

HE SHOTS...
**NILES WEST LOSES TO
 ST. PATRICK'S**
Notre Dame defeats St. Viator



WHAT'S THE BEST PART?
**IT'S A HORSE
 OF COURSE**
*Morton Grove's Horse
 Show*
 PET STOP, PAGE 15



THE BUGLE

SINCE 1957

THURSDAY FEBRUARY 23, 2006

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NILESBUGLE.COM • PARKRIDGEBUGLE.COM • MORTONGROVEBUGLE.COM

Lutheran General holds minority contracting fair for new tower project

BY TRACY YOSHIDA GRUEN
 STAFF WRITER

A minority contracting fair for the new bed tower project was held on Monday, Feb. 13 in the Olson Auditorium and Grainger Atrium of

the Advocate Lutheran General Hospital.

The goal of the event was to provide minority and women-based contractors and material suppliers with the opportunity to play a significant role in the construction of the hospital's new 192-bed, eight-story bed tower that is expected to open in early 2009.

Several minority and women business enterprises were invited to learn more

about the project and meet with hospital officials, the project contractor (Power Construction) and major mechanical, electrical and plumbing subcontractors.

The project manager for the hospital's bed tower, Al Manshum, said that their goal is to obtain the highest percentage of minority and women-owned contractors they can to bid on portions of the project and successfully win the work.

"Promoting supplier diversity demonstrates commitment to Advocate's values that enhance our ability to serve an increasingly diverse community, cus-

Story Continues...
 see TOWER page 4.

Morton Grove prepares Capulina Right-of-Way defense

BY TRACY YOSHIDA GRUEN
 STAFF WRITER

Johnson and Bell of Chicago has been selected to serve as special litigation counsel regarding the lawsuit filed by the Muslim Community Center.

This selection was publicly announced at the Village of Morton Grove board meeting on Monday, Feb. 20.

The lawsuit is over the ownership of the Capulina Right of Way—whether the MCC owns the property or the village does. The lawsuit was filed on Dec. 15, 2005 at 3:50 p.m.

"They're preparing a response," said Morton Grove Mayor Richard Krier, about the village and its counsel. On

Story Continues...
 see RIGHT-OF-WAY page 3.

Taste of Morton Grove set for Thursday, March 2

Get your taste buds ready.

The 18th annual Taste of Spring fund-raiser for the Morton Grove Foundation will be held on Thursday, March 2 at the White Eagle Banquets in Niles.

The Morton Grove Foundation distributes funds collected from this annual event to more than 30 local charitable organizations. Doors open at 5:30 p.m.

The Taste will feature cuisine from many fine restaurants in the area. The event will include raffles and a silent and live auction as well.

"There's so many people that do a lot of work for the taste," said Morton Grove Mayor Richard

Story Continues...
 see MG TASTE page 2.

Renovation work begins on Niles Golf Mill OTB

Construction begins the same week as advisory referendum victory by residents in county court

As construction workers began the renovation process of the Circuit City near Golf Mill that will be replaced with an Off Track Betting facility, Bob Bilocerkowycz, president and CEO of Inter-track Partners, took time to share his thoughts on the big day with the Bugle Newspapers.

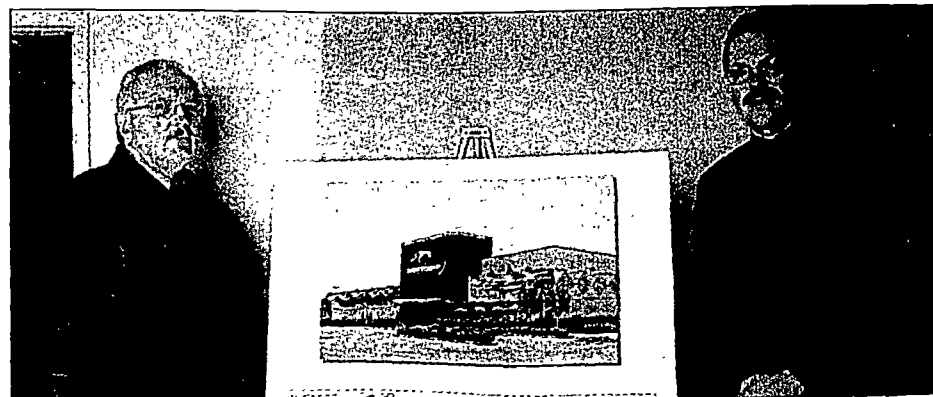
"To us, it's a rewarding day," said Bilocerkowycz. The day marked the beginning of the construction of their new Off Track Betting (OTB) facility in Niles, "Lucky MaGee's Racino Grill and Sports Bar" that will feature a 1936 theme.

The facility will be a state of the art facility for horse wagering, dining with friends and family, watching sporting events on multiple television screens and having a beer with friends in the outdoor area. The facility will include more than 200 high-definition DLP/LCD televisions.

Bilocerkowicz said that they have already been receiving many phone calls from people who are excited and asking when Lucky MaGees will open its doors.

Bilocerkowicz said that some people do

Story Continues...
 see NILES OTB page 4.



Roman Berko, left, future general manager of the Niles OTB poses with Inter-Track President Bob Bilocerkowycz and a rendering of the project. Renovation began last week.

NEWS

Morton Grove will get \$250K to repave Harlem

Morton Grove will receive about \$250,000 in federal funds to resurface Harlem Ave. after the board meeting last Monday.

A resolution to authorize the Morton Grove village president to execute a "Local Agency Agreement for Federal Participation" with the Illinois Department of Transportation for the Harlem Ave. Local Area Pavement Preservation Project (LAPP) was approved at the village board meeting on Monday, Feb. 20.

The agreement between the village and IDOT is necessary so

that the village can receive Surface Transportation Program (STP) funding that was programmed by the North Shore Council of Mayors.

"It's time to be resurfaced," said Andy Demonte, director of public works. "It's probably been about 20 years."

Harlem Ave. was identified as a federal aid eligible route that is in need of resurfacing in order to improve the driving surface, reduce maintenance costs and extend the useful life of the street.

The village applied and

received STP funding through the North Shore Council of Mayors as a Local Area Pavement Preservation Project.

The total estimated cost of the project is \$361,000; with the village share of that total being \$108,000 and the federal share of \$253,000.

Demonte said the department is working on the bid specifications at this time and he's not sure yet when the work will begin.

The engineering division will perform the implementation, administration and construction oversight as well.

MG TASTE:

Event attracts large crowds

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Krier, who is on the committee for the taste. "It's a fun time. It's always well-attended."

Some of the organizations that will benefit from the event are the

American Brain Tumor Association, Adult Down Syndrome Center, First Step Foundation, Little City Foundation, Maryville Academy, Morton Grove Park District, Leukemia Research Foundation, Community Nutrition Network, Friends of the Morton Grove Forest Preserves, Boy Scouts of America, NW Suburban Council and more.

The proceeds from the past Morton Grove Tastes have totaled

more than \$300,000. The goal this year is to raise at least \$50,000 to benefit the charitable organizations.

Krier said that the event attracts a large crowd. He said they used to hold it at the Chateau Ritz, but they had to move it to the White Eagle Banquets a few years ago because they outgrew the previous facility.

For information on the event or for tickets call Ann Berrafato at 847 470 5245.

Niles Honorees



On August 27, 2005, Officer Joe Romano responded to a robbery call in the area of the 8400 block of Dempster. Upon his arrival, the offender had fled on foot. A broadcast was made with the description of the offenders. Through Officer Romano's diligence, perseverance and patrol skills, the two offenders were apprehended. Officer Romano also recovered the proceeds of the robbery. At the January Board Meeting he was recognized for his perseverance and investigative skills.

Pictured left to right are: Police Chief Dean Strzelecki, Officer Romano, Trustee Louella Preston and Mayor Nicholas B. Blase.



On October 10, 2005, Detective Sergeant Huinker led a team of detectives on a robbery call. After getting a description and direction of travel from a citizen, these officers took the two subjects into custody without incident.

Through their investigative skills, this team put together a case against these offenders that cleared four purse snatching robberies that were committed over a six-day period. Many of the proceeds from the robberies were recovered and returned. These officers were recognized at the January Board meeting for their investigative skills, officer safety skills and knowledge.

Pictured left to right are: Police Chief Dean Strzelecki, Mayor Nick Blase, Detective Sergeant Huinker, Detective Tom Fragassi, Detective Alexopoulos and Trustee Bob Callero.



On October 10, 2005, Nicholas Hatzopoulos observed an offender's vehicle that was involved in a purse snatching related incident leaving the parking lot of Costco. He located the vehicle and informed the 9-1-1 Center of the license plate number and the direction of travel.

Mr. Hatzopoulos's observation and initiative to get involved led to the arrest and prosecution of the offenders. Citizens like Mr. Hatzopoulos make the job of law enforcement much easier and the village of Niles and the Niles Police Department commented him at the January Board meeting.

Pictured left to right are: Police Chief Dean Strzelecki, Nicholas Hatzopoulos, Mayor Nick Blase and Trustee Tom Bondi.

NEWS

MG Trustee Kogstad still wants answers on Osco Outlot

BY TRACY YOSHIDA GRUEN
STAFF WRITER

Morton Grove Trustee Roy Kogstad wants answers and Corporation Counsel Terry Liston said she's offered them, but has not received a response.

The subject at hand: Liston's purchase of the Osco outlot on Dempster and the question of whether she received a favorable deal because of her position with the village, creating a conflict of interest.

Kogstad said that he has asked Liston, at least three times, for records, but has never received records or answers to his questions.

Liston said that once, Kogstad came into her office to talk to her and before she got off the phone,

he had left her office.

"Now's she's threatening me," said Kogstad. He said that Liston has threatened to sue him. Kogstad feels the public has the right to know about the issue and that it is his responsibility as a village trustee to make sure they do.

"I've never threatened a lawsuit," said Liston. In a memo from Liston to Kogstad, dated Dec. 19, Liston wrote, "I value my integrity and will take any action necessary to protect it. Your continued accusations will damage my reputation and ultimately harm my capacity to earn a living resulting in the inability to support my family."

In the same memo, she said that she received Kogstad's email requesting copies of private sales agreements relating to the Osco outlot purchase and village records. She extends an offer for

Kogstad to schedule an appointment to go over her personal Osco contract documents. She said village records are also available in the village administrator's office.

William Luksha, a real estate agent and village resident, believes that Liston did receive a favorable deal.

Luksha said that Susan Mertz, Albertson's Real Estate manager said the "asking price" was \$1.1 million (about \$50 per sq. ft). Corporate Counsel said that she purchased the property for \$900,000 (about \$40.90 per sq. ft).

According to Luksha, based on comparable prices of other similar commercial properties, the asking price should have been about \$1,980,000 or \$90 per sq. ft.

Luksha said that 10 blocks east of the subject property, an aging strip mall for retail and business

condo, has an asking price of \$2.5 million or \$92.59 per sq. ft. Another example he gave is that at 9003 N. Waukegan Rd. in Morton Grove, the property is asking for \$1.5 million or \$80 per sq. ft.

Liston said for a while, she didn't say anything, but she explained, "I finally got to the point where I respect the elected officials and I respect the residents, but after awhile I had to protect myself."

Kogstad said another concern of his is that the village is repaying Osco \$250,000 for infrastructure improvements. He said that now Liston will benefit from this as well, and her law office doesn't bring any retail/sales into the village, as the originally plan proposed.

Kogstad said that he also talked to Mayor Richard Krier about the

situation and he said he's received "silence" from the mayor.

Krier said that sometimes Kogstad will bring up an issue, but has no facts to back it up. He also mentioned that, like he said at the board meeting on Monday, Feb. 20, some residents like to approach the board and bring up personal topics or matters that do not relate to the Village of Morton Grove, or play the "Gotcha game." For example, at Monday's meeting, a couple of residents were concerned about Trustee Dan DiMaria being knocked off the ballot due to the irregularity of collecting signatures. Krier said that what DiMaria did was wrong, and that he deserved to be knocked off the ballot, but he also said that doesn't mean he isn't a good village trustee, like some people may assume.

"It's just not right," said Krier.

RIGHT-OF-WAY:

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Monday, Feb. 20, Terry Liston, corporate counsel for the Village of Morton Grove, told The Bugle Newspapers that she believes an answer and a counter claim will be filed tomorrow (Tuesday, Feb. 21). She says the counter claim says that the parties involved should live up

to the mediation agreement.

The lawsuit is over the ownership of the Capulina Right of Way—whether the MCC owns the property or the village does. The lawsuit was filed on Dec. 15, 2005 at 3:50 p.m.

"For well over two years, we've been asking them to show us documentation," said Yasir Aleemuddin, the general counsel for the MCC. He said the village has never provided

documentation to show that they own the property. He believes the MCC will be victorious.

"The Chicago Title Company is responsible to defend our title," said Mohammed Kaisuruddin.

The village had 40 years from 1963 to file an objection or to make a claim that they owned the property, according to Aleemuddin. He said the

deed is in the MCC's name. Johnson and Bell started in 1975 with a handful of lawyers and has grown into a firm with 100-attorney firm. It has offices in Chicago, Waukegan, Illinois and Highland, Indiana.

According to the Johnson and Bell website, their strong experience and reputation can be revealed through Chicago Lawyer magazine placing three Johnson and Bell lawyers on a

list of its top 20 tort defense lawyers in Chicago.

"We gave them some extension," said Aleemuddin, regarding the village's response time from the time the lawsuit was filed.

In an e-mail, Terry Liston wrote: The subdivision plat was recorded in 1963. Until 2003, the parcel has always been treated as village-owned right of way.

THE BUGLE

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NEWS

NILES OTB: Company plans job fairs

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

not realize that the OTB is definitely coming to Niles. He said that the issue of the non-binding referendum question to see whether residents want an OTB in Niles doesn't affect their plans to build the OTB.

While pointing at a floor plan for the OTB site, Bilocerowycz explained that the first phase of the project will include 17,268 sq ft. The first phase will include a bar area with 117 seats and a dining area with 100 seats. The seats will be comfortable leather seats, similar to those you'd find in the first-class section of an airplane.

Bilocerowycz said that he wants to see what are the most popular areas of the first phase, in order to determine what they will add during the second phase. He said the second phase may include banquet space, more private rooms and possibly another bar area. The drive thru wagering window will be open five days a year, for big horse racing events.

According to Inter-Track Partners, the Village of Niles will "realize somewhere between \$400,000 to \$600,000 annually" as a result of the new time.

Bilocerowycz said that some residents of Morton Grove wish that the village would have welcomed the OTB and may be frustrated because Niles, its next-door neighbor, will receive the revenue.

"This is a better location," said Bilocerowycz, about the Niles site, who said it's more visible than the site they were looking at in Morton Grove.

A job fair will be held in order for Lucky MaGees to find "enthusiastic and highly motivated" employees. Corporate staff will review applications and interview candidates on March 7 and March 8 and then again on March 14 and March 15.

March 7 and March 14 are reserved exclusively for Niles residents and March 8 and March 15 are open to the general public.

The grand opening is anticipated to take place at the end of June or early July, 2006. Inter-Track Partners, L.L.C. are owners and operators of 14 OTB facilities.

Morgan Dubiel, leading a group of residents who won a bid for a referendum on the facility last week said that the renovation was "suspicious."

"This is just more smoke and mirrors by an outsider who can say anything and has," Dubiel said. "We've seen nothing real, a clean-up crew is not a fully approved permit to build."

Dubiel said he believed the move was calculated to make voters believe the OTB was a done deal.

County vehicle sticker violators targeted in new Maine Township effort

Residents of unincorporated Maine Township will soon see more stringent enforcement of Cook County vehicle stickers by Sheriff's Police Officers. A county ordinance passed in December gives more powers to the officers in how they are allowed to enforce the law and go after those who fail to purchase stickers.

As many as half of the vehicles registered in unincorporated Maine Township may not have current Cook County vehicle stickers. According to Robert Provenzano, the Township Highway Commissioner, shortcomings in the 2006 county budget and pressure from his office have prompted a crackdown on vehicle owners without stickers as a potentially vital source of revenue for both the county and township.

"Not only is the revenue from sticker sales beneficial, but also new fines for those stopped without stickers can be up to three

times the cost of purchasing a sticker," Provenzano says.

Compounded by complaints from Cook County Sheriff's Police Officers who had the foresight to address this problem, Provenzano began writing letters to Cook County Commissioners in August 2005. This effort led to new county laws which passed in December.

According to James McGing, Director Intergovernmental Affairs for the Cook County Sheriff's Office, the Sheriff tried to get the laws changed as far back as 1997. McGing was instrumental in the effort on behalf of the Sheriff.

