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THURSDAY, JUNE 12, 2003

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On organ donation

By Barbara A. Mendelsohn

How better to appreciate what an organ transplant can mean if not from someone who's walked the walk, be it celebrity or neighbor?

What better motivator to join the State of Illinois' organ donor program?

Illinois has operated an organ and tissue donor registry since 1992. Data from the state says that over 5 million donors are currently listed on the registry.

All Illinois drivers are invited to join the program at the time their licenses renew. They need only sign their names in the space provided on the back of their license cards to indicate their willingness to make an "an-

atomical gift." should that exceptional opportunity arise. Two signatures must bear witness to theirs.

Consent of next-of-kin is required before organ removal, so it is important to share your wishes with family members.

Registry policy prohibits releasing the fact that a given donor is listed on the registry until after all efforts to save that individual have been depleted and death is declared.

In addition to signing up through the drivers' license database, one can also join the registry by calling 1-800-210-2106, or through the Secretary of State's Internet home page, at www.cyberdriveillinois.com.

Maine East Wins Argonne Science Contest

With the sponsorship and guidance of science teacher, Scott Welty, Maine East students Peter Azra, Piotr Krzyzek, & Dariusz Wysocki (from Morton Grove), Grant Kudert, Luke Grabarek, & Mrunal Shah (from Niles), Edward McGrath (from Glenview), and John Gutilla (from Des Plaines) tied for first place in the APS Exhibit Design Contest recently held at Argonne National Laboratory. The APS is a world class research facility that uses high speed electrons to produce ultra-bright X-ray pulses for research in many disciplines in-

cluding materials science, chemistry, biology, physics, environmental science, geology and nanoscience. The students' assignment was to design and build a prototype educational exhibit to explain the science behind the APS.

Maine East's team won with its Linac, booster and storage ring model. Besides the great experience of working on this project and individual first place plaques for each team member, Maine East students bring a cash prize of \$1,500 for their school's science department.

Chicago's Comedy Theatres form alliance

Twenty Chicago-area comedy theatres have formed the Chicago Comedy Association under the organizational umbrella of The League of Chicago Theatres. The association, which includes such troupes as ComedySportz, The Free Associates, The Noble Fool, The Second City and others, was created to foster awareness of Chicago's legendary comedy scene and to promote Chicago comedy both locally and nationally.

The idea for creating a comedy association was hatched in the fall at the League of Chicago Theatres COMMUNITY Conference, when a breakout session was held for theatres focused on comedy programming.

"The world recognizes Chicago as the comedy capital of the

United States, it seemed time for us to recognize that fact ourselves," said Matt Elwell of ComedySportz. "We already have a strong community that works together to create events like The Chicago Improv Festival and benefits for Gilda's Club (the cancer support center named after comedienne Gilda Radner), by creating this association we will be better able to support each other while also spreading the excitement of Chicago comedy."

"From improv to classics to original musicals, Chicago's comedy community offers diverse and daring theater that be found nowhere else," said Jimmy Binns, Artistic Director of The Noble Fool Theater Company.

Niles resident gets multi-organ transplant

by Barbara A. Mendelsohn

When 40-year-old Michael Gaynor was 19, his doctor told his mother to plan his funeral.

Two weeks ago Gaynor was walking hospital corridors, re-engineered with a new heart, liver and kidney.

According to information supplied by the University of Chicago Hospitals, Gaynor is only the fourth person in the country to undergo this triple transplant procedure and is the first ever to undergo this surgery as treatment for his particular disease.

Diagnosed at birth with genetically-based glycogen storage disease, Gaynor lived many years with advancing liver and muscle deterioration. Despite three pacemaker implants, the first at age 19, his heart function continued to decline. Once the heart muscle became damaged, his stressed kidney reacted to insufficient blood flow.

In this rare disease, also called Forbes Disease, the body is unable to break down glycogen, which is sugar in a stored

form. This damages the liver, where glycogen is made and stored, and also the muscles, which are unable to utilize its energy.

By December, Gaynor's condition warranted major lifestyle changes. He resigned his position with Northwestern University's Department of Information Technology and moved into a building with elevator access.

On April 4 Gaynor entered University of Chicago Hospitals with congestive heart failure and hoping, hoping for a suitable donor.

Finally a suitable single donor became available---single to lessen chances for rejection---and Michael Gaynor's big day kicked off about 7:30 a.m. May 21.

Doctors kept vigilant watch for excessive bleeding, a strong possibility considering his elevated blood pressure and clotting problems, both by-products of his disease.

Another big if: would his

newly-installed heart stay strong enough, long enough to survive the strain of the two more procedures?

After the cardiac team finished, a second team performed the liver transplant and a third, the kidney. His marathon day ended about 9:30 p.m.

A few days later Gaynor sat up in a chair and walked a few steps around the intensive care unit. He left the ICU on May 28 with all organs functioning normally and expects to be released into the care of a rehab facility sometime during the first week of June.

Gaynor says he was able to stay positive through lessons he learned from his mother during her final illness. "Her patience and fortitude, the grace with which she handled her situation, gave me the courage to deal with mine," he says.

Asked if there's anything more he'd want to say, Gaynor replied, "Help me stress the importance of organ donation."

Snapshots From Our Town

Holy Family Medical Center Honors Volunteers



Pictured are volunteers recently honored at Holy Family Medical Center for reaching 4,000 hours of service (from left) Edna Bigda of Mount Prospect, Robert Eiter of DesPlaines, Dorothy Vogler of Wheeling, Elaine Zawiski of Mount Prospect and Lucille Cerny of DesPlaines. Not pictured were LaVerne Ketter of Niles and Bess Zaletanski of Mount Prospect.

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SJB Parish Woman of the Year



St. John Brebeuf Parish salutes Barbara Bronder as their "Woman of the Year." Barbara Bronder and her husband, Carl, are long time members of the parish and the Niles community. They are the parents of a daughter and two sons.

Barbara has been the parish secretary for more than 15 years. She is the "glue" that keeps many of the parish organizations synchronized. She is the editor of the large weekly parish bulletin in addition to being involved in many events and committees. Barbara has served as a girl scout and cub scout leader, as an officer

in the woman's club, on the parish 50th anniversary committee, and on luncheon and festival committees. She has been a support to the parish religious program for the disabled and to her husband's activities in the men's club. Her hard work, organizations skills and many talents make Barbara sought out to be part of almost everything at St. John Brebeuf.

Barbara was honored at a vicariate luncheon in May and the SJB Spring Luncheon. St. John Brebeuf is proud to call this helpful, compassionate and loving woman their "Woman of the Year."

