assortment of Catcher's Mitts, First Base Mitts and Fielder's Gloves.

## > BASEBALL

Save \$10  
49<sup>98</sup>  
Reg. 60.00

**DICK'S EXCLUSIVE Keystone Series**  
• Game-ready leather  
• Closed-web design  
• Right- and left-handed  
• 12", 12.5", 13"

Adult  
PalmGuard  
Inner Glove  
16.99

Online ID# 1187112



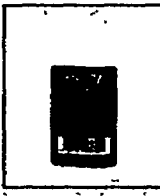
## > YOUTH

Great Value  
39<sup>99</sup>

**A500 Series**  
• ECCO leather  
• Dri-Lex lining for moisture management  
• Shock-absorbing palm pad  
• Right- and left-handed  
• 11", 11.5", 12", 12.5", 13"

ONLINE ITEM  
ID# 2180662

Glovolution  
Glove Oil...1.99  
Online ID# 12912



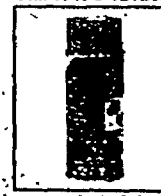
Wilson

## > SLOW PITCH

Save \$10  
49<sup>98</sup>  
Reg. 59.99

**Victory Series**  
• Full-grain leather shell  
• PalmSoft lining  
• PowerLock wrist closure  
• Right- and left-handed  
• 12", 12.5", 13", 14"

Hot Glove  
Conditioner...8.99  
Online ID# 1212696



Mizuno

Save \$20  
49<sup>99</sup>  
Orig. 69.99

**DICK'S EXCLUSIVE Onslaught Series Glove**  
• Full-grain leather  
• Closed web design  
• 12", 12.5", 13"

Youth  
Onslaught  
Series...39.99 Orig. 49.99



Save 50%  
59<sup>98</sup>  
Orig. 119.99  
Now 69.99

**DICK'S EXCLUSIVE Envy Series**  
• Full-grain leather  
• Steer-soft palm lining  
• Right- and left-handed  
• 12", 12.5", 13"



Save  
24<sup>98</sup>  
Reg. 29.99

**E-Z Catch Series**  
• Leather outer shell  
• E-Z catch design  
• Right- and left-handed  
• 9.5", 10", 10.5"

ONLINE ITEM  
ID# 2184097



Save  
24<sup>98</sup>  
Reg. 30.00

**KDR II Series**  
• Game-ready pigskin shell  
• Open-back design  
• Right- and left-handed  
• 10", 11"



Save 20%  
39<sup>98</sup>  
Reg. 49.99

**Player Series**  
• Premium steerhide leather  
• Bruise-Gard padding  
• X-trasoft palm lining  
• Right- and left-handed  
• 12.5", 13", 13.5"



Save \$10  
59<sup>98</sup>  
Reg. 69.99

**Premium Pro Series**  
• Premium full-grain leather  
• Deer-tanned palm lining  
• Right- and left-handed  
• 12", 12.5", 13", 14"



Save \$10  
69<sup>98</sup>  
Reg. 79.99

**Natural Ultra Lite Series**  
• USA Steerhide leather  
• Hyperlite construction with Ideal Fit system  
• 12", 12.5", 13"  
• Available in select stores

ONLINE ITEM  
ID# 2206511



Save \$10  
69<sup>98</sup>  
Reg. 79.99

**A700 Series**  
• ECCO leather  
• Super-breathable lining  
• Shock-absorbing palm pad  
• Right- and left-handed  
• 12", 12.5", 13", 14"

ONLINE ITEM  
ID# 2179787



Great Value  
24<sup>99</sup>

**Prospect Series**  
• Pigskin leather  
• PowerClose technology allows fast and easy close  
• Right- and left-handed  
• 10", 10.75"

11.5"  
Prospect...29.99



Save 25%  
29<sup>98</sup>  
Reg. 40.00

**Youth Keystone Series**  
• Game-ready, soft-tumbled genuine leather palm and back  
• Right- and left-handed  
• 11", 11.5"



## > FAST PITCH

Great Value  
29<sup>99</sup>

**A440 Fast Pitch Series**  
• Leather outer shell  
• Monsta-web  
• Right- and left-handed  
• 11", 11.5"

Adult A400...39.99  
Online ID# 2189595



Great Value  
44<sup>99</sup>

**Finch Fast Pitch Prospect Series**  
• PowerClose design makes catching easier  
• Designed for female athletes

ONLINE ITEM  
ID# 2204667



Great Value  
99<sup>99</sup>

**MVP Series**  
• Game-ready Bio-Retro leather  
• Pro-style, infielders and outfielders options available  
• Available in select stores

ONLINE ITEM  
ID# 2187112



Great Value  
60<sup>00</sup>

**FIRST BASE Show Series First Base Mitt**  
• Full-size pattern  
• Open back for comfort and flexibility  
• Right- and left-handed



Save 20%  
39<sup>98</sup>  
Reg. 50.00

**DICK'S EXCLUSIVE Keystone Gold Series**  
• Game-ready leather  
• Closed-web design  
• Right- and left-handed  
• 11.5", 12.5"



Great Value  
49<sup>99</sup>

**Youth Prospect Catcher's Mitt or Fielder's Glove**  
• Cowhide leather  
• Parashock palm  
• PowerClose design

ONLINE ITEM  
ID# 2187112



Save \$10  
49<sup>98</sup>  
Reg. 59.99

**CATCHER'S MITT Natural Fast Pitch Catcher's Mitt**  
• Designed specifically for female athletes

ONLINE ITEM  
ID# 214725



Great Value  
59<sup>99</sup>

**Franchise Finch Series**  
• Durasoft leather shell  
• V-flex notch for easy closure  
• Designed for female athletes  
• 12", 12.5"

ONLINE ITEM  
ID# 214725



**DICK'S**  
SPORTING GOODS

Shop us online at [DicksSportingGoods.com](http://DicksSportingGoods.com) or order by phone at 1.877.846.9997





# Attention Coaches:

Get Special Savings for You and Your Team.  
Ask a Store Associate about our Team Packets.



## > TRAINING AIDS

**Save 45%** Off Total TV Price

**19<sup>98</sup>** Reg. 29.99

**Hit-A-Way Swing Trainer**

- Simulates pitches without ball chasing
- Available for baseball or softball
- Includes FREE training DVD

**Hit-A-Way Training Pole**

- Sold separately \$119.99
- Online ID# 1822096

Endorsed by Derek Jeter

Hit-A-Way

Hit-A-Way Swing Trainer...29.99  
Shipping & Handling...8.95  
Total TV Price...38.94

ONLINE ITEM ID# 1454602

## > BASEBALL ACCESSORIES

**Save \$100**

**399<sup>98</sup>** Reg. 499.99

**Heater Baseball Pitching Machine**

- Throws pop-ups, line drives, pitches and grounders
- Easy-carry design
- Balls not included

ONLINE ITEM ID# 1401245

Heater Jr. Pitching Machine...299.99  
Online ID# 1866328

Includes FREE auto ball feeder \$200 value

Heater Gun...119.98  
Orig. 149.99  
Now 139.99  
Online ID# 1845491

## BUILD YOUR OWN SOCCER PACKAGE

CHOOSE ONE ITEM FROM EACH LIST BELOW.  
IF PURCHASED SEPARATELY - A \$51.00-\$51.50 VALUE

**39.99**

**Save 20%** When Purchased as a Package

CHOOSE CLEATS \$19.99 value

CHOOSE ANY BALL \$14.99 or less

CHOOSE ANY SHINGUARDS OR SHIN SOCKS \$12.99 or less

CHOOSE SOCKS \$6.00-\$6.50 value

adidas World Cup  
Brine Matrix 200  
Nike Tiempo Talent

adidas Youth 750  
adidas Youth Telstar

Brine Matrix Shinguards  
NikeTri Shield Shinguards

Nike or adidas Soccer Socks  
• Both available in black and white

Ball selection varies by store

**Great Value**

**99<sup>99</sup>** Reg. 149.99

**5' Pop-Up Net**

- Use as a catch net, goal or target
- Easy set-up and take down
- Fits in 29" carrying case

ONLINE ITEM ID# 1848440

**Save 40%** Off Total TV Price

**19<sup>98</sup>** Reg. 24.99

**Zip-N-Hit Pro**

- Improve hitting skills and increase batting speed

Zip-N-Hit Pro...24.99  
Shipping & Handling...8.95  
Total TV Price...33.94

ONLINE ITEM ID# 2140343

**Save \$50**

**249<sup>98</sup>** Reg. 299.99

**24' Batting Cage**

- 24'x12'x12'
- Durable steel frame • 6 large ground stakes
- Heavy duty 2-ply net • Easy to assemble

**Great Value**

**19<sup>99</sup>** Reg. 29.99

**Ripken Training Series DVD**

- Choose from Hitting, Pitching, and Defense
- Learn baseball "The Ripken Way" from Billy Ripken and Cal Ripken Jr.

**Save 50%** 16<sup>99</sup> Reg. 34.99

When Purchased as a Package

**Skill Master Trainer**

- Complete soccer training set
- Includes ball return and training CD Rom

ONLINE ITEM ID# 1901821

**Save 20%**

**39<sup>98</sup>** Reg. 49.99

**2-Pack Instant Goal Set**

- Sets up in minutes and is easy to store

Save \$10 All Soccer Goals and Rebounders

- Excludes Power Bolt 2-Pack Instant Goal Set
- Sale 39.98-119.98 Reg. 49.99-129.99
- Online ID# 2206524

**Save \$40** Off Orig.

**79<sup>99</sup>** Orig. 119.99

**Catch-All Net**

- Over 70 sq. ft. of practice area with built-in training target

**Save \$10**

**All Hit-N-Sticks**

Youth 39.98 Reg. 49.99  
Online ID# 2055657

Softball 49.98 Reg. 59.99  
Online ID# 2055659

Adult 59.98 Reg. 69.99  
Online ID# 2055658

**> BASEBALLS • SOFTBALLS**

**5<sup>99</sup>-7<sup>99</sup>**

**2-Pack Baseballs**

- Choose from Tee-Ball, Little League, Babe Ruth League, Ripken League and Dixie League
- Selection varies by store

**Save 50%** 14<sup>99</sup> Orig. 19.99

When Purchased as a Package

**Bag of Baseballs or Tee Balls**

Bag of Softballs 14.99  
Orig. 19.99

**Sale** Off Orig.

**29<sup>99</sup>** Orig. 34.99

**Adult Bracara 3**

- Molded soccer cleat
- Lightweight and durable synthetic upper

Adult Matteo...29.99 Orig. 34.99

**Sale** Off Orig.

**39<sup>99</sup>** Orig. 44.99

**Men's Beckham**

- Molded soccer cleat
- Synthetic upper for better fit and comfort

Kids' Absolado Beckham...29.99 Orig. 34.99

**Save \$10**

**All Power Bolt Pitchbacks**

- Choose from Multi-Sport, Y-Frame and Ultimate Y-Frame

Sale 19.98

**Great Value**

**29<sup>99</sup>**

**Swiftstik Swing-Trainer**

- Lightweight 12 oz. delivers more swings with less fatigue
- Includes training DVD
- 30" long

ONLINE ITEM ID# 1578180

**Great Value**

**29<sup>99</sup>**

**Sponge Foam Practice Baseballs or Softballs**

- Choose from 12 baseballs or 6 softballs made of durable foam
- Great for indoor and outdoor use
- Use for hitting and catching

**Great Value**

**49<sup>99</sup>**

**Bucket of Baseballs**

- Durable plastic bucket with 36 Official League baseballs

Bucket of Softballs 59.99

**Sale** Off Orig.

**64<sup>99</sup>** Orig. 69.99

**Adult Steam**

- Molded soccer cleat
- Great ball

**Save 20%**

**Men's, Women's and Kids' Soccer Apparel**

- Excludes Nike Dri-FIT Soccer Pro Compression and Pro Football apparel

ONLINE ITEM ID# 2174962

\*Interim markdowns may have been taken

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DicksSportingGoods.com

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Customer.Service@dcs.com

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# Stay Cool and Dry with Performance Apparel.

## > PERFORMANCE APPAREL



**Men's Heat Gear Diamond Mockneck**  
44.99  
Online ID# 2051337

**heatgear™**


Perfect for any activity on the field or on the job, Heat Gear's Moisture Repulsion System wicks away moisture to keep you dry and helps regulate body temperature in extremely warm weather.



**Men's Pro Revolution Short-Sleeve Vented Crew**... 35.00

**Nike Pro Revolution**


Moisture-wicking, performance-enhancing apparel designed to fit your unique style or match your team's colors.



**Women's and Men's Nike Sphere and Dri-FIT Apparel**  
Reg. 20.00-110.00

**DRI-FIT™ SPHERE**

Enhances airflow and quick-dries plus moisture away from the skin for rapid evaporation.



**19.99**

**Women's, Men's or Kids' Under Armour Loose Gear Technical Tee**

- Feels like cotton with the performance of Under Armour
- Available in a variety of colors

ONLINE ITEM ID# 2179785

**Save 25% Off**

**Men's and Women's New Balance, adidas, Fitness Gear and Ativa Fitness and Running Apparel**

- Choose from several styles and colors
- Sale 11.18-89.98
- Orig. 14.99-120.00

ONLINE ITEM ID# 2187602

**Sale 2 for \$25**

**Women's and Men's Ativa and Fitness Gear Technical Tees**

- Moisture-wicking fabric keeps you dry and cool
- Available in variety of colors
- Reg. 14.99 each
- ✓ Double ScoreCard Points

**Kids... 2 for \$20**  
Orig. 12.99 each  
✓ Double ScoreCard Points

## > CASUAL APPAREL • HIKERS

**Great Value 89.99**

**MERRELL**



**Men's and Women's Columbia Titanium Apparel**

Choose from a variety of styles and colors. Styles available in men's, women's and kids' sizes. Reg. 39.99-59.99

ONLINE ITEM ID# 2206506

**Women's and Men's The North Face Outdoor Performance Apparel**

- Choose from T-shirts and cotton shirts
- Styles available in men's, women's and kids' sizes. Reg. 20.00-35.00

ONLINE ITEM ID# 2193696

**Save 20% 49.99**

**Men's Columbia**



**DICK'S**  
SPORTING GOODS

Shop us online at DicksSportingGoods.com or order by phone at 1.877.846.9997



# Work Out in Comfort and Style.

Save on Workout Essentials from the Best Brands in Athletic Apparel.

## > ATHLETIC APPAREL

### DICK'S EXCLUSIVE Men's Fitness Gear Compression Tops

- Choose from long- and short-sleeve styles
- Designed to fit your unique style or match your team's colors
- ✓ Double ScoreCard Points
- Reg. 19.99-29.99

← fitness gear



← fitness gear Compression

Quadrantec technology fabric wicks away moisture, eliminates color-causing microbes and is stain resistant.

### Women's Nike Dance Cardio-Training Performance Apparel

- Choose from several styles of tops, pants and more
- Moisture-wicking performance fabric helps you stay cool and dry through any activity, including fitness, yoga, dance and cardio
- Available in a variety of colors
- Reg. 25.00-110.00



Save **25%**

### Women's, Men's, and Kids' Nike and adidas Shorts and Tees

- Choose from a variety of styles and colors
- Excludes Nike Dri-FIT, Sphere, Pro Revolution and Pro Compression apparel
- Sale 8.98-26.98
- Reg. 12.00-36.00



Sale  
**2 for \$15**  
Women's Softe and Ativa Cheer Shorts

- 100% cotton
- 3" inseam
- Elastic waist
- Sizes XS-XL
- Available in a variety of colors
- Reg. 7.99 each

ONLINE ITEM  
ID# 97900



Girls' 2 for \$12  
Reg. 6.99 each  
Online ID# 97957

Save **35%**  
**3 for \$18**  
Men's Russell Tees, Tanks, Muscle Tees and Jersey Shorts

- 100% cotton for lightweight comfort
- Available in a variety of colors
- Reg. 7.99-9.99 each

ONLINE ITEM  
ID# 1452603

Save **20%**  
**2 for \$20**

Men's Russell Mesh and Dazzle Shorts  
Reg. 12.99 each

ONLINE ITEM  
ID# 2208508



Save **20%** Off Orig.  
**9.99**  
Only 12.99

Boys' or Girls' Coed Sportswear, Fitness Gear or Ativa Shorts or Tee

- Choose from several styles
- Available in a variety of colors



## > CASUAL APPAREL



Men's, Women's or Kids' Crocs  
Comfortable design molds to your foot  
UV protection waxes by store

Save **20%**  
Entire Stock of Women's and Men's Quest Performance Apparel

- Available in moisture wicking, quick dry, UV protection and anti-microbial fabrics
- ✓ Double ScoreCard Points
- Sale 11.98-29.98
- Reg. 14.99-39.99



Save **25%**

Men's and Women's Columbia Outdoor Apparel

- Choose from polos, woven shirts, shorts and pants
- Excludes Titanium Apparel

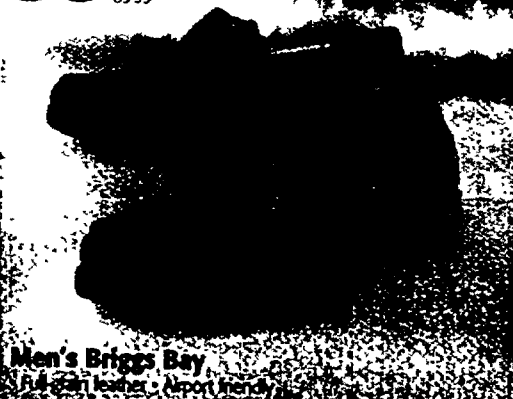
Sale  
19.98-39.98  
Reg. 32.00-60.00

ONLINE ITEM  
ID# 2193695

Columbia



Save **\$10** Off  
**59.99**  
Only 69.99



Men's Briggs Bay  
Full grain leather, sport handy  
Cotton lined, two moisture wicking panels

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**DICK'S**  
SPORTING GOODS

# Footwear Values under \$50.

**Save up to 33% off**  
**Your Choice**  
**39<sup>98</sup>**

**A. Women's T-Lite III**  
 • Training shoe  
 • Modified Waffle outsole  
 Reg. 49.99

**B. Men's Air Monarch III**  
 • Training shoe • Encapsulated Air-Sole unit in heel  
 • Also available in black  
 Orig. 59.99 Now 49.99