McGing said, the new county ordinance was accomplished with the valued leadership and assistance of Cook County Sheriff Michael Sheahan, County Commissioner Elizabeth Ann Doody Gorman (17th District) and Commissioner Larry Suffredin (13th District). This program will help the county and the township

as is evident in the accumulation of \$800,000 in revenue collected by Des Plaines from its pursuit of sticker violators. He added the Des Plaines effort is an excellent indication of the amount of revenue that can be generated from better enforcement and stronger fines.

"This ordinance is intended to halt those that want to 'beat the system,' and to benefit law-abiding residents who will be positively affected by the revenue generated," Provenzano said.

At this time, there are up to 90,000 county stickers that should be renewed annually, but hardly half of that number are being renewed.

Vehicle stickers can be purchased for \$40 at the Township Clerk's office: 1700 Ballard Park Ridge. The cost doubles if not purchased by the due date. Stickers must be displayed by July 1. For further information, call 847-297-2510.

tomer and associate base," emphasized Manshum, in a recent press release.

In addition to a networking opportunity, the contractors also heard a presentation about the project, construction schedule, the bidding process and the Advocate's minority contracting program.

The bed tower, which will open in early 2009, will have two stories devoted to the advanced care of critically ill adults and children, a state of the art-cancer and bone marrow transplant unit, neurology/stroke patients, and general surgical and medical patients. There will also be a 28-room mother-baby unit.

JOB FAIR:

Lutheran General holds job fair

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

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NEWS

More residents can qualify for Morton Grove Solid Waste hardship program

BY TRACY YOSHIDA GRUEN
STAFF WRITER

A resolution to modify the village of Morton Grove's Solid Waste Financial Assistance Program so that more residents with financial hardships can qualify for the program was approved at the village board meeting on Monday, Feb. 20—but not without some discussion.

The Solid Waste Financial Assistance Program provides financial assistance to low income and needy residents for the payment of the solid waste collection fees that are charged by Groot. The original program was established in April of 2004. In January, 2006, Mayor Richard Krier created an Ad Hoc Committee to review the program and the committee recommended making the income qualification standards for the program less restrictive.

The village will now pay 100% of the solid waste collection fee for residents whose annual household income is under 150% of the Federal Poverty Level Annual Household Income. The village will also pay 75% of the solid waste collection fee for residents whose annual household income is between 151% and 200% of the Federal Poverty Level Annual Household Income. For the calendar year 2006, \$50,000 has been budgeted for the program.

"In my mind, it's a pretty simple process," said Jackie Walker O'Keefe, family and senior services director for the village. She said applicants need to fill out a one-page application and

provide documentation of their monthly income.

A resident, Sherwin Dubren, approached the village board, expressing his concerns with the process.

"I was kind of disappointed in the final outcome," said Dubren. "The process is too complex." He said the process should be as simple as possible, especially since many of the applicants may be senior citizens. In particular, he didn't think it was necessary for applicants to meet with the village social worker at village hall. O'Keefe said that instead of meeting in person, participants can opt to call her if they have any questions about the program.

O'Keefe said that some people questioned whether the program was "too intrusive."

Trustee Brunner said that program is not any more complex or intrusive than those of other villages/townships. O'Keefe believes the program is less intrusive and less complex than other villages' programs.

Brunner believes it is the village's responsibility to make sure that the financial assistance goes to the residents who truly need the help.

Trustee Roy Kogstad asked for an amendment to postpone the vote on the program, because he said he didn't get the opportunity to review the forms and the process.

The board approved the resolution at the Feb. 20 meeting.

Applications are currently being taken for this program. Assistance is also provided, on a case by case basis, for those residents who have suffered a short term catastrophic event.

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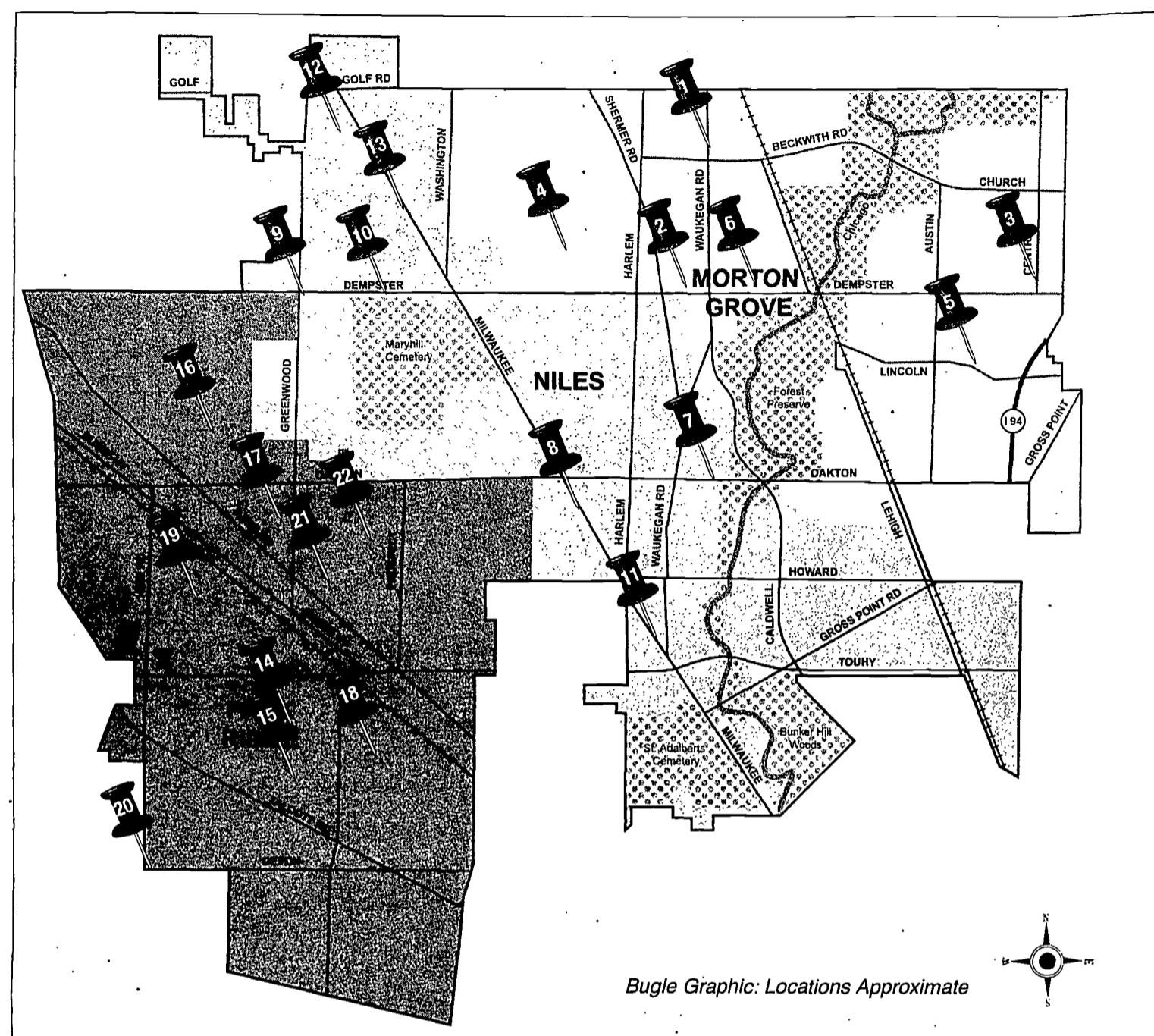
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POLICE BLOTTER



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, Feb. 17.

1 No Gas Pay Driver Caught
(9500 Waukegan)

A Blue Jaguar drove off without paying for \$18.50 in gasoline last week. The license plate was traced to a Des Plaines residence. Police called the home and the gas was paid for.

2 Dog bites face
(8800 Sayre)

A retired man, 65, was standing in front of his home Feb. 14. A man walking a pit terrier approached. The dog was on a leash but still lunged at the man, knocked him down and bit him on the chin and left cheek.

3 Stolen car not stolen
(5600 Dempster)

A police officer made a traffic

stop Feb. 13 and the vehicle was listed as stolen. There were three women inside the car. They said the car had been stolen but recovered. Police confirmed the story and let the trio free with the car.

4 Lost passport
(8900 Osceola)

A woman, 51, lost her Italian passport Feb. 13.

5 Fire
(5800 Lincoln)

A home caught fire Feb. 13. The fire was caused by cooking in the kitchen.

6 Graffiti
(8900 Oak Park)

A stop sign had an upside down pitchfork sprayed on it Feb. 11.

NILES

The following was derived from the official reports of the Niles Police Department for the week ending Monday, Feb. 20.

7 Car wash fire
(Niles Civic Center)

A blaze broke out Monday, Feb. 13 at 7:30 p.m. at the Niles Dirt Buster Auto Wash. Rags caught on the dryer caused the fire. There was no damage to the structure as the fire department put out the flames.

8 12 syringes
(7900 Milwaukee)

A 22-year-old male nurse was arrested for illegal possession of 12 hypodermic syringes Feb. 17.

9 Laser Theft
(8600 Dempster)

A laser, concrete saw and two hammer drills were stolen from a truck Feb. 16. The total cost of the items is about \$1,900.

10 Coffee crime
(9000 Golf)

A man between the ages of 30 and 40 wearing a black jacket and blue jeans stole two cans of instant coffee at a grocery store Feb. 16.

11 Purse stolen at bowling alley
(7300 Milwaukee)

The snack bar manager of a bowling alley had her purse stolen Feb. 11.

12 AIDS bite
(Golf Mill)

A 45-year-old from Evanston was arrested Feb. 12 for stealing a pair of shoes from Sears and walking out of the store. When approached by security outside the store, the man allegedly pushed the guard, bit him, yelled that he had AIDS and then drove away.

13 Hair salon window cracked
(9000 Courtland)

The rear window of a hair salon was discovered cracked Feb. 14.

PARK RIDGE

The following was derived from the official reports of the Park Ridge Police Department

for the week ending Monday, Feb. 20.

14 Student brought pellet gun to school
(200 S. Lincoln)

School officials handled a situation Tuesday, Feb. 7 when a boy brought a pellet gun to school.

15 Brick throw
(300 Clifton)

A brick was thrown through the window of a 2003 Chevy parked on the street Feb. 11.

16 Radar detector taken from BMW
(1700 Walnut)

The window of a 2002 BMW was smashed and a \$400 radar detector was taken Feb. 11.

17 Radar detector stolen
(300 Kathleen)

The window of a 2004 Ford Mustang was broken and a \$200 radar detector was taken Feb. 14.

18 Damage to vehicle arrest
(200 S. Vine)

A 58-year-old was arrested in Chicago for criminal damage to vehicles and identified in a police lineup.

19 Illegal possession of a firearm
(400 Seminary)

A 40-year-old was arrested Feb. 10 for illegal possession of a firearm.

20 Resisting arrest
(Devon and Dee)

A man, 24, of Chicago was arrested Feb. 10 for speeding without insurance or a driver's license and resisting arrest.

21 Damaging city vehicle
(700 N. Prospect)

A 17-year-old was involved in an altercation Feb. 13 and arrested for disorderly conduct, battery and criminal damage to a city vehicle. He was issued a \$5,000 bond and given a Feb. 21 court date.

22 Driving Doughnuts
(1300 Peterson)

An unknown person drove a vehicle across a front lawn in the 1300 block of W. Peterson over the weekend. The house's sewer clean-out pipe was broken in the process.

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

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COMMENTARY

Letters to the Editor

Upset by Niles referendum policy

Dear Editor,

Is it not true that the debate of issues ensures democracy to work at its best? Is our government not meant to have the checks and balances that a debate commands? As citizens do we not elect officials at the local, state and federal levels to debate and vote on issues that will govern the people? Do we, as registered voters, not determine the fate of candidates to continue the debate or vote for either side of a referendum when issues of importance are on the ballot? Without debate, our country would not be a democracy but rather a dictatorship.

I have been a very happy resident of Niles for almost thirty years. I find it ludicrous that in Niles, a city "where people count", the people can not be heard or counted because our mayor is "not a referendum kind of guy." Why has our local government ignored the legal procedures and statutes for viable petitions supporting a non-binding referendum? Why does a non-binding referendum that gives residents a voice threaten our mayor? Why is our local government now willing to spend our tax dollars to fight Niles residents over these viable petitions?

I find this approach or lack thereof for the debate contemptible. Niles residents must ask, "Why is our Mayor afraid of the debate?" or is it democracy?

Elaine Merkel, Niles

Alderman speaks on Park Ridge Police Station

To the taxpayers of Park Ridge:

In 2001 Fred Moyer of Moyer Associates Inc., an architectural firm specializing in the design and construction of new police facilities, completed his "needs assessment study" for our police department. Three years later, in April of 2004, the City explored the purchase of a 15,000 SF building at 515 Busse Hwy. for a new police station before abandoning that effort in the face of media scrutiny about the propriety of the purchase.

Fortunately, after five years of effectively ignoring the issue, the City Councils Public Safety Committee - chaired by Ald. Mark Anderson - is finally addressing the matter of our police department's facility deficiencies; and it is my hope that the Committee's efforts will focus on providing the kind of facility that meets our community's needs and warrants all the money the taxpayers will have to pay for it.

To be successful, however, that process must first challenge Mr. Moyer's conclusion that our police department absolutely "needs" 40,000 to 46,000 SF of building space in order to properly conduct police business. As Ald. Don Crampton noted, our police department seems to be delivering very good service to the community from its current 8,000 SF facility, so is an extra 32,000 SF of space a true "need" or merely a "want"? Can our community expect a corresponding reduction in rates of crime as the size of our police facility increases? Is our community not being provided with the proper level of protection

because of the current size of our police facility? What greater level of safety and security can our citizens expect to get when they pay for an extra 32,000 SF of space for our police department?

Mr. Moyer's recent presentation at the Public Safety Committee of the Whole meeting did nothing to answer those questions. Instead, we were walked through Moyer's 18-step model for designing and building a new police facility - a model that he devised for the International Association of Chiefs of Police. Although it was an entertaining presentation, it was devoid of any actual measurable standards. Those in attendance were not shown what police facility standards are considered good, better or best.

Among the uses for the extra 32,000 SF proposed by Moyer is the departments own 5,000 SF private firing range and a workout room. Of course our officers need and deserve proper firearms training and workout opportunities: Not only the performance of their duties, but their very lives (and our lives as well) may depend on their physical conditioning and firearm expertise. But is on-site training necessary or merely convenient, especially when many of our police officers do not live in Park Ridge and may have available training and workout facilities closer to their homes that could be made available to them through intergovernmental agreements? Could the City work out an arrangement with the Park Ridge Recreation and Park District for the officers to use the Community Center fitness facilities?

As reported, Ald. Kim Jones said: "There are standards we need to meet and we're not meeting them." Unfortunately, it is impossible to agree or disagree with her because nobody

Other Views



Cartoons From Copley News Service

has as yet presented the Council with any standards for police stations other than Mr. Moyer's IACP model. Nobody has explained why individual departments within our police function "need" their own conference rooms, or why nearly every private supervisory office "needs" its own in-office conference space. Nobody has explained why future personnel projections in the Moyer study, for the next 20 years, do not

include increased numbers of patrol officers. Nobody has explained what the standard staffing levels of sworn officers should be for a community of our size, and what the facility space standards are for accommodating those ranks.

So what the City Council is essentially being asked to do is to simply conclude that bigger is

More Letters...
see LETTERS page 13.

BUSINESS

Yes, you can leave stuff to Rover, but not via a will



I begin each morning - whether I want to or not - at my local dog park.

Once the kids are out the door, Minerva, our golden retriever, knows that it's her turn to chase tennis balls, wrestle with her pals and, if she'd like, hunt gophers.

The canine park regulars that Minerva hangs with might not be as indulged as Paris Hilton's teacup Chihuahua, but they are a lucky bunch. One owner scrambles eggs for her Siberian husky every day. A hairstylist brings brushes to fluff the fur of any dog that sidles up to her. Many of the pooches enjoying the sunshine had been liberated from the pound.

But what happens, one park regular wondered the other day, if a dog loses its owner? It's a question worth exploring because tens of millions of dogs and cats belong to somebody. The sad fact is that every year, more than 500,000 dogs and cats are euthanized at shelters in this country because their owners died.

In the media, you will occasionally hear or read about extravagant examples of post-mortem pet indulgences. Dusty Springfield, the singer, allegedly left behind instructions that her cat's bed be lined with her nightgown and her recordings played at the feline's bedtime.

Doris Duke, the tobacco heiress whose ancestors started Duke University, left six figures to her dog. And the actress who played Lovey Howell on Gilligan's Island apparently instructed that her fortune be given to her pooches.

But what, realistically, can typical pet lovers do to ensure that their rambunctious Labrador mix or furry Siamese princess doesn't get dumped at the nearest shelter if tragedy strikes?

What you shouldn't do is leave money or property to a pet in a will, advises Mary Randolph, an attorney and the author of "Every Dog's Legal Guide: A Must-Have Book for Your Owner, 5th edition" (Nolo, 2005). Randolph recalls a case of a California woman who split all her possessions between her

dog Roxy and a close friend.