IT'S ALPHABET SOUP TIME! To solve this problem you must replace the letters in our AlphaMath puzzle with the digits 0, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9, so that you have a correct addition expression. The same letters get the same digits. See if you can get a higher total than we did.

Our answer: C=4, H=5, L=2, M=9, N=1, O=7, P=3, Q=6, R=8, S=0, T=9, U=1, V=2, W=3, X=4, Y=5, Z=6. (5524 + 3224 = 9807)

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FRI	JUNE 20	WORKIN' CLASS	8:00 PM TO 11:00 PM
SAT	JUNE 21	JOHNNY STAR AND THE METEORS	8:00 PM TO 11:00 PM
SUN	JUNE 22	DOWNTOWN SOUND	5:30 PM TO 9:30 PM

FEST TIMES AND DATES

WED	JUNE 18	6 PM - 11 PM
THU	JUNE 19	6 PM - 11 PM
FRI*	JUNE 20	6 PM - MIDNIGHT
SAT	JUNE 21	1 PM - MIDNIGHT
SUN	JUNE 22	1 PM - 10 PM

* OLR School Alumni Night. Show ID for one free beverage from 7-10 PM.

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The Morton Grove Park District invites you to register for its Summer Adult Tennis Programs, which begin June 14 under the direction of the Frank Sacks Tennis Camps, Inc. Programs follow the guidelines of the United States Tennis Association USA Tennis 1-2-3 programs and grow-the-game initiatives. Summer programs will be held at Harter Park, Prairie View Tennis Courts, and Niles West High School.

These tennis programs emphasize fun, fitness, and friendship and offer professional tennis instruction at a fraction of the rates charged by private clubs and resorts. Offered are tennis camps, group tennis clinics and classes for adults and youth. All programs are directed by Frank Sacks, who is a certified USPTA and USPTR tennis professional and former Head Men's and Women's Tennis Coach at Northwestern Illinois University and Niles West and Niles North High Schools.

For more information, contact Brian Glure, Athletic Supervisor, Morton Grove Park District, at (847) 965-1200, or Frank Sacks, Frank Sacks Tennis Camps, at (847) 933-0002. A full listing of tennis programs is available on the Internet at: www.franksackstennis.com

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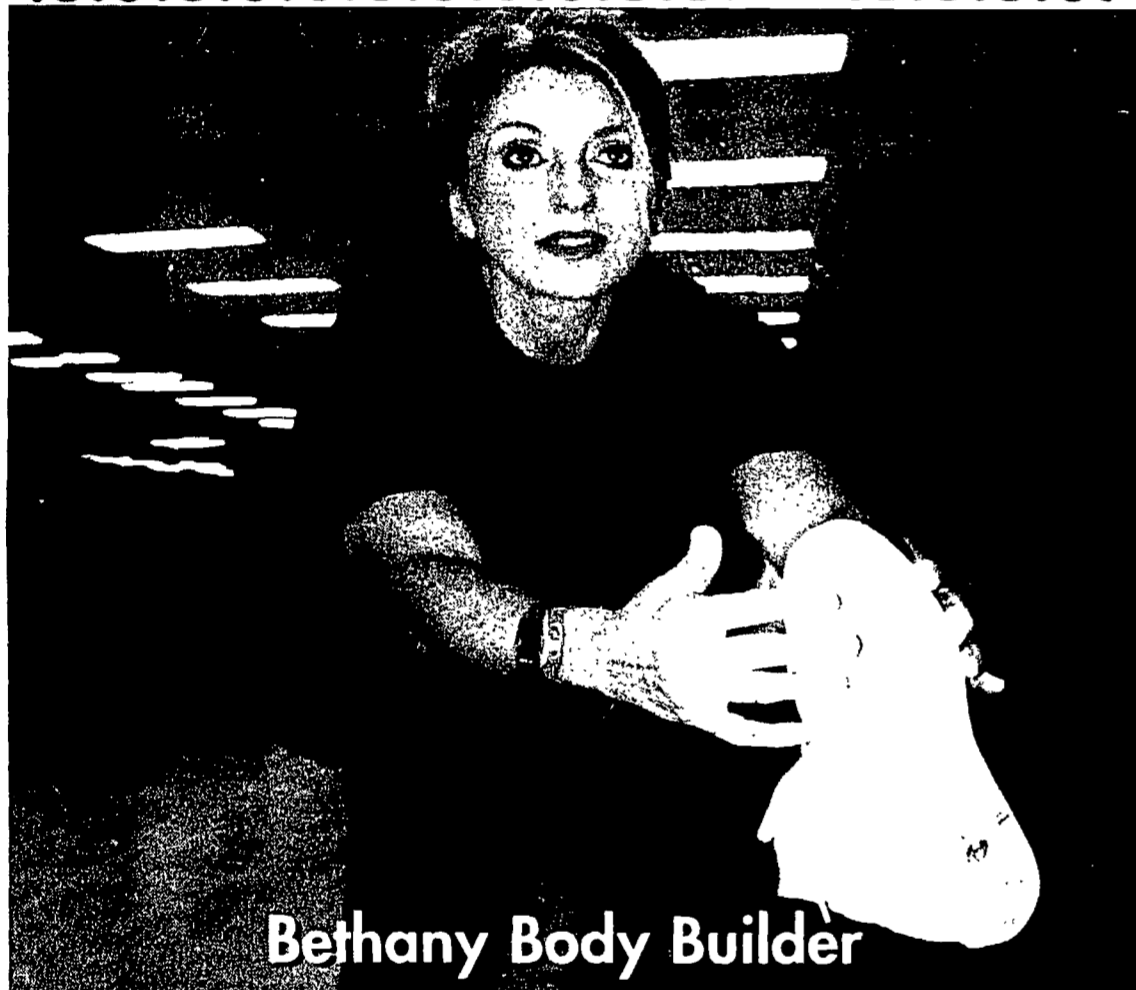
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Son of Niles Residents Receives Award

Roland Umeh, son of Mathilda and the late Michael Umeh of Niles, has been awarded the "Innovations Award in Videoconferencing" granted by the TBR Distance Education Committee. The award was given on February 20, 2003 at the Seventh Annual Distance Learning Conference in Nashville, Tennessee. He is currently instructing the first interactive videoconferencing course over IP at MTSU for the Computer Science Department (Spring 2003). The participating Tallahassee site is the University of Tennessee Space Institute (UTSI). Roland is keenly interested in developing synchronous distance education technology for use in teaching computer science. The long-term goal of this interest is to provide multicast desktop videoconferencing instruction to computer science graduate students. Because these students often have high bandwidth network access, innovative approaches in course development and delivery are being explored to reach this population. Dr. Roland H. Umeh received the B.A. degree in management from Mundelein College (Loyola University Chicago), the M.S. degree in computer science from DePaul University and the Ph.D. in computer science from Clemson University. Prior to joining the faculty of MTSU in 1994, he taught at Clemson University and Purdue University Calumet.

