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Home Exchange Offers Recession-Proof Vacation

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Imagine going abroad and paying nothing for hotels! It's not only in the movies. Just in time for your summer vacation, a website connects travelers looking to trade homes

with tourists from other countries. Experts say it's really a recession-beater if you're on a tight budget. WFMZ's Jackie Shutack shows us how a local couple did it.

[WEBLINK: Home Exchange]

TRAILER : 45 "Home exchange, we switch houses, cars."

>> REPORTER: It's a travel option made popular by the 2006 movie The Holiday - trading homes with someone abroad, networking through this website, home exchange dot com.

>> CURTIS OLSON/traveler: 3:50 "The nice thing about it is that you live among the people."

>> REPORTER: Curtis and Marian Olson used the website to travel to Sweden, back in October 2007.

>> MARIAN OLSON/traveler: 4: 48 "You unpack, stay there, you don't keep moving from hotel to hotel every few days, that was especially nice."

>> REPORTER: For one whole month, Curtis and Marian stayed in the home of this retired Swedish couple, while they in turn vacationed at the Olsons' Palmer Township home.

"Dear Marian and Curtis, very welcome to your home in Uppsala Sweden."

>> REPORTER: The Olsons loved every minute of the city life, staying down the street from this gorgeous cathedral. They immersed themselves in Swedish culture, bringing home many Swedish kitchen gadgets. Their Swedish house guests traveled to New York City, and enjoyed a Lehigh Valley staple.

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