The woman's niece essentially argued that Roxy couldn't inherit a Milk-Bone, much less a bank account, and the California Supreme Court agreed with her. The niece received half the estate, even though her aunt had specifically stipulated that she didn't want her relative getting her paws on the money.

What worked against Roxy was what some might consider an irritating legality: a pet is a piece of property. And one piece of property can't inherit another. Try imagining a Honda Accord inheriting a diamond engagement ring. As a practical matter, you also couldn't expect a standard poodle who inherits money to open up a checking account or monitor its investments online.

When someone does leave IBM stock, municipal bonds or a stack of certificate of deposits to a pet via a will, the well-mean-

Story Continues...
see MONEY next page.

Niles Chamber of Commerce & Industry News, Events & Updates

NEW Job Position Open - Membership Services Coordinator

The Niles Chamber of Commerce seeks a part-time energetic professional to market chamber benefits to prospective, new and current members through personal visits, phone calls, and networking functions. Must possess computer skills (Word/Excel). Should be outgoing and well-spoken, possess a personality conducive for public relations, strong work ethic and like interacting with people. College degree and 3-5 years experience preferred. Please send resumes to the Niles Chamber of Commerce, 8060 W. Oakton St. Niles IL 60714 or fax (847) 268-8186 or email to katie@nileschamber.com

Niles Night of Roses - A Tribute to Home Grown Success Nomination Forms DUE: February 24

We are seeking those that make Niles a Place Where People Count! Think of that individual who is always ready to lend a hand, they make things happen and motivate others to get involved. Complete our official Night of Roses nomination form (available at the Chamber office) and return to the Niles Chamber office by February 24. Recipients will be announced March 15th. All awards will be given at the Niles Night of Roses - A Tribute to Home Grown Success Community Recognition Dinner on Saturday, April 22, 2006.

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BUSINESS

Taking Stock

Teacher's retirement plan flunks out

Malcom Berko
Copley News Service

Dear Mr. Berko: My son has been a schoolteacher in the same school since 1981. He participates in the county's (the school system is part of the county so he is employed by the county) 403(b) retirement plan, which is the sorriest retirement plan I've ever seen. In the 25 years he has been employed by the county, we guess that he has invested about \$108,000, which includes the money contributed by the county. And today that 403(b) is worth exactly (he just got his annual statements) \$130,764.12. This is a shocking and this is also very poor performance. We have enclosed a copy of this statement for your review. Please don't mention the name of the county or even the state because anything negative you would say (and I think you will have very bad things to say) might reflect poorly on him and his family and hurt his relationship with school. Please look this over this and tell us what to do. His wife works for a private company and makes 70 percent of what my son earns but her pension plan is worth more than his after her 22 years of working. D.E.

Kankakee, Ill.

Dear D.E.: In many school systems the school board and the teachers union may be in cahoots with the insurance salesman who provides the annuity products for the pension plan. So ... did you know that the annuities owned by your son have a 12 percent sales charge plus a 2.75 percent annual expense and management fee? I'm sure that neither your son nor his colleagues know this. Frankly, I wouldn't buy a No. 2 pencil from that conniving and scurrilous insurance company. And I wouldn't be astonished, amazed or astounded if school board members and the teachers union officers shared that commission largess with the insurance salesman who sold that sicko annuity plan to the county.

County politics, especially in your son's state, is as crooked, deceitful and double-dealing as national politics. But there is a solution. Employees of nonprofit organizations (that includes teachers) can transfer from an employer's 403(b) retirement plans to a self-directed 403(b). In 1990, the Internal Revenue Service ruled (and this is an intentionally obscure ruling) that a transfer of all or part of a 403(b) to a self-

directed 403(b) is not treated as a taxable event. If your plan permits this (and many do), just set up a self-directed 403(b) at a brokerage firm and have your money transferred directly to the brokerage to avoid paying taxes on the transfer.

There is one caveat. The insurance company that peddles those pathetic annuities has some seriously high charges if the annuity is surrendered prior to their holding period. However, in many instances it could worth paying the surrender penalty because of certain poor future returns. If that insurance company insists on a severe surrender charge please write me. I will gladly ask a friend to call them who will suggest that they permit your son to his transfer your assets without a surrender charge. Meanwhile the county will still be making annual contributions to the original 403(b) plan so he may be transferring additional assets periodically, subject to the rules of his current plan.

Finally, I noted that your son has a \$125,000 term insurance policy with that insurer. The \$155 monthly premiums are affort to my sense of decency and fair play. Have your boy cancel that criminally overpriced policy and ring an insurance agency in his town

for a quote. I believe that he can buy the same amount of life insurance (if he can pass a physical) for less than \$25 a month.

Please address your financial questions to Malcom Berko, P.O.

Box 1416, Boca Raton, FL 33429 or e-mail him at malber@adelphia.net.

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New Board installed



The Morton Grove Chamber of Commerce & Industry installs their Board of Directors. (Left to right) Executive Director-Suzanne Archer; Directors-Ron Lundin, Debra Sloan, Mary Lynch, Jocelyn Ochonicki, Bea Lipski, Dale Ashcraft, Christina Marino, Gail Kachoyeanos, Frank Grimaldi, Teresa Hoffman Liston, Deborah Gallas, Nicholas, Marino, Leonard Dempster, Mark Collins, Albron Hana, Steve Gutekanst, Matt Michell, and Margaret Hagerty are installed by Cook County Commissioner, Larry Suffredin. (not pictured- George Karagozian and Enzo Sinopoli.)

MONEY:

Leaving something for Rover

CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

ing move will backfire. The assets often end up with whoever is designated as the will's "residuary beneficiary." That refers to the person who gets everything not specifically left

to others in the document.

There are other ways, however, that pet lovers can care for their animals after their own deaths. The most simple way is to ask someone you trust if he or she would adopt your orphaned dog. If a friend or relative agrees, you could make your decision more official by including it in your will.

In either case, you might also want to include a backup person if your original choice ultimately wiggles out of the obligation

or simply can't do it.

Because you are saddling a would-be guardian with a big responsibility - imagine someone else putting up with your dog's love of chair legs - ideally you should throw some money in the pot to sweeten the deal.

"If you trust them with the animal, hopefully you can trust them with the money as well," Randolph says. It's best to leave the money through a will or revocable living trust, even if the pet's new owner doesn't need

the cash. "A dog who arrives with a full dinner dish is likely to be more welcome than one who is on the dole."

Establishing a pet trust is another alternative.

If someone had walked into a probate court with a pet trust not all that long ago, he or she would have been laughed out of the building. But the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws, which provides model laws for states, examined the issue of pet trusts

in 1990 and said, "Why not?"

Today at least 30 states, including California, New York, Florida, Texas and Michigan, allow them.

With one of these trusts, you leave money or property for the pet and designate someone else, called a trustee, to manage and spend it. Most people aren't going to need one, but those who are interested should visit the Web site of 2nd Chance 4 Pets, which is a nonprofit in Los Gatos, Calif., which works to protect pet orphans and promote lifetime care for pets.

As a precaution, pet owners should also carry an animal card in their wallets. On the slip of paper, write the pet's name, its location, the veterinarian, special care instructions (e.g., the animal requires medicine) and the contact information of someone who could care for the animal at least temporarily if you become incapacitated.

Lynn O'Shaughnessy is the author of "The Retirement Bible" and "The Investing Bible." She can be reached at LynnOShaughnessy@cox.net. Visit Copley News Service at www.copleynews.com.



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COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS



Blagojevich Views Sweetheart Competition

On Sunday, February 12, Governor Rod Blagojevich made a stop at Niles Park District IceLand Ice Arena to view the Sweetheart Open Skating Competition. Pictured left to right are Gov. Blagojevich, and skaters Nina Potempa, Joanne McCluskey, Alina Barnas, and Christina Godziewski.

Summit Square Meets the Retirement and Assisted Living Needs of Seniors

Of all the retirement communities Elizabeth toured, none seemed quite right for her. Some locations were inconvenient and isolating. In other cases, she didn't feel comfortable with the staff. At most communities, she thought the housing was just plain unaffordable.

But after much searching and frustration, Elizabeth found the perfect place right in her own back yard—Summit Square Retirement and Assisted Living, located in beautiful Park Ridge at 10 North Summit.

Now, after living at Summit Square for the past two years, Elizabeth knows she made the right choice. Her family lives just a few miles away, and they visit often. Summit Square is within walking distance from churches, banks, shops, and medical facilities. The staff is not only skilled and experienced—they really care about the residents. She enjoys three home-cooked meals a day, a spacious and comfortable apartment, and daily housekeeping service.

To top it all off, she's having fun. The activities program is resident-directed. And because residents' interests are so varied, there's always something happening at Summit Square. Like Elizabeth you too can learn a craft, join lively group discussions, participate in a book club, get some exercise, or dance to big-band music.

With St. Patrick's Day just around the corner, everyone is looking forward to IRISHFEST on March 17. Open to the public for just \$5 per person, IRISHFEST includes a corned-beef-and-cabbage dinner, followed by entertainment from the award-winning Mullane Irish Dancers. Visitors are welcome to tour Summit Square either before or after the festivities.

Also coming up is the Summit Square Music Series. The series is open to the public and features music historians Jack Diamond and Jim Kendros, who trace the lives of gifted artists and play their music. On March 10, Jack Diamond features the popular songs of Eydie Gorme. On April 12, Jim Kendros explores

Leopold Mozart—father of genius composer Wolfgang Mozart. And on April 14, Summit Square steps up the pace with a look at The King—Elvis Presley. Admission is free and refreshments are served during all three programs.

The action isn't limited to the Summit Square itself. Elizabeth and her neighbors like to get out for trips to places like Lake Geneva, Arlington Park race track, and The Lipzner horse shows. They go to the theatre—Drury Lane and Marriott Lincolnshire—to see wonderful Broadway productions. They shop and have lunch in Long

Grove, taste wine in Roselle, and enjoy nature at its finest while touring the Chicago Botanical Garden and Morton Arboretum. They even go to the Earth and Space Museum at Triton College and the I-Max theatre.

This is just a sampling of the activities and amenities Summit Square offers to Elizabeth and nearly 200 other residents. So, come and take a tour of Summit Square and talk to the residents and staff. You'll see why Summit Square is such a great place to call home. For more information, call Summit Square at (847) 825-1161, or go to www.summitsquareretirement.com.

Too busy to vote on Election Day?

vote...early!

Now any registered voter can cast a ballot before the March 21, 2006 primary election.

Early voting will take place between February 27 and March 16.

If you live in suburban Cook County, visit www.voterinfonet.com or call your local village or township hall to find out where and when to vote early.

If you live outside of suburban Cook County, contact your local election authority.

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RESURRECTION MEDICAL CENTER MEDICAL STAFF OFFICERS ELECTED FOR 2006

Resurrection Medical Center medical staff officers for 2006 have been elected at the recent Medical Staff Annual Meeting. Daniel E. Sullivan, D.O., an orthopedic surgeon, was elected for 2006-2007.

Other officers elected for 2006 include Adrian A. Bianco, M.D., Vice President; Victor P. Mokarry, M.D., Secretary; Edwin J. Adamski, M.D., Treasurer; and Peter D. Kerstan, M.D., Medical Staff Representative. William C. Davison, M.D., is the Immediate Past President.

Dr. Sullivan is board certified in orthopedic surgery and is in practice with Northwest Orthopedics Associates, Ltd. He graduated in 1974 from Midwestern University Medical School. He was in active duty with the U.S. Army from 1974-1980 and held the rank of major. He completed his residency at Tripler Army Medical Center, Hawaii in 1978 and completed his fellowship at Northwestern University Medical

School in 1983.

Dr. Sullivan joined the medical



staff at Resurrection Medical Center in 1983 and has served in various roles on the Medical Executive Committee for more than eight years prior to being elected medical staff President.

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NEWS

Celebrating Clifford's Birthday



In anticipation of Clifford the Big Red Dog's birthday, February 15, children attending the Morton Grove Public Library's Tuesday morning Listen Up! story time listened to Clifford stories, made their own Clifford ears and noses, and played Clifford matching games.

42nd Notre Dame Mardi Gras to Benefit Holy Cross Schools, Missions

Traditionally, Mardi Gras, or "Fat Tuesday," is the day when Christians indulge in selfish fun prior Lent, the 40 days of self denial before Easter. For 42 years, Notre Dame High School in Niles has held its Mardi Gras fundraiser as an unselfish way to benefit Holy Cross Missions throughout the year. Proceeds from this year's celebration on Tuesday, February 28,

2006, will benefit the missions in Uganda and Bangladesh, as well as the Holy Cross schools in New Orleans affected by Hurricane Katrina.

The festivities, which are open to the public, will run from 4:30-10 p.m. The merriment includes: the renowned Mardi Gras Carnival; an Italian dinner; and the Hungry-I Variety Show. Additionally, raffle

tickets will be sold at \$1 apiece. They can be purchased beforehand through any Notre Dame student and on the night of February 28th. A grand prize of \$500 will be awarded. Notre Dame is located at 7655 West Dempster Street in Niles, Illinois.

For more information, please contact Ann Mommensen at 847.779.8617.

Local scouts complete projects

BY TRACY YOSHIDA GRUEN
STAFF WRITER

A few members of the Niles Scouting troop successfully completed their community service projects to obtain the highest rank and become an Eagle.

Chris Langlo, Dan Wiechec, Barbie Galassi, Jim Seggeling and Matthew Gianakopoulos are five individuals, all about 17 years old, who have been involved in community service projects.

"I'm very happy and very proud of the individuals," said Robert Galassi.

Langlo has completed a food drive in late November and early December in order to provide non-perishable food items to the Niles Food Pantry. Even after his project, Robert Galassi, said that Langlo still continued to collect food items.

Wiechec ran a special collection drive to help support the military troops overseas. He has been collecting items that most people take for granted, such as chewing gum,

magazines, moist wipes, Kleenex, chapstick and greeting cards so they can write cards to their family and friends in the states. Galassi said some of those type of items are difficult to find where they are stationed.

Barbie Galassi, Robert's daughter, has been assisting Dan in this collection drive by soliciting monetary donations for shipment of the collected items. This is part of her Gold (Highest award) for Girl Scouts.

Seggeling is currently holding a clothing drive that includes winter clothes in order to make sure people in need are kept warm during the cold months. People can make donations and he will pick up the items from people's home. Jim can be contacted at 847.966.1791.

In addition, Gianakopoulos recently took a group of scouts to The Grove in Glenview and helped to remove buckthorn, an invasive species that strangles trees, said Galassi.

The scouts want to thank the community for their on-going support.

Program on Freemasonry Friday

People have heard about the "Secret Society" called Freemasonry and they've read the DiVinci Code. Now its time to "find out the truth."

The Loyal Lodge No. 1007 featuring Masonic scholar Milan Vydarny will present "The True Secrets of Freemasonry" on Friday, Feb. 24 at the Skokie Masonic Temple at 7:30 p.m.

At this free program, guests will learn about the history of the Freemasons, discover the facts of the "Morgan Affair," hear about the "anti-masonic" political party and be reminded of the number of prominent Americans who were Freemasons.

A complimentary firehouse chili dinner will be served at 6:30 p.m. The program is open to all men, women, masons and non-masons. For more information, contact Pat Kanser at 224-489-9006 or Ron Zidron at 847.537.0616.

Skokie Valley Lyric Opera holds program at L'wood Library

The Skokie Valley Chapter of Lyric Opera of Chicago will hold a program at the Lincolnwood Public Library to learn more about Christopher Gluck's Orfeo ed Euridice on Sunday, Feb. 26 at 2 p.m.

The Lyric Opera of Chicago's production of the magical tale opens on Saturday, Feb. 25 at 7:30 p.m. at the Chicago Civic

Opera House. David Daniels is Orfeo and Isabel Bayrakdarian is his bride.

The presenter at the Lincolnwood Public Library is Jesse Gram, editor and publisher of the Lyric Season Companion. Everyone is invited and admission is free.

For more information call 847.673.5662.



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NEWS

LETTERS:

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

better and commission the construction of a new building 5 times the size of the current police station because one "expert", who makes his living designing new police stations, says we need it. That doesn't seem to be a responsible approach to this issue.

I have not formed an opinion on whether or not we need a new police station, or whether the current one can be renovated (and possibly expanded) to meet the true needs of our police department. But I intend to keep asking the tough questions until I receive substantive answers based on hard facts supported by discernible standards from reliable sources. That's the job I was elected to do on behalf of the taxpayers of Park Ridge.

Jeannie Markech, Park Ridge
Alderman, 2nd Ward

Also upset by Niles referendum policy

Dear Editor,

I am upset that the Village of Niles has wasted tax dollars by not responding properly to the petition submitted for a referendum on gambling in Niles to be placed on the March ballot. Petitions for a referendum were presented in September and the Village has not responded as required. Now our tax money is being wasted on lawyers and court actions.

