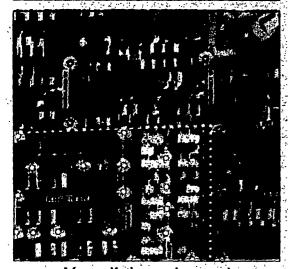


Thursday, December 23, 2004

Vol. 48 No. 31

NILESBUGLE.COM · PARKRIDGEBUGLE.COM · MORTONGROVEBUGLE.COM

Inside this edition...



New lights planned Lighting improvements are on the way for the Niles neighborhood north of Dempster and east of Cumberland, page 7.



Wolves win

Maine South's John Wolf (22) looks to pass in the second half against the Niles West Wolves last Friday. The Wolves won the game. For the story, turn to page 13.

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In Life

Students at St. John Brebeuf sent their letters to Santa, pg. 19

Notice

The Bugle will close Thursday, December 23rd at 1 p.m. and re-open Monday, December 27th for normal business hours. Have a happy and safe holiday.

Uptown redevelopment agreement approved by **PR Council**

¬he Park Ridge City Council approved the final draft of the redevelopment agreement for the Uptown Target Area 2 at their meeting Monday, Dec. 20. The agreement clears the way for a mixed use residential/retail development to be built on the parcel bounded by Touhy, Northwest Hwy. and Morris.

The Council's 14 members approved the agreement unanimously and with few major questions. All of them praised the project's overall design, the work of PRC Partners, the development company and the city's staff and elected officials though they admitted the agreement isn't perfect.

"We now have a very long agreement," said Ald. Mark Anderson (5th), "which is done. But if we wait for perfection I'll tell vou when this project will get done: never."

City consultants said that the agreement was very competitive with others that have been negotiated with other municipalities, citing a 7 percent profit margin on the project's residential component rather than what they claimed is the customary 10 percent.

> Continues... **UPTOWN** page 2.



A Warm Farewell

Patti Lochner, co-owner of Lochner's Greenhouse on Dempster prepares some greenery for a customer last Wednesday. The Lochner's intend to close their business at the end of this year because of economic constraints. For the story, turn to page 4.

Index | Weekly Vol. 48 No. 31 Niles Board approves personnel policy changes

the Niles village board approved changes to their personnel policy at their Tuesday, Nov. 25 meeting.

The new policy will apply only to non-unionized workers of the village Mary Kay Morrissey said.

it lays out new disciplinary procedures. The village currently has one union contract.

"We're just redefining the disciplinary policy," Village Manager

The new policy sets up a specific framework for grievances and to administer more extreme discipline if it should prove necessary.

Board members expressed concern that the policy change might apply to all other village employees.

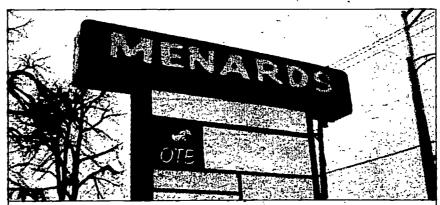
affect contracts, but Morrissey reassured them that disciplinary measures with any personnel in the single union were dealt within the specific contract. The new policy would

D219's Codell says OTB is fine for Menards outlot

MGO starts petition drive to put question on ballot

n spite of objections from residents who believe the westem Menards outlot on Oakton and Lehigh is too close to Niles West High School for an off-track betting (OTB) facility, Neil Codell, superintendent of District 219 says that he trusts the village.

Village staff have projected revenue of up to \$400,000 a year for the proposed facility. Inter-Track Partners, a company operating 14 OTBs in Illinois would run the facility and Menards would be the land-



A sign advertising both the Menards and the OTB in Joliet.

lord. Inter-Track President Bob Bilocerkowycz has said he would like to arrange a design/build option for the Morton Grove facility which would be almost identical to an arrangement that they have with Menards in Joliet.

Meanwhile, resident group the Morton Grove Organization (MGO), which spent the last year fighting expansion of the Muslim Education Center, announced a peti-

Continues...

OTB page 3.

A helping hand

Yong Kim is helped from his vehicle by Morton Grove Public Works employee Al ehew. The Kims wanted to thank the village who went to great lengths to secure access to their homes while they were reconstructing their driveway apron. Both Yong Kim and his wife Debbie use wheelchairs.

Uptown.

Most concerns among both council members and assembled résidents concerned traffic circulation in the Uptown area. Resident George Kirkland said that 30 intersections would be affected by two planned stoplights at Summit and Touhy and Summit and Northwest

Summit Square Retirement Hotel this point, beginning with ground-

constructed without reference to the business. He cited the fact that additional fire lanes have been added to the project, addressing their earlier complaints.

"But we weren't contacted about this until tonight," he said.

Aldermen agreed that Summit representatives should be involved Roger Mandel, attorney for the as the project moves forward from

(Continued from page 1) mer Bredemann Toyota dealership. PRC will construct townhouses and rowhouses on the site.

Though the agreement in principal ends the formal approval phase of the project, construction isn't scheduled to be completed until late in 2006. Ald. Rex Parker (6th) acknowledged the long road ahead, quoting the poet Robert Frost saying that the city, "has promises to keep,

Iberl to run for Park Ridge council

1st Ward resident says he is a true independent



John Iberl

ong-time Park Ridge resident John Iberl announced last week that he would seek the post of 1st Ward alderman in the upcoming April 2005 consolidated election. He will face Kirke Machon, another 1st Ward resident running as an independent, but also the longest serving member of the city's Zoning Board.

Iberl said he's running for alderman because of the challenges ahead of the city and because a "true" independent voice was needed in local politics.

"I am running as an Independent

candidate because I am just that - a true Independent," he said. My business interests are outside of Park Ridge and I am not beholden to any person or to any businesses conducting business within the City of Park Ridge."

He also believes that the city can be more responsive to the needs of the residents, especially if its elected officials demand it.

"I provide a fresh perspective in my views of city government and I am independent of city government, city staff and any political parties," he said. "I will represent the 1st Ward with an open mind on issues and solicit the citizens'

Iberl graduated from DePaul University with a Bachelors Degree in Accounting. He has been a financial services small business owner for over 22 years. He is also in my third term as President of a statewide trade association. He is also proud of his community involvement such as: fundraising for the Field School PTO for 8 years with the Variety Show.

Iberl has been married to his wife Nancy for over 26 years. They have four children, Jason, Michael, Lindsey and Joseph, all attended Park Ridge schools.



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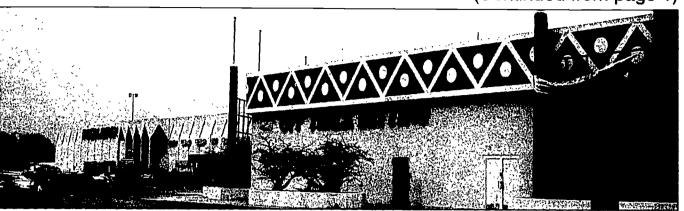
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News

(Continued from page 1)



The OTB facility that Menards built for Inter-Track Partners in Joliet, IL. Officials of Inter-Track say that they would like a similar design/build relationship with Menards if and when an OTB is approved in Morton Grove.

to the voters in a referendum on the April 2005 local election, MGO members said that local religious organizations were contributing to the drive, including the Muslim Community Center (MCC), their former opponents. MCC officials stated that they were coordinating their efforts with other religious insitutions in Morton Grove.

THE BUGLE

OTB

The primary reason Codell said he will not oppose the OTB was that the village may restrict those under the age of 21 from gambling at the facility. According to state law, individuals as young as 18 could gamble at the OTB, but other municipalities have restricted access as needed.

"Our kids aren't 21," Codell said. "We trust them. If they say that they are going to enforce age limits and do noth-

tion drive to put the question of an OTB ing to glorify gambling then our kids are not going to be there."

Village staff are currently investigating how other municipalities have dealt with ages limits on OTBs and a final decision on a potential age limit will be left to the village board. However, Bilocerkowycz said that they have agreed to an age limit of 21.

"Villages, like school are experiences challenges of maintaining adequate funding," said Codell. "We are not going to stand in the village's way of investigating a new source of revenue."

The OTB underwent its staff/applicant review process last week. Both Bilocerkowycz and Village Administrator Ralph Czerwinski said that the process went well.

"We reviewed the building plans," said Czerwinski. "Basically, we looked

at how different amenities should be attached to the building. No significant changes were made to the design."

The Plan Commission hearing on the OTB project is scheduled for Monday, Jan. 17 and the village board could hear the proposal as early as Monday, February 14. Bilocerkowycz said that he is still hopeful that Inter-Track will be able to break ground on the facility in the spring.

"If all goes according to plan that would be a nice thing to accomplish,'

He also believes that the facility will be a success whether or not Rosemont or another neighboring suburb is able to attract a casino.

"We are going to be successful in Morton Grove whether or not a casino comes to Rosemont," he said.





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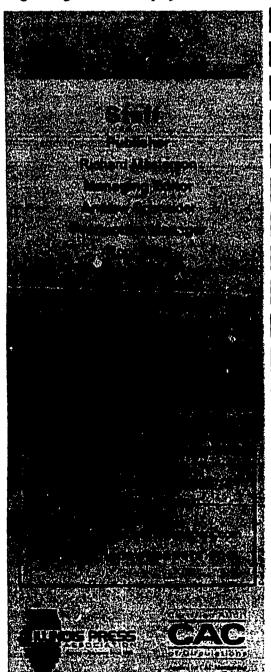
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A Part of History

Village bids farewell to Lochner's Greenhouse, closing for good Dec. 31

BY ANDREW SCHNEIDER editor@buglenewspapers.com

ne of Morton Grove oldest ousinesses will be shuttered at the end of 2004. Lochner's Greenhouse, which has been operating for over 80 years has announced that, following a sale from Dec. 27 to 31, they will close for good.

"It's going to be hard on us," said Jack Lochner, 62, co-owner of the business which he father built. "We love doing it, but economics are the bottom line."

The rising value of their 2-plus acres off of Dempster near the intersection of Waukegan has been one of the factors hurting the Lochner's bottom line. When the greenhouse closes, the rear of the property will be developed as residences while the fate of the Dempster frontage, still zoned for commercial uses, has not been decided. The Lochner's historic farmhouse, one of the oldest in the village, is on the commercial property. Its fate has not been decided.