**3-Pack Nike Sport No Show Socks...15.00**

**Save up to 20% off**  
**Your Choice**  
**49<sup>98</sup>**

**A. Women's or Men's Air N'Sight**  
 • Running shoe  
 Reg. 59.99

**B. Men's or Women's Gel Advantage**  
 • Running shoe  
 • GEL cushioning in heel  
 Reg. 64.99

**3-Pack Asics CoolMax Socks... 9.99**

## > REEBOK • NEW BALANCE • NIKE • ADIDAS FOOTWEAR

**Save 40% off**  
**29<sup>98</sup>**

**DICK'S EXCLUSIVE COLOR**  
**Men's Swift RXT**  
 • Training shoe • Leather and mesh upper  
 Reg. 49.99

**Save 33% off**  
**39<sup>98</sup>**

**Men's or Women's 428**  
 • Running shoe • ABZORB cushioning  
 Reg. 59.99

**Save \$10 off**  
**49<sup>98</sup>**

**Men's or Women's 472**  
 • Trail-running shoe • Breathable mesh  
 • Cushioned footbed  
 Reg. 59.99

**Save \$10 off**  
**49<sup>98</sup>**

**Women's Discovery Walker AS**  
 • Walking shoe • AirLiner sockliner  
 Reg. 59.99

**Save 25% off**  
**29<sup>99</sup>**

**Boys' or Girls' Attest VII**  
 • Running shoe • Available in sizes 11-7  
 Orig. 34.99

**Save 25% off**  
**29<sup>99</sup>**

**Kids' 491**  
 • Training shoe • Reflectivity for night safety  
 • Available in sizes 11-7  
 Orig. 39.99

**Save 20% off**  
**39<sup>98</sup>**

**Women's or Men's Grid Cohesion**  
 • Running shoe  
 Reg. 49.99

**Save 20% off**  
**39<sup>98</sup>**

**Men's Pivot II**  
 • Basketball shoe • Also available in white/red/gray  
 Reg. 49.99

**Save \$10 off**  
**49<sup>98</sup>**

**DICK'S EXCLUSIVE COLOR**  
**Men's 451**  
 • Training shoe • Leather and mesh upper  
 Reg. 59.99

**Save \$10 off**  
**49<sup>98</sup>**

**Men's Superstar 2G Ultra**  
 • Lifestyle shoe • Also available in navy/white  
 Reg. 59.99

**Save 25% off**  
**29<sup>99</sup>**

**Kids' Superfecta**  
 • Running shoe • Available in sizes 11-7  
 Orig. 39.99

**Save 25% off**  
**29<sup>99</sup>**

**Girls' or Boys' Advantage**  
 • Running shoe • Available in sizes 11-7  
 Orig. 39.99

**Save 20% off**  
**9<sup>98</sup>**

**3-Pack Fitness Gear Socks**  
 • Cotton • Available in Men's  
 Reg. 12.99

**14<sup>99</sup>**

**4-Pack Under Armour Socks**  
 • Moisture-wicking  
 Reg. 17.99

**Save \$10 off**  
**49<sup>98</sup>**

**Men's Air Ahead II**  
 • Running shoe • Available in black  
 Reg. 59.99

**Save 20% off**  
**49<sup>98</sup>**

**DICK'S EXCLUSIVE COLOR**  
**Men's In-Step (Low)**  
 • Running shoe • Available in black  
 Reg. 59.99

**Save 20% off**  
**39<sup>99</sup>**

**Kids' Superstar 2G**  
 • Running shoe • Available in sizes 11-7  
 Orig. 49.99

**Save 33% off**  
**39<sup>99</sup>**

**Boys' Impact**  
 • Running shoe • Available in sizes 11-7  
 Orig. 59.99

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We guarantee any advertised footwear to be in stock, or you'll get 20% off the current price on any other similar footwear selection.\*\*

## STABILITY

Best for Medium-Arch

Stability shoes feature increased medial support and cushioning to ease overpronation

asics

Women's  
DICK'S  
EXCLUSIVE COLOR

Men's

Men's

89<sup>99</sup>

Women's or Men's GT-2110

• Running shoe • Impact Guidance System enhances the foot's natural gait • Men's available in select stores • Men's black/black and white/green available in select stores

2185680

## CUSHIONING

Best for High-Arch

Cushioning shoes deliver maximum strike impact protection with minimal medial support

nb

Women's

Men's

Sale  
74<sup>98</sup>

Reg. 79.99

Women's or Men's 891

• Running shoe • Mesh and synthetic upper for breathability and comfort • ABZORB EX cushioning in the heel for superior cushioning

2185680



Women's or Men's 719

• Running shoe • Mesh and synthetic upper • ABZORB cushioning • Orig. 74.99

Kids... 39.99 Orig. 49.99

2204688



Men's or Women's Gel 1110

• Running shoe • GEL cushioning • Women's wide widths available in select stores • Reg. 74.99

2185688



Men's or Women's Air Max 30-40

• Running shoe • Visible Air cushioning in heel • Deep grooves in forefoot for extreme flexibility • Reg. 74.99



Women's or Men's Air Pegasus

• Running shoe • Synthetic and mesh upper • Full-length Air cushioning • Women's available in select stores • Reg. 79.99



Women's or Men's 845

• Running shoe • Breathable mesh upper • Heel and forefoot ABZORB SBS • Reg. 84.99



Women's Grid Hurricane 7

• Running shoe • Soft Super Rebound Compound in heel • Available in select stores • Reg. 119.99

2214201



Women's or Men's Air Max Assault

• Trail-running shoe • Durable mesh upper • Dual-fit system of webbing straps and synthetic overlays • Reg. 74.99



Women's or Men's Air Max Moto 4

• Running shoe • Women's available in select stores • Men's wide widths available in select stores • Reg. 84.99



Men's 977



Women's or Men's Gel Kayano XII

• Running shoe • GEL cushioning • Available in select stores • Reg. 124.99

2185680



Men's Shock Turbo III

• Running shoe • Mesh and synthetic upper • Available in select stores • Reg. 99.99



Men's or Women's Gel Nimbus

• Running shoe • GEL cushioning • Available in select stores • Reg. 109.99

2185680

Guaranteed In-Stock Sizes: Men's 8-12, 13 • Women's 6-10 • Children's 12, 13, 1-3 • Juniors' 3.5-6 • Men's In-Line Skates 7-12

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# We Can Set Up Your Basketball System.

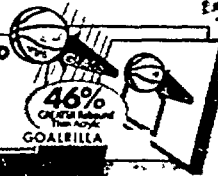
See Store for details

## > HOOPS

**Save \$200** Off Orig.  
New Goalrilla Glass Basketball Systems

- I. 72" backboard  
Orig. 1699.99 Now 1599.99
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ONLINE ITEM  
ID# 1066813



**DURABLE TEMPERED GLASS BACKBOARD**  
• Greater Rebound  
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• Complies With ASTM Performance Standards

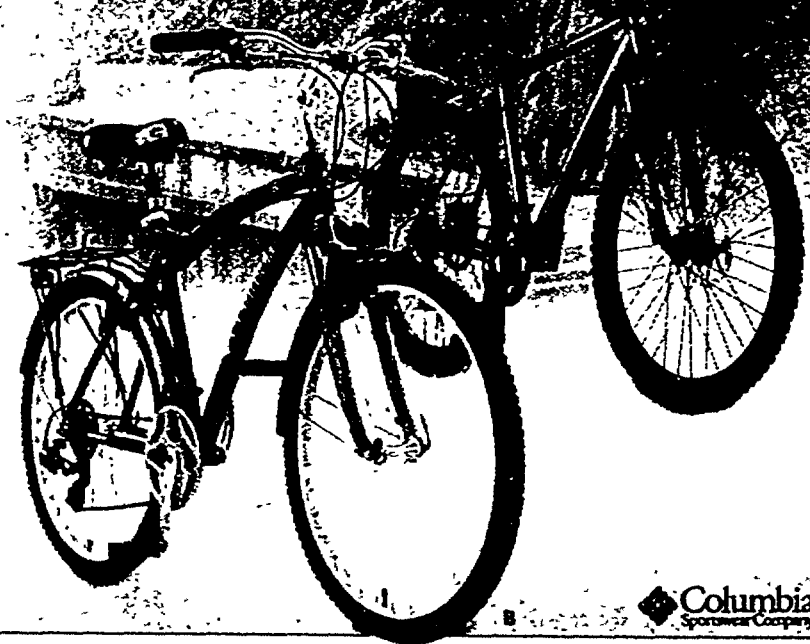
Spalding Never Flat Basketball...  
Online ID# 2164548

## > BIKES

**Save \$50** Off Orig.  
**269<sup>98</sup>**  
Your Choice

**MOUNTAIN BIKE**  
A. Men's Trailhead Disc  
• Shimano TX-50  
21-speed drivetrain  
• Joytech disc brakes  
Orig. 319.99

**COMFORT BIKE**  
B. Men's or Women's Journey DX  
• Shimano TX-30  
21-speed drivetrain  
• RST 781 fork  
Orig. 319.99



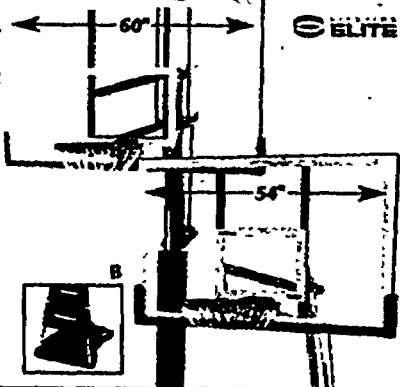
Guardian 2-Bike Trunk Rack...  
Orig. 59.99 Now 49.99

Columbia Sportswear Company

**Save \$100** Off Orig.  
**599<sup>99</sup>**

Your Choice  
A. 79960 Inground Basketball System  
• 60" acrylic backboard  
• 4" square pole  
Orig. 999.99  
B. 71730 Portable Basketball System  
• New revolutionary tripod design  
• 54" backboard  
Orig. 799.99 Now 699.99

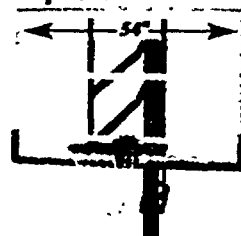
ONLINE ITEM  
ID# 1058402



**Save \$100** Off Orig.  
**499<sup>99</sup>**

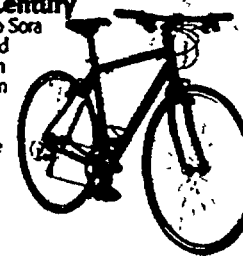
79959 Inground Basketball System  
• 54" acrylic backboard  
• 4" square pole  
• Power Lift system  
• Slam-R Elite rim

ONLINE ITEM  
ID# 1911497



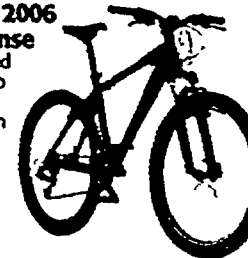
**Great Value**  
**499<sup>99</sup>**

**ROAD BIKE**  
2006 Century  
• Shimano Sora  
24-speed drivetrain  
• Aluminum touring frame  
• Available in select stores



**Save \$50** Off Orig.  
**319<sup>98</sup>**

**MOUNTAIN BIKE**  
Men's 2006 Response  
• 24-speed Shimano Alivio drivetrain  
• RST C&T6 fork



**Save \$50** Off Orig.  
**279<sup>98</sup>**

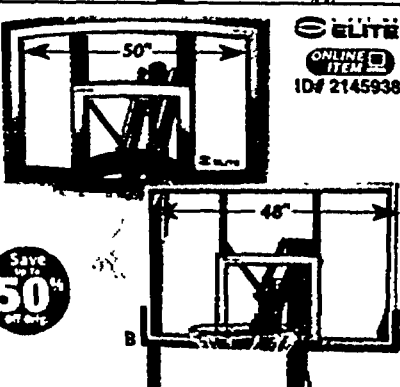
**HYBRID BIKE**  
Men's or Women's 2006 Edgewood  
• 24-speed Shimano Acera drivetrain  
• Odessa ACS fork



**Save \$300** Off Orig.  
**299<sup>98</sup>**

Your Choice  
A. 71560 Portable Basketball System  
• 50" Shatter Guard Fusion backboard  
Orig. 599.99 Now 349.99  
B. 71763 Inground Basketball System  
• 48" Shatter Guard backboard  
Orig. 399.99 Now 349.99

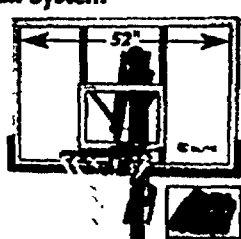
ONLINE ITEM  
ID# 2145938



**Save \$200** Off Orig.  
**399<sup>99</sup>**

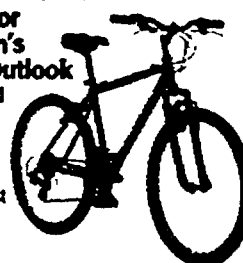
71284 Portable Basketball System  
• New 52" Shatter Guard backboard  
• 35" round pole  
• Power Lift system  
• Slam-R Elite rim

ONLINE ITEM  
ID# 1911502



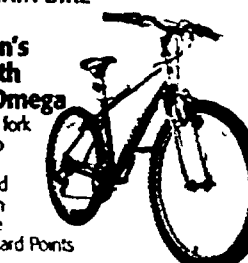
**Save \$50** Off Orig.  
**199<sup>98</sup>**

**MOUNTAIN BIKE**  
Men's or Women's 2006 Outlook  
• 21-speed Shimano TX-30 drivetrain  
• SRAM MRX twist shifters



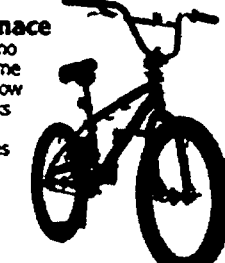
**Save 50%** Off Orig.  
**99<sup>98</sup>**

**MOUNTAIN BIKE**  
Men's, Women's or Youth 2005 Omega  
• KT2000 fork  
• Shimano Journey 21-speed drivetrain  
✓ Double ScoreCard Points



**Save \$40** Off Orig.  
**169<sup>98</sup>**

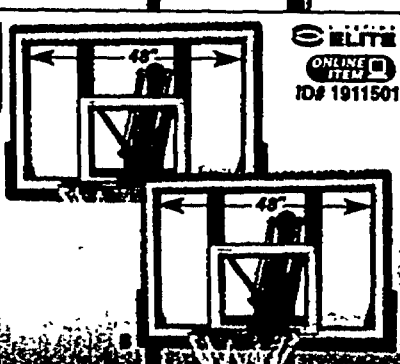
**BMX BIKE**  
2006 Menace  
• 2-tube Cromo jumping frame  
• 3-piece hollow forged cranks  
• Alloy lever and U-brakes



**Save \$100** Off Orig.  
**199<sup>98</sup>**

Your Choice  
A. 71583 Portable Basketball System  
• 48" Shatter Guard Fusion backboard  
• Quick Adjust lift system  
B. 71753 Inground Basketball System  
• 48" Shatter Guard backboard

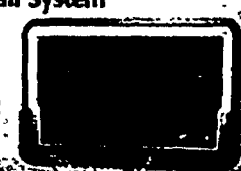
ONLINE ITEM  
ID# 1911501



**Save \$50** Off Orig.  
**99<sup>99</sup>**

1213 Portable Basketball System  
• 44" backboard  
• 3" round pole  
• Telescoping height adjustment  
• Classic rim

LIFETIME WARRANTY  
ONLINE ITEM  
ID# 1926372



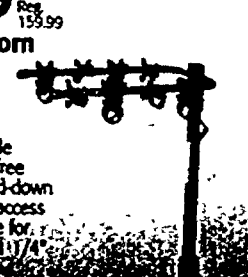
**Save \$20**  
**179<sup>98</sup>**

**GT 300 Electric Scooter**  
• 300w motor • Speeds up to 15mph  
• 8-mile range per charge  
Includes easy on/off



**Save \$10**  
**149<sup>98</sup>**

**Buckhorn 4-Bike Hitch Rack**  
• Bikes ride scratch-free  
• Easy fold-down vehicle access  
• Available for 2" and 1 1/4" tires



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• Choose from Pearl Izumi, Cannondale, Canari and Quest



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Save \$200 off Orig.

- A. Men's or Women's R580XD Driver**  
199.99 Orig. 399.99
- 440cc titanium clubhead
  - Inverted Cone Technology provides larger COR zone
  - Men's right- and left-handed
  - Women's right-handed
- Online ID# 2187581

Save 50% off Orig.



### FUJIKURA HYPERLITE GRAPHITE SHAFT

Exceptionally lightweight material offers lighter swing weight to deliver increased clubhead speed and improved distance.

### B. rac OS Irons

- 399.99 Orig. 599.99
- 3-PW • Retains vibration within the oversized clubhead • Tuned performance cartridge
  - Steel shaft • Men's right-handed
- Online ID# 2204695



Men's or Women's R580XD Fairway Wood... 149.99 Orig. 299.99 Online ID# 2177729

NEW FOR 2006

- A. Men's or Women's X460 Driver**  
299.99
- 460cc titanium clubhead
  - Sole configuration with 2 points of contact helps the driver set up square at address
  - Graphite shaft
  - Men's right- and left-handed
  - Women's right-handed
- Online ID# 2157215



NEW FOR 2006

- B. Big Bertha Irons**  
599.99
- 3-PW • Stainless-steel clubhead offers superior forgiveness and feel
  - Steel shaft
  - Men's right-handed
- Online ID# 2157212

Men's or Women's Big Bertha Graphite Irons... 799.99 Online ID# 2214202

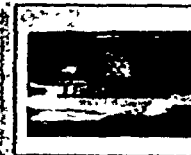
X Fairway Wood 199.99 Online ID# 2214203

Save \$120 off Orig.

