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27TH ANNIVERSARY**
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**MAINE SOUTH DOMINATES
HINSDALE CENTRAL**
SPORTS, PAGE 12



SINCE 1957

THE BUGLE

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 24, 2005

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Niles sued over late-September traffic death

BY TRACY YOSHIDA GRUEN
STAFF WRITER

A lawsuit was filed against the Village of Niles at the end of last week, after a village employee hit and killed a pedestrian at Oakton and Oriole, while driving a Village of Niles vehicle on Sept. 29.

Village attorney Joseph Anunzio said that the estate of the woman who was killed filed a lawsuit against the Village of Niles for "wrongful death and negligence."

Anunzio said they now have 30 days to respond, with either a motion, answer or to ask for a continuance.

"It's up to the experts," said

Anunzio, about what the village will do next.

Anunzio said that the village is self-insured but they use a third party, which is an insurance broker that handles their personal injuries. Anunzio said that it's now in the hands of the insurance company and he said he could not discuss the details.

"We're going to defend it,"

said Anunzio.

Mike Troiani is an inspector for community development with the Village of Niles. Troiani related that he was on duty at the time as a code enforcement officer, when he hit the woman, according to the police.

Police said Troiani was traveling west bound on Oakton and

attempted to make a left turn onto southbound Oriole. He said that he did not have to stop on Oakton to make the left turn. Police said that once he made the turn, he then saw the pedestrian in the middle of the street and was unable to avoid the

Story Continues...
see **LAWSUIT** page 4.

On Thin Ice: Park Districts and Skating Pros

A SPECIAL REPORT

Park Ridge asks for background checks

After an hour and a half discussion with the head of Oakton Ice Arena Thursday night, the Park Ridge Park Board decided to reinstitute a registration policy for private skating teachers and require criminal background checks on anyone who teaches chil-

Story Continues...
see **PARK RIDGE** page 4.

Niles, skating pros to meet on pro fees

The Niles Park District will discuss a plan to institute a professional fee at their Iceland Ice Arena after a raucous board meeting last Tuesday, the scene of a crowd of over 60 parents and skating coaches interrogating Park District official and call for the return of David Santee, former director of Iceland.

Story Continues...
see **NILES** page 4.

Niles Police plan safety patrols over holidays

During the holiday season, from Thanksgiving through New Years, the Niles Police Department will be conducting extra patrols for traffic safety focusing on impaired drivers. There will be a secondary concentration on seat belt and speeding violations.

A grant from the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) funds these extra patrols.

Illinois has increased seat belt usage to over 80%. The increase in seat belt use is directly connected to a decrease in accident deaths. In 2004, Illinois reached a 30 year low for fatalities and is on course to be even lower in 2005.

The Niles Police want to remind people "You Drink, You Drive, You Lose" and "Click-It or Ticket."



Visitors to the first-ever 'Taste' of Niles Sister Cities sample a variety of ethnic foods Sunday at the White Eagle Restaurant. Over 800 people attended the event.

Over 800 get a 'Taste' of Niles' Sister Cities

The first Village of Niles Taste of Sister Cities attracted between 800 to 1,000 people on Sunday, Nov. 20.

"It was definitely a successful event," said Denise Joseph, Niles sister cities coordinator. She said the village is hoping to

make this an annual event.

Joseph said the village has been planning this event for about five months. Joseph said the final count has not been completed yet, but somewhere between 800 to 1,000 people attended the event that encouraged ethnic diversity. She said

that the guests at the event were from various ethnic backgrounds, showing the diversity that exists in Niles.

Some of the Niles restaurants involved were Annici's, Bacik's

Story Continues...
see **TASTE** page 4.

NEWS

Chief of Police Reflects on Lifetime of Crime Fighting

In the 1970's George Incedon was investigating a drug store robbery in Morton Grove.

It wasn't the most difficult case in the star officer's career.

"We had a description of the individual, then we found his wallet on the ground of the drug store," Incedon said.

Finding the wallet of the criminal led quickly to his arrest and the amusement of the warrant judge who had heard of the arrest even before the man arrived in his court.

With an eye to capturing stupid wallet-dropping criminals and as well as professional criminals, Incedon went into law enforcement as a career in 1968.

"I thought this might be a good direction," he said. "I'm very happy I did."

He was asked what his advice to a youngster kicking off a career in law enforcement would be.

"That's a good question. I'd say

that in the first year or two on job, you should be sure it is the job you want to spend rest of your career doing, don't just stay on job because the money is good or you like certain aspects. The job can wear on you, to be successful, you have to buy into the idea that it's something you really want to do and try to be the best officer you can be."

Incedon, 63, of Lake Zurich plans to 'take life easy' in his retirement.

He is going to catch up on a lot of things postponed around the house and spend more time with his newly-born third grandson.

In addition, he also has plans to complete some consulting work assisting other departments searching for a new police chief.

He was interviewed Nov. 18 and said his last day on the job will be before Thanksgiving.

The chief said he is leaving the

46-officer police force with a good taste in his mouth.

One of the achievements he is proud of is the creation of the Morton Grove social services department.

In 1972, Incedon teamed with co-founder Dick Zembron and spearheaded the formation of the department with part-time workers to help juveniles and others in need. Now, the department has full-time workers and a senior center facility.

"I'm very proud that it has evolved to what it is today," he said.

Other things he is proud of are the Northeast Illinois Public Safety Training Facility and the North Regional Major Crimes Taskforce. The chief worked on the creation of both the police and fire training facility as well as the major crimes taskforce which includes more than a dozen police forces to fight

major crimes.

In Feb., 2003 Morton Grove joined forces with Niles, Park Ridge and Des Plaines to create a single, shared dispatch system.

The North Suburban Emergency Communication Center has since upgraded equipment and helped fight crime better.

The one thing Incedon regrets is leaving the police department in its current building.

Morton Grove police moved into the rehabbed school at 6101 Capulina in 1980 and the chief says the police force needs a new facility or major renovations at the current site.

He also reflected on the positive relationship the Morton Grove police force has had with the local media over the years.

"Yes, I'm glad we have been able to work so well together. It has been a real pleasure."

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NEWS

Park Ridge Woman, 85, struck, killed by train

BY JEFF BORGARDT
STAFF WRITER

Local authorities responded to a tragedy Thursday when an 85-year-old Park Ridge woman was hit by a train and killed.

Louissette Gilbert of the 100 block of South Greenwood in Park Ridge was struck by a train at the railroad crossing on the 300 block of North Greenwood.

It was determined from witness statements that the victim was walking slowly northbound on the east side of Greenwood when the rail gates started to descend.

The approaching northwest-bound Metra train was on the middle track and blew the whistle, which startled Gilbert.

The victim is then believed to

have fallen down and was hit by the train.

The train engineer observed the victim crossing the tracks as the train was steaming along at a rate of 45 miles per hour.

When he saw Gilbert, he sounded the whistle and hit the emergency brake. When the whistle was sounded, the victim turned around. Evidence shows that a ladder rung on the right side of the engine hit the victim.

When authorities arrived on the scene, they saw Gilbert on her back between the railroad gates. She was transported to Lutheran General Hospital and pronounced dead at 6 p.m.

The death is under investigation by the Cook County Medical Examiners Office. The accident snarled traffic in Park Ridge for much of the early evening.



Park Ridge Fire Personnel clear the Metra tracks Thursday night after a train struck an 85-year-old Park Ridge woman at Greenwood Ave. She was air-lifted from the scene and later pronounced dead at Lutheran General Hospital.

LAWSUIT:

Accident occurred at Oriole, Oakton

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

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"We're going to defend it," said Anunzio.

Mike Troiani is an inspector for community development with the Village of Niles. Troiani related that he was on duty at the time as a code enforcement offi-

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NEWS

TASTE:
Residents 'taste'
sister cities

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Deli, Grazianos, Mykanos and a restaurant that will soon be in Niles, Taco Burrito King. The restaurants featured authentic cuisine from the four sister cities in Greece, Ireland, Italy and Poland.

Other restaurants from nearby

communities included Alexanders Cafe, Harrington, Kappys and the Jolly Inn.

In addition to ethnic food, there was live ethnic music provided by various local artists, a silent auction, Irish dancers, children's games, door prizes and a cash bar. The event took place at the White Eagle Banquets on Milwaukee Ave.

Local participants included Tony Spavone, representing Italy; The Hellenic Five, for Greece; The White and Red Band for Poland and The Katie Sullivan Band representing Ireland. Two televisions were also set up for those die hard

something," Maloney said.

The board also voiced concerns about the registration policy for programs at the rink. If a parent wants to register for a rink program, they can only do that at Oakton. This is done, said Park District Director Jim Lange, because the sport is progressive.

"It's a continuing skills program," he said. "If we change the registration then we'll lose the customer service aspect."

Maloney also voiced concerns that the district did not know how much money was going through its facility. The Bugle's own estimate put it at as much as \$1 million — a figure that Santee scoffed at.

"Most skating teachers make about \$30,000," he said. He admitted, however, that he was unable to say just how much money was going through the rink because no such records were kept. He did however believe that if the district collected the money for the teacher and issued it in a regular check, it would drive some teachers away.

And driving the teachers away would be bad, he believed, because the teachers bring in students who in turn spend money at the rink. Though he did not know what fees other teachers brought in for the district, he knew that the students spent \$38,000 at the rink last year.

"My students generated \$38,000 a year for the rink," he said.

News from the Police Reports

By Jeff Borgardt

Police K-9 recovers loaded handgun in pile of leaves

Niles police recovered a black semiautomatic handgun in a pile of leaves behind a 7-11 on the 7400 block of Oakton after a man was hit on the head with the gun in an attempted robbery Wednesday, Nov. 16 at 8:30 p.m.

Police arrived at the 7-11 parking lot and saw a plumber, 20, of Evanston standing in the parking lot. His head was bleeding and he was yelling "Man, I got hit."

The victim said he was walking out of the convenience store with his friend when two black men wearing howdies approached and one of them pointed a gun at him.

He was then hit in the head with the gun as the two men tried unsuccessfully to grab his gold chain and wallet.

The two suspects then ran away behind the 7-11 and through an alley.

The man was transported to the emergency room of Lutheran General Hospital and he suffered a deep cut to the head.

A Niles officer and the police K-9 searched the path the men ran and Max the K-9 showed an interest in a pile of leaves in the rear of a site on the 8000 block of Milwaukee Avenue.

The officer looked into the leaf pile and saw a black, 9 m, semiautomatic handgun.

The gun was loaded with nine rounds. The dog then also discovered a brown fabric glove nearby.

Night spree of graffiti, property damage

On Friday, Nov. 11, ten criminal damage to property reports were filed in Park Ridge.

The damages all occurred between 9 p.m. Thursday night and 6 a.m. Friday morning.

A vehicle in the 1800 block of Prairie, one in the 800 block of Busse Highway and another one in the 1700 block of Marlowe had all four tires slashed. A vehicle in the 1000 block of Garden was damaged with spray paint and had all four tires slashed.

Houses in the following blocks were damaged with spray paint; two in the 100 block of N. Dee Road, the 1000 block of Prairie, the 300 block of Redfield Court, the 600 block of Goodwin and the 800 block of Goodwin.

At one location, the vehicle in the driveway was also spray painted and all four tires slashed, in addition to the house being damaged.

Spray paint on properties ranged from scribble lines, swastikas and obscenities.

Damages will total in the thousands of dollars. Although there are no suspects at this time, Park Ridge Police Investigators are following up on some leads in these cases. Anyone that might have any information regarding these damages to property should call 847-318-5252.

NILES:

Board will meet
with pros

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The meeting, chaired by Park Board President William Terpinas, frequently became disorderly as parents of skaters asked questions of the board and Niles Park District Director Joe LoVerde from the floor, often degenerating into jeers

and boos.

Throughout the meeting at various times, parents reiterated their call for the return of former Olympic Skater David Santee, who resigned last month after the Park District refused to pay him salary to take his private students to a national skating competition in Duluth, MN.

When they weren't calling for the return of David Santee, parents were accusing LoVerde and interim Iceland Director Steve Glickman of attempting to sabotage the figure skating program at

the rink by ending the morning skating hours and expanding hockey, something the park board, LoVerde and Glickman all denied.

After two hours of discussion, the Park Board directed LoVerde to meet with Iceland's Skating Director Ingrid Santee and the skating pros in order to discuss the issue of a pro fee and set up an agreement between the two groups. The meeting should take place in early December and could be open to the public, if three Park Board members attend as they stated at the Tuesday meeting.

SCHOOLS

District 63 Education
Foundation Hosts Gala

The District 63 Education Foundation honored Honeywell with its first annual "Friend of Education" award during a November 3rd gala fundraising dinner and auction at Chateau, Ritz in Niles. The foundation selected Honeywell for this award because of their longtime relationship with East Maine School District 63 and Honeywell's continued support of extracurricular activities, field trips and the district's nationally recognized Total Learning Community (TLC) after-school program.

"Honeywell has been a true friend to our school district for many years," said Dr. Kathleen Williams, East Maine School District 63 superintendent. "They have gone above and beyond the call of duty to encourage student achievement and learning opportunities."

For example, Honeywell donated large quantities of office

supplies to the school district, and financially supported the TLC program. TLC, or Total Learning Community Program, once funded by a grant from the U.S. Department of Education, is now reliant upon outside donations to continue service to the hundreds of children who participate. Honeywell received the award at the "Carry the Ball for Kids" gala, the Education Foundation's largest annual fundraiser for the TLC program.

The "Friend of Education" award criteria involved demonstrating a commitment to educating children to succeed responsibly in an ever-changing world; creating a collaborative culture within and outside the school district; focusing on excellence in daily work, outstanding student achievement and high community satisfaction; and creating connections between the school and community.

Notre Dame Open House Dec. 4

A Notre Dame Open House for all prospective junior high students and their parents will be held on Sunday, December 4 from 11 am-2:30 pm. Notre Dame High School, located at 7655 W. Dempster St. in Niles, educates the minds and hearts of young men in the Holy Cross tradition by shaping leaders in the areas of faith, scholarship and service.

For more information, contact the Notre Dame Enrollment Office at 847.779.8615 or lbontempo@ndhsdons.org.

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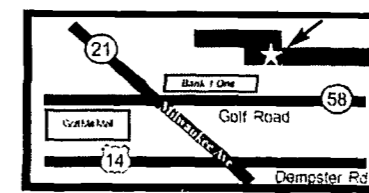
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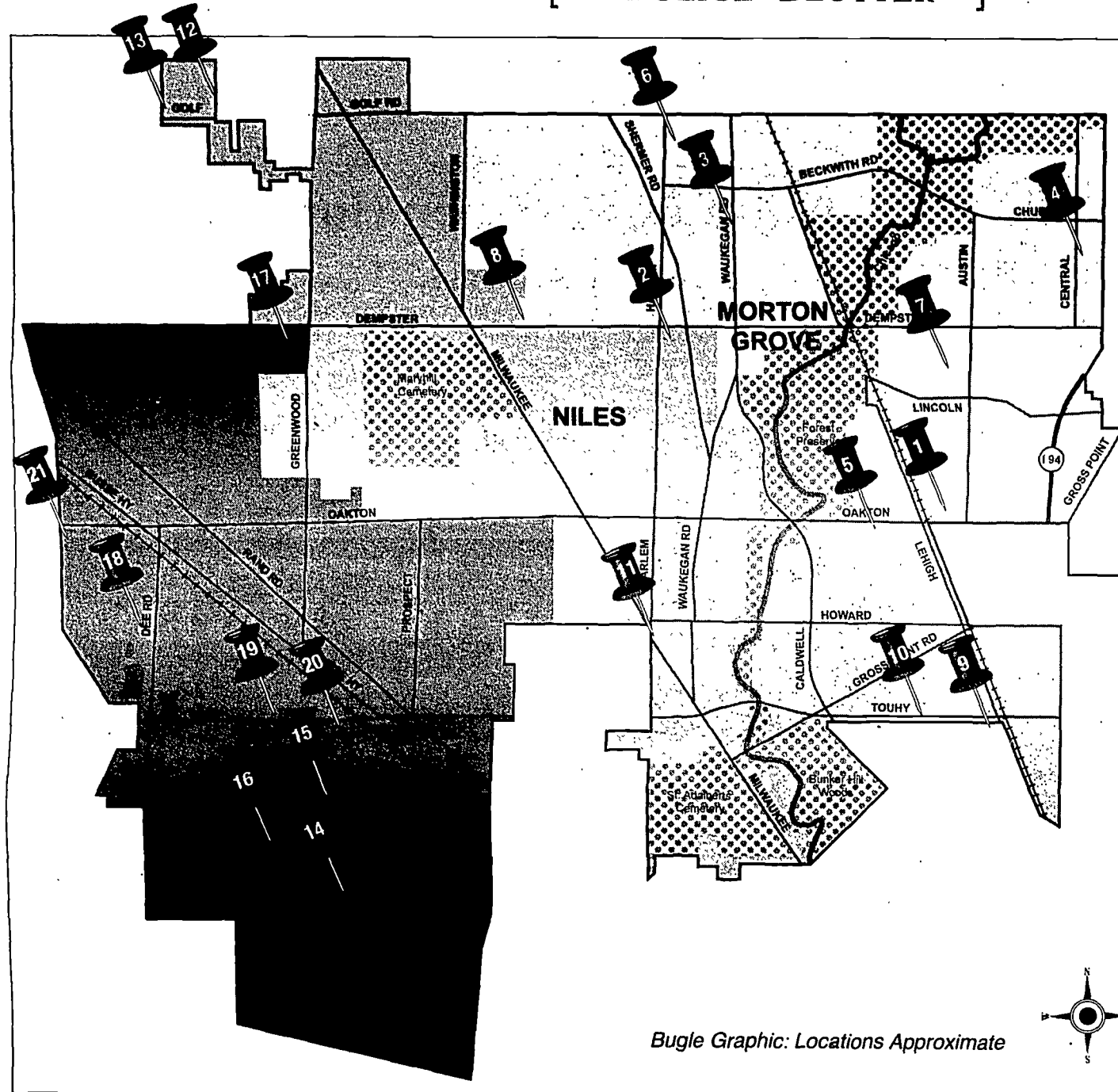
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POLICE BLOTTER



Bugle Graphic: Locations Approximate

MORTON GROVE

The following was derived from the official reports of the Morton Grove Police Department for the week ending Friday, Nov. 18.

1 Man threatens to bomb bank (7800 Linder)

Citi-Group Bank advised Morton Grove police Nov. 15 that a local man became irate in a bank phone call and threatened to bomb the bank.

2 Watch out for median (8800 Harlem)

An unknown vehicle ran down a sign that says "watch out for median." The downed sign was spotted Nov. 10.

3 Business heat dispute (9200 Waukegan)

As an employee was closing up the store Nov. 15, he got into an argument with his boss. The two argued about the lack of heat at the store. The owner then shoved the employee with both hands into a wall.

