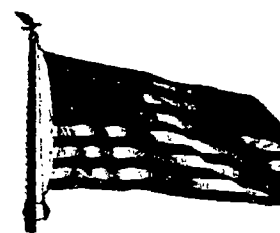


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SINCE 1957

THE BUGLE



THURSDAY APRIL 27, 2006

VOL. 49 No. 49

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Niles Fire Chief to retire post

After 48 years of service Niles Fire Chief Harry Kinowski told the village that he intends to retire effective Sept. 1. Kinowski has had a distinguished career with the Fire Department, playing a crucial role in the founding of the Northern Illinois Tran (NIPSTA).

"Times have changed," Kinowski said Tuesday, "the culture has changed. It's time."

Kinowski said that he gave the

village notice of his retirement early so that they would have time to choose a replacement.

"He gave 48 years of great service to the village and contributed to the overall success of our fire department," said Niles Mayor Nick Blase Tuesday. "He was a tremendous asset."

Story Continues...
 see FIRE CHIEF page 4.

Niles OTB opens

Official grand opening set for next week

The new Niles Golf Mill Off-Track Betting (OTB) Parlor opened this week with little fanfare, what Bob Bilocerkowycz, president of operator Inter-Track Partners called a "soft opening."

"We want to spend the time to get our new staff up to speed on the computer systems, our rcipies," he said. "We've come a long way."

Inter-Track's build-out on their new site began in mid-February and was largely completed last week. Niles Mayor Nick Blase and other local dignitaries visited the new OTB, located in the former Circuit City Monday for its grand opening. An official ribbon-cutting is set for next week.

Story Continues...
 see OTB page 2.

Morton Grove approves animal control ordinance

An animal control ordinance to help keep pets and residents safe in Morton Grove was approved at the village board meeting on Monday, Apr. 24.

Several residents came to the podium to share their thoughts about the ordinance with Mayor Richard Krier, the board of trustees and audience members. The ordinance establishes a provision for the determination and regulation of dangerous and vicious animals, establishes a procedure for the impoundment of these type of animals, protects animals from abuse,

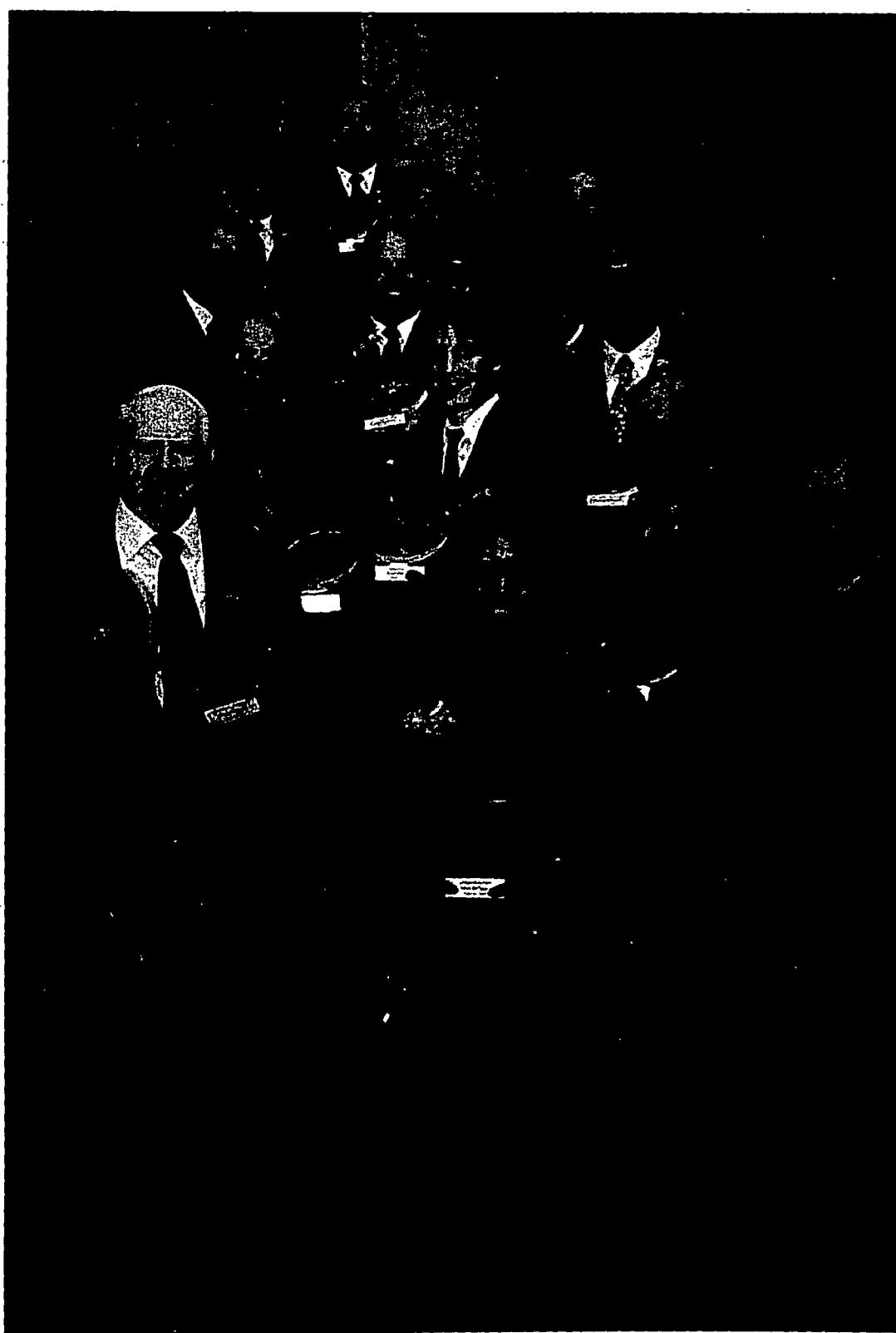
protects residents and their animals from annoyance, intimidation and injury by other animals and more.

Resident Sandy Hoffman said that her little dog was killed by two dogs in the neighborhood. She showed the board a picture of her dog before the attack and one of her dog while it was in critical care.

"I think you did a super job," said Hoffman, about the new animal ordinance. Although she supported the ordinance, she suggested some changes to be made to cer-

Story Continues...
 see ANIMAL CONTROL page 3.

A Dozen & 2 Roses



The fourteen honorees pose with their awards after the conclusion of the Niles Night of Roses Saturday. Over 360 people attended the 3rd annual event, making it the biggest ever. For the story turn to page 14.
 (Photo by Allen Kaleta)

INDEX

NEWS



From left, Sean Hennessy, Director of Operations, Bob Bilocerkowycz, CEO and Roman Berko, general manager pose in front of the now-open Niles Off-Track Betting Parlor in Golf Mill.

OTB: Grand Opening next week

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The facility has come a long way, Bilocerkowycz said Monday, citing an extensive build-out and renovation effort which included replacement of the walls, ceilings and floors. New fixtures were also added,

from booths to private rooms and a bar. And, of course, plenty of televisions.

Sitting at the bar, Bilocerkowycz called the OTB heaven for a sports fanatic pointing to six 62-inch televisions. He said that the OTB, called Lucky Magee's Racino Bar & Grill is designed to appeal to both the horse racing fan and the sports fan in general.

"There's no better place in Niles to watch sports," he said.

The OTB will be holding several events next week to kick off its

opening including a program with ESPN radio personality Harry Teinowitz on Thursday, May 4. Score radio personalities on Friday, May 5 and a special "Run for the Roses" program on Saturday May 6 in anticipation of the Kentucky Derby.

Bilocerkowycz made no comment about a lawsuit that Golf Mill neighbor J.C. Penney has filed against the mall over the OTB. He did say, however, that he hoped Lucky Magee's would help revitalize the mall and be a benefit to its neighbors.

Page Two

By Andrew
Schneider
Editor

Hounding Autographs, an expensive hobby

I hardly expected to find a new hobby last weekend but I purchased my first two presidential signatures, two down, 41 to go. I attended the annual Chicagoland Civil War Show in Wheaton, IL at the DuPage County Fairgrounds. I had the casual thought that I might purchase

some small artifact of that important part of our history. What I found when I arrived was rather startling. The show was in one building which was packed with artifacts of all kinds, cavalry sabers, rifles, books, letters, photographs, even signatures.

The guns were the most startling both in price and appearance: the averaged about \$2000 a piece and most were well-preserved. It was strange to turn around and see people brandishing these rifles and swords. It took me a while to become used to it.

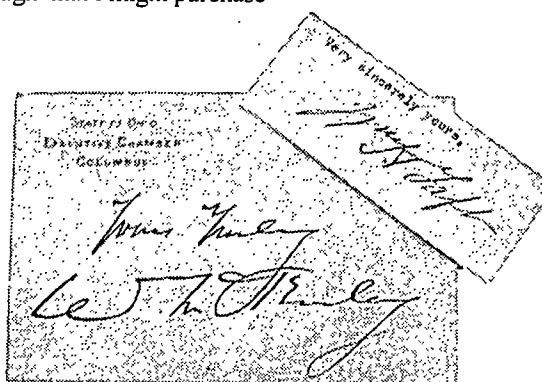
Some vendors specialized in relics that are recovered even today from battlefields. Rusted cannon shot, bullets, musketballs. One vendor told a story of how some bullets would strike trees during battles and the trees would heal over the holes, sealing the bullets in sap. Today, artifact collectors can recognize them, "they look like acorns fallen to the ground," one said at

the event. Artifact hunters continue to comb those parts of battlefields that are on private property even today.

As I passed among the booths I saw many things of interest. There was a small cannon shot (\$40) a Union Battle Flag (\$345) and even a signature of Abraham Lincoln (\$8,450). I purchased some bullets and continued wandering, thinking that everything was out of my price range when I came to a booth selling autographs.

I had been thinking about col-

Story Continues...
see PAGE TWO page 16.



My McKinley and Taft Signatures

NEWS

Przybylo opposes excise tax increase

BY TRACY YOSHIDA GRUEN
STAFF WRITER

Village of Niles Trustee Andrew Przybylo sent a memo to Mayor Nicholas Blasc, village trustees, village manager and village attorney, sharing his concerns regarding the proposed 1 percent excise tax for prepared food and beverages.

Przybylo believes that the excise tax as it is applied to large sales will have a negative impact on sales in the village of Niles. He believes that banquets should be exempt from this excise tax because of the negative impact it would have on business.

Przybylo thinks that the tax on small ticket items (\$15 to \$200) will have a minimal effect on the sales in the village.

In addition to exempting large ticket items, such as items for large catered events, Przybylo is also recommending a Sunset Provision

that would require a review of the effects of the tax in eighteen months.

"If it's hurting the village and its sales tax base, we'll let it expire," said Przybylo.

Przybylo said that often customers at the White Eagle banquets will ask how much the service charge and sales tax rate is. Therefore, he feels this means that the consumers will buy from where the sum total of the cost including taxes is the lowest.

In the past, Przybylo said that people were going to auto dealerships in places like Will County because the taxes were less. As a result, they changed the law so that the sales tax on a car would be at the rate of the town where someone resides, regardless of where they purchased the vehicle.

"It's not like it was back in the 70s," Przybylo said. He said that in the 1970s it was easier to make money in the banquet business, but

today, he said it's more challenging. He said Chateau Ritz banquet hall in Niles can relate to these challenges as well.

In the memo, Przybylo said that if the excise tax here applied only to restaurant dining and small party dining the village would collect an additional \$21,554. The sales tax collected at the White Eagle Banquets and Restaurant for the past year for the Village of Niles is \$42,964, which is 1 percent of \$4,296,400.

In the memo, Przybylo states, "Should the council determine that the excise tax would be exempted from certain sales, including the additional sales tax as applied to banquets; do not think that this is special legislation in my families' favor or mine."

In total, if the excise tax only applied to restaurant dining and small party dining, the White Eagle would amount to about \$92,233 in taxes.

ANIMAL CONTROL: Ordinance approved

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

tain sections of the ordinance. For example, she thought that instead of seven animals, residents should be allowed to have 10 animals per household. She also believed that an owner should have more than seven days to claim their lost pet, suggesting that 14 days would be more reasonable.

Trustee Georgianne Brunner, who was instrumental in the creation of the ordinance, said that seven was more reasonable considering what limit nearby communities had. She also said that in the past it has been very expensive for the village to hold a lost pet for a long period of time.

In the ordinance, fines for people violating the ordinance are at a minimum of \$75 for the first offense, minimum of \$100 for the second offense and a minimum of \$200 for third or subsequent offense. Trustee Roy Kogstad proposed that the board amend that section of the ordinance in order to double those minimum fines so that people understand how important the ordinance really is. Three trustees voted in favor of

Kogstad's amendment, three voted against it and Krier broke the tie and voted against it. Resident Sherwin Dubren said that there should be different minimum fines for offenses depending on the degree of the offense.

Resident Nancy Lanning approached the board and mayor and read a letter from a resident, Linda Ward. In the letter, the resident said that her mother's dog was attacked by a Rotweiler that dug a hole under her fence. She said her neighbor has three Rotweillers and she is afraid to sit in her own backyard, even keeping a metal baseball bat next to her.

At the meeting, Brunner made a few amendments to the ordinance. One of the amendments is that animals that are under investigation are prohibited from being given away or sold or relocated without the written permission of the Morton Grove Chief of Police. Brunner believes it is essential for the village to know where these dangerous or vicious animals are going.

"I'm sorry for people that have had incidents in the past," said Brunner. She said there were many people that should be thanked that have contributed to the making of the ordinance.

"You're number one on that list," said Krier, commending Brunner for her hard work on the ordinance. "I want to thank you."

Misericordia Candy Days Friday, Saturday

Misericordia/Jelly Belly Candy Days will be held on Friday and Saturday, Apr. 28 to Apr. 29.

For the third consecutive year, Jelly Belly has made a generous

offer to sponsor Misericordia candy days. During these two days, volunteers stand out on the streets or in front of stores collecting donations. If someone makes a donation they in turn

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The proceeds from the event will go towards helping to improve the lives of children and adults with developmental disabilities.