The Lochner family immigrated from Bavaria, a region of Germany, arriving in Morton Grove in 1842, more than 50 years before the village was officially incorporated. Jack's ancestor, Michael, bought 80 acres of land for \$7.50 an acre in 1845, cleared it and began farming. He was also the area's first postmaster. Richard Lochner, Michael's grandson began the greenhouse with his sister Gertrude in 1925, building it on the farm's property. It began as a produce stand selling fresh vegetables, flowers and plants. Then it included a roadhouse, known as the Rest-a-Bit.

"My grandfather built it himself," said Jack. "We're part of history here."

The village board honored the Lochner's at their last meaning, adding the honorary name, "Lochner Lane," to Birch Street, which neighbors the greenhouse on the west.

"We're sorry to lose you," said Mayor Dan Scanlon. "Any time you bought something from the Lochners you were accused of having a green



Business has been steady for the greenhouse during this their last holiday season. During their sale everything will be for sale, including fixtures like the shelves. The Lochners themselves will take their old family

photographs off of the walls and several light fixtures. Jack will be taking a glazing hammer that his grandfather built and then used to construct the building.

"It touched every nail," he said, "every brad."

said there would be some perks to

"Since I was old enough to carry a flowerpot I've been working here," Jack said. "Of course, I won't have to worry about the boiler going out in the



HEADACHES?

Park Ridge, IL – A newly released free report reveals what leading medical researchers have proven to be the cause of most headaches. To discover the truth about what your own doctor may not know about your headaches, call the toll-free 24-hour recorded message at:





(Top Left) Jack Lochner admires a glazing hammer his grandfather used to build their greenhouse on Dempster. It is one of several keepsakes the Lochners will be taking with them when the business closes at the end of the year.

(Bottom Left) Mike, Patti and Jack Lochner stand in front of their greenhouse on Demoster last week. The Lochners will be closing the business after this year. (Top Right) Plants for sale in the Lochner's greenhouse on Dempster.

(Above) The Lochner's historic farm house stands next to their greenhouse on Dempster. The fate of the home, one of the oldest in the village, is still uncertain. The lot is zoned for commercial use.

(Bottom Left) Mike, Patti and Jack Lochner stand in front of their greenhouse on Dempster last week. The Lochners will be closing the business after this year.

At one time or another every and will still live in Morton Grove, he Lochner child worked in the green-

"The kids helped us," Jack laughed. "Growing up they knew they had to

want to say goodbye to their business winter

closing down.



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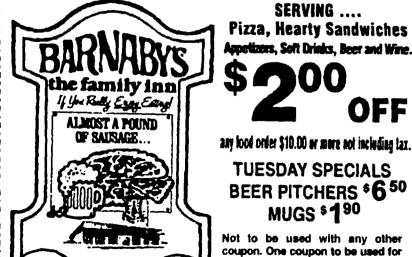
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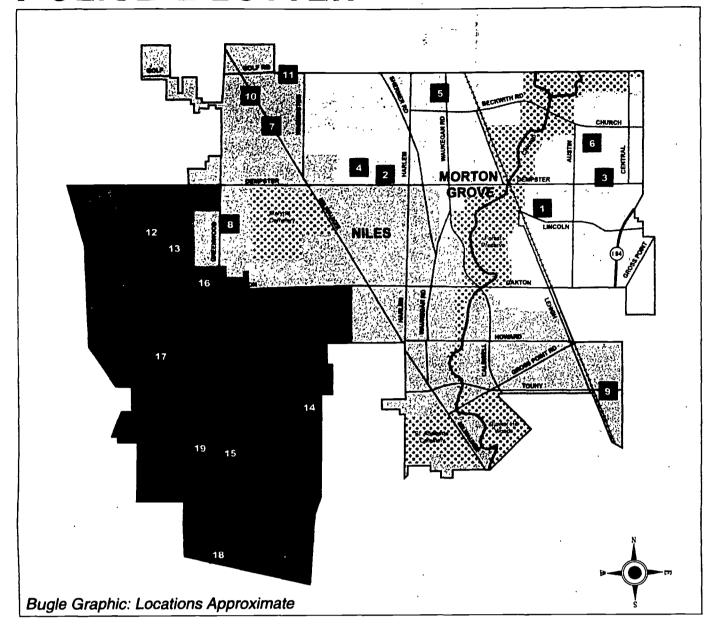


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POLICE BLOTTER



MORTON GROVE

The following items were taken from official reports of the Morton Grove Police Department for the week ending December 17, 2004.

Storage lockers burglar-ized(8400 Callie)

A storage locker located in a parking garage in multi-unit condominium complex in the 8400 block of Callie was broken into Monday night Dec. 13. The tenant of the locker told police someone pried open the door latch, but nothing was taken. Police said five other storage lockers in the same area were burglarized. Owners of the lockers were given property

Theft (7200 Dempster)

losing her purse Monday night Dec. 13. According to police the woman door and that the female kept telling placed her purse on the trunk of her the male, who was wearing the car as she removed her child to go stolen boots, to "keep going". The shopping in the 7200 block of couple escaped in a dark brown car. Dempster. The woman told police she went into the store for only a Videotape shows proof (9400 Waukegan) short period of time and realized she A surveillance tape at a Motel in the did not have her purse. When she returned to her car the purse was gone. Police said another woman in left her bag in the parking lot next to the parking lot at the time noticed the her car Friday morning Dec. 10 and purse sitting on the trunk of the woman's car, but waited to see if the owner would return. The woman told the store manager another room with the bag and then drive woman in the parking lot took the away with the bag still on the purse off the trunk and placed it into ground. Police said the tape shows a the back of another car.

Burglary(5800 Dempster0 A 57-year-old Chicago through it. Police found the woman's have been gun fire and she jumped

woman had a duffel bag containing her purse stolen from her car Thursday evening Dec. 9 when she went into beauty salon in the 5800 block of Dempster to get a manicure. The woman told police the duffel bag contained a small black purse with \$100 in cash and a variety of The owner of the truck told police he

Shoplifting (7300 Dempster) A shoplifter walked out of the Shoe

she saw the couple heading for the

9400 block of Waukegan showed

that a resident of the hotel actually

that her room was not burglarized.

Police said after viewing the tape

they saw the woman walk out of her

Carnival store in the 7300 block of Dempster Thursday night Dec. 9 The following items were taken from official reports of the Niles Police wearing a pair of Timberland boots Department for the week ending valued at \$139.99. An employee of December 20. 2004. the store told police a man and a woman came into the store and started trying on a number of pairs of shoes for nearly 25 minutes. The

(9300 Milwaukee)

employee asked the couple if they A man armed with a handgun A moment of distraction led to needed help and they declined. The robbed the Hancock Fabric store at employee told police a moment later 9371 N. Milwaukee Ave. Saturday

wallet in a nearby dumpster with

everything in tact except \$80 in cash.

Nearly \$1,000 in tools were stolen

from a van parked in the 9100 block

of Menard Thursday night Dec. 9.

was not sure whether he locked the

NILES

truck and engaged the alarm.

Tools stolen (9100 Menard) Tools stolen

Store employees and customers told police the man approached the counter about 5:45 p.m. with baby items in his hand. The clerk told police the man handed her a \$20 bill and when she opened the register to give him change he jammed a silver semi-automatic pistol into the cash drawer and started to remove the money with his left hand. Witnesses said the clerk struggled to get some of the cash out of the robber's hand

before he fled the store: An 18-year-old cashier from the store was outside as the man fled the store and chased him southbound man on a bicycle finding the bag toward the parking lot. The woman about 45 minutes later and going said she heard a loud noise that may

into a dumpster in case the man came looking for her.

Police said it was the third Hancock Fabric store to be robbed within the last two weeks. The other two were in the Bedford Park area. Employees said days before the robbery they received a fax from the other stores describing the man.

Witnesses described the man as a clean shaven male black in his twenties about 5 feet 7 inches tall weighing about 140 pounds. They said the man wore a black leather jacket and navy blue work pants. Police said he may have escaped in a white threewindow van.

Fireplace ashes cause fire (8600 Stolting)

Discarded ashes from a fireplace started a small house fire in the 8600 block of Stolting Sunday night Dec. 19. The son of the owner of the home told police he cleaned out the fire place and placed the ashes next to a stack of wood. The ashes ignited the wood and started the rear of home on fire.

9 Retail Theft (5700 Touhy)
A shoplifter walked out of the Cub Foods store in the 5700 block of Touhy Friday morning Dec. 17 with two bottles of vodka. An employee at the store told police a man about 25 years old just took the two bottles off the shelf and left. The employee said the man fled in a beige car.

Starbucks mystery (9400 Milwaukee)

An employee of the Starbucks coffee shop in the 9400 block of Milwaukee told police a man tried to purchase a \$10 gift certificate at the store using a forged Travelers Check valued at \$100. The employee told police after the man handed her the check she told him she would have to call for a verification. She told police the man told her to "forget it" and offered to pay in cash. The employee said she would still have to verify the check and at that point the man fled the store leaving the check behind.

Check Fraud (8200 Golf)
The owner of a demolition company located in Des Plaines told police Sunday afternoon Dec. 19 that someone was cashing checks at various Jewel Food stores throughout the area with his business name on the checks. The printed checks shows it written against a Bank One account, but when the victim checked Bank One had no such account number. The victim said someone most recently cashed a check for \$368.20 at the Jewel store at 8203 Golf Rd.

The following items were taken from official reports of the Park Ridge Police for the week ending December 10-16, 2004.

Burglary (1800 W. Habberton) A 2000 Jaguar and a 2001 Ford truck were burglarized Thursday night when someone entered the unlocked vehicles while they were parked in the driveway of the owner's home in the 1800 block of

Burglary (1700 Greendale) A purse containing \$100 in cash and a pair of sunglasses valued at \$12 were taken from an unlocked

2001 Ford Expedition parked in the owner's driveway in the 1700 block of Greendale sometime between

Burglary (200 S. Berry)
A drill along with various other tools were taken from an unlocked 1994 Chevy truck parked in the owner's driveway in the 200 block of S. Berry Monday afternoon

15 Stereo stolen (1100 W. Talcott)

A Pioneer car stereo was stolen from a 1993 Camero Sunday morning Dec. 12 after someone smashed the passenger side window.

