

Don-Lor's Electronics blends new space, old-fashioned values

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What has always been a "family" electronics business is expanding on Eight Mile Road in Livonia.

Don-Lor's Electronics owner Jason Stanecki has turned what was once a plumbing business at the front of the building into a showroom. A grand opening and

ribbon cutting is planned for 4 p.m. Nov. 15.

"We're really trying to build on the one-stop shop idea," Stanecki said.

Founded in 1958, Don-Lor's takes its name from original owners Joe Donnini and Shirley Lorinski, who sold out to Fred Medawar and Harry Lovell in 1960. At the time, the business was located at Five Mile and Farmington Roads.

Medawar eventually bought out his partner and owned the

business for more than 30 years. All seven of his children worked in the store at one time or another, and that's how Stanecki got involved.

A friend of one of Fred's sons, he had been working in the construction business when he learned about a job with a wireless cable company. When the company was sold, he went back to construction until DSS or direct satellite service became popular.

Stanecki was working for

another company before striking out on his own. Then Fred Medawar asked him if he wanted to buy Don-Lor's.

"He offered it to me on the phone," Stanecki recalled. "He basically took me in as one of his own."

Over the years, the business has grown to include cellular phones, computer equipment, Web sites and Internet, as well as televisions, audio equipment and digital satellites. Stanecki prides himself on being able to

offer customers complete installation and repair service. In addition to nine in-store employees, ranging in age from 17 to 74, he works with 12 contractors who do installations throughout lower Michigan, Ohio and Indiana.

"We're trying to cater to the older people, who know what they want and want someone to install it for them," Stanecki said. "I may not be able to beat a price, but my price always includes installation."

In addition to residential work, the Southfield native's company handles commercial installations, working with companies like Kmart and Fantastic Sam's.

The grand opening of the newly expanded store will launch a holiday special featuring discounts on all in-store merchandise. The store is located at 31625 Eight Mile Road, just west of Merriman.



STAFF PHOTO BY BILL BERGLER

The dish: Dave Zuercher, Jason Stanecki and Chris Tucker are on the roof surrounded by satellite dishes at Don-Lor's.

POLICE CALLS

JEWELRY TAKEN

Jewelry valued at \$7,350 was reported stolen Nov. 2 from a house on Tenhill Drive.

The owner told Farmington Hills police he suspects cleaning company employees who were last working in the house Nov. 1.

VIDEO CAMERA STOLEN

A video camera with case and tapes, valued by the owner at \$500, was reported missing Nov. 6 from a house on Leestock Court. The owner told Hills police he confronted a cleaning lady about the missing camera, but she said she did not take it.

EMBEZZLEMENT ALLEGED

The owner of a McDonald's restaurant at 24020 Orchard Lake is seeking charges against a former manager, maintaining she stole \$1,673.83 in restaurant receipts.

According to the incident report filed with Hills police, the owner said the 25-year-old manager was spotted on surveillance video with her boyfriend behind the counter of the restaurant after closing. The manager did not show for work the next day, Nov. 7.

According to the incident report, other employees said the manager told them she planned on quitting. The owner told police he would seek charges.

HALLOWEEN THEIF

A \$1,100 JVC camcorder was reported stolen Halloween night from a table three feet inside the unlocked front door of a home on Parklane, after the owner had been filming kids trick or treating. According to the Hills police incident report, the family was in another room when the theft happened. The camcorder model designation is GRDVMS.

