



LIGHTNING STRIKES TWICE

SABRES COULD ONLY MUSTER ONE GOAL AGAINST TAMPA BAY **SPORTS/1B**



ROMANTIC DESSERT

RED VELVET CAKE MAKES FOR A TASTY TREAT **LIFESTYLE/1C**



TONAWANDA NEWS SUNDAY



Dream come true

KENMORE NATIVE TO PERFORM IN 'SESAME STREET LIVE' **LIFESTYLE/1C**

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2012

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NORTH TONAWANDA, NY • \$1.50

TODAY & TOMORROW

Today
• "Read to the Dogs" will be offered from 2 to 4:30 p.m. today and Sunday and Feb. 18 at the NT Public Library, 505 Meadow Drive. Sign up for a 15-minute session by calling the library at 693-4132, ext. 5, or email rstuzma@nioga.org with the child's name, grade, and phone number.

Monday
• The Senior Social Club at Blessed Sacrament Church will meet at 1 p.m. Monday at Cotter Hall, 263 Claremont Ave. Town of Tonawanda. All are welcome. For more information, call Joyce at 836-0567.

3 THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW TODAY

1 Pop icon Whitney Houston died Saturday at the age of 48. Her publicist said Saturday that the cause of her death was unknown. **2A**

2 Britain's biggest-selling newspaper was fighting to contain the damage after five employees at The Sun tabloid were arrested Saturday in an inquiry into the alleged payment of bribes to police and other officials.

3 Warning of a "catastrophe" that would leave Greeks subsisting on food stamps and the country wallowing in bankruptcy, Greek leaders urged lawmakers Saturday to pass more painful spending cuts on the eve of a crucial vote to qualify for a massive bailout.

WHERE TO TURN

WEATHER
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WHEATFIELD STREET FIRE



DON SCHWARTZ FOR THE NEWS

COLD FIGHT: North Tonawanda firefighters run two hose lines into the second floor of the home at 110 Wheatfield St. while battling a blaze on a frigid night Saturday. No injuries were immediately reported from the fire.

Blaze sparked in attic of home Saturday night

BY ERIC DUVALL
eric.duvall@tonawanda-news.com

Flames engulfed a home at 110 Wheatfield St. in North Tonawanda on Saturday night after a fire broke out in the attic. A family member of the home owner said the woman was not home at the time of the fire but two tenants were inside. They escaped without injury. Firefighters battled the blaze, first reported about 6:45 p.m., from outside the house in frigid conditions, running hoses from both the front and back of the residence. Upon arriving, they found flames shooting out of a front second-story window about 20 feet into the air. Firefighters were able to beat back the initial flames but as the roof of the home partially collapsed the fire flared up again with the fresh supply of oxygen. It took several hours before it was completely extinguished.

SEE FIRE ON PAGE 6A



ERIC DUVALL

BIG FLAMES: When firefighters arrived at the scene of a house fire at 110 Wheatfield St., flames could be seen shooting out of a second story window more than 20 feet in the air. Frigid conditions made work to extinguish the blaze more difficult

Grisanti victim in casino attack

INCIDENT: State senator, wife beaten at Seneca Niagara Casino.

STAFF AND WIRE REPORTS

A state senator and his wife were attacked and beaten and a casino "shareholder" was arrested after one or more incidents at the Seneca Niagara Casino Friday night.

Sen. Mark Grisanti was attacked while trying to break up an argument between two businessmen, one of whom accused him of hating the Indian tribe that runs the casino.



Mark Grisanti
Attacked Friday

Grisanti suffered bruised ribs in the altercation, the senator's chief of staff, Douglas

SEE GRISANTI ON PAGE 6A

Romney wins Maine caucuses

CLOSE: Win could be questioned because several counties haven't voted yet.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

PORTLAND, Maine — Mitt Romney eked out a narrow win in Maine's Republican caucuses, state party officials announced Saturday, providing his campaign with a much-needed boost after three straight losses earlier this week. But the former Massachusetts governor's margin of

SEE GOP ON PAGE 6A

Carpetbaggers inflict new car bug, and leave

The new car bug hit me last week. The fever has subsided, but I'm not out of the woods. I stopped along the way from Buffalo on Wednesday, just for a comparative look. I was lured to a dealer by a flier I received in the mail. It was a colorful fold-out with a silver key and secret code attached, and my bride suggested I may have won a prize. Having a free afternoon, I drove 9 miles down the road to see if I won a new car or a great electronic device. I soon learned that I just

missed a major prize, but was eligible for a \$5 Walmart gift card. Should you want to waste an afternoon, take a flier. Like a marlin, I was tied up for about three hours before getting away.

First, there was the bait-and-switch. The flier showed a used 2011 Impala for \$16,000. Given \$4,000



BILL Wolcott

for my 2004 Impala, \$12,000 was my limit. However, the red Impala was not there. I don't know if it ever was.

The dealer did have some nice 2011 white Impala he would be happy to show me.

I was struck right away by the classy sedan. When I looked inside, the dash went right to my heart. OK, how much? My limit went up a few grand.

They looked at my Impala and came back with good news. I could have the 2011 Impala, which originally sold for \$29,000

for \$23,000 and my car. It was \$10 grand over my limit and I stood up and started for the door.

"Are you ready to buy today?" they asked. I said OK, but I'm not going to pay \$23,000.

The carpetbaggers, who had a temporary set-up on the side of the showroom, huddled. They worked on their adding machines, and my salesman returned.

He said something like, "I can't believe it, the deal they're giving you. They really want to move these over-stock used cars. Only a crazy man wouldn't take

it." The price came down to \$16,999, with my car in trade. That's nearly \$17,000! I thought, I just saved \$6,000, but I can't do that without talking to my bride.

Soon we dressed the car with dealer plates and were on our way up the boulevard. I never looked under the hood, or even kicked the tires, but the dash was imbedded in my brain. The previously owned auto had bells and whistles I would never buy, but could soon get used to.

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Celebrating 50 years of great food and family values!

SEE OUR AD ON BACK PAGE OF THE LIFESTYLE SECTION