

Weekend
Check it out

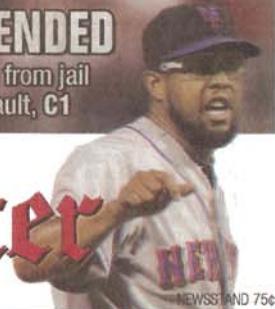
BLUE NOTES

Jazz takes center stage on the Green, W2



K-ROD SUSPENDED

Mets' closer released from jail after arrest for assault, C1



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FRIDAY, AUGUST 13, 2010

SPORTS FINAL

MAKING THE GRADE

Popeyes, 7-Eleven, CVS proposed in Milford



Arnold Gold/Register

Hektor DeSilva, 2, left, paints while Joyce Giori, far right, distributes paint in a young toddler class at The Goddard School in Orange.

By Brian McCready
Milford Bureau Chief

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MILFORD — New uses are proposed for two high-visibility sites on Old Gate Lane and Route 1.

On Old Gate Lane, the former site of Bruneau's Service Center is poised to become the home of the city's first Popeye's restaurant, according to plans filed with the Planning and Zoning Department.

On Route 1, plans for a CVS Pharmacy have been filed for 734 Bridgeport Ave., site of Dan Perkins Chevrolet car dealership and automotive repair center.

For the Popeyes, plans call for construction of a 4,490-square-foot building for a Popeyes and 7-Eleven convenience store at 329 Old Gate Lane.

The site has been unoccupied since Bruneau's Service Center moved to Erma Drive in 2006.

The site is adjacent to Interstate 95 Exit 40, and near Wendy's and a Dutchess Restaurant. Popeyes would have a drive-through window.

The Board of Police Commis-

sioners approved the project, but the police traffic division called for the elimination of a second driveway into the site and expansion of the first driveway.

The division concluded there were no other traffic concerns regarding the project. No date has been scheduled for a hearing.



The CVS Pharmacy would be on a 1.9-acre parcel at Route 1 and Schoolhouse Road.

The buildings will be demolished and replaced by a pharmacy with a drive-through, according to the plans.

Access to the site will be provided by two full driveways, including one along Schoolhouse Road.

Plans call for construction of a 15,203-square-foot building; 61 parking spaces will be provided.

The owner of the parcel is listed as Dan Perkins Realty. Planning and Zoning Chairwoman Susan Shaw said both the CVS and Popeyes applications are pending, and she could not comment further.

Call Brian McCready at 203-789-5719.

Education franchise to open 3 more preschools in state

Editor's note: This is the second in a multi-day series of stories highlighting ways small-business owners are surviving the recession.

Coming Saturday: Outreach Property Management drops the price for real estate recruits

By Angela Carter
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ORANGE — Upon Rob and Tara Hyder's first visit to The Goddard School nearly three years ago, two things struck them immediately.

"Every grown-up greeted us with smiles and at the same time, it's sparkling clean," Tara Hyder said. "It's a happy, safe, loving place to be. Every grown-up is loving and kind — every single one."

The Hyderys were dissatisfied first with an in-home day care provider and then a day care facility where they had sent their son, Michael, at age 3.

They decided to check out The Goddard School on Old Tavern Road after receiving information in the mail. They enrolled their son, who advanced to grade school, and now they have a daughter attending. "When I look back at the people who were

involved in my children's lives at a young age, I will be grateful," Hyder said.

Goddard Systems Inc., distinguished by its FLEX Learning Program, was named the No. 1 child care franchise in the U.S. for 2010 by Entrepreneur magazine, for the ninth consecutive year, and one of the Top 200 franchises based on worldwide sales. The schools serve children ages 6 weeks to 6.

Goddard Systems President and Chief Executive Officer Joseph Schumacher said the FLEX learning model at the private schools integrates play and enrichment lessons such as manners, world culture, foreign language and physical fitness.

Despite the economic climate, Goddard opened 39 schools in 2009, and is on pace to open 20 schools in 2010, with three in development in Connecticut. Goddard Systems has more than 360 franchises operating in 37 states.

In Connecticut, there are three schools in Orange, Brookfield and Glastonbury.

Officials say that parents recognize that an early start to education has long-lasting benefits for a child and they are increasingly cutting spending in other areas to invest in the early education of their children.

"Connecticut is an area where we have a toehold in with three existing schools," Schumacher said, adding that from the

perspective of franchisees, there is a good lifestyle attached to the company.

"Our folks know they can depend on weekends off. In the evenings, schools close between 6 and 7. Our franchisees form relationships with families and it's a very happy business," Schumacher said.

He pointed to Orange franchisees Kimberly Kick and her parents, Bob and Jackie Marchetti, as examples of families who go into business together and often expand.

"We focus on each child's individual needs. At times, children learn differently and are at different levels and have different needs," Kick said. She has a master's in education and said all teachers have at least an associate degree.

Bob Marchetti said parents receive daily progress reports from the school, which wins points with Hyder.

Hyder said it's going to feel "strange" when her daughter moves on to grade school from Goddard. "They helped us make our kids who they are. If you get to choose the people who influence your children, then the people in that building are the people to choose," she said.

Read Thursday's segment at www.newhavenregister.com/business.

Call Angela Carter at 203-789-5752.