Damage to property (1000 N. Knight)

Vandals used a brick to smash the front window of a home under construction in the 1000 block of N. Knight Saturday night Dec. 11.

Roof tile damage **2000** Sibley)

Police believe someone has been gaining access to the roof of a school in the 2000 block of Sibley for the last five weeks and damaging roof tiles. Damage has been estimated at \$1,000.

El Camino stolen (1100 block Peterson)

A 1982 Chevy El Camino was stolen in less than an hour while it was parked in the street near the owner's home in the 1100 block of Peterson Saturday afternoon Dec. 11.

19 Explorer stolen (500 S. Delphia)

A 1993 Ford Explorer was stolen Saturday night Dec. 11 while it was parked in the street in the street near the owner's home in the 500 block of Delphia.

Teens admit to drinking (1100 Dee)

Five minors between 17 and 18 years of age were arrested for consumption of alcohol on the grounds of Maine South High School about 8:19 p.m. Dec. 14. Police said the minors admitted to drinking alcohol. The minors were released on their own recognizance. They have a court date of Jan. 21, 2005.

SUMMARY OF CRIME: Morton Grove Burglary -10

Forgery-1 Excessive speeding-1 Park Ridge

Arrests Residents-5 Non -residents -16 THE BUGLE

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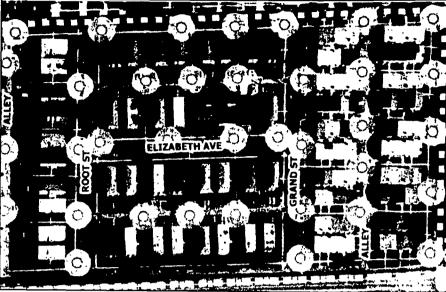
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Niles approves new lighting project for Root/Elizabeth area



approved a new grant-funded plan to increase lighting in the Root/Elizabeth neighborhood north of Dempster and east of Cumberland. In the last few years village per-

sonnel have been focusing on fixing the project. Half the money was problems that exist in the neighborhood that has both resulted in and been caused by a high rate of turnover in the apartment buildings. Crime has been a problem and has spilled out into the single-family residential area that surrounds it.

Assistant Village Manager Steve Vinezeano said that a great deal of progress has been made in fighting the crime and that the new lights will help improve safety and security in this time.

At their November board meeting, the Niles trustees approved a \$146,153.10 bid for the project from H&H Electric, well below the total

amount of a state grant that will fund secured when the village signed the grant agreement and the remainder will be reimbursed to the village when it's completed. Construction on the new lights

cannot begin until spring. No timetable has been established at this point. The village has also planned to expand the lighting improvements into the surrounding single-family area, but funding is not available at

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COMMENTARY

THE BUGLE

In Service to the Community

Editorial Board

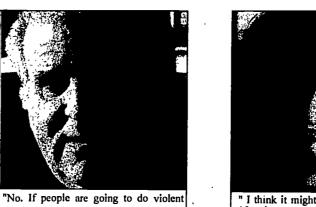
Publisher Richard Masterson **Editor** Andrew Schneider **Production Manager** Rory Scott



Do you think violent video games influence people?



"I wouldn't be surprised. I'm sure it influences James Lynch- Morton Grove



" I think it might influence kids under 15 and pre-teens. I think it can influence younger children." Cathy Riggle- Chicago



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What I Want for Christmas (2004)

ho says you can't do a Santa's List at the bitter (as in "tail", not Yes, Virginia; there ARE kids abusing substances in Park Ridge – and maybe even not nearly so

1)A referendum in the upcoming April, 2005 local elections on what Park Ridge residents REALLY want for Uptown Redevelopment (UR) and Target Area 2 (TA2).

I'd like to see twelve questions (3 each from each of the four taxing bodies in Park Ridge: the City, the Park District, and both school districts) with design/development options for just TA2.

I'd like to see each with Yes/No answers, all producing a gamut of choices for voting residents, from ber?).

Somewhere in there would be guidance to the next (new) City even RUN on their UR and TA2 Behavior? Where ARE our parpositions. Wouldn't that be ents, our many role models?)

2) A realization in Park Ridge residents that this is not

"angry") end of your 50s? Here frequently as their parents, guardians, or local "leaders" do. Hard stuff, soft stuff, every kind of stuff - more than my generation, famous for its exploratory behavior, did in the '60s, I'll bet. Dying from it. And what are we doing about it? Ask your local ostrich.

Yes, Virginia; Park Ridge residents are as much scofflaws as are most other citizens. (As if "everyone else is doing it" were an excuse.) There is NO street in Park Ridge where it cannot be seen, easily: Park Ridge residents speeding, or blowing Stop signs, Do Nothing (a park?) to Build a or failing to use directional sig-Taj Mahal (Up yoURs, remem- nals, or disobeying turning or parking signs, or If kids are to grow up well, WE MUST TEACH THEM, BY EXAMPLE. ALL OF Council about what Park Ridge US, but especially parents. (Can should look like for the next fifty you believe that our local elemento one hundred years. Aldermanic tary school district is touting a new and mayoral candidates could classroom program in Civil

What are we doing about (all of) it? Ask your local politician. Ask yourself.

3) A commercial TV blackout.

The invention with maybe the most potential of all to "change everything" has degenerated into the vast wasteland Newton Minnow wrote about, IN 1961! Since then, it's only gotten worse. What are we doing about it? Turn the damned thing off except for exceptional educational, cultural programming.

4) Freedom from hunger and pain. Oh, and throw in World Peace while you're at it.

We, right here in Park Ridge, WASTE more food than it would take to keep every empty belly here full for a year. (Yes, Virginia; there are hungry people in Park Ridge.) We waste it in our households, in our restaurants, in our grocery stores, ..., everywhere food is bought, sold, and consumed. Can't do anything about that? Ask yourself, again.

We tout our support for our troops. But our state (and Federal) support for our current military and veterans, in wages, medical care, and post-service benefits, is DEPLORABLE. Don't believe me? Enlist, yourself.

What I REALLY want for Christmas is for all of us to be in the "Christmas Spirit" all year

Chuck@ParkRidgeBugle.com

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A New Year's Cheer for Joliet Jake's OTB

Dear Editor,

things they are going to do them."

Nate Beerman-Chicago

Letters

Upscale neighborhoods. Pedestrian walkways. Family community. Commuter impressions. All the schmooze we've been sold for the last five years of TIF, comprehensive plans and \$5 million developer hand-outs. All about to be revealed simply as a captive audience for Joliet Jake's OTB (Off-Track Better) and Bookie Bar.

When it comes to shaking down every possible revenue source in town to keep the good ship "Tax and Spend" afloat, this village has got it down. This year's version is an off-take of the old hidden tax on those less fortunate gambling addicts who are unable or unwilling to kick their habit. The good news is these poor souls can down their sorrows in the OTB Bar when (not if) they lost the mortgage money to Joliet Jake (and possibly the horde of bookies and juice loaners he hangs around with).

Alternatively, should these poor losers happen to make a buck or two, they can shoot the wad on a round of drinks and maybe even a trip to our local massage parlor. Seems the thinking is this will stimulate our village economy (except I'm not sure how much village revenue we actually get from the massage side of local enterprise).

Yep, good old down home Morton Grove...where new urban families meet our old family values.

Don't get me wrong, I give a lot of room to consenting adults and Lord knows I'm no saint, but the prospect of the aforementioned chronic losers (upon whose backs any gambling business is built). Panhandling for spare change only steps from the local high school, is simply neither consistent with the current propaganda on the village's website or its slick tales of the TIF.

You see the problem with this latest attempt at economic development is it would appear no other village wants it. Sin taxes such as cigarettes and liquor are good revenue generators because they disincentivize the use of substances bad for one's health. But you can buy them anywhere. Joliet Jake's (not a real name, yet a meaningful metaphor) OTB on the other hand is a location for sin, promising to import both sinners and their sins into our quiet hamlet. This plan increases bad habits in Morton Grove, of both residents and non-Continues..

OTB page 9.

LE BREAKFAST LE BRUNCH LE LUNCH

SCRAMBLE OVER EASY OR GET BASTED SUNNYSIDE UP.

You get breakfast the way you like at Le Peep. Eggs prepared 1 two dozen ways. Pancakes. OJ, 100% Colombian coffee. Crispy bacon and savory sausage. A great breakfast, at a fair price, served with a smile.

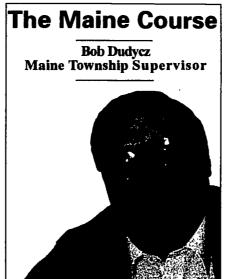
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COMMENTARY



This Holiday season, don't forget those who could use a kind word

s I left for a visit with my father, I mused over the similarity of a person's health to falling leaves that, all too soon, are followed by falling snowflakes.

Mariorie broke into my revere asking if I would sign an invoice and said, "I don't know about you but this year slipped away while I wasn't looking. Now it seems that New Year's Eve is rushing towards us with the speed of a greyhound."

She asked about my father's health and before I replied Barb walked by, protesting to Judy about local merchants. "I've been watching newspaper sales and am amazed how stores became confused." She said. "When one needs a new bathing suit now is the time to buy." Judy agreed, "It's a fact that if you should have looked for it in

to observe Little Mikey who worst. stopped painting a wall to talk with Monika about his take on holiday season that starts after October. I get hungry just thinking about Thanksgiving. Thoughts of turkey and all of the fixings make my mouth water." He beamed with glee while talking about Santa, caroling, and, of He concluded with a leap and a gift I had just been given. shriek as he bellowed; "It all ends Eve."

wall and Monika saw that I was ly-filled holiday season and good leaving. She asked about my health in the New Year. As we Dad. I started to reply when the celebrate, let's not forget those phone rang and she returned to who could use a kind word, a

In the parking lot, E.J. hollered, "See you tomorrow and all the best to your Pop. I hope he feels better." I waved an acknowledgement and drove towards the city.

The car radio was playing holiday songs. I was drawn to the Andy Williams version of a carol called "It's The Most Wonderful Time of the Year". If you listen to any popular radio station you are guaranteed to hear it. In the lyrics you hear the fun of the holidays and children laughing while showing us their winter antics. In past years, I would have sung along but this time I was not cheered.