WMU Dean's List for Spring Semester

A total of 4,570 students are included on the dean's list for the spring semester of the 2002-2003 academic year at Western Michigan University.

To be eligible, students must have completed at least a 3.5 grade point average (on a scale of 4.0 being all A's) in at least 12 hours of graded class work. Lukasz Bacal, Morton Grove and Christopher C. Tuzan, Niles.



H. Kitchman of Illinois writes: "I read your hint on using toothpaste on burns. I just wanted to let you know that toothpaste also works to stop the itch of mosquito bites. Just a little dab before bed, and I don't wake up with a messy bite from scratching all night."

You can use a zip-lock baggie for fancy piping on a cake. Just fill the bag and make a tiny snip in the bottom corner. Then frost away.

Sprinkle regular sugar on a cake plate before placing your cake on it. It will help the cake slide off easier.

Everyone knows that coupons are great money-savers. But did you know that they can also increase your grocery bill if used incorrectly? Make sure to cut coupons only for items you already use, and check store-brand prices. Oftentimes, the price of an item with the coupon savings is still more than the equivalent store brand. A dollar off can sound like a bargain, too, but if it causes you to buy a product you normally wouldn't have purchased, you haven't saved a thing. Be a smart shopper.

Fred J. of Hilton Head, S.C. writes: "When going on a highway car trip, I spray some non-stick cooking oil on the front of my car. The bugs come off easily if I do this. I don't know about other areas of the country, but in the South, love-bug season can be terrible on the front of a car, especially a white one like mine."

Thanks to Megan of Orlando, Fla., for this super tip: "Our new dishwasher doesn't have a lock latch on it (it locks automatically when the door is closed all the way), so it's hard to tell when the dishes are clean. We decided that whoever runs it should stick a refrigerator magnet on the door when he or she starts it, that way, if there's a magnet on the dishwasher, you know the dishes are clean."

Send your tips to Here's a Tip, c/o King Features Weekly Service, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475 or e-mail JoAnn at letters.kfs@hearst.com.

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Thought for the Day: "Son, you have to guard against speaking more clearly than you think." — Howard Baker's father



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Oasis Waterpark
Adult Lap Swim - Mon-Sat, 10:15 to 11 a.m.
Pool Pass Holders Swim - Mon-Sat, 11 a.m. to Noon.
Open Swim - Mon/Wed/Fri, Noon to 9 p.m.; Tues-Thurs, Noon to 8 p.m.; Sat, Noon to 8 p.m.; and Sun, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.
IceLand Pool
Early Bird Lap Swim, Tues & Thurs, 6 to 9 a.m.
Adult Lap / Parent-Tot Swim, Mon-Fri, Noon to 1 p.m.
Open Swim - Mon-Fri, 1 to 4:45 p.m.; Mon-Fri, 7 to 9 p.m.; Sat & Sun, 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Good Housekeeping

Tip: Berries

Availability: Year-round, depending on variety

Peak season: June through October
Buying Tips: Berries should be plump, fresh-looking, uniformly colored and free of stems and leaves. Avoid crushed or bruised berries and cartons that are stained with berry juice. Beware of molding fruit, because mold can spread from berry to berry. And don't be deceived by a dewy-looking water-sprayed berries at the market—the moisture will only accelerate the molding and decaying of the berries.

To Store: Berries are very perishable and can deteriorate within 24 hours of purchase. You can store them in their baskets for a brief period, but to keep them for two or three days, place the (unwashed) berries in a paper towel-lined jelly-roll or baking pan, cover loosely with paper towels and refrigerate.

To Freeze berries, wash and drain, then spread in a single layer in a jelly-roll pan and place in the freezer. Once they're frozen, transfer to a heavy-duty zip-tight plastic bag and freeze for up to one year. Do not thaw or rinse frozen berries before using. Extend the cooking time 10 to 15 minutes for berry pies and five to 10 minutes for muffins and quick breads.

To Prepare: Rinse fresh berries just before serving. Remove any stems; drain well.

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Good Housekeeping

Fresh Blueberry Fool

The perfect end to a summer night's dinner. This simplest of fruit desserts can also be made with raspberries, kiwifruit, strawberries or peaches; just a few of the possibilities.

PREP: 15 minutes

- 1 pint blueberries
- 1/3 cup confectioners' sugar
- 1/8 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1/2 cup heavy or whipping cream

1. Set aside about 3/4 cup blueberries. In large bowl, coarsely mash remaining blueberries. Stir in confectioners' sugar, cinnamon and reserved whole blueberries.

2. In small bowl, with mixer at medium speed, beat cream until soft peaks form. Gently swirl blueberry mixture into whipped cream to create marbled effect. Makes 4 servings.

• Each serving: About 182 calories, 1 g protein, 21 g carbohydrate, 11 g total fat (7 g saturated), 41 mg cholesterol, 16 mg sodium.

You can now find Good Housekeeping cookware, bakeware and kitchen tools at Home Shopping Network (hsn.com) and other retailers.

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HOW LOW CAN YOU GO?

If you decide to try to sell your home "by owner," how will you determine your asking price? A lot of anxiety is associated with putting a price on your most valuable possession. That is especially true if you don't know its "fair market value" (the cost a buyer is willing to pay and the seller is willing to accept).

You can be led to overprice your home by not having up-to-the-minute home values for other similar houses nearby, or by simply believing your home measures up to a higher standard than the others. You may get some initial interest, but as soon as buyers compare your home with similar offerings, they'll discover that yours is priced above "fair market value." Even worse, they'll make an offer to purchase, and when the appraisal comes back below the asking price, the buyers will withdraw their offer, having wasted your valuable time.



Time goes by, and eventually you drop the price of your home in hopes of generating an offer, but then you run the danger of underpricing and losing the valuable equity that you've built up.

Real estate agents are trained professionals with accurate pricing information and exceptional marketing techniques. Protect your investment by asking an agent to list your home, price it fairly, and market it aggressively. You'll be rewarded with a quicker sale at a higher price.

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OLR Primary Grades Hold Spelling Bee



The primary grade students at Our Lady of Ransom School participated in a Spelling Bee during the week. Words from weekly spelling lists were used and proved to be too easy for many of the participants. To determine the winners the teachers used more challenging words from upcoming weeks and the next grades. Teachers and students enjoyed the challenge. Pictured are Our Lady of Ransom's third grade spelling bee winners. Left to right, Tobin Thomas, Robyn Cabanero and Justin Paul.