The Village has refused to speak with residents who presented the petitions and the Village has not responded to the petitions since September. That hardly sounds like a village where "people count."

Mary Marusek, Niles

Resident worries about MG Government

Dear Editor,

The shadow returns. One story in 2001, was that for only 250K this Village could get a huge Osco redevelopment — for a "whole block" on Dempster Street, between Austin and Marmora. A redevelopment that would give the Village an "Osco Drug Store with a drive through pharmaceutical facility, with additional acreage for future retail sales in a separate building." Since the Village was los-

ing Abt's retail sales this story was believed. People needed a grocery store. Officials desperately needed sales tax revenue. Then, as they do now.

Osco also appeared desperate. A new drive through Walgreens had just been opened down the block. It appeared to all a new Osco, maybe a new Jewel would be just what the doctor ordered to help reverse sales tax losses.

This "whole block" of New Osco retail sales was expected to be a huge generator of Village cash. Way bigger than old Osco sitting there already. It would have to be, to top another the big kid already on the block, Lazy Boy Furniture. The story was the Village would simply find a new location for Lazy Boy and its hundreds of thousands in retail sales. It did. A huge new mega store in Glenview.

The Osco "whole block" drug store, drive-through deal, with room for "future retail sales in a new separate building" closed in December 2001. By December 2003 the story seemingly changed. Now Osco was going to "subdivide" the lot, noncommittal on the new retail sales building. Where were our officials patrolling this agreement, as ABT and now Lazy Boy tax losses mounted? As the Osco payment now towered 250K, with infrastructure cost reimbursements?

One of the trustees voting for the Osco "whole block" deal seemed more informed than most. After all, she was Chairperson of the Comprehensive Plan Committee analyzing Dempster Street opportunities - intersection by intersection, and Chairperson of the Lehigh Ferris T.I.F. An experienced official who signed the infamous agreement with Elliott Builders to pay them \$5.0 million in part for a senior living center that will seemingly never be built. This highly experienced trustee was promoted to Village Attorney the same month Osco's story seemingly changed.

The Village now had a highly experienced legal watchdog to insure the Village got what it bargained for in all its contracts. What did she do to fix the tax hole sprouting from both Abt and the Lazy Boy tax loss? To fix the loss of 250K the Village paid Osco in part for a second retail non-building? To fix the cost of Osco's nice new alley and storm water drainage the Village must reimburse them for?

Buy that lot herself, of course. Yep. The latest story in December 2005 is she is under contract to purchase the Osco "outlot" (Osco acreage for second retail building) to build herself an office building. Office building with brand spanking new alley and storm drainage, fully paved and curbed, seeming-

ly in part care of your 250K. A prime office building on Dempster which some real estate pros seem to suggest was bought at discount to true market value, in a private deal. Same Dempster Street we heard last April was to get Federal Funds. Same Dempster Street we heard last month is gonna get State Funds. Same Dempster Street where Village itself has been buying up lots for parking. Coincidence casts a long shadow.

Don't you worry. This ain't the old days. Now we have watchdogs watching our watchdogs. We have a newly elected administration committed to remove even the appearance of conflict of interest. A new posse with white hats. A new Mayor vowing to lower taxes, remove "apparent" conflicts and fix problems they "inherited." What did they do December 12, 2005? They unanimously (except one) appointed her to keep up the good work for another year as long as she does not work for any other political party. That should teach her. From one shadow government to another the ghost of the past appears.

So goes the story of a town pretending to watch every dollar for taxpayers. The story of watchdogs, and watchdogs watching watchdogs. Story of inheriting problems. Another saga in a mythical village where truth is a fairy tale, promises are made to be broken and tax dollars appear to feather nests. One reason they need so many of them. This the shadow knows.

Chris Arns, Morton Grove

Niles needs term limits

Dear Editor,

This whole debate over the citizens' right to decide whether they want OTB brings to light a fundamental deficiency in our local government: The need for term limits.

Mayor Blase and his regime have been in office for such an unprecedented length of time, they act as though our village is their personal kingdom instead of a democracy. The fact that they are now spending \$300/hr of our tax money, for a lawyer to defend their untenable position is another illustration of power gone amuck. Mr. Dubiel is willing to sit down as a representative of the citizens, to discuss the issue of a referendum with the trustees, as responsible adults outside of court, and they are not interested. It's time to return Niles government to the people.

Fran Konieczny, Niles

Niles Bus Drivers join Million Mile Club



Alice Egan and Mary Symkowiak were recognized at the January Board Meeting for being inducted into an exclusive group - the Pace Million Mile Club. To be eligible, a driver must drive 1,000,000 miles, which takes about 12-1/2 years, without having a preventable accident. Membership in the Million Mile Club not only demonstrates a daily commitment to completing a job well, but an outstanding commitment for a number of years.

In a day and age where achievements are often measured in days and weeks, your ability to focus time and again to get your passengers to and from without incident for over a decade is commendable. Driving 40 times around the earth is no small feat. Driving 40 times around the earth with no preventable accident is astounding. Congratulations Alice and Mary!

Pictured from left to right are: Mayor Nick B. Blase, Mary Symkowiak, Alice Egan and Public Services Director Scott Jochim

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SCHOOLS

Young SJB Students participate in Science Fair



Recently, the 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students of St. John Brebeuf School participated in the school's annual Science Fair. It was an exciting day for all, as many had spent months preparing for the big day. The students chose a topic, researched it, conducted experiments, made charts and graphs and finally, drew conclusions. They had put everything together as they wrote their papers and assembled their project boards.

This year, a total of 124 students participated in the fair. There were a total of 74 projects in the categories of physics, electronics, behavioral science, consumer science, chemistry, botany, environmental science, earth science, zoology, and health science.

To help with the judging were the men and women from Great Lakes Naval Base. They were highly impressed with the range of topics and detailed work done by our fine students. Any student receiving an Outstanding award at the school level will advance to the regional level to be held at Christian Liberty Academy on Saturday, March 18th.

Here are the results from the fair.

6th Grade: Outstanding – Justin Komosa and Anthony Marzano, Katie Turbak and Robbie Getty, Marc Solano, Maggie Sompolski and Kelly Carrera, Jonathon Beierwaltes and Michael Veselka and Kevin Neuhengen

7th Grade: Outstanding- Maggie Sobieraj and Geneva Toledano, Andrea Martinez and Alyssa Faye Tomas, Sarah Gross, Matthew Perchess and Michael DeBartolo, Peter Slivka and Nick Wheeler, Tracy Catallo, Aimee Svachula and Lisa Raher, Katy Casey and Kaitlin Murphy, Therese Casey and Samantha Moser

First Place-Gina Orlandi and Yassaman Shemarini, Joe Disclafani and John Gewargis, Gemille Tayag and Kristine Florentino, Alex Kulaga and Rick Tuvilla, Pauline Abrecca, Anna Pamula and Angela Lewosz, Eric Hagman, Justin Besyk and Jimmy Wallenberg, Giovanna Mule, Michael Cross, Nicole Delort, Maddy Geden

Second Place- Citlaly Carbajal, Eric Carrabotta, Chris Uhrick
Third Place- Antonette Puleo and Stephanie Pepin, John Kowalski and Brian Robbins, Kevin Nguyen

8th Grade

Outstanding- Kristen Beierwaltes, Robby Martin and Danny Podkowa, Ryan Abens, Matthew Sachaj and Lince Thomas, Christian Racho and Jannard Remo, Thomas Carr and Joey Kalkowski, Dan Rankovic and Matthew Serafin, Nicky Mazur and Eryk Szymanski, Frank Caputo and Matthew Moser, Alexandra Kuechel, Jolene Drblik, Megan Jones and Caitlyn Weldon, Kevin Honeman and Jeff LaPelusa, Mikey Pizzo and Michael Zachacki, Joey Gattoma and Kyle Ledda

First Place – Jacqueline Ave Maria and Michele Perchess, Mark Lara and Steven Veselka, Ryan Swing, Nicky Pizzo and Thomas Zalewski, Adriana Montoya, Kristine Duffey, Veronica Esguerra and Jennie Suarez, Chris Vick

Second Place-Lorenzo Fiol and Daniel Fries, Mary Caravuna and Katie Garvey, Kerri Huber and Emily Svachula, Shaun Early and Leo Milano, Tommy Rueve
Third Place-Kaitlin Russell and Annie Wallenberg, Alisa Roman and Lisa Zarembski

Best in Grade

6th-Nathan Lane and Peter Velez
7th- Maggie Sobieraj and Geneva Toledano
8th-Jolene Drblik

Niles' Michael Piazza to study abroad

Valparaiso University student Michael Piazza of Niles spent the fall semester studying abroad in Germany.

VU's study abroad program in Reutlingen, Germany is in conjunction with the Fachhochschule für Technik und Wirtschaft. Students take available courses in German or European culture, history or economics. All classes are taught by a VU resident professor, as well as other German professors. On weekends, there are group trips to places such as Berlin, Prague and Munich.

Piazza is a junior. He is a marketing major.

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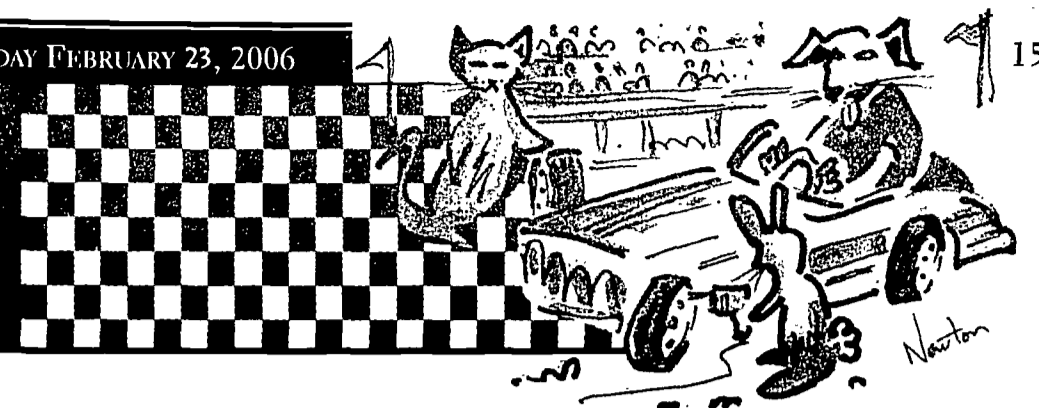
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the PET STOP



Morton Grove is Horse Heaven for many

Horse lovers enjoy Equestrian Center at Harms, Golf Roads

BY TRACY YOSHIDA GRUEN
STAFF WRITER

She says her love of horses must be in the genes.

Ever since she was a young girl, Sue Parkin, of Des Plaines, has been riding horses.

Today, she spends much of her time at the Glen Grove Equestrian Center on Harms Road in Morton Grove. Parkin checks people in for their horseback riding lessons, answers phones and of course, visits her own two horses, Joe and Dunkin.

Joe and Dunkin are both around 10 years old. Parkin has had Joe for about 4 years and Dunkin for two years. Parkin's two daughters, who are ages 20 and 16 share Parkin's love for horseback riding.

"I think it's in the genes," said Parkin.

Parkin's daughter visits the Equestrian Center about six times a week.

"It's a great way to teach responsibility," said Parkin. She



Hilary Parkin, right, stands with fellow rider Hope Caughron and Joe the Horse in the Equestrian Center on Golf and Harms in Morton Grove. The stables provide riding enthusiasts access to the horse-back riding trails of the Forest Preserves.

said that horseback riding is a great hobby, although a little on the expensive side. She said the

close location of the barn to her Des Plaines home is very convenient. When she was a girl,

her horse was kept in a barn in Barrington. Parkin said that many of the

high school/college students have developed friendships after

Story Continues...
see RIDERS next page.

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

We hope you're enjoying our Pet Stop Section. Gracie is our the Pet of the month this issue. If you think your pet is the most lovable, our next issue is March 23, 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

Good luck!

PET STOP

Points on Pets

Take Your Vet's advice about vaccinations

R. G. Elmore
Copley News Service

Q: Our veterinarian has recommended several vaccinations for our 8-week-old puppy. Most of the vaccinations are for diseases we have never heard of until now. And we don't know of any dogs who were sick or who have died because of these diseases. For example, our veterinarian highly recommended vaccination for canine distemper. We thought distemper has been eradicated. Is this disease still a problem in the United States? Are all of the vaccinations recommended by veterinarians still needed?

A: Fortunately, many of the diseases that were commonly diagnosed in the past are no longer commonly seen because of very effective vaccination programs. However, many of these diseases

are still a serious threat for unvaccinated animals. Rabies and distemper are examples of very serious canine diseases that have been very effectively prevented by vigilant well-planned vaccination programs.

Although very few dogs in the United States become sick or die due to distemper, the threat is still great, particularly in puppies between 3 months and 6 months of age. Canine distemper is spread by contact with nasal and ocular discharges, urine and feces. The virus causing distemper can be transmitted through the air. It is also important to know that wild carnivores can carry the disease. As more families move to rural areas to avoid the city, wildlife reservoirs that may carry diseases have become more of a concern.

Dogs suffering from distemper have a variety of signs: fevers, ocular and nasal discharges, weight loss, coughing, vomiting and diarrhea. Some dogs with distemper exhibit fits, which include twitching episodes and incoordination. Some of these dogs eventually become paralyzed. Canine distemper can also result in hard pad disease, where the pads of the feet harden and thicken.

Diagnosis of distemper is usually based on clinical signs and medical history, including lack of vaccination for the disease. The goal of treatment for canine distemper is to relieve the clinical signs. However, treatment is often unsuccessful once clinical signs are apparent.

Most veterinarians prescribe vaccination programs to prevent

pets from dealing with unnecessary suffering. You should follow your veterinarian's advice regarding vaccinations for your dog.

Q: We have treated our cat's ears several times during the last several weeks with an ear solution we bought at our grocery store. She still has dirty ears and shakes her head frequently. What should we do?

A: Take your cat to your veterinarian as soon as possible to get a diagnosis and recommendation for appropriate treatment. Your cat might have ear mites, a very common cause of ear infections in dogs and cats. Ear mites are very tiny eight-legged animals that feed on skin debris in the ear canal. The veterinarian will make a diagnosis by examining the ears through an otoscope or

looking at the ear debris through a microscope. Treatment usually involves multiple applications of an insecticide in an oily preparation.

You should know ear mites are very contagious and they are often passed back and forth between all of the household pets. Therefore, all of your pets are usually required to undergo treatment in order to break the cycle. Your veterinarian can give you additional advice regarding a complete wellness program for your cat.

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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RIDERS:

Morton Grove stable a horse riding Mecca

CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

spending much time at the center. The older students are called "Senior Barn Rats" and the younger are called "Junior Barn Rats." Parkin said it is nice knowing where her children are spending their time and that they are safe.

"It's a great way to spend the afternoon," said Parkin.

Parkin's love of animals does not stop at the Equestrian Center.

At home, she has a dog, three cats, two birds and fish—what she calls "kind of a zoo."

In addition to horseback riding lessons, the Equestrian Center also offers pony rides from April to October. Parkin said the pony rides are kind of unique because they go along a trail.

The center is home to 90 horses, including about 12 school horses. Many of the horses are privately owned. The center is located at the corner of Harms and Golf Rd.

Pet of the Month

Gracie - 'The Best Dog in the World'



Our dog deserves to be Pet of the Month because, as my kids say, "she's the best dog in the world." Gracie is a 7-month-old Toy Australian Shepherd. She will grow to about 12 lbs. and 12 inches tall. She loves her family, especially the children, Eric (9), Steven (6) and Sydney (6). She loves to run around with the kids, constantly trying to herd them. She is extremely smart. She's in her third dog training class, Advanced, and continues to graduate in the top of her class. She's learning obedience and tricks, like giving her paw and playing dead. She enjoys riding in the car, going for long hikes, and visiting the family farm. But her favorite activity is just being with her family.

-Stephanie Richter

To submit your pet for consideration as *The Bugle's* "Pet of the Month" send a photo and a description of why they should be selected to: *The Bugle*, 7400 N. Waukegan, Niles, IL 60714 attention "Pet of the Month."

SENIORS

Free tax assistance at the Niles Senior Center

Niles Senior News

NSC Highlights

For a detailed description of programs & activities or to ask about membership or registration 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. **MARCH REGISTRATIONS** Drop off Registrations are due at the Center on Friday, March 3. In-person Registrations begins 8:30AM on Wednesday, March 8th. **ATTENTION ILLINOIS CIRCUIT BREAKER PARTICIPANTS**

We have just been informed that Renewal Applications will not be mailed out this year. If you are currently enrolled with Circuit Breaker, please contact the Niles Senior Center for assistance in

reenrollment. Renewals may be made over the internet or by mail. New applicants MUST file a paper form. Income limitations apply. Call the Center for more information 847 588-8420.