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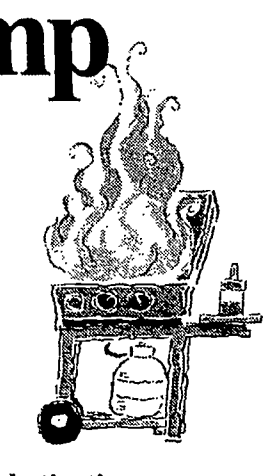


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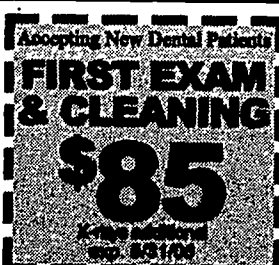
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Niles resident questions OTB vote count

But Clerk's office says ballots had to be hand-counted, need a court order to open closed results

BY TRACY YOSHIDA GRUEN
STAFF WRITER

Niles Resident Mike Shields believes there are significant discrepancies in the March 21 OTB referendum vote.

Recently, Shields and another resident, Rosemary Palicki, reviewed the election results and discovered four major discrepancies. They contacted the County

Clerk's office about their concerns. Shields said that even more importantly than the OTB issue, it is an issue of the integrity in the voting system.

Cook County Clerk's office spokeswoman Kelly Quinn said that they can not look back at their records without a court order because the canvas was closed on Apr. 14. Quinn said that the referendum question had to be certified by a deadline of Jan. 19 and since

they didn't make that deadline, they were required to have a separate paper ballot. Quinn said the ballot had to be hand counted and the results were written on a statement of results.

"It was another tangible for them after an already long day," said Quinn.

"I'm a little surprised it would take a court order," said Shields. He said he tried to look at the situation simply as a citizen who went

to vote on March 21. When asked if he was one of the big opponents of bringing the OTB to Niles, he said he was not one of the main leaders in the effort made by the group that filed a lawsuit with the Village of Niles to get the question on the ballot.

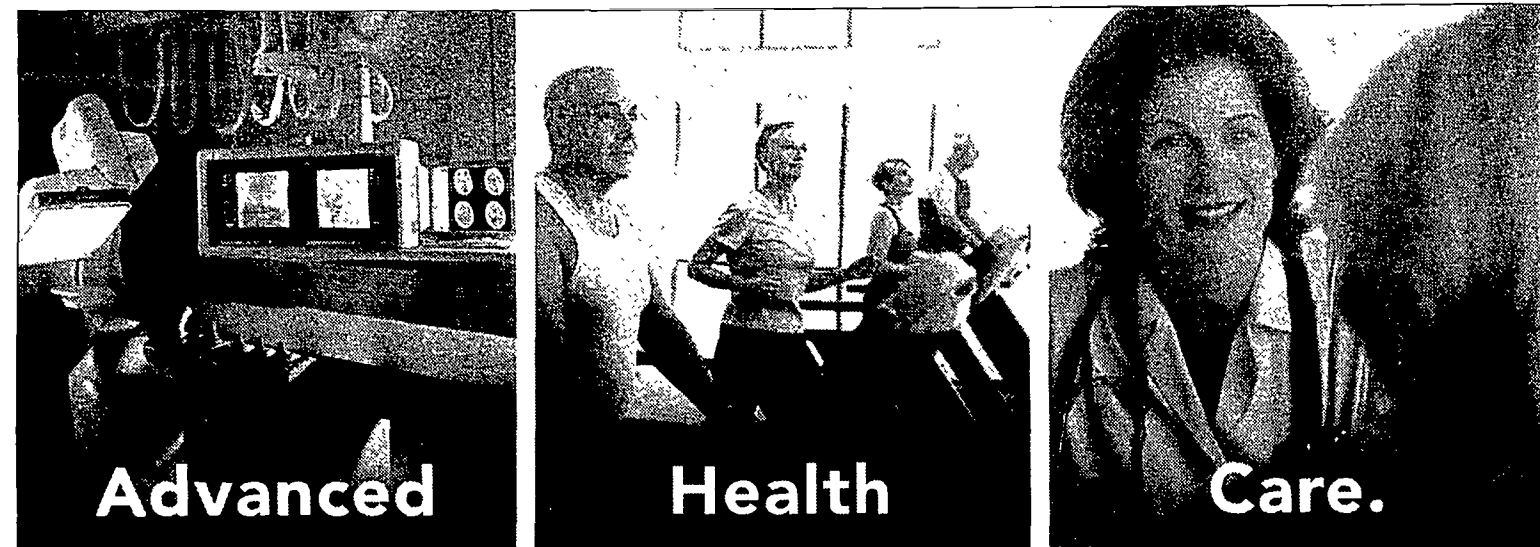
Shields said that the first major discrepancy is that the results posted on the County Clerk's website on Friday, Apr. 21 indicated that 2,659 votes were cast on this OTB

referendum, with 1,555 YES and 1,104 NO. However, Shields said that Village of Niles poll watchers reported that approximately 4,300 votes were cast in Niles on the referendum, with about 2,400 YES votes and 1,900 NO votes.

The second discrepancy is that, according to the precinct polling place addresses given to Palicki by the County Clerk, there were seven precincts in Maine Township with polling places in Niles that were not included in the 2,659 total.

The third discrepancy is that in six of the 14 precincts where Niles residents watched the polls and got the OTB referendum voting totals after the polls were closed on March 21, the totals on the County Clerk's website were "dramatically different" than the numbers the resident poll watchers obtained on election night. Shields said that in the six precincts, the poll watchers totaled 991 votes cast on the referendum, while the Cook County Clerk shows only 13 votes cast.

Finally, Shields said there are "huge and shocking" discrepancies on the County Clerk's website between the number of ballots cast in the Village of Niles on March 21 and the number of votes cast on the OTB referendum, in at least 13 precincts.



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FIRE CHIEF:

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

According to Blase, during his tenure the village has never gone outside of the Fire Department when it chose a new chief.

"The natural follower for Chief Kinowski would be [Deputy Chief] Barry Mueller," Blase said. "But nothing is certain yet."

Kinowski was certain, though, that the time had come for him to retire.

"I am hiring people that are younger than my grandkids," he said.

Kinowski said that he was looking forward to traveling in retirement and catching up on some home projects. He also said that he plans to stay in the area.

"We're going to stay in the area," he said. "We love Niles."

He also plans to travel around the Great Lakes region and the East Coast doing research on Lighthouses.

"We'll probably take some trips around to find them," he said. "Some are closed, some are operating and some are museums."

Michael Siena, a fire apparatus engineer, one of the people who was honored at Saturday's Niles Night of Roses, made a point to honor Kinowski at the event.

"I have to acknowledge the chief," he said. "48 years of service, we're losing a rose in the Fire Department."

SCHOOLS

Oakton Courses Focus on Arts and Crafts

Crafting is featured in May in these courses offered through the Alliance for Lifelong Learning at Oakton Community College. Classes meet at the Prairie View Community Center, 6834 Dempster St., Morton Grove.

Mosaics (ART C61-01) explores the art of crafting with ceramic tile, stone, glass, and marbles. Students are asked to bring tile nippers (available at most hardware stores) and a hard surface to mosaic, such as a 10-inch terra cotta flowerpot. All other materials are covered by tuition. Three-week class meets Tuesdays, 7-9:30 p.m., starting May 16. Course fee is \$150.

Bead Wrapped Wire Bracelet (HEC B33-31) demonstrates the art of basic wire wrapping. A \$5 materials fee is due at the first class. One-week session meets 7-9 p.m., Thursday, May 18. Course fee is \$19.

For a complete schedule of Alliance for Lifelong Learning classes, including registration

and fee information, visit www.oakton.edu/cont_ed or call 847-982-9888, press 3.

Oakton Emeritus Examines Art, Religion, Current Affairs

Expand your knowledge of art, religion, and global current affairs by enrolling in Emeritus Program courses at Oakton Community College.

The Sistine Ceiling & The Place Is Wrong and No Painter I, (ART C72-71) details the amazing chain of events that allowed Michelangelo to construct his biblical paintings for the Sistine Chapel. One week seminar meets 10-11:30 a.m., Wednesday, May 3, at Oakton's Ray Hartstein Campus, 7701 N. Lincoln Ave., Skokie. Course fee is \$20.

Believe It or Not: A Fresh Look at World Religions (PHL E61-71) explores the origins of Judaism, Islam, Christianity, Hinduism, and Buddhism. Five-

week course meets Wednesdays, 10-11 a.m., starting May 3, at Oakton's Ray Hartstein Campus. Course fee is \$70.

Terrorism: An Academic Look (PSE B19-071) departs from the more prevalent views of politicians and the media, to see how terrorism is interpreted by members of the academic community. Three-week course meets Thursdays, 1-2:15 p.m., starting May 4, at Classic Residence by Hyatt, 2500 Indigo Lane, Glenview. Course fee is \$100.

Oakton's Emeritus Program offers credit and noncredit courses, lectures, seminars, and tours, while providing a chance to share learning experiences with peers age 50 and over.

For more information about the Emeritus Program, including costs of featured lectures, call 847-635-1414 or 847-982-9888, press 3. For a complete list of Emeritus classes, course fees, seminars, and events, visit www.oakton.edu/emergitus.

North Central College names local students to Dean's List

North Central College has announced its Dean's List scholars for the 2006 Winter Term. To be eligible for the Dean's List, undergraduate students must maintain a grade point average of 3.6 (4.0=A) for the term and be enrolled as full time students.

Part time students are recognized at the end of each academic year if they meet the same criterion and have completed at least eight credit hours, the equivalent of one term as a full time student.

The following students from the Northwest suburbs were on the Dean's List:

From Niles, Elisabeth Eiermann, daughter of Michael and Kendra Eiermann; From Morton Grove, Andrea

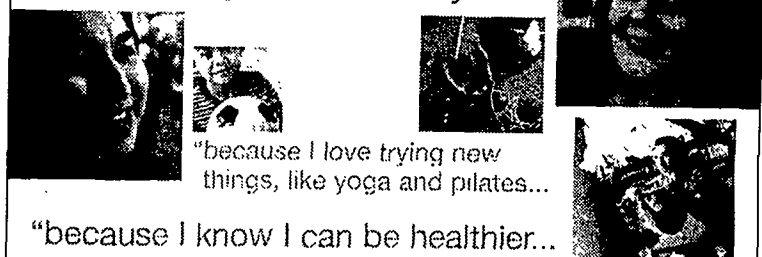
Roiniotis, daughter of Andrew and Anne Marie Roiniotis and from Park Ridge, Christine Schwartz, daughter of William and Anne Schwartz.

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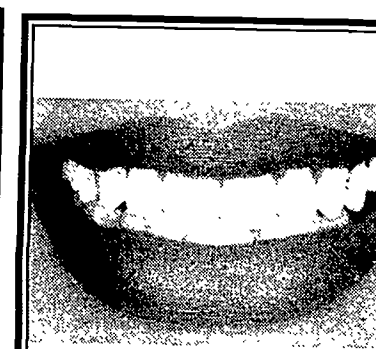
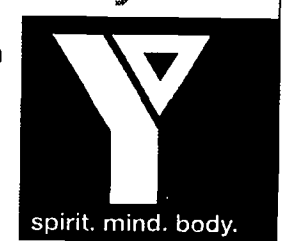
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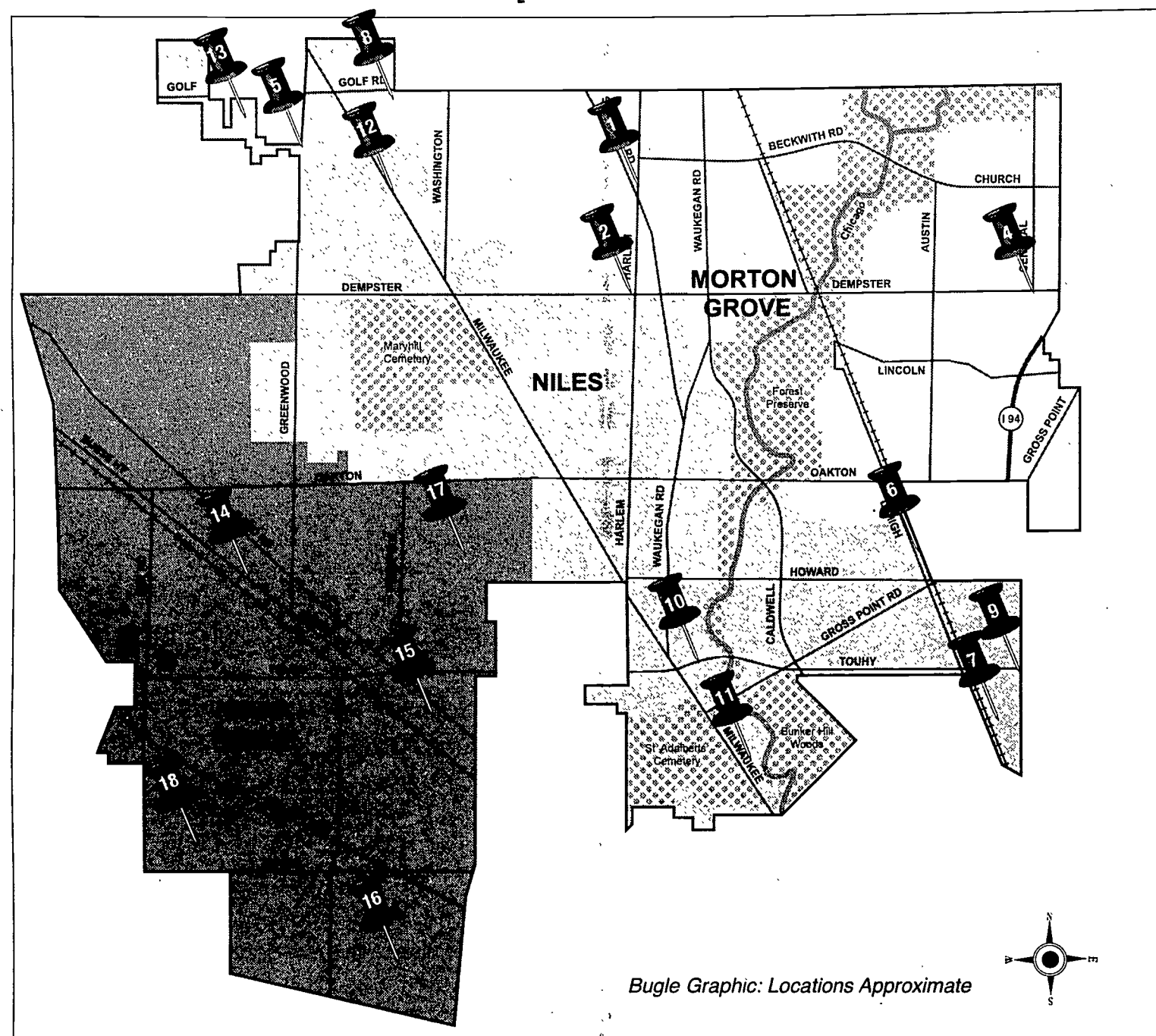
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POLICE BLOTTER



Bugle Graphic: Locations Approximate

MORTON GROVE

The following was derived from the official reports of the Morton Grove Police Department for the week ending Friday, Apr. 21.