4 Tree irks neighbors (9100 Luna)

Two neighbors have become involved in a dispute over a tree for a decade. Police became involved Nov. 10 after a tree letter was delivered from one home to the other. A police officer advised the one neighbor not to trespass onto the others property and behave properly with workmen or contractors in the yard.

5 Tree branch falls on car (7900 Linder)

A tree branch fell on a parked car Nov. 13.

6 Gas theft (7100 Golf)

\$25.75 of gasoline was stolen from the Harlem/ Golf Cito Nov. 12.

7 Hit and run arrest (6100 Capulina)

A woman, 37, of Chicago was arrested Nov. 13 at 2:30 a.m. for hit and run, leaving the scene of an accident and driving on a suspended license.

NILES

The following was derived from the official reports of the Niles Police Department for the

week ending Monday, Nov. 21.

8 Resident hears argument, finds clothes on front lawn (8800 Merrill)

A resident of the 8800 block of Merrill awoke Sunday night to sounds of a woman on the street yelling. She looked out the window and saw a car drive away. When she looked outside at 12:45 a.m., she discovered a shirt, jacket and shoes on her front lawn.

9 Shoplifting (Touhy Wal-Mart)

A Morton Grove woman was arrested Nov. 17 for attempting to steal \$186 in merchandise from Wal-Mart on the 5600 block of Touhy. The merchandise included clothing, jewelry and shoes.

10 Disorderly conduct (Touhy YMCA)

A woman was arrested for disorderly conduct Nov. 18 for creating a scene and yelling and swearing at people in the lobby of the Touhy YMCA. She allegedly yelled vulgarities and disturbed residents in an intoxicated state.

11 Security Officer DUI (7400 Milwaukee)

A security officer from Niles was arrested for DUI Oct. 25 on the 7400 block of Milwaukee.

12 Water rushing into condo (9700 Fox Glen)

Niles police assisted the fire department and responded to a call Nov. 20 at a condo unit on the 9700 block of Fox Glen. Water was rushing into a condo unit from the ceiling. The water was shut down after police turned off the water in the bathroom of another unit.

13 Retail theft, possession of crack pipe (9000 Golf)

A woman, 32, of Chicago was arrested Nov. 16 at Value City for putting \$330 in merchandise in her shopping cart and walking out of the store. The clothing in the cart was five pairs of boots and two flannel coats.

When the suspect was being searched, police found she had a four inch long glass tube and one end of the tube was packed with 'chore boy' a copper scrubbing pad used as a filter to smoke crack-cocaine.

PARK RIDGE

The following was derived from the official reports of the Park Ridge Police Department for the week ending Monday, Nov. 21.

14 Falling tree damages moving vehicle (900 W. Talcott)

While driving down the street Tuesday, Nov. 15, a tree limb fell onto the street in front of a moving vehicle. The vehicle couldn't stop and drove over the tree limb damaging the radiator.

15 Tree branch falls on parked vehicle (500 W. Talcott)

A branch fell on a 2002 Jeep Saturday, Nov. 13 damaging a tail-light.

16 Attempted burglary (500 W. Talcott)

A police officer arrived at a business at 1 a.m. Nov. 16 after the business' alarm went off. The officer saw a large rock next to the window and nothing missing. The glass was broken but the window was still intact.

17 Burglary (1300 Carol)

\$5,000 in jewelry was taken from an apartment building Nov. 15.

18 Vehicle burglarized (1400 Bonita)

A magazine, and a wallet were taken from a vehicle Nov. 13.

19 Man threatens hospital workers (200 S. Vine)

A Des Plaines man, 47, was arrested Nov. 9 for disorderly conduct after threatening staff at Lutheran General Hospital.

20 Fake name given after DUI arrest (200 S. Vine)

A Buffalo Grove man, 27, was arrested for driving without a license, speeding, DUI and driving without insurance Nov. 10. He was then in further trouble for obstruction after police discovered he had given them a fake name.

21 Man with Vodka arrested (Edgemont and Riverside)

A man, 48, totting a bottle of vodka was arrested Nov. 13 for aggravated assault/ resisting a police officer.

All information printed in the 'Police Blotter' is obtained from written reports of the respective police departments.

Another Perspective



Revenue v. Growth

Revenue is just a euphemism for spending. Revenue oriented governments from the federal level down to the local level create a drag on growth. They are constantly seeking new sources or revenue to feed their spending.

These sources, whether fees, fines, taxes (fees & fines are taxes by another name) or bonds (taxes you don't pay the first year - future taxes) are additional costs placed on economies. They increase the cost of capi-

tal and investment and thereby increase the risk to both new and existing businesses. The employment drain from the north to the south in the United States is a direct result of these policies. The south, at least in the 21st century, is freer.

This is critical to you because small businesses (under 500 employees) are the economic powerhouses that provide employment and growth. Small business is the engine of U.S. economic growth, responsible for 75 percent of all net new jobs. They account for over half of all employment in the United States, even though most small businesses have fewer than 40 employees. They are risk takers as individuals and most are fiercely independent. They don't want anyone telling them what they can and can't do.

19th century politicians in Tammany Hall realized that through regulation (ostensibly to help the public) and taxation they could pay for programs, including the employment of friends and family in government, that would guarantee their re-election. Politicians have been "running government like a business" for centuries. Of course, the business is getting and keeping them in power. This ends up distorting the free-market and actually leads to decline and ruin. For instance when a recession starts (many recessions are local & isolated) government, because it is pursuing policies focused on revenue (spending), raises taxes to maintain an even revenue stream.

The tax increases worsen the situation and can actually cause it to decay and spiral out of control. Higher taxes then lead to less growth, higher business risk and cost, more unemployment growth and economic stagnation. Regulation acts the same way. Tough labor laws have been shown

to reduce employment and the saying, "Hard to fire, hard to hire" is true.

The fact is that when it comes to basic services, those services that citizens expect as the minimum necessary and defined as those not readily contracted for in the open market, there are more than enough taxes collected. We can prove this in the real world by looking at how the market sends a message to government.

A local, regional or national slowdown in the business cycle occurs. This reduces revenues to governments. Instead of looking at the market and correctly surmising that we have too much government (i.e. spending is too high) governments do not cut costs, but raise taxes. Their orientation, politically, is towards revenues.

What the market is really saying is that there is more government than the current economy needs. The proper course is to reduce spending to sustainable levels and then reduce taxes. This creates a positive incentive and growth. Governments throughout Illinois are oriented on revenue, not growth.

Because of this Illinois, at all levels, will continue to lag. No one can escape the market, but you can escape bad policies. Businesses and individuals are speaking with their feet. Competition is a reality and by comparative advantage those locales with lower taxes and less regulation are growing. Take a look at where business is booming. The 19th century mentality of revenue oriented governments is simply unsustainable in the competitive atmosphere of the 21st century. In the end, it is you who will pay for their folly.

Morgan Dubiel is a bi-monthly columnist for The Bugle. His opinions do not represent those of the newspaper.

Cracking the Case will return next week.

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COMMENTARY

Letters to the Editor

Resident urges attendance at MG Meeting

Dear Editor,

I urge all concerned village residents to attend this Monday November 28th's Morton Grove Village board meeting to express your displeasure with the following proposals:

1) Our Mayor has proposed a 20 percent levy increase in our property taxes for the 2006 budget. This hike amounts to an increase in excess of 400 percent above the current rate of inflation for the US. This will amount to an approximately \$200 yearly increase on your 2006 property tax bill and subsequent years.

2) It is probable that a 5 percent increase in water and sewer rates will be enacted.

3) The Mayor and the Trustees have also budgeted for an increase in the local gasoline tax by 100 percent. The line of reasoning behind the astronomical property tax levy increase proffered by our Mayor is seriously flawed. It is unlikely that basic village services would be compromised without the proposed increase. Why? The answer is because there's an almost 1 million dollar surplus in this year's budget.

Common sense dictates that we apply this year's surplus and utilize a portion of the village's reserve funds to balance the budget. Surely there

are additional spending cuts to be found after scrutinizing the village's finances and each department's PROJECTED expenses. A case in point is the astronomical legal fee of \$250,000 budgeted for village fire and police contract negotiations. Renovations to Morton Grove facilities should also be delayed until village finances stabilize. This will occur when we aren't saddled with excessive payouts to developers and businesses related to several failed TIF districts created by our unimaginative village planners.

A final question needs to be asked of Mayor Krier and the village trustees (with the lone exception being the prudent and thoughtful trustee Roy Kogstad). Why are you burdening the families, seniors, and collective residents of Morton Grove with an unconscionable expansion of taxes and fees when many of our taxes have already escalated to an unmanageable level?

The real tragedy that will likely occur is that our families and residents will ultimately suffer as the result of additional work and time demands created by the corresponding need for increased earnings to pay skyrocketing village fees:

Mark Olen, Morton Grove

A thank you to the community

Dear Editor,

A Huge Thank you to everyone that donated to and/or assisted in the annual Knights of Columbus Tootsie Roll Candy Drive (MR/LD)

held in Niles this year. The Volunteers made this drive a Success, with over \$ 6,000 taken in over the two week-ends.

This is the biggest fundraiser of the year for the Knights and all Donations - every penny of it - goes to help mentally challenged individuals throughout our Community.

If you missed it and were not able to make a tax-deductible donation to this Very Worthy Cause - You Still Can! Donations can be forwarded to the Council 4338 candy Drive, c/o St. John Brebeuf Church, 8307 N. Harlem Ave., Niles, IL 60714. Your donations will help someone less fortunate. Thank you for your Charitable Donations.

Leo Weiss
Grand Knight
North American Martyrs
Council 4338

Have an Opinion?

The Bugle welcomes Letters to the Editor. We consider public input vital to the make-up of our "Commentary" page. If you would like to send us a letter, address them to:
The Bugle - Editor
7400 N. Waukegan Rd.
Niles, IL 60714
Or alternatively, you can e-mail them to us at:

editor@biglenewspapers.com
When writing us, please include your full name and phone number (for verification purposes only, no numbers will be printed).

The Maine Course

Bob Dudy
Maine Town
Supervisor



Wanted: 4 elves, 4 hours, 4 weeks

I was struggling with text for an ad when Dave's shadow fell on my table. He looked at my scrawl and a laugh erupted from his chest. "What's this, are you some kind of Santa?"

"Listen big boy, I need to find a quick way to recruit some elves for our

"Chuck Wagon" and this may be the best way. None of the guys I know wants to be an elf because they think it's too silly."

Dave listened intently as I told him about our plans to increase food donations to our pantry. When he heard the details, he stepped up and said he'd help. "I know how to get elves, Dave thundered. These guys are principled and you have to challenge them. When they lose they pay their debts because it's the honorable thing to do no matter what the debt was."

After some discussion I set up a quick poker game with the boys. A couple of hours into the evening's game I made a suggestion and Dave, Russ, Bill and Steve leaped forward expectantly. I proposed a contest where I challenge each of them to a single hand of cards. If I lost, I would buy dinner in the finest restaurant in town. If I won, the other player would have to be an elf for our food drive.

Dave having already volunteered sat out the hand. The rest liked the challenge and wanted to play. I sat opposite Russ so he was first. As I dealt five cards to each of us he joked, "When I win, do I

get fries with that meal?"

I smiled and said, "Very funny Russ". Then I dispatched him with a full house. I then turned toward Bill and gave him some trash talk by quoting Dirty Harry Callahan who said, "Do you feel lucky, Punk?"

Billy retorted, "Luck has nothing to do with it. I use skill!" I guess his luck ran out that night because my flush clobbered his straight.

One more to go and this guy was the toughest of all. Steve had a reputation for hard playing and tough betting. He always said, "I'd rather have luck than talent" and people said he was born lucky. I put on my game face and dealt a hand.

Steve's hooded brown eyes glinted in the fluorescent light as he looked over the five cards he guarded with his meaty palm. "You don't have a chance against my hand so you may as well fold."

I looked at my cards and didn't flinch as I read the three nines and two sixes. A full house is hard to beat so I replied, "Big talk for a

Column Continues...
see DUDYCZ page 7.

BUSINESS

New Roth 401(k) looks dandy, but few can play



What would happen if you threw a party and nobody came?

The federal government could discover how that feels in January. That's the date for the official coming-out party of the Roth 401(k), which represents an intriguing new way to save for retirement.

I can tell you one big reason why millions of Americans won't be participating in the Roth 401(k)'s rollout: They haven't received invitations.

A study conducted by Hewitt Associates, a human resources consulting firm, suggested that just 7 percent of employers definitely plan to offer the Roth 401(k) to their workers in 2006. Many other workplaces remained noncommittal.

Under the circumstances, it's hard for workers to get excited about the new Roth when they can

only watch from a distance with a set of binoculars.

A study by the Vanguard Center for Retirement Research, however, makes a compelling case for why employers should get off their rears. It suggests that many types of workers would greatly benefit from investing in a Roth 401(k) - if they only got the chance.

I devoted a column to Roth 401(k)s earlier this year, but the new research convinced me to write about the subject again in hopes that readers will nudge their employers to do the right thing. If you can't remember why a Roth 401(k) can be an invaluable retirement tool, let me recap.

Unlike a regular 401(k), the money diverted into a workplace Roth will be taxed upfront.

But after you bite that bullet, the cash grows tax-free in the account. When you pull money out during retirement, no taxes are owed. In contrast, the cash deposited into a traditional 401(k) isn't initially

Story Continues...
see MONEY next page.

A home away from home Kappy's Restaurant celebrates 27th anniversary

BY TRACY YOSHIDA GRUEN
STAFF WRITER

Kappy's Restaurant and Pancake House, located at 7200 W. Dempster St., is celebrating its 27th year anniversary in Morton Grove.

According to George Alpogianis, who is the son of owner Gus Alpogianis, Kappys is like one big family, and many regulars say they consider it, "a home away from home." Kappy's is the "flagship" restaurant for the Alpogianis family, that now owns seven restaurants in the Chicago area.

"I would definitely not call them customers," said George Alpogianis. He said they have a lot of regulars and families, and Morton Grove Mayor Richard Krier and Niles Mayor Nicholas Blase can often be

seen enjoying breakfast, lunch or dinner.

Open at 5 a.m. every morning, Alpogianis said that they are well-known for their pan-cakes, omelettes, prime rib hash and Greek Chicken.

As part of the restaurants anniversary celebration this year, customers bought one breakfast and received one free, bought one sandwich and received one free, received \$2 off any meal and they will soon receive the popular Greek Chicken for a special price of \$8.95.

When they first opened, there was only Kappy's and TJ Maxx in the shopping center.



Today, there's an Old Navy, Eddie Bauer outlet, Loehmanns,

and more... Referring to their seven restaurants as "Tag" restaurants, "With us, You're It," is the motto that the family business goes by.

In addition to Kappys in Morton Grove, they own a

Story Continues...
see KAPPY'S next page.

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BUSINESS



Gus Alpagianis, left, with his son George pose at Kappys Restaurant in Morton Grove on Friday. Kappys is celebrating its 27th anniversary this year.

KAPPY'S: Open until 11pm on weekdays

CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

Kappys in Arlington Heights on

Dundee Rd. that is celebrating its third year anniversary this year; an Americas Dog in Navy Pier, Carnellis Deli at Navy Pier, Buckingham Cafe and Grill at the Buckingham Fountain, and Nino Panino's at Union Station.

Alpagianis said that the Americas Dog at Navy Pier is in

the Guinness Book of World Records for having the longest hot dog ever made, at 34 ft.

Kappys in Morton Grove is opened till 11 p.m. on weekdays and midnight on Fridays and Saturdays. There are 45 employees working at the 5,200 sq. ft. restaurant.

MONEY: Roth 401(k)s, what to do?

CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

slammed with taxes. A participant won't pay the tab until he or she starts drawing down the account. At that point, an investor will owe income tax on the withdrawals.

Next year, you'll be able to sink up to \$15,000 into either a Roth 401(k) or the traditional kind if your workplace offers both. You could also split the money between the two types of 401(k)s in any way you want as long as you don't exceed the contribution ceiling.

Workers who are 50 or older can sink an additional \$5,000 into either of the plans or divide that money between them.

So who can profit from the Roth 401(k)? For starters, it can be a great move for anybody who shares the hoarding habits of the lowly squirrel.

Squirrels spend a lot of their time gathering nuts for the winters, which isn't much different than hard-core savers hoarding cash for their retirement years. The retirees with the most nuts stored up are more likely to get stuck with higher tax bills because they must begin withdrawing a percentage of their retirement assets shortly after reaching the age of 70 1/2.

Withdrawals in a Roth 401(k), however aren't taxed. And if you eventually transfer the cash in a Roth 401(k) into a Roth IRA, you can also sidestep mandatory withdrawals.

Other workers likely to benefit from the Roth 401(k) are lower- and middle-class workers who are currently in a low federal tax rate.

Those who should probably stick with a regular 401(k) include low-income workers, who pay no federal tax because they qualify for earned income and additional child tax credits.

Plenty of financial experts have suggested that the Roth 401(k) won't be appropriate for those who retire into a lower tax bracket. Of course, many people expect a less-punitive tax bite after they quit work, but this can actually be a dangerous assumption.

To understand why, you have to look back over the changes to the tax structure during the past two decades. Since 1980, Vanguard researchers note, the top marginal federal tax rate has dropped from 70 percent to 35 percent. At the same time, tax brackets have broadened, the use of tax credits have spread, and the tax treatment on retirees' Social Security checks has changed.

These tax changes, the study suggests, have actually weakened the case for pretax savings because an increasing number of individuals now face the possibility of remaining in the same tax bracket

in retirement or actually getting shoved into a higher one.

If you pull out a sizable withdrawal from your 401(k) or traditional Individual Retirement Account, for instance, you could get hurled into a higher bracket. Plenty of affluent retirees are also horrified when they find their Social Security benefits getting taxed. Because the thresholds for taxing these benefits aren't indexed to inflation, more retirees will get dinged in the future.

Vanguard provides an example of how retirees can get trapped in a higher tax bracket.

Researchers used the example of a married couple, making \$80,000, who raised two children while working. The couple, who fell into the marginal 15 percent tax bracket during their careers, retired with 75 percent of their working income. They'd expect to stay in the 15 percent bracket, but thanks to the tax treatment on their Social Security checks, their effective tax rate jumps to 28 percent in retirement.

Ultimately, Vanguard suggests that many workers should invest in both types of 401(k)s for the tax diversification. None of us knows what's going to happen to tax rates in the future. But with current rates so low, if I were a gambler, I'd bet on more tax pain in the future.

Why not, then, keep some of your cash in a retirement plan where tax-bracket gyrations are irrelevant.

Glamour is gone in the flight attendant's world

BARNETT ON BUSINESS TRAVEL

BY CHRIS BARNETT
COPLEY NEWS SERVICE

Do you ever wonder why more and more flight attendants on most U.S. airlines look like the walking wounded instead of the charming ambassadors and concierges of the skies that we used to know in the good old days of flying?