CREATIVE CARD MAKING Thursdays ~ 9:30 to 11:30am ~ \$10.00/session

All supplies included! Doesn't it make you feel good to receive a card made especially for you? You too can make beautiful handmade cards (that look like it took hours to make) in minutes! In each weekly, 2 hour session, you will make 6 cards, using different techniques. It's simple and easy. New skills learned each week!

If you liked making valentines as a kid, you'll love this class!!

Join us on Thursdays, learn new techniques, and make handmade cards that can be used for any occasion. Take a break from your daily routine and let your creativity flow. All are welcome! Advanced registration is required. **SAFETY FOR THE HEARING IMPAIRED**

The Village of Niles urgently needs to know if you are a hearing

impaired Niles resident who uses a TTD—or if you know of some one who is. We want you to contact the Niles Senior Center so we can collect phone numbers of TTY users to improve the Village's ability to contact users during the event of an emergency (such as weather alerts).

We have been informed that when the Village sends out Reverse 911 alerts people using TTY's are unaware of the messages. By collecting phone numbers we will be able to contact hearing impaired residents through the Relay Center for the Deaf so the message can be delivered. Please contact Trudi Davis at 847 588-8420.

GRIEF WORKSHOP TO OFFER SUPPORT—BEGINS April 12

Niles Senior Center will hold a three-session grief workshop for Niles residents touched by the loss of a loved one. Participants may attend one, two, or all three workshops. The sessions will meet on Wednesdays from 1:30 – 3:00PM and will focus on the following areas:

Workshop #1- April 12 "What has

happened to me?" Trying to make sense of the many feelings you experience after the loss of a spouse or a loved one is a difficult process.

Workshop #2- April 19 "Dealing with expectations of ourselves and others." Dealing with other people's feelings and concerns can raise anxiety, especially if we feel people want us to "move on" or "be happy again."

Workshop #3- April 26 "On my own." At this workshop we will explore the stress of living alone and ways to adjust to new social roles and responsibilities. Please call Bev Wessels, MSW, LCSW, ACSW, or Melanie Amin, LCSW at 847 588-8420. Enrollment necessary. No cost

FREE TAX ASSISTANCE at the Center

Beginning February 1st, Niles Senior Center AARP Tax-Aide Counselors will provide FREE personal income tax assistance to qualified seniors in accordance with the guidelines established between the IRS and the AARP Foundation. All Tax-Aide

Counselors are certified by the IRS. To schedule your tax appointment, call the Tax Appointment desk 847 588-8440 Monday thru Thursday, between the hours of 9:30AM and 3:00PM. If you have any questions regarding this program, please contact MaryAnn at 847 588-8440.



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MaineStreamers Offer Spring Programs and Trips

Maine Township Senior News

The Maine Township MaineStreamers program offers a variety of opportunities for residents 55 and older. Membership is free and includes a subscription to the monthly newsletter that details all activities for the upcoming month. All activities take place at Maine Township Town Hall, 1700 Ballard Rd., Park Ridge, unless otherwise noted. For further information on membership or programs, call MaineStreamers at 1-847-297-2510.

INTRODUCTION TO THE INTERNET Mondays, March 13 to April 24 (no class March 27) 6 sessions - 3:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. Gemini Jr. High School Library 8955 N. Greenwood, Niles Instructor: Kelly Rapaport Cost: \$20.

Make your entry into the computer world in this introductory hands-on class. Trips on the Internet will be taken with valu-

able information. Learn how to do searches and create bookmarks to keep track of your subjects. This practical hands-on course is what you need to surf the Web. Sponsored by the East Maine School District 63-Total Learning Community Program in partnership with the Maine Township MaineStreamers.

"A ST. PATRICK'S DAY" LUNCHEON Wednesday, March 15 Doors Open: 11 a.m. Lunch served: 12 noon Crystal Palace, 2648 Dempster, P.R.

\$13 members/\$14 guests + \$1 fish
Enjoy a traditional St. Patty's Day lunch starting with a Tossed Salad, Corned Beef and Cabbage, Boiled Potatoes with Butter Pecan Ice Cream for Dessert!

Today, Mr. Taps will take you for a thrilling review of Tap Dance, from Broadway Musicals... Broadway to the days of Rock and Roll. From the jumps of Bojangles to

Story Continues... see MT SENIORS next page.



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SENIORS

Debbie Reynolds in Concert at Drury Lane with Morton Grove

Morton Grove
Senior NewsDEBBIE REYNOLDS IN CON-
CERT

She may be best known as a film star, but Debbie is first and foremost an entertainer, having graced theatres all around the world in stage plays and her famous nightclub act, which continues to tour every year. "Debbie Onstage" touches some of the highlights of her time in the spotlight as there will be medleys of some of her favorite songs, movie clips and bloopers, plus lots of costume changes. Seniors are welcome to join the audience who will be attending from the Morton Grove Senior Center, traveling at 10:30 a.m. on Friday, March 3 to Drury Lane Theatre in Oakbrook Terrace. The cost for the show, delicious luncheon and transportation is \$81 for Morton Grove Senior Center Members and \$93 for non-members. Please register in-person today at the Senior Center.

INTERNET WORKSHOP

Develop the tools needed to overcome frustrations about the Internet in this fun and challenging workshop from 8:30 to 10 a.m. on Saturday, March 4 in the Morton Grove Senior Center. Instructor, RJ Bruno will direct students in the tools need to glide through the information highway. The cost is \$8 and the pre-requisite is a basic knowledge of computer skills. Register in-person at the Senior Center.

DOWNSIZING? THOUGHTS
OF MOVING? ESTATE SALES?

Moving or thinking of moving can be tense and overwhelming. Even thinking about downsizing from a two or three bedroom house to a smaller condo may produce anxiety. Questions of what to bring, what to give away, what to

sell, or even what to toss in the garbage, often arise. Join Mary Lou Allen of Caldwell Bank at 1:15 p.m. on Monday, March 6 in the Morton Grove Senior Center as she leads this insightful, free discussion. Also, a representative from the Breakers at Lincolnwood Place will be on hand to answer questions, debunk myths and provide information on retirement communities. These sponsors will also provide delicious desserts. Register by calling the Morton Grove Senior Center at 847/470-5223.

AARP MATURE DRIVING
PROGRAM

AARP's "Mature Driving Program" formerly known as "55 Alive" is an eight-hour two-day course for older motorists. It focuses on the physical changes that accompany aging and on ways drivers can compensate for these changes in improving their driving skills. Additionally, drivers will find that by completing this course they can receive a discount on a portion of their automobile insurance. Courses are now offered monthly in Morton Grove with the next course times from 12 noon to 4 p.m. on Tuesday, March 7 and Thursday, March 9 in the Prairie View Community Center; and from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturdays, April 8 and 15 at the Morton Grove Senior Center. The cost of the course is \$10. Call the Morton Grove Senior Hot Line at 847/470-5223 to sign up.

ALDEN ESTATES OF
EVANSTON

Enjoy a freshly prepared lunch at, and tour Alden Estates of Evanston located on the Evanston/Skokie border, plus play a fun and exciting game of Whom with Alden's residents on Tuesday, March 14. The cost for this trip is a can or box of non-perishable food to benefit Morton Grove's local food pantry. The bus will leave the Morton Grove Senior Center at 9 a.m. and return at 1

p.m. Please register early by calling the Senior Center at 847/470-5223.

BLOOD PRESSURE SCREEN-
ING

Periodic blood pressure measurement is helpful in determining if health is threatened by high blood pressure (hypertension). Hypertension is a contributor toward strokes, heart disease and kidney failure. Unfortunately, hypertension usually has no symptoms so a person can feel great and not know they have it. Free screenings are offered from 9 to 11 a.m. on Tuesday, March 14 in the Morton Grove Senior Center.

MORTON GROVE ADVISORY
COMMISSION ON AGING

The Morton Grove Advisory Commission on Aging will hold its next monthly meeting at 1 p.m. on Tuesday, March 14 in the Morton Grove Senior Center. The Commission provides an arena for discussion and planning of services and programs to benefit Morton Grove's senior citizen population. All interested residents are welcome to attend.

SOUTHSIDE IRISH TOUR

Chicago has a strong connection to Ireland and many neighborhoods have a distinct Irish flavor, which seniors from the Morton Grove Senior Center will taste on Wednesday, March 15. On this tour, travelers will: visit the I&M Museum and Lock #1 to witness the accomplishments of Irish immigrant workers, shop at an Irish bakery and deli for fresh soda bread, candy, cheese, and other Irish gifts, have a corned beef and cabbage plus potato of the day, dessert and coffee lunch at the Gaelic Park Carraig Irish Pub, have a docent led tour of the Irish Cultural Center, and visit a historic church founded by Irish workers in the 1830's, which is on the National Register of Historic Places. The bus will depart from the

Senior Center at 9 a.m. and return at 3 p.m. The cost is just \$70 for Senior Center Members and \$81 for non-members. There are only a few spots remaining for this trip so register in-person at the Senior Center.

MAMELAH!

Direct from New York City, this hilarious and heartfelt off-Broadway musical about lifelong friendship is a living scrapbook of special memorials for both men and women. It takes the audience down their personal "memory lanes" with stops in the Catskills, the beaches of Boca Raton, and the nostalgic streets of the Bronx. to name a few. Audiences everywhere have asked, "How did someone know to write a musical about my life?" The bus will depart from the Morton Grove Senior Center at 1:15 p.m. on Wednesday, March 29 for Centre East in Skokie and return at 4:30 p.m. The cost for the show and transportation is \$42 for Senior Center Members and \$48.50 for non-members. "Mamalah! Something truly special" - The Miami Herald. "Mamalah! is sweet...warm and willing...displays uninhibited humor" - The New York Times. Please register for this trip in-person at the Morton Grove Senior Center.

INCOME TAX RETURNS

Free assistance for local seniors age 60+ with their State and Federal Income Tax Returns is available by appointment any Monday, Wednesday and Friday morning at in the Morton Grove Senior Center. Seniors who have low or moderate incomes that can be reported on basic IRS forms are welcome to call the Morton Grove Senior Hot Line at 847/470-5223 for a personal and confidential appointment. Taxpayers should bring in the W-2, Social Security (SSA-1099), 1098 and 1099 forms they receive in the mail along with a copy of their 2004 tax returns.

POSTAL CARRIER WATCH

U.S. postal carriers in Morton Grove provide a watch service of the homes of disabled or senior citizen residents. Since the carriers are regular visitors to each home, they can maintain surveillance of any mail accumulation in the mailbox. For information about applying for the Postal Carrier Watch program call the Morton Grove Senior Hot Line at 847/470-5223.

For more information about senior services and activities, call the Morton Grove Senior Hot Line at 847/470-5223. Membership in the Morton Grove Senior Center provides the benefits: six issues of the Seniors in Morton Grove newsletter; three issues of the Travelin' Times newsletter; free Diabetes Screening; free passage on the Seniortran (for residents); free Computer usage in the Senior Center Library; 15% discount on trips and classes; an annual members-only party; and a photo I.D. card. Membership registrations are accepted any weekday morning between 9 a.m. and 12 noon at the Senior Center, 6140 Dempster Street. The membership fee is \$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.

Senior Citizens

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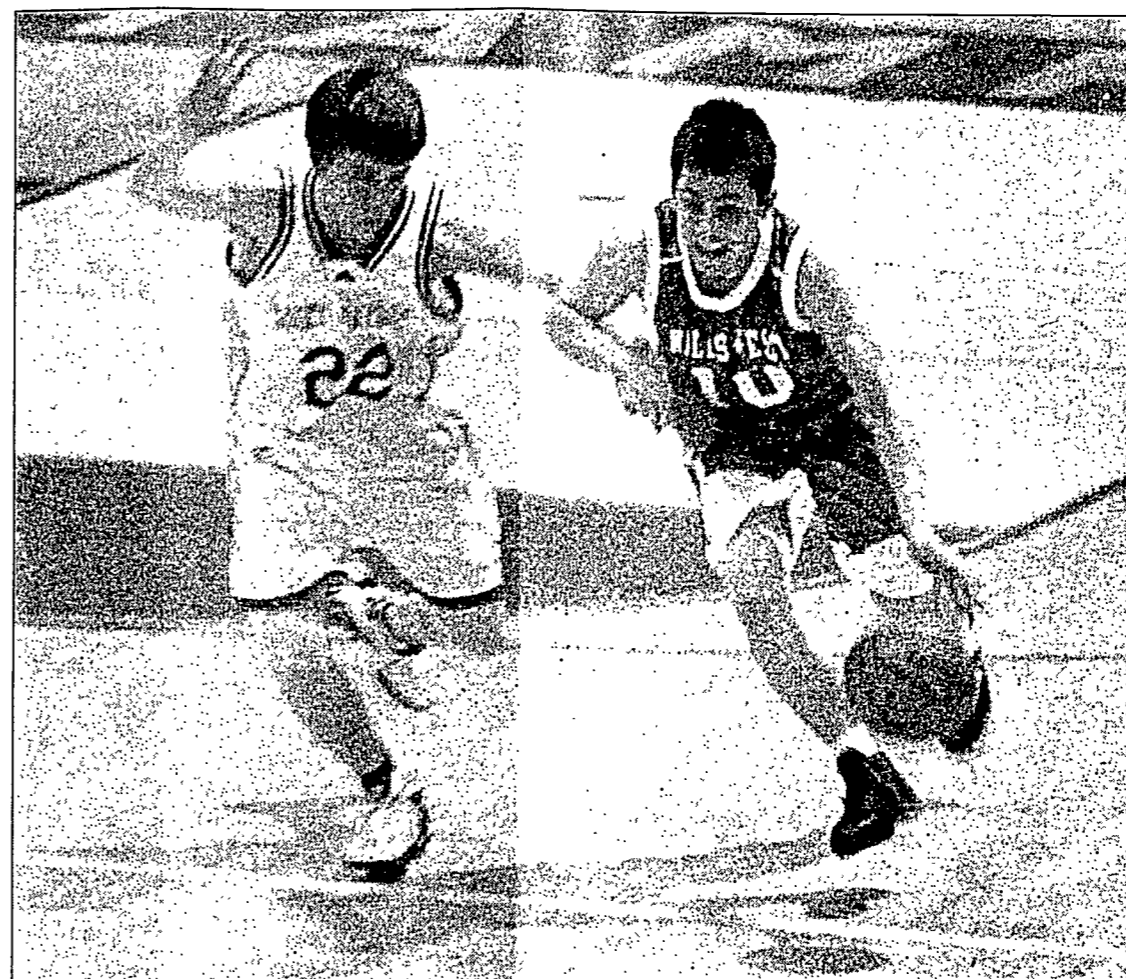
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SPORTS

Niles West loses to St. Patrick 65-41



Dennis McKinney (#10) dribbles by Shamrock defender Adrew Zagozdon (#22).

Senior Forward
Victor Colon out
with a fever

BY ALI BHANPURI
SPORTS CONTRIBUTOR

Senior Victor Colon has been the heart and soul of the Niles West basketball team this season. Teams have battled to stop him, but very few have succeeded.

“With Victor out we obviously had to change our entire game plan.”

Josh Grant
Niles West Coach

ed in taming the Massachusetts Lowell-bound forward.

Fortunately for the St. Patrick Shamrocks (19-5), they had no need to worry about Colon last Saturday night, since a bad fever left him out of the lineup.

The visiting Wolves (6-16) struggled without Colon, managing only five first-quarter points en route to a 65-41 loss. Despite the end result, West coach Josh Grant was proud of the way his team played without Colon.

“With Victor out we obviously had to change our entire game plan. I think we played hard and the best we possibly could tonight,” Grant said.

With many juniors and underclassmen on the court for the Wolves, the inexperience was clearly visible. The young squad had a tough time taking care of the ball, rushing passes and taking ill-advised shots, which led to fast break points for the Shamrocks.

“I wanted to get some of the younger guys some experience,” said Grant. “You can’t expect more than what your players are capable of doing. I’m proud of them.”

After falling behind 18-7 at the end of the first quarter, the Wolves fired six straight points to bring the Shamrock lead down to seven. Senior Lance Williams sliced to the basket twice for lay-ins, scoring 6 of his 12 points in the second quarter. However, after the quick scoring spurt, the Wolves’ offense was silenced for nearly three minutes before making another basket.