1 Investigative Stop
(9100 Shermer)

Police said a 1996 black Honda Civic was stopped on Apr. 13 for registration violation. Police discovered the offender was currently a parolee for burglary and drug convictions.

2 Felony Retail Theft Arrest
(7200 block of Dempster)

Police said two females entered a store with empty shopping bags on Apr. 14. They attempted to leave the store with \$302 worth of items. A 28 year old woman from Chicago was arrested. She has a court date of May 1 in Skokie. The other woman involved dropped the items before she left the store and

was never identified.

3 Three Thefts of Gas

Two theft of gas took place at the 9500 block of Waukegan and another occurred at the 7100 block of Golf Rd.

The two on Waukegan happened on Apr. 18 and Apr. 19 and \$30 was pumped in one instance and \$37.52 in the other. The Golf Rd. incident on Apr. 18 involved \$11.78 and the complainant believes the offender did not intentionally leave without paying. He said the credit card machine failed to activate.

4 DUI Arrest
(5600 block of Dempster)

Police arrested a 45 year old Chicago male for driving under the influence of alcohol on Apr. 16. Police said the offender was tailgating the vehicle in front of him, turning his brake lights on and off

and drifting within his lane. Bond was set at \$1,000.

NILES

The following was derived from the official reports of the Niles Police Department for the week ending Monday, Apr. 24.

5 DVD Players Stolen
(9500 Greenwood)

Police said unknown offender(s) stole a portable DVD player worth \$123.30 and another one worth \$224.87 on Apr. 22. The offender appeared suspicious when he began adjusting his pants, said police. When asked if he needed assistance, the offender walked away and later ran out of the store and fled away in his vehicle.

6 K-9 Team Searches Building
(7000 block of Lehigh)

A Morton Grove police officer

requested a Niles Police Department K-9 team for a building search where he found an open door on Apr. 21. The K-9 team and Morton Grove officers searched the building with no offenders located.

7 Stolen Trailer
(7000 block of Austin)

Police said a trailer was stolen from a parking lot sometime between Apr. 15 and Apr. 17. The driver is permitted to park the 17 by 7 ft. trailer in the parking lot. The offender took two Scags worth \$6,000; two power rakes worth \$1,900; two leaf blowers worth \$960 and three tool boxes valued at \$500.

8 Gang Symbols On Village Water Tank
(8200 block of Golf Rd)

Unknown offender(s) used white and yellow paint to make gang symbols on the north and

west walls of a Village of Niles water tank on Apr. 19.

9 Forgery/Identity Theft
(5600 block of Touhy)

A victim came to the Niles Police Department after being alerted about a fraudulent check that was cashed against his South Shore Bank Account on Apr. 15. Police said a \$492.28 check was cashed at a Niles store. The victim requested a follow up investigation.

10 Public Indecency/Lewd Exposure
(7000 W. Touhy)

Police said a Chicago male was arrested for public indecency on Apr. 21. The court date is May 24 and bond was set at \$1,000.

11 DUI Arrest
(6800 block of Milwaukee Ave.)

Police said a 28 year old male from Harwood Heights was arrested for driving under the influence of alcohol on Apr. 17. Police said the offender struck a chain link fence and was parked on the sidewalk and partially on a cemetery property. Bond is set at \$1,000.

12 Retail Theft Arrest
(2000 Golf Mill)

Police said a Skokie male was arrested after he stole five video games from a store on Apr. 22. Police said he placed \$99.95 worth of video games on his body and walked out of the store.

13 Drivers License Arrest
(8900 block of W. Golf Rd)

Police said a Des Plaines woman was arrested on Apr. 19 for driving without a license and not having valid insurance. Niles police arrived at an accident scene at 8900 Golf Rd. and the driver arrested said she did not have a driver's license. Bond is at \$2,000 and court date is May 24.

PARK RIDGE

The following was derived from the official reports of the Park Ridge Police Department for the week ending Monday, Apr. 24.

14 Suspicious Incident
(700 block of N. Seminary)

Police said three men, stocky build with dark hair, came to the victim's door and told her they were working on a house down

Blotter Continues... see BLOTTER next page.



Do you have any information on these or other crimes in Niles?
Call the Niles CrimeStoppers at 847-588-6533
Remember CrimeStoppers only wants information.
They are not interested in your name.

NEWS

BLOTTER:

CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

street and would fix the cracks in her driveway on Apr. 11. The offenders said they needed payment and cash and drove her to a bank where she withdrew \$2,400 dollars and gave it to them. They dropped her off a block from her residence and told her they would be back to fix the driveway on Friday, Apr. 14. The offenders did not return to make the repairs.

15 Public Indecency
(First Block of S. Northwest Hwy)

A victim saw a male, ages 30 to 39 years, sitting in a 1995 Jeep Wrangler on Apr. 19. Police said he appeared engaged in indecent activity. When the subject saw the victim, he pulled out of the lot, police said.

Bicycle Stolen

16 (1400 block of S. Crescent) Unknown offender(s) entered victim's unlocked garage sometime between Apr. 16 and Apr. 19 and stole a brown bicycle from the garage. Police said the estimated cost of the bike is \$295.

Wind Chime Stolen
(200 block of Austin)

17 Police said unknown offender(s) took an antique wind chime worth \$125 from the victim's front porch sometime between Apr. 13 and Apr. 14.

Burglarized Motor Vehicle
(800 block of S. Home)

18 Police said someone entered the victim's unlocked 1997 Jeep Cherokee and stole tools, camera and cash sometime between Apr. 16 and Apr. 17. The victim was given a missing property form.

Spray Painting Incidents

19 Between Apr. 13 and Apr. 19, there were 12 separate incidents involving offender(s) spray painting property in various areas of Park Ridge.

Minors charged with Alcohol

Notice

All items listed in The Bugle's Police Blotter were provided by the respective Police Departments.

Publication in the Police Blotter does not necessarily assume guilt or innocence which can only be determined by a court of law.

VIETNAM REMEMBRANCE

The Morton Grove American Legion is sponsoring A Tribute to Vietnam Veterans This event is open to all veterans of any wars and their families. There is no cost to attend.

Saturday April, 29th

American Legion Memorial Civic Center 6140 Dempster, Morton Grove, IL 60053

Opening ceremonies begin at 4:00PM Band and refreshments immediately after. Displays of various equipment, uniforms, photos, etc

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				Skippy PEANUT BUTTER Super Chunky or Creamy \$1.99 Ea 18 Oz	
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COMMENTARY

EDITORIAL

3rd Night of Roses great for community

Anyone who attended the third annual Niles Night of Roses Saturday will know for themselves what a positive impact it has had on the community. In our report this week we mentioned many of the local luminaries who attended but what makes it remarkable is not the presence of the politicians, but the ordinary people of Niles.

In creating the event the Niles Chamber of Commerce should be commended for remembering to include awards that honor regular Nilesites. Those awards helped make sure attendees learned a little more about the fabric of this community than if the same old people who attend every public event were given an award.

The event also helps people "in the know" meet some of those individuals who have a large impact on the community but go largely unseen, teachers, coaches, even neighbors.

Perhaps one of the most compelling stories of this year's Night of Roses was the nomination of the Good Neighbor Award. Ron Kucha was nominated by one of his neighbors for doing things many Nilesites probably do for their older neighbors, shoveling sidewalks, moving the lawn, just generally helping out where he could.

The neighbor who nominated him, Marie, passed away last week, before she could see him accept the award but she did not know that he had received it.

Kucha took time to mention her at the event, even becoming choked up as he told over 350 assembled personages that all her neighbors would miss her.

Kucha honored his neighbor as she had honored him and attendees to the event were reminded that life is both brief and precious. That moment, more than any other, is proof that the Chamber has succeeded in creating an event that has relevance for the community and they should be proud of that.

And Niles should be proud of people like Kucha who still take the time to lend a helping hand to their neighbors young and old.

“The Chamber has succeeded in creating an event that has relevance for the community and they should be proud of that.”



Letters to the Editor

Center of Concern gives thanks to Easter volunteers

Dear Editor,

The Center of Concern extends a heartfelt thank you to all who helped make Easter special for many area seniors.

The Park Ridge Community Church, St. John the Baptist Greek Orthodox Church, and the Park Ridge Juniors generously donated thoughtful Easter gifts and beautiful plants to The Center of Concern. Volunteers delivered these gifts to seniors in the community.

Each year The Center provides ongoing support to over 200 frail and disabled residents of Park Ridge, Des Plaines, Niles, and Maine Township. Our goal is to help them remain independent as long as possible. The generosity of our community supporters is vital to our

ability to provide these services.

Thank you again to all who donated gifts and the volunteers who contributed their time.

Mary Schurder,
Executive Director
The Center of Concern

ABOUT COMMENTARY

The Bugle editorializes on issues of interest to the community of Ronneville and its residents on this page, hoping to foster discussion and to encourage action. Editorials represent the consensus of the editorial staff and the newspaper's publisher, but do not represent the opinions of any one individual employed by the Bugle Newspapers, Inc.

The Bugle also welcomes letters to the editor. These letters can deal with topics of community interest the newspaper or any other topic of general interest. Letters or comments should be addressed to The Bugle, 7400 N. Waukegan Rd., Niles, IL 60714, faxed to the editor at (847) 588-1911 or e-mailed to editor@buglenewspapers.com. Please limit your comments to no more than 300 words.

Letters should also include a day time phone number for verification purposes (not to be published). They must also be signed, though names can be withheld by request.

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BUSINESS

Some would be gold bugs need to be aware of past

BY LYNN O'SHAUGHNESSY
COPLEY NEWS SERVICE

Over the years, my experience with gold has been extremely limited. Except for the gold wedding band I've worn for 21 years, my only significant encounter with the precious metal occurred in the late 1990s, when my husband and I received an insured package in the mail that contained two gold coins.

My father-in-law had sent us the coins as his contribution to our son's college fund. The gold coins, which were each protected in a thin plastic case, were shiny and beautifully engraved.

But what I found most amazing about these diminutive coins was how they had killed off my father-in-law's enthusiasm for gold. The coins weren't numismatic marvels; they were mutts. In fact, when I learned how much my father-in-law had paid for the coins and what they were now worth, I was stunned. After

calling rare coin dealers, I unloaded the gift and sunk the proceeds into a mutual fund.

I recalled my brief brush with gold because of what's been happening to the precious metal lately. Gold hit a 25-year peak a few days ago. In just the final week of March, gold-oriented mutual funds soared 9.99 percent.

Inevitably, the phenomenal performance has attracted the attention of many of the nation's most incompetent investors. These are the folks who only start salivating about an investment when there's a good chance - unbeknownst to them - that they will lose money. When the hot investment they are chasing inevitably hits a pothole, these investors will quickly leave the scene and steer their tattered portfolio to the next "winner." There's a term for this sad behavior: "Buy high and sell low."

With Wall Street now crawling

Story Continues...
see MONEY next page.

Taste of Park Ridge Sells Out for Food Vendors

What a difference a year makes. Last year about this time the committee for the Taste of Park Ridge was just forming and trying to figure out how to hold a communitywide event with only about 45 days of planning. This year the Committee has met regularly for months and announces the 2006 Taste of Park Ridge is already sold out for food vendors.

The popular Taste event will be held on July 13-15 in the Uptown area along Prospect Avenue and in Hodges Park near City Hall.

"The Committee focused on Park Ridge restaurants and food establishments up until April 15 then opened up to food vendors from outside of town," says Taste Chairman Bob Dudycz. "When we opened up to outside vendors, we sold out quickly and have now started a waiting

list." "Having a good array of vendors offering a nice variety of tasty food is what makes the Taste of Park Ridge successful. Our lineup of 2006 food vendors is outstanding."

The list of vendors includes Cafe' Zalute, Spuntino Pizza, All on the Road Catering, Rita's on the Run, Fernandos Mexican Grill, Summit Square, Dairy Queen, Morningfields, Subway Uptown, Hay Caramba, Elliot's Off Broadway, Three Olives, Siam Thai, J.D. Kadd's, Maki Sushi, Rosario Pizza, St. John Christosmos Monastery, Chase's Root Beer, La Tasca, Pi'Ano Pi'Ano, Holiday Inn, and Lone Star Steak House.

But, some things will be new for 2006. The Committee is launching Senior Day.

Seniors will enjoy a free movie, shopping discounts, a

goody bag (first 250 seniors), and an afternoon of free bingo as part of Senior Day on Friday, July 14, during the 2006 Taste of Park Ridge. VIP bingo callers including Mayor Howard Frimark and Radio Personality Mike North will keep things lively.

According to Dudycz, the special day for older Americans starts at 10 a.m. with a free showing of the Academy Award Winning film "Walk the Line" at the Pickwick Theatre, 5 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge. He adds movie goers are encouraged to bring non-perishable food items to benefit the Maine Township Emergency Food Pantry. The Township's MaineStreamers organization is hosting the movie with Liberty Bank for Savings, Park Ridge.

Story Continues...
see TASTE next page.



BY JEFFREY CARDELLA
Special to The Bugle

Edward Jones

Pension in Trouble? Take Steps to Replace Income

In recent months, some well-known companies — including Verizon, Lockheed Martin, Motorola and IBM — have "frozen" their pension plans. If your company freezes its plan — or if you think it might do so in the future — you'll want to start thinking now of how to replace the potential lost income during your retirement years.

When a company freezes its pension, it discontinues contributions of additional benefits. Without a freeze, your benefits typically would have increased each year of continued employment. Generally, when you retire — or if you become disabled and can no longer work — distributions will be paid to you based on your plan's distribution options.

Companies that freeze their pension plans may replace them with 401(k) plans, a move that gives you both opportunities and responsibilities. Now you must determine how much you need to save in your retirement plan. That means you need to calculate your retirement income needs and how your 401(k) might meet them.

Also, you must choose the right mix of available investments within your 401(k) to help meet your retirement goals, given your individual risk tolerance and time horizon. As time goes on and your situation changes, you may need to periodically adjust your investment mix, as well.

To manage your 401(k) correctly, you may want to work with a qualified investment professional — because there's a lot at stake.