How would you like to work for up to 14 hours - after sleeping four to five hours the night before - and pamper hundreds of hungry, harried and hassled total strangers squeezed into tight seats, or deal with self-anointed prima donnas who want first-class pampering for their \$50 coach-class ticket? And then have your pay cut, benefits chopped, pension possibly jettisoned and maybe lose your job?

True, cabin crew morale on discount, low-cost airlines such as JetBlue and Southwest seems buoyant. The mood onboard is friendly, even fun and sometimes playful. Continental crews strike me as generally happy and engaged with passengers.

But aboard bankrupt or financially crippled carriers, cheery faces are rare. Blame it on the fatigue factor.

No surprise. The Federal Aviation Administration has ruled that flight attendants must have at least nine hours of rest time between flights. However, on a layover, that time can be chewed up fast.

Actual crew rest time varies among airlines; the calculations are complex, with the number of hours negotiated in labor contracts. United's flight attendants get a minimum of nine hours off, but a spokeswoman claims they've given up 30 percent to 40 percent in pay and benefits since the airline declared bankruptcy three years ago, and two-thirds stand to lose their pension.

American Airlines flight attendants tell me they previously had eight hours "behind closed doors" in a hotel room for domestic flights, then it was cut to six, and in October it was restored to eight. Total minimum rest time for flight attendants is nine hours.

What's more, the clock starts running as soon as the plane arrives at the gate, even before the passengers are unloaded. That means cabin crews must wait until the plane has emptied

- and a fully loaded 757 takes 15 minutes to clear out. Then crews hike through the airport, wait for a shuttle bus, ride to the hotel, check in, get to their room, unwind, maybe eat dinner, take a shower, call home, crawl in bed and go to sleep.

The next morning they get up, dress, repack, have breakfast, check out, wait for a shuttle bus, get back to the airport, pass through security lines - at least they get fast-tracked - and check in for their flight an hour before takeoff. A late hotel shuttle bus or long check-in line at a poorly staffed hotel can eat up that downtime.

"Flight attendants are in an upside-down position," says Corey Caldwell, press officer for the Association of Flight Attendants, which represents 46,000 unionized workers with 23 airlines. "We're working harder today for less money because all airlines are squeezing costs."

Their plight could be worsening. AFA has teamed up with the Professional Flight Attendants Association, representing Northwest Airlines' cabin staffers, to descend on Capitol Hill. Their goal is to convince Congress to oppose Northwest's plan to hire nonunion, foreign flight attendants for international flights and outsource cabin crews on domestic flights flown by jets with 100 seats or less. Northwest is in Chapter 11 and the plan has been filed with a bankruptcy court judge.

Meanwhile, the PFAA and Northwest are already at the bargaining table wrangling over \$117 million in wage and benefit concessions the airline is seeking.

A Northwest spokeswoman says the airline is talking with all its unions to figure out ways to reduce its operating costs by \$1.4 billion annually, but she wouldn't confirm or deny any staff outsourcing scheme.

"There are a variety of ways to achieve cost savings," she says, "but they are not discussed with the media."

(It's not surprising that Northwest is pondering outsourcing flight attendants, which is basically union busting. After all, Northwest plays fierce hardball with its unions. When the airline couldn't resolve its rancorous strike with its mechanics this summer, it hired and trained replacements.

HAVE YOU HEARD

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Scouts Moved To Help Our Troops



Dan Wiehce, Junior Assistant Scoutmaster is working on his EAGLE project to achieve the highest rank in Scouting. Along with Barb Galassi, who is working on her Girl Scout GOLD AWARD, their project requires that they collect items to create packages to send over to the U.S. Troops in Iraq.

Within these packages, they hope to give the troops some items which they have given up for numerous months. The goal is to collect various items like reading materials, such as books and even greeting cards - which will hopefully be comforting to them.

ITEMS TO BE SENT TO THE TROOPS AND OTHER SUGGESTED ITEMS:

Greeting Cards, Sandals - Various Sizes, Sun Glasses, Chewing Gum, Chap-Stick / Lip Balm, Casual Shoes - Various Sizes, Hand Sanitizer, Cough Drops, Juicy Juice - Box Drinks, Kleenex, Tissues, Moist Towellettes (Packaged), Small Packages of Tissues, Tooth Brushes, Tooth Paste, Hair Combs, Hair Brushes.

Collecting these items will allow folks like you to assist in the donations. These items will then be sorted and packaged to be sent out to the troops.

Dan and Barb ask that you may somehow help them in the way of donating any / all items to the U.S. Troops in Iraq. "Any donation of items and/or money (which will help in shipping overseas) would be very much appreciated by these folks who are guarding our country from attack. We're trying to make their time away from home a little nicer and tolerable! We all can help them feel more appreciated!"

Please send a donation check to: St. John Brebeuf, 8307 N. Harlem Ave., Niles, IL 60714 or contact Dan or Barb at 847-966-9526 to pick up the donated items.

Thanks for your support of this Project and U.S. Troops!

This Special drive is part of a project to attain EAGLE rank by Dan Wiehce of Boy Scout Troop 175 And GOLD AWARD by Barbie Galassi of Girl Scout Troop 1006, both of Niles, Illinois.

NILES PARK DISTRICT HOLIDAY EVENTS

Santa's Mailbox

Through December 5th at Howard Leisure Center Santa's Elves install a Special Mailbox at HLC. Since Santa must have time to pack his sleigh, he can only answer those letters received by December 5th, so get your letters in early!

Santa's Calling

Wednesday, December 7th at 4:30PM - 7:30PM. Children Ages 3-10 can get a call from Saint Nick. Parents can make arrangements with Santa by completing Santa's information sheet at Howard Leisure Center.

Holiday Gingerbread House

Thursday, December 8th at 6:00PM - 7:30PM at Howard Leisure



Center. Adult/Child Couples can decorate their very own No-Bake Gingerbread House to take home. Great Holiday Fun! Materials included. Refreshments served, goody bags to each child. Fee: \$40; Non-Resident \$45.

Breakfast with Santa

Saturday, December 10th at Howard Leisure Center. 8:30AM - 9:30AM, 10:00 - 11:00AM, 11:30AM - 12:30PM. Join Santa for a Visit, Breakfast, Craft & Photo! Child Resident \$5.00; Child Non-Resident \$10.00; All Adults \$5.00.

Howard Leisure Center,

MORTON GROVE PARK DISTRICT HOLIDAY EVENTS

Mark Your Calendars! Santa is coming to Morton Grove on Sunday, December 4th. Santa will be riding through the streets of Morton Grove passing out candy for all the good boys and girls on Sunday, December 4th from 12:00pm - 3:00pm. Some of these pieces of candy will have special marks on them, which indicate you win a prize. Santa will be greeting kids at the Morton Grove Moose Family Center, 6419 Chestnut (across from the Metra Train Station) until 3:30pm. A map of Santa's route will be distributed to the Morton Grove schools the week of November 28th. If you need any additional maps, you can email us at gomgpd@mortongroveparks.com or call 847-965-1200 to have a map sent to you.

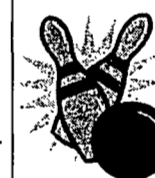
The Chicago Bronze Handbell Ensemble Holiday Concert Sunday December 11, 2005

This talented community English handbell ensemble, under the direction of Philip L. Roberts, will present a holiday concert in the Large Church at St. Martha's Parish, 8523 Georgiana Avenue, Morton Grove on Sunday, December 11th at 6:30 p.m. A wide variety of sacred and secular musical selections appropriate for the season will be featured.

Chicago Bronze has a collective ringing experience of over 160 years and musicianship experience of over 350 years (from vocal to a wide variety of instruments).

The group is dedicated to musical excellence, as well as sharing their technical knowledge of the handbell instrument and helping to create a greater understanding and enjoyment of handbell music.

The concert will be offered at no charge to the community, however a free-will offering will be received to help defray expenses. You are also cordially invited to attend the parish open house at the Rectory following the concert. Plan now to enjoy this delightful concert of holiday favorites! Ample free parking is available.



CATHOLIC WOMEN'S BOWLING LEAGUE

Bowled Wednesday, November 16, 2005

	Points Won	Points Lost
Classic Bowl	48	22
Skaja Terrace Funeral Home	36	34
NorthSide Community Bank	36	34
Candlelight Jewelers	34	36
Niles Dairy Queen	31	39
Bielinski and Bono Dental	25	45

High Series/High Games

Janet Trozzo	535/209
Mary Wasilewski	173
Deanne Drozd	169
Kim O'Keefe	159
Remy Huszar/Gertie Schultz	157
Melissa Lang	155
Helma Drag/Jan McReynolds	152

Turkey Shoot Winners

Team 1	Linda Fahey	+36 pins
Team 2	Janet Trozzo	+45 pins
Team 3	Pam De La Cruz	+32 pins
Team 4	Mary Johnson	+14 pins
Team 5	Kim O'Keefe	+78 pins
Team 6	Jan McReynolds	+60 pins
2nd Place	Deanne Drozd	+55 pins
2nd Place	Mary Wasilewski	+15 pins
2nd Place	Gertie Schultz	-13 pins

SPORTS

Maine South dominates Hinsdale Central 30-6

BY ALI BHANPURI
SPORTS CONTRIBUTOR

Third time's the charm, at least that's what the Maine South Hawks (12-1) are hoping after delivering a dominating performance last Saturday in a 30-6 victory over Hinsdale Central (9-4) and earning a trip back to the championship game.

"I'm really excited," said senior receiver/defensive end Adam Fee. "We have to go out and get it this time. I don't want to lose there again."

Fee was referring to the previous two years where the Hawks fell to Lockport and then Downers Grove North in the Class 8A state championship.

Considering the defensive efforts the past two games where the Hawks allowed a total of 16 points and shutting out both Stevenson and Hinsdale Central in the second half, Maine South's bid for a championship appears to be within reach.

The players will have their chance to take home the coveted championship trophy this Saturday at 7 p.m. as the Hawks travel down to Champaign. After defeating Wheaton Warrenville South (12-1) by the score of 14-7, Lincoln-Way East (13-0) will be vying for the 8A title as well.

Fee was only one of a number of Hawks who contributed on both sides of the ball in the impressive victory. Junior Anthony Borsellino proved his



Maine South's Adam Blandin, #55, jumps on a Hinsdale Central fumble during Saturday's game. (Photo by Ali Bhanpuri)

worth offensively and defensively, catching pass after pass and taking one 62-yards for a touchdown. The Hawks exposed holes in the Red Devils defensive scheme, relying on a swing pass to Borsellino for numerous first downs.

"When we watched film this past week we saw that they were mostly a cover two team," said Maine South head coach David Inserra. "We wanted to take

advantage of how far back the safety was playing and trusted the play would work."

Quarterback Tyler Knight demonstrated that his running abilities were just as potent as his throwing accuracy, running for a 28-yard TD and picking up key first downs to help sustain drives. Knight took part in all thirty points, throwing three TDs, kicking three extra points and booming a 43-yard field

goal through the uprights with 1:14 remaining in the game.

The Hawks took a 13-6 lead going into halftime on a Knight keeper and a 6-yard whip route completion to Fee.

Despite the close score at the half, the Hawks buckled down and denied the Red Devils further entry into the end zone. With no scores on either side in the third quarter, the raising of four fingers on the Maine South

sidelines as the last quarter began seemed to spark a burning desire in the players.

After the Hawks had taken a 20-6 lead over the Red Devils, offensive coordinator Charlie Bliss turned to one of his colleagues and stated that the next play would be a TD.

Lo and behold, the ensuing play, Knight hurled a pass to senior WR Mark Sagerstrom for a 27-yard score.

SPORTS

Professional Golf Tips With Tina Mickelson

Improve your practice

The driving range is a good place to groove your swing, but keep in mind that it is not reflective of your experience out on the golf course. On the golf course you are generally using a different club for each shot. On the driving range you are most likely hitting ball after ball with the same club. This is not a bad thing, especially if you are having trouble with that particular club and are trying to work it out, or if you are working on a certain swing key.

But on occasion try a practice session that resembles more of what you experience out on the golf course. Visualize yourself actually playing different golf holes. For example, take out your driver and pick out some points that define what you would consider to be your fairway. Hit one shot with your driver, trying to keep it in that "fairway." Next, using the appropriate iron, make your approach shot and if necessary, any pitches you would need to incorporate into the round. This approach gives you a more well-rounded practice session and you should find yourself more comfortable out on the golf course.



Copley News Service/Tina Mickelson, PGA

Photo by Paul Nasir

No one knows what to expect from Wolves basketball this year

BY ALI BHANPURI
SPORTS CONTRIBUTOR

With a new coach at the helm and no Sead Odzic to rely on in clutch situations, no one knows what to expect from this year's Niles West basketball team.

For the past four years, Odzic helped bring prestige and esteem to Niles West basketball, however with Odzic sporting USC cardinal and gold, the Wolves aim to bring more players into the spotlight.

Head coach Josh Grant stresses the idea of role players and team cooperation in order to advance as a program.

"I believe in each player having a specific role. I want the guys out there who are going to do the little things to help us win games," Grant said.

The Wolves do have a go to guy in 6-foot-3 senior center

Victor Colon who has started at the varsity level his entire high school career. He is the last of the players to have contributed to the two regional championships in the last four years.

Returning to the starting lineup are forwards senior Mike Majerczyk and junior Steve Panther, who both had considerable playing time last year. Although both are still raw in their abilities, Majerczyk will be needed for leadership on and off the court.

Despite the fact that the remaining players have very little experience playing in varsity games, there is a lot of talent on the team.

One player whom Grant expects great numbers from is senior Forward Frank Theodorakakis. With a 6-foot-6-inch frame, the only flaw in his game is his tentativeness. However, according to Grant, Theodorakakis has been a fre-

quent visitor to the weight room, trying to gain more strength.

Senior guard Lance Williams, junior Center Shajait Hussain and junior Forward Ali Tai all won Grant's respect during the off-season conditioning program.

"Williams, Hussain and Tai showed up every day, showing the coaching staff their dedication," Grant said. A large reason they're on the team is because I want players who are devoted to improving the team as a whole."

The Wolves have been training rigorously for the past few months before and after school. Grant wants his players to be in the best shape of their lives, in order to remain effective late in the fourth quarter of games.

The Wolves opened their basketball season with the 29th annual Schnurr Tournament held at Niles West on Nov. 21-22 at 6 p.m.

Wolves square off against Wauconda

The Niles West wrestling team traveled to Warren on Tuesday, competing against Wauconda and the host school. Head coach Bryan Wittersheim knew going into the match that Warren had a great program.

"Warren is a big school and always competes well," Wittersheim said. "More than anything, I'm looking to see how we improve from our first match."

The team has many obstacles to overcome this year, but hope to surmount them with contributions from underclassmen.

With such few seniors on the team, the Wolves have to rely heavily on a talented sophomore group. There's no doubt that the loss of four state-qualifying athletes has left voids in the roster, however, Wittersheim feels with

some leadership the team can be very successful.

"We're definitely going to miss them," Wittersheim said. "In their absence, we're going to need the few seniors we have to step-up and set a good example for the younger wrestlers."

Leading the way for the Wolves are senior captains John Alsterda and Dallas Monreal-Berner. Alsterda will compete at the 148-pound weight class and Monreal-Berner at 160. The Wolves are looking for contributions from seniors Wesley Chow and Jon Eng, both of whom competed at the varsity level last year.

Sophomores Kevin Hogan and J.P. Monreal-Berner return to the squad, leading the way for a pack of underclassmen that will fill vacancies at different weight class-

es. The Wolves will face the same problems they did last year, with such few numbers many matches will be decided by forfeits, something that Wittersheim acknowledges.

"It's difficult to go into a match knowing we can't compete because we don't have the numbers," Wittersheim said. "Even when we won a lot of matches, meets would be lost because we couldn't get anyone to compete at certain weights. It's a shame."

In order to overcome the deficiency in experienced wrestlers, the Wolves had a rigorous off-season program consisting of Greco-style wrestling tournaments twice a week and daily workout sessions before school.

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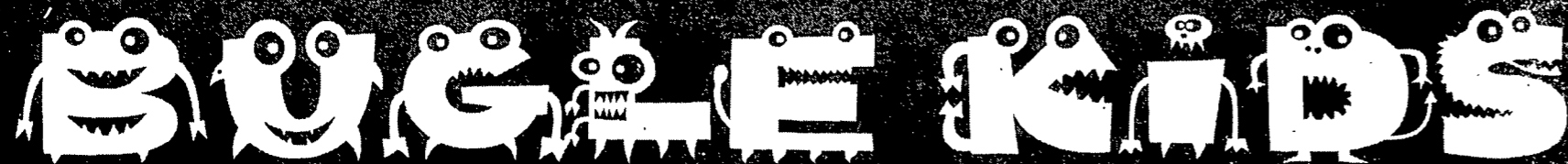
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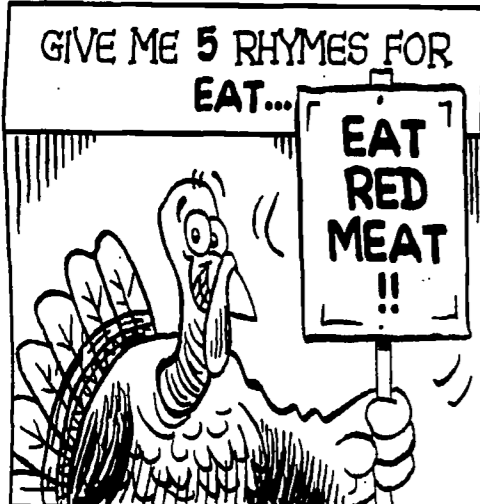
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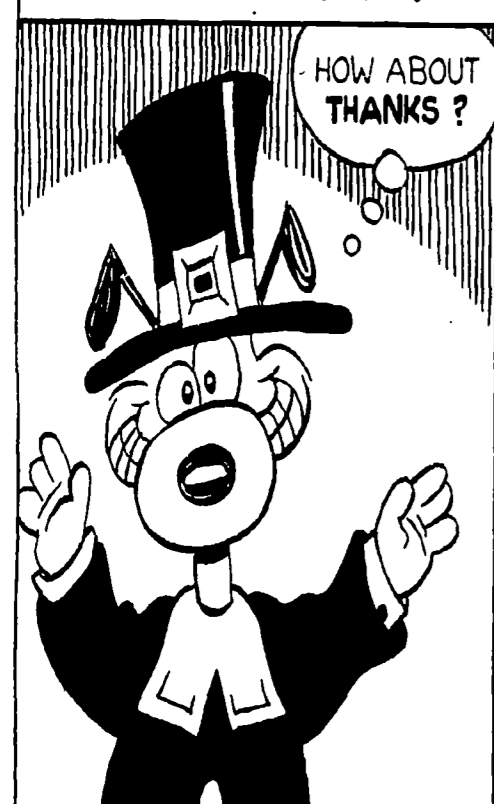
By J.R. Rose-Copley News Service

DRAW IT!