Knightly News & Views

The Nominating Committee, chaired by Trustee Rich Zaprzalka, presented the slate of officers for the new fraternal year at the last meeting, May 7. The proposed slate of officers is: Grand Knight - John O'Keefe; Deputy GK - Larry Huiras; Chancellor - Leo Weiss; Warden - Don Kaderbek; Recording Secretary - Brian Dettmann; inside guard - Patrick O'Connor; outside guard - Ron Shulga; Advocate - Adrian Galassi; Trustees: 1st Yr. - Joe Tatkowski; 2nd Yr. - Rich Zaprzalka; 3rd Yr. - Bob Galassi. Mark your calendar for the annual installation of officers, Saturday, June 14, in Flanagan Hall. Social Hour - 6 p.m.; Dinner - 7 p.m.; Installation - 8 p.m. Please plan to join us as we welcome the new officers, as they take their place as the leadership team for next fraternal year. Please pray for the sick and distressed members of our K of C family along with all those fighting illnesses. Keep the health of all family members always in your daily prayers! Visit or call a sick friend. Please remember the deceased members of our family in your prayers. We still need new members! Although, we've happily added 11 new Brothers this year, we're still short of our goal! We all know some good Catholic men in our community that could join us. Do you know any good Catholic gentlemen that could join the Knights? Ask them!!! Please continue to ask others to be a Knight. Help us, as we help others - when you have the time!! For more information on membership - call Membership Chairman Larry Huiras @ (847) 663-1484. The Knights are looking for a field agent for a career opportunity representing their insurance program. Offering a complete package for full-time position. For more information, contact Ken Niedzwiedz, General Agent at (630) 530-0401.

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Morton Grove Library Free Programs

The Library will be closed on Sundays through September 1.

Every Tuesday at 10 a.m., the Youth Services Department hosts *Read to Me!*, a drop-in storytime for children under age 6 accompanied by an adult.

Every Tuesday at 11:30 a.m., bring your lunch and enjoy a cup of coffee at Lunchtime Videos.

All programs held at the Library are free and open to everyone unless otherwise noted. For more information, or for mobility and communication access assistance, please call (847) 965-4220. TDD (847) 965-4236. www.webrary.org.

Introduction to the Internet: a

Class in Four Parts at the Morton Grove Public Library.

- I. Monday, June 16, at 7 p.m.
- II. Monday, June 23, at 7 p.m.
- III. Monday, June 30, at 7 p.m.
- IV. Tutorials to be scheduled individually in July.

The first two introductory lecture/demonstrations (6/16 and 6/23) by Jennifer Didier of Directions Training Center will include a brief background of the Internet, basic terminology, and the kinds of information available on the World Wide Web. Ms. Didier will discuss how to choose an Internet service provider and will demonstrate search techniques. In the third session, Susan

McGowan, MGPL Reference Coordinator will demonstrate how to use the many features of the Library's website.

www.webrary.org. The first three portions of the course are lecture/demonstrations and registration is required. The fourth portion is a one-on-one, hands-on tutorial to be scheduled individually with a member of the Library's Reference Staff during the month of July. Anyone may register for the first three sessions, but only Morton Grove Public Library cardholders are eligible for the tutorial sessions. For more information, or to register, please call (847) 965-4220. TDD (847) 965-4236. www.webrary.org.

Ceramic Art Exhibit at the Morton Grove Public Library. Glenview resident Erik Tolnai exhibits original pieces in the Lincoln Avenue entry display case of the Morton Grove Public Library in June. The Library is located at 6140 Lincoln Ave. For further information about exhibits, please call (847) 965-4220.

Edison Park CC to Host Farmers' Market

to visit the vendors and choose from a great selection of fruits and vegetables straight from the farm. The City of Chicago Mayor's Office of Special Events who coordinates the markets throughout the city sponsors this program.

For more information and exact market days check the "Calendar" page on our new website, www.edisonpark.com or call Chamber Executive Director Rita McGovern at (773) 631-0063.

The Edison Park Chamber of Commerce is proud to host a farmers' market in downtown Edison Park again this summer. The market will be located in the Edison Park Fieldhouse parking lot at the corner of Northwest Highway and Oshkosh. The first market will be Wednesday, June 18 and then every third Wednesday of the month through October. The market will be open from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The community is encouraged

Strange BUT TRUE

• Famed silent-screen star Mary Pickford once asserted, "Adding sound to movies would be like putting lipstick on the Venus de Milo."

• Burlingame, Calif., is home to a museum dedicated entirely to Pez dispensers.

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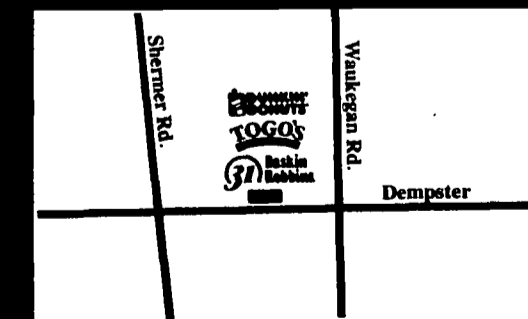
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Governor's Budget Proposal Keeps Promises

Budget proposal keeps promises - education, public protection, and health care priorities.

Illinois Governor Rod Blagojevich's budget proposal generated positive responses from many legislators today, including Assistant Senate Majority Leader James A. DeLeo (D-Chicago).

"Governor Blagojevich is working hard to get Illinois back on track, and his budget proposal is a positive first step in our budget process," said DeLeo. "While

the proposal makes some tough choices, it makes the funding of education, public protection, and healthcare priorities and keeps the Governor's promise of not increasing taxes."

Priorities of the Governor's proposal include increasing education funding by \$250 per student, increasing bilingual education funding, and improving the timeliness of state payments to Medicaid providers like nursing homes, hospitals and pharmacies.

Additionally the budget propo-

sal authorizes the spending of \$1.7 billion on roads and bridges, including reconstruction on Chicago's expressways, as well as providing operating assistance for CTA, Metra and PACE.

The revenue to fund these priorities and others would come from cutting wasteful spending, closing loopholes, providing a tax amnesty, and adjusting user fees, while not increasing taxes.

The Governor's budget proposal will now be considered by the General Assembly.

Endowment of Public Policy Institute at SIU



Photo by Teresa J. Potasiak.

Illinois State Treasurer Judy Baar Topinka (center) and the former head of the Democratic National Committee David Wilhelm (left) teamed up with former U.S. Senator and Illinois University Public Policy Institute Director Paul Simon (right) and announced efforts to help build the endowment of the Public Policy Institute at Southern Illinois University. "The Public Policy Institute has been a do tank - not just a think tank. It has been an energetic, vital force for a better tomorrow," Topinka said at a press conference held in Chicago, IL. "But, to continue as that kind of force, it needs a solid financial foundation - one that guarantees its viability and the independence it takes to brave the entity of those in the corridors of power by squarely tackling controversial issues." She added.