279.98 Orig. 399.99 Now 299.99

- 21-PIECE SET: Men's or Women's HiperMax Deluxe Set**
- 460cc driver and oversized stainless-steel fairway woods
  - 2 hybrid clubs • 6 progressive-weight irons • 2 wedges and alignment putter • Deluxe cart bag • All graphite shafts
  - Men's right- and left-handed
  - Women's right-handed
- ✓ Double ScoreCard Points

Includes FREE 15-pack TruTech Golf Balls a \$7.99 value

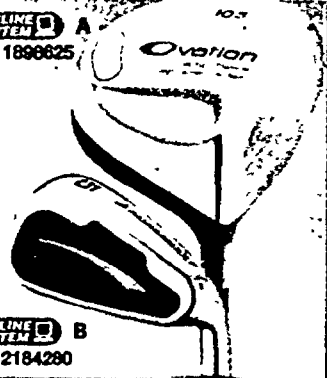


ONLINE ITEM ID# 524651

## ADAMS

- A. Men's or Women's Ovation 460 Ti Driver or Fairway Wood**  
99.99 Orig. 149.99-199.99
- 460cc clubhead • Graphite shaft
  - Men's right- and left-handed
  - Women's right-handed

ONLINE ITEM ID# 1896825



NEW FOR 2006

- B. Men's or Women's Ovation Iron/Hybrid Set**  
299.99 Orig. 499.99
- Includes 3 and 4 hybrids and 5 PW irons
  - Men's right- and left-handed
  - Women's right-handed

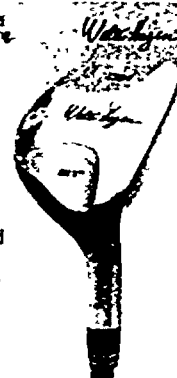
ONLINE ITEM ID# 2184280

Save \$50 off Orig.

99.99 Orig. 149.99

- WH22 Hybrid**
- High, long shots that stop quickly
  - Graphite shaft
  - Available in various lofts
  - Men's right-handed
- ✓ Double ScoreCard Points

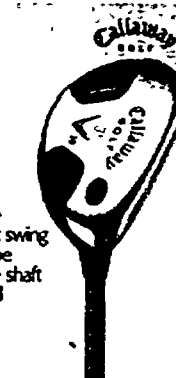
ONLINE ITEM ID# 2057206



199.99

- NEW FOR 2006 Fusion FT Hybrid**
- OptiFit System offers choice of 2 pre-set center of gravity positions to best fit swing type and shot shape
  - Aldia NVS graphite shaft
  - Men's right-handed

ONLINE ITEM ID# 2182941



Save 50% 124.98 Reg. 249.99

- Men's or Women's TruTech Combo**
- Oversized driver and fairway woods • 3-PW irons
  - Putter and cart bag
  - Men's right- and left-handed
  - Women's right-handed
- ✓ Double ScoreCard Points



Save \$120 off Orig.

179.98 Orig. 299.99 Now 199.99

- 19-PIECE SET: Men's or Women's GS.1 Combo**
- 400cc driver
  - Fairway woods
  - 4-SW with hybrid 3 iron
  - Men's and Women's right- and left-handed
- ✓ Double ScoreCard Points

ONLINE ITEM ID# 1861299



## Walter Hagen

- A. AWS Driver**  
199.99 Orig. 399.99
- 440cc adjustable-weight clubhead
  - Aldia graphite shaft • Men's right-handed
- ✓ Double ScoreCard Points

ONLINE ITEM ID# 2057202



B-PIECE SET

- B. SB3 Irons**  
399.99 Orig. 449.99
- Includes two WH22 Hybrids
  - 5-PW stainless-steel irons
  - Aldia hybrid graphite shaft
  - Men's right-handed
- ✓ Double ScoreCard Points

ONLINE ITEM ID# 2057203

199.99

- Rescue Dual**
- Movable weight technology
  - Longer, straighter results on off-center hits
  - Graphite shaft
  - Men's right-handed

EDITORS CHOICE

ONLINE ITEM ID# 2043832

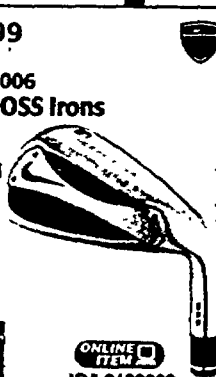


699.99

- NEW FOR 2006 Slingshot OSS Irons**
- 4-PW
  - Oversized stainless-steel clubhead
  - Steel shaft
  - Men's right-handed

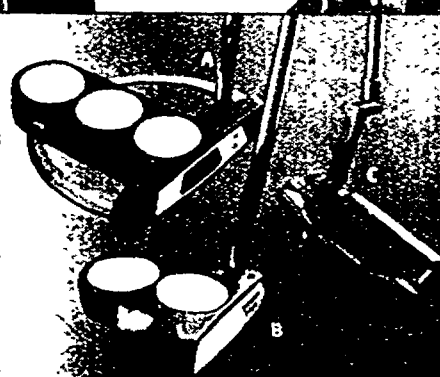
EDITORS CHOICE

ONLINE ITEM ID# 2199399



## ODYSSEY

- A. Tri-Ball SRT Putter**  
199.99
- New for 2006
  - Available in a variety of styles
  - Right-handed
- Online ID# 2139812
- B. White Hot 2-Ball Putter**  
139.99 Orig. 169.99
- Available in a variety of styles
  - Right- and left-handed
- Online ID# 2182943
- C. Dual Force 2 Putter**  
89.99
- Available in a variety of styles
  - Right-handed
- Online ID# 2182944



## Titleist

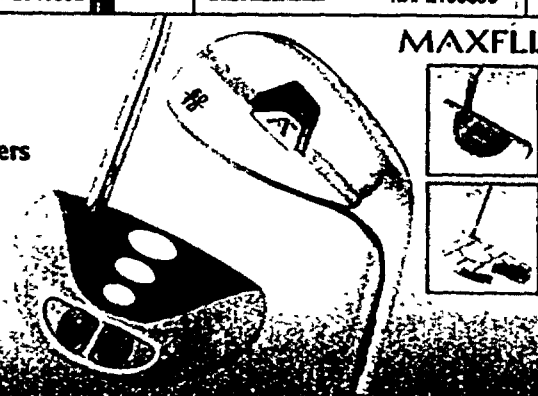
- A. 905T Driver**  
249.99 Orig. 499.99
- 400cc clubhead • Beta-titanium face insert
  - Exotic graphite shaft • Men's right-handed
- Available in select stores
- B. 804.OS Irons**  
499.99 Orig. 799.99
- Oversized, cavity-back design
  - Forged stainless-steel construction
  - Steel shaft • Men's right-handed
- Available in select stores



Buy One Get One

- FREE A10 Wedges and A10 Putters**
- Choose from several lofts and clubhead styles
  - Reg. 59.99 each

ONLINE ITEM ID# 2182944



Save 50% Your Choice

59.99

- Evolution Cart Bag (shown)**  
Orig. 119.99
- OR
- Men's or Women's RX Stand Bag**  
Orig. 99.99
- ✓ Double ScoreCard Points



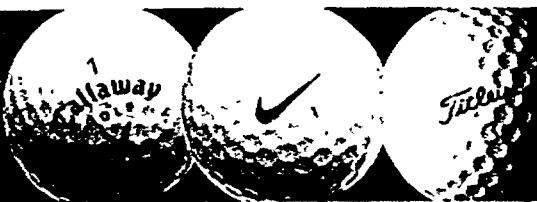
Save 50% Your Choice

79.99

- System Cart Bag (shown)**  
Orig. 159.99
- FREE insulated beverage holder - a \$20 value
- OR
- Men's or Women's Position Stand Bag**  
Orig. 159.99
- ✓ Double ScoreCard Points



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**19<sup>99</sup>**  
Your Choice

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A. XL 2000 Ti Distance Double 15-Pack  
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MAXFLI  
NEW FOR 2006  
B. Revolution Solid XT Double Dozen  
ONLINE ITEM ID# 1080451

DOUBLE DOZEN (24)  
MAXFLI  
REVOLUTION SOLID XT  
Save 50%

If purchased separately \$39.99 value

**Save 40% Off**

**79<sup>99</sup>**

Your Choice  
LIFETIME WATERPROOF GUARANTEE

A. Men's Tour Stop  
• Premium full-grain leather upper  
• Available in wide widths  
Orig. 129.99  
Now 99.99  
✓ Double ScoreCard Points

3-YEAR WATERPROOF WARRANTY

B. Men's Euro  
• Waterproof full-grain leather upper  
Orig. 99.99  
Now 59.99  
✓ Double ScoreCard Points

**Save 33%**

**2 for \$60**

Men's Walter Hagen Performance Polos and Shorts

- 100% Peruvian pima cotton polos
- Enhanced moisture-wicking construction
- Resists shrinkage and fading
- Available in a variety of solids and stripes  
Reg. 45.00 each  
✓ Double ScoreCard Points

Save 20% All Golf Hats  
Sale 11.98-19.98  
Reg. 15.00-25.00  
Online ID# 2204699

Your Choice  
**5<sup>99</sup>**

NEW FOR 2006  
A. Noodle Long & Soft  
• 12-ball pack  
ONLINE ITEM ID# 2185687

NEW FOR 2006  
B. Noodle Ice  
• 12-ball pack  
Orig. 19.99  
ONLINE ITEM ID# 2143903

MAXFLI  
A. Noodle  
B. Noodle Ice

Buy One Get One FREE Your Choice

A. Raw Distance  
• 12-ball pack  
Reg. 19.99 each

B. MC Lady  
• 12-ball pack  
Reg. 19.99 each  
\*Free item must be of same style

**Save 35% Off**

**49<sup>98</sup>**  
Orig. 79.99  
Now 69.99

2-YEAR WATERPROOF WARRANTY  
Men's Fairway  
• Premium waterproof full-grain leather upper  
✓ Double ScoreCard Points

**Save \$10**

**69<sup>98</sup>**  
Orig. 79.99  
Now 69.99

2-YEAR WATERPROOF WARRANTY  
Men's Sport Club Saddle  
• Soft, waterproof leather upper

**Save 20%**

**2 for \$30**

Men's Acuity Pique Polos and Shorts

- Cotton polos available in solids and stripes in a variety of colors  
Reg. 19.99 each  
✓ Double ScoreCard Points

Your Choice  
**19<sup>99</sup>**

NEW FOR 2006  
A. RedMAX  
• 12-ball pack  
Orig. 24.99  
Online ID# 2143904

NEW FOR 2006  
B. Big Bertha  
• 12-ball pack  
Online ID# 2159026

MAXFLI  
A. RedMAX  
B. Big Bertha

**Save 35% Off**

**2 for \$25**

Your Choice  
A. Distance X Long  
• 12-ball pack  
Orig. 19.99 each  
Now 14.99 each

NEW FOR 2006  
B. A10 Ti Distance  
• 15-ball pack  
Orig. 19.99 each  
\*Both items must be of same style

**Save \$10 Off**

**79<sup>99</sup>**  
Orig. 119.99  
Now 109.99

2-YEAR WATERPROOF WARRANTY  
Men's X-Dimension  
• Closeout styles #53125 & #53133  
ONLINE ITEM ID# 2183012

**99<sup>99</sup>**

2-YEAR WATERPROOF WARRANTY  
Men's Contour Series  
• Full-grain leather upper  
ONLINE ITEM ID# 2183009

**Save on All Men's and Women's Nike Golf Apparel and Outerwear**

- Choose from a variety of styles with features such as moisture management
- Selection varies by store

Sale  
27.98-143.98  
Orig. 35.00-180.00  
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**Save on All Men's adidas Golf Apparel**

- Choose from several styles and colors
- Selection varies by store

Sale  
28.48-56.18  
Orig. 38.00-75.00  
ONLINE ITEM ID# 1138339

Pro VI or Pro VIx  
44.99  
• 12-ball pack  
Online ID# 1453384

NEW FOR 2006  
One Black or One Platinum  
• 12-ball pack  
39.99  
Online ID# 2204700

Titleist  
"1 ball in golf"

**Save \$10 Off**

**109<sup>98</sup>**  
Orig. 149.99  
Now 129.99

2-YEAR WATERPROOF WARRANTY  
Men's Dry Ice  
• Premium full-grain leather upper  
ONLINE ITEM ID# 2183012

**179<sup>99</sup>**

2-YEAR WATERPROOF WARRANTY  
Men's Tour 360  
• Full-grain leather upper - 360 Water  
ONLINE ITEM ID# 2183009

**Save 35%**

**2 for \$25**

Your Choice  
A. Men's Tour XI  
Reg. 16.99 each  
✓ Double ScoreCard Points

B. Men's Tour LTD Glove  
Reg. 12.99 each  
ONLINE ITEM ID# 2183009

**Save 25% Off**

**25<sup>99</sup>**

All Women's Golf Apparel  
• Choose from several styles in solids and stripes  
Sale  
11.98-59.98  
Orig. 15.99-79.98  
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 Now 179.99

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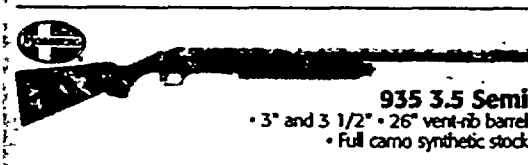
**Save \$70** Off  
**299.98**  
 Reg. 369.99

**INCLUDES RED-DOT SCOPE**  
**535 Turkey Supreme Combo**  
 • 12 ga. • 22" barrel • Shoots 2 3/4" to 3 1/2" shells  
 • Includes red-dot scope and FREE 28" field barrel



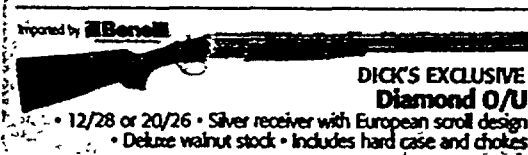
**Save \$50** Off  
**449.98**  
 Reg. 499.99

**935 3.5 Semi**  
 • 3" and 3 1/2" • 26" vent-rib barrel  
 • Full camo synthetic stock



**Save \$300** Off  
**799.98**  
 Orig. 1099.99  
 Now 899.99

**DICK'S EXCLUSIVE**  
**Diamond 0/U**  
 • 12/28 or 20/26 • Silver receiver with European scroll design  
 • Deluxe walnut stock • Includes hard case and chokes



## > HUNTING • PAINTBALL

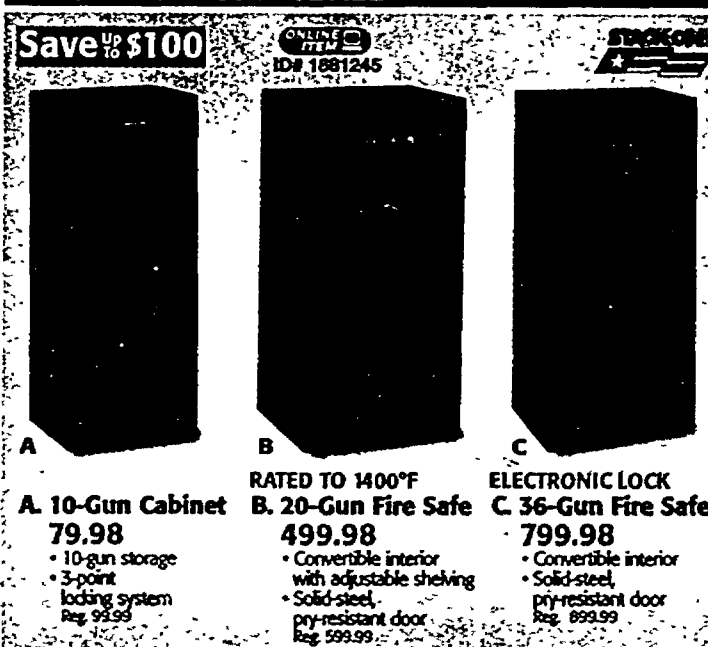
**Save Up To \$100** Off

**A. 10-Gun Cabinet** **79.98**  
 • 10-gun storage  
 • 3-point locking system  
 Reg. 99.99

**B. 20-Gun Fire Safe** **499.98**  
 • Convertible interior with adjustable shelving  
 • Solid-steel, pry-resistant door  
 Reg. 599.99

**C. 36-Gun Fire Safe** **799.98**  
 • Convertible interior  
 • Solid-steel, pry-resistant door  
 Reg. 899.99

**RATED TO 1400°F**      **ELECTRONIC LOCK**



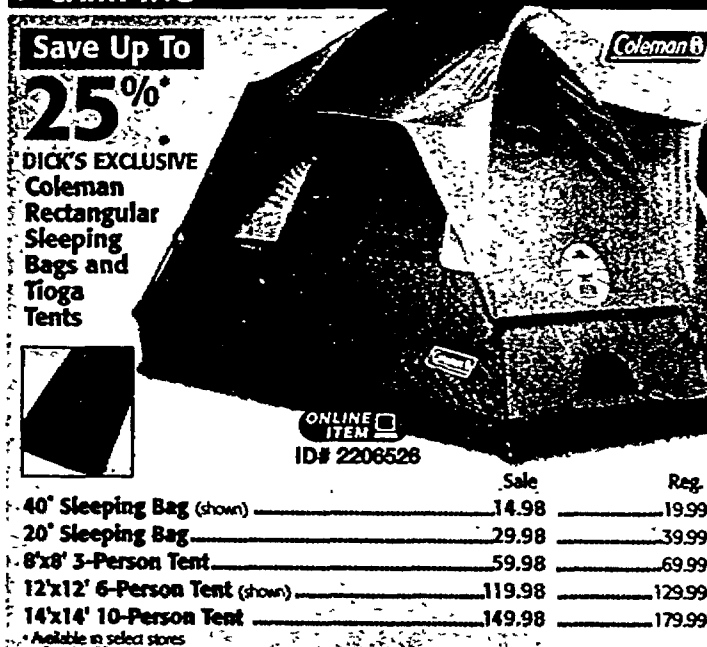
## > CAMPING

**Save Up To 25%** Off

**DICK'S EXCLUSIVE**  
**Coleman Rectangular Sleeping Bags and Tioga Tents**

**40' Sleeping Bag (shown)** \_\_\_\_\_ **14.98** \_\_\_\_\_ **19.99**  
**20' Sleeping Bag** \_\_\_\_\_ **29.98** \_\_\_\_\_ **39.99**  
**8'x8' 3-Person Tent** \_\_\_\_\_ **59.98** \_\_\_\_\_ **69.99**  
**12'x12' 6-Person Tent (shown)** \_\_\_\_\_ **119.98** \_\_\_\_\_ **129.99**  
**14'x14' 10-Person Tent** \_\_\_\_\_ **149.98** \_\_\_\_\_ **179.99**