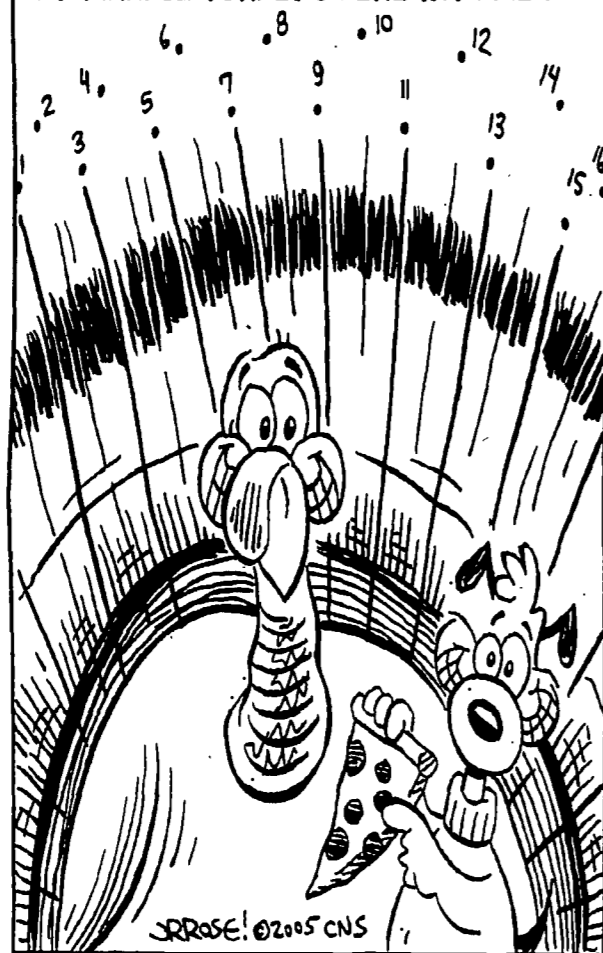
DRAW
THE REST
OF THIS
TURKEY...



HOW MANY WORDS CAN YOU
MAKE OUT OF THE LETTERS
IN THANKSGIVING?

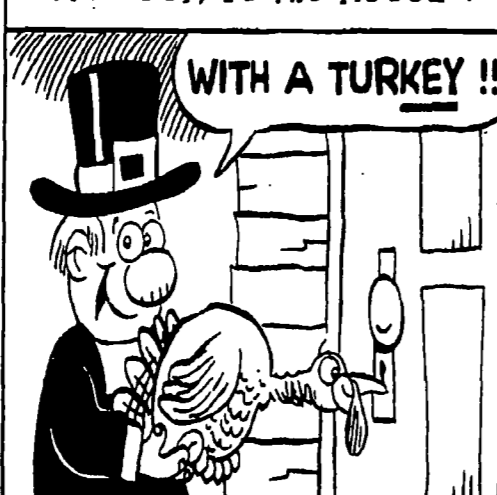


THANKSGIVING'S HERE, I WANT A TREAT!
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HOW DID THE PILGRIM OPEN
THE DOOR TO HIS HOUSE?



Grammar Matters

by Patty Gibbons Saunier

More THAN a Feeling

Select the correct pronoun to complete the sentences below. Each contains the word "than."

1. My younger sister is now taller than (me, I).
2. The car mechanics I use are more honest than (they, them).
3. I have more blisters on my feet than (him, he).

Answers: Using the word "than" to compare two things requires the writer or speaker to identify the things being compared. The correct ending pronoun, then, is the one that identifies the thing being compared. 1. I. Think: My younger sister is now taller than I (am tall). 2. they. Think: The car mechanics I use are more honest than they (are honest). 3. he. Think: I have more blisters on my feet than he (does).

Copley News Service

Nature Newswatch®

Taking a dive



Photo by Leonard Lee Bue III

Diving from the surface of the water, the large webbed feet of the double-crested cormorant propel it downward, and its hook-tipped bill nabs its prey; it is an efficient and successful fisher. The 4-pound bird can eat 1 pound of young fish a day.

Blamed - but not documented - for reducing sport fish populations, the cormorant can opportunistically clean out slow-moving schooling fishes in marine waters less than 50 feet deep. Should they gain access to a commercial fish hatchery or aquaculture farm, they can do considerable damage, but studies so far show that game fish appear to be minor components of their diet.

While migrating these days, the cormorants may be at first mistaken for Canada geese. Although they may fly in vee formation, a closer observation reveals that instead of constantly honking and flapping like geese, they fly silently and alternate wingbeats with sailing. Take a closer look to see a slight crook in their necks.

Double-crested cormorant
Phalacrocorax auritus 29-36 inches
Habitat: swamps, lakes, rivers, seacoasts
Range Key: ☐ Summer ■ Year-round ■ Winter
by Tim Herd © 2005
www.naturenewswatch.com

LIFE

PERFECT PAIRINGS

Chef brings together maple-brined turkey and fragrant viognier

RON JAMES
Copley News Service

THE CHEF

Chef John Ash loves to talk turkey.

"If you really want to celebrate the holidays in culinary style, try to stay away from store-bought frozen turkeys," Ash said. "Almost all turkeys raised in the U.S. live in unnatural, uncomfortable conditions. They are fed a steady diet of grain and supplements like antibiotics and tend to be dry and tasteless. Heritage birds are raised outdoors and are juicy and taste the way a turkey is supposed to taste."

"You can order and find out about heritage turkeys online at www.heritagefoodsusa.com," Ash said. "Or you can ask your specialty shop butcher to order you one. Food stores like Whole Foods usually carry heritage turkeys."

Ash knows a lot about turkeys. He's been cooking them for picky diners for over a quarter century. He became a national culinary rising star in 1985 when he was selected by Food & Wine magazine as one of America's Hot New Chefs. His restaurant, John Ash & Co., is a California wine country institution and has been critically acclaimed for 25 years. But there's more. Ash is a premier wine and food educator and has served for years as the Culinary Director for Fetzer Vineyards. He travels widely, teaching home and professional cooks alike. He is on the faculty of The Professional Wine Studies Program at the Culinary Institute of America at Greystone in California's Napa Valley.

The latest of his three best-selling cookbooks, "John Ash Cooking One-on-One: Private Lessons in Simple Contemporary Food from a Master Teacher," (Clarkson Potter, \$37.50) won a 2005 James Beard award. His "From the Earth to the Table: John Ash's Wine Country Cuisine" (Dutton, \$16) was named Best American Cookbook and the Julia Child Cookbook of the Year in 1995 by the International Association of Culinary Professionals.

"Brining a turkey before it is roasted or grilled ensures that the meat is moist throughout - but especially the breast, which seems to always dry out before the legs and thighs are cooked. "When I illustrate brining in my cooking classes, students are sometimes skeptical. Let me assure you though that when they try it, most vow never to cook another turkey or chicken without brining it first."

Brining is based on the process of osmosis. Once a turkey is immersed in brine, salt begins to migrate into the meat, along with water, which makes the meat moister.

"If we've added sugar in some form, or spices, the osmotic action is also dragging those in too," Ash said. "This helps add flavor to the meat. Remember

that sugar is one of nature's great flavor enhancers. Just a little, not enough to make the meat taste sweet, can boost flavor dramatically in savory dishes."

THE WINE

It's easy to understand why Ash would want to match a sustainable turkey with an organically grown wine, a 2004 Bonterra viognier (\$17) from Mendocino County. The winery was one of the first to receive organic farming certification from the Soil Association of the United Kingdom.

"After 13 years of farming organically, our experience is that vineyards with balanced, fertile soil produce healthier vines and grapes and subsequently better wines," said Bonterra winemaker Robert Blue. Noted wine writer Oz Clarke

describes the fruity, fragrant viognier (pronounced Vee-on-yay) as a "wine that just oozes sex and sensuality."

Although the wine has been around for more than 2,000 years, it all but disappeared by the 1960s when just a handful of viognier vineyards remained where the variety originated in the northern Rhone region of France. Fortunately, the wine was "rediscovered" and now is grown in abundance in California and other major wine-growing regions around the world.

The Bonterra viognier has powerful aromas of fresh-cut nectarines and white peaches laced with floral notes of orange blossom and honeysuckle. It has complex fruit flavors of apricot and peach overlaid with notes of oak vanilla. The wine is crisp yet creamy and pairs well with spicy dishes and, perhaps unexpectedly, roast turkey.

"The fruitiness of the wine really works well with the maple syrup in the brined turkey," said Ash. Ron James welcomes comments and suggestions. E-mail him at ron-james@perfectpairings.us. Listen to his "Gourmet Club" radio show and see archives of previous columns at www.perfectpairings.us. © Copley News Service Visit Copley News Service at www.copleynews.com.

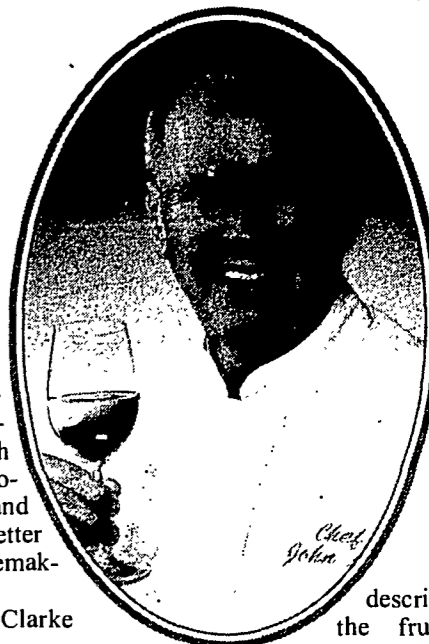
side up and baste frequently with maple-butter mixture. Roast 1 hour or until breast temperature reaches 165 F when an instant-read thermometer is inserted into thickest part of breast. Note: If you don't have room in your refrigerator, an alternative is to place turkey and brine in insulated cooler and add frozen ice packs to keep it chilled. Make sure brine completely covers turkey. Make more if necessary.

Mix butter and syrup together for baste. Turn turkey breast-

Mix brine ingredients together until salt is dissolved. Place turkey in brine and refrigerate, covered, for 8 hours or overnight (see note). Remove turkey from brine, rinse and pat dry. Tie turkey if desired and rub with olive oil. Season lightly with salt and pepper, to taste. Place turkey breast-side down on rack in roasting pan in preheated 475 F oven for 25 minutes. Reduce oven heat to 325 F and roast 1 hour.

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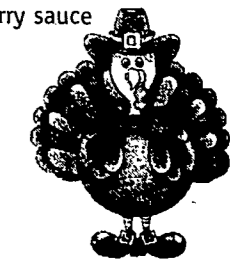
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LIFE

IN FASHION

A holiday wish list for the fashionista

SHARON MOSLEY
Copley News Service

They may collect Manolo Blahnik shoes. They may love Prada handbags. Or they may have to have the latest Hermes tie. They're devoted fashion fans, and you can bet a closet full of little black dresses that the style savvy on your holiday list will love one of the books on the following list.

An avid collector of fashion books, here are just a few of my favorites that have debuted this year:

"Louis Vuitton: The Birth of Modern Luxury" (November 2005; \$125; Abrams).

The weightiest of all this season's fashion tomes, this 540-page elegant book written by Paul-Gerard Paolis is a must-have for trendy coffee tables everywhere. Illustrated with 700 photographs, this book is the first in-depth portrait of one of the world's best-known luxury brands, chronicling the 150-year history of the Maison Louis Vuitton, which has created stylish luggage, handbags, accessories and in 1997 its explosion into fashion.

"Dress Your Best: The Complete Guide to Finding the Style That's Right for Your Body" (September 2005; \$18.95; Three Rivers Press).

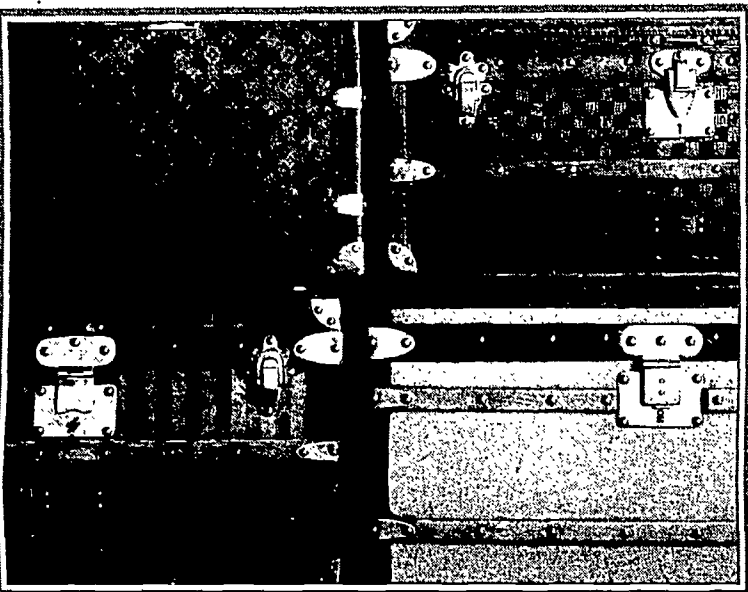
Clinton Kelly and Stacy London, the irresistible co-hosts of the Learning Channel's hit show, "What Not to Wear," deliver their clever fashion advice to readers by using 26 different, yet realistic, male and female body types from curvy to not-so-curvy, from small frames to athletic builds. One piece of advice for women: A pointy-toe shoe with a kitten heel is perfect for work with any skirt; guys: never button the bottom button of your suit jacket.

"Alligators, Old Mink & New Money: One Woman's Adventures in Vintage Clothing" (November 2005; \$23.95; William Morrow).

A delightful glimpse into the world of vintage fashion by former fashion model, Alison Houtte and her sister, author Melissa Houtte, in their first collaborative effort. Filled with anecdotes of Alison's passion for old clothes and learning the ropes of owning a vintage retail store in Brooklyn, N.Y., this dishy book is not only informative to lovers of antique treasures, but entertaining as well.

"Woman in the Mirror" (November 2005; \$65; Abrams).

Famed photographer, Richard Avedon, who died last year, loved to photograph women. As a staff photographer for Harper's Bazaar and later for Vogue, Avedon redefined the fashion photograph. In 1992, he became the first staff photographer in the history of The New Yorker. He began this book in 2002 by editing thousands of contact sheets from the last 60 years, including some images published, others that



have not - all of the photographs in this 247-page coffee table book reflect Avedon's talent not only as a fashion photographer but a portrait artist of incredible magnitude.

"The Perfect Fit: What Your Shoes Say About You" (May 2005; \$12.95; Chronicle Books). A great stocking stuffer for the fashionista with a shoe fetish! Writer Meghan Cleary highlights 30 shoe personalities from orthopedic sandals to Mary Janes and "invokes your inner stiletto" to come up with the "the real shoe you." After all, she says, "is there any problem in life that can't be solved with a new pair of shoes?"

"Dressing A Galaxy: The Costumes of Star Wars" (October 2005; \$295; limited edition, \$50 trade edition; Abrams). May the fashion force be with you this holiday season! Whether or not you're a fan of Star Wars, you'll love the 300 full-color photographs from the Lucasfilm archives of the distinctive costumes created by designer Trisha Biggar. From opulent royal gowns to the iconic garb of Obi-Wan Kenobi and Darth Vader to the dark cloaks of the Sith, this book is a visual feast and a great look at the intricate process of crafting these costumes from sketch to screen.

"Paul Starr on Beauty" (October 2005; \$29.95; Melcher Media).

A makeup artist's conversations with 30 celebrated women, from Cameron Diaz to Salma Hayek to Renee Zellweger. In-depth interviews, beautiful photographs and step-by-step how-tos create a fantastic combination.

"Before You Put That On: 365 Daily Style Tips for Her" (October 2005; \$27.50; Atria). From style guru Lloyd Boston, (contributing fashion editor for

NBC's Today Show) comes a whole year's worth of fashion tips. It's easy when you take it one day at a time!

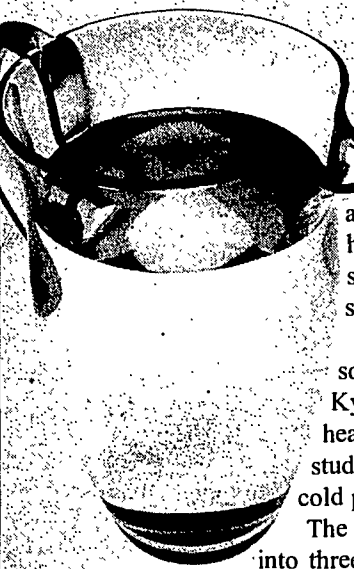
"Tiffany's Palm Beach" (November 2005; \$65; Abrams). Oh, to be in Palm Beach. Well, if you can't make it down to this tropical paradise this winter, you can browse through the pages of John Loring's latest foray into an elegant world filled with pages and pages of extravagant homes, lush gardens and of course exquisite Tiffany jewels and objet d'art. It's the ultimate wish list!

"Ellie: The Perfect Dress for Me" (September 2005; \$15.95; Gingham Dog Press). For the little fashionista on your holiday list, this is a colorfully illustrated children's book by author C.M. Rubin. Ellie takes matters into her young stylish hands when she's invited to her cousin Claire's posh wedding. After ignoring tons of advice on what to wear by well-meaning friends and family, Ellie does her own thing and creates an original "dress" - a ballet skirt, sparkling T-shirt, orange high tops and pink socks. Oh, and pearls. Sharon Mosley is a former fashion editor of the Arkansas Gazette in Little Rock and executive director of the Fashion Editors and Reporters Association.

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WELL NEWS
HALF-FULL OR HALF-EMPTY?

SCOTT LAFEE
Copley News Service



A Japanese researcher says that daily gargling with plain water appears to fend off colds among healthy people, but an American scientist finds the news hard to swallow.

Dr. Kazunari Satomura, a professor of medicine and epidemiology at Kyoto University, enrolled 387 healthy volunteers, ages 18 to 65, in a study to assess gargling's reputed anticold powers.

The volunteers were randomly divided into three groups: one group gargled with water, one with an antiseptic solution of povidone-iodine, and one didn't gargle at all. All of the participants were told to pursue their typical lifestyles, keep up with normal hand-washing and avoid cold remedies for 60 days.