Roth 401(k) May Be Available

If your company moves from a pension plan to a 401(k), it also may provide you with the option of putting some of your money into the new Roth 401(k). Distributions from a Roth 401(k) are always tax free,

although these distributions must meet a "triggering event," such as retirement, disability or death. Earnings also can be tax-free once you reach age 59-1/2 and have had your Roth 401(k) for five years. This tax-free feature can be valuable in helping you build resources for retirement.

Other Income-building Possibilities

Apart from actively managing your 401(k), you have other options to help replace some of the income you might lose from the freezing of your pension plan. Here are some possibilities:

• **Contribute to your IRA.** Try to fully fund your Roth or traditional IRA, both of which offer tax-advantaged savings and an almost unlimited array of investment possibilities.

• **Purchase an annuity.** If you can afford it, you might want to purchase a fixed annuity, which offers tax-deferred growth of earnings and can be set up to provide you with a lifetime income stream.

• **Take Social Security earlier.** If your pension had not been frozen, you might have preferred to start taking Social Security at your "full" retirement age, which can be anywhere from 65 to 67. Now, however, you might need to start collecting your checks at age 62. Your monthly payments will be smaller than if you had waited, but if you need the money, it's there for you.

• **Adjust your investment portfolio.** With the help of an investment professional, you might want to restructure your portfolio to provide you with more income during your retirement years.

Don't Get Frozen Out

Clearly, it can be upsetting to see your pension frozen. But by managing your 401(k) wisely, and by considering the other steps mentioned above, you may be able to attain sufficient retirement income to overcome the loss of what you once counted on.

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

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BUSINESS

Zoning change proposed for new condos

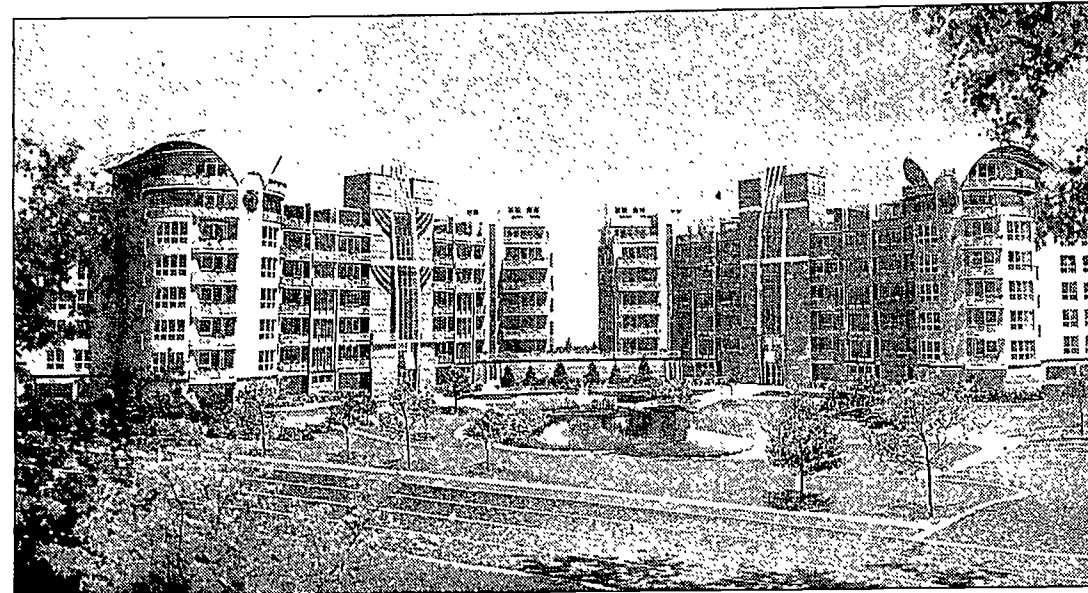
A proposal for a change in zoning in order to construct a 210 unit condominium project at 7847 Caldwell and part of 7777 Caldwell was expected to go before the Niles Village Board on Tuesday, Apr. 25.

The site is the former Salerno manufacturing facility. If approved by the village board, the northern 1/3 of the facility would be demolished in order to make way for the 7.1 acre development for 210 condo units. The change in zoning would be from M to R-4 PUD.

The proposed development consists of four buildings that would include an approximately 9,000 sq ft. clubhouse that is located between two of the buildings.

The site is on the east side of Caldwell Ave., with condo developments to the north and west. The village boundary is to the east of the rear of the property. The plan includes a total of 330 parking spaces.

Building one will have a total



An artist's rendering of proposed condominiums for 7777 Caldwell in Niles.

of 49 units; 45 condos and four penthouses. The second building will be similar to the first building and the third and fourth buildings will have 52 condominium units with four penthouses.

Currently, there is a 20 foot easement that runs at the current north end of the Salerno building for the benefit of Custom Accessories to the rear. The plan is to relocate this easement to the south of this development.

There is also a gas line that is located in the same easement and it is the developer's responsibility to get approval from the gas line company to do anything within that 50 ft. easement.

MONEY:

CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

with gold bugs, it's important that you understand a bit of history about gold investments before you contemplate joining them.

It's easy to trace the precious metal's footprints by looking at statistics compiled by Kenneth R. French, a professor of finance at Dartmouth College, who is at the top of the academic food chain of business school academics. French's performance figures for precious metal stocks date to July 1963. From that period to the end of 2004, these stocks generated a yearly return of 9.21 percent. In comparison, the blue chips in the Standard & Poor's 500 Index and long-term

U.S. Treasuries returned 10.74 percent and 7.53 percent annually. So, congratulations gold. You've proven you can play with the big boys.

But these long-term figures hide some irritating traits. Gold can behave like a balky child, who won't budge from the grocery checkout aisle until you buy her a box of Skittles. In fact, this asset class can exasperate investors for much longer than a forgotten temper tantrum.

In French's database, precious metal stocks have dropped more than 35 percent five different times. What's more, the stocks once free fell nearly 70 percent. And this ought to make you hesitate: During a period between October 1980 to August 1998, gold's annualized return was a negative 4.2 percent. That's a

long time to wait for a profit.

After digesting those figures, you may appreciate this admonition: If your motivation for clearing a space in your portfolio for gold is because you're mesmerized by its recent glittering returns, drop the shovel. If you pile gold into your investment account with that sort of mindset, you will almost certainly bail when the luster fades, which ranks right up there in terms of destructive behavior.

Undoubtedly, the best reason to buy gold is this: It represents a solid way to diversify. Ideally, your portfolio should contain asset classes that don't behave the same. And gold's correlation to most of the world's equities is quite small, which is what you want. Gold investments can also prosper during times of inflation.

You should, however, tie up only 1 percent to 5 percent of your holdings in this volatile asset class - if you want to include it at all - and then you should just hang onto it. You'd only need to touch it when rebalancing your portfolio.

Unfortunately, gold enthusiasts will discover few decent investing alternatives. Buying gold bullion or coins, as my father-in-law did, is definitely a nonstarter.

"The metal itself throws off no income, has zero long-term return and has storage costs," says William Bernstein, an investment adviser.

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

TASTE:

Food vendors sold out

CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

A fun afternoon of bingo in a big tent on the Library grounds is sponsored by Summit Square Retirement & Assisted Living and the Maine Township MaineStreamers. Prizes will be awarded.

Hours for the 2006 Taste arc: Thursday, July 13, 5 to 10 p.m., Friday, July 14, 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. and Saturday, July 15, 11 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Music on the main stages will be provided all three days. Details are still being finalized but Dudyecz previously announced that Otis Day and the Nights will headline Saturday night's lineup along with Danny and the Juniors. The Saturday night music is sponsored by ARC Disposal. A popular Park Ridge band, Dynamite Blu, will play on Saturday afternoon as well.

A wide variety of musical and dance groups will also be featured Friday and Saturday afternoons. An orchestra concert in Hodges Park presented by the Park Ridge Fine Arts Society (PRFAS) will start at 8 p.m. Friday.

A mini auto show sponsored by Walton Chrysler-Jeep, the Bredemann Auto Group, and the Napleton Auto Group will be another new element to the event this year.

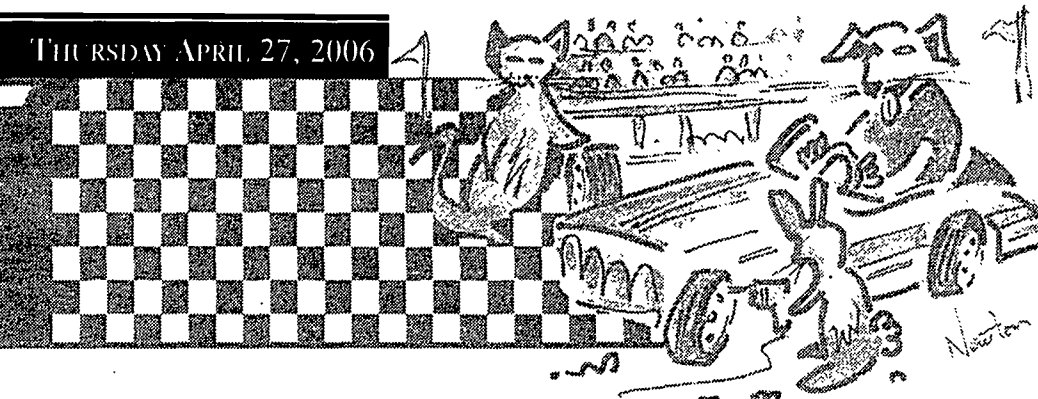
Saturday will be Family Day in Hodges Park with a variety of rides and attractions. The WGN Fan Van will be stationed along with several dozen booths on Courtland Avenue. The booths are available to Park Ridge civic organizations, political groups, Taste sponsors, and others, based on availability. For reservations, call 847-297-2510, ext. 237.

For information on the event, available sponsorships, and booth rentals, visit www.tasteof-parkridge.com or call 847-297-2510, ext. 237.

THE BUGLE

THURSDAY APRIL 27, 2006

the PET STOP



Niles expected to vote on new pet store

Petland would be located in Village Crossing

BY TRACY YOSHIDA GRUEN
STAFF WRITER

From cute little puppies, to colorful tropical fish, to exotic reptiles—Petland, that has more than 175 stores worldwide, may soon come to Niles.

Petland has already received a greenlight from the Niles plan commission and it was expected

that sells pets, such as puppies, kittens, birds, fish, rabbits, ferrets, and other animals.

"We carry a wide range of pets," said Julie Washburn, public relations coordinator for Petland.

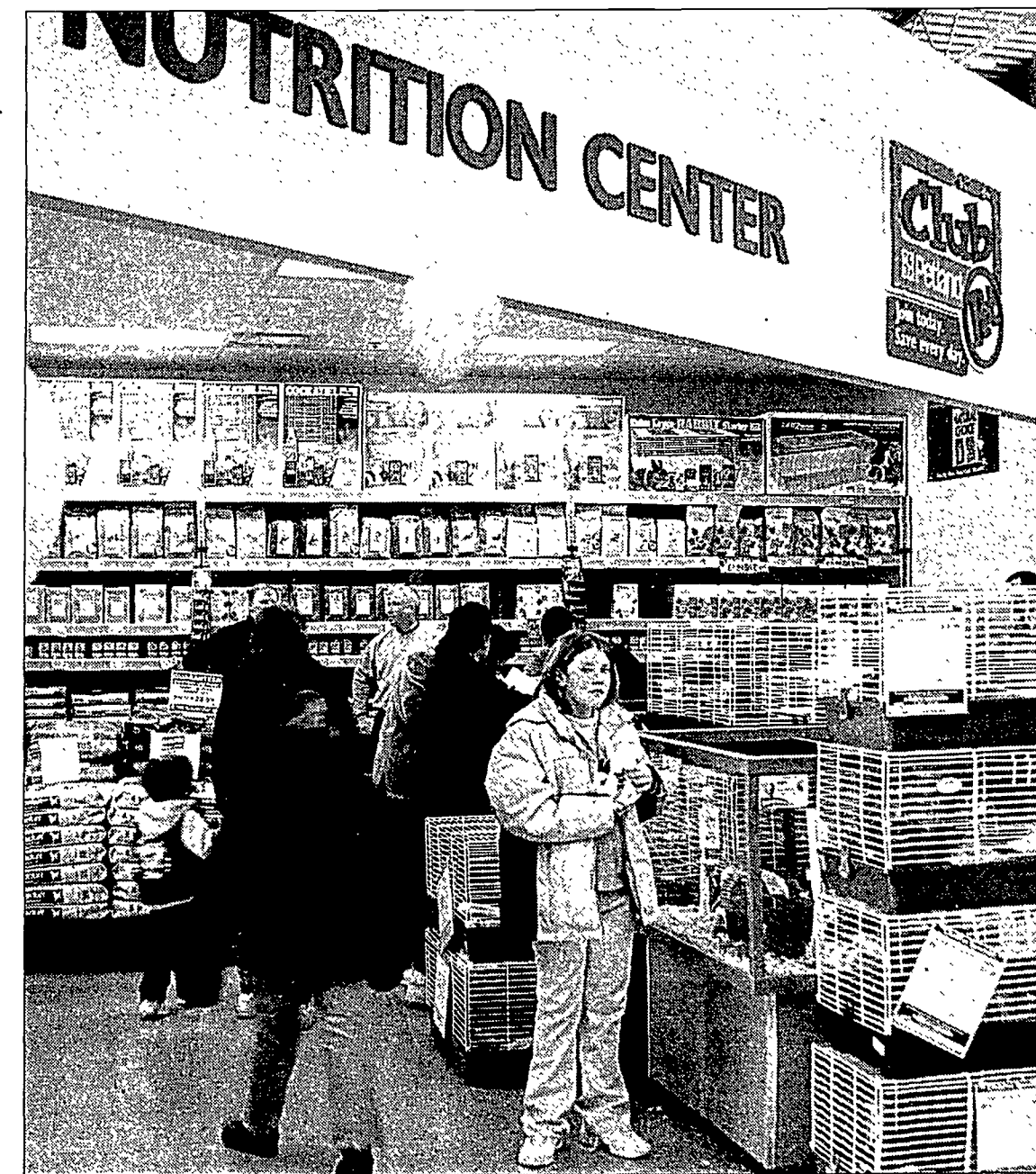
In 1967, the first Petland store opened in Chillicothe, Ohio. Since then, the company has expanded to 130 stores in the United States and more than 175 stores worldwide, including stores in Canada, Japan and France.

Washburn said that a unique feature of Petland is that they have trained pet counselors that are knowledgeable about various breeds and their necessary care and training. These counselors are trained to ask certain types of questions to the prospective pet owners.

