

## THE TICKER

## Citizens Legacy

Citizens Bank will take 50,000 square feet of office and retail space at Legacy Place in Dedham. It will be the bank's hub for consumer and business banking, with employees relocating from Norwood and Westwood.

## Bear Stearns

Former Bear Stearns Cos. hedge-fund managers Ralph Cioffi and Matthew Tannin were found not guilty of misleading investors who lost \$1.6 billion, the first major test of a U.S. effort to obtain convictions tied to the subprime mortgage crisis.

## No Helicos sale

Helicos BioSciences Corp. of Cambridge has taken itself off the market.

## Food bankruptcy

Crystal Food Import Corp., a 40-year-old gourmet food importer and distributor based in Lynn, filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection.

## Copley store

Giuseppe Zanotti Design, a luxury shoe and accessories store for women, will open at Copley Place next Friday.

## JPMorgan hiring

JPMorgan Chase said it will hire 1,200 mortgage loan officers in key cities, including Boston, by the end of next year, a 60 percent increase in its sales force.

# Volunteering for duty

## Group helps WWII vet renovate, paint old Dot house

By CHRISTINE McCONVILLE

His home has just been painted a crisp Colonial blue and his windows sparkle, but it's a bittersweet Veterans Day for John MacPherson, a South Boston native and World War II veteran.

His American flag is flying at half-staff "for the people who got killed down there in Texas," the 83-year-old U.S. Navy veteran said.

The Fort Hood massacre makes him worry about his two grandsons, both Marines, and it brings back memories of his own service on the USS Quincy.

But he's also delighted with the impressive renovation of his longtime Sumner Street home in Dorchester, done by a crew of volunteer builders and war veterans.

"Looks good, doesn't it?" said MacPherson.

It certainly looks good now, but a few years ago MacPherson's sprawling 1890s Victorian was in rough shape. It was the winter of 2007, and oil prices were on the rise. MacPherson, a divorced father of seven who hadn't worked since a debilitating auto accident in late 2006, had to choose between



STAFF PHOTO BY TED FITZGERALD

**SERVICE WITH SMILE:** World War II veteran John MacPherson, left, brings snacks for the crew, which includes Shayne Cossette, helping him with his Dorchester home.

heat and food.

"I used my whole Social Security check that month to get oil," he recalled. "Except for \$200, that went for soup."

But when word of the soldier's plight spread, the Flori-

da-based charity Americans for Veterans stepped in, offering to weather-proof for free the five-bedroom home where MacPherson raised his family.

Over time, the volunteers

replaced 300 feet of gutters and downspouts, installed 29 windows, eight storm windows and four storm doors. They primed and painted the entire house.

Most mornings, MacPherson

is outside with them, critiquing their work and handing out warm slices of fresh-baked banana cake. The crew knows all about his gun battles off the coast of France, the action he saw on D-Day, and how he met then-Gen. Dwight Eisenhower, when he boarded the USS Quincy in Southampton, England.

Steven Georgopoulos of Commodore Builders in Newton has overseen the job. The all-union crew of carpenters and painters includes Iraq War veteran and Purple Heart recipient Shayne Cossette, 26, of Norwood and Vietnam War veteran John Cahill, 62, of Roslindale.

Stephen Zwang of Blumberg Capital Partners, the Florida firm that underwrites Americans for Veterans, said there was no shortage of volunteers.

"People were falling all over themselves to help out," he said.

Joseph Mahony, 41, of Jamaica Plain, a carpenter who has been on site for months, said amid some tough times for Americans, this has been a very rewarding job.

"It's a way to give back, and pay it forward," he said. "He's an amazing man."

## Halliburton, KBR sued over war zone 'burn pits'

By DONNA GOODISON

Two Massachusetts veterans are suing KBR Inc. and

controls since 2003, according to a lawsuit filed by soldiers Jeffrey Cox and



cluding those used in smallpox shots, paints, asbestos, animal carcasses and

acres in some places — as big as the Boston Common, if not larger," Cox, 40, said. "You would get this deep smoke

sues and a rare form of carcinoma.

Cox and Garland are seeking medical monitoring, fu-