

## NOTEworthy

### Comerica Move Causes Concern

Community leaders expressed concern over the surprising announcement from Comerica Inc. that it is relocating its headquarters to Texas.

Comerica, which has been in Detroit since 1849, is moving to Dallas and taking 200 white-collar jobs with it. The move, expected to be complete by September, is seen as yet another blow to Michigan's struggling economy.

Comerica has been a large supporter of the community as a major sponsor of events put on by the Chaldean American Chamber of Commerce (CACC) and Associated Food and Petroleum Dealers (AFPD). The company says it has given more than \$2.9 million to Chaldean and Arab community events and causes in this decade.

"It is definitely a loss to see the headquarters move but I hope that this will not translate into a loss of commitment or support to the Detroit area or the Chaldean community," said Dave Nona, CACC chairman. "We ask them not to forget their roots."

Jane Shallal, AFPD executive director, expressed the same sentiment. "They've been a very involved bank in the Detroit area, especially with our retailers who have supported them all



Amal Berry-Brown



### On a Mission

Nidhal Garmo recently visited Iraq for the third time on a humanitarian mission to bring much-needed medical supplies to hospitals, clinics and pharmacies. She is pictured here with a war wound victim at a hospital in Arbil. Garmo also brought along gifts and dolls for sick children. Garmo, a pharmacist, is now raising funds to bring Iraqi children injured in the war to the United States for plastic surgery. She plans to hold a local fundraiser for that project. Meanwhile, donations for a future shipment of supplies to Iraq can be made at [www.worldmedicalrelief.com](http://www.worldmedicalrelief.com) or by calling Garmo at (248) 790-7848.

herself will stay in Comerica's Detroit office.

"We truly believe that this is a way to keep Comerica independent," she said of the headquarters move. "Moving allows us to grow while continuing to support our communities through sponsorships and our employee-volunteer efforts."

Comerica's move presents an opportunity for the Chaldean-owned Bank of Michigan, said President and CEO Michael Sarafa. "Large banks are at the mercy of the shareholders and community banks only have to answer to the community," he said. "Large banks have so much infrastructure and bureaucracy that they will never be able to provide the level of customer service that a smaller bank can."

### Najor Seeks Sterling Heights Seat

Douglas Najor is hoping to become Sterling Heights' first Chaldean mayor.

sidewalks on main roads and more city-sponsored cold-weather activities for children. He also wants the city to know where seniors and disabled citizens live so that youth doing community service can shovel or mow for them.

Najor hopes to get more of the city's Chaldeans involved in the political process. He said that half of Sterling Heights' population is Chaldean.

"A lot of Chaldeans shy away from what's going on in public," said Najor, who is the produce manager for Value Center Market in Warren.

Residents interested in helping Najor gather enough signatures to get on the ballot can pick up a petition at the BP Gas Station at 16 Mile and Ryan or St. Jane Frances de Chantal Church at 17 Mile and Ryan. Najor can be reached at (586) 754-7899.

### Getting to the Root of Family Trees

rough drafts of Chaldean branches that he can tailor to individual families. Once the research is completed, a graphic designer creates a family tree for display. Qashat, who said he has not yet determined the fees for this work, can be reached at (810) 335-3628.

### New Books of Interest

A book on "Chaldean numerology for the new millennium" has been published by Joanne Justis and William Mykian. "Numbers - The Powerful Bridge Beyond" claims that Chaldean numerology is the only correct system of numbers and that it reveals secrets and answers that lie within the numbers of your name and birth date.

Learn more at [www.NumbersRU.com](http://www.NumbersRU.com). Fadi Yusif Sitto has published "9," a book of poetry. The short free verses explore love and life, and were mainly