Petland offers more than 6,000 pet products. Through Petland's Adopt a Pet program, the company works with local shelters, pet rescue groups and community members to help find homes for thousands of homeless pets and mixed breeds.

When someone adopts a puppy from Petland, the new owner will take home a Pets for A Lifetime Resource Kit. This kit includes a listing of local canine resources, a dog-training DVD and unlimited, lifetime consultation with a certified canine behavior specialist.

A licensed veterinarian visits Petland every week to check on the puppies health and provide kennel staff with directions. On average, a puppy stays 12 to 14 days.



A Nutrition Center will be part of the new store design at the Petland in Niles.

to go before the Niles Village Board for approval on Tuesday, Apr. 25.

If it is approved, the pet shop/kennel would be located at the Village Crossing shopping center at 5661 W. Touhy in Niles and open sometime mid-summer.

Community Development Director Chuck Ostman said that the village has pet supplies stores, but this would be the first store

"We carry a wide range of pets."

Julie Washburn
Public Relations
Coordinator
Petland

"

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Hey Readers! Like Our New "Pet Stop" Section?



We hope you're enjoying our Pet Stop Section. Cocoa is our Pet of the Month this issue. If you think your pet is the most lovable, our next issue is May 25, so send or e-mail your photos to:

mail to:
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The Bugle Newspapers
7400 N. Waukegan Road
Niles, IL 60714

or e-mail
editor@buglenewspapers.com



PET STOP

Injured or orphaned wildlife

What to do when you find one

BY PETER BABIKAN
NILES ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER

The season is approaching when the days get longer, warmer and animals are more active. Along with the blooming of the flowers and trees comes the birth of many different wildlife. The months of April-June are the busiest time of year for babies. For many people, you will find squirrels, rabbits, raccoons, baby birds, and fawns among others.

To most people when they see a baby animal alone, the first thought is to think that it is abandoned or orphaned. However, this is usually not the case. There are some animals, rabbits and deer for example, where the mother leaves the baby alone for long periods of time while she is off searching for food, etc. This is done also for the young one's protection/safety. The less attention drawn to the nest or the baby, the safer it will be from potential predators.

Here are some general signs that the Humane Society of the United States says to look for in determining if an animal needs help or should be left alone:

- A wild animal presented to you by a cat or dog
- Any signs of bleeding
- An apparent or obvious broken limb
- A featherless or nearly featherless bird (nestling) on the ground
- Shivering
- Evidence of a dead parent nearby

If you should happen to find an animal that you believe is either injured or has been abandoned, the best thing to do is call your local animal control officer or animal hospital. An animal that may have dropped out of a nest stands a better chance of survival with the parents and back in its nest than in any person's care. This, however, cannot always be done so if you must move an animal follow these simple instructions:

Always wear gloves or use a towel. Don't worry about getting human scent on the animal because the parents will usually return.

Keep the animal in a warm, quiet place such as a cardboard box with air holes punched in it.

DO NOT give food or water to the animal because it may choke, drown or develop other problems.

Call local animal control or animal hospital as soon as possible. Hopefully these tips will help

you better recognize whether or not an animal needs help. Although some babies may appear helpless or abandoned, it is always best to call and seek advice before moving the animal. If you have any questions or seek further information please call Niles Animal Control 847-588-6508 or email pjb@vniles.com.

INFANT WILDLIFE—PART I

Most of us have come across this familiar site whether it is in our backyards or in a park, etc.; you stumble across a shallow nest that is covered with loose grass and animal fur. Curiosity gets the best of us and we lift up the "cover" to find several brownish bodies huddled together in a ball. What you have found is a rabbit's nest.

The Eastern Cottontail Rabbit is a very prolific reproducer. The gestation period before birth is

approximately 30 days with an average litter size of 5 but can range from 2-10 babies. The "breeding season" lasts from March to September with the peak time being in May and June. A rabbit's nest can be found in loose material, such as wood chips or mulch; or can be found in the middle of your yard in the lawn. A shallow depression no more than one foot deep that is lined with loose grass and animal fur then covered with loose grass is the typical make-up of a rabbit's nest.

If you should happen to stumble across a nest our first instinct is to assume that the mother either abandoned the babies or died. A mother rabbit will rarely abandon her babies before they leave the nest. In order to aid in protecting her young, the mother will leave the nest alone during the day and return sometime during the evening hours to feed her babies. One way to deter-

mine if the mother is not coming around is to lightly place two sticks in an "X" pattern over the top of the nest. If 2 or 3 days pass without the sticks being disturbed then one can safely assume the mother is gone. An obvious indicator that the young have been orphaned is the sighting of the deceased mother nearby the nest. If you are unsure or may have concerns, please contact your local animal control officer or veterinarian for advice.

Young rabbits become independent at a very young age—approximately 14 days. Several days before completely leaving the nest, you may see the young "hopping around" close to the nest. Or if you should happen to accidentally disturb the nest: first, repair the nest as best you can using the same materials or other "loose material." If you must move the nest keep it as close to the original location as

possible and "dig" a new one under some bushes or shrubs if possible. Next, if you come across "stray" bunnies hopping around the nest, gently place them back into the nest and loosely cover it as best as possible. Once a baby rabbit is about 4 inches long, is fully furred, has open eyes and fully erect ears it can leave the nest and survive on its own. As mentioned earlier, the young rabbits will leave the nest after approximately 14 days. Although it may look like they cannot survive on their own, their instincts take over and help these young rabbits to survive. Less than half of a litter will survive to adulthood so that is why rabbits will have several litters throughout the warm months. If you have any further questions or concerns, please contact your local animal control officer—Niles Animal Control Officer Peter Babikan at 847-588-6508.

Pet of the Month
Cocoa

Cocoa shares her birthday with a holiday. Her birthday was a couple days ago, on Earth Day, April 22. She was six years old. In celebration of her birthday, she had her first swim of the year in Lake Michigan at Montrose Harbor. She loves Morton Grove because of all the forest preserves, however she does wish she was allowed in the parks. She has a busy schedule, with chasing the squirrels out of the yard and catching the frisbee. In the morning, she brings the paper in from the parkway. On Sundays, that can be quite a challenge, with all the extra reading material enclosed. She's looking forward to summer, so she can start stealing a strawberry or two from the garden. I realize I'm extremely cheezy, but I love my doggie! - Carol Levin, Morton Grove

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."

HAVE YOU HEARD

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

"Rising Stars Talent Show" Features 20 Pediatric Therapy Patients

Pediatric therapy patients of all ages, from infants to adolescents, will be performing at 6:30 p.m. Friday, April 28 at Lutheran General Hospital's Olson Auditorium.

Acts in the "Rising Stars Talent Show" include a fashion show, individual song and comedy skits, and a group circus performance. Families and therapists also get into the act on-stage and off.

BJ Byrne, 9, of Park Ridge, and his sister Caytie will be showing off BJ's service dog, Ohio, as he performs tricks at their command. Ohio is a one-year-old mixed breed and has been a member of the Byrne household since February. Advocate Lutheran

General Children's Hospital therapists have been working with BJ and Ohio in physical, occupational and speech therapy sessions. BJ was diagnosed with spina bifida at birth and has been in therapy ever since, the past six years at Lutheran General. He and Caytie are surviving quadruplets.

"My little guy has come as far as he has because he's had great therapy at Lutheran General," said Terese Byrne, BJ and Caytie's mother. "The talent show is a fun thing for them to do. They love being around all their buddies from therapy and it's great to have a bunch of people watching them that understand how simple things can be

very difficult for our children."

Adam Zdanowicz, 10, of Elk Grove Village will be singing "You'll Think of Me," by country singer Keith Urban. Zdanowicz was born three months premature and had his first surgery three days later. After the surgery, he was diagnosed with hydrocephalus which causes the ventricles to enlarge and the pressure inside the head to increase. Adam also suffers from other ailments including cerebral palsy and has been in occupational and physical therapy at Lutheran General Hospital for more than three years. According to his mother, Bozena, he is very excited about participating in this year's show.

"Adam has a very good memory and a very good ear," Bozena said. "He didn't want to participate in the talent show last year, but he has a microphone at home that he likes to hold and this year he really wants to do it."

"It's about the kids doing their best, it's not about being perfect." The show is a team effort on behalf of hospital therapists and support staff that spend their lunch hours and after work organizing the event. Some acts are coordinated with therapy to make the experience more enjoyable. "Incorporating music, performance and fun into therapy helps motivate our patients," said Sonal Patel, pediatric therapy manager at Lutheran General Children's Hospital. "They are working on therapy goals without realizing it while they are rehearsing for the show."

RAINBOW HOSPICE SPONSORS SECOND ANNUAL 5K WALK

Rainbow Hospice is sponsoring the second annual Betty Brosius Memorial Walk on Saturday, May 6. The 5K event honors the memory of Brosius who founded Rainbow Hospice in 1981.

This year's event takes place at Busse Woods, Higgins Road in Elk Grove. Registration takes place at 8:00 a.m. followed by the official welcome and start at 9:00.

Walkers will receive an event t-shirt, a gift bag and refreshments.

The walk, which serves as a fundraising event for Rainbow Hospice, was begun by Brosius' three daughters, Amy Pracko, Carrie Bending and Julie Brosius.

More information is available by contacting Jackie Mathews at 847-292-2353 or jmathews@rainbowhospice.org. To register, please visit www.rainbowhospice.org.

Celebrating its 25th anniversary in 2006, Rainbow Hospice is a nonprofit organization serving terminally ill patients and their families in Chicago and surrounding counties. Rainbow Hospice enables people to live with dignity and hope while coping with loss and the end of life. It provides pain and symptom management, nursing, social services and spiritual care. In addition, Rainbow Hospice offers the Good Mourning program for bereaved children, teens and their families as well as a Community Speakers Bureau.

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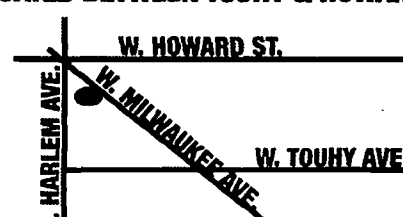
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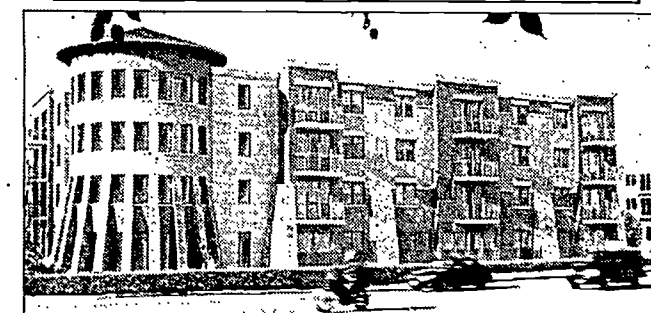
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Some 'Rose' Award Winners

Good Neighbor
Ron Kucha



"To be a good neighbor one has to have good neighbors."

Dynamic Parent
Dan Vonder Heide



"It's a privilege to be a part of this community. Niles Rocks."

Youth of the Year
Keith Banaszak



"My parents have put up with me for 16 years, I don't know how they do it."

Citizen of the Year
Jack Melfi



"'Can't' is a four-letter word in my vocabulary."

The Niles Chamber recognized 14 individuals for their contributions to the community. These are eight of them. (Photos by Allen Kaleta)

Coach of the Year
Michael Bucior



"It's been amazing to see [the kids] grow up."

Chamber Member
Dean Strzelecki



"Laurie, kids you are my strength."

Teacher of the Year
Anne de Tagyos



"Your sons make my job a pleasure."

Living Legend
Walt Beusse



"It's been a pleasure serving Niles."

Hundreds turn out for 'Night of Roses'

Chamber honors local luminaries, businesses

BY ANDREW SCHNEIDER
EDITOR

Over 360 people crowded Chateau Ritz Saturday night for the third annual Niles Night of Roses awards banquet about 50 more than attended the program last year. Attendees included the honorees as well as local politicians such as Niles Mayor Nick Blase, State Rep. Elaine Nekritz, members of the Niles Village and Park Boards.

All were there to honor 14 of Niles' finest. The awards honored firefighters, police officers, businesses and residents who exemplify Niles motto, helping to make the community a place "where people count," according to organizers.

Blase stood up to speak first, praising the event.

"This event has grown tremendously and I think the reason why is that its main focus is honoring people in our community," Blase said. "I've always thought about Niles as a family and I'd like to thank everyone for being here."

The Awards

"In January we asked the community to send in nominations for the twelve awards we are presenting this evening," said Todd Watkins, chairperson for the Night of Roses. "While it was difficult to narrow down, our selection committee chose recipients that best exemplified the spirit of each award."

'Hot Spot' Award

The first award presented was the "Fire Fighter 'Hot Spot' Award." It went to Michael Siena, Jim Leibach and Steven Zook.

"Our Fire Fighter 'Hot Spot' Award goes to

three firemen who did what was needed most for the victims of Hurricane Katrina," said Watkins. "Jim Leibach, Michael Siena, and Steven Zook joined other Illinois firefighters and were dispatched to New Orleans, with little notice and little time to prepare. They fought fires, rescued Americans, and tried to restore basic operations for emergency care."

Siena praised his fellow firefighters and the Fire Chief, Harry Kinowski.

"I couldn't ask to serve with better people," he said. "I have to acknowledge Chief Kinowski for his ability to recognize a disaster and to know that we needed to send people down there."

Coach of the Year

Tony Madl, co-chair of the event presented the award for "Coach of the Year" to Michael Bucior.

"The children of Niles are the reflection of our community. Athletics and physical education have a significant impact on the well-being of each student," Madl said. "Coaches are leaders and mentors for their players that teach them not only about the game, but more importantly teach skills to use in life."

"I'd like to thank the Chamber, thanks to all the kids and parents I've come to know over the years," Bucior said. "It's been amazing to see them all grow up."

He also remembered to thank his wife after the applause died down.

Chamber Member of the Year

The Chamber Member of the Year award honors individuals who have made a substantial contribution to the organization.

"Our next award honors an individual who has always been a valuable asset to the Niles Chamber," Watkins said. "He has contributed to the growth and professionalism of our organization, supported our programs and continues to serve as an Ambassador to the chamber. He is a past board member, past president and chairman for many committees. We are grateful for his loyalty, enthusiasm and support."

Dean Strzelecki, the award recipient, is Niles' chief of police and served as the 2004 Chamber President.