Skokie Valley Business and Professional Women's Club

The Skokie Valley Business and Professional Women's Club will meet on Monday June 16, 2003 at Don's Fishmarket, in the Howard Johnson Hotel: 9333 Skokie Blvd.; Skokie, Illinois.

Networking and social hour begins at 5:30 p.m. and dinner is served promptly at 6:30 p.m. The dinner fee is \$20 for members and

guests. Please call Dr. Yenimma Lipschultz at (847) 679-2650 by noon-Friday, June 13 for reservations.

The speaker for the evening will be Frances Thale of Wilmette, a Mary Kay Beauty Consultant for more than twenty years.

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LTC12002-09 statefarm.com PQ2-120 01/02

Fifth Third Bank names Suresh Khattar Vice President

Fifth Third Bank announced today the appointment of Suresh Khattar as Vice President in the Private Banking Group. He is responsible for providing wealth advisory and private banking services to high net worth clients in the Chicago area.

Mr. Khattar is located in Fifth Third's affiliate headquarters office in Rolling Meadows and can be reached at (847) 354-7290 or via e-mail at: suresh.khattar@53.com

Mr. Khattar has 17 years in wealth advisory and private

banking experience, primarily serving business owners, physicians and other professionals. Previously, he worked in private banking at Citibank for more than 10 years and at Merrill Lynch for four years.

He earned a bachelor's degree in accounting at St. Xavier College and diploma in business management.

Khattar and his wife, Gulshan, have two children, Rajiv, age 13; and Neha, age 11; and live in Naperville, IL.

Fifth Third Bank is one of the

fastest growing banks in the Chicago area and Northwest Indiana. The bank's Chicago affiliate has \$8 billion in assets and \$7.6 billion in deposits and serves 400,000 customers through 122 locations in an 11-county area in Northern Illinois and Northwest Indiana. The bank operates four major businesses: Retail, Commercial, Investment Advisors and Fifth Third Processing Solutions. News and information about Fifth Third can be found on the Internet at: www.53.com.

Dollars and sense

by David Uffington

Think Twice Before Shredding Tax Records

Storage space is a contracting phenomenon relative to how much "stuff" we put into it. In this case, I refer specifically to stuff I, frankly, would be too scared to throw away, namely, anything having to do with my tax-paying history, including returns, receipts, canceled checks and anything else relating to whatever I swore to on my returns.

There is a commonly held belief that barring any indication of fraud, intent to evade payment or paying a lot less than you should have, the IRS can't ask you to produce records that are 3 years old or older. So why keep them? Well, here are some things you might want to think about before you celebrate three audit-free years by sending all those documents to the shredder. The fact is, even if you're honest and never made so much as an innocent mistake on your returns, the IRS is always ready to believe you really are a tax cheat of the worst order.

One anonymous tip from someone with a grudge citing just a suspicion of wrongdoing can send the IRS into an investigative mode well after the three-year period, and you'll want to have those returns and receipts to prove you're innocent of the innuendoes. (Remember: Unlike the legal presumption of innocence unless proved guilty in other courts of law, the IRS says you're guilty until you prove you're not.)

So what's the best advice on how long to keep your records? Some financial experts say seven to 10 years would be the minimum. Others say a safer period would be nothing less than forever, especially if your tax transactions typically involve stocks, bonds, property purchases and sales, improvements, alimony payments, escrow accounts, etc., etc.

And if you do decide someday to jettison some of that stuff, NEVER include your tax return copies. The IRS disposes of them after about four years, and if they ever red flag your files, you'll want your copies to help back up your defense.

Your comments are appreciated. Write to Mr. Uffington in care of King Features Weekly Service, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475 or send e-mail to letters_lfs@hearsstc.com.

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Russell Y. Lee

Civilian Russell Y. Lee, son of Kathleen M. Lee of North Barrington, IL, recently enlisted in the U.S. Navy under the Delayed Entry Program at Navy Recruiting District Chicago, Fort Sheridan, IL.

The program allows recruits to enter the Navy and take up to one

year to complete prior commitments such as high school. Using recruiter as mentors, this program helps recruits ease into the transition from civilian to military life.

Lee will report for active duty to undergo basic training at the Navy's Recruit Training Center, Great Lakes, IL.

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BY JEFFREY CARDELLA PUBLIC SERVICE ADVERTISEMENT

Special to The Bugle

Edward Jones: Boost College Savings With a 529 Plan

College costs are high - and they're going up. So if you're a parent with young children, when should you start saving? How about today?

It's never too soon to start saving for college. Consider the numbers: For the 2000-2001 school year, the average cost for tuition, fees, room and board at a four-year private college is \$22,541 per year, according to the College Board. For a four-year public school, the corresponding cost is \$8,470 per year. If college costs rise just 4 percent a year for the next 18 years, today's newborns will face a four-year bill of about \$194,000 for an average private college and \$73,000 for an average public school.

Those are big numbers, but you can make them more manageable if you start saving early. One of the better savings vehicles you have available is a 529 plan, named after the portion of the IRS code authorizing these accounts.

You can establish a 529 plan for your children or grandchildren, and you can choose from two types of this plan:

1. Prepaid tuition programs - In a prepaid tuition plan, you buy future tuition credit - at today's prices - at an in-state public school.

2. Savings plans - Under these plans, your earnings are not taxed as they accumulate. Qualified withdrawals are federally income tax free.

Of the two arrangements, the savings plan is far more popular because it doesn't restrict students to certain colleges in specific states as does the prepaid tuition plan. In other words, you can invest in any state's plan. Also, you'll receive several other significant benefits, including the following:

• You can contribute varying dollar amounts. Generally, you can contribute as little as \$15 per month or, in many cases, up to \$200,000 over the lifetime of the 529 plan. Contribution limits vary by state. You may want to consider applicable gift tax rules.

• You control withdrawals. If you're the account owner of the 529 plan, you'll manage all withdrawals for the life of the account. The student doesn't automatically take control of the assets at the age of majority. You can even change beneficiaries if you choose.

• You'll minimize the initial impact on financial aid awards. Because the money in a 529 plan is held in your name, it won't significantly jeopardize any federal financial-aid packages your child or grandchild may receive. Colleges generally require students to contribute 35 percent of their assets to pay for school compared to less than 6 percent for parents. Withdrawals, however, are considered income for future applications for financial aid.