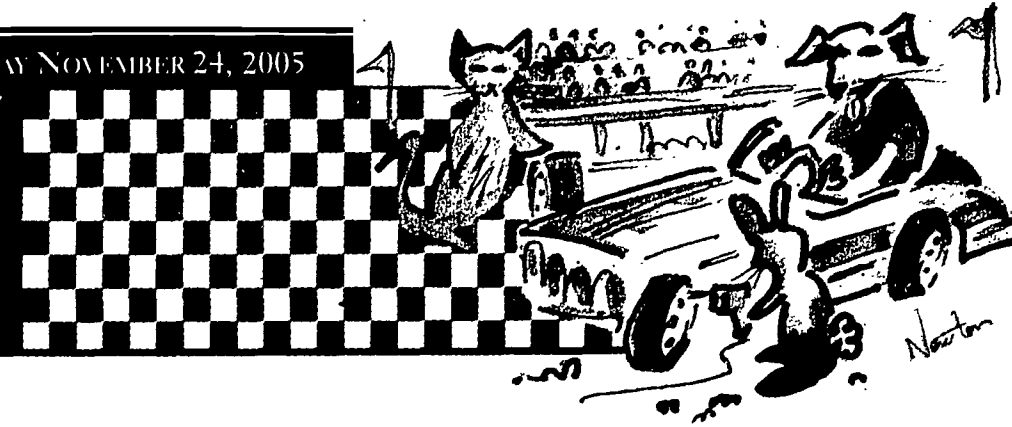
In that time, 130 volunteers contracted a cold, sore throat, sinus infection or a form of bronchitis. The rate of infection was similar between the povidone-iodine gargling group and the group that didn't gargle at all. Compared to them, however, 36 percent fewer water-garglers caught colds. The study results will be published in the November issue of the American Journal of Preventive Medicine.

But Dr. Peter Muennig, an assistant professor at Columbia University, says the study is flawed, that it lacks a true control group. That is, a group that would gargle with "fake" water. And since it is commonly believed in Japan that gargling prevents colds, the study's findings could simply be some sort of placebo effect.

Beyond that, Muennig said Satomura and colleagues offer no clear mechanism for why gargling would help prevent colds, only that it might clear the throat of germs before they can spread. "If this is the case," Muennig said, "we would expect eating and drinking to do the same thing. Their claim that there is a 36 percent reduction in the chances of getting a cold with gargling must be taken with a grain of salt."

Fletcher Knebel Visit Copley News Service at www.copleynews.com

the PET STOP



Niles vet offers tips on bird care

BY JEFF BORGARDT
STAFF WRITER

On Thanksgiving week, the bird most people have their minds on is the stuffed turkey for dinner.

But the Niles Animal Hospital has some tips for caring for other pet birds.

Veterinarian Peter Sakas of the Niles Animal Hospital, 7278 N. Milwaukee, has recently published a seven-page essay on the topic covering everything from cage size, chew toys and room temperature.

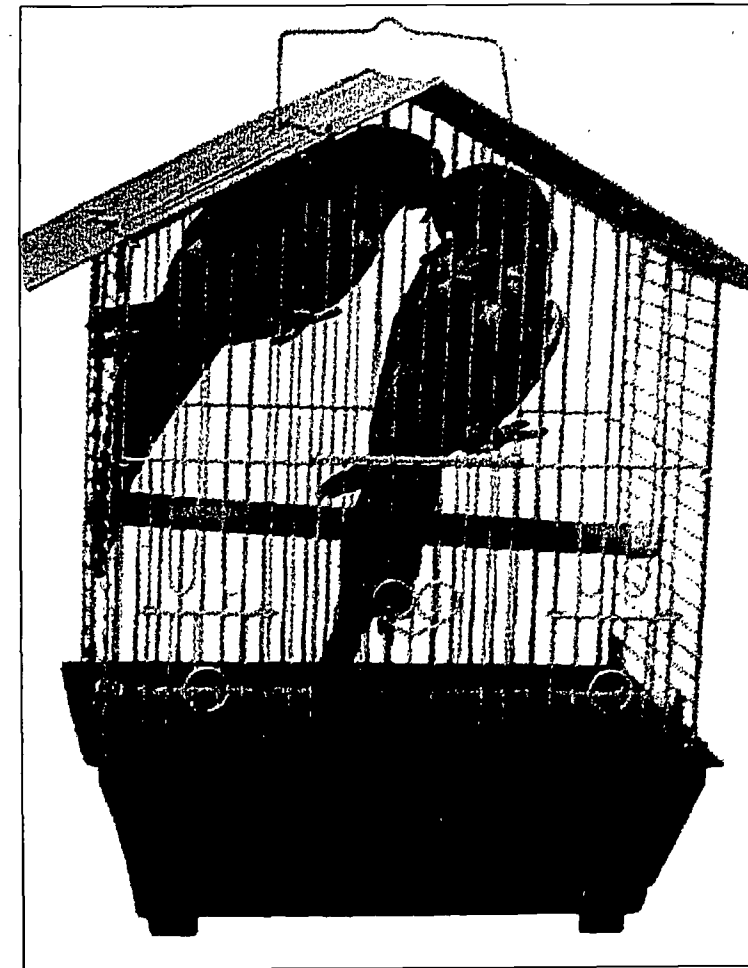
Sakas takes bird care seriously.

"Pet birds are totally reliant upon us for the proper environment and its maintenance for their well being," he writes. "If the situation is unsatisfactory they are unable to fly elsewhere - it is our total responsibility, and a great one, as the life of a living creature is in our hands."

But caring for a pet bird requires more than just satisfactory feeding and cage space.

Birds also need some tender love and care.

"Birds are social animals and require a rich environment to do well," the Niles veterinarian writes. "Birds learn to relate to people, and actually, when living in a cage situation, need people for socialization. Talk to the



bird, whistle to it or sing to it. It cannot live well without socialization and interaction."

And birds aren't stupid either. "In the past birds have been considered to be of low intellect since their brain is tiny and has a poorly developed cerebral cortex (well developed in man).

However, birds have demonstrated in test after test that they are capable of highly intelligent behavior, sometimes surpassing the abilities of mammals with greatly superior cortical development," Sakas writes. "Thus a pet bird should be considered more than merely an ornament.

Adequate environmental stimuli should be provided for their intellect as well as interaction/affection for their emotional needs."

The newly released essay "Basic Pet Bird Care" is available on the Niles Animal Hospital website.

When caring for a bird, the first thing considered is the cage.

The cage should be large enough for the bird's comfort and be primarily used to store the bird while the owner is away. The bird should spend as much time as possible outside the cage. Multiple perches should be available inside the cage. Sakas reminds bird owners that "birds spend their entire lives on the perches. Some thought should be given to the best perch for the bird."

The cage bottom should be lined with paper and droppings monitored to check for signs for disease. Feeding seed and water cups should be washed regularly.

"Dirty water cups may be one of the greatest sources of infection for pet birds," Sakas writes. "A clean and fresh source of water is so very important for the health of pet birds."

To read the complete essay, log onto nilesanimalhospital.com.

Three dogs rescued from Hurricane Zone looking for homes

Three American Eskimo dogs are searching for a place to call home, after being rescued from Mississippi as a result of Hurricane Katrina.

"They are very closely bonded," said Danielle Pennett, a volunteer at the local Buddy Foundation, who went to Tyler Town, Mississippi, to rescue four dogs and five kittens who had lost their owners in the disaster. More than 1,000 animals, including dogs, cats, turtles, snakes and more, were taken to a special staging area to wait for their owners. Some came back for them; some came back to say they couldn't take care of them anymore.

Pennett is working with the American Eskimo Rescue association to help find the dogs a home. She hopes to find someone who will adopt all three of the dogs so they don't have to

Story Continues...
see SEARCHING next page

Hey Readers! Like our new "Pet Stop" Section?

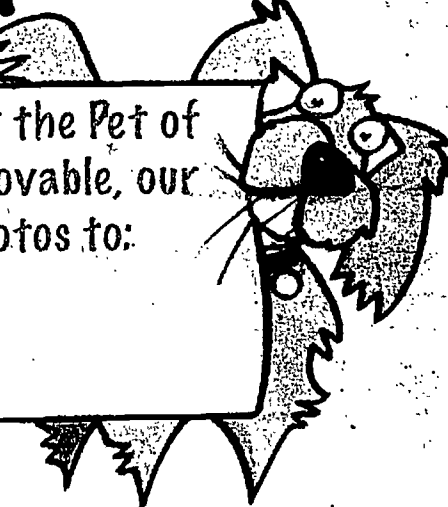


We hope you're enjoying our Pet Stop Section. Mac is our the Pet of the month this issue. If you think your pet is the most lovable, our next issue is December 22, so send or e-mail your photos to:

Pet Stop: Pet of the Month
The Bugle Newspapers
7400 N. Waukegan Rd.
Niles, IL 60714

Or e-mail: editor@buglenewspapers.com

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Points on Pets

Petting zoo concerns

R.G. Elmore, D.V.M.
Copley News Service

Q: We were recently surprised to find a petting zoo containing many domestic and exotic animals at a fall festival near our hometown. The petting zoo included goats, sheep, calves and exotics such as large turtles and kangaroos. Children were encouraged to buy feed for the animals and to go into many of the pens. We are concerned about the many diseases that these animals might transmit to children. Are we worrying over-time?

A: Because of the possible transmission of zoonotic diseases, those diseases which can be passed from animals to humans, petting zoos have rightfully come under a lot more scrutiny recently. Although

there have been isolated cases of outbreaks of disease and injuries thought to be related to the close contact with animals in exhibits such as petting zoos and fairs, this should not cause parents to totally restrict their children from the joys of being around animals under proper supervision.

Both children and adults should use proper hygienic practices such as frequent hand washing and not putting their hands into their mouths or eyes. No one should allow animals to lick them in the face. Children should be taught to not touch animal feces and that immediate hand washing is required if accidental contact occurs. Closed toed shoes or boots should be worn while intermingling with

farm animals in their pens or lots. No one should eat or drink while playing with animals. Of course, unpasteurized milk should never be consumed by anyone.

Not only should children be protected from zoonotic diseases, but they should also be protected from scratching, butting, kicking and biting. Many farm animals and exotic species are very unpredictable when confronted by unfamiliar people, especially excited children. Most children and many adults do not know how to predict the behaviors of animals and do not know how to react quickly to threatening behaviors.

It is a great understatement to say that children should be

closely supervised while playing with animals, particularly animals which are not family pets. Most injuries and exposures to serious disease causing organisms can be prevented by practicing excellent hygiene and providing proper adult supervision.

Q: Our cat recently had a litter with kittens that varied greatly in their colorations and hair coat patterns. We do not know who the father of these kittens might be since our cat roams the neighborhood freely. Is it possible that this litter was fathered by more than one male?

A: It is not unusual for free-roaming cats to have litters containing kittens fathered by different males. The scientific term

for this situation is superfecundation. While some cats will allow only one male to breed her, others will allow all of the males in the area to breed her while she is receptive. To avoid this and to avoid having unwanted kittens of unknown parentage, you should have your cat spayed as soon as your veterinarian says that she is ready.

Send e-mail to copleysd@copleynews.com or write to *Pets*, Copley News Service, P.O. Box 120190, San Diego, CA 92112-0190. Only questions of general interest will be answered in this column.

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Visit [Copley News Service at www.copleynews.com](http://www.copleynews.com).

How do animals survive the cold winter weather?

People can take an Animal Tracks Hike through Linn Woods with the Morton Grove Historical Museum staff on Saturday, Dec. 3 at 11 a.m. to learn more about how plants and creatures of the forest prepare for the coming winter.

Participants will search for clues on the forest floor and each person will have the chance to create a plaster cast from the animal tracks that they discover on their hike.

Hikers will learn about the strategies for survival through the cold, harsh season and find out what animals migrate and what animals hibernate.

Participants can enter the Cook County Forest Preserve at the entrance on the north side of Dempster, across from Ferris Ave. They can drive down the road, past pavilion, to turn-around and park near turn-around.

The Animal Tracks Hike does require some walking, so people should wear warm clothing, and a hat, gloves and boots are recommended. Children under the age of 18 should be by a legal guardian or parent.

The hike is free but reservations are required.

Those interested can call the Morton Grove Historical Museum at 847 965 0203.

SEARCHING:

Photos available on website

CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS

be separated.

On the American Eskimo Rescue website, pictures and descriptions of Cheyenne, Jasper and Everest will be displayed.

The three Eskimos are currently living with Pennett. They have been treated for heart worm and are ready for adoption.

"They were chasing each other outside the other day," said Pennett, about the playful two-year old dogs.

Pennett said she decided to keep

the little black dog that they rescued from Mississippi and she believes that the kittens left behind in the tragedy were also adopted. Pennett said the "little black dog" is not quite so little anymore. He was previously underweight, but in a month, he put on 10 lbs or more.

In addition to putting pictures and descriptions on the Buddy Foundation's website, and on pet finder, Pennett said they are also trying to contact the Oprah show, because she is doing a show on volunteers who went to the New Orleans to lend a helping hand.

For those who may be interested in adoption or learning more about the Buddy Foundation, based in Arlington Heights, they can visit the website at thebuddyfoundation.org.

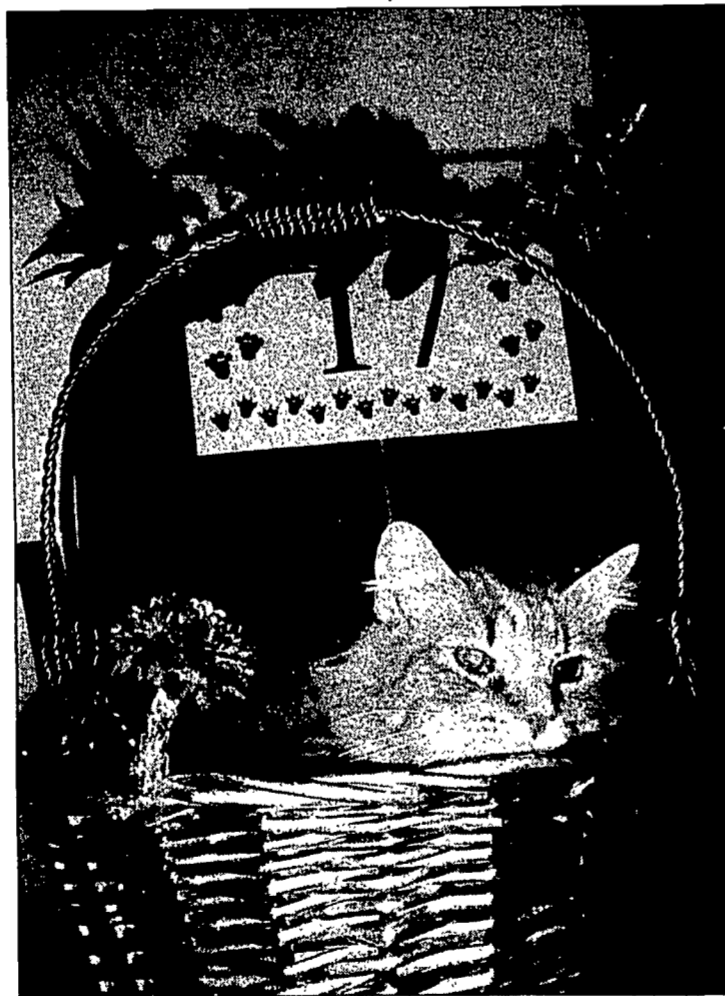
Pet of the Month - 'Mac'

Dear Bugle Staff:

I'm glad to see that The Bugle has started a new section for pets. The Niles Senior Center was a fun place to be when they recently held their annual pet parade.

Being a cat lover, I called the Senior Center to check if cats could be part of the parade. After getting a positive reply, I decided to enter my orange tabby, recently adopted from Chicago's Tree House Center, Mac, short for McGregor. He is very friendly and I thought he would enjoy the experience. Since he was not used to walking around with his new collar and leash, I decorated a gold basket which he immediately claimed as a good place to relax.

On the day of the parade, I discovered that he was the only non-dog (plus a rabbit) who was to take part. Mac and I had a wonderful time watching all the dressed-up dogs, which were amazingly well behaved - hardly a bark was heard.



Mac, who looks like the famous Morris, kept purring the entire time everyone stopped to pet him! It was a great experience and I sug-

gest that anyone who loves animals plan to attend next year.

Marilyn K. Kramer

SENIORS

Holiday events planned at Morton Grove Senior Center

Morton Grove Senior News

"LET'S DO LUNCH"

Come visit the "Lunch Bunch" any Monday through Friday at the Morton Grove Senior Center. Reservations are required and can be made by calling 847/967-6876. Lunch is served at 11:45 a.m. but the Center opens at 9 a.m. where many come in for bingo, cards, camaraderie, crafts, games, health screenings, quiet reading, seminars and just plain fun. The following special "Lunch Bunch" events are coming up:

Boston Tea Party on Thursday, Dec. 1. Lunch will be Chicken Nuggets.

Lotto Bingo on Tuesday and Friday, Dec. 6 and 9. Lunch will be Smoked Sausage (Dec. 6) and Fettuccini Alfredo with Chicken (Dec. 9).

Holiday Bazaar on Wednesday, Dec. 14. Lunch will be Crispy Boneless Chicken Breast.

Park View School Chorus on Thursday, Dec. 15. Lunch will be Turkey Breast with Stuffing and Gravy.

Hot Chocolate Deluxe on Friday, Dec. 16. Lunch will be Home Style Chili.

Molloy School Pennies on Thursday, Dec. 22. Lunch will be Chicken Cacciatore with Rotini.

New Years Eve Party with Tim Burr at 12:30 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 29. Lunch will be Beef Pot Roast.

The lunch cost is a \$2.75 to \$3 donation. For more information about the menu or transportation call the Morton Grove "Lunch Bunch."

CHOLESTEROL SCREENING

The Morton Grove Senior Center's monthly Cholesterol Screening will be held at 9 a.m. on Wednesday, Dec. 7. 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 and can be made 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.

"HOW TO BUY A COMPUTER" SEMINAR

Get some clarity! Join instructor, R.J. Bruno at the Morton Grove Senior Center for this free seminar that will assist consumers in their computer purchasing process. Hear it straight from someone who has been in the industry for 20+ years from 9 to 10 a.m. on Saturday, Dec. 10. Please register by calling the Morton Grove Senior Hot Line at 847/470-5223.

HOLIDAY SHOPPING

Morton Grove seniors wishing to join early holiday shoppers on a trip to Golf Mill Mall on Tuesday, Dec. 13 should call the Morton Grove Senior Hot Line at 847/470-5223 to reserve a seat on the Seniortran. Home pick-ups begin at 9:30 a.m. with arrival at Golf Mill at 10:30 a.m. Trips are free for Senior Center Members and \$1 for all others.

BLOOD PRESSURE AND DIABETES SCREENINGS CANCELLED

The Morton Grove Senior Center's regularly scheduled

Blood Pressure Screening on Tuesday, Dec. 13 and Diabetes Screening on Tuesday, Dec. 27 have been cancelled. For more information contact the Morton Grove Senior Hot Line by calling 847/470-5223.

"THE PONDS" LUNCHEON & TOUR

Take a tour of "The Ponds" Assisted Living Facility located in beautiful Lincolnshire on Wednesday, Dec. 14. Learn about all of the great amenities "The Ponds" has to offer from live-in apartments to 'day-therapy and much more! Lunch on the wonderful, chef-prepared meal in their elegant dining room. The bus departs from the Senior Center at 10:30 a.m. and return at 3:30 p.m. and the fee is just \$5.00. Please register in person at the Morton Grove Senior Center.