• Available in select stores

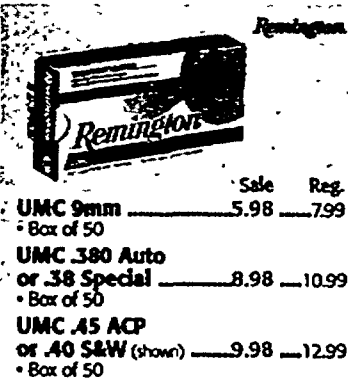


**Remington**

**UMC 9mm** \_\_\_\_\_ **5.98** \_\_\_\_\_ **7.99**  
 • Box of 50

**UMC 380 Auto or .38 Special** \_\_\_\_\_ **8.98** \_\_\_\_\_ **10.99**  
 • Box of 50

**UMC .45 ACP or .40 S&W (shown)** \_\_\_\_\_ **9.98** \_\_\_\_\_ **12.99**  
 • Box of 50



**Save 50%** Off  
**9.98**  
 Orig. 19.99  
 Now 14.99

**NEW FOR 2006**  
**Hunter Jake or Series Hen Decoys**  
 • Durable rubber • Collapsible for easy carrying in the field

**3-Piece Foam Turkey Decoys**  
 19.98  
 Orig. 39.99  
 Now 29.99



**Save 50%** After Rebate When Purchased as a Package  
**229.98 Sale Price**      **30.00 DICK'S Mail-in Rebate**  
**199.98 Final Cost**      Reg. 249.99

**eTrex Legend GPS Bundle**  
 • 8MB of memory • Includes US topographical software, car adapter, and mount

If purchased separately a \$400 value

**ONLINE ITEM**  
 ID# 1997426



**Save \$70** When Purchased as a Package  
**59.98**  
 Orig. 129.99  
 Now 69.99

**SX710 Radio Value Pack**  
 • Includes 2 NiMH rechargeable batteries and dual-pocket charging station, 2 ear buds and bonus faceplates

If purchased separately a \$150 value

**ONLINE ITEM**  
 ID# 2040620

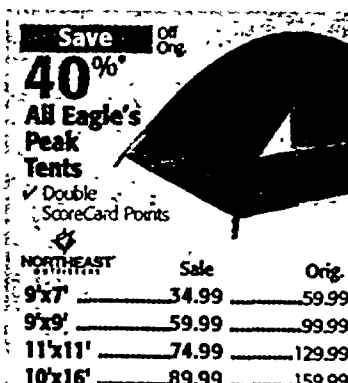


**Save 40%** Off  
**40%** Off

**All Eagle's Peak Tents**  
 ✓ Double ScoreCard Points

**NORTHEAST**

**9'x7'** \_\_\_\_\_ **34.99** \_\_\_\_\_ **59.99**  
**9'x9'** \_\_\_\_\_ **59.99** \_\_\_\_\_ **99.99**  
**11'x11'** \_\_\_\_\_ **74.99** \_\_\_\_\_ **129.99**  
**10'x16'** \_\_\_\_\_ **89.99** \_\_\_\_\_ **159.99**



**Save 40%** Off  
**40%** Off

**All Quest Sleeping Bags**  
 ✓ Double ScoreCard Points

**Polaris Mummy Bag (shown)** \_\_\_\_\_ **24.98**  
 Orig. 49.99  
 Now 29.99



**Save \$10** Off  
**59.98**  
 Orig. 69.99  
 Now 59.99

**Stealth Hunter Blind**  
 • Scent-reducing interior • Easy to set up  
 • Accommodates 1-2 people



**Remington**

**16.98**  
 Reg. 17.99

**Target Loads**  
 • 12 or 20 ga.  
 • Box of 100

**.22 Thunderbolts** \_\_\_\_\_ **8.98**      Reg. 9.99  
 • Brick of 500



**Remington**

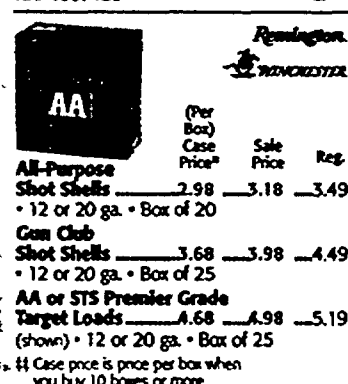
**AA**

**All-Purpose Shot Shells** \_\_\_\_\_ **2.98** \_\_\_\_\_ **3.18** \_\_\_\_\_ **3.49**  
 • 12 or 20 ga. • Box of 20

**Gun Club Shot Shells** \_\_\_\_\_ **3.68** \_\_\_\_\_ **3.98** \_\_\_\_\_ **4.49**  
 • 12 or 20 ga. • Box of 25

**AA or STS Premier Grade Target Loads** \_\_\_\_\_ **4.68** \_\_\_\_\_ **4.98** \_\_\_\_\_ **5.19**  
 (shown) • 12 or 20 ga. • Box of 25

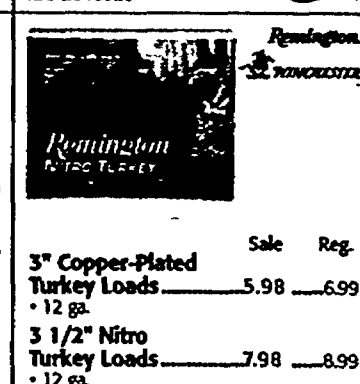
†† Case price is price per box when you buy 10 boxes or more



**Remington**

**3" Copper-Plated Turkey Loads** \_\_\_\_\_ **5.98** \_\_\_\_\_ **6.99**  
 • 12 ga.

**3 1/2" Nitro Turkey Loads** \_\_\_\_\_ **7.98** \_\_\_\_\_ **8.99**  
 • 12 ga.



**Save \$80** Off  
**49.99**  
 Reg. 129.99

**Jeep 10'x7' Dome Tent**  
 • 52" center height  
 • Dry-tanum fabric repels moisture  
 • Nylon floor  
 • 2 convenient hanging water bottles  
 • Includes interior organizer



**Save \$20** Off  
**99.98**  
 Reg. 119.99

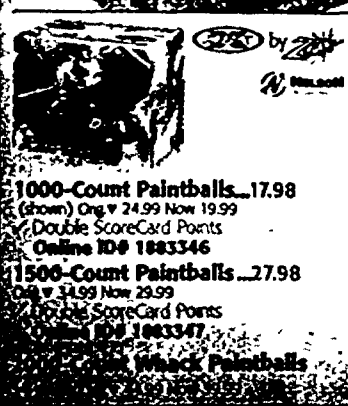
**SLEEPS 2**  
**Apollo 2 Tent**  
 • 3 lb. 14 oz.  
 • 3'6" center height  
 • 4'10"x7'5" floor  
 • 7000-series aircraft aluminum frame



**1000-Count Paintballs** \_\_\_\_\_ **17.98**  
 (shown) Orig. 24.99 Now 19.99  
 • Double ScoreCard Points  
 Online ID# 1883346

**1500-Count Paintballs** \_\_\_\_\_ **27.98**  
 Orig. 34.99 Now 29.99  
 • Double ScoreCard Points  
 Online ID# 1883347

**Black Paintballs**

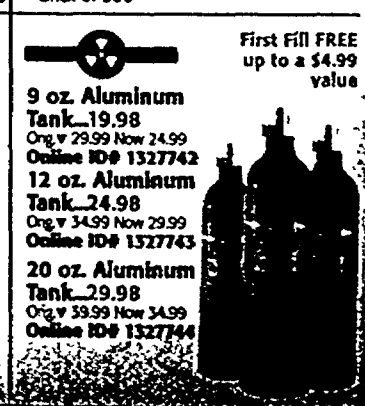


**First Fill FREE**  
 up to a \$4.99 value

**9 oz. Aluminum Tank** \_\_\_\_\_ **19.98**  
 Orig. 29.99 Now 24.99  
 Online ID# 1327742

**12 oz. Aluminum Tank** \_\_\_\_\_ **24.98**  
 Orig. 34.99 Now 29.99  
 Online ID# 1327743

**20 oz. Aluminum Tank** \_\_\_\_\_ **29.98**  
 Orig. 39.99 Now 34.99  
 Online ID# 1327744



**Save \$85** When Purchased as a Package  
**169.99**  
 Orig. 254.99

**Custom 98 Paintball Power Pack**  
 • Semi-auto, tournament-grade marker  
 • 9 oz. CO<sub>2</sub> tank

If purchased separately a \$255 value



**Save \$50** When Purchased as a Package  
**99.98**  
 Reg. 149.99

**Sonix Pro Paintball Kit**  
 • Semi-auto Sonix marker with bottom line and gas trough foregrip • 12 oz. CO<sub>2</sub> tank

If purchased separately a \$150 value



**Save \$10** Off  
**89.98**  
 Reg. 99.99

**Santa Fe 4000 Internal Frame Pack**  
 • 4000 cu. in.  
 • Multiple compartments for organization  
 • Dual-density shoulder and waist belts

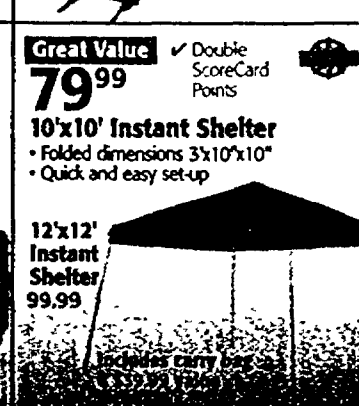
**Red Wing 2650 Pack** \_\_\_\_\_ **29.99**



**Great Value** ✓ Double ScoreCard Points  
**79.99**

**10'x10' Instant Shelter**  
 • Folded dimensions 3'x10"x10"  
 • Quick and easy set-up

**12'x12' Instant Shelter** \_\_\_\_\_ **99.99**



Firearms and ammunition not available at our Kenwood, OH, Orland Park Place, IL and The Glen, IL stores.

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### > RODS • TACKLE

**Save 50%** Off List

**39.98** Reg. 79.99 Now 49.99

**QUANTUM**

**DICK'S EXCLUSIVE Nitrous Spinning Combo**

- Newly designed for 2006
- 8 ball bearings
- Continuous anti-reverse
- Aluminum spool
- Matching IM7 graphite rod



### > REELS • ACCESSORIES

**Save \$50** Off Orig.

**49.98** Orig. 99.99 Now 49.99

**QUANTUM**

**Your Choice**

**NEW FOR 2006**

**A. Inferno Spinning Reel**

- DICK'S Exclusive
- 10 stainless-steel ball bearings
- Computer-balanced rotor
- All-aluminum body
- Machined aluminum handle
- FREE spare aluminum spool

**NEW FOR 2006**

**B. Inferno Baitcast Reel**

- DICK'S Exclusive
- 5 stainless-steel ball bearings
- Dynamag magnetic cast control
- Continuous anti-reverse
- 1-piece composite frame

**Save 50%**



### > KAYAKS • CANOES

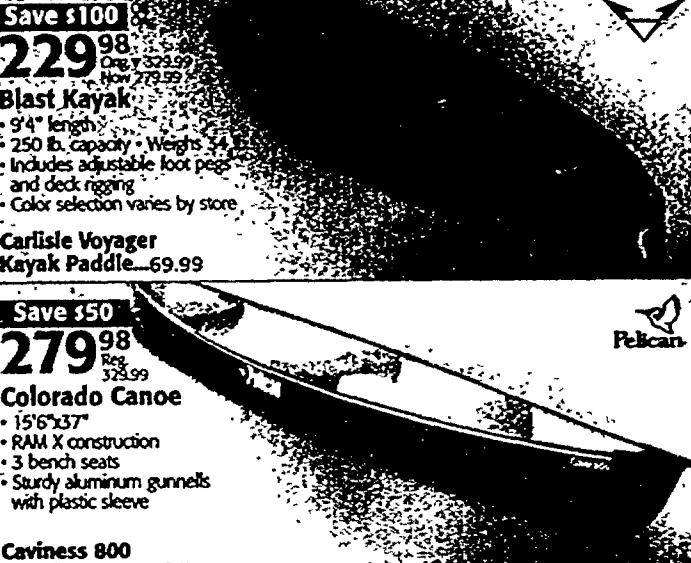
**Save \$100**

**229.98** Orig. 329.99 Now 229.99

**Blast Kayak**

- 9'4" length
- 250 lb. capacity • Weights
- Includes adjustable foot pegs and deck rigging
- Color selection varies by store

**Carlisle Voyager Kayak Paddle...69.99**



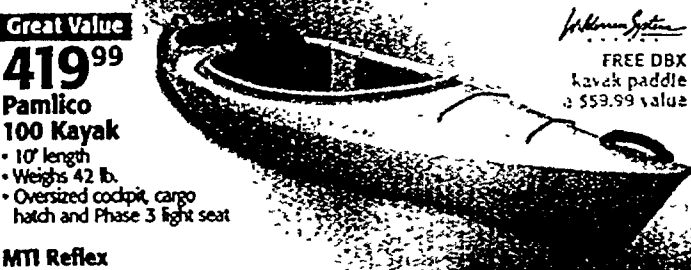
**Save \$50**

**279.98** Reg. 329.99

**Colorado Canoe**

- 15'6"x37"
- RAM X construction
- 3 bench seats
- Sturdy aluminum gunnels with plastic sleeve

**Caviness 800 Wood Canoe Paddle...24.99**



**Great Value**

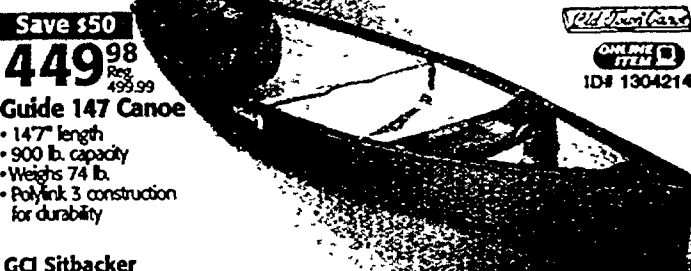
**419.99**

**Pamlico 100 Kayak**

- 10' length
- Weights 42 lb.
- Oversized cockpit, cargo hatch and Phase 3 light seat

**MTI Reflex Paddle Vest...49.99**

FREE DBX kayak paddle a \$59.99 value



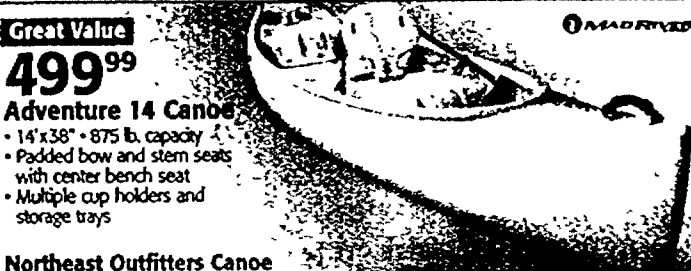
**Save \$50**

**449.98** Reg. 499.99

**Guide 147 Canoe**

- 14'7" length
- 900 lb. capacity
- Weights 74 lb.
- Polylink 3 construction for durability

**GCI Sitbacker Canoe Chair...24.99**



**Great Value**

**499.99**

**Adventure 14 Canoe**

- 14'x38" • 875 lb. capacity
- Padded bow and stern seats with center bench seat
- Multiple cup holders and storage trays

**Northeast Outfitters Canoe and Kayak Transport Cart...59.99**


**Save \$100**

**549.98** Reg. 649.99

**DICK'S EXCLUSIVE Montour 11.0 Drop Skag Kayak**

- Built-in drop skag • Narrow stance
- Includes footpegs, adjustable seat, hatch and bulkhead

**Thule Hillport Rooftop Kayak Rack**



**Save \$15** Off List

**79.98** List 29.99 Now 19.99

**Daiwa**

**DICK'S EXCLUSIVE Cygnus Spinning Combo**

- Smooth bearing system
- Gyro spin-balanced
- Aluminum oxide guides
- Cork handle



**Save 50%**

**59.99** Orig. 119.99

**Daiwa**

**Samurai Baitcast Combo**

- 6 ball bearings
- Free-floating spool
- Magforce anti-backlash control
- Matching Daiwa graphite rod




**Save 50%**

**29.98** Reg. 59.99

**okuma**

**NEW FOR 2006 Stratus GT Spinning Reel**

- DICK'S Exclusive
- 9 ball bearings
- Machined aluminum spool
- Instant anti-reverse
- Rotor Equalizing System




**Save \$30** Off List

**69.98** List 99.99 Now 79.99

**Element Baitcast Reel**

- 7 ball bearings
- Aluminum spool
- Centrifugal brake system
- Lightweight graphite frame



**Save 50%**

**29.98** Reg. 59.99

**Deluxe Magnum Pro Series Tackle Bag**

- Includes 4 3700 Series ProLatch utility boxes
- 3 zippered pockets
- Molded bottom
- Built-in rain fly



**Starting At 59.99**

**St. Croix Premier or Triumph Rod**

- Triumph rods are New for 2006
- Choose from spinning, casting and fly rods
- Premium SCII graphite blanks

**FREE St. Croix Pro Pack a \$39.99 value**



**Save 25%**

**14.98** Reg. 19.99

**FLO-LITE**

**Lug Sole Hip Boots**

- Padded, reinforced knees
- Rubber lug outsole
- Available in whole sizes

**ONLINE ITEM**

**ID# 1833698**

**Lodge Outfitters 12-Pocket Fishing Vest...14.98**

Orig. 24.99 Now 19.99



**Save 35%** After Rebate

**69.98 Sale Price**

**-20.00 Mail-in Rebate**

**49.98 Final Cost** Reg. 79.99

**Breathable Stockingfoot Waders**

- 3mm neoprene booties
- Waterproof, breathable liner
- Zippered inside storage pouch

**ONLINE ITEM**

**ID# 559012**



**Save 50%**

**2 for 10.00 Sale Price**

**-5.00 Mail-In Rebate**

**2 for 5.00 Final Cost**

Reg. 5.49 each

**Berkley**

**Berkley Trilene XL or XT Fishing Line**

- 330yd.
- 4-8 lb. test
- Heavier lb. test slightly more
- Rebate valid on 2 spool purchases



**Save 50%**

**1.98** Reg. 3.99

**MATZUO**

**Assorted Matzuo Baits**

- Limit 6 per customer
- Selection varies by store



**Save \$10**

**219.98** Reg. 229.99

**Endura 55 Trolling Motor**

- 55 lb. thrust
- 100% weedless propeller
- Online ID# 2004467

**Endura 36 Trolling Motor**

**139.98** Reg. 149.99

**Online ID# 2197095**

**Endura 30 Trolling Motor**

**94.98** Reg. 104.99

**Online ID# 2194423**



**Save \$30** Off Orig.

**139.98** Orig. 169.99 Now 149.99

**EAGLE**

**Fishmark 320 Fishfinder**

- 320x320 pixel display • 1500w peak-to-peak power • 800' depth capability • 60" of detection coverage

**Cuda 242 Fish Locator**

**79.98** Reg. 89.99



**STORE HOURS:** Mon. thru Sat. 9am to 9:30pm  
Sun. 10am to 7pm

**SALE EFFECTIVE:** 3/26/06 through 4/1/06  
**BALTIMORE, BANGOR, ITHACA & WASHINGTON D.C. SALE EFFECTIVE:** 3/25/06 through 3/31/06

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> BASEBALL CLEATS

Sale off Orig.  
**29<sup>99</sup>**

Adult Keystone

- Molded baseball cleat
- Newly designed, sculpted Phylon midsole
- Rubber MCS outsole

Orig.  $\nabla$  36.99



Save \$10 off Orig.