As I drove I thought about sick people who need some merriment yet they are the last to be invited to a party. Hospital rooms do not have fewer occupants because of the season and Santa's impending arrival has little impact on those languishing away the hours.

In the hospital, there is little gaiety as conscious patients look with hope to being discharged yet in many cases this is a false hope I shared some of that hope as I approached the hospital because my Dad's health had become like the falling leaves as he continued to struggle for life.

I thought about how I could pass on my feelings to others so they might visit a sick or homebound relative or neighbor. One never knows how much gratitude that neighbor feels when a friendly person walks into their room. Many patients do not have relatives to care for them so Holidays are especially trying for them.

I thought about how lucky my family was to be able to share memories of happier times and need a winter coat today, you treasure those lucid moments when our Dad gave us a smile of August." Marjorie thanked me recognition. Since the beginning and rushed to join her friends as of Mikey's favorite season, my they meandered towards their siblings and I spent many hours with our Dad, hoping for the best Walking to the exit I was able and praying that he be spared the

After many weeks of hospital visits, once again I walked down the holidays. "For me, I love the the corridor to Room 606 and prepared for several hours of care giving. I squared my shoulders, put on my happy face and walked towards his bed where I hoped he would show some of his old self. He was awake and when he looked up, smiled and greeted me course, presents under the tree. by name, I was grateful for the On behalf of my family, the

with a "BANG" on New Year's Township Staff ant the Township Board of Trustees, I wish all of He returned to painting his my neighbors a wonderful, famiwork so I waved goodbye, exited smile, and just a minute of your the building and walked to my time to help make their holidays a little brighter and hopeful.

Krier's last-minute budget cuts an attempt to confuse residents

Dear Editor,

This letter is a response to the Morton Grove Caucus Party and their 11th hour attempt to confuse the residents of Morton Grove into thinking they could turn the 2005 budget from having a potential shortfall into a huge surplus. It became apparent to me at our meeting that Mr. Krier is more interested in his own political gain than the good of the people of Morton Grove.

How is it that Trustees and staff did not have a copy of his proposed budget cuts until Mr. Krier passed them out minutes before the vote? Yet, Caucus Party members in the audience already had the information in front of them when Trustee Krier presented would have been much more pare a budget that maintained our Action Party President

Village Board meeting. Talk about arrogant politicians!

One year ago Trustee Krier did not have a problem with running a 2 million dollar deficit. When faced with the tough decision of raising revenue for the Village he voted no which showed he has no fiscal responsibility. This year is apparently different. He now says "any deficit is irresponsible". He is now willing to gut the police, fire, and public works pension funds for his own political gain. Even though funding is the Village's best interests, and mandated by the State.

Our Village staff needs to be to do. commended for their six months

appropriate and in the best inter- high level of services with the est of the Village for him to share least impact to the taxpayers. Our the information with the staff and Village is in the same position as fellow board members prior to the all municipalities in that dollars are currently hard to acquire.

By the way, I ran for Trustee because I was and still am tired of "typical" politicians. I am proud that my fellow Action Party board members and I work hard to find solutions to difficult problems. We always welcome and respect the opinions of the people of Morton Grove. We've had to make some very difficult and unpopular decisions. I can honestly say that we've made these decisions because they were in because that's what we are elected

them to fellow Board members. It of hard work and diligence to pre- Dan DiMaria, Vilage Trustee,

(Continued from page 8)

So here's my New Year's cheer for Joliet Jake's OTB:

petition to add the question of an out of the back room politics of Chris Arns, Morton Grove

of our community directly voices Please join me in signing a their choice. Taking this decision

OTB in Morton Grove to a refer- Morton Grove. Even Tony endum vote, so that each member Soprano takes his business out the community he lives in.



BY JEFFREY CARDELLA Special to The Bugle

PUBLIC SERVICE ADVERTISEMENT

Edward Jones

Take Advantage of Higher Retirement Plan Limits

How can you build resources for a comfortable earning 7%. retirement? One of the best moves you can Furthermore, the above figures don't take into accelerate your retirement savings. Higher Contributions Can Add Up

In 2005, you can put up to \$14,000 into conditions.) your 401(k), up from \$13,000 in 2004. And, if (Can You Afford to "Max Out"? you're 50 or over, you can add up to \$4,000 in If you're like most people, you have plenty of ernment employees, and to 403(b) plans, for 401(k) and IRA. employees of schools, religious organizations That may, in fact, be the case — but do whator other non-profit groups.)

tional or Roth IRA, up from \$3,000 in 2004. If also may be able to set aside more money for you're 50 or over, you can add another \$500. your 401(k) if you can find a way to cut down At first glance, you might not think these on some of your daily expenditures. increases are such a big deal. But, over time, As for your IRA, try to put in a fixed amount they can really add up. Suppose, for example, each month, rather than scramble to make the that you put in the maximum of \$14,000 every entire contribution at one time. You'd probably year to a 401(k), 457(b) or 403(b) plan, and find it quite hard to come up with \$4,000 at earned a hypothetical 7% rate of return. After one time — but if you spread it out over 15 25 years, the account would have accumulated months (you have until April 15 to make IRA about \$68,000 more than if you had only put in contributions for the preceding year), you have the old maximum of \$13,000 per year and to find only \$266 a month. earned the same 7%. And if you contributed Reach for the limit... the new maximum of \$4,000 every year to an By hitting the contribution limit on your the previous maximum of \$3,000 per year, brighten your prospects for tomorrow.

make is to contribute the maximum to your account future increases in contribution limits 401(k) and IRA. And here's some good news: or "catch-up" contributions. (Keep in mind That maximum has been *increased* for 2005 — that you will have to pay taxes on a 401(k), so you now have an even better chance to 457(b), 403(b) or traditional IRA when you start taking withdrawals. A Roth IRA, however, grows tax-free, provided you meet certain

catch-up" contributions. (These same limits demands on your income, so you may not apply to 457(b) plans, for state or local gov- think you can afford to "max out" on your

ever you can. Whenever you get a raise, con-You also can put up to \$4,000 in your tradi-sider increasing your 401(k) contribution. You

IRA, again earning a hypothetical 7% rate of 401(k) and IRA, you can help yourself achieve return, you would end up, after 25 years, with a retirement lifestyle without limits. So put about \$67,000 more than if you had invested away as much as you can today — and help

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





Clever gift ideas, tips for easy holiday shopping Daily Soups

the desire to be creative in an all-time high.

You convince yourself this is nies, such as Ridgewood, N.J.the year you will handcraft every single present and nothing will be store bought. This wish, how- ing imaginative ideas for even ever, declines drastically as Dec. the hardest-to-buy-for person. 24 looms ever closer and your At house is littered with glue bottles, construction paper and ribbon, but not one gift.

However, a little organization later and may just free you up to make some of those gifts.

day stress:

admirable, it may not be possi- FUN-GIFT. ative for you? Specialty compabased BeautifulCookies.com make gift giving easy by provid-

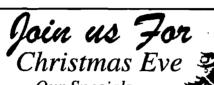
BeautifulCookies.com, mouth-watering, decorated cookies (of all shapes, sizes and flatin that can be used long after the boss. This gift can be personallogo or even photos. To learn

* Call for help. While the thought more, visit www.beautifulcook is that time of the year and of doing everything yourself is ies.com or call, toll free, 1-866-

L your gift giving remains at ble. So why not let others be cre- * Look for unique places to shop. Holidays and birthdays provide the perfect excuse to explore those quaint boutiques that you've always wanted to visit but just haven't had the time. Often, stores like these have unique, one-of-a-kind items that are sure to be treasured for years.

* Shop by computer or phone. vors) are arranged in a gift tray or Shopping online or by catalog is now easier than ever. Best of all, now can save you oodles of time treats are gone and are perfect for the amount of time you save by neighbors, clients or even your pushing a few buttons versus running from place to place will Follow these tips to avoid holi- ized with a holiday or corporate give you more time to spend with family and friends





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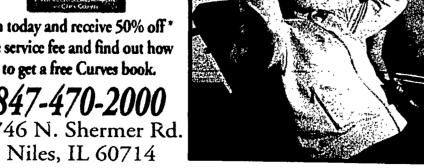


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BUSINESS



THE BUGLE

Hedge funds may be hot, but the costs aren't cool

ould you ever put money into an invest-ment managed by financial professionals who charged ridiculously high fees and skimmed off 20 percent of

your profit? And what if these began imploding in 2000. they were investing in?

Does this sound like something you'd want to get entangled with? Actually, don't be so quick to shake your head no, because

hotter than deep fat fryers at KFC. In 1990, roughly \$50 billion was sitting in hedge funds, but today that figure has soared to roughly \$1 trillion. It's estimated that hedge funds often Part of the allure for wealthy and 12.3 percent for the Standard hedge-fund indexes weren't account for more than half the investors is the belief that the & Poor's 500 Index. Looking at affected. New York Stock Exchange.

Despite cardiac-inducing fees, black-box investments and their amoebas in a petri dish. funds when the stock market for the year.

see, is partially revealed in their In fact, let's assume that there's very name. These funds can more disclosure on a box of hedge against moves in any mar-Kellogg's Corn Flakes than what ket direction, up, down and sidethese managers are willing to ways. When stocks experience tle as .08 percent. Park \$2 mildivulge. Oh, and what if these their periodic meltdowns, for lion in the cheapest mutual fund, parade. To get a copy of the clever fellows could skirt the instance, a hedge-fund manager rules that mutual funds must fol- can short them. By essentially betting that a stock is overvalued and will drop in price, the manager can make money.