RAB SHOUL

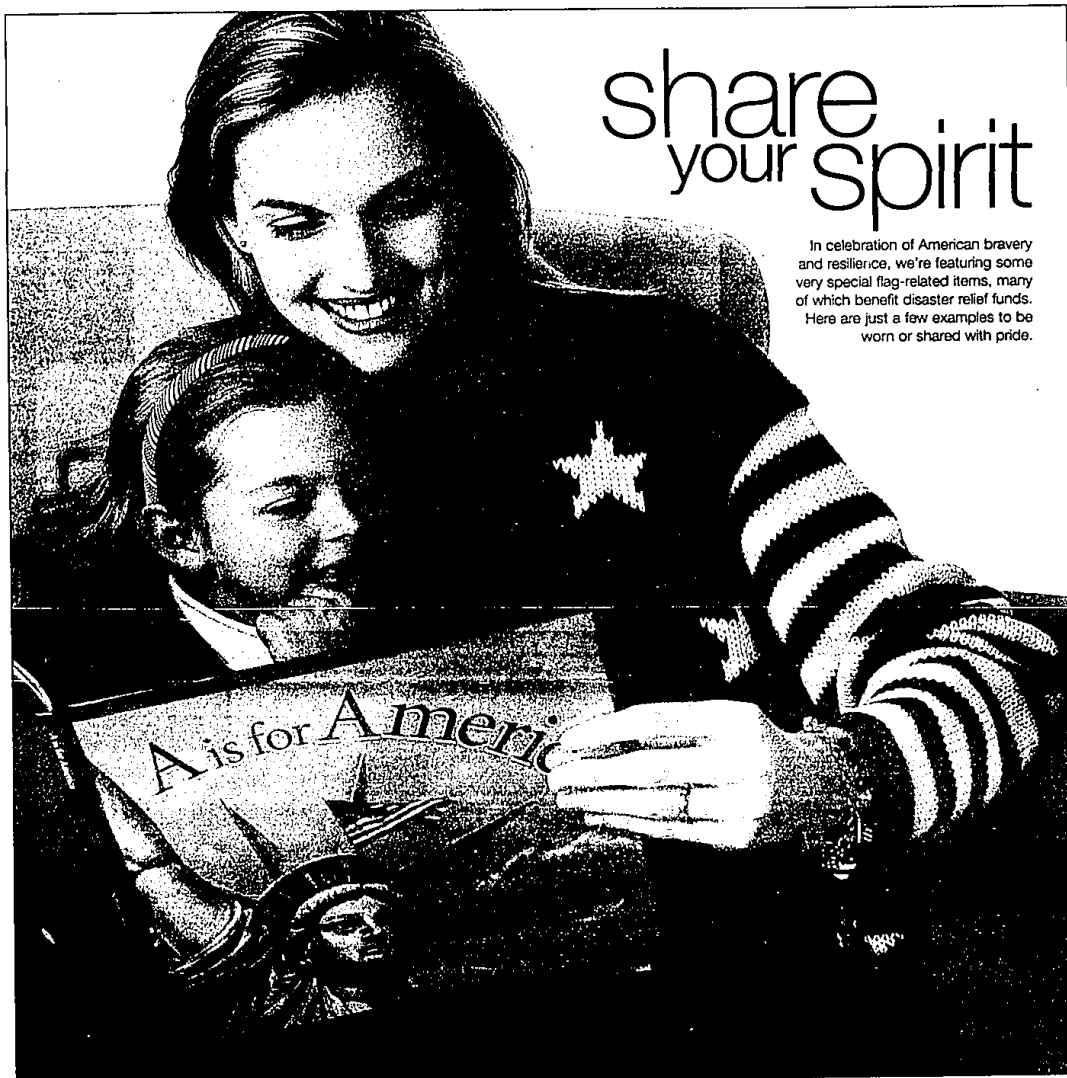
The owner of a 2000 Ford Expedition on Middlebelt reported \$500 in damage to his vehicle after sugar was discovered in the gas tank Halloween night. The man told Hills police he believes the vandalism happened because he ran out of candy.

VANDALS STRIKE

Vandals caused more than \$2,000 in damage Nov. 1 to three cars at Farmington Manor on 9 Mile, according to reports filed with Hills police. In one incident, two driver's-side tires were flattened and windshield wipers damaged. In a second incident, the door and handle to a vehicle were damaged. In the third incident, wipers were damaged along with a spare tire, driver's-side door and side-view mirror.

VEHICLE BREAK-INS

Two vehicle break-ins on Wayburn Street were reported Nov. 3 to police. In the first, a radio and CD player, amplifier, speakers and CDs, all valued at \$1,200, were discovered missing from an unlocked 1994 GMC Jimmy pickup truck. In a second theft, CDs valued at \$125 and a wallet were discovered missing from an unlocked 1998 Dodge Neon.



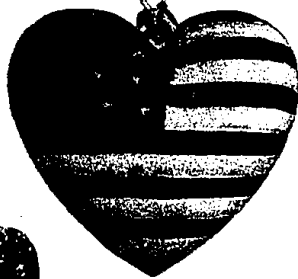
share your spirit

In celebration of American bravery and resilience, we're featuring some very special flag-related items, many of which benefit disaster relief funds. Here are just a few examples to be worn or shared with pride.

Christopher Radko
Personal Appearance
Wednesday, November 14
4 to 7 pm
In Trim A Home
Livonia

Christopher Radko mouthblown glass "Brave Heart" ornament. Jacobson's and Christopher Radko will donate a portion of the proceeds to the American Red Cross Disaster Relief Fund of Greater New York, \$34. Reserve your ornament today!

Collectible
"Braveheart" pin
from Swarovski.
Crystal and enameled
metal. 1 1/2" x 1 1/2" h. \$35.



Handknit cotton flag sweater.
A portion of the proceeds will benefit disaster relief. Imported. Sizes S-XL. \$68.
Patriotic beaded charm bracelet. \$25.
A is for America: An American Alphabet
by Grosse Pointe's own Devin Scillian. \$22.95.

Students' Show of Patriotism at Jacobson's

Featuring artwork and other creative expressions.

Participating Schools:

Birmingham Store: The Reeper School, Perce Elementary, Quanton Elementary, Greenfield Elementary, Beverly Elementary, Harlan Elementary, West Maple Elementary and Pembroke Elementary. Rochester Store: Hampton Elementary, North Hill Elementary, Brooklands Schools, Graham Elementary, Auburn Elementary and University Hills Elementary. Livonia Store: Taylor Elementary and Webster Elementary.

Jacobson's

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