"I'm humbly honored to be included in such a group," Strzelecki said of the former winners. "I'm also honored for honored for being nominated. I'd especially like to thank my coworkers and the mayor and the village board, without whom I would not have had the opportunity to serve in the police department, or become involved with the chamber."

Strzelecki also thanked wife and children. "Laurie, kids, you are my strength."

Youth of the Year

Notre Dame's Keith Banaszak was honored as Niles' Youth of the Year.

"Our Youth of the Year meets and exceeds expectations," said Madl. "He participates in two youth groups, Boy Scout Troop 175, the theatre program, and most importantly volunteers in the community. He takes a hands on approach to serving others by helping out at Bethany Terrace Nursing Home on Saturdays."

Banaszak thanked his family.

"I'd like to thank my parents," he said. "They've put up with me for 16 years, I don't know how they do it."



Laurie Strzelecki, middle, the winner of the Unsung Worker Award speaks with Niles Mayor Nick Blase and wife, Faye Blase during the ceremony. (Photos by Allen Kaleta)

Citizen of the Year

Jack Melfi was chosen as Niles' Citizen of the Year.

"This year's recipient is a special education teacher for the hearing impaired known for being Santa Claus and the Easter Bunny to his students," Watkins said. "He has been knighted as a fourth degree Knight of Columbus and serves as

an AYSO Regional Commissioner. He is a coach, tutor and family man. He believes in helping people and is dedicated to teaching children."

Melfi said that special education teachers are not supposed to be noticed, so it's nice to be recognized.

"Being a special education teacher, my job is not to be noticed, so to be recognized for it is nice," said Watkins. "I'd especially like to thank my parents, I learned from them that 'can't' is a four-letter word."

Dynamic Parent Volunteer Award

"The success of our schools is the culmination of parents, teachers and administration working hand in hand," said Madl.

"The Dynamic Parent Volunteer Award is presented to a parent who gives endless amounts of time and makes the juggling act of parenting and work look easy. Our Dynamic Parent Volunteer Award is presented to man who is just that - dynamic."

Dan Vonder Heide was truly humble in his acceptance. "When [Chamber Director Katie DiMaria] called and told me that I'd won, in

the first few seconds I thought of several people who were more deserving. Since then I've thought of several dozen more," Vonder Heide said. "I'd like to say that it's a privilege to be a part of this community...Niles rocks."

Business of the Year

Callero & Catino Realty was recognized as the Business of the Year.

"Each year we recognize a company that makes a significant contribution to the community and its people," said Watkins. "This year's recipient was established in 1956 and has been a long time member of the Niles Chamber of Commerce. Callero and Catino Realty began as a homebuilder and later ventured into real estate. It continues its commitment to the people of Niles to this day."

"We're in a very personal business," said Alstin. "A home is the biggest purchase most people will make in their lifetimes. I wish I could take the credit for this award, but it goes to the agents and realtors who are out on the streets."

Alstin then called out "stand up Callero & Catino" and the crowd applauded five tables toward the rear of the room.

Unsung Worker

The Niles Chamber has had its share of nominees for the Unsung Worker. Not Enough Hours in the Day Award.

While her position has evolved and responsibilities advanced, Laurie

Story Continues...
see ROSES next page.



Business of the Year - Callero & Catino Realty

NEWS

ROSES: More than 300 attend awards

CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

Strzelecki still approaches everything she does with a 100 percent effort and commitment," Madl said. "Her students in their most precious years, learn from Laurie to love, to share, to listen and to make decisions. Her passion for teaching is only matched by her devotion to the Niles community. In addition to teaching, she runs summer programs, holiday festivities and special events."

Strzelecki thanked the Chamber and the Niles Park District.

"I am fortunate to have a very rewarding job," said Laurie Strzelecki. "It energizes me. I'm also very fortunate to work at the Niles Park District. Joe LoVerde and the staff are very supportive." Laurie also thanked her husband, Dean and their children, saying, "when my children were younger they used to say that I liked my pre-school students better than them. Now they say that they're going to scatter my ashes over the Howard Leisure Center."

Good Neighbor Award

While Niles has its fair share of good neighbors, Ron Kucha stands out.

"His neighbors think the world of him and refer to him as 'their guardian angel for senior citizens,'" Watkins said. "Whether it's snow shoveling, or leaf raking he looks out for the people that live around him."



From left Michael Siena, Jim Leibach and Steven Zook were honored with the Fire Fighter "Hot Spot" Award for their volunteer work during the Hurricane Katrina Recovery Effort in Louisiana.

Kucha believes good neighbors make good neighbors.

"To be a good neighbor one has to have good neighbors," said Kucha. "Helping them has never been a chore for me."

Kucha also made a point to thank one of his neighbors, Marie, who passed away last week. She was the individual who nominated him for the award.

"We're going to miss her," he said.

In closing, Kucha said to his daughter, "Lauren, I just checked with the mayor, and they're not going to name a street after me."

Police Officer "Special Agent" Award

Niles Police Officer Vincenzo Genualdi was selected as this year's "Special Agent."

He is a Niles resident and an active member of the community," Madl said of Genualdi. "As one of Niles' finest, he does not work to seek praise, but rather considers a

job well done and helping others are the true rewards in life."

Genualdi was also very thankful for his award. He made a point to thank his wife, who is also a police officer.

"Julie, today I was awarded the special agent award, but you're the special agent in my heart," he said. "Through all the endless nights, you've been patient. Today is an example that hard work and dedication does pay off."

Teacher of the Year

The Teacher of the Year award went to Notre Dame High School's Anne de Tagyos.

"Her work has a teacher and the Director of the Brother Andre Resource Program has given her the opportunity to reach out to students," Watkins said. "She is a motivated professional, with reflective perception, and intelligence."

De Tagyos believes that the award belongs to all teachers.

"Teaching is a labor of love," she said. "All teachers deserve this award. I'd like to share it with them. I'd also like to thank the families for choosing Notre Dame High School. Your sons make my job a pleasure."

Bob Wordel Living Legend Award

It's not likely that Niles will run out of living legends to honor, but Walt Beusse was honored at this year's event.

"Walter Beusse has lived in Niles for 51 years, he has seen Niles grow, prosper and transform said Madl. "Like many who have made their lives here, our great community is a success because leaders like Walt Beusse have made a difference."

He continued, citing some of Beusse's other achievements. "Over his lifetime, he has been an

integral part of organizations like the Niles Park District, Niles Baseball League, Niles Memorial Veterans of Foreign Wars, Knights of Columbus, St. John Holy Name Society, the Optimist Club, the Lions club, and the Niles Historical Society. He is still active today in all of these great causes. He has spent over forty years as a volunteer, elected official, and honorable citizen."

"It's a pleasure being here," Beusse said. "I'd like to thank the chamber. Filling Bob Wordel's shoes is difficult."

Beusse recalled that both he and Wordel worked at the former Teletype factory on Niles southeast side, he even met his wife there.

"I've met some great people along the way," Beusse said of his life. "It's been a pleasure serving Niles."



Niles Police Officer Ron Brant, last year's recipient presents the "Special Agent Award to Vincenzo Genualdi."

was impossible to determine because it is a "signature panel." That's the term autograph hounds use to describe it when someone cuts the signature from a letter or other document thinking that it's all that is important. But a letter gives a signature context and can even add value. A signature of William Henry Harrison for example, is fairly

inexpensive unless one could prove it to be from his time as president, a period of only 30 days.

Andrew Schneider is The Bugle's Executive Editor. His column appears each week. He can be reached by U.S. Post at The Bugle, 7400 N. Waukegan Rd., Niles, IL 60714 or by e-mail at editor@buglenewspapers.com.

PAGE TWO: Hounding signatures

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

lecting a signature of every president for several years but had

only begun seriously looking into it for a year or so. The vendor at this booth owned a bookstore in Chicago and had signatures of many of the presidents including even George Washington. After some haggling I purchased two signatures, one of William McKinley and the other of William Taft.

The McKinley was from the

period when he was governor of Ohio (1891-1896). It was a card with the words "State of Ohio, Executive Mansion, Columbus." He served as president from 1896-1901 and was an assassinatist by an anarchist at the Pan-American Exposition in Buffalo, NY and was succeeded by Theodore Roosevelt.

The date of the Taft signature

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SPORTS



Junior Max Berman attempts to block a Bengal runner from crossing home plate

(Photo by Ali Bhanpuri)

Wolves score early and often against Bengals

Wolves 16, St. Benedict 2

BY ALI BHANPURI
SPORTS CONTRIBUTOR

The Niles West Wolves improved their season record to 6-10 last Saturday afternoon after delivering a crushing 16-2 loss to the St. Benedict Bengals. The Wolves, who played Evanston on Tuesday, have struggled to score at times this year. However their bats woke up against the Bengals, as the team amounted 13 hits in their lopsided victory.

The heart of the Wolves' line up hit a combined 7-for-9 at the plate, tallying nine runs batted in. Leading the way was senior short stop Matt Shimanovsky, who went 3-for-4 with two doubles, a single and five RBIs. Shimanovsky praised his team

saying, "Even though we built an early lead, we didn't relax and slack off, but rather we played the entire game."

The Wolves, who will host Evanston this afternoon, notched an early 7-0 lead by the start of the third inning after scoring six in the second. Shimanovsky came up to bat in the second with the bases loaded and hit a shallow single to center field scoring two. After St. Benedict forced a ground ball out, senior outfielder Matt Ceisel roped a single to right-center bringing in the sixth and final run of the inning.

"We swung the bats well today. We got an early lead and never looked back," said Niles West coach Garry Gustafson. "As the weather warms I think we're going to put more runs on the board. Overall, it was simply a good day for us."

Junior pitcher Adam Butler was stellar in his three innings of work. Butler worked quickly and efficiently, throwing only 32

pitches and striking out six. He retired the first six batters he faced, and allowed one hit.

"Adam threw strikes and anytime you can consistently throw strikes you're going to get people out. The most important pitch in baseball is strike one and he was able to get ahead of hitters and finish them off," Gustafson said. Pitching the final two innings for the Wolves was junior Chris Thompson, who surrendered two runs and struck out two in relief. Gustafson notes that the team is "playing good baseball," but needs to get healthy. He is confident that when healthy, his team can compete with anyone.

The injury to senior pitcher Jake Ehrenberg has been damaging to the team's success. Ehrenberg, who has been out of the line up because of pain in his throwing arm, is likely to make his return within a week. According to Gustafson, he may be ready to pitch against conference rivals New Trier next Tuesday.

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IHSA Announces Legends of Boys Basketball Tournament

The Illinois High School Association announced today its list of "100 Legends of the IHSA Boys Basketball Tournament" to be honored at the 2007 boys basketball tournament - the centennial celebration of America's Original March Madness.

The Legends election and accompanying events are sponsored by the COUNTRY Insurance and Financial Services, the National Association of

Realtors, and Coldwell Banker Devonshire.

Fans selected the first 82 Legends in an online election that ran from November through March. The remaining 18 legends were selected by a blue-ribbon committee.

The team of 100 Legends will be invited to attend

Story Continues...
see TOURNAMENT next page.

SPORTS

Lane Tech outdoes Maine East

Maine East 5, Lane Tech 7

The Maine East softball team's season-long struggle to win games continued this past Monday as the Demons fell 7-5 to Lane Tech. Although taking an early 2-0 lead, the Demons, who were 4-13 prior to games against Deerfield and Niles North earlier this week, could not capitalize on scoring opportunities, leaving multiple runners on base.

As a team, Maine East stranded eight runners, a statistic head coach Robert Brown attributed to the loss.

"We left too many runners on base the entire game. In the sixth inning for example, the bases were loaded and we left all three on

[base]. A good timely hit at that point would've done us well," Brown said.

The Demons managed six hits and scored their first two runs via wild pitches. According to Brown, the team was aware of the Lane Tech pitcher's tendencies. Brown warned his team to avoid swinging at high pitches, because their opponent was inclined to "sky the ball."

Even with the scouting report, the Demons could not lay off the high heat.

"We've been trying to focus on making good contact and getting productive outs, which means cutting down on strike outs. Unfortunately we weren't able to do that today," Brown said. He also noted the goal to get his players to "relax more at the plate."

Toward the end of the game, the Lady Demons began to settle down in the batter's box, making

each at bat count. Junior catcher Sarah Dominguez fouled off five pitches with a full count to draw a walk in the sixth and was followed by two consecutive 10-pitch at bats. On the mound for the Demons was sophomore Tina Debeneditis, who allowed 7 runs in six innings. Although Debeneditis struggled with her control at times, for the most part she was able to work her way out of catastrophic situations. After walking the first two batters and surrendering a single to start the fifth inning, she managed to get two quick outs.

Finishing the game was the team's number-one pitcher, senior Michelle Ripple. Ripple only used eight pitches en route to a perfect seventh inning in which she struck out two batters.

Maine East next faces Elmwood Park at home this Monday.

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S BOWLING LEAGUE

Bowled Wednesday, April 19, 2006

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Skaja Terrace Funeral Home	62	50
Niles Dairy Queen	61	51
NorthSide Community Bank	53	59
Candlelight Jewelers	40	72
Classic Bowl	38	74

High Series/High Games

Helma Drag	505/187
Jan Repel	503/179
Kay Pecoraro	460/164
Shirley Wheeler	175
Millie Kroll	173
Mary Johnson	152

TOURNAMENT:

CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

the 2007 boys tournament and participate in special events at the centennial gala. They will also be asked to participate in one of about 25 special celebrations to be held around the state in the months prior to the state tournament, where they will autograph a commemorative "Ball of Fame." The ball will be auctioned off to a lucky fan at the state tournament. The proceeds from the Ball of Fame raffle will go to the Illinois High School Activities Foundation, which annually awards scholarships to high school students from member schools.

"We're thrilled to be able to celebrate our boys basketball centennial by directly involving the fans, who have supported our tournament in great numbers throughout the years," said Executive Director Marty Hickman. "The Legends election and the Ball of Fame are fun ways to get folks interested in our rich history and set the table for a terrific celebration in 2007."

Jeff Baker, Park Ridge (Maine South) is one of the top 100 who will be honored. According to the IHSA website bio on Baker he was a "Smooth-shooting guard who poured it on when it counted in the 1979 state tournament...put in 21 points in super-sectional when Maine South won on last-second shot over New Trier West...30 points and nine rebounds in semifinal win over East Moline...wrapped up with 26 points and ten boards in championship game win over Quincy...finished tourney with 89 points (on 36-of-65) shooting and 35 rebounds...played college ball at Texas Christian University."

