

# Sietsema FLOOR COVERING

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**(231) 733-9900**

329 W. Broadway • Muskegon Hts.

# Jammies 2Jeans

We buy childrens clothing & equipment!

Muskegon's largest selection of gently used children's clothing & equipment

**231.737.4847**

SAVE with FAN Money



Mon - Sat  
10am - 7pm

Sun  
noon - 4pm

**1848 E Sherman Suite T  
Muskegon** (across from Walmart)

## Merry Christmas from



1979 E. Sherman Blvd.

Quality Service Since 1952 Muskegon, MI 49444  
Phone 231-733-1216

Fax 231-739-8297

**\$75.00 Tune-ups with Rebate**

(some restrictions apply)

**\$60.00 Service Calls**

(no overtime charges)

Offering FREE high efficiency air cleaners with installation of 95% efficient furnace!  
Expires 1/1/13



Find us on Facebook



## Clothes Encounters

"of the used kind" established 1988

**NOW REOPENED**

- Non-profit organization
  - We accept clothes, small appliances & toys
  - Community Center available for rent
- 865-3419.**

### HOURS

Tues. 3:30pm-6pm  
Thurs 12pm-3pm  
Sat: 10am-1pm

Phone  
**865-3637**

**368 N. 3rd Ave. Fruitport Village  
Next to Word of Hope Church**

## Out on a limb

By Char Lozicki

"Here we are, a flock of noisy birds on this tree limb. But where is Earl? There he is. Bobby, fly across the street and get him over here. We need to stick together. That eagle flying around looks pretty hungry today. Together we have protection; by himself, he's a goner. Remember last summer when together we chased that eagle from Susie's nest? That victory lap over the woods told our story, not everyone; only crows, can caw that loud and fly at the same time.

"The leaves have fallen and all those humans are done having fun blowing them all over the place. What a sight! And noisy, too. Chipmunks have their winter food storage all set up, and the squirrels have been busy all month with those darn acorns. Who likes acorns anyway? It looks like we are in for a lot of snow.

"Crows are the lucky ones. Up high in this tree we have the best view of everything going on in the neighborhood, especially with all the leaves gone. It's after Thanksgiving now and the turkey has been all gobbled up. Poor bird. Humans are putting decorations inside and outside their homes, and a lot of them have flashing lights. Up here in this tree we have the best view with no leaves in our way. Those reindeer all lit up with moving heads think they are scaring us, but they're not. Wreaths are hung in doorways and windows, and they look nice, but my favorite is a manger I can see next door. At night there is a light making it more visible, and music making it special. We are a noisy group, but *Away in a Manger* and *Silent Night* are special, and we bow our heads.

"Noisy children playing in the snow and snowballs flying through the air; through windows we can see Christmas programs on TVs and smell cookies baking. We don't have acorns, but on this tree limb we are special and can dive for food if need be, and sing our songs loud and clear." •

## Give something that means something

(Submitted by the American Red Cross)

As the holidays grow closer, the nation's malls get busier and online stores pick up traffic, the American Red Cross is urging people to think about those in need this holiday season. As part of the 2012 American Red Cross Holiday Giving Campaign to help support the Red Cross mission, the organization is asking people to 'give something that means something' through symbolic charitable gifts.



"Every year we struggle with what new 'stuff' to buy our loved ones," said Tom Lipan, executive director of the American Red Cross. "Instead of adding to their 'stuff,' honor them with a donation to the Red Cross. Spread hope this season through gifts of food, shelter and comfort for those in need."

By visiting [redcross.org/gifts](http://redcross.org/gifts) shoppers can browse symbolic gifts in a range of categories and prices to find gifts to suit the people on their shopping list. Popular items include:

- Blankets — provides a warm blanket to children and families in shelters and those who are displaced due to disaster (\$15/3 blankets)
  - Full day of emergency shelter — Includes three meals, two blankets, one cot and personal supplies (\$200 for a family of four)
  - Military comfort kits — One kit includes toiletries, a robe, a phone card and more (\$50 a kit)
  - Vaccinations — Provided to children worldwide through the Red Cross and its Measles Initiative partners (\$25/25 children)
- New items featured in this year's gift catalog include:
- Infant CPR and babysitting training — helps underprivileged youth start a babysitting business and learn lifesaving childcare skills (\$50/teen)
  - Physical and emotional care — sponsors Red Cross disaster health and mental health workers at disaster sites (\$115/day)
  - Reconnecting families — helps reconnect families torn apart by war, conflict or natural disasters (\$150/family)

Upon purchasing a symbolic gift, shoppers can receive printed or e-Cards to let someone know a gift has been given in their honor. Donors can also receive free gifts at four different donation levels.

Along with symbolic gifts, the Red Cross is also asking people to give blood. To schedule a blood donation or for more information, call 1-800-RED-CROSS or visit [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org).



## The Fruitport Network

(Submitted by The Journey Community Church)

There is a group of caring people working in and around Fruitport who want to make a big difference in our community. They are The Fruitport Network, part of The Journey Community Church.

At The Journey Church there are four regional networks. Each network makes a difference by helping families in need, doing yard work, home repairs, providing food, or partnering with the city or local organizations. It's about looking beyond themselves and making an impact. Networks also provide options for you to take the next steps in your relationship with God and with others who want to do life together.

The Fruitport Network has been busy making a difference in our community. This fall they have



participated in a service project for the Love, Inc. garden. The network helped winterize the garden, rake leaves, and spread fertilizer. What a joy it is to know that so many



are impacted just by helping to make sure there will be fresh, home grown produce for those in need. They were also able to help a Fruitport family out with fall yard



work. This family has lived in Fruitport for many years; their children graduated from Fruitport High School; and the network was able to just be a blessing while they were going through a trying time.

Neighbors helping neighbors ... it's all part of what they do. Recently the Fruitport Network went to two homes in town to put up plastic over windows in order to help some fine ladies stay a little warmer this winter. Sometimes it seems like a little thing to do to help, but their hope is that they continue to be a blessing to many.