SENIOR CENTER MEMBERSHIP

There are over 400 Members in the Morton Grove Senior Center. In 2005 Members enjoyed the "Country Western Hoe Down" complete with barbecue chicken wings, square dancing and good old-fashioned fun. Each year the Center plans a special event that will bring out smiles, warm fellowship and knee-slapping professional entertainment. "The Country Western party was so nice and so wonderful, I wish we could do it every month," commented one Member.

The Village of Morton Grove Seniortran Buses will provide well over 8,000 passenger rides in 2005. The majority of these riders are those who join the Senior Center at the annual rate in order to benefit from unlimited free passage on the Seniortran. Those who do not have or can no longer operate a motor vehicle can use the

Seniortran for medical appointments, grocery shopping, banking or activities at the Senior Center. Other benefits to Senior Center Membership include:

free use of the Senior Center Library computers, free Diabetes Screenings, delivery of the Seniors in Morton Grove and Travelin' Times newsletters, plus

a 15% discount on all trips and classes emanating from the Senior Center, "Of course I'll sign-up to be a Member. I'll take the discount," are words often heard at the Reception Desk.

Membership rates will not change for 2006. They are: \$15 for an individual resident, \$25 for a resident married couple, \$25 for an individual non-resident, and \$40 for a non-resident married couple.

In order to renew a Membership (or register for the first time), just stop by the Senior Center starting Monday, Dec. 19 from 9 a.m. to 12 noon. For more information call the Morton Grove Senior Center at 847/470-5223.

"PROTECT YOURSELF FROM I.D. THEFT" LECTURE

A representative from State Treasurer Judy Barr Topinka's Office will be at the Morton Grove Senior Center at 1:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Dec. 21 to describe how seniors can protect themselves from Identification Theft. Different types of I.D. Theft will be discussed as well as how thieves operate and the various techniques seniors can use to avoid becoming a victim. Please register for this free lecture by calling the Morton Grove Senior Center at 847/470-5223.

"HAPPY NEW YEAR!!"

Ring in the New Year at the

Morton Grove Senior Center on Thursday, Dec. 29! Singer Tim Burr will entertain and delight seniors with songs old and new—all upbeat and sing-along starting at 12:30 p.m. Please register for this wonderful free show by calling the Morton Grove Senior Center at 847/470-5223. Before the show, can enjoy a delicious lunch with the Lunch Bunch! For lunch reservations, please call 847/967-6876.

MEN'S CLUB

The Morton Grove Senior Center is looking for men who may be sports nuts, financial gurus, or in other words, "guys!" The Center is willing to help the guys organize a Club designed by men, run by men and for men. As soon as enough interest is generated, a Morton Grove Men's Club will be born! If interested please call Senior Activities Coordinator, Kathryn Williams at the Senior Center, 847/663-6127. A first meeting of the Men will be determined as soon as interest is expressed.

"ARE YOU O.K.?"

The "Are You O.K.?" telephone reassurance program is a free service for seniors or disabled individuals who live independently in Morton Grove. This is a telephone system that makes daily calls to a subscriber's home at the same time each day as designated by the subscriber. If the subscriber is okay, he/she simply hangs up the telephone after hearing a pre-recorded message. If the subscriber does not answer or if the telephone line is busy, three more attempts will be made before the system activates an alert report. For further information contact the Morton Grove Police Department's Crime Prevention Bureau at 847/470-5200.



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SENIORS

Learn more about 'Cash-Dash' at Niles Senior Center

Niles Senior News

NSC Highlights
For a detailed description of programs & activities or to ask about membership requirements, please check the Naturally Active Program Guides or call the Niles Senior Center at 588-8420 ~Visit us online at www.vniles.com. Pre-registration is required for most programs. Call for more info. Niles Senior Center will be closed Thursday and Friday, November 24th and 25th for the Thanksgiving Holiday

NOVEMBER REGISTRATION
Drop off registration for programs and classes listed in the November Naturally Active were due at the Center Friday, November 4. Walk-in

Registrations for programs with openings began Wednesday, November 9th. December Drop Off Registration is due at the Senior Center Friday, December 2.

CARBON MONOXIDE APPOINTMENTS
Volunteers are currently calling members to schedule appointments for the annual Carbon Monoxide and Natural Gas Testing. To schedule an appointment, please call the Carbon Monoxide Hot Line (847 588-8480). This free service is provided by the Community Development Dept of the Village of Niles.

TOYS FOR TOTS COLLECTION AT CENTER
The Niles Senior Center will be a collection site for the U.S. Marine Corp Reserve Toys for Tots Drive. We can accept ONLY brand new, UNWRAPPED toys - NO STUFFED ANIMALS, please. Toys can be dropped off

between 8:30AM and 5:00PM, November 7th thru December 20th. The Niles Fire Department will also be collecting toy donations thru December 23.

CASH DASH at the Center
A representative from the State Treasurer's Office will visit the Senior Center on Thursday, December 8th from 10:00AM to 2:00PM to search people's names on the Cash Dash database to see if the State of IL owes you any money. Unclaimed property is generally property that has been "untouched" for more than five years. This might include security savings and checking accounts, uncashed checks, money orders and gift certificates, unclaimed wages, safe deposit box contents and etc.

WINTER COMPUTER CLASSES OFFERS NEW CLASSES
Following is a list of the classes

set to begin in January. A full description can be found in the December Naturally Active Program Guide. Some classes have prerequisites. For information about Computer Classes, please contact Jaymi Ostman at 847 588-8420.

PRE-INTRO TO COMPUTERS (for those who have no computer experience) Begins Jan.3

INTOR TO COMPUTERS Begins January 9th

HOW TO GET STARTED SELLING ON E-BAY Begins January 10th

INTERNET (How to browse and surf the net) begins Jan. 13th

MICROSOFT WORD II begins Jan. 17th

ONLINE BANKING PRESENTATION (One Session) January 26th


MICROSOFT EXCEL Begins January 30th

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED
AARP-Tax-Aide Program

We are looking for volunteers for the upcoming tax session. This program is administered by AARP in cooperation with the IRS. It is the nation's largest free volunteer run tax counseling and preparation service offered to low and middle income taxpayers.. If you are interested in learning how to become a Tax-Aide volunteer, please call MaryAnn (847 588-8420). Free training is provided.

PRE NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY, Thursday, December 29th 5:00-10:00PM \$17
Join us as we ring in the New Year (a little early)! The evening will begin with a delicious meal featuring a Spinach and Strawberry Salad, Chicken Breast Marsalla with Mushroom Sauce, Roasted Potatoes and dessert.

Then get ready for a special treat as The Breeze takes the stage for your listening and dancing pleasure.



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SENIORS

Aging Lifestyles
Choosing a Medicare HMO

Joe Volz
Copley News Service

Some Medicare patients may want to sign up for a Medicare managed care organization when the new prescription drug benefit plan goes into effect Jan. 1.

These Medicare health plans offer comprehensive medical care, plus a drug benefit. They are alternatives to the traditional Medicare program.

These Medicare HMO programs used to be known as Medicare(plus)Choice plans. They are Part C of the Medicare program and have been offered by Medicare for several years. Some of the different kinds offered are the Health Maintenance Organization, Preferred Provider Organization and Point of Service.

Starting Jan. 1, all Medicare health plans, except for private fee-for-service plans, must offer

at least one option that includes prescription drug coverage.

If you already are in a Medicare fee-for-service plan, you can choose to enroll in a stand-alone prescription drug plan.

Here are examples of the two choices.

Mike is already enrolled in a Medicare health plan. His plan has informed him that it will include prescription drug coverage as part of his existing plan. Mike doesn't have to do anything to enroll. His Medicare health plan will automatically enroll him for Part D and may include an extra premium.

Marian, though, subscribes to the traditional fee-for-service plan. She will have to enroll in a stand-alone prescription drug plan. She needs to look at the private companies offering Part D in her area and compare what drugs each plan covers.

She can call Medicare at (800) 633-4227 to find out which companies are offering Part D in her area.

Part D is offered through private companies, unlike Medicare Part A, which covers hospital and inpatient services and Part B, which includes doctors' fees and outpatient services.

It's important for both Mike and Marian to look carefully at what drugs will be covered as well as at which pharmacies are included on the list maintained by the individual Part D plans.

The private companies offering Part D coverage in general are free to decide which name-brand drugs and which generic drugs they will offer, as long as they match the federally required standards.

Individual companies can charge different premiums, co-payments and prices.

Part D plans must cover at least two drugs in each drug class in their list of approved drugs. Plans also must cover all or substantially all drugs in six categories: antidepressants, antipsychotics, anticonvulsants, antiretrovirals (AIDS treatment), immunosuppressants and anticancer.

If Mike discovers that his Medicare Health Plan's drug coverage doesn't cover the drugs he takes to control a disease, he has the option of dropping out of his HMO plan altogether.

Like Marian, Mike can choose to enroll in Medicare's original fee-for-service plan and choose a separate Part D drug plan sponsor to cover his particular needs.

Remember that you can enroll for Part D anytime until May 15, 2006.

You can get further information about Medicare Part D from various sources. Churches, community centers, senior citizen centers and other local groups may have meetings on Part D. Look in your local newspaper or on church bulletins to see what is available.

Or go online to www.aarp.org or to www.medicarerights.org or call the Medicare Rights Center at (212) 204-6219.

E-mail Joe Volz at jvolz2003@adelphia.net or write to 2528 Five Shillings Road, Frederick, MD 21701.

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Visit Copley News Service at www.copleynews.com.



Stachon celebrates 100th birthday

Mary B. Stachon was born in Germany in 1905, one of five — two brothers and 2 sisters. She has outlived them all. The family emigrated to France where she was raised. She came to Chicago in the 1920s and was married in 1926 to Joseph Stachon, who died in 1955, leaving her a widow for the past 50 years. The couple was married at St. Mary of the Angels Parish in Chicago where she has remained affiliated. They had two children: Joseph and his sister, Jean Stricker, (Park Ridge) with whom she lived in Park Ridge before moving to Holy Family Nursing Home in Des Plaines.

On Nov. 10, her son Joseph picked her up at Holy Family Nursing Home, along with two of her friends, and headed over to Cafe Lucci for a birthday lunch. She has no idea that there will be about 35 people to greet her for a surprise party. Joseph picked Cafe Lucci because it has been his "hangout" since the current owners, Sam, Bobby and Chef Augie Arifi took over 10 years ago, and he has had many celebrations there.

Learn defensive driving at
Park Ridge Senior Center

DEFENSIVE DRIVING

A defensive driving (formerly 55 Alive) class will be held one more time before the end of the year. The dates are Tuesday December 6 and Thursday, December 8 from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Upon completing this class you may be entitled to a discount on your car liability insurance. Registration is required in advance as there is a minimum number necessary to hold the class. There is a \$10.00 charge. Checks are preferred and should be made payable to AARP.

CERAMIC CLASSES

Instructor Mickey Currie always welcomes new students to her ceramic classes. You don't have to sign up for a series of lessons; you can pay as you go. Mickey is experienced and can get you started on projects of your choice. The class meets on Monday and Tuesday mornings from 9:30 a.m. until 12 noon. Stop in and check it out. Samples of class work can be seen in the display cases in the Center's lobby.

EXERCISE ACTIVITIES

Enjoy Thanksgiving too much!!! Put on a few extra pounds!!! AND with Christmas coming up yet!!!! The Park Ridge Senior Center has a few ways to help you drop those pounds before the big holiday season. Jo Buck conducts exercise classes on Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 9:00 and 10:30 a.m. Her classes have been growing, but there is always room for new people. Her routines cover all the muscles from head to toe.

Those in the class think of it as fun, but tap dancing is another great form of exercise. A new session has started already, but it's never too late to join. The group is learning a new dance, new steps and having a fun time as well.

If tap dancing doesn't appeal to you, there is folk dancing. Rudy Keil teaches the "Kolos" and other dances every Monday from 2:30-3:30 p.m.

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WORSHIP

Prayers For Thanksgiving

Thank Thee Lord
Thank thee, Lord
For all my many blessings,
thank thee, Lord.
I have bread,
thank thee, Lord,
for room and board.
thank thee, Lord,
for friends and family.
God takes such good care of me.
Amen

Thank You, God
Thank you God for all
that grows,
Thank you for the
sky's rainbows,
Thank you for the
stars that shine,
Thank you for these friends
of mine,
Thank you for the
moon and sun,
Thank you God for
all you've done!

We Are Thankful
We are thankful,
For our food,
And our many blessings,
Thank you Lord.
Amen

I Give Thanks for My Family...
I give thanks for my family;
Father, Mother,
And all the happy things we do
together;
For understanding, laughter, and
for love
Strong and warm in any kind of
weather.

We Thank Thee Lord
With hearts filled with gratitude,
we thank You, Lord our God,
for gifting us with good friends.
We are grateful for all those per-
sons in our lives
who have chosen us to be their
friends
for truly this is a rich and sacred
trust.

Be the sacrament of friendship,
we share our mutual journeys to
you,
Sour of All Love and Life.
In sharing, we find our happi-
ness expanded
and our sorrow lightened,
and, for this blessing, we are
grateful.

We prayerfully rejoice
that Your Son, Jesus, has called
each of us
from the position of servants
to the honor of being His
friends.

Blessed are You, God of Unity,
for entering our lives through
friendship.

Make us, we pray, worthy of
such a gift
by being faithful but non-posses-
sive,

be being loyal but honest
and by being ever grateful
for the gift of good friends.

Blessed are You, Lord
our God, who gifts us with
the joys of friendship.
Amen

Church Directory

Worship With Us This Thanksgiving



Saint John Lutheran Church
7429 Milwaukee Ave., Niles, IL 60714

THANKSGIVING DAY
November 24th at 9:30 a.m.

Holy Communion will be celebrated.

St. Lambert Church
8148 N. Karlov Ave.
Skokie, IL 60076
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November 23
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at 8:00 p.m.

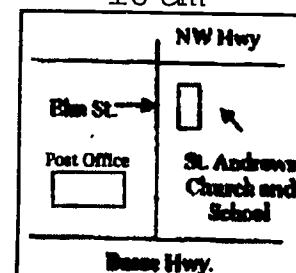
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Thanksgiving Eve
7:30 pm
Thanksgiving Day
10 am



REAL ESTATE

DECOR SCORE

Don't give up so quickly on wallpapering

ROSE BENNETT GILBERT
Copley News Service

Q: I'd like to do something interesting on the walls of my home office. It's kind of dark in there - only one long window up high across the back wall. I've looked for wallpaper, but everything I like is so busy I think I'd be distracted by it. Maybe I'll just ask my friend to sponge-paint the walls - she's done her dining room and it's nice. Any other suggestions first?

A: Don't give up so easily on wallpaper. There are virtually unlimited options between the covers of those many books at the wallpaper store. If you truly fear patterns, look for textured papers instead. Grasscloth, linen textures, sueded papers, vinyls embossed with patterns - there are many ways to add visual interest to your walls without indulging in actual patterns. Designer Jeffrey Bilhuber makes clever use of metallic wallpaper in the handsome room we show here. The pewter leaf on the paper catches the light from a window across the way, lightening and enlivening the entire space. His professional trick could do wonders for your own light-deprived room. Bilhuber offers a number of other wallpapering ideas in his info-packed book ("Jeffrey Bilhuber's Design Basics" published by Rizzoli).

"Take a trip to your local art store," he advises. Explore the variety of artist's papers you can use instead of papers that come on a roll: bookbinder's vellum, parchment, heavily textured watercolor paper, even simple tissue paper (He suggests painting your wall first, then applying white or colored tissue paper with a brush and latex adhesive. The paper becomes almost transpar-

ent, so the color shows through the texture, Bilhuber says.)

Q: This is a pretty technical question, but I need an answer because something keeps throwing my color scheme off in the dining room. We painted

it deep red - it was beautiful! For the first day, at least. By the time the paint dried, it had changed color, going much lighter and not at all right with the fabric I had used on the dining chair seats. When we repainted - you can imagine how much my husband enjoyed that! - the same thing happened. Not as dramatically, but it still doesn't match the color sample. What's going on?

A: It's not celestial spite, as a friend used to say. You've encountered pentimento, aka a force of nature by which the underlayer of a painting eventually shows through. In your case, you must be painting your deep red over a much lighter color or a white primer, which will persist in affecting the intensity of your top coat.

There is a solution: Paint companies make primers that can be tinted with gray to kill all show-through. One product, "Gripper Grey" by Glidden, can be tinted

to nine shades of gray, depending on the depth of the color that's going on top (www.glidden.com). I hate to break the news to your husband, but he needs two more coats, a dark primer, then your top color, to conquer the pentimento phenomenon.

(I wish "Gripper Grey" had been around in my grandfather's day. Poor Granddaddy waged a months-long battle with the cedar-wood mantel in their front parlor: he'd paint it white and it would slowly turn pink every time! Finally, my clever grandmother simply changed the wallpaper to go with his pink mantel-piece.)

Q: We have never lived in New England, but we've always been fascinated by all things early American. When we retire (in about five years), we plan to build our dream house, a center-hall Georgian colonial. Or maybe a Cape Cod saltbox; we haven't made up our minds. In the meantime, we want to do a little research, so we're planning a spring trip through New England. Any suggestions on what to see?

A: The very first thing you should see is a free little booklet from the Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities (www.historicnewengland.org), called "Historic New England." It lists dozens of 18th and 19th century homes and gardens that are open to the public year-round (or on special occasions) in Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Rhode Island.

Take your camera and notebook: you're about to do some serious time-traveling.

One more thing: go in April and you can also swing through Virginia and see more of the nation's most authentic colonial houses. During Historic House and Garden Week, April 22-29, the oldest tour in America opens the doors to some 250 treasure houses, private homes and gardens all through the Old Dominion. Visitors and "idea-shoppers" like you come to see them from all over the world. Learn more at www.vagardenweek.org.

Rose Bennett Gilbert is the co-author 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



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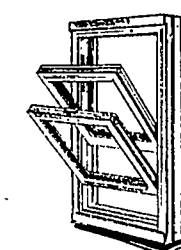
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REAL ESTATE

HERE'S HOW

Get mold controlled by combating moisture

GENE GARY
Copley News Service

Q: With the problems of hurricanes and extensive water damage, I have noted that a number

house and, in some cases, causing health problems for its residents. However, experts agree that most types of mold and mildew routinely encountered in the house are not hazardous to the health of

odor. If left unchecked, it can destroy paint, ruin wallpaper, damage carpeting, decompose drywall and promote the decay of wooden surfaces.

If mold is visible, it's probably more a danger to the structure of your home than anything else. Every home has some mold in it, as there is virtually no place that is mold-free. If you see or smell mold, it means that growth is being stimulated by moisture. Dampness and poor ventilation are the major factors that contribute to the rapid growth of mold and mildew.