These funds can also hedge What I've just described are their bets. Some hedge funds clients to less risk. hedge funds, which are currently also hunt for arbitrage opportunities, which means they exploit instance, the Van Global Hedge price differences between identi- Fund Index, a popular bench cal securities by buying one at a mark, returned 15.9 percent lower price and selling the other annually versus 9.2 percent for at a higher one.

shares traded each day on the best and the brightest managers those statistics, you might feel motivation is often cold cash. ability to frolic in a regulatory Hedge funds typically charge But thankfully, there are skepno man's land, hedge funds are investors a stiff 2 percent of their tics who warn that the emperor, thriving and multiplying like assets a year. So if someone at best, is only half-clothed. A Sophisticated investors became fund, he or she would pay Burton G. Malkiel, a Princeton far more fascinated with hedge \$40,000 just to park their money professor and a giant among aca- Visit Copley News Service at

guys told you little about what The beauty of hedge funds, you ly keeps 20 percent of each the average mutual fund charges are index funds that charge as lit-

Willing to ignore the high price, investors are genuflecting before the hedge-fund altar because of their high priests' heavenly results. The statistics suggest bonds and derivative securities, that hedge funds have trounced then you'd be revealing your play around with options and use mutual funds with higher to report them. The most specborrowed money to leverage returns, while exposing their tacular example of this high-

and you'd pay \$1,600.

the average stock mutual fund are fleeing their jobs at mutual like a chump if you don't put a funds to start hedge funds. The hedge fund on your holiday wish gold

sinks \$2 million into the hedge new study, co-authored by LynnOShaughnessy@cox.net. demic economists, argues that www.copleynews.com.

What's more, the house usual- hedge fund performance isn't nearly as good as it appears.

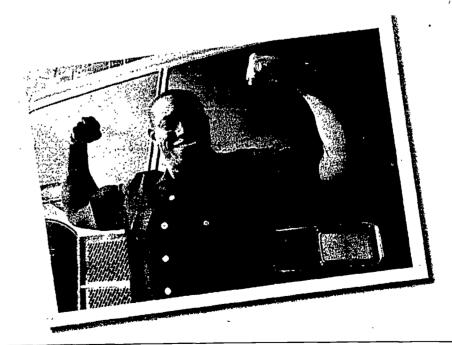
investor's profit. In comparison. Read the report, and you could easily come to the conclusion roughly 1.5 percent, and there that hedge-fund returns are as inflated as the Bullwinkle at Macy's Thanksgiving Day report, type its title, Hedge Funds: Risk and Return, into

The reasons for the bloated returns are easy to appreciate. A hedge fund manager who generates dreadful stats doesn't have stakes version of hiding the From 1988 through 2003, for report card comes from Long Term Capital Management, a darling of Wall Street, which lost 92 percent of its capital one year in the late 1990s. Because the firm didn't report this flameout,

> As always, buyers need to be aware. All that glitters is not

> Lynn O'Shaughnessy is the author of "The Retirement Bible" and "The Investing Bible." She can be reached at

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MORTON GROVE SENIOR CITIZENS NEWS RELEASE Contact: Bud Swanson, Family & Senior Services, 847/663-6110 December 20, 2004

BRIDGE CLUB

Challenging intermediate to advanced bridge matches are enjoyed by Bridge Club players in the Morton Grove Senior Center every Tuesday from 12 noon to 3:30 p.m. with the next six-month session starting Jan. 4 (through June 28). The fee is \$13 for Senior Center Members and \$16 for non-members. Please register in person at the Senior Center.

MAH JONGG CLUB Enjoy the fun exhilarating game

of Mah Jongg with a group of new friends! The Mah Jongg Club meets every Tuesday from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m. with the next six-month session starting Jan. 4 (through June 28) in the Morton Grove Senior Center. The fee is \$13 for Senior Center Members and \$16 for non-members. Please register in person at the Senior Center.

CHOLESTEROL SCREENING

The Morton Grove Senior Center's next Cholesterol Screening will be held at 9 a.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 5. Swedish Covenant Hospital will administer the screening, which provides a full lipid profile including total cholesterol, HDL, LDL and triglycerides. Results will be available within seven working days. Reservations are required by calling the Morton Grove Senior Hot Line at 847/470-5223. Fasting for 12 hours is also required but water and medications are allowed. The cost is \$10 for residents age 65+ and \$12 for non-residents and residents under age 65.

Maine Township **Senior News**

MaineStreamers Announce New Winter Senior Activities and Classes

The following are some of the new classes, events, and activities available through MaineStreamers, the social senior organization of Maine Township. For further information on free membership or any of these events, call 1-847-297-2510.

Cash Dash/Identity Theft Program Monday, January 10 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

No Charge - Registration Required A representative from the State Treasurer Judy Baar Topinka's office will identify ways to prevent Identity Theft. The following topics will be discussed: Money and Property Theft, Common Telephone Scams, Telemarketers Issues, Prize Offers, Travel

Niles Senior News

NSC Highlights

For more details on the programs listed below and/or to find out about membership requirements, or our other programs and activities, such as events, trips, or classes, please check the November & December Naturally Active Program Guides or call the Niles Senior Center at 847/588-8420

Niles Senior Center Closed Christmas Eve Day: Friday, December

(The Center is open only for those preregistered participants and volunteers for the luncheon.)

New Year's Eve Day: Friday, December 31st

Help us fill the Niles food pantry Times are tough; the need is great, and supplies are low. Please consider bringing in a donation to the Niles Food Pantry. Canned soups, vegetables, and fruit are ideal as they are nourishing and store well. You may drop your donations off at the Front Desk at the Senior Center. Thank you for all that you can do.

If you are feeling overwhelmed by holiday stress, our Social Work Department is available to help you explore ways to reclaim the holidays for yourself. If you're concerned about yourself or a friend in the community, please call Bev Wessels at 847 588-

NEW CLASSES AND PRO-GRAMS BEGIN IN JANUARY JOIN IN THE FUN!

Most of the programs listed in the December, 2004 Naturally Active Program Guide begin in January, 2005. If you're considering joining one of our classes or groups, now is the time! Please call us if you would like more information about any of our programs

COMPUTER CLASSES Pre-Introduction to Computers Tuesdays & Thursdays, Jan 4th to Jan.13th,

11am-noon, \$15.

This class is for people who have never used a computer. Learn the basics. Upon completion, move to the next level, Introduction to Computers. This is a 2 week class.

Introduction to Computers – Mondays & Wednesdays, Jan. 10th to Feb. 16th, 9:00am - 10:30am, \$25.

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New Program —Humanities Treasures Wednesday, January 26... 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

No Charge -Registration Required Join Herman Halperin and David Crown for an interesting afternoon of films, books and informal discussions on life, literature, music and the arts. Sponsored by Oakton Community College & The National Council on Aging, Inc. INTRODUCTION TO THE

INTERNET Wednesdays, January 12 to

8 sessions - 3:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. Gemini Jr. High School Library 8955 N. Greenwood, Niles Instructors: George Ballas

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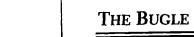
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SPORTS

Wolves defeat Hawks in 47-46 squeaker

BY RYAN BISHOP rbishop@buglenewspapers.com

he Niles West Wolves basketball team found themselves in **_** an improbable position Friday night with the game on the line. The Maine South Hawks thought they had the game won after Mark Duric's tip in off a Colin O'Malley miss with three seconds left. But with no timeouts remaining, Odzic pushed the ball up the court and found Victor Colon under the basket for the buzzer beating shot, securing a 47-46 win and setting off a wild celebration.

The Wolves bench and student body rushed the floor as soon as the shot went in. Maine South coach Tony Lavorato Jr. ran onto the court to argue the call but it stood, much to his dismay and that of the Hawk players.

With the Hawks holding a sizable lead until late in the third quarter, the game came down to the last 31 seconds. Point guard O'Malley held the ball before putting up a running jumper with seven seconds that fell short. Duric followed with his lay in to put the Hawks up one.

"What a heartbreaker of a game for our kids to lose," said the dejected coach Lavorato. "They are extremely disappointed with the outcome, but they have faced this before and I know they will bounce back. This is the second game in a row we have lost on a last shot. The last was a 40-footer that beat us. The explanation I got from the refs was that the ball left his hand before the clock hit zero but the ref should have been looking at the

The Hawks (2-6, 0-2) proved they will be a force to be reckoned with in the Central Suburban League this year. Jumping out to a 6-2 lead with 3:36 in the first, the offense found open shots as O'Malley and junior guard Jon Wolf broke loose. Their aggressive man-to-man defense limited the Wolves (5-2, 2-0) to 3-9 shooting in the first quarter, igniting the Hawks to

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seven on the team's points.

Three foul shots by 6-4 forward Alex Tone extended the lead to 18-6 efore the Wolves mounted their comeback. Colon's struggles continued after a badly missed three-pointer,

Whether cutting inside for tough basket or launching three-pointers, Odzic was on his game on a night when his teammates struggled to find

"Sead was bound and determined to win this game for us tonight," said a but Odzic exploded for 11 points in the relieved coach Dave Genis. "He kids. They pressured us and played final four minutes of the fourth quarter showed why he is the best player in hard, also changed up their defense that single-handedly brought his team our conference. It was just a phenom-nicely. I thought we made good adjust-he hasn't led his team in scoring in

the team and Vic turned his game around in the second half."

"I told the kids it was going to be a war going into the game," he continued. "There are no easy games in this conference and this is a tough place to play. Give credit to the Maine South enal performance. He certainly carried ments in the second half by isolating four games.

(Far Left) Niles West guard Sead Odzic (25) directs the offense in the

second half of their game against Maine South Friday night Dec. 17, 2004 at Maine South. (Above) Maine South head coach

Toy Lavorato Jr. gets an explanation from the referee after a last second shot by Niles West beat the Hawks Friday night Dec. 17,2004 at Maine South.

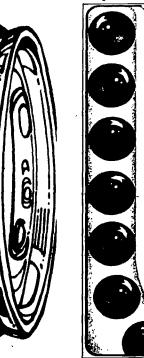
(Left) Maine South guard ColinO'Malleydrives the lane to bring the Hawks within one point of Niles West in the closing seconds of their game Friday night Dec. 17, 2004 at Maine South. (Photo by Allen Kaleta)

(Photos by Allen Kaleta)

Victor in the post and Sead kept us in the game with his great athleticism."

Odzic's three with 2:00 left in the third gave the Wolves their first lead of the game at 31-29. Colon's threepoint play gave them a 39-32 lead before the Hawks charged back. Junior Forward Anthony Cruz scored 14 points for the Hawks, the first time

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Team 6 - Gerri Nowoczynski+25 pins

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CHRISTMAS 2004

Liturgies Of Christmas Čhristmas Eve Friday, December 24th 4:00 p.m. (Carols at 3:30 p.m.) 10:30 p.m. (Carols at 10:00 p.m.) Christmas Day Saturday, December 25th 7:30 a.m., 9:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m. 12:00 p.m. Liturgies: Mary, Mother of God

New Year's Eve Friday, December 31st 5:00 p.m. Saturday, January 1, 2005

9:00 a.m.