The game worsened in the

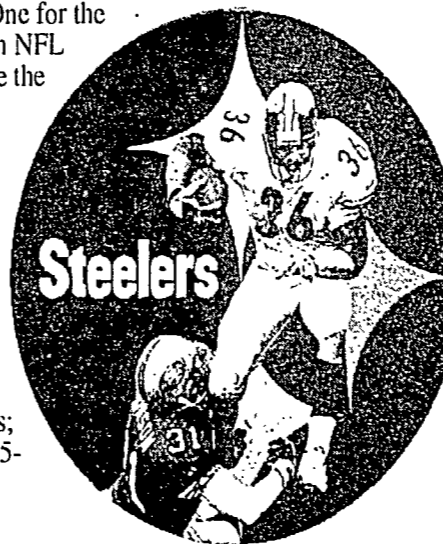
Story Continues...

see NILES WEST LOSS next

SPORTS FACT

Coach Bill Cowher's Steelers win
'One for the Thumb'

On Feb. 5, the Pittsburgh Steelers joined the National Football League elite by defeating the Seattle Seahawks 21-10 in Super Bowl XL at Detroit's Ford Field. In so doing, the Steelers raised their fifth Lombard Trophy in six tries, which tied them with the Dallas Cowboys and the San Francisco 49ers for most Super Bowl victories. The triumph came as great relief for Pittsburgh fans, who had been seeking the "One for the Thumb," an elusive fifth NFL championship ring, since the Steelers won their last league title 25 years before in Super Bowl XIV, a 31-19 win over the Los Angeles Rams. The Steelers' other three victories came in Super Bowl IX, 16-6 over the Minnesota Vikings; Super Bowl X, 21-17 over the Dallas Cowboys; and Super Bowl XIII, 35-31 over the Cowboys.

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S BOWLING LEAGUE
Bowled Wednesday, February 8, 2006

	Points Won	Points Lost
Bielinski and Bono Dental	36	13
Skaja Terrace Funeral Home	27	22
Niles Dairy Queen	23	26
Candlelight Jewelers	23	26
Classic Bowl	21	28
NorthSide Community Bank	17	32

High Series/High Games

Kay Pecoraro	506/233
Janet Trozzo	485/182
Mary Wasilewski	454/161
Jan Repel	451/164
Mary Johnson	186
Linda Fahey	185
Lois MacAdam	175

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MT SENIORS:

See the
'Smothers
Brothers'

CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

the fancy footwork of Gregory Hines. He will surely entertain us. Reservations and cancellations must be received by Wednesday, March 8th.

Day Trip
The following Day Trips are

currently on sale. In order to sign up for a Day Trip you must first sign up to be a member and then a reservation form will be sent to you. To become a member call the MainStreamers at 1-847-297-2510 and ask for an application. All Day Trip departs from the State of Illinois Building, 9511 Harrison St. in Des Plaines.

"SMOTHERS BROTHERS"
TRIP

The Paramount Theatre, Aurora Saturday, April 22
4 p.m. to 11 p.m.
Cost: \$67 members/\$72 guests

For one night only, The Smothers Brothers bring their

intuitive humor, natural warmth and superlative showmanship to the stage. With more than 46 years in show business, their singular blend of comedic genius and musical talents have proved to be an American classic. You will enjoy Tom and Dick Smothers in your main floor seats.

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SPORTS

Notre Dame Dons defeat St. Viator in 52-48 squeaker

BY ALI BHANPURI
SPORTS CONTRIBUTOR

It was a tough shooting night for senior John Johann and junior Bob Flood, who hit a combined 3-of-11 from the field. Although their 27 percent field-goal percentage may have been uncharacteristic, their free-throw shooting was as good as always, as the two Dons led Notre Dame (11-13, 5-7) to a 52-48 victory over St. Viator last Friday night.

In the final minute of the game, Flood and Johann hit 7-of-8 free throws to fight off a pressing lion comeback. The teammates have shot extremely well from the line, making Notre Dame coach Dennis Zelasko more than confident late in games.

"Once we get into a free-throw shooting game, I feel very confi-

dent with my team. Of course we'd like to keep the ball in John's and Bob's hands, but I think the entire team shoots free throws well," Zelasko said.

The Dons pulled out every defense in their repertoire against the Lions, showing their East Suburban Catholic rivals new looks to keep them unbalanced. Zelasko featured a 1-2-2, a 1-3-1 and a box-and-1 defense during the game, to stop what he feels has historically been "one of the better half-court offenses in the conference."

The Don defense was supplemented by superb perimeter shooting. In the first half, Notre Dame shot 7-of-10 from being the arch, tallying 21 of their 25 points from three-pointers. Senior Stephen Hughes and Johann both hit a pair from long distance, helping the Dons to build a lead. Hughes fin-

ished with 13 points on 5-of-10 shooting and Johann finished with 10.

After leading by as much as fifteen in the third quarter, the Lions began to slowly chip away at the Dons' lead, hitting a number of three-point baskets. After the Lions scored to bring the deficit to only six, junior Mudiaga Eruteya took matters into his own hands. Eruteya maneuvered past his defender, cut through the lane and connected on a floater to put the Dons up 46-38. From there, it was lights out from the free-throw line

that helped the Dons to victory.

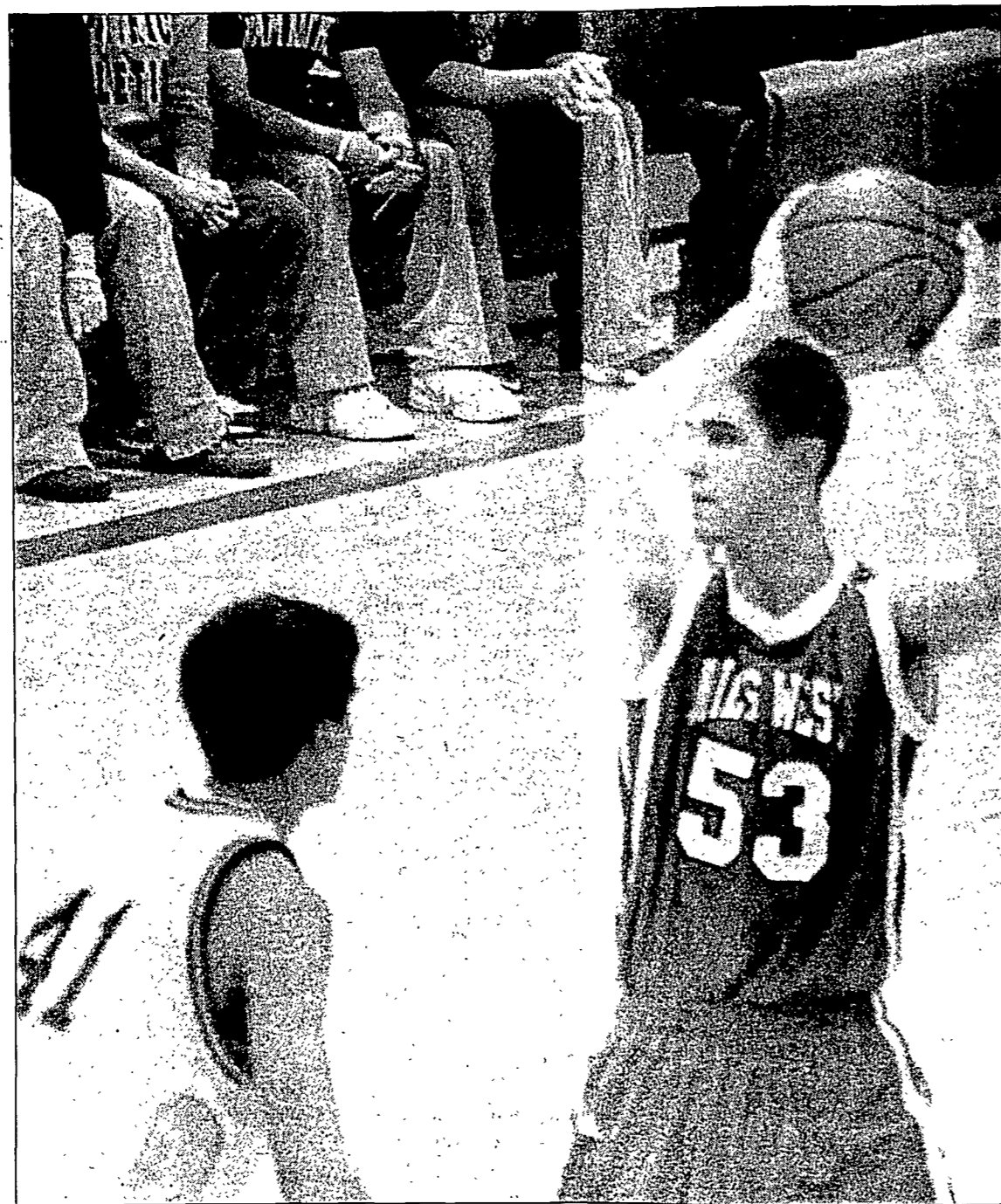
The Dons had lost their two games prior to Friday night's win over St. Viator. According to Zelasko, his team plays much better after a week's rest.

"We're a team that's tough to figure out. We lost two tough games last weekend and I think the week-off helped the guys to focus," Zelasko said. "They do a great job listening to what we want and I think the team responds well to adversity."

St. Viator guard Anthony Bono was the game's leading scorer with

20 points on 50-percent shooting. Junior Mike O'keeffe knocked down 16 points, and combined with Bono, the two scored more than half of the team's total.

Notre Dame (7th seed) faces Niles West (12th seed) at the Loyola Regional Semifinal on Wednesday, March 1. Zelasko said that Niles West's Victor Colon could be "the best player in their conference" and is looking forward to the match-up. The Dons finish up their regular season tomorrow night against St. Josephs.



#53 Frank Theodorakakis looks for a teammate during the Wolves loss last Saturday.

NILES WEST LOSS: Grant proud of team

CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

second half for the Wolves, who were down 22 points by the halfway mark of the third quarter. Williams and company were

able to put the Shamrocks in the bonus in the third quarter, leading to 5 points from the free-throw line.

One of the better plays for the Wolves came from Allen Williams, a junior transfer from Evanston. The 6-foot-1 F blocked a dunk attempt by 6-foot-7 Edmond O'Callaghan in the third quarter. Another bright spot was freshman F Nik Garcia,

who scored 10 points for the Wolves on 4-of-7 shooting from the field.

The Wolves (12th seed) will face Notre Dame in the Loyola Regional Semifinal. According to Grant, the Dons (7th seed) play a very similar style of basketball as the Shamrocks, shooting extremely well from the perimeter. The game will take place on Wednesday, March 1.

Oakton Raiders Round-Up

Week of Feb. 21, 2006

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL (13-13 Overall, 7-5 Skyway Conference)

Receiving Honors: Sophomore Darcy Leslie is now the second all-time leading scorer in Oakton women's basketball history. The five-foot-six-inch forward scored 16 points on Feb. 14 against Moraine Valley College, giving her 825 points in her Oakton career. Natalia Jedlinska (1999-2001) is Oakton's all-time leading women's scorer with 888 points.

Leslie also was named NJCAA Region IV Division III Player of the Week on Feb. 13. She guided the Lady Raiders to a 2-0 record the previous week averaging 18.0 points, 11 rebounds, and 4.5 assists per game.

MEN'S BASKETBALL (15-13 Overall, 9-3 Skyway Conference)

Lopsided: Oakton posted its most lopsided win of the season Thursday, Feb. 16, defeating Prairie State by 54 points, 89-35. The Raiders' next game is 5:15 p.m., Tuesday, Feb. 21 at home against Morton College.

ON THE AIR

Trio Video, a Chicago-based mobile television production company, will tape both the Oakton men's and women's final home basketball games on Tuesday, Feb. 21. The contests will later be broadcast on local cable channels. This experience will allow Trio Video employees to hone their sports broadcasting skills.

The men's game will first air at 9:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 22 and will be repeated at 9 a.m., 4 p.m., and 9 p.m. on Saturday, March 4 and Sunday, March 5. The women's Feb. 21 game will first be broadcast on Thursday, Feb. 23 at 9:30 p.m. and will be shown again at 9 a.m., 4 p.m., and 9 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 25 and Sunday, Feb. 26.

Games will air on Channel 14 or 15 in Des Plaines; Channel 15 in Park Ridge; Channel 15 in Skokie; and Channel 24 in Glenview.

For more information, contact Steve Repsys, College Advancement, 847-635-1810, repsys@oakton.edu, or visit www.oakton.edu/resource/athletics.

LIFE

PERFECT PAIRINGS

In Jody Adams' hands, cod and varietal white wine spring to life

RON JAMES
Copley News Service

Although Jody Adams was exposed to great European cooking by her mother at a young age, the thought of being a chef never much entered her mind. She instead opted to get a degree in anthropology from Brown University.

Finding the job market for anthropologists a bit lean, she took a part-time job to help Nancy Verde Barr research her cookbook on Italian immigrant cooking, "We Called It Macaroni" (Knopf, \$18.95). Barr, a writer and teacher who collaborated with Julia Child and was for a time her executive chef, inspired Adams to pursue a culinary career.

Adams paid her culinary dues working for some of Boston's best restaurants and greatest chefs. In 1983 she began as a line cook at Seasons restaurant under acclaimed chef Lydia Shire. Quickly climbing the ladder she became sous chef for the new Hamersley's Bistro with chef Gordon Hamersley, a James Beard Award winner. Adams' first executive chef position was at Michela's in Cambridge where she developed a reputation for combining New England ingredients with Italian cuisine.

Adams opened her first restaurant, Rialto, in 1994 with partners Michela Larson and Karen Haskell. She expanded her culinary horizons by adding French, Spanish and eastern Mediterranean cuisine to her repertoire. In no time, the rave reviews came fast and furious - The Boston Globe awarded Rialto four stars just four months after its doors opened.

"Eating Jody Adams' food at the stunning new Rialto," the

Globe gushed, "is like stepping into a winter greenhouse just at the moment a spectacular hot-house orchid bursts into bloom, filling the senses."

Adams and her husband, Ken Rivard, penned their first cookbook, "In the Hands of a Chef: Cooking with Jody Adams of Rialto Restaurant" (William Morrow, \$34.95). And since opening Rialto, she has been showered with honors including "Best Chef in Boston" by Boston Magazine 1997; "one of America's 10 best new chefs" by Bon Appetit in 1996; "Culinary Professional of the Year" by Sante Magazine in 2004; and the much coveted James Beard Award for "Best Chef: Northeast" in 1997. In 2000, Nation's Restaurant News inducted Adams and Rialto into its Fine Dining Hall of Fame.

THE DISH

"This recipe really represents my style of cooking," says Adams. Fresh and Salt Cod Wrapped In Pancetta With Wilted Greens is her twist on classic Italian recipes that match greens and the cured meat with either cod or dried cod but not, as in this case, both.

"Early in my career, I came up with the idea of creating a pocket of salt cod inside a piece of fresh cod and then giving each a portion a 'belt' of crisp pancetta to hold it together. I come back to it again and again because of the contrasting textures and flavors, and because it makes me feel good."

Salt cod has many names, including baccala, bacalao, bacalhau or morue, depending upon the cuisine and country. Most Americans are not familiar with it and wouldn't know what to do

with it if they had it. It's the fish equivalent of smoked meats like ham and beef. Its popularity in European countries has continued even though it has outlasted its original need as a way of preserv-

comes to bacon," says Adams. "When sauteing the cod bundles, the pancetta wrapping should



ing fish.

Chefs like it because as a result of the process it takes on an appealing texture and flavor not found in fresh and frozen fish. You can find salt cod in specialty Italian markets or online at the Vermont Country Store, www.vermontcountrystore.com. It's fairly expensive by the pound, but it almost doubles in weight after soaking and even then a little goes a long way in this dish.

Pancetta is used to bind the two cods. It is sometimes called "Italian bacon," but Adams says that is misleading.

"Pancetta is hung and cured in a process similar to that of prosciutto, and it can be consumed in its uncooked state - an adventure most cooks would forgo when it

only be partially crisp and still fairly pink when finished. Don't treat it like bacon - you'll only sacrifice the pancetta's rich texture, as well as overcook the fish."

THE WINE

We've matched a Willamette Valley 2004 Ponzi Arneis white wine to go with Adams' signature dish. The wine's crisp acidic backbone and fruitiness contrasts well with the savory saltiness of the pancetta and greens. The delicate nature of the wine compliments and doesn't overwhelm the fish.

This rare varietal was imported to the Oregon wine country from the Piedmont region in northern Italy.

Ron James welcomes comments and suggestions. E-mail him at ronjames@perfectpairings.us. Listen to his "Gourmet Club" radio show and see archives of previous columns at www.perfectpairings.us.

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greens. Season with salt and pepper. Cook, stirring, about 1 minute, until just wilted. Transfer the greens to 4 warm plates.

Add water and lemon juice to the saute pan and bring to a boil. Remove from heat and whisk in butter, 1 tablespoon at a time. Whisk in capers and any juices that have accumulated on the fish platter, and season to taste with salt and pepper.

Transfer fish to serving plates. Spoon sauce over fish and garnish each with a lemon wedge. Serve immediately.

- From "In the Hands of a Chef: Cooking with Jody Adams of Rialto Restaurant" (William Morrow, \$34.95).