Pro Golf Tour Update

April 27 - 30, 2006

This Week's PGA Tournament

Zurich Classic of New Orleans
Defending: Tim Petrovic
Total Purse: \$6,000,000
Yards: 7,078
Par: 72

New Orleans has had an on-again, off-again relationship with the PGA Tour. In 1922, the Southern Open had a one-year stay with Gene Sarazan winning the event. It wasn't until 1938, when golf returned to New Orleans as the Crescent City Open. After a hiatus from 1949-1958, a golf tournament has been hosted every year since. Byron Nelson, Billy Casper, Bo Wininger, Tom Watson, Chip Beck and Carlos Franco are all two-time winners of this event. Tim Petrovic earned his first PGA Tour victory by defeating James Driscoll in sudden death at last year's Zurich Classic of New Orleans.

PGA Tournament FORECAST

Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Partly Cloudy Hi: 79 Lo: 57	Mostly Sunny Hi: 82 Lo: 62	Partly Cloudy Hi: 83 Lo: 67	Scat'd T-storms Hi: 82 Lo: 65

PGA Tour Player Profile



Stuart Appleby

Birthdate: May 1, 1971
Birthplace: Cohuna, Australia
Residence: Orlando, Fla.
Turned Professional: 1992

World Ranking: 25
2006 Earnings: \$2,422,902
PGA TOUR Victories: Seven victories, including the 1999 and 2006 Shell Houston Opens.

Rank & Player	Money	Rank & Player	Score
1) Phil Mickelson	\$3,123,827	1) Tiger Woods	17.66
2) Tiger Woods	\$2,485,083	2) Phil Mickelson	9.93
3) Geoff Ogilvy	\$2,424,959	3) Retief Goosen	8.57
4) Stuart Appleby	\$2,422,902	4) Vijay Singh	8.44
5) Rory Sabbatini	\$2,253,710	5) Ernie Els	6.44

Last Week On The PGA Tour

Tournament Results
Champion: Stuart Appleby
Purse: \$990,000
2nd Place: Bob Estes
Purse: \$594,000
3rd Place: Steve Stricker
Purse: \$374,000

Stuart Appleby shot a 5-under 67 on Sunday to cap a wire-to-wire victory in the Shell Houston Open and join Tiger Woods and Phil Mickelson as the only two-time winners on the PGA Tour this year. Appleby led after every round and finished at a total of 19-under-par 269 at the new Redstone Golf Club Tournament Course. No one ever threatened Appleby, who won for the fourth time in five tournaments when holding the 54-hole lead. His one blemish came in 2004, when he closed with a 76 at Bay Hill and lost to Chad Campbell. Bob Estes closed with a 69 to finish second at 13 under, and Steve Stricker finished at 12 under after a 66 on Sunday.

Golf Trivia

What legend has the distinction of being the only player to lose three US Open playoffs?

- a) Sam Snead c) Robert Ashley
b) Arnold Palmer d) Tom Watson

Answer: b) Arnold Palmer

Golfing Tip

One of the many problems that can cause the amateur golfer's iron and wood shots to go offline is something not thought about often. Having too hard or too soft of a grip could be a key to not hitting your shots on the correct line. If your grip is too light, when you make the backswing, your wrists may go into a cupped position. This will result in an open clubface from the top of your backswing all the way through impact. The simple solution is to slightly strengthen your grip to let the clubface be more square at impact. If you tend to hook the ball, that means that your clubface is closed at impact and could be closed at the top of your backswing. As a result, you will need to relax your grip a little bit, allowing the club to make a smooth transition from the backswing through impact.

Golf History

April 28, 1957 - Don January, George Bayer, Ernie Vossler, and Doug Hoggins were suspended for 30 days for deliberately shooting high scores in the third round of the Kentucky Derby Open. The four had complained that they were not allowed to withdraw after making the cut.

Driving Distance		Putting Average	
Rank & Player	Avg.	Rank & Player	Avg.
1) Bubba Watson	318.5	1) Tommy Armour III	1.699
2) J.B. Holmes	310.8	2) Phil Mickelson	1.702
3) Tag Ridings	309.2	3) Scott Verplank	1.705
4) Camilo Villegas	307.7	4) Nathan Green	1.707
5) Robert Garrigus	307.4	5) Todd Fischer	1.708

SENIORS

High School Fine Arts program at MG

Morton Grove Senior News

HIGH SCHOOL FINE ARTS

Maine East, Niles North and Niles West High Schools invite local senior citizens to join in on numerous free school productions to be performed during the coming weeks. For details call the schools at 847/825-4484 (Maine East), 847/626-2000 (Niles North) and 847/626-2500 (Niles West). The events include: Niles North "Happgood" Drama at 10 a.m. on Thursday, May 4. Niles West "Pippen" Musical at 2 p.m. on Thursday, May 11. Niles North Band Concert at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, May 11. Maine East Choir Concert at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, May 18.

"WORD" WORKSHOP

Learn how to create new word documents, saving, editing, formatting, changing fonts and inserting graphics from 8:30 to 10 a.m. on Saturday, May 6 in the Morton Grove Senior Center. Learn the difference between Word, Notepad, and Word

Processing! The prerequisite is completion of the "Getting Started With Computers Class" or equivalent. The cost is \$8 for Senior Center Members and \$10 for non-members. Register in person at the Senior Center.

THE POWER OF MUSIC

The integration of music and medicine to comfort the sick is a concept that reaches back to ancient times. "Liking music" is not necessary for music to be helpful and comforting as will be explored by a music therapist from the Midwest Palliative and Hospice Care Center at 1:30 p.m. on Monday, May 8 in the Morton Grove Senior Center. This program presents an opportunity to learn about the power of music and how it can provide emotional, spiritual and physical support to people and families. This is an uplifting program that naturally, will include the performing of music. This is a free program, but registration is required, so call the Morton Grove Senior Center at 847/470-5223 to make a reservation.

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, May 9 and Thursday, May 11 in the Prairie View Community Center; and from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturdays, June 3 and 10 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.

BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENING

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, May 9 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, May 9 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.

"LET'S DO LUNCH"

Come visit the "Lunch Bunch" any Monday through Friday at the Morton Grove Senior Center. Reservations are required and can be made by calling 847/967-6876. Lunch is served at 11:45 a.m. but the Center opens at 9 a.m. where many come in for

bingo, cards, camaraderie, crafts, games, health screenings, quiet reading, seminars and just plain fun. The following special "Lunch Bunch" events are coming up:

Mothers Day Party on Friday, May 12. Lunch will be Chicken with Broccoli and Cheese. Parkview School Jazz Band on Wednesday, May 17. Lunch will be Meatball Stroganoff. Patio Grill on Friday, May 19. Lunch will be Smoked Beef Sausage. Fashion Show on Thursday, May 25. Lunch will be Herb Baked Chicken with Rice. Memorial Day Party on Friday, May 26. Lunch will be Seafood Salad. The lunch cost is a \$2.75 to \$3 donation. For information about the menu or transportation call the Morton Grove "Lunch Bunch."

Story Continues...

see MG SENIORS next page.

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Annual Fashion Show at Park Ridge Senior Center

Park Ridge Senior News

ANNUAL FASHION SHOW

Tickets are now on sale for the Park Ridge Senior Center's annual fashion show. This is always an elegant affair held at Cafe la Cave where a delicious lunch will be served followed by fashions from

Coldwater Creek modeled by Center members. The date is Wednesday, May 31 starting at 11:30 a.m. Members are encouraged to bring guests and friends. Tickets are only \$34.00 per person. Tables of 10 can be arranged.

AMISH ACRES TRIP

On Wednesday, May 17 there will be an early 7:30 a.m. departure from the senior center bound for Nappanee, Indiana. The

day tour of the area will include a documentary about the Amish, an area tour of homes and farms, and a delicious Threshers dinner, a family style feast of Amish country favorites. The day will be completed with a local play, "Plain and Fancy."

Return to Park Ridge should be about 6 p.m. Reservations are required and made according to our current registration policy. There is a \$70.00 charge for the day; all tours, lunch, show, and motorcoach transportation.

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Above comes with choice of soup or salad, potato or vegetable, coffee, tea or iced tea and dessert. Splitting charge \$3.00 includes an extra soup or salad

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Ample Parking On East Side Of Mall During Construction

SENIORS

Aging Lifestyles

Oldsters resist assisted living

Joe Volz
Copley News Service

Today, the experts' words of wisdom say age 60 is the new 40. People who are 60, if they are smart, are exercising more, eating less and are beneficiaries of all the wonder drugs and miracle surgeries that extend life. It must mean, using the intriguing new math, that us septuagenarians are really only about 50.

I was feeling pretty good about all this, having found a modified version of the fountain of youth, when I went to Anaheim, Calif., recently to attend the annual convention of experts on aging. It was sponsored by the National Council on Aging and the American Society on Aging.

I slipped into a workshop where the talk among the professionals was all about assisted living. One key topic: How do you convince recalcitrant old folks to move into an assisted living facility, let alone a nursing home?

So many elders just don't want to leave their homes. Often, they are living alone and they have trouble getting around. They

refuse to relocate to a retirement home or, in the case of the frail, to an assisted living facility.

One bright young woman just entering the geriatrics field argued that you had to cajole the oldsters. Become their friends. Give them the idea you care and then broach the idea.

But an older expert said little could be done to woo older Americans to assisted living until a crisis hits. And then it occurred to me - right there in that Hilton meeting room - they were talking about my generation. My age "cohort," as they experts like to say. I was no longer part of the solution as a columnist writing on aging issues. I am part of the problem. Although I am in good health, is an assisted living facility just down the road?

I had an entirely different perspective on things. In the past, I had been unable to understand why my own family elders battled so bitterly against retirement and nursing homes. For the first time, I could see why Uncle Ray and

Uncle Willard fought so hard to stay in their home. They did not want to give up control over their lives.

Uncle Ray, a bachelor, was the first resister. My father, the youngest of the three brothers, had insisted that Ray, with a variety of ailments, move into a nursing home. This was before those halfway houses and assisted living facilities had become so well-established.

Ray, who had lived in the same row house in Philadelphia for his entire life, except during his Army service in World War II, was a conscientious objector when it came to a nursing home. He went to the nursing home reluctantly, but his ailments remarkably regressed in three months and he came back home to live out his years.

When he died, that left his younger brother, my Uncle Willard, also a bachelor, living in the house alone. Willard was in good health, so my father, a social worker, decided Willard would be

best off in a pleasant retirement home run by the Baptists out on leafy Roosevelt Boulevard.

Willard also went reluctantly. He refused to participate in group activities. He had never been a joiner. Willard stopped eating and eventually perished in the nursing section of the home. Would he have lived longer at home? Who knows?

Listening to those young experts in Anaheim puzzle over why people did not want to leave their homes, I realized I, too, would be among the resisters when my time arrived. I didn't want to be told what to do. Certainly not by, well, kids. It doesn't matter how many degrees they possess. Maybe I would listen to their parents, though. I wonder if they were carted off to some institution somewhere.

The experts said senior citizens are just victims of the culture they grew up in. Our elders were used to living in their homes for life. It is no longer practical as we live longer. I had not learned to adjust

to the realities of the 21st century.

Intellectually, I know the day will come when my wife, Kate, and I will need some help. We won't want to move in with the kids who have their own harried lives to lead.

Maybe we will take advantage of all of the new concepts of independent living and stay at home, with some professional help.

As for the young experts on aging, I suggest that before you go to work in an assisted living facility, you move into one for a few weeks as a patient. Give up your freedom for a while. In fact, maybe it ought to be a requirement. As for me, I'll be flexible and try out one of those places myself for a few weeks. But not just yet.

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

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MG SENIORS:

CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

BRAIN GAMES

With aging, people often begin to see changes in their mental functioning, memory, processing of information and having that "tip of the tongue" phenomenon. There are many things that can be done to help combat these effects of aging and enhance brainpower. Learn about some of the functions of the brain at this fun and interactive program starting at 1:30 p.m. on Monday, May 15 in the Morton Grove Senior Center presented by Gail McGeever of Arden Courts. This is a free program, but registration is required, so call the Morton Grove Senior Center at 847/470-5223 to make a reservation.

HOW DOES OUR GARDEN GROW?

Through the efforts of wonderful and caring volunteers, the Morton Grove Civic Center patio gardens have been one of the highlighted attractions for guests. Anyone interested in getting a little dirty and being a part of the beautiful blooming should contact Bud Swanson at the Center by calling 847/663-6110.

VIAL OF LIFE

No one ever plans for a medical emergency to occur in his or her home, but being prepared for

such an event can be essential, particularly for those who live alone. Certainly, the use of 911 is the most important tool in any emergency situation but there is an additional step that can be taken. The Vial of Life issued by the Cook County Sheriff's Office known as the "Helpful Emergency Lifesaving Packet" (H.E.L.P.) is now available at the Morton Grove Senior Center. The Packet contains a plastic vial, which will store medical and health history information that emergency personnel can access in the event of an emergency. If interested in a Vial of Life Packet, call the Morton Grove Senior Hot Line at 847/470-5223.

"DO NOT RESUSCITATE" FORMS

The Illinois Department of Public Health has revised their "Do-Not-Resuscitate" (DNR) forms. This is a form that allows an individual, in conjunction with a health care professional, to make an advance decision that cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) should not be attempted if his or her heart and/or breathing stops. These forms are available at Morton Grove Senior Center, 6140 Dempster Street. The forms can be picked up Monday through Friday between the hours of 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. For more information call the Morton Grove Senior Hot Line at 847-470-5223.

LIFE

PERFECT PAIRINGS

A contemporary twist on classic surf and turf

In 1992, Burke, along with Smith & Wollensky CEO Alan Stillman, opened the Park Avenue Cafe. Four years later, he became vice president of culinary development for the Smith & Wollensky Restaurant Group. During his 12 years with the company, he developed some of its most popular dishes, including Swordfish Chop, Crackling Pork Shank and his line of GourmetPops (found at www.gourmetpops.com).

In 2003, Burke opened Davidburke & Donatella on the historic Upper East Side of New York City with partner and restaurateur Donatella Arpaia. Burke describes the restaurant's cuisine as "David Burke unplugged" or American classics with a twist. Other restaurants followed, including a restaurant in Bloomingdale's in New York and David Burke's Primehouse in the James Hotel Chicago.

Burke's wizardry in the kitchen has earned many accolades during his career, including the Chef of the Year honors from Chef Magazine in 1998. At 26, Burke became one of the youngest chefs and the first American to win France's coveted Meilleurs Ouvriers de France Diplôme d'Honneur. He also was one of

the few Americans to be honored with the August Escoffier Award from the CIA. His first cookbook, "Cooking with David Burke" was published in 1995, and a second, "David Burke's New American Classics," has just been released by Alfred A. Knopf.