The 529 plan offers some important benefits, but make sure you use your plan strictly for college. If you make a withdrawal for anything other than qualified higher-education expenses, you may have to pay taxes and a 10 percent penalty on the earnings. Also, keep in mind that different state plans choose different money managers, so research the organization that's investing your money.

If you're satisfied that you've found a good 529 plan, give it some careful consideration. It can help you cope with the high costs of higher education.

Jeffrey Cardella can be reached at Edward Jones, 8141 N. Milwaukee, Niles, 847-470-8953.

House Gaming Panel approves riverboat licenses

The House Gaming Committee today approved gaming legislation that provides riverboat casino licenses for the City of Chicago and south suburban Cook County and legalizes video poker.

The Committee voted 8-3 to approve the additional riverboat licenses and 8-4 to support video poker.

The two riverboats licenses would generate an estimated \$479 to \$600 million in new state tax revenue and video poker \$500 to \$750 million, according to State Representative Lou Lang (D-Skokie), the legislation's sponsor.

"Approval of this legislation represents the next step in a comprehensive package of gaming restructuring legislation that will enormously benefit Illinois taxpayers," said Lang.

House Bill 144 Highlights:

• Authorizes the Gaming Board to provide a riverboat casino license with up to 4,000 gaming positions to the City of Chicago to own and operate.

• Requires the City of Chicago to comply with all prevailing regulatory and state tax revenue as the other 10 license holders.

• Authorizes the Gaming Board to provide an 11th commercial riverboat license which would generate \$124 million to \$165 million in state tax revenue

recurring annually.

• Provides the City of Chicago an estimated tax revenue of \$405 million to \$468 million recurring annually and the State of Illinois an estimated tax revenue of \$276 million to \$342 million.

• Provides a combined estimated state tax revenue of \$400 million to \$507 million recurring annually.

House Bill 142 Highlights:

• Legalizes video poker operations; reduces licensed video poker and other video gaming machines from 65,000 to 47,000.

• Provides for enforcement of tax collection; sanctions liquor establishments with the loss of liquor license for failure to abide by statute provisions.

• Provides estimated revenue of \$500 to \$750 million recurring annually.

Last week, the House Gaming Committee approved legislation, HB 143, which provides each of the 10 Illinois Riverboat license with 2000 gaming positions, up from 1200 positions, and 3200 slot gaming positions to Illinois Horse Racing Tracks. Lang estimated this legislation alone would provide estimated revenues between \$1.215 to \$1.892 billion in FY 2004 and \$475 to \$764 million recurring annually.

"The dramatic decline of nation's economy has plunged Illinois and most states into a deep prolonged and historic budget crisis," said Lang. "As a result, Illinois must respond dramatically to replace lost revenues -- and this gaming package will replace lost tax money, generating next year alone between \$1.7 and \$2.6 billion in new money."

Garett appointed to represent Illinois

State Senator Susan Garrett (D-Lake Forest) has been named to serve on two key committees with the National Conference of State Legislatures.

Garrett was appointed by Illinois Senate President Emil Jones to represent the General Assembly on the NCSL committees of Education, and the Environment and Natural Resources Committee.

"Susan has been a leader in the Illinois General Assembly, fighting for fair and equitable funding of schools and working to ensure that our children have the best teachers and resources. Her outspoken activism to promote environmental issues and protect natural resources made her an obvious choice for the NCSL's Environment and Natural Resources Committee," said President Jones.

The NCSL is comprised of 15 standing committees that meet three times a year -- once in Washington, D.C., once in cities away from Washington, and at the NCSL annual meeting.

Telecom Reform Legislation Good for Illinois Workers

SBC Says New Law Guarantees Job Retention - Possible Job Growth.

The Illinois AFL-CIO and its affiliated unions - the IBEW and CWA - are applauding Illinois lawmakers for taking a bold stand to preserve jobs across the state by passing an amendment to the Public Utilities Act, giving SBC the opportunity to charge its competitors a fairer rate for the use of their local phone lines.

"SBC was being forced to provide the use of their infrastructure to their competitors at a below-cost rate in Illinois," said Margaret Blackshere, president of the Illinois AFL-CIO. "You can not expect job growth from a company whose return on investment declined more than 50 percent last year. There has to be some incentive for them to rebuild, re-invest and keep pace with changing technology. If they're not modernizing, there are no new telecommunications jobs. And those union jobs pay well and provide good benefits."

Labor came out in support of the telecommunications bill from the outset, calling for an increase in the Illinois telecom wholesale rate established by the Illinois Commerce Commission.

"Our main concern is keeping quality telecommunication jobs in Illinois," said Ron Kastner, president of IBEW Local 21 in Chicago. "In the last year alone, we have lost 1,200 jobs that paid an average of \$25 an hour."

In the Chicago area, SBC employs over 10,000 IBEW Local 21 members as linemen, splicers, installers, repairpersons, sales and service representatives, inside technicians, and support and clerical staff. Downstate, another 2,000 Local 21 members are employed by SBC. CWA represents more than a thousand SBC operators and technical administrators across Illinois.

"We look forward to the governor signing this bill into law," said Blackshere. "By doing so he will once again show his concern and support for working families. This law will help maintain the current level of SBC jobs in the state and hopefully we will see future increases as SBC pours more capital into our state's technology infrastructure."

NEIU Most Ethnically Diverse University in Midwest

Northeastern Illinois University (NEIU) has again been ranked the most ethnically diverse university in the Midwest by U.S. News and World Report's yearly edition of best colleges. Northeastern has held the number one spot since the magazine started ranking this category in 1997.

The data for the rankings were drawn from each institution's 2001-2002 enrollment numbers. According to U.S. News & World Report, the groups forming the diversity ranking calculations were Native Americans, Asian-Americans, African-Americans who are non-Hispanic, whites who are non-Hispanic, and Hispanics. Northeastern reported its undergraduate student body as 43 percent white, 28 percent Hispanic, 12 percent Asian-American, and 13 percent African-American.

"Northeastern graduates are prepared for life in a global economy," said NEIU President Salme H. Steinberg. "Now more than ever students believe in the value of studying with students from different backgrounds. Students attending NEIU are at an advantage because they have already been an active part of a diverse community."