Molds grow naturally in the indoor environment. Mold spores may enter through open doorways or windows and heating, ventilation and air conditioning systems. But when mold spores drop in places where there is excess moisture and a food source, such as common building materials, they will grow and often spread. This frequently happens where leakage may have occurred in roofs, pipes, walls, plant pots, or areas affected by flood. The flooding during the hurricanes, accompanied by hot, humid weather following the storms, created ideal conditions for the uncontrollable growth of mold. Massive coverage on walls and in the interior of effected

homes is a serious problem, but not the norm.

Not all molds are alike. The more serious strains can be identified with certified testing. However, even the furor regarding Stachybotrys - sometimes called black mold - as being extremely toxic and a dangerous health hazard is misplaced, in the opinions of most experts. Even so, it is best to keep mold and mildew in check to ward off structural problems as well as health problems.

The American Society of Home Inspectors has published a list of mold control tips, which are helpful for homeowners wishing to avoid problems. They are as follows:

- Fix leaky plumbing, roof leaks or other sources of water immediately. Moisture saturation of insulation in wall cavities and attic spaces are major mold growth areas.
- Wash mold off hard surfaces

CONTINUED
HERE'S HOW...Page 25

GARDEN TIP

Treatment primes tuber growth

TO PREPARE A DAHLIA TUBER FOR PLANTING:

1. Trim the tuber.

Remove excess material around the portion of the tuber on which the eye is located. In addition to trimming the head, trim all the small roots clinging to the tuber, including the root that is an extension of the tuber itself. If the tuber is extremely long, you may cut off a significant portion of the tuber - perhaps as much as one-third.

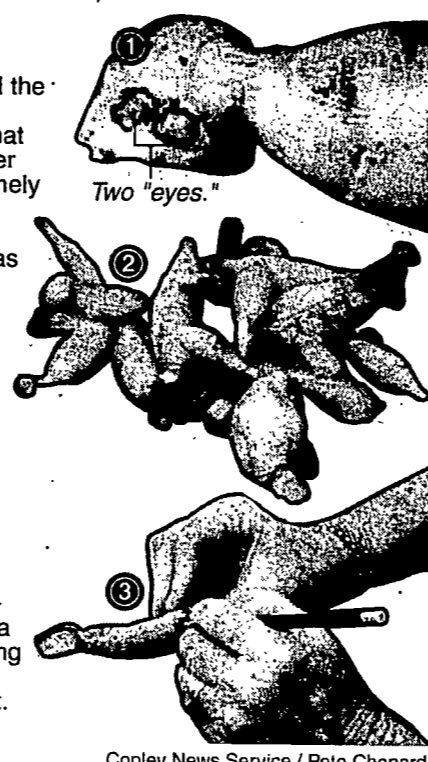
2. Treat the tuber with fungicide and let it dry for 20-30 minutes.

3. Identify each tuber with its variety and sort them planting.

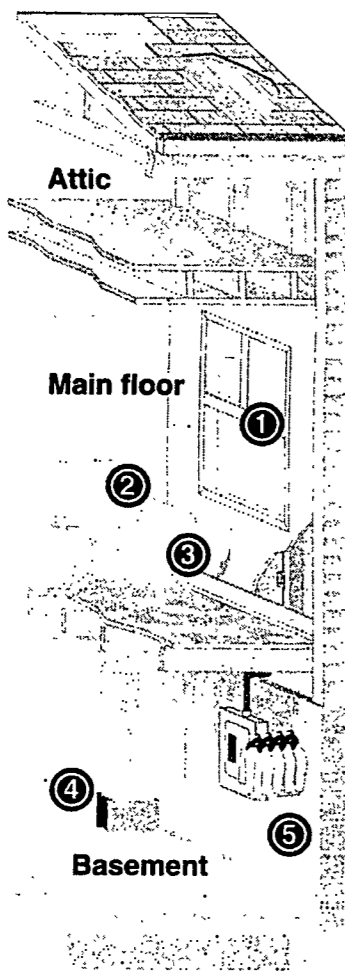
4. Consider the climate where the tubers will be growing.

Only areas that get below-freezing temperatures for a few days are fine for leaving them in the ground. But protect the plant from frost.

If the top of the plant gets frosted, it will turn black and die, but if the tuber was protected, it will send up new sprouts in about a week.



Copley News Service / Pete Chenard



Copley News Service / Pete Chenard

of news stories report a lot of concern over toxic mold. Although we do not live in the area impacted by hurricanes, I have noticed some mold under the eaves of the house on the shady side. Is this dangerous to our health? Do you have any information concerning this problem and how to combat toxic mold?

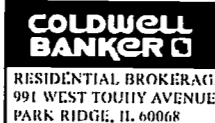
A: There has been a lot of recent discussion concerning toxic mold. It is important that homeowners be aware of the facts, as much of the news headline information borders on scare tactics. Mold often lurks in hidden places, damaging the structure of the

individuals. But too much exposure can cause or worsen asthma, hay fever and other allergies. People whose immune systems are already compromised by problems such as advanced AIDS and blood diseases like leukemia or who have had recent chemotherapy for cancer are at higher risk of fungal infection than those who are healthy. Older seniors and the very young are also more vulnerable.

Mold and mildew can be unsightly and offensive, producing an ugly discoloration on wallboards, as well as painted and wallpapered surfaces. Often, mold creates a musty, pungent



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Market Analysis



REAL ESTATE

CONTINUED FROM
HERE'S HOW...Page 24

and dry completely. Absorbent materials, such as ceiling tiles and carpet, may have to be replaced.

• Keep drip pans in your air conditioner, refrigerator and dehumidifier clean and dry.

• Use exhaust fans or open windows in kitchens and bathrooms when showering, cooking or using the dishwasher.

• Place vents for clothes dryers and bathroom exhaust fans outside the home.

• Remove and replace flood carpets and drywall.

• Maintain low indoor humidity, ideally between 30 percent to 50 percent relative humidity. Humidity levels can be measured by hygrometers, which can often be found at local hardware stores. If levels are too high, consider installing a dehumidifier in areas that have excessive humidity.

• Clean bathrooms with mold-killing products.

• When painting the home, add

mold/mildew inhibitors to paint or buy a product labeled as mildew-resistant.

• Do not carpet bathrooms.

• If mold problems persist, or if anyone in the house is susceptible to mold and mildew, have the problem evaluated by an expert in mold/moisture intrusion.

You may want to consider an ASHI inspection, which is an evaluation of the overall condition of a home that points out visual deterioration throughout a

house. This may alert a homeowner to problem areas or sections of the home that may be particularly susceptible to mold problems.

Homeowners or home buyers who wish to know more about the American Society of Home Inspectors, or wish to obtain names of ASHI members near them, can contact the organization at 932 Lee St., Suite 101, Des Plaines, IL 60016; call (800) 743-2744, or visit the organiza-

tion's Web site, www.ashi.org. Send e-mail to copleysd@copleynews.com or write to Here's How, Copley News Service, P.O. Box 120190, San Diego, CA 92112-0190. Only questions of general interest can be answered in the column.

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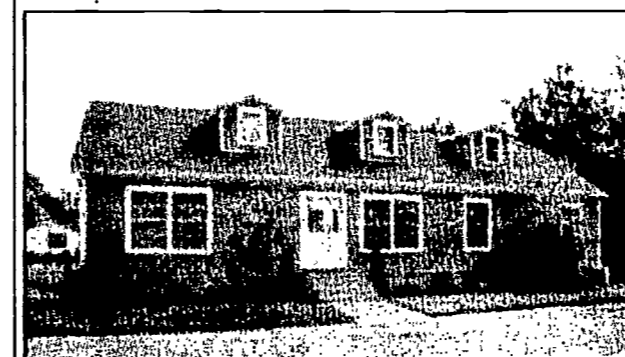
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HOME IDEAS

SMALL SPACES

Seasonal colors transform your holiday home

CHRISTINE BRUN
Copley News Service

Regardless of the size of your home, the chances are you want to dress it up for the holidays. But bulky seasonal decorations can seem ridiculous in a small home by further cramping already space-challenged rooms.

Think instead in terms of how you might slightly shift the colors of more typical household items to acknowledge this special time of year. Changing the colors of your accessories can dress up your home for the season without taking up all of your spare room.

The faux amaryllis holiday arrangement shown here is an elegant way to dress up any table. Warm, deep-red striped amaryllis blossoms, roses, ranunculus and rose hips set in a container of light green amaryllis stems would work at any time of the year. Anyone who knows that the amaryllis blooms in December, however, will appreciate the seasonal significance.

It is always a challenge to find room for even a small evergreen Christmas tree, but a floral arrangement such as this one can serve the same purpose. Use it as the centerpiece on your dining table or set it on a cocktail table. Either way, you don't lose any extra functional space.

Another colorful holiday trick is to introduce dreamy layered table dressings. Pair a gauzy underskirt with a satin or silk scarf. Or commission a taffeta or moire underskirt and top it with patterned fabric.

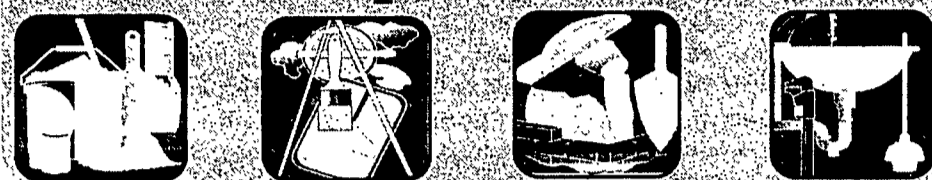
Christine Brun, ASID, is a San Diego-based interior designer and the author of "Big Ideas for Small Spaces." Send questions and comments to her by e-mail at cbainides@hotmail.com or to Copley News Service, P.O. Box 120190, San Diego, CA 92112.
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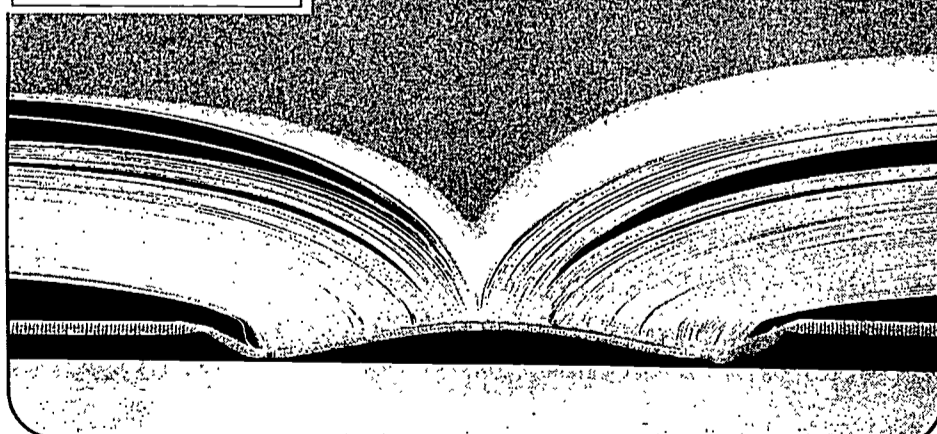
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ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR PUBLICATION FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING June 30, 2005 *
(Section 10-17 of the School Code) *

SIZE OF DISTRICT IN SQUARE MILES	9
NUMBER OF ATTENDANCE CENTERS	7
AVERAGE DAILY ATTENDANCE	3,193

NUMBER OF CERTIFICATED EMPLOYEES	
FULL-TIME	244
PART-TIME	7

NUMBER OF PUPILS ENROLLED PER GRADE **	
PRE-KINDERGARTEN	90
KINDERGARTEN	325
FIRST	380
SECOND	362
THIRD	364
FOURTH	368
FIFTH	370
SIXTH	394
SEVENTH	352
EIGHTH	341
SPECIAL	189
TOTAL ELEMENTARY	3,535
NINTH	
TENTH	
ELEVENTH	
TWELFTH	
SPECIAL	
TOTAL SECONDARY	0
TOTAL IN DISTRICT	3,535

ISBE 50-37 (8/2005) asp2005.xls

ASSETS	VALUE OF CAPITAL ASSETS	BASIS OF VALUATION USED
LAND	424,154	Historical Cost
BUILDINGS	50,785,713	Historical Cost
EQUIPMENT	8,021,260	Historical Cost

NUMBER OF NON-CERTIFICATED EMPLOYEES	
FULL-TIME	128
PART-TIME	44

TAX RATE BY FUND (IN %) ***	
EDUCATIONAL	1.67820
OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE	0.28970
BOND & INTEREST	0.33970
TRANSPORTATION	0.10310
MUNICIPAL RETIREMENT	
SOCIAL SECURITY	0.05000
WORKING CASH	0.04300
FIRE PREVENTION & SAFETY	
TORT IMMUNITY	0.10280
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS	
SPECIAL EDUCATION	0.01720
LEASING	
OTHER	
OTHER	
DISTRICT ASSESSED VALUATION	1,106,442,583
EQUALIZED ASSESSED VALUATION PER ADA PUPIL	346,521.32
TOTAL BONDED INDEBTEDNESS AS OF JUNE 30, 2005	24,440,004
PERCENT OF BONDING POWER OBLIGATED CURRENTLY	32.01%

* When publishing this report in the newspaper, type requirements must be accordance with 715 ILCS 151.

** As reported on the Fall Housing Report.

*** Example: If the tax rate for educational purposes is \$1.84 per \$100 of EAV, it is shown as 1.8400, not as a percentage of the total tax rate.

DISTRICT NAME: East Maine School District 63
DISTRICT ADDRESS: 10150 Dee Road
Des Plaines, IL 60016

GROSS PAYMENT FOR CERTIFICATED PERSONNEL
(List Each Employee in the Applicable Salary Range)

(See optional page 6 for additional space)

a. Salary Range: Less Than \$15,000	see attached
b. Salary Range: \$15,000 - \$24,999	
c. Salary Range: \$25,000 - \$39,999	
d. Salary Range: \$40,000 and over	

GROSS PAYMENT FOR NON-CERTIFICATED PERSONNEL
(List Each Employee in the Applicable Salary Range)

(See optional page 6 for additional space)

a. Salary Range: Less Than \$15,000	see attached
b. Salary Range: \$15,000 - \$24,999	
c. Salary Range: \$25,000 - \$39,999	
d. Salary Range: \$40,000 and over	

EAST MAINE SCHOOL DISTRICT 63
ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR PUBLICATION
STATEMENT OF POSITION
JUNE 30, 2005

	Educational	Operations & Maintenance	Bond & Interest	Trans- portation	Municipal Retirement/ Soc. Sec.	Working Cash	Fire Prevention & Safety
Assets:							
Other Accrued Assets	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 6,311
Taxes Receivable	11,781,013	1,804,217	2,032,930	642,853	341,348	277,051	-
Accounts Receivable	457,700	38,755	-	9,019	19,406	-	-
Investments	5,221,285	5,004,762	6,034,280	1,597,954	1,460,278	3,478,682	854,577
Other Current Assets	72,813	-	90,461	-	-	39,297	-
Total Assets	\$ 17,532,811	\$ 6,847,734	\$ 8,157,671	\$ 2,249,826	\$ 1,821,032	\$ 3,795,030	\$ 860,888
Liabilities & Fund Balance:							
Accrued Liabilities	\$ 2,286,628	\$ 406,497	\$ -	\$ 45,838	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 147,650
Payroll Deductions Payable	-	-	-	-	215	-	-
Deferred Revenue	11,874,122	1,801,964	2,071,547	687,584	348,796	295,657	2,092
Other Current Liabilities	-	-	-	-	45,018	-	-
Reserved Fund Balance	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Unreserved Fund Balance	3,372,061	4,639,273	6,086,124	1,516,404	1,427,003	3,499,373	711,146
Total Liabilities and Fund Balance	\$ 17,532,811	\$ 6,847,734	\$ 8,157,671	\$ 2,249,826	\$ 1,821,032	\$ 3,795,030	\$ 860,888

CONTINUED NEXT PAGE

**EAST MAINE SCHOOL DISTRICT 63
ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR PUBLICATION
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES) AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2005**

	Educational	Operations & Maintenance	Bond & Interest	Transportation	Municipal Retirement/Soc. Sec.	Working Cash	Fire Prevention & Safety
Revenue:							
Local Receipts	\$ 17,671,242	\$ 2,325,929	\$ 3,644,661	\$ 1,027,930	\$ 444,466	\$ 475,518	\$ 88,934
State Sources	2,981,893	-	-	566,704	-	-	-
Federal Sources	2,181,025	-	-	-	-	-	-
Receipts/Rev. (On-Behalf Pymnts)	1,671,335	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Revenue	24,505,495	2,325,929	3,644,661	1,594,634	444,466	475,518	88,934
Expenditures:							
Instruction	14,101,790	-	-	-	316,578	-	-
Support Services	7,141,813	3,030,239	-	1,063,952	350,605	-	166,623
Community Services	501,594	500	-	74,675	22,592	-	-
Nonprogrammed Charges	1,178,806	-	-	432,268	-	-	-
Debt Service	6,873	6,551	3,609,894	-	-	-	-
Exp. (On-Behalf Pymnts)	1,671,335	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Expenditures	24,602,211	3,037,290	3,609,894	1,570,895	689,775	-	166,623
Other Financing Sources (Uses):							
Perm. Transfer Working Cash-Interest	73,862	-	-	-	-	-	-
Perm. Transfer of Interest	852,846	(112,846)	(700,000)	(40,000)	-	(73,862)	-
Principal on Bonds Sold	-	-	1,620,000	-	-	-	-
Premium on Bonds Sold	-	-	28,589	-	-	-	-
Accrued Interest on Bonds Sold	-	-	2,033	-	-	-	-
Other Uses	-	-	(1,619,374)	-	-	-	-
Total Other Fin. Sources (Uses)	926,708	(112,846)	(668,752)	(40,000)	-	(73,862)	-
Excess(Deficiency) of							
Revenue over Expenditures	829,992	(824,207)	(633,985)	(16,261)	(245,309)	401,656	(77,689)
Fund Balances-July 1, 2004	2,542,069	5,463,480	6,720,109	1,532,665	1,672,312	3,097,717	788,835
Fund Balances-June 30, 2005	\$ 3,372,061	\$ 4,639,273	\$ 6,086,124	\$ 1,516,404	\$ 1,427,003	\$ 3,499,373	\$ 711,146