St. Lambert Church 8148 N. Karlov Ave. Skokie, IL 60076 (847) 673-5090 **CHRISTMAS 2004**

Christmas Eve - Friday, December 24th

The Vigit.—4:40 p.m. Christmas Carols | 5:00 p.m. Family Mass
Choral Group Contemporary, Folk, and Traditional Music

Midnight Mass

1. The carol Service Music Includes excerpts from The Messiah by George F. Han
and Traditional Carols of the Season | 12:00 Solema Muss at Midnight

St. Lambert Combines Choirs
Christmas Day-Saturday, December 25th

Hely Day of Chlistian

Holy Day of Obligation 8:00 a.m. Muss | 10:00 a.m. Choral Mass | 12:00 noon Mass Holy Family Sunday, December 26th 8:00 a.m. Mass | 10:00 a.m. Mass | 12:00 noon Mass 8:00 a.m. Mass | 10:00 a.m. Mass | 12:00 noon Mass
New Year – The Solemnily of Mary Mother of God
Not a Holy Day of Obligation
Friday, December 31st | 5:00 p.m. Anticipated Mass
Saturday January 14 | 8:00 a.m. Mass | 10:00 a.m. Mass
Epiphany – Sunday January 2nd
8:00 a.m. Mass | 10:00 a.m. Choral Mass | 12:00 noon Mass
Multiculum Mass — "Progression of the Nations"

Please Note: No Anticipated Sunday Mass on Saturday

Parish Reception following the Mass in Trainor Hall Sucrament of Reconciliation

St. Martha

CHRISTMAS 2003 SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve, December 24 - Family Masses at 4:30 pm in the Auditorium Church & 7pm in the Chapel. The 4:30 pm Mass will be focused towards the smallest of our parishioners, the 7pm Mass towards families with older children.

Christmas Eve in the Auditorium Church. Caroling with the Choir begins at 11:00 pm.

Masses on Christmas Day 10:00 am in the Auditorium Church There will be no 7am Mass on Christmas Day.

New Year's Eve, December 31 Mass at 4pm in the Auditorium Church

New Year's Day, January 1 Mass at 9am in the Chapel.



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CHRISTMAS EVE

5:00 and 11:00 p.m. - Candlelight Worship

11:00 p.m. - Holy Communion Celebrated

CHRISTMAS DAY

9:30 a.m. - Festival Worship

with Holy Communion

NEW YEAR'S EVE

7:30 P.M. - Holy Communion celebrated

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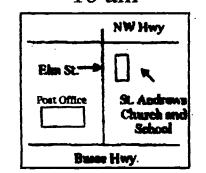
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Christmas Day 10 am



Polish National Catholic Church 9201 West Higgins Road, Chicago Illinois 60631 7pm & 10:30 pm Rt. Rev. Jan Dawidziuk, Pastor

December 24 — Friday, CHRISTMAS EVE 11:30 p.m. Congregational Caroling, 12:00 midnight, Blessing of the Creche and Mass of the Shepherds (Pasterka)

December 25 — Saturday, CHRISTMAS —BOZE NARODZENIE 10:00 a.m. Mass of the Nativity of our Lord.

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Christmas 2004

MASSES

2:00 p.m. & 4:00 p.m.

7:30-9:00-10:45 a.m. & 12:15 p.m

7:30-9:00-10:45 a.m. & 12:15 p.m

(There will NOT be an anticipated

5 p.m. Mass on Saturday, Dec. 25)

(We welcome everyone to celebrate the Lord's birth with us.

12 Midnight (Carol Service Begins at 11:30 p.m.)

Feast of the Holy family — Sunday, December 26

Christmas Day - Saturday, December 25

New Year's Eve-Friday, December 31

New Year's Day - Saturday, January 1

5:00 p.m.

8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.

All Saints Cathedral Parish

Christmas Eve - Friday, December 24

December 26 — Sunday, Feast of St. Stephen, Proto-Martyr Holy Masses 8:30 a.m. & 11:00 am December 27 — Monday, Feast of St. John, Apostle and Evangelist. Holy Mass at 8:30 a.m. December 28 — Tuesday, Feast of Holy Innocents,

Martyrs. Holy Mass at 8:30 a.m. December 29 — Wednesday, Mass within the Octave of Nativity at 8:30 a.m.

December 30— Thursday, Mass within the Octave of Nativity at 8:30 a.m.

December 31 — Friday, NEW YEAR'S EVE 7:00 p.m. Mass of Thanksgiving for the blessings. January 1 — Saturday NEW YEAR'S DAY 10:00 a.m. Holy Mass followed by Open House Dinner in the Fellowship Hall and caroling to the shut-ins.

January 2— Sunday, Solemnity of HUMBLE SHEPHERDS Holy Masses: 8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m January 6 — Thursday, 8:30 a.m. Solemnity of Epiphany of our Lord or Three Kings (Trzech Kroli)

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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 24th - CHRISTMAS EVE

Slovak Stedry Vecer begins at 4 p.m. Candle Light Service begin at 7:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 25th - CHRISTMAS DAY FESTIVAL WORSHIP

Slovak Communion at 8:30 a.m.

Christmas Festival Communion Liturgy with Trinity's Chorus Zora singing - 10:30 a.m. REDISCOVER JESUS WITH US TODAY!

8307 N. Harlem Ave. Niles, IL 60714 (847) 966-8145 The Parish Church Saint John Brebeuf NATIVITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

December 25.2004 CHRISTMAS EVE LITURGIES CHRISTMAS DAY 9:00,10:45 A.M. & 12:30 P.M. (Polish) (No 5:00 P.M. & 6:30 P.M. Anticipatory Mass for FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY

> December 26, 2004 7:30, 9 00. 10:45 A,M, & 12:30 P.M. (Polish) **SOLEMNITY OF MARY** New Year's Eve 5:00 P.M., 6:30 P.M. (Polish) New Year's Day 9:00 10:45 A.M. & 12:30 P.M. (Polish)

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD January 2, 2005 7:30, 9:00, 10:45 A.M. & 12:30 P.M. (Polish

> Come Celebrate Christmas

St. Luke's **Christian Community Church**

9233 Shermer Rd. Morton Grove, IL 60053

Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship 7:30 P.M. December 24th Rev. Raymond W. Nyquist Choir Sings the Music of Christmas

Soloist - Wayne Staley Sunday Worship 10:15 A.M. Rev. Raymond W. Nyquist For Information Call 966-9233 Whose birthday is it, anyway?

We believe the important news at Christmas is not who comes down the chimney, but who came down from heaven. We invite you to come and join

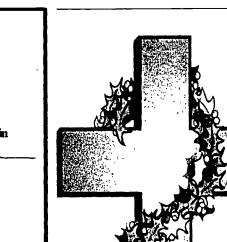


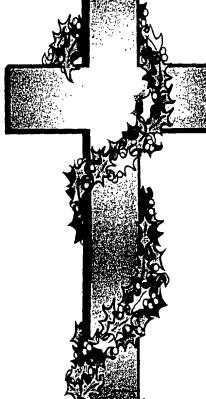
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Give yourself the gift of health for the holidays

elebrating holidays with family ✓ sharing favorite foods, stories and smiles. This season, partake in lots of smiles and stories, but try to go easy on the food you eat. This may help you watch your weight and improve your health as well.

Managing your weight calls for more than just choosing a healthful variety of foods like vegetables, fruits, grains (especially whole grains), beans, and low-fat meat, poultry and dairy products. It also calls for looking at how much and how often you

easy when you encounter tasty buffets loaded with everything from apple pie to potato salad. But you can enjoy wonderful foods and keep your weight in check at the same time.

The experts at the National Institute Diseases (NIDDK) suggest these tips for controlling your portions and your overeat.

activities.

' Eat slowly so your brain can get the and friends usually includes message that your stomach is full. * Avoid eating while busy doing other

> * Try to eat three sensible meals, including breakfast, at regular times even during this busy time of year. Skipping meals may lead you to eat larger portions of high-calorie, highfat foods at your next meal or snack.

Keep snacking to a minimum. * Keep special treats like cookies, chips or chocolates out of sight so you won't be tempted to snack when you are not really hungry.

* When you do have a treat like cake, Overeating at this time of the year is ice cream or cookies, keep your portion size small, eat it slowly, and enjoy it.

Another way to keep track of your portions is to use a food diary. Writing down what, where, when, why, and how much you eat can help you be of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney aware of the amount of food you are consuming and the times you tend to

Controlled-carb eating for the holidays

he holidays are a time to celebrate with family and friends, and for some, a time to put their healthy eating habits on hold. For followers of a controlled-carbohydrate lifestyle, holiday temptations of candy, cookies and other sweets can be overwhelming.

The key to maintaining good eating habits is not denial, but rather, adaptation. Preparing ahead and making sound dietary choices are 2 teaspoons chopped fresh essential to staving on track.

"You already know temptations are going to 1 cup lower sodium chicken broth be there," says Atkins Nutritionals Inc. Food Editor Allison Fishman. "So, plan ahead. If you're going to a holiday party, bring your own snacks or make a quick inventory of the food your host is serving. Instead of picking up the first thing you see, look for foods that support your controlled-carb program and indulge in

For instance, Fishman suggests shrimp or sliced meats instead of breaded appetizers, and nuts or fruit instead of carb-loaded cookies.

The following recipe and more can be found in "Atkins Best Holiday Recipes," released in early October 2004. Pick up a copy at your local grocery store.

WILD MUSHROOM

STUFFING (Makes 10 servings) 3 tablespoons unsalted butter 3 small shallots, sliced (1/3 cup) 9 garlic cloves, minced (1 1/2

2 pounds assorted wild mushrooms, coarsely chopped 1 teaspoon salt

1/4 teaspoon pepper 1/2 cup Madeira wine

9 slices Atkins Bakery Ready-to-Eat Sliced White Bread, torn into 1

1/2-inch pieces 1/4 cup chopped fresh parsley

1/2 cup heavy cream

1 egg, lightly beaten Heat oven to 350 F. Butter a 7 by 11-inch baking

Melt butter in a large skillet over medium-high heat. Add shallots and garlic; sautl 2 minutes. Add mushrooms, salt and pepper; cook until moisture released by the mushrooms evaporates, about 8 minutes. Add wine; cook until liquid evaporates, about 6 minutes. Remove from heat.