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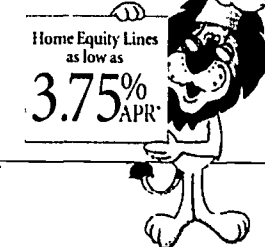


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CRUISIN'
by Greg Zyla

'69 Impala Convertible
Q. Hi Greg, I have a 1969 Chevy Impala Convertible. It is all-original and in A-1 mechanical shape. The engine is a 327 cubic inch with a console shift. It has 100,000 miles, but the engine has been rebuilt, and it has been used as a parade car. The top is decent, and it also has a good interior. As I am getting up in age, I am thinking about selling it. I have owned it for 15 years and am wondering about the approximate value. Can you help? Thanks. — Howard R. Hud-

son, Fla.
A. Sure thing, Howard. Your '69 Impala Convertible is an in-demand car, especially since it is an all-original and a ragtop, too. At present, a '69 Chevy Impala Convertible is listing for \$6,025 to \$8,200 in "Collector Car & Truck Market Guide," which is available at your local magazine shop.
I'd lean somewhere in the \$7,300 range for your car and go from there. Had it been a 427 cubic-inch, 390-horsepower engine, you would add another 80 percent to that total! Still, you've got a great car, so take good care, and if you sell, let us know.

DaMerio A. Lane
Marine Corps Cpl. DaMerio A. Lane, son of Donna R. Lane of Skokie, and Donald A. Chastany of Evanston, recently returned from a nine-month deployment while assigned to the 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit, based in Camp Lejeune, N.C.
Lane is one of more than 4,000 Atlantic Fleet Sailors and Marines deployed aboard the ships of the USS Nassau Amphibious Ready Group who participated in Operation Iraqi Freedom.
Lane's unit is an expeditionary intervention force with the ability to rapidly organize for combat operations in virtually any environment. MEUs are composed of more than 2,000 personnel and are divided into an infantry battalion, aircraft squadron, support group and command element.
Lane is a 1997 graduate of Evanston Township High School of Evanston.

Write to Greg Zyla in care of King Features Weekly Service, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475, or send an e-mail to letters.kfws@hearstsc.com.
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RACING
by Greg Zyla

Saturday Night NASCAR?
Q. Greg, on Dave Despain's live Speed Channel show called "Wind Tunnel," he answered a question from a caller about why NASCAR doesn't schedule a lot more of its Winston Cup races on Saturday nights? His answer was good, but I'd like to know what you think? — Keith, e-mail from Pennsylvania

A. Well Keith, I know exactly what Dave said because I watch the show regularly. Dave expressed concern about the short tracks in our local communities that rely on Saturday night crowds to help pay for the purse of the local race drivers. These tracks may not have the ability to compete with America's premier racing series if NASCAR scheduled more live racing on Saturday nights instead of Sunday during the day, and I agree. Fans staying home to watch a Winston Cup race on Saturday night would result in a big negative at our nation's Saturday night bullrings.
Dave also said the answer is to run the races on Sunday night, and that's a good idea, too. However, if more and more NASCAR Cup races were presented on Sunday nights, the fan base might be taxed due to work demands the following Monday morning, and those who didn't work a vacation around the race might not be able to travel to see the Sunday evening race.
If more and more tracks add lighting, the answer might lie in a mix of perhaps one or two Saturday night events, with Sunday day and evening races making up the remaining scheduled. Five or six Sunday evening races would be a good test of Dave's theory, and who knows, maybe the fans would still show up in force as they do for, say, Monday Night Football.
There is also the comfort factor and aesthetic value of evening competition. Evening races are much easier on everyone, from fans to drivers to crew. High heat and humidity can ruin anyone's day, especially drivers who have to endure cockpits that go well over 130 degrees F. As for the art form of racing, nothing is more exciting than racing under the lights, with the shiny race cars darting into the turns, sparks flying and fire shooting from the

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Broadway Camp Puts Kids Center Stage

Aspiring actors and actresses from second grade to high school will get the chance to live the Broadway experience while learning the fundamentals of drama, dance, and voice when they enroll in Broadway Jr. Camp at North Shore Dance Center in Skokie.

"Camps learn to sing, dance, and act and then perform on stage in adaptations of the musicals 'Cats' and 'Grease.' It's very fun and exciting," explains managing partner Ali Fran-Potter, a Glenview school district drama teacher with a Masters in Fine Arts Curriculum.

"Cats: The Musical" Camp (July 21-August 1) and "Grease: The Musical" Camp (August 4-August 15) cost \$265 per session, or \$500 for both. Discounts are available for siblings or groups of five or more. Students receive a free professional video of their performance.

"Boys and girls of all backgrounds will have a great time in 'Cats' and 'Grease.' There is no experience necessary," encourages artistic director Arla Faye, a theatrical choreographer who performed with Chicago Opera Ballet. "We have programs for kids in grade school, junior high, and high school."

Students from North Shore Dance Center have appeared at Great America, Walt Disney World, Navy Pier, and Radio City Music Hall, and have starred in productions of "Annie," "Grease," "Sound of Music," and "The Wizard of Oz."

Scripts for "Cats" and "Grease!" will be adapted by novelist and playwright Rikki Lee Travolta, himself a national touring actor who will also serve as creative consultant on both camps thus adding to the Broadway experience of the students.

"Our focus is on enrichment and empowerment, allowing young people to try new things, develop new talents, learn teamwork, and achieve their dreams," explains Travolta, who has shared the stage with Broadway diva Liza Minnelli and appeared nationally in productions of "West Side Story," "Bye Bye Birdie," and "Tony n' Tina's Wedding."

Videos will be produced by Richard Neumann's Abracadabra Productions whose recent DVD and video projects include Skokie Valley Symphony and Chicago Ballet.

North Shore Dance Center is a modern, air-conditioned, fine arts facility located at 8401 Crawford in Skokie (at Main).

To enroll in Broadway Jr. camp call (847) 674-2216 or e-mail NSDCSkokie@aol.com.

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Summer Leadership Camp
Southern Illinois University Carbondale's commitment to developing effective and ethical citizen-leaders is extending into the high school ranks.
The Office of Student Development is sponsoring a first-ever Summer Leadership Camp for high school students between the ages of 15 and 18. Dates are June 23-26 and enrollment is limited to 100 participants.
The \$200 registration fee covers lodging in SIUC's residence halls, meals, T-shirt, all events and limited accident medical camper coverage. Deadline for registration is June 13. All events and activities will be at University facilities, both on campus and at outlying areas. The University will provide all transportation to and from scheduled events.
"Through the development of the Summer Leadership Camp, we hope to better prepare students for thoughtful and effective leadership in, and service to the communities in which they currently reside and will reside in the future," said Katherine L. Sermersheim, director of Student Development.
For more information, contact Student Development at (618) 453-5714, or via e-mail at: studdev@siu.edu

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THIS IS A HAMMER

By Samantha Mazzotta

Charcoal vs. Gas Grills

Q. What's the best type of grilling medium to use: charcoal or gas? And what about health problems from grilling food? — *Debi H., Lake City, Fla.*

A. I believe that choice is entirely up to you. Charcoal versus gas grilling has always been a bit of a debate among back-yard warriors, with one side arguing that the flavor charcoal cooking imparts to food is far superior to the convenience of a quick-heating gas grill.