**34<sup>99</sup>**

Reebok  
Authentic



Youth Vero Trade

- Molded baseball cleat • Reversible side and tongue inserts
- Marker in the "88" on the heel to display your team number
- Reebok is The Official Supplier of MLB Authentic Collection™ Footwear. Orig.  $\nabla$  44.99

ONLINE  
ITEM  
ID# 2179797

> CLEATS • SOCKS

**99<sup>99</sup>**

Men's Shox  
Monster Metal

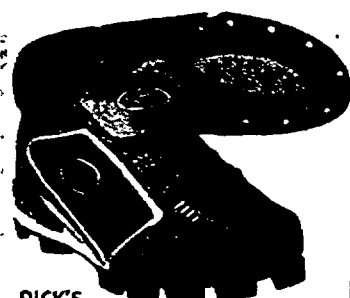
- Metal baseball cleat
- Open, breathable mesh keeps feet cool
- 4-column Nike Shox platform
- Pebax plate with a combination of full- and 5/8-length metal cleats in the forefoot



Shox  
Spring-like cushioning units return the energy you generate on footstrike to propel you into your next stride.

Save 33%  
**19<sup>98</sup>**

Louisville  
Slugger



DICK'S  
EXCLUSIVE  
Adult Diamond Thunder

- Molded baseball cleat
- Reg. 29.99
- Youth... 14.98
- Reg. 24.99

Sale off Orig.  
**34<sup>99</sup>**

adidas



ONLINE  
ITEM  
ID# 2182995  
Adult Triple Star Mid

- Baseball cleat
- Orig.  $\nabla$  42.99
- Women's Low... 29.99
- Orig.  $\nabla$  36.99

Save \$10 off Orig.  
**34<sup>99</sup>**

Reebok  
Authentic



Adult Vero Mid

- Molded baseball cleat
- Reebok is The Official Supplier of MLB Authentic Collection™ Footwear
- Orig.  $\nabla$  44.99

Sale off Orig.  
**49<sup>99</sup>**

Nike



DICK'S  
EXCLUSIVE  
Adult Cal Ripken Mid

- Molded baseball/softball cleat • 3-color rubber TPU MCS outsole
- Orig.  $\nabla$  54.99
- Youth... 39.99
- Orig.  $\nabla$  44.99

Sale \$10 off Orig.  
**59<sup>99</sup>**

adidas

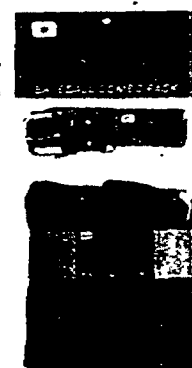


Your  
Choice

- A. Adult Excel IC Mid Orig.  $\nabla$  69.99
- Online ID# 1793006
- B. Adult Diamond King Low Steel Orig.  $\nabla$  69.99
- Online ID# 2179798

Great Value  
**14<sup>99</sup>**

Louisville  
Slugger



Baseball Combo Pack  
• Includes 2 pairs of socks and a baseball belt

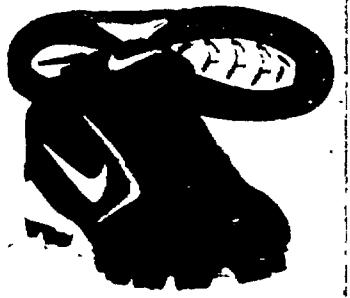
Great Value  
**19<sup>99</sup>**

adidas



Save 50% off Orig.  
**14<sup>98</sup>**

Nike



Youth Keystone Expand

- Molded baseball cleat • Expand Tech System™
- Orig.  $\nabla$  29.99

Sale off Orig.  
**34<sup>99</sup>**

Mizuno



ONLINE  
ITEM  
ID# 2167593

Adult Finch

- Molded baseball cleat • Flex construction
- Orig.  $\nabla$  39.99

Save 20% off Orig.  
**49<sup>99</sup>**

adidas



ONLINE  
ITEM  
ID# 1842211

Women's Fast Pitch II

- Molded baseball cleat • 3-color rubber TPU MCS outsole
- Orig.  $\nabla$  64.99

Great Value  
**24<sup>99</sup>**

adidas



Men's or Kids' adissage II

- Molded baseball cleat • 3-color rubber TPU MCS outsole
- Orig.  $\nabla$  54.99

Great Value  
**9<sup>99</sup>**

Louisville  
Slugger



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## **In Just 10 Minutes**

Stroke is America's third leading killer. It is also the #1 cause for nursing home admissions. Unfortunately, half of all stroke victims have no warning signs before a stroke occurs.

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**Where: Novi Senior Activities Center**

**When: Friday, April 07, 2006**

**Pre-registration is required. Call 1-800-710-1913**

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Life Line Screening is America's leading provider of quality health screenings. These tests quickly detect arterial abnormalities which can cause disrupted blood flow. Our screenings are fast, accurate, and available at an affordable rate.

*We provide these non-invasive, completely painless screenings using Doppler ultrasound technology.*

#### **Stroke Screening/ Carotid Artery**

This screens the carotid arteries in the neck for plaque buildup. The #1 cause of stroke is linked to carotid artery blockage.

#### **Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm Screening**

This screens for the existence of an aneurysm in the abdominal aorta. The vast majority of people who have an aneurysm have no symptoms.

*Complete details on reverse side.*

#### **Peripheral Arterial Disease Screening**

This screens for peripheral arterial disease (plaque buildup) in the lower extremities which is linked to coronary artery disease.

## **Also... Identify your risk for osteoporosis in just 60 seconds**

# Life Line Screening

Protect your health. Protect your life.®

Visit Our Web Site: [www.lifelinescreening.com](http://www.lifelinescreening.com)

**"How can I thank you for my life? I had NO previous symptoms to indicate such a problem."**

Judith Hanlon,  
Wayland, MI



A physician typically will not order an ultrasound evaluation for someone who has no symptoms of vascular disease or osteoporosis. Life Line Screening® enables you to be checked for vascular disease or osteoporosis as part of your own personal prevention plan. Over 3 million people have participated in these non-invasive and painless screenings. This valuable information will help you and your personal physician quickly and inexpensively manage your wellness.

- State-of-the-art equipment is used with sophisticated color flow ultrasound technology.
- A board certified physician, who is fully insured and licensed to practice, reviews and confirms all screening results.

"Vascular screening programs for cerebrovascular disease, aortic aneurysms and peripheral vascular disease have proven their value in detecting previously unrecognized problems in many individual patients that could have resulted in significant illness or even death."

*Robert J. Steele, M.D.*

*Board Certified Cardiologist, Cleveland, Ohio*

"I participated in all three screenings and felt the staff was very professional, efficient and gracious. This certainly is a valuable service which I shall continue to provide to Laurel Lake residents and to the community for as long as possible."

*Kathy Burmeister, R.N.*

*Director of Clinic Services, Hudson, Ohio*

**Stroke Screening/  
Carotid Artery  
\$45**

Visualizes the buildup of fatty plaque in the carotid arteries which leads to stroke.

**Procedure:** The technologist applies an acoustic gel on your neck over your carotid arteries. A painless instrument, a transducer, will be moved around your neck to visualize the inside of the carotid artery.

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Visualizes the existence of an aneurysm (enlargement) in the abdominal aorta that could lead to a ruptured aortic artery.

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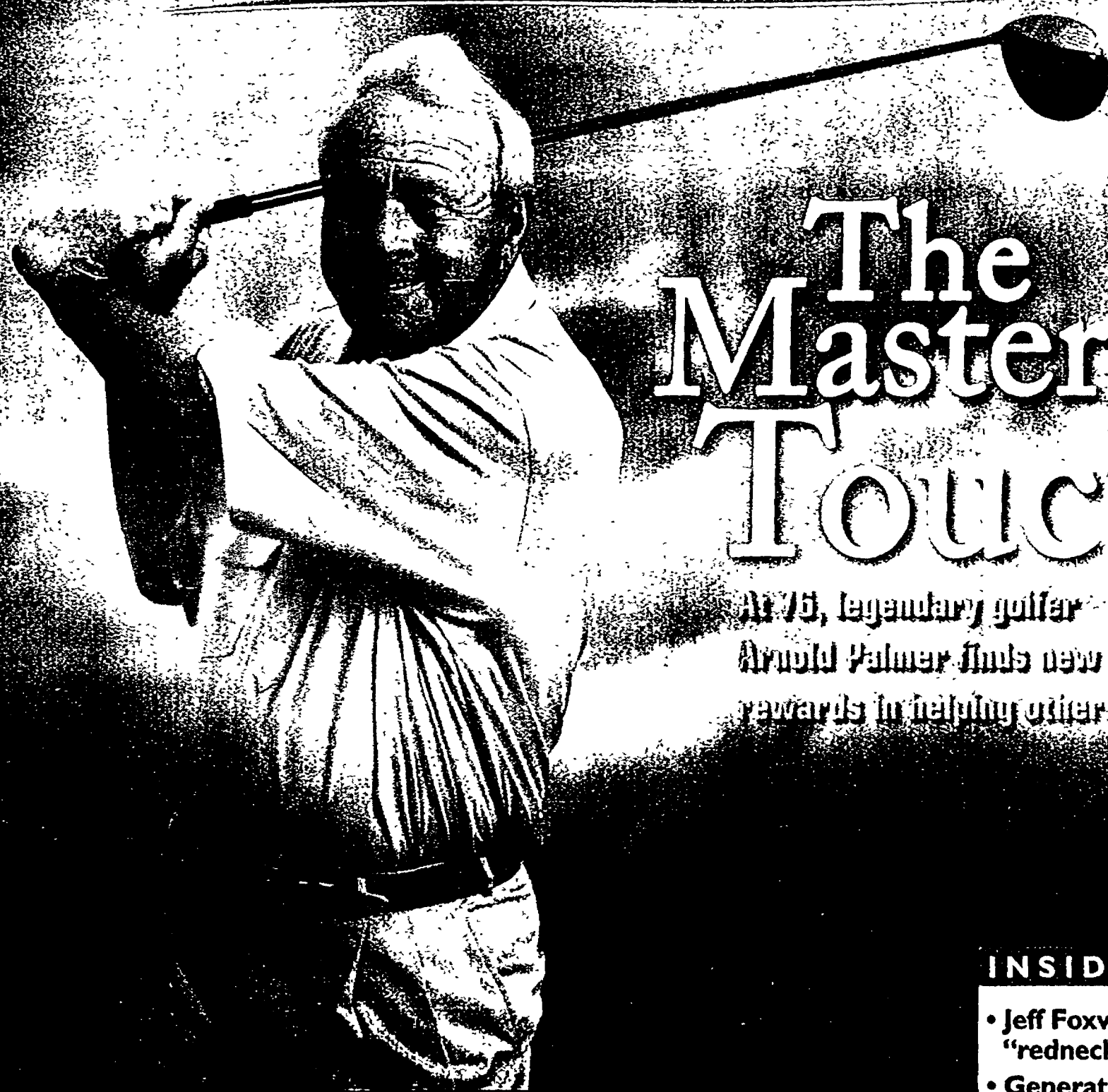
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Life Line Screening is dedicated to providing the highest quality imaging technology at an affordable rate. Our goal is to make people aware of an undetected health problem and encourage them to seek follow-up care with their physician. You will receive your results in 21 days.

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# American Profile

MIDWEST EDITION



## The Master's Touch

At 76, legendary golfer Arnold Palmer finds new rewards in helping others

### INSIDE:

- Jeff Foxworthy's "redneck" roots
- Generating "Hope" for breast cancer
- Tax-saving tips
- Meridian, Miss.

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## Ask American Profile

**Q** I have followed John O'Hurley for many years and enjoyed his shows and TV commercials. I think he's terribly underrated as a performer. What can you tell me about him and what his next project might be?

—Jan McCanless, China Grove, N.C.

The highly recognizable, distinctively voiced O'Hurley, whose career catapulted with his recurring role on TV's *Seinfeld* in the 1990s, says his appearance on last year's *Dancing With the Stars* TV competition series was life altering. "Physically it changed me," he says. "I lost 25 pounds, but also, at the age of 50, you wonder how you are going to reinvent yourself, so I am doing things I probably would never have done if I hadn't been on the show." Also musically gifted, O'Hurley has performed as a vocalist with numerous symphonies and recently collaborated with cellist Marston Smith on a double-disc CD of his original classical piano compositions, *Peace of Our Minds*. O'Hurley recently made his Broadway debut as the male lead, Billy Flynn, in the hit musical *Chicago*, and has just released a dance DVD with his *Dancing With the Stars* partner, Charlotte Jorgensen.

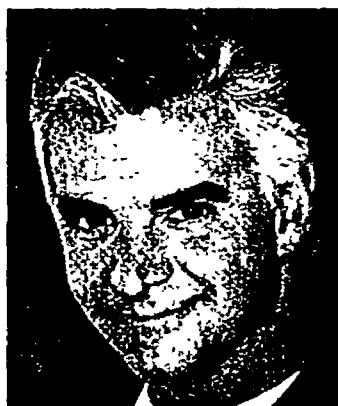
**Q** I have the series *Beauty and the Beast* with Ron Perlman and Linda Hamilton. I'd love to see what he looks like without all that Beast makeup.

—Irene Reed, Hubert, Mich.

Although Perlman is well known for his portrayal as the Beast in the 1980s TV series, he continues to work consistently, appearing in the CBS-TV series *Magnificent Seven* and in *Wild World* and *Operation Sandman*, both of which were UPN Movies of the Week. He's also appeared on the big screen in *Enemy at the Gate*, *Blade II*, *Star Trek: Nemesis* and *Hellboy*. You can see him this summer in the TV movie *Desperation*, based on a book by Stephen King.



Ron Perlman



Singer and actor John O'Hurley



On TV, Susan Oliver was Andy Griffith's "Prisoner of Love."

aviator who in 1967 became the first woman to fly a single-engine aircraft solo across the Atlantic Ocean, a feat she detailed in her 1983 memoir, *Odyssey: A Daring Transatlantic Journey*. She was named Pilot of the Year in 1970 and later nominated for an Emmy for her role as Amelia Earhart in a TV movie.

**Q** Do you know if Judy Woodruff is doing anything specific now that she's no longer with CNN?

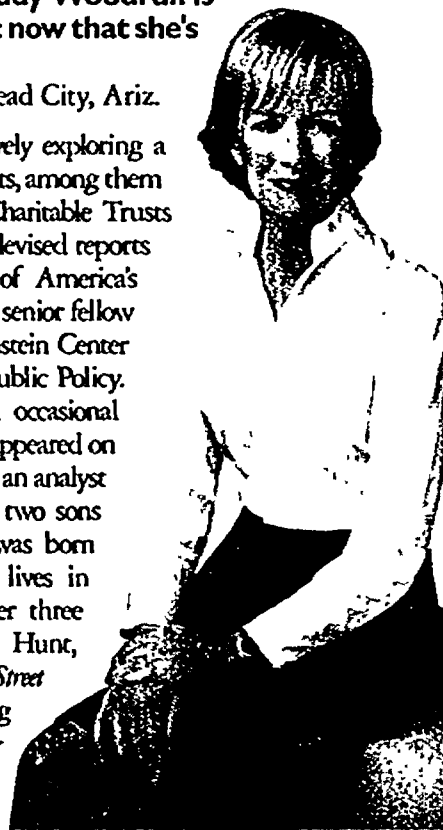
—Marli Neumann, Bullhead City, Ariz.

Woodruff replies: "I'm actively exploring a number of journalistic projects, among them consulting with the Pew Charitable Trusts about producing a year of televised reports on what's on the minds of America's younger generation. I'll be a senior fellow this fall at Harvard's Shorenstein Center for the Press, Politics and Public Policy. I remain a consultant and occasional contributor for CNN, have appeared on NBC News' *Meet the Press* as an analyst and am preparing to pack two sons off to college." Woodruff was born in Tulsa, Okla., and now lives in Washington, D.C., with her three children and husband, Al Hunt, who recently left *The Wall Street Journal* to become managing editor of *Bloomberg News*. ☆

\* Cover photo by Gary Bogdon

**Q** I would like an update on Susan Oliver, a very pretty blonde who starred on *Peyton Place* back in the 1960s. She also guest starred on an episode of *The Andy Griffith Show* in 1964, "Prisoner of Love," in which she played a prisoner who both Andy and Barney fell for.