Place mushroom mixture in a large bowl. Add bread, parsley and thyme; toss gently. Whisk broth, cream and egg in a small bowl. Pour over mushroom mixture and toss to coat. Transfer mixture to baking dish. Bake until golden and set, about 45 minutes.

Prep time: 40 minutes.

Cook time: 1 hour 10 minutes.

Nutritional information per serving: 8.5 grams net carbs; 14.5 grams carbohydrates; 6 grams fiber; 14 grams protein; 13 grams fat; 220 calo-

A short history of delicious holiday gifts

hocolate. It comes in dark or white: with nuts, raisins, caramel or crisps; in Santa shapes and bunny silhouettes. The world's favorite treat is enjoyed in many adults. forms, consistencies and flavors.

Chocolate Manufacturers Association, dies and cookies. Because it was necesAmericans chose chocolate as their favorite flavor. But although
Americans gobble up about 12

around the world, merchants began pounds of chocolate a year many don't know the story of how this delightful sweet became one of the most popular holiday treats and gifts.

The custom began more than 4,000 years ago when the early Romans exchanged sweet gifts during the solstice ceremonies. They believed sweet-tasting gifts like fruits, honey and cakes would ensure a good harvest. By the Middle Ages, the

story of the Magi bearing gifts for the infant Jesus became a central part of the christmas holiday tradition in the

In the early 1900s, sweet-tasting homemade treats were popular holiday gifts, primarily for children. Our modern-day Santa Claus is based upon Saint Nicholas, the third century bishop of Myra, who dressed in red and white robes and secretly bestowed gifts

As the years progressed, print advertisements began to appear, encouraging the giving of candies and other sweets among

During World War II, servicemen far from In a consumer survey sponsored by the home often requested gifts containing can-

lic to shop far in advance. From this practice, the extended holiday shopping season was born.

was born. ► Whitman's Candies and the Whitman's Sampler have

played a major role in this holiday tradition for more than 100 years. Today, Whitman's remains one of the most recognized and loved boxed chocolate brands, with decorated boxes that take the guesswork out of off-giving gift-giving.

Most will agree that hardly anyone will refuse a chocolate offering. Whether it's dark, white, sugar-free or low-carb, chocolate reigns supreme as an ideal holiday treat for family members, friends, teachers, co-workers and people of all ages.

For more information on chocolate holiday gifts, call 1-888-311-3723.

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8 Light-sensitive cells 9 Starlike

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12 Flush 13 Trial balloon 18 Miss Scarlett, e.g.

23 Goaded, with on 24 Chili go-with 25 "___ Summer": Beach Boys album

27 Bible and Borscht 28 Lake Geneva resort

29 Greeting from Pooh 31 Holy mackerel! 32 "Johnny B.

33 Violinist Mischa 34 Chicago expressway, with the

36 Prince Edward's title 39 Kind of campaign 43 Viewpoint

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50 Massachusetts peninsula, with 61

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EVENTS CALENDAR

GOVERNMENT

Monday, January 3

-7pm High School District 207 board meeting -7:30pm Park Ridge City Council meeting

Thursday, January 6 -7:30pm Park Ridge Park Board meeting

Monday, January 10

-7pm Morton Grove village board meeting -7pm High School District 219 board meeting

-7:30pm Park Ridge-Niles Elementary School District 64 board meeting

COMMUNITY

Friday, December 24

-St. John Lutheran Church in Niles will hold Christmas Eve Candlelight Services at 5pm and 11pm on Friday, Dec. 24. The 5pm service will include a special children's sermon. Other services will feature many Christmas hymns and carols and especially, the singing of Silent Night by candlelight. For more information, contact the church office at (847) 647-9867.

Tuesday, January 25 -Ezra-Habonim, the Niles Township Jewish Congregation, 4500 Dempster, Skokie, announces Hebrew reading classes starting Jan. 25.

The classes will run for eight weeks on Tuesday evenings. Beginning Hebrew reading will be 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. and intermediate reading will be 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. Non-synagogue members are welcome to attend. The fee for the course, including materials, in \$25 for members and \$40 for non-members. The instructor is Charles Kreisberg, a synagogue member. For more information, call (847) 675-4141.



I didn't know he'd been away.

Boy! Is he still alive?

Herbert who?



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Dear Santa...

From the students at St. John Brebeuf School

Dear Santa Claus,

Do you know that we had a concert in our new building? How is Rudolph doing?

From, Gabriela Uchorczak Dear SC,

Thank you for the GameCube last Christmas, I want a PlayStation 2 and an X-Box with games.

From, Eric Ponzetti Dear Santa Claus.

How is Mrs. Claus and the reindeer? Thank you for all the toys you gave me in the past. You are very nice. I

have been very nice this year. Merry Christmas, from Cara Caputo

Dear Santa Claus, I really want a Polly Pocket.

Love, Jessica Klug

Thank you for stuff you gave me in the past. This is the stuff I want for Christmas. GameBoy SP and GameBoy games, Star Wars DVD and Incredibles toys.

Love, Tyler VonderHeide Dear Santa Claus.

Christmas is my favorite time of year. How is Mrs. Claus and Rudolph? This year I want a Nintendo DS and a GameCube. Thank you for the stuff you brought me last year.

Love, your friend, Gregory Weeks

Thank you for what you brought me From, Klarie Ojenus in the past. My sister wants a new Dear Santa Claus, pair of pants and my brother wants How are Mrs. Claus, the reindeer and Yu-Gi-Oh cards. My other brother the elves doing in the North Pole? wants an airplane and a truck. By the And how are you? Is it Christmas in way, how is Mrs. Claus and the elves? I bet they're making toys for Yu-Gi-Oh cards and I really want all the little children. Oh, Santa, it is worth seeing the little children smiling. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. And, eat your cookies.

Love, Kellsie Murphy Dear Santa,

best holiday. I am wishing for a made a Santa picture for you. I don't GameBoy Advance SP. How are know if my mom accidentally threw

your reindeer? You better get ready! By, Tomy Mathai Dear Santa Claus,

Silent Night, and Rudolph the Red

Dear Santa Claus,

Mrs. Claus? Are your elves working hard all year? I really want anything for Christmas. Which elf are you bringing with you? I think my brother wants a jersey. I am not sure what my brother wants. I'll ask him. Bye. By, Jex Philip

Thank you for coming to my house every year. What is Rudolph doing? I want the Princess Diaries 2 for Christmas. How is Mrs. Claus doing? My favorite holiday is

At the Christmas concert we sang on the stage. We sang Rudolph the Red Nose Reindeer, Joy to the World, and

the North Pole? Santa, I really want make-up, toys and clothes.

From, Eva Hagman Dear Santa Claus,

doing? I loved the toys from last year. doing? Is it hard bringing all the pres-Thank you. Tell the elves that How is it going? Christmas is the Maegan Guzman said hi please. I

I want peace on earth. How is Mrs. Claus doing? I would like an American Girl Doll, a Shrek 2 GameBoy, and a Polly Pocket. Thank you for the stuff you gave me in the past. We had a Christmas concert and we sang Joy to the World,

Nose Reindeer. From, Heather Mall

How are all the elves, reindeer and

Dear Santa Claus.

Dear Santa Claus,

it away, but if she did not, I'll put it next to the cookies and milk. I want a GameBoy SP and some Yu-Gi-Oh cards please. I think you already know what else I want. Merry

Christmas, Santa Claus. I love you. From, Maegan Guzman

Dear Santa, How are the elves? Is Rudolph ready for Christmas? Are the elves hard at work? Thank you for what you gave me in the past. Can the elves make a blue-eyed shining dragon, any Yu-Gi-Oh card, a sport center and a Jack-Jack toy? I hope the elves can make all of these. Thank you.

Love, Marty Breslin Dear Santa,

My brother wants this GameBoy game, so can you get it for him? By the way, how is Mrs. Claus and the elves? I bet they're working hard making all the toys to make all the children happy. Santa, make sure to eat the cookies and I will put a carrot out for the reindeer.

Love, Mike Wheeler

Dear Santa. My sister wants a drum set. How is Rudolph doing? I would like a happy family on Christmas day. Merry Christmas, Santa Claus. I would like

a good school year. Love, Mandy Aragon

Dear Santa, I want a Millenium Falcon of Lego, a Darth Vader and Yu-Gi-Oh.

From, Saxon Kotowski

How is Rudolph doing? My brother wants a GameCube. How is Mrs. Claus doing? Could you get me a Nintendo DS and an X-Box?

From, Dylan Haig

Dear Santa Claus, How are Mrs. Claus and the reindeer How are Mrs. Claus and the reindeer ents to everybody? Thank you for all the presents that you gave me in the

Love, Katherine Gittings

Professional Guide

LEGAL

REAL ESTATE Joseph R. Hedrick, CRS

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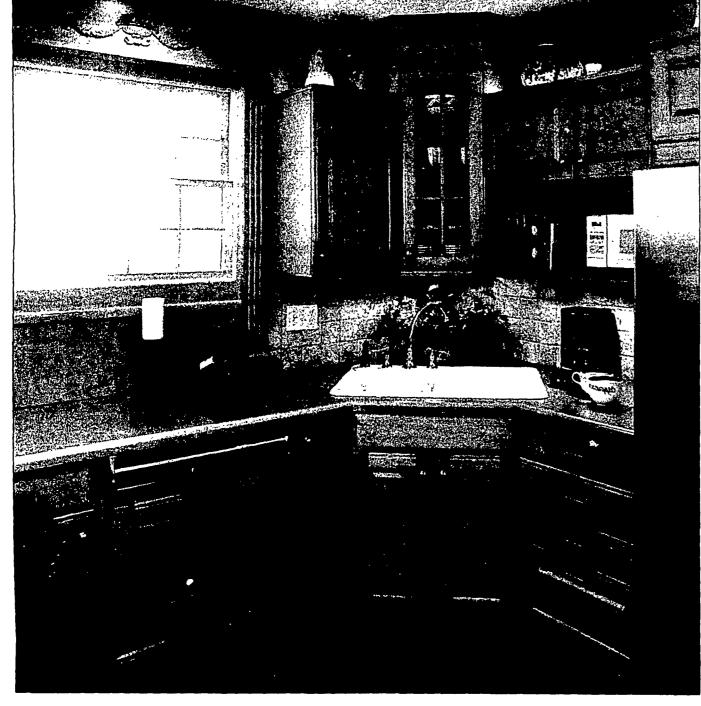
BY ROSE BENNETT GILBERT Copley News Service

We need desperately to remodel the tiny kitchen in our home. For one thing, there s almost no counter space for working because the sink is under the window and breaks up the counter into two small areas. We took your advice from an earlier column and consulted a kitchen designer, who thinks we should move the sink to the corner so we could get more continuous work space. Will that look awk-

A: On the contrary, you will be opening the space in the kitchen and freeing up a lot more countertop, as you can see in the kitchen photo we show here. Taking a new angle on spacemaking, certified kitchen designer Karen Black relocated this sink to the corner. Now whoever is on dish-duty is out of the way to one side, leaving the long expanse of countertop under the window free for other duties.

