

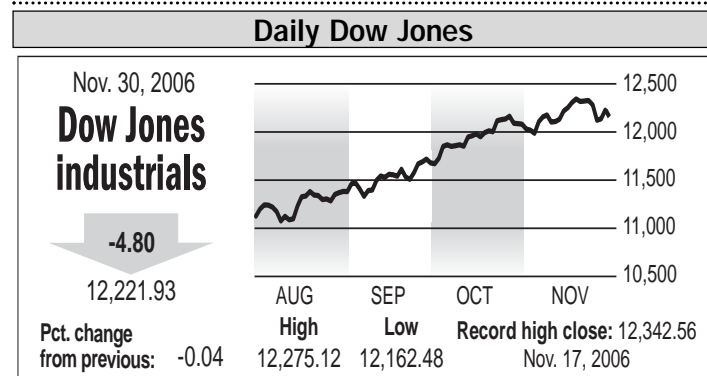
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Business

Sharon, Pa. Friday, December 1, 2006

The Herald A-10

THE MARKET IN REVIEW



Stock market indexes table with columns for 52-Week High/Low, Name, Last, Chg, %Chg, YTD %Chg, and 12-mo %Chg.

Stock exchange highlights table for NYSE (8,969.00 +21.83), AMEX (2,069.15 +9.58), and NASDAQ (2,431.77 -46).

Most Active (\$1 OR MORE) table listing top trading stocks like Lucant, GenMot, and NortelNl.

STOCKS OF LOCAL INTEREST table listing various regional stocks such as AK Steel, AT&T, and Alcoa.

MUTUAL FUNDS table listing various investment funds with columns for Name, Total Assets, NAV, and Pct Load.

HERMITAGE

Flynn opens pet funeral home, cemetery at Hillcrest

By Michael Roknick Herald Business Editor

Sparky, beloved Dalmation of John Doe, passed away unexpectedly yesterday after chasing his favorite neighborhood car.

His hobbies included fetching sticks, barking at cats and having his belly rubbed. In addition to his owner, Sparky is survived by his pals Spot and Fido.

And there will be more where that came from, said John Flynn, owner of the new pet funeral home on East State Street.

"Pets are members of our family," Flynn said. "When they die, we need a place to help us cope with the loss and say our final good-byes."

The pet funeral home offers almost any service or product that's available to humans. In addition to viewing hours — public or private — caskets and urns specifically designed and sized for pets are available.

Flynn picked up much of his ideas from his John Flynn Funeral Home & Crematory just across the street where he serves as the owner and funeral director.

Although pet funeral homes are largely unregulated, Flynn said he wants to bring those human standards to serve our furry friends.

"Everything will be run just like a professional funeral home," he said.

Flynn expects the overwhelming volume of his trade will be in cats and dogs. Located in Hillcrest Memorial Park, the pet funeral home is



Jason Kapusta/Herald

John Flynn, owner of John Flynn Pet Funeral Home & Crematory, pets Nika, a Labrador retriever, while Roberta Knauf, general manager of the home, rubs Derek, a golden retriever.

ready to serve owners of four-, two- or even zero-legged creatures.

"I know people who have pet snakes that are very important to them," Flynn said. Memorabilia from jewelry to coverlets which can bear the pet's photo or cremated remains are showcased in a separate section of the home.

This is believed to be the first pet funeral home in the U.S. located on the grounds of a human cemetery, according to International Cemetery & Funeral Management magazine, a trade publication.

Just like its separate human counterpart, the pet funeral home is a 24-hour operation complete with pick-up service of the remains to grief therapy after the funeral. But there are clear differences between what can be offered to man versus animal.

Unlike humans, the pet funeral home will pick up an animal and transport it to a veterinarian for euthanization. If a vet is available, the home can

seek to have that procedure performed at the funeral home. An added feature to home offers is taking a paw print of a dog or cat to give to their owner.

Another distinction is that because animals can vary enormously in size, the cost for a gerbil will be much less than a horse.

Expenses for an animal funeral fetch well below that of humans, which can easily run into the thousands of dollars.

A basic package at Flynn Pet Funeral, which includes picking up the remains, fur clipping, paw print, cremation and grief information is in the \$175 zone. For a viewing the cost hits around \$495 while a burial package at the pet cemetery is \$700 and up.