—A. Smithee, Bangor, Maine  
Blond-haired, blue-eyed Susan Oliver (whose real name was Charlotte Gercke) made dozens of TV appearances throughout the 1960s and '70s and died of lung cancer in 1990 at age 58. The actress also was a TV director and even an accomplished



### Enter the "My America" Photo Contest

*American Profile* is seeking original photographs that best exemplify America and the American spirit for an upcoming photo contest. One first place winner will receive \$500; second place: \$250; and third place: \$100. If you've captured a winning image of America with your camera, mail it along with your name, address, telephone number and a brief description of the photo to: My America Photo Contest, 341 Cool Springs Blvd., Suite 400, Franklin, TN 37067. Accepted formats include 5-by-7-inch color prints, 35mm color slides and digital images of at least 300 dpi accompanied by a photo quality print. Submissions must be postmarked by July 10, 2006 and will not be returned. All submitted photographs will become the property of *American Profile*.

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### JUST RELEASED...

#### Double Dose of Lynyrd Skynyrd

Two new releases from the classic Southern rock band Lynyrd Skynyrd offer proof that the group's legacy lives on: In addition to helping create the musical template for countless Southern rockers that followed, Skynyrd spawned a number of spinoffs as other groups branched out from various shakeups of the original band. The new *Family* CD brings together for the first time the biggest hits by Lynyrd Skynyrd as well as "blood-kin" acts 38 Special, the Rossington Collins Band and the new Van Zant duo of brothers Johnny and Donnie. *Gimme Back My Bullets* originally was released by Lynyrd Skynyrd in 1976 and has been expanded to include six bonus tracks and a DVD featuring performances from a 1975 BBC-TV appearance.

## Family-oriented Funnyman

by MELONEE  
McKINNEY HURT

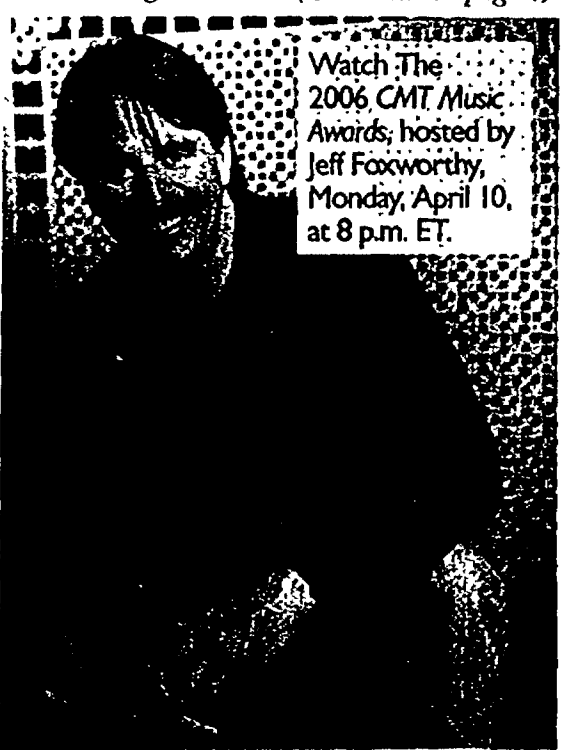
It's a Tuesday morning and comedian Jeff Foxworthy is running late. One of his duties as a parent of two has put him slightly behind schedule.

"We're the family that does the power slide into the front of the school in the mornings," he explains, providing a vivid image of his kids jumping out of the vehicle, tying shoelaces and combing hair in a last-minute rush to beat the bell.

It may not sound glamorous, but one of America's most widely recognized funny men wouldn't want to be anywhere else. He lives in Alpharetta, Ga. (pop. 34,854), where he drives a Ford truck, shops at Home Depot and gets to be involved in the daily goings-on of his family. He's been happily married to wife Gregg for 22 years and has two daughters, ages 14 and 12.

From 1995 to 1997, Foxworthy starred in his own sitcom, *The Jeff Foxworthy Show*, filmed on a Hollywood soundstage next door to the shooting stages for *Roseanne* and *Seinfeld*. That period showed him the effects a Hollywood career can have on life.

"I was around some of the most wealthy people in the world—and some of the most miserable people I've ever seen," he says. "It was a blessing. It was like God showing you, 'This isn't what it's all about.' As soon as they canceled the show, we moved back to Georgia." (Continued on page 4)



Watch The  
2006 CMT Music  
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Jeff Foxworthy built a career on "redneck" jokes.

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# Train Whistles and Country Crooners

by STUART ENGLERT  
Senior Editor

A northbound Amtrak train pulls into Union Station in Meridian, Miss. (pop. 39,968), and immediately a conductor begins unloading—and loading—passengers and baggage. After a brief stop, the engineer blows the whistle, alerting everyone to clear the tracks before the train departs on its journey from New Orleans to New York City.

"That's a signal for the smokers to get on board," says Mick Nussbaum, director of the Meridian Railroad Museum, standing on Union Station's second floor overlooking the downtown rail yard. "He'll give two more blasts and he's leaving."

Meridian has been a railroad stop since the first track was laid in Lauderdale County in 1855. Through the years, the railroad has provided jobs for townspeople, inspired the songs of country music's first superstar, Jimmie Rodgers, and fascinated rail fans like Nussbaum, whose hobby is photographing the trains that rumble through town.

"We're the best-kept secret for rail fans; not many places have what we have," says Nussbaum, 40, motioning to the 1906 depot, which was rebuilt in 1997 and today serves as a transportation center, accom-

modating hundreds of train and bus passengers each day.

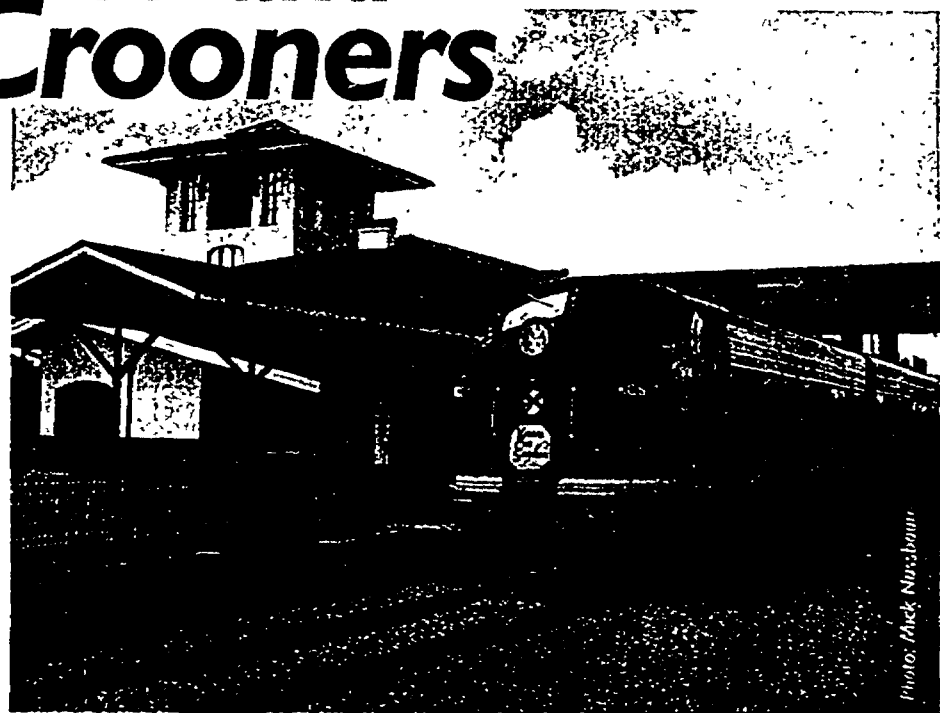
The railroad boomed and the population swelled in the early 1900s, making Meridian the largest city in Mississippi. Today, the city is the state's sixth largest and the railroad continues to be an economic force, employing 1,900 people.

"Meridian has always been a railroad town," says Fonda Rush, a Meridian native whose 23-year-old son, Elliott, helps maintain the rails. "If you've lived in Meridian very long, you've probably had someone in your family work for the railroad. That's been a family tradition."

Another Meridian tradition is fostering and discovering musical talent.

Jimmie Rodgers, Meridian's most famous railroad man, went on to become the Father of Country Music. Born in nearby Pine Springs in 1897, Rodgers grew up in Meridian, working on the railroad, and plucking and strumming his guitar. The Singing Brakeman, as Rodgers was called, combined the rhythms of black railroad workers with the yodels of Western cowboys and became a national sensation, selling more than 10 million records between 1927 and 1933. Among his biggest songs were *T for Texas*, *Waiting for a Train*, *In the Jail House Now* and *My Carolina Sunshine Girl*.

"His music related to a lot of the working class during the Depression," Rush says. "His music was a release for them and their problems. He felt their pain."



A Kansas City Southern luxury train pauses at Union Station in Meridian, Miss.

Rodgers, who died of tuberculosis in 1933 and is buried in Oak Grove Cemetery in Meridian, influenced a long list of country, bluegrass and rock artists, including Ernest Tubb, Merle Haggard, Bill Monroe and Jerry Lee Lewis.

"All the artists respect Jimmie Rodgers and what he did," says Betty Lou Jones, president of the Jimmie Rodgers Foundation, whose mission is to perpetuate the memory and history of Rodgers, and pay tribute to his contributions to American music. (Continued on page 15)



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by ALAN ROSS  
Photos by Gary Bogdon



# The Master's Touch

At 76, legendary golfer Arnold Palmer finds new rewards

## It's been 40 years since Arnold

Palmer was awarded the green blazer traditionally given to the winner of professional golf's most prestigious event. And though he won't take part in this year's Masters Tournament April 6-9 at the Augusta (Ga.) National Golf Club, the man who set golf on fire in the 1960s remains plenty busy today as a business executive, aviator, advertising spokesman, golf course designer/consultant, philanthropist and humanitarian.

And he still manages to play a little golf, too.

"Golf is still his life," says Doc Giffin, Palmer's agent. "He practices or plays a round almost every afternoon."

But over the past two decades, Palmer's famous swing has taken a backseat—at least publicly—to his other roles, including sharing his famously big heart with people in need.

His own father was born with polio, a fact that Palmer, now 76, admits steeled him with resolve to help others. "I am extremely pleased if I can help anyone do something that will help them in their lives," he says. "It's an ongoing situation for me to try and be somewhat of a philanthropist. But I also feel like people who are not extremely wealthy, but who make contributions to charity, show something even more giving and helpful."

For 20 years, throughout the 1970s and '80s, he served as honorary national chairman of the March of Dimes, which works to prevent infant mortality, birth defects and premature births. And his passionate concern

for children opened the door two decades ago to help young people even more directly—as founder of the Arnold Palmer Medical Center in Orlando, Fla.

"When Mr. Palmer toured our pediatric intensive care unit at what was then the Orlando Regional Medical Center, he was finishing up and casually said to some of the folks in the group that 'It just seems like we could do better than that for our kids,'" recalls John Bozard, 56, head of the Arnold Palmer Medical Center Foundation. The foundation embraces both the Winnie Palmer Hospital for Women and Babies (named after Arnold's late wife, Winnifred, to whom he was married for 45 years before her death of cancer in 1999) and the Arnold Palmer Hospital for Children.

Palmer visits the Florida hospital that bears his name.



Palmer smiles in recollecting the moment. "The next thing that happened, the city fathers came back to me and said, 'You object to some of the things the hospital has done in pediatrics—why don't you help us and lend your name to doing a children and women's hospital?'"

## His word is gold

Through a simple handshake, Palmer agreed to help. The center's immediate need, not surprisingly, was for an infusion of philanthropic dollars. Palmer dug deep, as he has done numerous times over the years. While the foundation does not reveal specific amounts of money contributed by donors, Bozard calls Palmer's sum "substantial." And he has continued to support the facility over the years. "I don't know of a time when he's told me he'd do something that he didn't do it," Bozard says. "When Arnold tells you something, you can take his word to the bank. He is as solid as gold."

A gilded standard is exactly what Palmer set in 1960, when he first began to entrench himself in sports lore with his stalking, warrior-like charges that took golf and the country by storm. His legendary saga started at only 4 years old when his father, a course superintendent at Latrobe (Pa.) Country Club—a course that Palmer now

*(Continued on page 8)*

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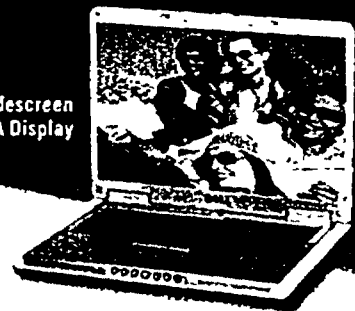
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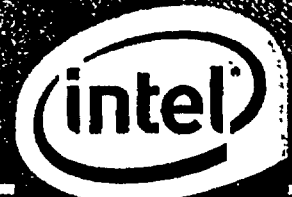
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(Continued from page 6)

owns—first cut down a pair of clubs to young Arnold's size. The future champ began swinging away, eventually launching an astonishing career that would include seven major tournament triumphs and 92 career wins worldwide.

Palmer's headline-making triumph in the 1960 U.S. Open, following his second of four lifetime Masters wins two months earlier, almost single-handedly energized the entire sport, ignited a legion of fanatical Palmer fans—the fabled "Arnie's Army"—and educated the entire country on the excitement of competitive golf.

Almost half of Palmer's time today is split among golf-related business and personal appearances. Competitively, he remains active with the Champions (PGA Senior) Tour, though he has cut back, making just eight appearances last year.

Off the links, Palmer and wife Kit, whom he married in January 2005, divide their time between homes in Latrobe, Pa. (pop. 8,994), and Bay Hill, Fla. (pop. 5,177).

Palmer's admirers point to the sense of integrity, sportsmanship and confidence he has brought to every phase of his career. "He's a true-blue person and it shines through," says Jerry Palmer, 61, Arnold's younger brother and general manager of Latrobe Country Club as well as his brother's residential and commercial properties in Latrobe. "What he says, he means."

Palmer's well-known integrity in the golfing world spawned his long-running offshoot career as an advertising spokesman, something that came naturally. With everything from automobile oil to home-health care and long-lasting batteries, Palmer's friendly face invited consumers to try the product.

"I'm pleased if I can help anyone do something that will help them in their lives," says Palmer, who now devotes much of his time to philanthropy.



### Valuable lessons learned

But even the man with the Midas touch wasn't invincible to life's occasional arrows. Palmer is a prostate cancer survivor who has crusaded tirelessly for early detection through regular testing ever since his encounter with the disease in 1997. "Early detection is the key to almost all cancers," says Palmer, who has raised millions of dollars for prostate cancer research by serving as honorary chairman of Arnie's Army Battles Prostate Cancer, a golfing program affiliated with the Prostate Cancer Foundation.

Ultimately, the scary event was just a bump in the road for Palmer, who says he has learned some valuable lessons during times of difficulty and defeat. One came in 1966 at a tournament on the Cherry Hills course outside Denver. Solidly ahead entering the final round of the U.S. Open, Palmer saw his commanding lead whittled away by the relentless, ironically Palmer-like charge of Billy Casper, who ultimately edged Palmer for the title. That defeat is not lost on him to this day.

"When you reflect on something like losing a seven-stroke lead, it's difficult," Palmer concedes. "But after having won the Open and then losing the Open, like I did then, I found out a lot more about life, friendships and what life was all about. It was extremely gratifying to know that winning a golf tournament such as the Open at that point in time wasn't the only thing in the world that can be gratifying."

A large part of that gratification for Palmer continues to be giving his best effort to whatever he's involved with. And, as always, the Palmer method is a personal one.

"He'll walk down the halls and take time to talk," says Bozard of the golfing icon's visits to the medical facility bearing his name. "I've seen him stop and gather two or three of our housekeeping staff around him and tell them just how much he appreciates them keeping the place so clean." During moments like that, Palmer's reputation as a sports immortal, wealthy benefactor and astute businessman are overshadowed by a more immediate, more intimate impression.

"We just really see him," Bozard says, "as a very kind, gentle, tenderhearted person." ☆

Alan Ross is a freelance writer living in Bisbee, Ariz.

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### Special Book Offer:

Golf legend Arnold "Arnie" Palmer's memorable life comes alive in this beautiful 9-by-10-inch hardcover book. You'll learn more about this philanthropist, spokesperson, course designer and prolific golfer! Included are never-before-seen photographs from Arnie's personal collection. PLUS: A \$1 contribution will be made to the Prostate Cancer Foundation will be made for every copy sold.

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Special Pullout Section! *HomewithPromotions*

# “Breakthrough Discovery To Grow Beautiful Nails”



**Even if you have never been able to grow strong beautiful nails**

By Jana Lynn  
 You too can grow strong beautiful nails with Trind™ Natural Nail-Repair. I guarantee it!  
 Now it's so easy to grow the nails you've always dreamed of—even if you have already tried a number of other things without success.

Trind is Europe's leading nail care product for women who want beautiful nails without the expense and inconvenience of acrylics.

Trind is so effective that it has even earned “pharmaceutical” status in Switzerland. This allows Swiss doctors to prescribe Trind Natural Nail-Repair for their patients with nail problems.

Sweden's leading women's magazine compared Trind Natural Nail-Repair with nail care products from industry giants such as Clinique, Mavala, Cutex, and Kanebo. They chose Trind as the “best” of all.

What makes Trind Natural Nail-Repair so effective? It reinforces the protein molecules in your nails and regulates their moisture content to make them strong and flexible. That's why Trind nails never get brittle.

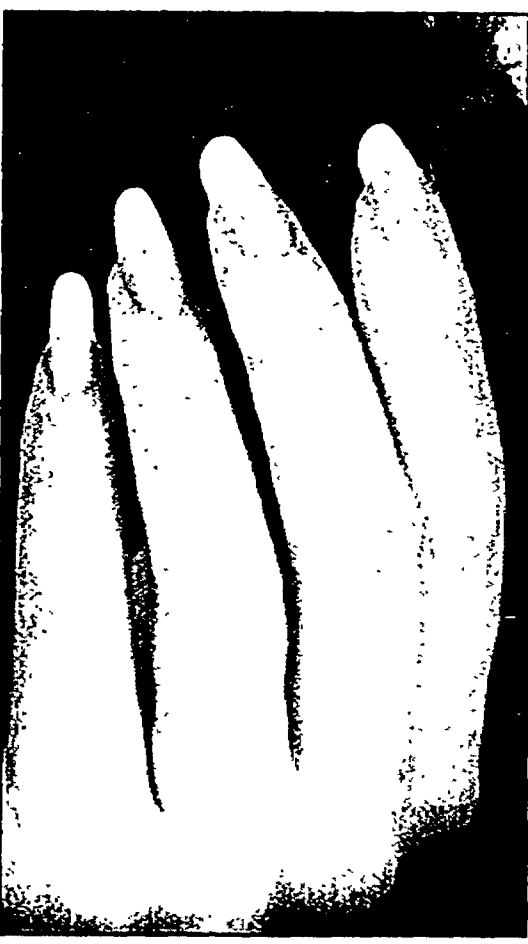
Even women that have never been able to grow beautiful nails before are amazed at how strong and flexible their nails become in only two weeks with Trind Natural Nail-Repair.