Yes, you lose your view over the kitchen sink, but the inside scenery is vastly improved, thanks to the gentle wood tones of Wood-Mode's classic cabinetry. Despite its scant square footage, the kitchen is both handsome and functional. Generous storage combines with interesting architectural features, like the varying heights of the cabinets, the glassfronted shaped cupboard, and the classical detailing on the fluted pilasters and frieze that frame the window.

Decor Score Take a new angle in space-making



out at www.hunterdouglas.com.

Just how "minimalistic" can you go before a thing simply disappears? Designer/architect Philippe Starck is on a mission to find out, he told journalists and admirers gathered in Hornberg, Germany, recently for a look at Starck's new interpretations of bathroom fixtures for Duravit.

The designer, who first found fame in 1990 with his three-legged lemon zester for the Italian design group Alessi, has designed furniture for Pierre Cardin, hotels for Ian Schrager, and private rooms and offices in the Elysee Palace for the president of France.

For a decade now, he's also created signature toilets, sinks, showers and tubs for Duravit. His latest ideas reflect what he calls "dematerialism." Starck has reduced bath furniture to its very essence. Sinks square off with side-by-side shallow bowls (about 2 inches deep), one of which may be lined in OSHA yellow, black or platinum. Borrowing a concept from the outdoor swimming pool with overflowing "infinity" edges, bathtubs sit in their own surrounds so one can "splash around madly" and not worry about the spills. Covered with wood slats, the surround becomes a step into the high, square acrylic tub. At the Duravit debut, one tub surround was filled with smooth white stones over a kaleidoscope of changing colored lights.

Rose Bennett Gilbert is the coauthor of "Hampton Style" and associate editor of Country Decorating Ideas. Please send your questions to her at Copley News Service, P.O. Box 120190, San Diego, CA 92112-0190, or online at copleysd@copleynews.com.

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A GREENER VIEW page 22.

Think there's no way around it? Thursday December 23, 2004

hefty prices.

Think again. With a little bit of industry knowledge, homebuyers and investors alike can save tens of thousands of dollars on the purchase of their next prop-

* Only buy from a motivated seller. "It of losing a potential buyer. sounds like a wonderful property. Why would you ever consider selling it?" It's cash buyers. In home buying, getting a servatively expect to get for the proper-

the single most important question to solid, pre-approved loan is a lot like ty? pelling reason to sell, it's best to move dentials can ease your way to fulfilling Potential buyer: "Really? You expected

* Create competition when you're buying. Try subtly introducing competition into property negotiations. For example: "I'm getting all the houses I've seen today mixed up. Can you please remind me a little about your property?" Appropriately dropping hints of

* Understand the power of qualified

Real estate prices have risen dramatically nationwide, with
homes commanding pretty

ask a seller. If the seller has no compelling reason to sell, it's best to move
homes commanding pretty

ask a seller. If the seller has no compelling reason to sell, it's best to move
a main objective. In this case, the goal
to get between a main objective. In this case, the goal isn't a career but home ownership.

As a pre-approved cash buyer, you are financially able to close quickly and easily, should you purchase the seller's property, making you a more appealing buyer. Your pre-approval carries even more weight with sellers if they've had other homes can tap into a seller's fear deals collapse due to loan contingen-

Potential buyer: "What did you con-

WITH NO PLACE TO

1. Grow them in the

too much below freezing.

3. Keep the soil damp by

occasionally adding some

water or snow to the pot.

Mulch over it to protect

the crown of the plant.

the root system.

4. Cut the top off and plant

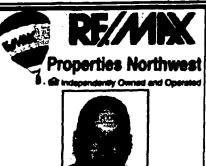
PLANT MUMS OUTSIDE:

2. Let them get cold but not

to get between \$240,000 and \$250,000."

If the seller argues, simply shrink your range until you find out how low the seller is willing to go.

* Always bid on two or more houses at the same time. Let the seller know you'll do business with the first to accept your offer. If anything, it helps give you leverage. Remember, the fear of losing a buyer makes for a more



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A greener view _____

across just above the top set of buds. That way you can cut off several from one longer piece and know which end is up and which is down. You need to try several, since they may not all root very well. Rooting hormones is not particularly successful with helping grapes root, so don't bother

with them. Select stems to cut that are plump, not shriveled and from sunny plants, not those in the shade that will have less stored nutrients. The sooner they are cut off, the less winter they will have gone through and the less possible winter weather damage they may have incurred.

You can place the cuttings in damp sand or peat moss in a plastic bag in the refrigerator and store them at 30 to 40 degrees until spring.

Plant them in the spring by burying them in a trench so only the top pair of buds is sticking up higher than the soil by about 2 inches. The top bud is the one that was originally growing farthest from the roots of the plant. It has the straight cut just above it. They must stay damp, but not soggy. The ones that grow can be moved

(Continued from page 20) GARDEN TIP

Tips to help you get the house you want at your price

Chrysanthemum conundrum

Will chrysanthemums survive indoors in most homes until spring?

they might make it,

in the fall as landscape two outside.

Most of the fancy flowered florist mums are not coldtolerant. They can be planted in the spring and make nice summer and fall plants, but they won't survive the winter in the northern half of the country in Southern states,

depending on the severity of the winter. Most mums sold plants will survive a year or

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A greener view: Chrysanthemums & Winter

BY JEFF RUGG Copley News Service

: I bought some healthy mums in pots right after Thanksgiving. Can I plant them outside now, or should I keep them in my house? Should I water and feed them or keep them in the pots in my garage and let them go dormant until spring?

A: Chrysanthemums are often

the winter and go dormant.

There are many varieties of mums that are very cold tolerant. see. but some are not. Most of the Even though they might do well best time to cut it off and plant it? fancy flowered florist mums are as a house plant for many months, I thought maybe cut it in cold not cold tolerant and although they can be planted in the spring in most homes until spring. If you but I don't know if it would just and make nice summer and fall I'm hoping they'll survive some- plants, they won't survive the outside and want to continue A: You have perfect timing with states. In southern states they sold in the fall just as they are might make it, depending on the them get cold but not too much stems coming up from their own

displays just as most garden mums sold in the fall as land- erate frozen soil, but not really plants are losing all their flowers. scape plants will survive a year or cold temperatures. Keep the soil They are usually grown as perentwo in the landscape. Cut the top damp by occasionally adding nials that die back to the roots for off and plant the root system. some water or snow to the pot. Mulch over it to protect the Q: My father-in-law has lovingly crown of the plant and wait and

I doubt they will survive indoors winter and store it until spring, don't have a place to plant them dry up and die. year, you can try the garage. Let the vine has more than one set of

agreed to give me an offshoot of his grapevine. When would be the

winter in the northern half of the growing them in the pots next your question. If you mean that blooming. They make colorful severity of the winter. Most below freezing. The roots can tol-roots, go ahead and dig it up and

transplant it as soon as you can before the ground is frozen. If the ground is already too cold, wait until spring to dig it up. Most grape varieties root easily

from dormant hardwood cuttings. From anytime after the leaves fall off until new growth starts in the spring, select pencil diameter stems that grew this past summer. Cut off pieces about 1 foot long that have three sets of buds. Cut the stick off at an angle just below the bud closest to the trunk and cut the stick off straight

A GREENER VIEW page 21.

Continues...

REAL ESTATE

attitit tilagari, 1980-ra aktit ritte i pala skurtarar utt stil til ega og rittage og berkenten tig attettelle et ekan om en

A greener view

Do all the same cutting work and the soil and let it drain for a few instead of storing them in the refrigerator, you can plant them

and stick up over the top by 2 inches. Add 2 inches of potting

Indoor propagation is even easier. inches above the soil. Dampen Find a pot that will allow the cut- where it will not get any direct plant is moved into the final ting to be 2 inches off the bottom sunshine. Don't let the soil dry

around the outside of the pot on removed from the pot and moved the ground before producing fruit damp growing conditions of the top of the soil. Keep them about 2 to its own pot or planted outside and it will be stronger in the soil, will often produce roots www.copleynews.com.

to a new location the second inches apart. Fill the pot so the if the weather is warm. If moved top of the cutting is sticking up 2 to its own pot, it may have a 5foot-long stem by the middle of be grown from dormant hard-

> minutes. Place a plastic bag over This method allows you about a the pot and saucer and seal it up. one year head start on the other Place it in a bright light area method. In either case, when the planting location, cut off any flowers that are produced the first When the top stem has grown at season in the ground. The plant

(Continued from page 21)

instead of stems. The scar tissue Many trees and shrubs can also that forms over the cut end will wood cuttings by using these methods. Most deciduous trees will do better following the cold storage method. Rooting hormones do increase the chances of rooting on many of these species. This method of cloning works because the two sets of lower soil to the pot. Lean the cuttings least five leaves, it can be will become better established in buds that are placed in the dark, © Copley News Service

also often produce roots. The long section of stem between buds usually does not produce roots, so it is cut off and thrown out. Some soft stemmed plants like tomatoes do produce roots from along the sides of the stems. E-mail questions to Jeff Rugg at info@greenerview.com.

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