Charcoal grills are less expensive than gas grills, but the savings may dwindle after purchasing briquettes and lighter fluid several times a season. Lighting the briquettes can take a bit of finesse, since too much lighter fluid can impart an undesirable taste to foods. (In any case, letting the charcoal heat for 30-45 minutes should allow the petroleum-based fluid to completely burn off.)

Gas grills cost more, but the convenience of simply switching them on can quickly make up for the amount you spent. Remember not to go for the cheapest model — look for grills with at least two burners, which will distribute heat more evenly than a single-burner discount grill.

If flavor is important, but you prefer a gas grill, options are available to get the best of both worlds. A smoked flavor can be created by soaking hickory or mesquite chips in water for 30 minutes (just as you would for charcoal

grilling), spreading them atop the diffuser element (a layer of pumice or other medium), and placing a metal pan of water on the lowest rack of the grill, directly beneath the meat. Keep the grill temperature at low to medium to get the most flavor, and don't let the wood chips flare up — they should just smoke throughout the cooking process.

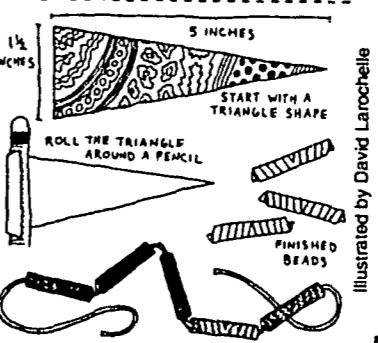
The health issue surrounding grilling concerns the amount of carcinogens in food cooked on the grill, particularly meat. You can dramatically reduce the amount of carcinogens (either created or imparted) by cleaning the grill thoroughly after each use, making sure no charred food particles remain on the cooking surface or (in a gas grill) the diffusers.

Send questions or home repair tips to homeguru2000@hotmail.com, or write *This Is a Hammer*, c/o King Features Weekly Service, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475.

To find out if the grill is hot enough for cooking, hold your palm about 4 inches above the grill surface. If you can only hold it there for 2 seconds, you have a hot fire (375 degrees F); for 4 seconds, it's a medium fire (300-350); and for 5 seconds or more it is a low fire (200-300 degrees).

Donna's Day Creative family fun

by Donna Erickson



Bead-O-Mania!

Beadville. For Bead's Sake. Bead-works. String Beads — you name it! Beads are everywhere, and the craze is at a high pitch these days. Bead stores, online sites and at-home parties display and sell exquisite beads from around the world, in all shapes and sizes. They appeal to kids and adults alike looking to create unique necklaces, earrings and bracelets.

Actually, there's nothing new about beading. This popular art form has been around for generations. Do you remember making beads from glossy magazine paper in kindergarten class? We rolled paper into narrow beads, painted them with shellac, and wore them around our necks and on shoelaces. Share the beginner's approach with your kids to make eye-catching beads from recycled magazines and newspapers.

First, tear out illustrated pages from a magazine or save a sheet or two from the Sunday comics in your newspaper. The more colorful the paper, the brighter your beads will be.

Cut the paper into triangles approximately 5 inches long and 1 1/2 inches wide at the broad end. You will need about 30 triangles for a necklace.

To form each bead, carefully roll the triangle around a pencil or sturdy drinking straw (use a nail or toothpick for narrow beads), beginning with the broad end of the triangle and ending with the pointed end. Glue the point to the rolled paper. Remove the pencil or straw. Continue until all triangles are complete. Younger children might prefer rolling several at a time and coming back to the project later.

Let the glue dry. Thread a plastic needle, made especially for kids, with yarn, string or fishing line. String the necklace. Use elastic for a snazzy bracelet. For extra fun, make a mom-and-daughter matching pair.

PARENTING TIP: While you're cooking up supper, let your kids thread finished beads onto pipe cleaners. Twist the ends and use for napkin rings.

Write Donna with your questions and ideas at www.donnaday.com. Donna's newly released book, "Donna Erickson's Fabulous Funstuff for Families," is now available in bookstores nationwide.

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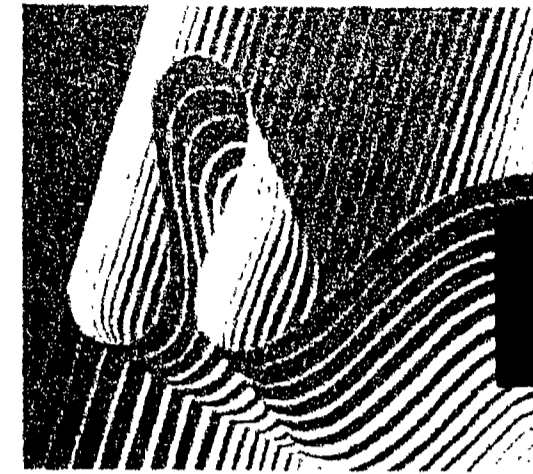

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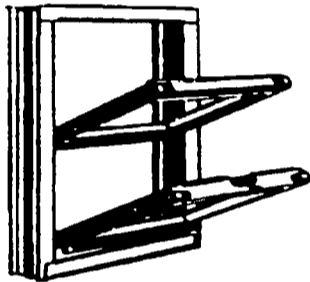


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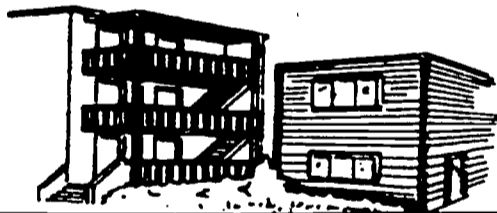
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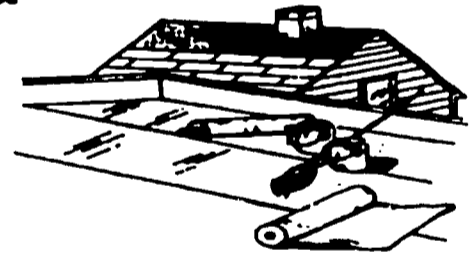
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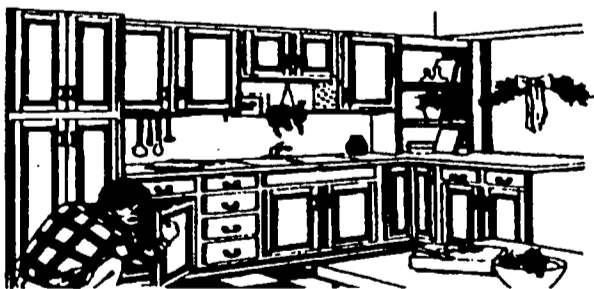


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