LIFE

THE ALERT CONSUMER

Most consumers need help deciphering food label lingo

PAM ADAMS
Copley News Service

Read food labels and you'll find choices similar to a good library.

Mysteries: Why isn't good-to-you ever the same as good-for-you? Dramatic mysteries: What are trans fatty acids, and did U.N. weapons inspectors ever find them? Comedic mysteries: Who would've thought a package of M&M's with peanuts actually provides important nutrients like calcium and iron?

OK, it's only a tiny percentage of the recommended daily allowance of calcium and iron for a moderately active woman - or a fairly sedentary man - who eats 2,000 calories a day. But that's not the point. M&M's are low in sodium and pretty low in cholesterol, according to the fine print under "nutrition facts" on the back of the bag. Actually, the larger point here is that reading the nutrition facts label on food packaging can be confusing, but that's no reason to close the book. With a little help from Golda Ewalt, a registered dietitian at OSF Saint Francis Medical Center in Illinois, and Marjorie LaFont, registered dietitian and educator at the University of Illinois Extension Expanded Food and Nutrition Program, here's a guide to help solve one of the mysteries of good eating habits: what the gobbledygook on the nutrition facts label means.

FAT
With as many as four different kinds of fat, including the new federally required listing for trans fat, this can get confusing. Not all fats are created equal. Monounsaturated and polyunsaturated fats are the best choices, in moderation. But they've still got calories, and nutritionists say only 20 percent to 35 percent of your daily calorie intake should come from fats.

Saturated and trans fats are another story. The less, the better. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration and American Heart Association recommend no more than 10 percent of daily fat calories should come from saturated fats.

But here's the tricky part, says LaFont. In FDA lingo, "zero grams of trans fat" listed on the label can actually mean up to half a gram of trans fat per serving. "The manufacturers have figured it out, so some are changing their sizes so they can say a serving has less than half a gram," she says.

To be sure, go to the list of ingredients. "If it has hydrogenated oil or partially hydrogenated oil listed, then it has trans fatty acids."

PROTEIN

In general, 68 grams of protein a day is plenty for the average 150-pound person. That's slightly less than half a gram per pound, and most Americans get enough without trying.

VITAMINS AND MINERALS

Don't get too bogged down here, Ewalt says. Chances are, the average American diet isn't deficient.

INGREDIENTS

The product's ingredients must be listed in order of quantity, from most to least amounts. As for those oddly named chemical-sounding substances? Most of them are preservatives, and some of them even have health benefits. But just when you're about to solve the mystery of reading food labels, food manufacturers have been known to throw in a final plot twist. Take cereal food labels, for instance. LaFont says beware of packages that list three or four different types of sugar. Sometimes manufacturers list each sugar separately so they won't have to list sugar first, as the main ingredient.

SERVING SIZE

The roots, the foundation of the nutrition facts label. Ignore it and risk blowing up because the rest of the label's facts - total calories, total fat, etc. - are calculated based on serving size. Ewalt likes to point out that the label on a 20-ounce bottle of soda may say it contains 150 calories per serving. But 20 ounces of soda equals 2 1/2 servings, and who splits the bottle into servings? Drink the whole thing and you're taking in 375 calories. If you're serious, measure the amount of a single serving as listed on the package. See what a serving looks like.

GOODNESS CORNER



Nutrition Facts

Serving Size 1 cup (30g)
Servings Per Container About 10

Amount Per Serving	Berry Burst	with 1/2 cup skim milk
Calories	110	150
Calories from Fat	15	15
	% Daily Value**	
Total Fat 1.5g*	2%	3%
Saturated fat 0g	0%	0%
Trans Fat 0g		
Polyunsaturated Fat 0.5g		
Monounsaturated Fat 0.5g		
Cholesterol 0mg	0%	1%
Sodium 180mg	8%	10%
Potassium 100mg	3%	8%
Total Carbohydrate 24g	8%	10%
Dietary Fiber 2g	10%	10%
Soluble Fiber less than 1g		
Sugars 11g		
Other Carbohydrate 11g		
Protein 3g		
Vitamin A	15%	20%
Vitamin C	35%	40%
Calcium	10%	25%
Iron	60%	60%
Vitamin D	15%	30%
Thiamin	50%	50%
Fiboflav	35%	45%
Niacin	35%	35%
Vitamin B6	35%	35%
Folic Acid	70%	70%
Vitamin B12	50%	60%
Zinc	35%	40%

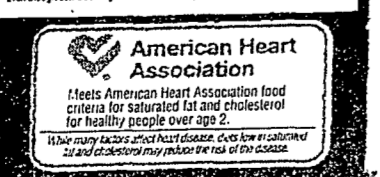
* Amount in cereal. A serving of cereal plus skim milk provides 15g total fat, 240mg sodium, 300mg potassium, 30g total carbohydrate, 7g sugars and 7g protein.
** Percent Daily Values are based on a 5,000 calorie diet. Your daily values may be higher or lower depending on your calorie needs.

	Calories	2,000	2,500
Total Fat	Less than	65g	80g
Sat Fat	Less than	20g	25g
Cholesterol	Less than	200mg	300mg
Sodium	Less than	2,400mg	3,000mg
Potassium	Less than	3,500mg	4,500mg
Total Carbohydrate	Less than	300g	375g
Dietary Fiber	Less than	25g	30g

INGREDIENTS: WHOLE GRAIN OATS, SUGAR, OAT BRAN, MODIFIED CORN STARCH, CORN SYRUP, FREEZE DRIED BLUEBERRIES, FREEZE DRIED STRAWBERRIES, SLAT, CALCIUM CARBONATE, FREEZE DRIED RASPBERRIES, TRISODIUM PHOSPHATE, VITAMIN C (SODIUM ASCORBATE), IRON AND ZINC (MINERAL NUTRIENTS), A & B VITAMIN (NIAINAMIDE), VITAMIN B1 (THIAMINE MONONITRATE), VITAMIN B6 (PYRIDOXINE HYDROCHLORIDE), ANIATTO EXTRACT COLOR, VITAMIN B2 (RIBOFLAVIN), VITAMIN A (PALMITATE), A & B VITAMIN (FOLIC ACID), NATURAL FLAVOR, VITAMIN B12, VITAMIN D, WHEAT FLOUR, VITAMIN E (MIXED TOCOPHEROLS) ADDED TO PRESERVE FRESHNESS. CONTAINS WHEAT INGREDIENTS.

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This package is sold by weight, not by volume. You can be assured of proper weight
then. Every ounce of cereal is carefully measured and weighed to ensure accuracy.



When you're eating a diet that is low in saturated fat and cholesterol, you may notice the need for this package.

CALORIES

People are always interested in calories, says LaFont, but it's important to pay attention to fats, sugars and fibers.

Calories measure how much energy we get from a particular food. For instance, 3,500 calories equals 1 pound of body weight, meaning if you eat 3,500 extra calories, say, over seven days, you'll gain a pound. That's why nutritionists say if you reduce food intake by 500 calories a day, you should lose a pound in a week.

PERCENT OF DAILY VALUE

Guess what. The percentages under this listing are calculated for a moderately active woman, or a fairly sedentary man, who eats 2,000 calories a day. (Highly active women, moderately active men and growing 'teen' boys need closer to 2,500 calories a day.)

The "DV" percentage helps determine if a serving is high or low in a particular nutrient. A listing of "5 DV" is low and "20 DV" is high, according to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

The "DV" almost makes it easy to make comparisons between brands and products. Just make sure you're comparing similar serving sizes. Using the "DV," you can also easily compare claims, such as "reduced fat," "light" or "nonfat." Just compare the "DVs" for total fat in each product.

Note that trans fat, sugars and proteins do not list a "DV." For trans fats and sugars, that's a sure clue about their low importance in the overall diet. For proteins, a "DV" is only required to be listed if an advertising claim is made about protein, such as "high in protein."

CHOLESTEROL

Only animal products are going to have cholesterol. Adults should limit daily intake to 300 milligrams a day or less.

SODIUM

A food is low in sodium if it contains no more than 140 milligrams a serving. And the average person should consume fewer than 2,300 milligrams daily.

That means cut back on the processed convenience and packaged foods. A single serving of canned soup or a frozen dinner can eat up nearly half the daily limit easily. And beware of condiments.

TOTAL CARBOHYDRATES

A large category that includes everything from whole grains (healthy carbs) to sugars and refined carbs (unhealthy white flours). Nutritionists say studying the sugar and fiber content is most helpful.

"The more fiber, the better," Ewalt says. The average adult should eat between 21 and 35 grams of fiber daily.

SUGARS

Though added sugars supply little nutritional value, they show up in the most surprising places. You expect to find them in M&M's, but pasta sauces and salad dressings? They're often added to foods that claim to be fat-free.

Don't confuse foods with naturally occurring sugars, like those in fruit and milk, to added sugars. For instance, a container of plain yogurt may list 10 grams of sugar, while a same-sized container of fruit yogurt has 44 grams.

Once again, to be sure, go to the list of ingredients. The plain yogurt probably doesn't have added sugars, while the fruit yogurt probably lists corn syrup, high-fructose corn syrup, fruit juice concentrate, maltose, dextrose, sucrose, honey, brown sugar or maple syrup. As for the possibility of any other added sugars, remember "ose" at the end means sugar.

Additional source: Real Simple magazine, October issue.

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By J.R. Rose-Copley News Service

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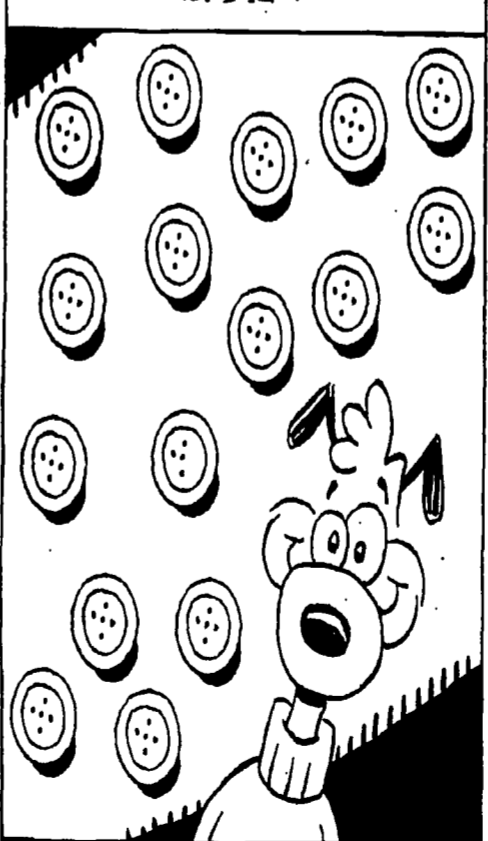
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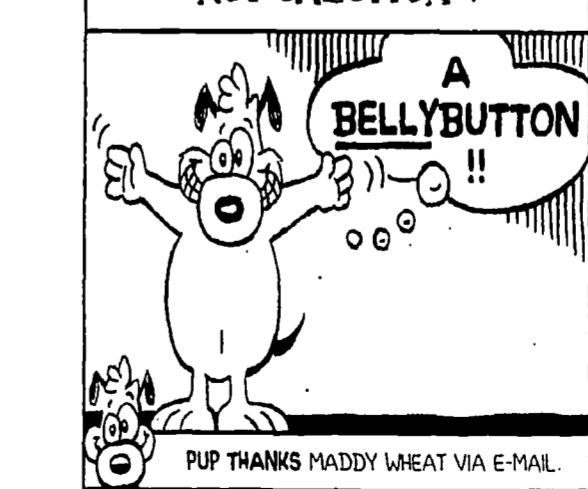
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WHAT KIND OF BUTTON WILL NOT UNBUTTON?



PUP THANKS MADDY WHEAT VIA E-MAIL.

Grammar Matters

by Patty Gibbons Saulnier

Lend or Loan?

Below are sentences using the words **lend** and **loan**. Decide which are written correctly.

1. Ask the neighbor if he will **loan** you his ladder. *Correct or incorrect?*
2. We have an appointment to see if the bank will **lend** us more money. *Correct or incorrect?*
3. Ben, can you **loan** me a few bucks until payday? *Correct or incorrect?*

Answers: 1. *Incorrect. It should be "lend."* 2. *Correct.* 3. *Incorrect. Use "lend."*

Copley News Service

Nature Newswatch®

Mom's fur-lined purse



The opossum is the only marsupial on the continent, making it kin with kangaroos, wallabies, and other pouched peculiarities. Inside the fur-lined pouch, mother opossum may raise up to 13 young at a

time, all with their own personal fountain of life.

Starting this time of year, a mere 12 days after conception, the blind and naked babies exit the womb for a perilous cross-belly journey to the inner sanctum. Weighing just one-fifteenth of an ounce each, the embryonic young instinctively clutch and pull their way along with oversized forepaws into the incubator pouch and fasten on to one of the nipples. There they drink for dear life, not releasing for more than two months.

By springtime, they evacuate - but do not yet abandon - the only life they've known so far. Fully furred and resembling Mom, they still prefer her locomotion to theirs, clutching atop her back as she lumbers along.

Opossum *Didelphis virginianus*
Head and body: 15-20 inches; tail: 9-12 inches
Habitat: forested wetlands, mixed woodlands
by Tim Herd © 2006
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REAL ESTATE DECOR SCORE

Don't pine over hubby's love of natural wood

ROSE BENNETT GILBERT
Copley News Service

Q: We are getting married in two months, and I am going to move into my husband's house. He built it himself, and it is the quintessential bachelor's pad: pine-paneled walls, leather furniture, a big natural brick fireplace, and cathedral ceilings - also pine-paneled.

This move makes financial sense, but I'm realizing that what's good as "his" is not going to be so easy for "her" to live in. My taste runs to crystal and chintz. Please, I need help.

A: Unless your husband is an architect - they're notoriously set in their design ways - I'll wager you can gentrify his masculine digs without seeming to reject his taste altogether. Start by introducing a couple of pieces of comfortable furniture, upholstered in fabrics, maybe even those flower prints you crave. Pick a pattern in a color that complements his favorite leather chair, and he probably won't complain.

It may not be too long before he'll even let you paint those natural wood walls, a giant step toward civilization, as we women might define it.

If not, take notes from the room in the photo we show here. When designer Maureen Ann Daly tackled an attic room for a recent design show house in the historic Capt. Jedediah Hawkins house on the North Fork of Long Island, N.Y., she barely blinked at the



rather rugged wood-covered walls and ceiling. Even if her idea of attic living is all about luxe, she found a valid way to work with all that wood - clustering floral, fringed furniture around an eccentric ottoman, and hanging a crystal chandelier formal enough for the most traditional sitting room.

The wall-to-wall mirror Daly mounted over the fireplace both magnifies its sparkle and adds an airiness to the otherwise monotonous all-wood walls. The mirror also makes the most of the room's odd angles, which is half the fun of this once rough and ungainly - now warm and inviting - space.

(For a closer look at the historic

restoration behind the North Fork designer show house, visit www.captainhawkinshouse.com.)

Q: We had a large open doorway between our great room and dining room. In order to make a wall for a sofa, we closed it in halfway up the wall, leaving the upper portion of the doorway open for light and to prevent the rooms from being so closed in. The half-wall works fine for the placing of furniture, but I have been unable to come up with anything to make the "window" between the rooms attractive. It is just a straight, drywall wall with a large hole in it! Can you help me?

look like built-ins from both sides, and can be adjusted to allow the flow of light you need between the rooms.

Color might be another answer. Simply paint the inside edges of the drywall a color that relates to the fabric on the sofa below it. Or you might consider framing the hole on both sides with fairly wide decorative wood moldings, painted to match the walls. You'll effectively be turning it into an unobtrusive, two-way "picture" worth looking through from either viewpoint.

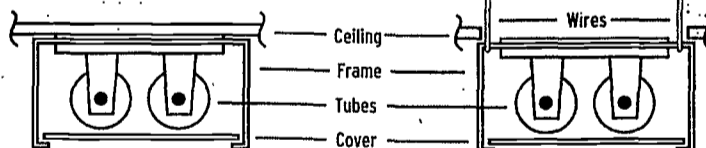
Rose Bennett Gilbert is the co-author of "Hampton Style" and associate editor of *Country Decorating Ideas*. Please send your questions to her at Copley News Service, P.O. Box 120190, San Diego, CA 92112-0190, or online at copleysd@copleynews.com.