Until now, many women with problem nails have turned to acrylics for the pretty nails they wanted. But, they have soon discovered acrylics have problems of their own.

Acrylics cost hundreds of dollars more each year than natural Trind nails. They seem to pop off at the worst possible times—and they are often the cause of nail fungus.

It's so easy to grow strong, beautiful nails that won't break when you use Trind Natural Nail-Repair. It takes only minutes right in the privacy and convenience of your own home.

Your Trind Beauty Kit for nails includes one bottle of Trind Natural Nail-Repair (about a 4-month supply) and Trind's Nail-Magic 3-way buffer.



Plus, you get a **FREE Gift** just for ordering before the expiration date.

**RISK-FREE GUARANTEE**

I guarantee you will grow stronger, more beautiful nails with Trind™ Natural Nail-Repair than with anything you've ever used—at any price—or your money back.

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**Do you have any of the problems they used to have?**



“Best nail product I've ever used. In the past five years I've tried nine different nail strengtheners priced from \$1.89 to \$39.95. My nails continued to peel and split until I tried Trind.  
 “Now my nails grow — healthy! — until they need to be cut because they get in my way.”  
 Sonja Strickland  
 Kingsland, Georgia



“I never want to be without your Trind Natural Nail-Repair again! I used it even though I didn't really believe it could make a difference in my splitting fingernails. Ashamed of them, I'd keep my hands as hidden as I could when with friends.  
 “In just a few weeks I am really happily wearing pretty rings on my lovely nails—my very own!!”  
 Jackie Klinsky  
 Watsonville, California



“After exhausting so many products and methods to help my splitting, peeling and non-growing nails, I felt I had nothing to lose and decided to try the product. I'm so glad I did! Believe me, it works!  
 “My husband had two split nails that would not grow out and he too, decided to try TRIND. Now he adds his voice to mine, ‘It really works’! I'm amazed at the condition and growth of my nails. It's unbelievable!”  
 Nikki & Addison Fritts  
 Delray Beach, Florida



“I have always had trouble with my nails splitting and peeling. But with your Nail-Repair the difference in them is amazing.  
 “Over time I have tried everything trying to get my nails to grow. This is the first thing I have ever used that actually did what it said it would.”  
 Wanda L. Shults  
 Okemah, Oklahoma

“I'll admit to being skeptical. After all, over the years I had tried them all (Sally Hansen, Barielle, Naitique, etc.) and nothing helped my thin weak nails that split and cracked before they even reached the end of my nail beds.  
 “TRIND was going to be my last attempt to grow my own nails before giving in to the expense and risks of artificial ones. Imagine my utter surprise and joy to find TRIND works where all others have failed.  
 “This is the most wonderful and amazing product! At last I can enjoy the beautiful nails that before I had only been able to envy on other women.”  
 Michelle Hogan  
 Harvard, Massachusetts



“I just can't stop looking at my beautiful nails!  
 “I have NEVER in my life been able to grow, sustain and maintain such healthy, strong and LONG nails! They were paper-thin after having acrylics removed and the regularly recommended products did not help me at all!  
 “I am a TV host of my own show called ‘Vee on Venice’ and needless to say I need to look my very best from head to toe for my viewers.  
 “So now I finally feel fully confident that my nails will film beautifully.”  
 Vee V. Garry  
 Venice, Florida, Channel 21



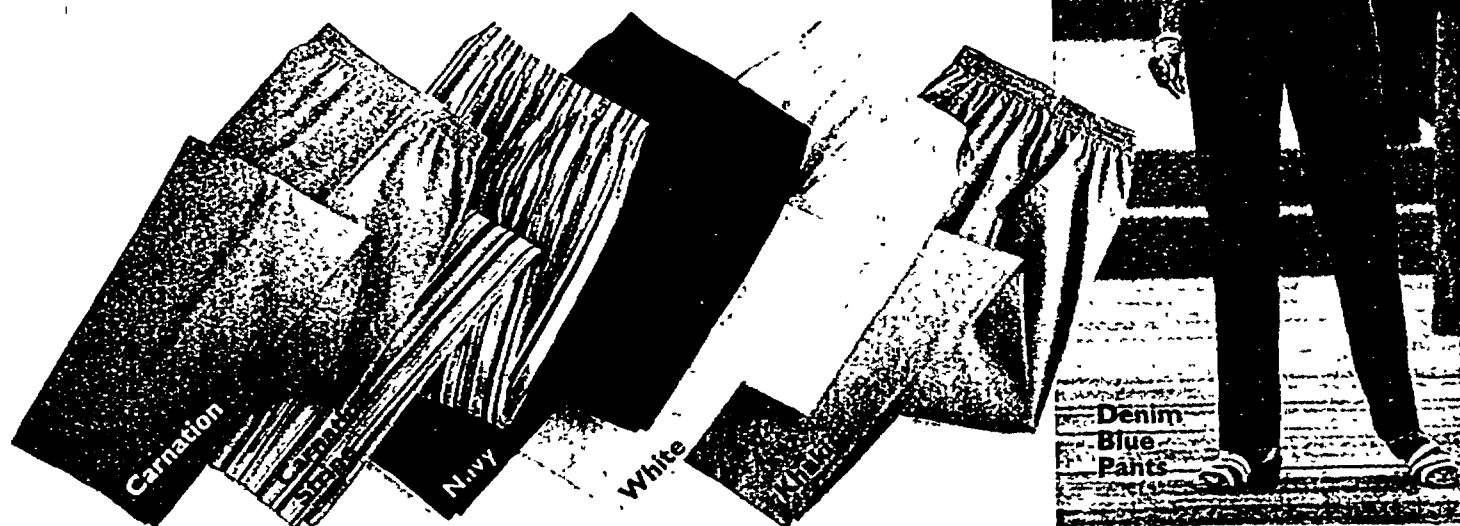
“I stopped using acrylics but my nails looked terrible, so for two years I sat on my hands to hide my nails whenever I went out. Then I tried Trind Natural-Nail Repair and it seemed like my nails became long and strong almost overnight.  
 “Now people think my natural nails are acrylics. Every time I go to my manicurist she just shakes her head. She can't believe how well it's working.”  
 Florence Atkinson  
 Houston, Texas



“I stopped using acrylics but my nails looked terrible, so for two years I sat on my hands to hide my nails whenever I went out. Then I tried Trind Natural-Nail Repair and it seemed like my nails became long and strong almost overnight.  
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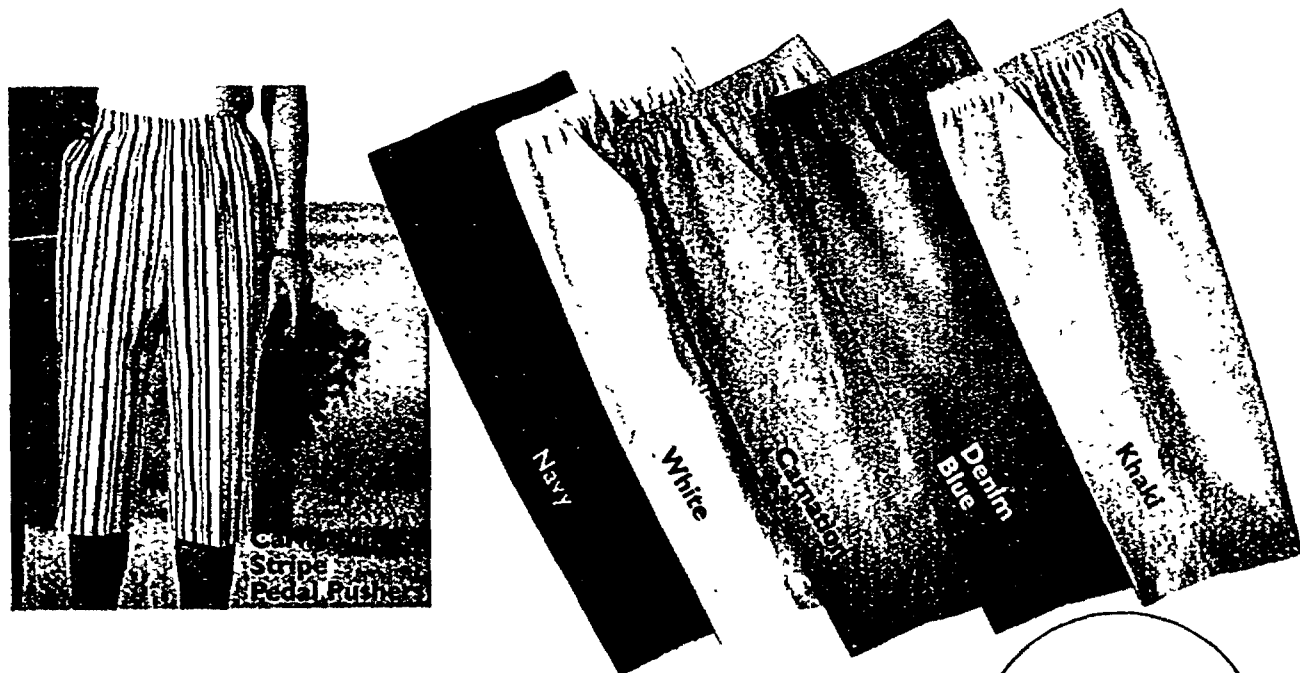
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Hometown Hero

# Generating "Hope" for Breast Cancer

by SUSAN PALMQUIST

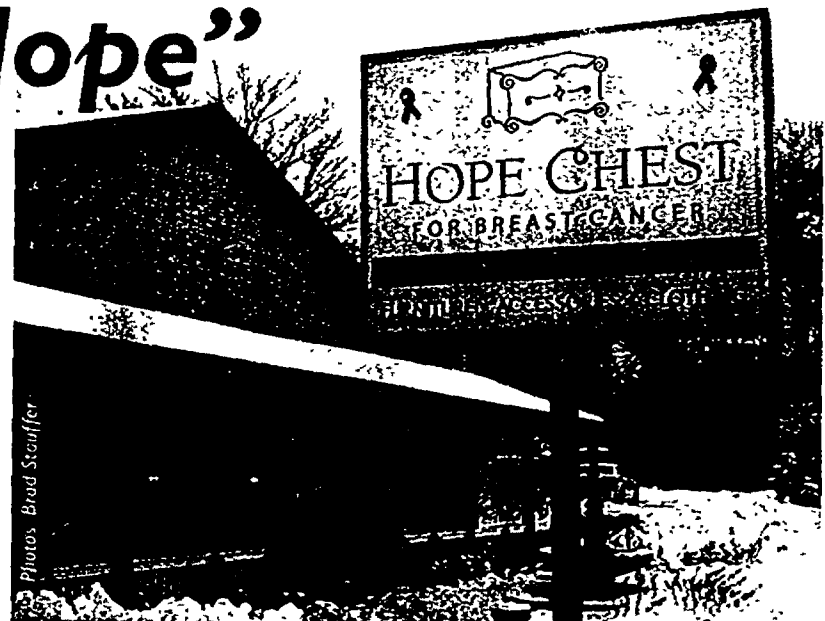


Hope Chest founder Barbara Hensley

When Barbara Hensley decided to leave her corporate job in 2001, retirement was the furthest thing from her mind. Hensley, of Shakopee, Minn. (pop. 20,568), had lost two sisters to breast cancer and her plan was to help others with the disease.

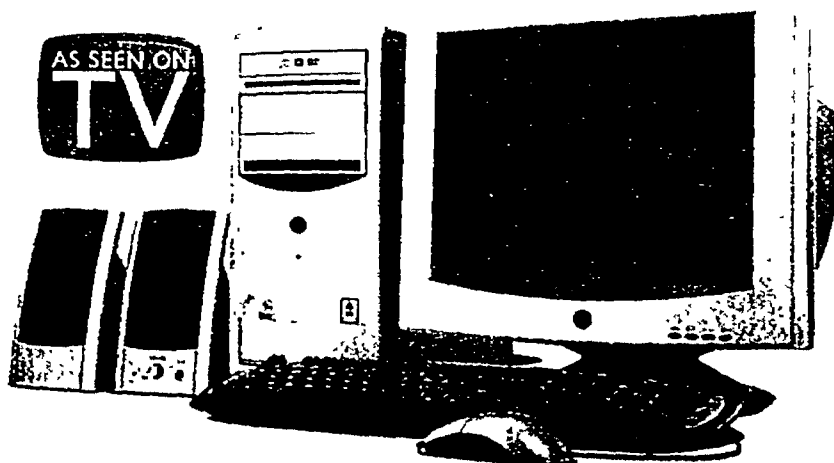
Using marketing experience she'd gained while working as an executive for various companies, Hensley decided to help raise money for breast cancer programs while enabling other women to become what she calls "social entrepreneurs."

"I carefully researched other foundations and decided the



Photos: Brad Stauffer

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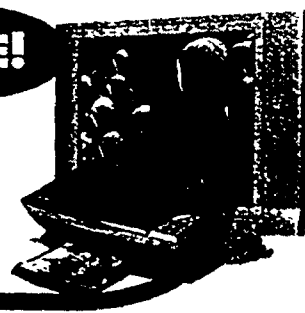


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The Hope Chest store in Orono, Minn., raises money to fight breast cancer. The best way to raise money was to open stores where women could be successful entrepreneurs and at the same time they would be able to give back to their community," says Hensley, 58.

So she asked companies and individuals to donate overstocked and used items to sell in an upscale store. The result was a non-profit foundation named Hope Chest for Breast Cancer and a for-profit retail store called Hope Chest, which opened in November 2002 in Orono, Minn. (pop. 7,538), and has contributed more than \$150,000 to breast cancer causes.

What sets the 6,000-square-foot Hope Chest store apart from other stores is that each day customers can find something different among the merchandise, from a sterling silver tea set and ornate wooden frames, to an 1890s oak table and high-end clothing.

Julie Riff, one of 200 Hope Chest volunteers, says Hensley is an inspiration. "Barbara is incredibly dedicated to the Hope Chest mission," Riff says. "She's always positive and sincere and has created a great place to work. I think her work ethic and unflagging



Childhood photos of Hensley and her late sisters decorate a store counter.

enthusiasm and graciousness have inspired me the most."

Kari Berscheit, a breast cancer survivor, also volunteers at the Hope Chest store. "I always enjoy working there and I can't believe all these items are donated," Berscheit says. "I just love Barbara."

While many cancer charities raise money for one specific purpose, Hope Chest donates money to four different areas—research, hospice care, financial support to those with breast cancer and programs for early detection.

Hensley believes that helping people with breast cancer meet financial burdens, such as paying medical bills and living expenses, is crucial. "When both my sisters were going through treatment, I got to meet women who sometimes had to put off taking chemotherapy because they had inadequate or no insurance," she says.

Financial aid given by Hope Chest often means a breast cancer patient can buy food or even pay rent. One example is a donation to the Western Communities Action Network, a social service center that aids low-income families, in Mound, Minn. (pop. 9,435).

"We had one client who was a single mom and taking chemotherapy," says Jessie Billiet, a family advocate with the network. "She needed some help paying her mortgage, so we contacted



# New lure's catch rate may be too high for some tournaments.

**Out-fishes other bait 19 to 4 in one contest.**

**Uses aerospace technology to mimic a real fish.**

ORLANDO, FL—A small company in Connecticut has developed a new lure that mimics the motion of a real fish so realistically



by Charlie Allen

eight professionals couldn't tell the difference between it and a live shad when it "swam" toward them on retrieval. The design eliminates wobbling, angled swimming and other unnatural motions that problem other hard bait lures. It swims upright and appears to propel itself with its tail.

Curiously, the company may have designed it too well. Tournament fishermen who have used it said it's possible officials will not allow it in contests where live bait is prohibited. They claim it swims more realistically than anything they have ever seen. If so, that would hurt the company's promotional efforts. Winning tournaments is an important part of marketing a new lure.

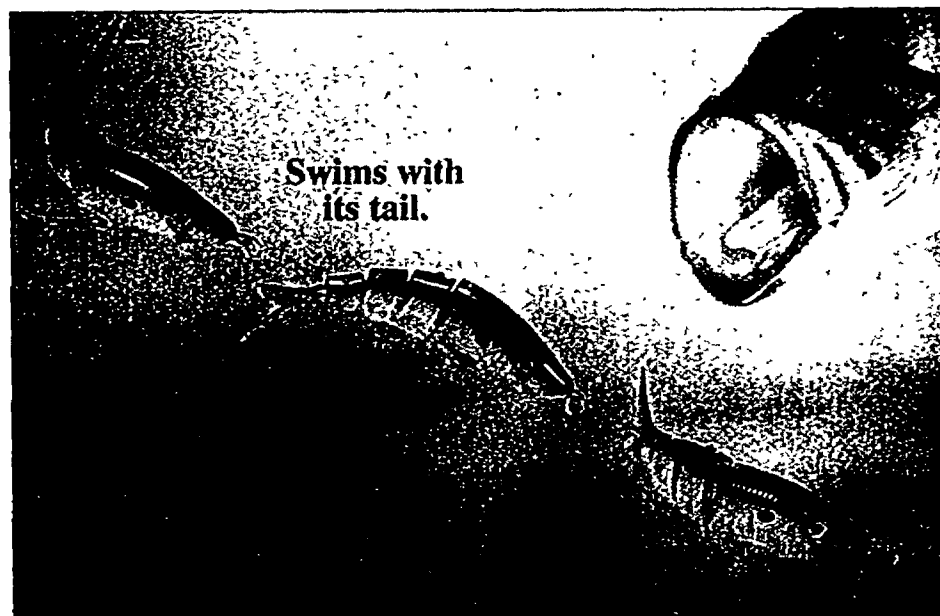
Fish would probably prefer to see it restricted. I watched eight veteran fishermen test the new lure (called The KickTail®) on a lake outside Orlando FL for about four hours. Four used the KickTail and four used a combination of their favorite lures and shiners (live bait). The four using the KickTail caught 41 fish versus 14 for the other four. In one boat the KickTail won 19 to 4. The KickTail also caught bigger fish, which suggests it triggers larger, less aggressive fish to strike. You can see why the company needs to get it into tournaments. An almost 3 to 1



Inventor Scott Wilson lands a 10-pounder.

advantage can mean thousands of dollars to a fisherman, and hundreds of thousands in sales to the company.