East Maine School District 63 Publication Listing - School Year 2004/2005

Certified Under \$15,000: Abtahi, Ali; Affatigato, Josephine J; Allen, Luke; Barthelme, Lisa; Behrman, Doris; Blitz, Donald N; Bullis, Barbara L; Byrne, Shannon; Callison, Tracey; Chandrathil, Kurian; Chang, James; Childers, Mary C; Collinsworth, Judy; Dajani, Suha Z; Dass, Shipra; Dubrock, Judith; Dunitz, Harlene A; Eckert, Emily; Elsh, Jenny L; Feinsmith, Allison; Figueroa, Sandy; Fleser, Patricia; Foote, Rebecca; Fuchs, Adrienne S; Gassman, Beverly; Gassman, Merrill L; Geller, Ann; Gerson, Noreen; Glassman, Sharon; Goldberg, Dale; Goldfine, Barbara S; Gonzalez, Robert; Greenberg, Maxine; Heit, Joyce; Henry, Diane; Holleb, Sandra L; Jacobson, Roberta S; Janowitz, Thelma; Janus, Matthew J; Jensen, Ann E; Johnsen, Carrie; Kaplan, Judith M; King, Theresa G; Kintner, Leah; Kokinis, Dean; Kosmas, Angela; Lazar, Erica; Lazerwith, Fanchon; Loris, Lauri L; Lustig, Nicole; Lutz, Mary; Mandel, Marlene; Markovitz, Janelle M; Mcaloon, Annemarie; Mckeehan, Guadalupe; Merck, Judith; Merkel, Tom; Mihelic, Rosemary; Mithos, George E; Moon, Suejin; Moran, Sandra C; Morrison, James G; Murphy, Janette N; Nagle, Kelly; Nestuk, Lauren; Nettin, Patrick; O'malley, Tracy; O'Neill, Maureen; Parmar, Kolin; Paszko, Margaret; Pellar, Donna B; Perelgut, Lisa A; Perisin, Gregory; Persson, Cecilia A; Phillips, Ellen D; Phillips, Robert; Piedallu, Gladys O; Pietrucha, Tom; Plis, Karen; Plusker, Donna K; Popper, Michelle; Pressburger, Barbara A; Prunotto, Donna; Raitzik, Charlene; Romo, Luis; Rosenberg, Roberta; Russell, Kristina; Sanny, Tony; Sattar, Amina; Schienberg, Marilyn; Schiffman, Joan; Schrott, Marya; Schulman, Lauren; Seiferth, Jennifer A; Shaikes, Melvin; Siegel, Geraldine; Siekierski, Jr., Walter; Silverdis, Dimitra; Smith, Judith D; Smith, Ellen; Stalcup, Kristen; Steen, Shannon; Steiner, Stacy A; Stelzer, Sandra; Stevenson, Corrine; Stolz, Terry M; Sunken, Craig; Szalaj, Kathryn; Szweczyk, D.Patricia; Tafazoli, Simin; Taylor, Jr., Charles T; Thiraphoj, Pimchan; Thirston, Carlene; Thomas, Shajie; Vega, Randi B; Watters, Brooke; Weiner, Allen; Weiner, Sandra; Weinstein, Paul; Yagnis, James; Young, Tonya M; Zoran, Kathleen

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Non-Certified \$25,000-\$39,999: Agrinsoni, Wendy L; Brown, Bernard; Bublitz, Gregory; Busiel, Glenda; Casale, Lisa M; Corsini, Lorri B; Devine, Donna M; Diskin, Julie B; Egelja, Milan; Gabryszewski, Ted; Garcia, Jose O; Gonzalez, Seth; Halperin, Janet; Harris, Karen L; Hrnjak, Vlado; Johnson, Larry; Kastler, Michael; Lamonica, Theodora; Lawson, Lanni K; Livery, Rita; Mahnke, Kathleen A; Martinez, Mario; Martinez, Jesus; Mennes, Peggy M; Moshly, Anwar; Murray, Ramon M; Nass, Beri; Opalka, Stephen J; Para, Caryl; Schultes, Margaret; Shuman, Carol S; Siegel, Marsha F; Snow, Samuel; Sullivan, John A; Thomas, Patrick; Torrence, Levester; Turofsky, Marla; Voller, Judi; Weber, Joyce S

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East Maine School District 63 Vendor Publication Listing - School Year 2004/2005

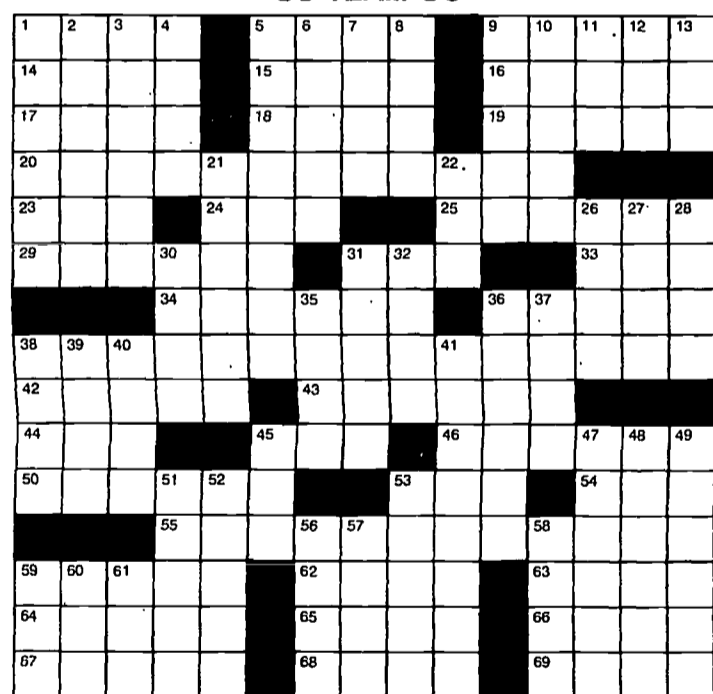
303 Cab Association 87081.13; A & B Bus Service 12870.20; A Affordable Roofing Supply Inc. 6510.00; Aires Consulting Group Inc. 2250.00; Airways Systems Inc. 5287.52; Tanglewood Research Inc. 1314.60; Allstar Drapery & Window Treatment Co. 2552.00; Alternatives Unlimited 7846.04; American Digital Solutions Inc. 1641.15; Edwin Anderson Construction Co. 23247.00; Anderson Lock Co Ltd 9379.97; Anderson Pest Control 5942.12; Arcon Associates Inc 136371.84; Ascd 1088.50; Ask Publications 4429.80; Assurant Fortis Life & Lid 62018.23; Attitudes Skills & Knowledge 7500.00; Audio Visual Express Inc. 6127.53; Barton & Barton Ltd 4891.50; Blatt Hasenmiller Leisker & Moore Llc 1538.47; Nicole Brysonpatterson 8000.00; Bsn Sports 2044.13; Bureau Of Education & Research Inc. 2320.00; Felix Caceres 1900.00; The Camelot Schoolsllc 9802.83; Cathys Auto Trans Company 7620.00; Cdw Government Inc. 110689.24; Center Point Energy Gas Servicesinc. 164141.16; Thomas R. Cervelli & Associates 1750.00; Challenger Day School Prgm 29050.36; Chicago Communications Llc 1799.00; Childcraft 1278.72; Childcraft Education Corporation 2023.49; Class Act Company 2380.51; Classroom Direct Company 4472.36; Clifc 345551.00; Cliffs And Cables 5425.00; Colorado Telephone Exchange 2558.00; Commonwealth Edison Co 373429.51; Community Cab Company 14133.00; Community Consolidated School Dist 64 233327.26; Community Consolidated School Dist 62 241356.27; Computer Education Resources 8028.50; Comtrad Cable 1074.08; Connecticut General Life Ins Co (Cigna) 99309.95; Control Engineering Corp 64721.50; Frank Cooney 3904.62; Csicoker Service 1205.15; Cbl/Mcgrawhill 3307.33; Cwk Network 11295.00; D & Z House Of Books 1191.23; Data Control & Research Ltd. 8743.30; Decker Equipment 1276.26; Demco Inc 8649.55; Dept Of Commerce/Economic Opportunity 3199.00; Designation Inc. 31789.75; Development Links For Childrenllc 1275.00; Division Of Management Svcs 1750.00; Done Deal Promotions 4246.58; Dupage Credit Union 3600.00; East Maine Custodial Maintenance Assoc. 7840.00; East Maine Education Association 125388.84; East Maine Educational Support 7574.90; East Maine School District 63 115860.00; East Maine School District #63 26625.00; East Maine School District #63 136468.64; East Maine Teacher Assistants Assoc. 14357.64; Ebsco Subscription Service 2278.70; Educators Publishing Service 1806.50; Emedco 4037.99; Equitable/Axa Advisors 232076.43; Eta/Cuisenaire 1071.63; Francis A. Feeley 1650.00; Fidelity Investments 88000.00; Fifth Third Leasing Company 6550.72; Filmaker Inc. 3747.00; Fire & Security Systems Inc 8544.00; First Of America Bank 2859477.92; First Security Systems Inc. 14315.85; Fitness Wear Inc. 12577.00; Flexben Corporation 1137.36; Flinn Scientific Inc 1924.44; Follett Library Resources 32818.66; Follett Library Resources 2201.45; G.A.L.I.C. Disbursing Company 17700.00; Gaggie.Net Inc. 2500.00; Garage King 13550.00; Garaventa U.S.A. 1063.50; General Asp 2000.00; George F. Cram Company Inc. 3049.75; Ggh Database Design 7100.00; Grainger 7147.33; Graphitech Systems L.L.C. 7922.00; Groot Recycling & Waste Services Inc. 26817.07; Grow Publications 1372.25; Gundrop Books 1478.30; William F. Gurrie & Co.Ltd 26850.00; Harcourt 3926.54; Healthcare Serv Corp P/H/B 06967 1877734.95; Herff Jones 6484.50; Hewlett Packard 3109.60; Highsmith Co 2687.43; Hoh Chemicals 1692.92; Home Depot Credit Services 5765.92; Honeywell 4660.00; Honeywell 141564.41; Horace Mann Life

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EBONY EZIO ONTO
NEWTS SOSO SEEN

COPLEY NEWS SERVICE

ACROSS

- 1 Asian desert
- 5 Comics' Andy
- 9 Bricklayer
- 14 Toward the mouth
- 15 Together, in music
- 16 Up there
- 17 Musico Guizar
- 18 Sound
- 19 Restaurant bar
- 20 Last-ditch play
- 23 Write
- 24 Master
- 25 Say it again
- 29 Foxwoods is one
- 31 Fly
- 33 Pull: Scots
- 34 Force
- 36 "Blue ___ Shoes"
- 38 The ultimate in football
- 42 Entreat
- 43 ___ Range
- 44 Teen follower
- 45 ___ Paese
- 46 For shame!
- 50 Body muscle
- 53 Prickly case
- 54 Wheel buy
- 55 Monday morning pundits
- 59 TV fare
- 62 Desertlike
- 63 "Hi and ___"
- 64 Of an acid
- 65 Barrett or Jaffe
- 66 Former Atlanta arena

- 67 Electron tube
- 68 Nervous
- 69 Walk in water

DOWN

- 1 Kind of novel
- 2 Author Fallaci
- 3 Dyed fabrics
- 4 Hero
- 5 Underground passageway
- 6 Love a lot
- 7 Insignificant
- 8 Little Bo sound?
- 9 Pool shot
- 10 Shame
- 11 The Sun
- 12 Eggs: L
- 13 Sparks, of comedy
- 21 Estates
- 22 Illustrations
- 26 Did Little
- 27 Pop drink
- 28 Long, of Louisiana
- 30 Cools off
- 31 Precious one
- 32 House add-ons
- 35 Type of fruit
- 36 Outskirts area
- 37 Apartment, to a Realtor
- 38 Set-to
- 39 Craving
- 40 Ball ___ hammer
- 41 Part of SNL
- 45 Swimsuit top
- 47 Puget Sound city

Be the first to send in the answers
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crossword puzzle and your name
will be listed in next week's Bugle.

This Week's
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Koch**

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AUTO SCENE

Impala leaps to life with V-8

Mark Maynard
COPLEY NEWS SERVICE

You just know the Chevy engineers were high-fiving after they stuffed a V-8 into an Impala and fired it up. It's that kind of inspiration that makes great cars, when one motorhead says to another in the R & D shop, "I wonder if we could..." And when the vehicle line executive responds, "Hmmm, let's find out..." There's nothing like the fumes of Detroit perfume to inspire greatness. And the 2006 Impala SS sedan is a great halo car even if gasoline costs as much as Budweiser. This nicely finished Impala is enough to make young men drink domestic to put premium in their SS.

Yes, the Impala is a modest front-wheel-drive family sedan, but, my, what a wonderful makeover it gets with a 303-horsepower, 5.3-liter V-8. The SS is a muscle car for the family guy. Not too expensive, not too sophisticated and easy to maintain. The test car in a brilliant metallic blue with tan and black interior had an as-tested price of just under \$30,000, and I wouldn't have passed on any of the options that came on this car: leather, polished wheels, eight-speaker Bose audio and XM radio.

This generation Impala has been around since 1999, and never made much of a fashion statement, though it is a roomy and sturdily built car. Chevy buyers aren't interested in trendy styling, a spokesman once told me when I asked why the styling was so unremarkable.

Well, something changed because the 2006 gets a stylish update with a major freshening inside and out. Everything the customer sees or touches is new, Chevy says, except the logo on the sail panel.

The SS goes a little further with a dual-split grille with an SS-signature black-diamond crosshatch pattern, chrome exhaust tips and a rear spoiler, also standard on the midlevel LTZ model.

Pricing starts at \$21,990 for the L, \$22,520 for the LT, \$22,530 for the LTZ and \$27,790 for the SS.

And with more horsepower and standard equipment - cruise control, eight-way power driver's seat, driver information center, uplevel cloth fabric, roof-rail mounted air bags, grab handles at the headliner, and a six-speaker CD audio system - the price is about \$1,100 less than last year.

Refinement and attention to detail were important for this car, Chevy says. And precise body panel gaps - 3.5 mm or less - and interior fit and finish show how far the assembly

trim or an optional brushed sterling. The Impala SS comes with a technical-pattern trim, with the wood-trimmed appearance as an option.

A new seat design is simpler and more tailored looking. The uplevel Nuance leather-trimmed seats have attractive seams, firmer cushions and increased lumbar support that will be appreciated during long drives.

Three new audio systems emphasize simple-to-operate radios. The base CD-radio is a six-speaker sys-

tem when seat backs are folded flat, which is unique in the midsize segment, Chevy says.

ALL FOR SAFETY

Dual-stage front air bags and side-impact air bags are standard, with an improved four-wheel disc brake system with all-new front brakes, improved rear brakes and increased brake boost.

Pretensioners are standard on the front safety belts and there are new, more effective load-limiting retrac-

timing in an overhead-valve engine design.

A 211-hp, 3.5-liter V-6 is standard in the Impala LS and LT, with fuel economy ratings of 21 mpg city and 31 highway, using 87 octane. The engine also runs on E85 ethanol or any combination of gasoline and E85.

The uplevel engine - standard in LTZ and optional in LT - is a 3.9-liter V-6 built on the same architecture as 3.5, but bored and stroked. The 242-hp engine has 242 foot-pounds of torque, with 90 percent of that pulling power running steady from 1,800 to 5,800 rpm. Fuel economy is 19/27.

The piece of irresistible power is the aluminum 5.3-liter V-8 with Displacement on Demand technology. Engine electronics regulate between eight- and four-cylinder power, which can boost fuel economy by 8 percent to 12 percent in easy driving conditions.

The process of switching between eight and four cylinders is imperceptible. Hit the gas and the engine gives a quick response, which is part of the pleasure of driving the SS.

And when the driver tromps the gas pedal, the front wheels don't tear loose in wild torque steer.

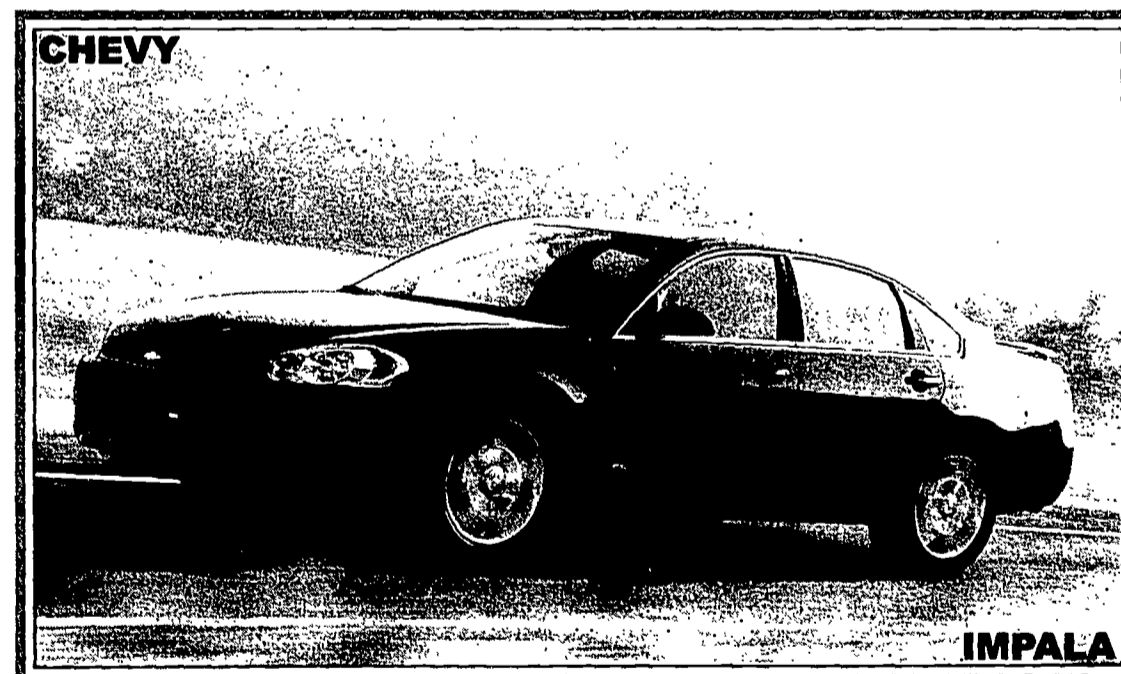
The V-8 runs best on premium and returns fuel mileage of 18/28.

The SS gets a stiffer suspension with larger front and rear stabilizer bars to trim body lean and improve high-speed stability. The Goodyear Eagle RS tires are 18-inch W-rated performance rubber on five-spoke alloy wheels. Both are attractive and effective.

Even with a sport-tuned ride, the SS is compliant and easy on all ages of drivers. The car feels light and lively. The engine idles with a hearty rumble and sounds better all the way up the scale. Steering, brake and throttle responses are balanced and harmonious.

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IMPALA

process has come in recent years. So-called quiet steel at the firewall, a soundproofing dash mat and thicker side-front glass helps keep out unwanted noise - but not the pleasing V-8 exhaust tone.

There are new, large headlamps with a cluster of three lighting units, substantial grab-style door handles and flat-blade windshield wipers (they slap tighter to the glass and help eliminate streaking and wind noise).

Inside, a new instrument panel with a double hump design wraps around into the door panels. LS, LT and LTZ models get some faux wood

tem. All radios include a standard auxiliary input jack for external devices such as an iPod or remote cassette player. The input allows for plug-and-play through the sound system.

Other thoughtful features include gauge illumination that clicks on in low-light conditions, a larger glove box, and flip-and-fold rear seats. The forward-flip rear seat cushions create a covered storage area beneath the seat with cushions down and provide grocery bag hooks when the cushions are flipped forward.

The seat back also folds down to create a pass-through from the trunk



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