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Copley News Service / Jay Wing

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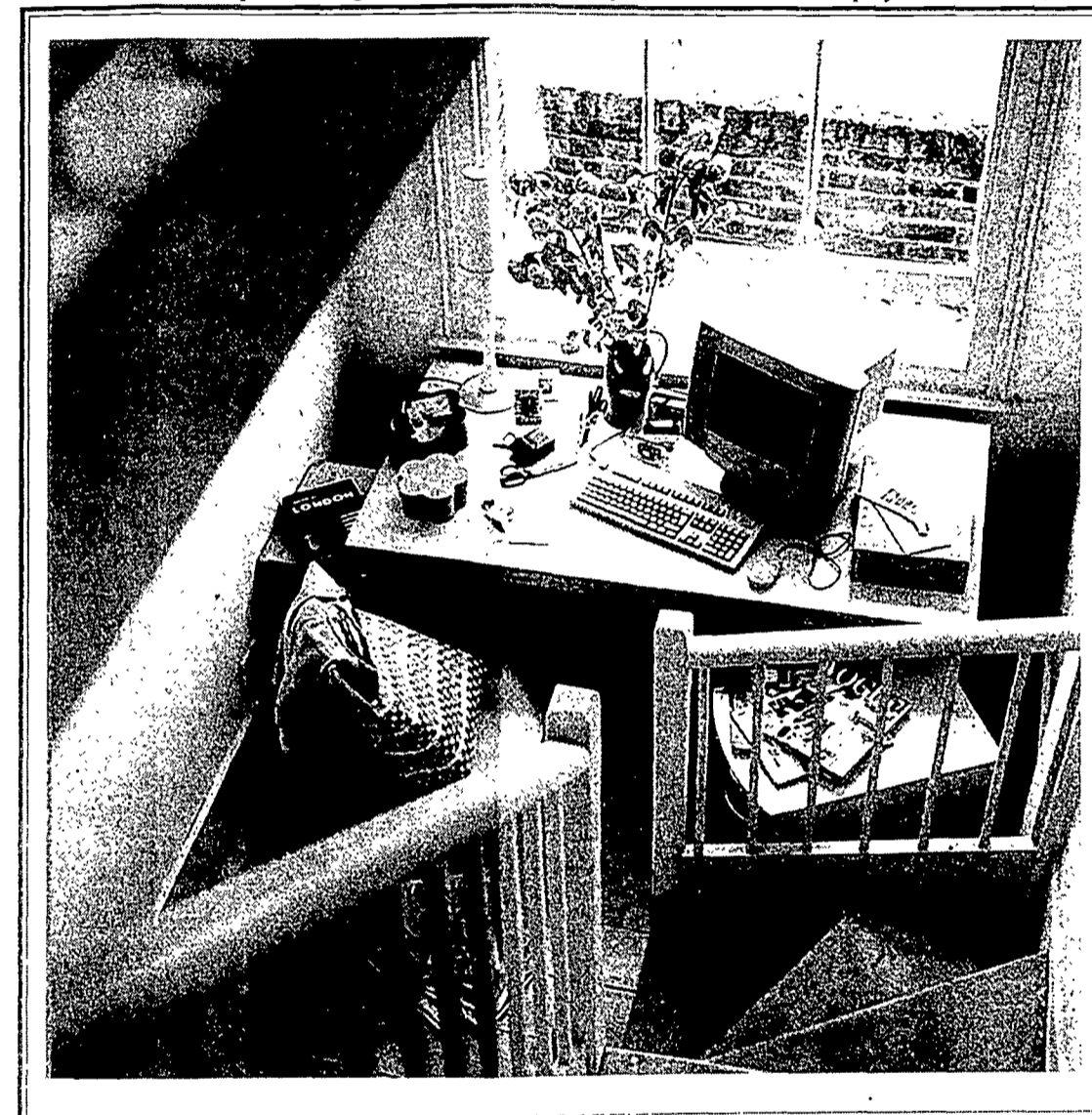
Today's homes serve many functions. Not just a place to sleep and eat anymore, houses do double duty as gyms, home offices and entertainment centers. And whether you're a young professional in your first small apartment or a retired couple wanting

dow to the landing. The desk is narrow enough to allow the chair to scoot under and out of the way of people running up and down the stairs. While the space is by no means adequate enough for a full-blown home office, it certainly would satisfy computer needs for many people.

Another possibility is to turn a mudroom and laundry area into a

sionals and homeowners. It's an excellent place to begin carving out the niches you need in your small but multifunctional home.

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 cbaintdes@hotmail.com or to Copley News Service, P.O.



to downsize and live a simpler lifestyle, getting the best use out of premium space is bound to be an issue.

A good resource is a little book called "Spaces for Living: How to Create Multifunctional Rooms for Today's Homes." The authors, Liz Bauwens and Alexandra Campbell, share their design experience and provide some 300 full-color photographs that show stylish solutions for how to use every inch of available space.

Sometimes the way to be happier in your old home is to take a hard, realistic look at some drastic ways to revamp the space. By evaluating 19 real-life cases, the authors present hundreds of ideas for innovative room-planning, clever storage and dual-purpose furniture.

Consider the basic office in the photo shown here. This little desk zone was a tiny bathroom used by the previous tenant. By opening the area up, the new owners restored the light of a huge win-

back entryway that might also be a craft room or office - just enough room to get projects done out of the way of others who live in the house. Perhaps building a slim bookcase, just the width of a book, positioned along the narrowest of corridors or around a door or under a window can allow for retaining some of a precious book collection.

The book contains ideas on how to carve out a little home office in the dining room or how to fashion discreet storage right in the middle of more public living space. For those with more abundant space, it offers ways to convert secondary bedrooms or bathrooms into "luxury" spaces - a fly-tying space for the avid fly-fisherman, a sewing room for the amateur quilter, an exercise area for an older relative who is working to reclaim muscle tone.

"Spaces for Living," published by Clarkson/Potter, features real houses and apartments that have been designed by both profes-

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Honeysuckle versus the autumn olive bush

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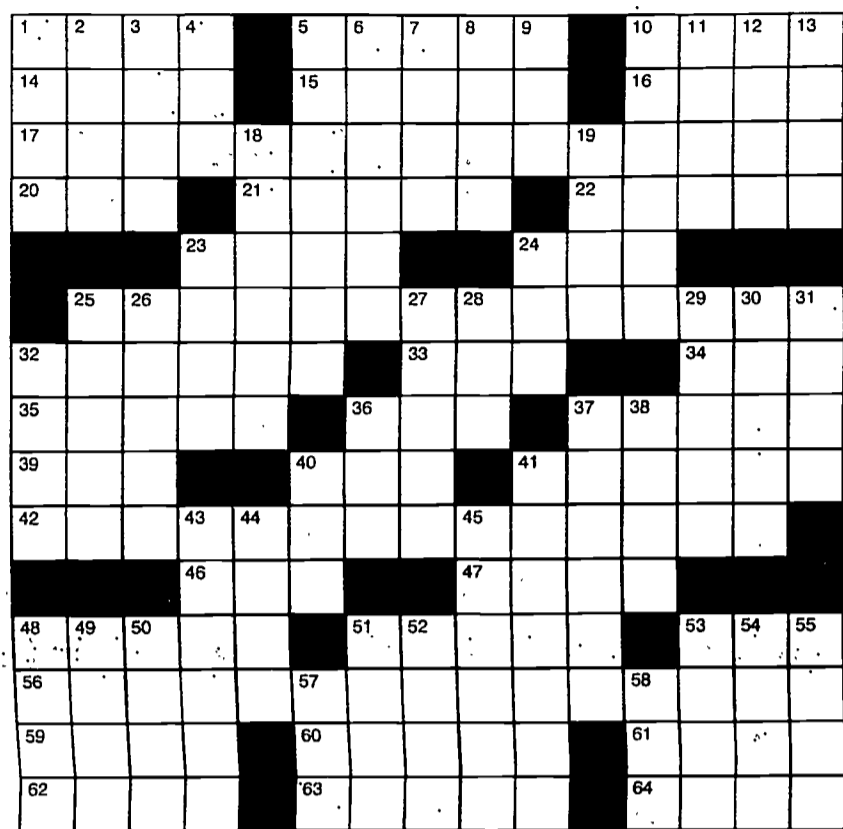
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CROSSWORD PUZZLE

BOOKISH TYPES



COPLEY NEWS SERVICE

By Charles Preston

ACROSS

- 1 French cleric
5 "Mack the Knife" singer
10 ilk
14 Highlands social unit
15 Fromm or Remarque
16 Malayan sailboat
17 Literary preppy
20 Ram's mate
21 Small containers
22 City on the Rhone delta
23 Deteriorate
24 Jefferson Davis' org.
25 Literary sleuth
32 Bikini Atoll events
33 Simian
34 Young pig
35 Pugilism awards
36 ER workers
37 Forest clearing
39 Denver-to-Omaha dir.
40 Lao-tzu's truth
41 Racehorse with no wins
42 Literary pirate
46 Rhine tributary
47 Wight or Capri

DOWN

- 48 East German secret police, once
51 Mountain ridge
53 Refs' decision
56 Literary adventurer
59 Regarding
60 Neon
61 Adams or Brickell
62 Track competition
63 Purloin
64 Anti-prohibitionists
1 Workout result?
2 Spout
3 Cotton quantity
4 Terminal
5 Recantations
6 1950s winning Preakness jockey
7 Monetary unit of 45 Down
8 Hosp. areas
9 Stanley Cup org.
10 Helix
11 Cy Young winner
Hershiser
12 Thespian's quest
13 Small amounts
18 Turns inside out
19 Africa's Burkina

- 23 "Friendly Persuasion" author
24 Fidel's co-revolutionary
25 Transcript preparer
26 Femme fatale of "The Iliad"
27 Ecclesiastical law
28 Mess workers: abbr.
29 Gettysburg general
30 Church official
31 WWII weapon
32 Fourth person?
36 Stadium cheer
37 Kitchen aloft or asea
38 Not prerecorded
40 Rock pile
41 Mediterranean wind
43 Pipe joint sealer
44 Monopoly square
45 Leone, Africa
48 Tapered sial used for leveling
49 Melody
50 Subdivision division
51 Act as a lookout, e.g.
52 Nerve network
53 Ocean movement
54 Create an argyle
55 Wad stuffers
57 UFO pilots?
58 Not many

Last Week's
Puzzle Answers

H'S GALORE

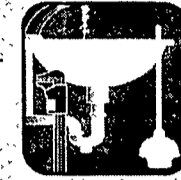
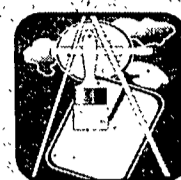


COPLEY NEWS SERVICE

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

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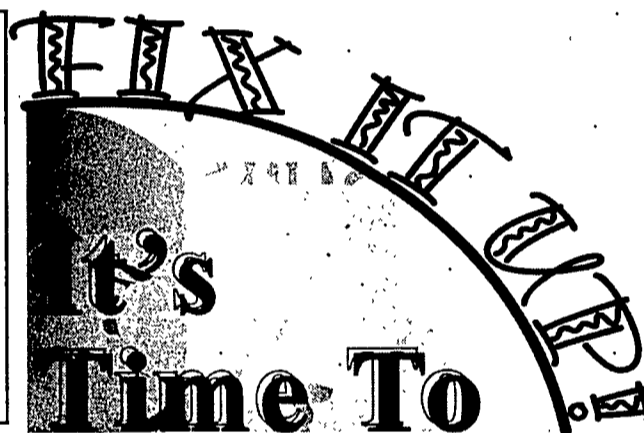
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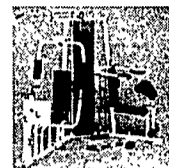
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Classifieds
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AUTO SCENE

Retrofuturistic FJ Cruiser gets more smiles to the gallon

Jerry Garrett
Copley News Service

Toyota's new FJ Cruiser is proof that designers inside the company's styling studios really do know how to smile.

Without doubt, the retrofuturistic FJ is the most fun Toyota designers have had on the job since at least the 1997 Lexus Street Rod concept (or possibly ever, since racer Rod Millen deserves much of the credit for the Street Rod).

Like the Street Rod, which debuted at the '97 Los Angeles auto show, the FJ had just about as much chance as the 1930-something-based roadster had of becoming a real production vehicle.

But an interesting thing happened after the FJ concept was introduced at the 2003 Detroit auto show: An impossible-to-ignore number of people started waving blank deposit checks around, wanting to get on a waiting list for a production version.

"We had 35,000 'hand-raisers' who said they wanted this vehicle," says Mark Amstock, Toyota's national truck and SUV market planning manager. "That got our attention."

In barely two years' time, the production version of the show car has been hammered into reality. Admirably, the five-passenger iteration, which will go on sale around late March is, in all the essential ways, faithful to the rave-inducing concept.

Pricing starts at \$22,315, including \$605 freight.

The idea of a Toyota retrocruiser actually was born about six years ago, Amstock notes. That's when the company challenged Millen to come up with his take on a 1967 FJ40 Land Cruiser - a cult favorite - imbued with 21st century techno-flair.

Millen, with the help of Toyota's Cally design studio in Newport Beach, Calif., retained such signature FJ features as its white roof, the bush meat-strainer grille and safari stance.

A further objective was to hit a mid-\$20,000 price point, which would make it almost irresistible to a target audience of young, single, X-Game-watching men.

Not coincidentally, that also is who buys the Jeep Wrangler, an audience that might be hungry for a high-character rock crawler with Toyota-caliber reliability.

To the uninitiated, such as my 13-year-old daughter, "the FJ looks like what would happen if a Hummer and a Honda Element got married and had a kid." Humm.

The FJ certainly does fill one of the

The all-wheel-drive FJ enjoys 9.6 inches of ground clearance; two-wheel drives lose about an inch of that.

Wheel travel is almost 8 inches up front and 9 in back; approach and departure angles are 34 and 30 degrees respectively for 4WDs, 32/29 for 2WDs. It's got a 30-degree climb and 41-degree side slope angle capability; it can ford up to 27.5 inches

manual, and 17/21 for 4WD with autos.

Transmission choices consist of a five-speed automatic, or six-speed manual (fifth is a direct-drive high, with sixth an overdrive for highway economy runs).

Gearheads who might opt for the manual be warned: You will tire of shifting this thing in city driving, it doesn't like to pull away from stops

conditions, to low-range for mud-bogging. An optional locking rear diff can be activated by an instrument-panel switch, but only when the vehicle is traveling under 5 mph (it kicks off above 30 mph).

Big disc brakes all-around, with ABS, brake force distribution and assist, and stability and traction control, make the FJ sure-footed to control and stop. An optional A-Trac dash-actuated feature mimics limited-slip and locking diff wheelspin limitations, without driveline bind.

On 2WD models, an automatic limited-slip differential feature enhances rear-wheel traction to get you unstuck.

If you are still awake after the preceding five paragraphs, you qualify as the serious off-roader Toyota is aiming this vehicle squarely at. Not, here at last is the fun part: styling.

Overall, the FJ has futuristic look of the Jetsons' toaster, you qualify as the serious off-roader Toyota is aiming this vehicle squarely at. Not, here at last is the fun part: styling.

The flat, nearly upright windshield is swept by three stubby wiper blades.

Besides two massive side doors, it has two hidden rear suicide doors.

There is no "B" pillar. An odd byproduct of that is the front seat belts are attached to the rear doors - a nuisance when trying to let someone in or out of the back seat while you're belted in the front.

The side-opening rear cargo door also has a curved back glass piece that opens above the rear-mounted spare.

The interior can be hosed out; the five-layer fabric upholstery and rubber-mat flooring shed water easily.

Besides being easy to clean, the captain's-chair front seats are long-trip comfy; the rears fold flat for added storage.

Speakers for the standard AM-FM-CD stereo are incorporated in the headliner, for a "shower of sound" feel.

Jerry Garrett is a freelance auto writer and contributing editor to Car and Driver magazine. Visit Copley News Service at www.copleynews.com.



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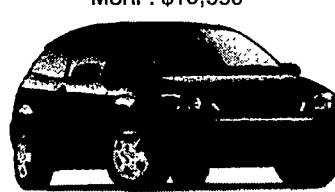
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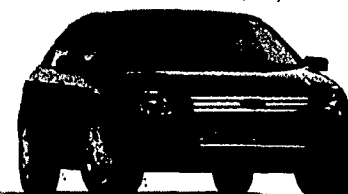
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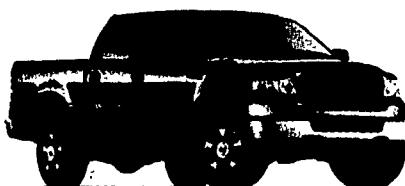
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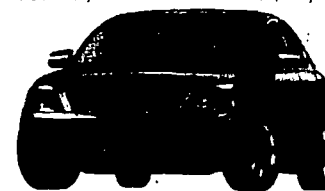
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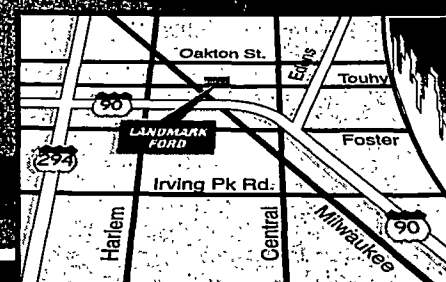
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