The KickTail's magic comes from a patented technology that breaks the tail into five segments. As water rushes by on retrieval, a little-



Swims with its tail.

New lure swims like a real fish--nearly triples catch in Florida contest.

known principle called aeronautical flutter causes the tail to wag left and right, as if the lure were propelling itself with its tail. Unlike other hard baits, the head remains stationary—only the tail wags. A company spokesman told me this.

"Fish attack live things, and they determine if something is alive by watching its movements. Marine biologists will tell you that the more a lure swims like a real fish, the more fish it will catch. Well, the only live thing the KickTail doesn't do is breathe. It's better than live bait! It lasts longer and it never hangs half-dead from a hook. It's always swimming wild and free. Fish can't stand it. We've seen fish that have just eaten go for the KickTail. It's like having another potato chip.

## Increases catch almost 3 to 1.

"To make the KickTail even more lifelike, we gave it a natural shad color and shaped it like the most prevalent bait fish of all, the threadfin. Game fish gobble up more threadfin shad than any other baitfish.

"We knew the KickTail would out-fish other lures. It had to. Other lures wobble their heads and swim on an angle. But 41 fish to 14? That's huge! I tell you, in ten seconds anyone who has fished a day in his life knows this little swimmer's a home run. Fishermen reserved thousands of KickTails before we produced it! Here, reel it in and watch it swim toward you. Can you tell the difference between it and a live fish? (I said no.) Neither can the fish.

"The flutter technology also allows the KickTail to swim at the water's surface. Other top water lures must be worked to have any live action, or have a bill that makes them dive on retrieval. Our diver version is the only deep crank bait that let's you do tricks like 'walk the dog.' Twitch it at deep levels and it gives an irresistible, lifelike action. Other lures 'dig.' And there's no need for rattles. The five tail segments click together as you pull it through the water, calling fish from a distance."

Whether you fish for fun or profit, if you want a near 3 to 1 advantage, I would order now before the KickTail becomes known. The company even guarantees a refund, if you don't catch more fish and return the lures within 30 days. There are three versions: a floater for top water, a diver and a "dying shad" with a weed guard for fishing lily pads and other feeding spots. The company says it's the only hard bait of its kind in existence. Each lure costs \$9.95 and you must order at least two. There is also a "Super 10-Pack" with additional colors for only \$79.95, a savings of almost \$20.00. S/h is only \$6.00 no matter how many you order.

To order call 1-800-873-4415 or click [www.ngcsports.com](http://www.ngcsports.com) anytime or day or send a check or M.O. (or cc number and exp. date) to NGC Sports (Dept. KT-1009), 60 Church Street, Yalesville, CT 06492. CT add sales tax. The KickTail is four inches long and works in salt and fresh water.

KTS-5 © NGC Worldwide, Inc 2006 Dept. KT-1009



A customer talks with Hensley inside the store.

Barbara and she sent a donation which allowed the client to stay in her home."

Ultimately, Hensley hopes to expand the Hope Chest concept by establishing stores in all 50 states, which combined would raise an estimated \$10 million annually.

"Doing what I am is important to me because I lost the dearest women in my life," says Hensley, whose sisters Kathy and Patsy died in 1994 and 1996, respectively. "One day I'd love to be sitting on my front porch surrounded by my great-grandchildren. They'll ask me what I did with my life and I'll say I had the opportunity to work with wonderful people to help fight breast cancer. And they'll look up at me and ask, 'What's breast cancer?'" ☆

Susan Palmquist is a freelance writer in Eden Prairie, Minn.

Visit [www.hopechest.us](http://www.hopechest.us) to learn more.



The store sells everything from donated furniture to antiques.

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**Tidbits**

**Did You Know...**

**ILLINOIS**—Parading in patriotic boxer shorts, undershirts, black knee socks and sandals, the Precision Lawn Chair Marching Dads keep crowds chuckling while executing military-style drills with lawn chairs. The dads organized in 1994 in Crystal Lake (pop. 38,000).

**INDIANA**—In 1957, Bob and Joyce Newton began building racing tires by re-treading street tires in a South Bend horse barn. Today, their Hoosier Racing Tire Corp., headquartered in Lakeville (pop. 567), is the world's largest manufacturer of racing tires.

**IOWA**—No news was bad news for Lost Nation (pop. 497) when the local newspaper folded. So in 1986, an entirely volunteer staff began producing and publishing *The Community Scoop*, a nonprofit weekly newspaper. The hometown paper published its 1,000th issue last year. Now that's good news!

**KANSAS**—The most famous murals in the state Capitol in Topeka were left unsigned and unfinished in 1941 by artist John Stewart Curry after a public outcry that his paintings of abolitionist John Brown and tornadoes reflected poorly on the state.



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**MICHIGAN**—With a slope descending 641 feet, Porcupine Mountains Ski Area at the Porcupine Mountains Wilderness State Park in Ontonagon (pop. 2,954) has the highest vertical ski drop in the state.

**MINNESOTA**—Actor James Arness, who was born in 1923 in Minneapolis, lassoed the role of Marshal Matt Dillon for the television *Western Gunsmoke* from 1955 to 1975. John Wayne declined the role and recommended his 6-foot-7-inch friend.

**MISSOURI**—The Black World History Museum in St. Louis documents the lives of ordinary and famous African-Americans, including scientist George Washington Carver and civil rights leader Martin Luther King. Artifacts from an archaeological excavation of a slave's cabin are showcased.

**NEBRASKA**—Musician Roger Williams, born in 1924 in Omaha, is America's best-selling pianist with 18 gold and platinum albums. His 1955 hit, "Autumn Leaves," reached No. 1 on the *Billboard* charts and the song remains the best-selling piano recording of all time.

**NORTH DAKOTA**—Arrow-Tech Inc. in Rolla (pop. 1,147) manufactures equipment to detect biological, chemical and nuclear agents and is the only manufacturer of the Federal Emergency Management Agency-designed pocket dosimeter, a device used to detect radiation.

**OHIO**—The 1868 Zoarville Station Bridge at Camp Tuscazoar in Dover (pop. 12,210) was designed by Albert Fink and is believed the last through-truss bridge of its kind. The 105-foot bridge features Phoenix columns of hollow wrought-iron tubes, known for their strength.

**SOUTH DAKOTA**—Buffalo, bighorn sheep, prairie dogs and "begging" burros may be encountered while driving along the open grasslands and rolling hills of the 18-mile Wildlife Loop State Scenic Byway in Custer State Park in Custer (pop. 1,860).

**WISCONSIN**—On Dec. 31, 1967, the Green Bay Packers beat the Dallas Cowboys at Lambeau Field in Green Bay to win the NFL championship in minus-13-degree weather with a wind chill of minus 46. The game was dubbed the "Ice Bowl." ☆

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Just press the red key on the wireless SOS pendant even from an amazing 125 feet, and the rest is taken care of for you. A loud alarm is sent out to members of your household, and the emergency phone automatically dials out to emergency numbers (such as 911) and up to 30 family members and friends in the order you want. They will hear your own recorded message (or a pre-recorded emergency message). The long-range 50 ft. speakerphone can also be activated for a two-way conversation. Emergency features can also be activated from the phone base as well.

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Kimberly Gayle Odom and Cary Laine won last year's Jimmie Rodgers Talent Contest.

(Continued from page 5)

Rodgers is honored at Meridian's Jimmie Rodgers Memorial Museum, which houses memorabilia and artifacts from Rodgers' railroad and singing careers, including his 1928 Martin guitar, railroad trunk and cowboy boots, personal correspondence, records and sheet music.

Meridian also hosts Jimmie Rodgers Days each spring. This year's event, scheduled April 28-30, features a yodeling contest, barbecue cookoff, car show and musical entertainment in Singing Brakeman Park. During the Jimmie Rodgers Talent Contest, aspiring performers will try to follow in the footsteps of Elvis Presley, who finished second in the inaugural contest in 1953 and went on to become the King of Rock 'n' Roll.

"If we're in the music business, we definitely want to be country singers," says Cary Laine, 19, of Deer Park, Ala., who won the adult competition last year with singing partner Kimberly Gayle Odom.

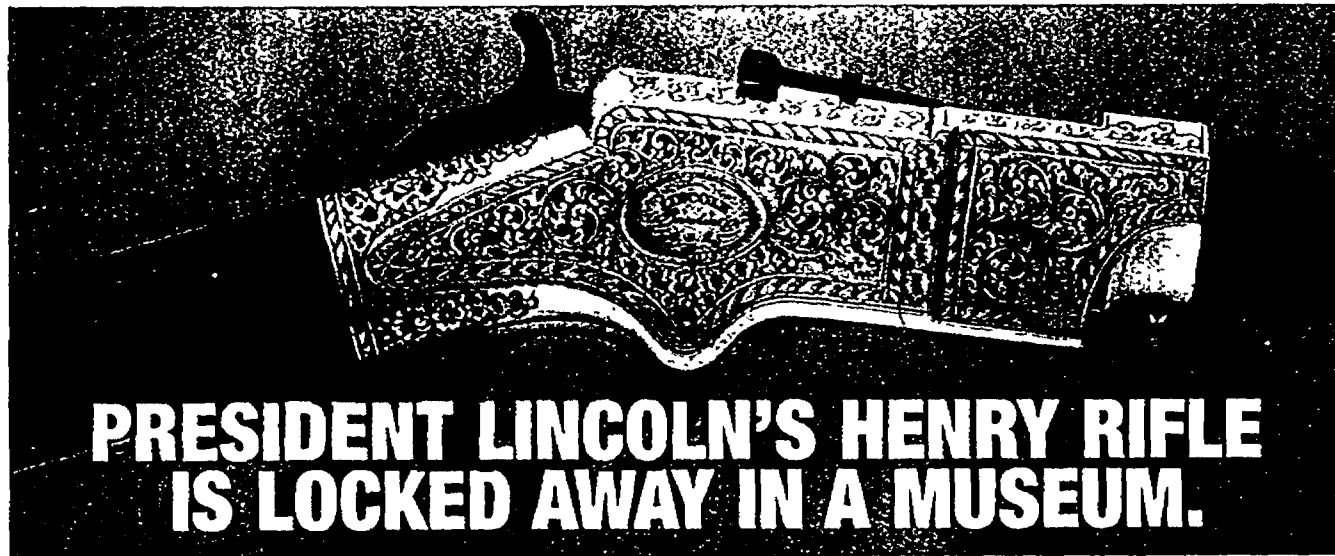
"It's a lifelong dream," adds Odom, 21.

As long as singers dream and train whistles blow, the legacy of Jimmie Rodgers and the railroad will live on in Meridian. ☆

Visit [www.visitmeridian.com](http://www.visitmeridian.com) or [www.jimmielodgers.com](http://www.jimmielodgers.com), or call (601) 482-8001 for more information.

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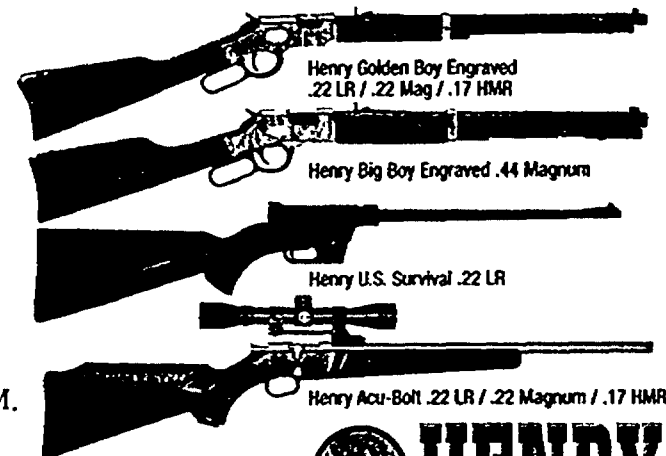
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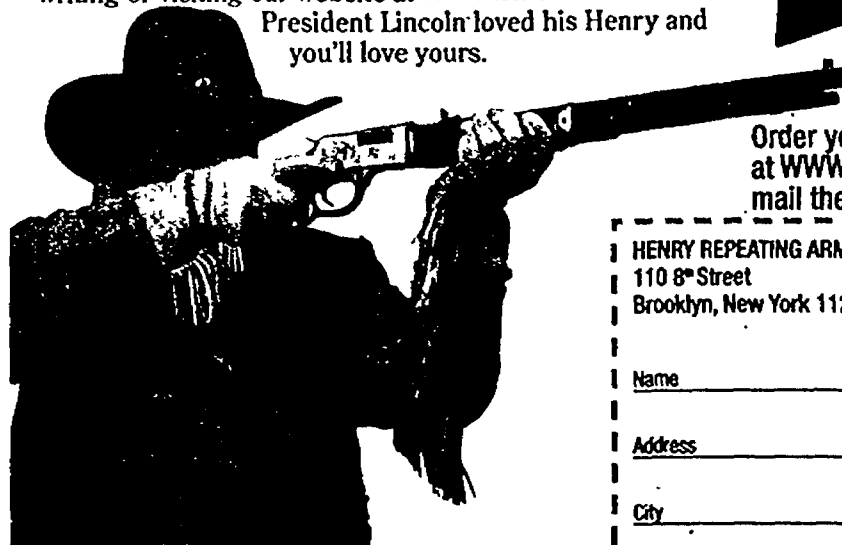
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Finance

# Tax-Saving Tips for Families

by JOHN NARDINI



Each year Americans overpay their income taxes by \$400 due to missed tax breaks and savings incentives, according to H&R Block.

Whether you file your taxes yourself or hire someone to do it for you, be aware of tax law changes and be sure you're not paying more than required by law. Here are some tax tips as well as a few common, but often overlooked, deductions your family may qualify for this year:

- **STATE AND LOCAL SALES TAX VS. INCOME TAX.** If you live in a state with no state or local income tax, you can deduct the general sales tax you paid in 2005 from your federal tax return. If you do pay state/local taxes, you can either deduct the state/local taxes you paid or what you paid in sales tax for general purchases, whichever is greater. So if your purchases were high and your state/local taxes are low, you may choose to deduct your sales tax.
- **CHARITABLE DONATIONS.** You can deduct the value of items or money given to churches and

other 501C-3 non-profit organizations. Get receipts for donations of more than \$75 when goods or services were exchanged, or if more than \$250 was donated and no goods were received.

- **RETIREMENT.** You have until April 15 to make a tax-deductible contribution to a traditional Individual Retirement Account (IRA). For tax year 2005, the maximum IRA contribution that can be deducted is \$4,000 (\$4,500 if you're age 50 or older). This is a good way to save for the future and lower your taxes at the same time.

- **EDUCATION EXPENSES.** You can receive tax-free distributions from Coverdell Education Savings Accounts, or ESAs, and Qualified Tuition Plans, known as QTPs. The main attraction for these programs is the same that draws you to a qualifying retirement account: distributions from ESAs and QTPs are tax-free when withdrawn and used for your child's education.
- **DISASTER OR THEFT.** If your home was damaged by flood, ice storm, earthquake, other natural disaster or thieves, you may be able to deduct what your insurance doesn't cover.
- **REAL ESTATE.** Your mortgage interest is deductible, and if you refinanced this year, you may be eligible to deduct some costs associated with the loan.

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## Swiss Cheese Appetizers

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RECIPE

Swiss Cheese Appetizers



Swiss Cheese Appetizers

- 1 cup finely grated Swiss cheese
- 1/4 cup cooked and crumbled bacon (about 6 slices)
- 1/4 cup chopped ripe black olives
- 1/4 cup minced green onions
- 1 teaspoon Worcestershire sauce
- 1/4 cup mayonnaise
- Pumpnickel or rye bread (about 16 slices)

Preheat oven to 375 degrees. Cut bread into decorative shapes if desired. Mix together all ingredients and spread on bread. Bake 12 to 15 minutes or until browned.

Photo & Styling: High Cotton Food Styling & Photography

- **MEDICAL EXPENSES.** You can deduct medical expenses if your bills exceeded 7.5 percent of your adjusted gross income. Medical expenses that can be itemized include the cost of medical insurance, prescriptions, out-of-pocket medical expenses, and mileage to and from medical facilities.
- **JOB-RELATED EXPENSES.** Out-of-pocket job expenses not reimbursed by employers are deductible. And if you were job hunting, you can deduct most expenses related to the search, including the cost of resumes, phone expenses, postage, career counseling, and travel to and from interviews.
- **STOCK LOSSES.** You can use stock losses to offset taxes owed on stock gains in a given tax year. If the losses exceed the gains, you can use up to \$3,000 in losses to offset ordinary income.
- **TAX PREPARATION.** Sometimes it pays to hire someone to prepare your taxes. You can claim the cost of tax preparation software or the cost of hiring a professional.
- **CLAIM THE RIGHT WITHHOLDING.** While it may seem like a windfall to get a large tax refund, your goal should really be to break even. If you're getting a refund, you've basically been loaning the government money—without interest. To strike the right balance, fill out a new Form W-4 with your employer to have the proper amount of taxes withheld from each paycheck.
- **ORGANIZE YOUR RECORDS.** Keep a file of receipts, pay stubs and various financial forms so that, by the end of the year, it's easier to retrieve the numbers you need to file your tax return. This includes general financial documents, receipts for deductible items, insurance and medical records, theft or loss documentation, charitable records and self-employment records.

Though following these tips can save you money, every family's financial situation is different. Check with your financial or tax adviser to clarify these suggestions or if you have specific questions. You also can get information from the IRS website, [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov), or helpline at (800) 829-1040. ★

John Nardini is author of the money website [www.freemoneyfinance.com](http://www.freemoneyfinance.com).

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