Costs can vary on such factors as whether an owner wants upscale products such as a mahogany casket along with a pillow and blanket.

Vice president of the pet cemetery, John runs that operation with his dad, Tom Flynn,

who is president. The pet cemetery, which is also new, allows owners to bury up to four animals in each grave site. Hillcrest Pet Gardens offers owners the choice of having their animal buried in a pet-only section or in another section where pets and their owners can be buried in the same grave or side-by-side.

Scheduled to open Monday, the crematory already has handled a couple of animals. The pet crematory will only handle animals which will be done one at a time, Flynn said. Public tours will be held today through Sunday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The main thrust of the funeral home, said Flynn, is to offer pet owners a place to turn when their animal dies.

"When you think about it, most people's first experience with death is when they're a child and they have to deal with the loss of a pet," he said.

"Pets are such a big part of people lives. They really do become part of the family."

REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS

These real estate transfers were recorded recently:

Mercer County Ann Racketta, also known as Ann Racketta, to James C. Clark, Erie, Mich. Lot 147 and part of lot 148, Valley plan of lots, Sharon; \$6,900.

James C. Clark to William and Melinda Heichberger. Lot 147 and part of lot 148, Valley plan of lots, Sharon; \$14,100.

Daniel Leali and Robert B. Leali to Joseph M. and Anna M. Finnegan, Hermitage. Property at 2025 American Lane, Hermitage; \$139,500.

Jimmie E. and May E. Patterson, Cochran, Pa., to Jeff E. and Tina L. Peterson, Crawford, Pa. Property in Deer Creek Township; \$1.

Mary Joyce Russell to Marcie L. Schoen. Property at 211 S. Otter St., Mercer; \$60,000.

Timothy J. Rhodes and Nadine H. Alex, Rodgers, Ark., to Thomas E. and Janice E. McKinney, New Castle. Property at 4773 Scot Drive, Hermitage; \$200,000.

Shirley A. Maynard, now known as Shirley A. Savage, Reinholds, Pa., to Lou Ann Miller, Sandy Lake. Property

in Sandy Lake Township; \$33,000.

Terence R. Fornadley, executrix of the estate of the late Genevieve Musial, also known as Genevieve A. Wolansky, also known as Genevieve Ann Wolansky, to Lois L. Pointer, Farrell. Property in Farrell; \$9,000.

Gorham A. and Linda R. Hanson to Gail E. Deramo, Mercer; Dixie L. Locke, Newton Falls, Ohio; Donna J. Rice, Mercer; and Lary E. Buxton, Mercer. Lot A, final part of Gorham A. and Linda R. Hanson subdivision, Jefferson Township; \$2,500.

Barbara A. Rosner, Transfer, to Janet L. Smith, Greenville. Property at 7 Carlisle Drive, West Salem Township; \$99,750.

Robert L. and Genevieve I. Williams, Jamestown, to Herbert Lee Shellhammer, Sharon. Property at 607 Delaware St., Jamestown; \$10,000.

Aaron J. and Cynthia J. Millero, Delaware Township, to Keith D. and Rhonda J. Rickert. Property at 3 St. John's Road, Delaware Township; \$36,000.

Martin C. Kristyak and Kimberly A. Kristyak, formerly known as Kimberly A. McAninch, to Martin C. and Kimberly A. Kristyak. Property in Springfield Township; \$1.

Patricia A. Richardson and Mary M. Parker, co-executrices of the estate of the late William A. Richardson, to Gary L. and Cynthia K. Butch. Property at 11 Irishtown Road, Pine

Township; \$245,000.

Robert C. Baxter to Evalena Nay, executrix of the estate of the late George L. Weaver. Lot 15, Swartz addition, Fredonia; \$300.

Josephine A. Hancock, Sharon, to Tuan Van Nguyen, Hermitage. Property at 564 N. Buhl Farm Drive, Hermitage; \$85,000.

John Fabick, executor of the estate of the late Paul Fabick, to Andrew A.B. Bush, Sharpsville. Property at 2996 Ivanhoe Road, South Pymatuning Township; \$78,000.

Kathryn J. Albert, also known as Kathryn J. Ziegler, to Kathryn J. Ziegler, Ethel M. Brown and Tamara L. Albert. Lot 9, W.A. Stewart plan of lots, Grove City; \$1.

William G. McConnell, trustee for the William G. McConnell Funded Revocable Trust; Eugenia F. McConnell, trustee for the Eugenia F. McConnell Funded Revocable Trust; G. Thomas McConnell and Charlene McConnell, all of Hermitage; Martha M. Beezer, also known as Martha McConnell Beezer, also known as Martha Sanna Beezer, and Gene Beezer, El Cajon, Calif.; and Mary M. Milheim and Irvine G. Milheim Jr., Dayton, Mont., to Joseph Giordano Jr. and Beth Lynn Giordano. Lots 55 and 56, McConnell's Upper Woods subdivision, lots 53 to 57, section IV, Hermitage; \$130,000.

Sheriff's deed for Marcus M. and Brenda Green to CCO Mortgage Corp.

Property at 510 North St., Sharon; \$10; fair market value: \$42,525.

Sheriff's deed for Gerald L. Wertz to Wells Fargo Bank. Property at 371 Old Ash Road, Springfield Township; \$10; fair market value: \$29,370.

Sheriff's deed for Thomas R. Frye to Wells Fargo Bank. Property at 1258 Sunol Road, French Creek Township; \$100; fair market value: \$49,128.

Paul V. and Donna McCloskey to Matthew M. and Patricia L. Peck. Lot 417-A, Paul V. and Donna McCloskey subdivision, Jackson Township; \$1,000.

Sheriff's deed for James A. Bucher to Deutsche Bank National Trust Co. Property at 482 Baldwin Ave., Sharon; \$10; fair market value: \$48,060.

Sheriff's deed for Bethany M. Yunik to Federal National Mortgage Association. Property at 9 Kinsman Road, West Salem Township; \$10; fair market value: \$31,506.

Sheriff's deed for Dana M. Wilkins, also known as Dana M. Hilles, to First National Bank of Pennsylvania. Property at 131 Royal Road, Greene Township; \$10.

Sheriff's deed for Ronald K. Jones Sr. and Sharon L. Jones to First National Bank of Pennsylvania. Property at 439 Watson Ave., Sharon; \$10.

Walter D. and Roberta R. Morgan to Gregory A. and Kali R. Ross. Property in Pine Township; \$10.

Kerkorian cuts his GM stake more than expected

DETROIT (AP) — Dissident General Motors Corp. shareholder Kirk Kerkorian is selling another 14 million shares in the troubled automaker, dropping his stake by a third to 4.95 percent.

Kerkorian's move disclosed Thursday represents an even larger retreat from his ownership of GM than previous indications.

Kerkorian's investment company, Tracinda Corp., had said last week it was reducing its stake to 42 million shares, or 4.74 percent of the company,

from 56 million shares, or 9.9 percent of the company.

In a new filing with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, Tracinda said it had reached agreement on Tuesday to sell another 14 million GM shares at \$28.75 each, leaving him with 28 million shares of the automaker.

The latest sale, which would raise a total of \$402.5 million, will close on Friday, the filing said.

A message was left with a Tracinda spokeswoman.

BRIEFLY

Builders Association hosting pair of seminars

MERCER COUNTY — Mercer County Builders Association will hold "2006 International Residential Changes (IRC)" seminar Dec. 11 at Oakes and McClellands, Greenville, and Dec. 12 at Lezzer Lumber, Grove City.

The seminars will address changes from the footer to the roof.

Doug Meshaw, Pennsylvania Builders Association field service director, will give instruction on Code sys Code Consulting. 2006 IRC books will be available.

Registration: 724-475-4834; or e-mail, mcbuilders@myepath.com

GM sale of 51 percent stake in GMAC clears

DETROIT — General Motors Corp., looking for cash to pay for buyouts and plant closings as part of its North American restructuring, said Thursday that it has completed the

\$14 billion sale of a 51 percent stake in its finance unit to private investors.

GM announced in April that it had a tentative deal to sell the 51 percent stake in General Motors Acceptance Corp. to a consortium of investors led by Cerberus Capital Management, a private investment company. The group also includes Citigroup Inc. and Aozora Bank Ltd.

GM lost \$10.6 billion in 2005 and \$3 billion in the first nine months of 2006.

Local and wire reports

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