THE DISH

True to his love of taking a classic dish and adding a tasty twist, Burke conjures up a savory steak and potato dish - only these spuds are in the form of a shrimp-potato pancake.

"I guess you could call the Cracked Pepper Sirloin with Shrimp-Potato Pancakes my take on both surf and turf," explains Burke in his new cookbook. "The Worcestershire Compound Butter can be made well in advance, and the pancakes can be made early in the day and reheated in a 300-degree oven for about 10 minutes before serving. Put the asparagus in to roast while you prepare the steaks, call your guest into the kitchen, pour a great glass of red wine, and get the talk going as you pull it all together."

It's appropriate the New York City chef featured this American classic. In 1835, the Delmonico family - immigrants, from Switzerland - opened the city's first luxury restaurant. For nearly 50 years Delmonico's set the standard for gourmet food in America. It was here the Delmonico Steak was born. This American classic was a tender strip of usually boneless top loin, and was served with equally famous Delmonico Potatoes, which were boiled, buttered and sprinkled with parsley and a squeeze of lemon juice.

Look for good marbling in your steak and ask your butcher for choice grade or prime, if they have it and you can afford it. Burke calls for clarified butter, which is the clear product that remains when butter is melted

and the butterfat separates from the water and milk solids. To clarify butter, cut 1 pound of unsalted butter into cubes and place in a medium saucepan over very low heat. Cook for about 20 minutes, without stirring or allowing the butter to bubble and burn. Strain into a clean container and discard the solids. It will refrigerate for up to 6 months.

THE WINE

At first blush, you would match a big cabernet sauvignon with this dish - but don't forget the shrimp-potato pancakes. A big red would work with the steak but overpower the subtle flavor of the shrimp. So we look to two wines that would work very well with this dish - a pinot noir and its much-abused cousin, merlot.

"A Markham Vineyards pinot red would be perfect for this dish," Burke exuberantly agreed. "We serve it by the glass at the restaurant - it's one of my favorite pinots. And Bryan (Del Bondio, Markham's president) is a great friend - they do wonders with their wines."

Unfortunately, the winery only makes 500 cases of their pinot and it's only available in the tasting room. So we're selecting the winery's flagship wine, the Markham Vineyard 2002 Merlot (\$22.50).

Despite the bad press and one movie character's lambasting of this fine grape, a great merlot can be a wonderful experience. In this case, we have a wonderfully layered and complex wine with beautiful acidity and fruit, perfect for the complex flavors of the dish. The velvety texture and vibrant cherry fruit flavors of the wine contrast with the steak and shrimp pancakes without overpowering them.

Markham Vineyards stands on

PERFECT PARINGS

continued onpage 22



RON JAMES
Copley News Service

THE CHEF

David Burke is a lot like inventor Thomas Edison. While Edison tinkered with electricity and scientific techniques to create his wonders, Burke tinkers with fresh ingredients and kitchen techniques to work culinary wonders. Burke has introduced dozens of unique food inventions, including tuna tartar, goat cheese lollipops, pastrami smoked salmon and a line of flavored sprays that taste like high-caloric foods but have no calories. As exotic and tasty as his novel creation are, it's his talent in the kitchen that has made

him famous as a pioneer in new American classic food. With a passion for food stoked during a stretch in the fast food business, the New Jersey native trained at the Culinary Institute of America and graduated in 1982. He soon headed to France to discover the secrets of the great French Michelin men. He worked with some of the best, including Pierre Troisgros and Georges Blanc, and studied pastry under Gaston Lenotre.

Back in America, he developed a solid foundation in French cooking under Waldy Malouf at L.A. Cremaillere in Westchester, N.Y. Burke moved on to the acclaimed River Cafe, where worked as a sous chef under Charlie Palmer; he soon moved up to executive chef, earning three stars from The New York Times.

THE RECIPES

CRACKED PEPPER SIRLOIN WITH SHRIMP-POTATO PANCAKE AND ROASTED ASPARAGUS 6 (8-ounce) sirloin steaks

Cracked black pepper and coarse salt, to taste
1/4 cup clarified butter or vegetable oil
Yields 6 servings.

Combine grated potatoes with shallots and egg in medium bowl, stirring to blend well. Add shrimp and season mixture with salt and pepper. Heat butter (or oil) in large, non-stick saute pan over medium-high heat. Spoon 2 to 3 tablespoons of potato mixture into pan, pushing down slightly to form neat, pancake shapes. Continue forming pancakes without crowding pan. You will need 12 pancakes to complete the dish.

Fry pancakes, turning frequently, for about 10 minutes, or until golden brown on both sides and cooked through. If necessary, lower the heat to keep pancakes from burning before potatoes are cooked.

Using slotted spatula, transfer pancakes to double layer of paper towels to drain. Serve warm.

WORCESTERSHIRE COMPOUND BUTTER

1/2 cup Worcestershire sauce
1 tablespoon sugar
1 cup (2 sticks) unsalted butter, at room temperature
Yields 8 servings.

Combine Worcestershire sauce and sugar in small nonstick saucepan over medium-high heat. Bring to a boil, then lower heat and cook at a bare simmer for about 10 minutes.

Place 2 Shrimp-Potato Pancakes in the center of each of 6 dinner plates. Place 1 steak on top of each. Top each steak with 1 slice of compound butter, place an equal portion of asparagus at the side, and serve.

SHRIMP-POTATO PANCAKES

2 large Idaho potatoes, peeled and grated
3 shallots, minced
1 large egg

3 ounces shrimp, peeled, deveined and chopped
Coarse salt and freshly ground black pepper, to taste
Approximately 1/4 cup clarified butter or vegetable oil
Yields 6 servings.

Combine grated potatoes with shallots and egg in medium bowl, stirring to blend well. Add shrimp and season mixture with salt and pepper. Heat butter (or oil) in large, non-stick saute pan over medium-high heat. Spoon 2 to 3 tablespoons of potato mixture into pan, pushing down slightly to form neat, pancake shapes. Continue forming pancakes without crowding pan. You will need 12 pancakes to complete the dish.

Fry pancakes, turning frequently, for about 10 minutes, or until golden brown on both sides and cooked through. If necessary, lower the heat to keep pancakes from burning before potatoes are cooked.

Using slotted spatula, transfer pancakes to double layer of paper towels to drain. Serve warm.

ROASTED ASPARAGUS

2 pounds asparagus, trimmed
2 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil
Coarse salt and freshly ground black pepper, to taste
Yields 6 servings.

Preheat oven to 400 F.

Break off woody stem ends of asparagus. Use paring knife to neat ends. If stalks are very large and tough, peel off outer layer.

Place asparagus on nonstick baking pan. Add olive oil, salt and pepper, and toss asparagus to coat well. Place in preheated oven and roast for about 20 minutes, or until nicely colored and cooked through.

Remove asparagus from oven and serve either warm or at room temperature.

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LIFE

THE ALERT CONSUMER

Wireless comes of age

RACHEL LAING
Copley News Service

Back in the late 1990s, as the New Economy bacchanal raged, the wireless industry promised to set America free.

The next generation of wireless networks, it was said, would soon make checking e-mail, surfing the Web, watching TV or playing video games as easy to do from a park bench or subway seat as from a desk chair or couch.

Then the dot-com party came to an abrupt and ugly end, causing investors to look at wireless ventures with considerably less enthusiasm. The massive downturn in the tech economy also squeezed capital needed for network upgrades, and the wireless bash was declared over before it started.

Over the past two years, U.S. carriers have quietly built out the long-promised 3G networks, and they're seeking a return on that investment in the form of higher billings for data services such as e-mail, television and music downloads.

Now that all the pieces are in place, wireless consumers should brace themselves for a blast of information on services that could rival the marketing frenzy of the dot-com era.

"This year, it's all about content - what you're doing beyond talking on the phone," said Jorge Fuenzalida of the telecom-research firm iCode.

Several factors have come together to create an ideal environment for new services, including handsets with longer battery life and color screens, greater capacity on wireless networks, and a changing consumer base, Fuenzalida said.

"We like to think of things from a supply perspective, but consumers are changing as well," he said. "People born in 1990 are now 16 years old, and they've never known life without cell phones."

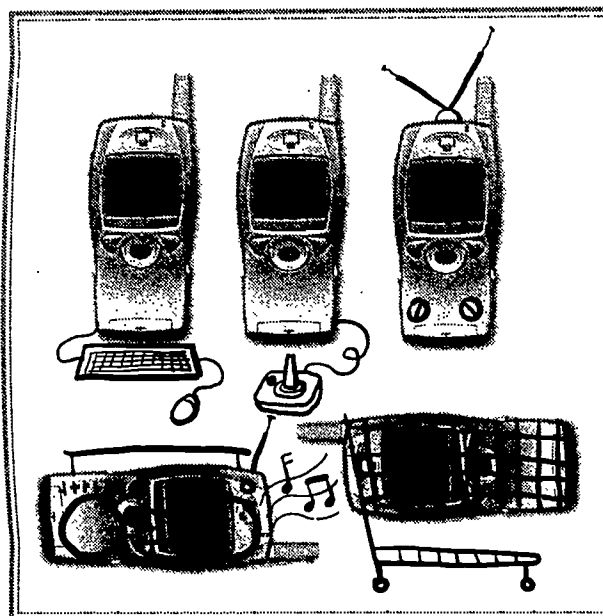
U.S. consumers have shown that their appetite for upgraded services is growing. Last year, they nearly doubled their spending on nonvoice mobile phone services over 2004, shelling out \$10.5 billion for data services, according to the Yankee Group.

The research firm estimates that billings for mobile data services will continue to explode, hitting \$25 billion next year and \$41 billion by 2010.

While it's clear that everyone's gearing up for a boom in mobile services, what's not yet evident is exactly what will capture Americans' hearts and dollars.

Just as no one predicted at the start of the Internet boom that an auction Web site or a no-bells-or-

whistles search engine would be the industry's top players, it's tough to predict what the must-have mobile technologies will be - and who will execute best.



"You're going to see a ton of experimentation as these guys struggle to figure out the magic formula," said the Gartner Group's Michael King. "Consumers are going to be the ones in control here."

So far, those who have moved beyond using their phones for voice calls have mainly stuck with communication. Text messaging - long popular in Europe and Asia - has taken off domestically. The wireless industry trade group CTIA estimates that 7.3 billion text messages are sent within the United States every month, up from 2.9 billion per month a year ago.

As evidenced by the mass nibbling over a possible shutdown of the Blackberry service this winter, e-mail is also fast gaining popularity as handset makers offer more devices with full QWERTY keyboards.

But there are signs that not all mobile data demand is practical-minded; U.S. consumers spent \$500 million on ring tones last year, compared with \$245 million in 2004, according to technology analyst firm BMI.

Meanwhile, consumers are experimenting in increasing numbers with picture messaging, mobile blogging and music downloads.

Probably the most closely watched emerging service is mobile TV, which IDC research estimates will be a \$3 billion market by 2010. Carriers also see it as a way to tap the wallets of subscribers, who spend roughly \$40 more per month compared with non-TV subscribers, according to research firm Telephia.

Right now, just about everything about mobile video services is up in the air, including how interested American consumers will be in the tuning in on the so-called "third screen."

Most analysts say mobile TV is

going to be radically different from what we're used to seeing in the living room.

Fuenzalida said consumers will want to "snack" on content in short bursts during downtime, but will never get into the lean-back mode they do at home. He sees cell phones being used to view sports highlights and news, as well as short comedy bits like the wildly popular "Lazy Sunday" Saturday Night Live skit that made the rounds on the Internet earlier this year.

"The standing-up technology of the phone doesn't allow you to watch 'Gone With the Wind,'" Fuenzalida said. "Full length is not going to be very popular."

King, who has tried to while away airport waits by watching TV on his phone, said tiny screens will limit the possibilities for mobile TV.

"The majority of the 3G phones can display reasonable quality, but on a 3-inch screen, max," he said. "I'll sit for an hour and watch this thing, and I'll start to get a headache."

The current leader in small-screen TV, MobiTV, has 1 million subscribers who pay \$9.99 per month for content from about 50 channels, including CNN, Fox Sports and the Cartoon Network. The company said it added as many subscribers in the past six months as in its entire first two years.

MobiTV is offered through carriers, often under a different name - Sprint calls it Sprint TV. The carrier handles billing and takes a cut of the subscription fee.

More important to the carriers is that, in order to subscribe to the TV service, customers have to sign up for the carrier's data service, which typically adds an additional \$10 to \$15 to the customer's bill.

Paul Scanlan, MobiTV's co-founder and chief operating officer, called TV "the 75-year-old killer app" that would drive a broad spectrum of cell phone users to sign up for data plans. Scanlan acknowledges that most of MobiTV's users are young and male, but he says most new technology services are adopted by young males first. He sees the demographics of the company's users changing as more people become aware of the service.

"TV is easily the most successful application in the world," Scanlan said. "It appeals to pretty much everybody."

While not too many retirees are interested in text-messaging their buddies, Scanlan said, the ability to keep up with their favorite

baseball team or track their investments on CNBC might drive them to upgrade their phone plans.

"I know once my dad knew he could watch CNBC or Fox News while they were waiting at the doctor's office, he was interested," Scanlan said. "Whereas all these games and ring tones - it's not for them."

MobiTV will face competition next year when communications giant Qualcomm enters the mobile TV market with MediaFLO, a live TV service that will run on the analog spectrum abandoned when broadcasters moved to digital transmission. Qualcomm has invested \$800 million in the service in the interest of driving consumer demand for 3G services, that will in turn drive sales of chips based on the company's proprietary technology.

"We're concerned about the experience being disappointing," said Qualcomm spokesman Jeremy James. "If we promise TV on the phone and people don't get that experience, it will slow market uptake (of 3G services)."

Visit Copley News Service at www.copleynews.com.

PERFECT PARINGS

continued from.....page 21

the site of one of Napa's historic vineyards, first planted in 1874 and purchased by Bruce Markham in the 1970s. The expanded and remodeled winery has recently produced three of the No. 1-rated wines from California, according to Wine Spectator.

The layers and complexity of the merlot comes from selecting the best grapes from some of the best vineyards in California. It is fermented in French and American oak, which gives additional layers of flavors, including spice and vanilla. The wine is dense and velvety and has flavors of toasted hazelnuts, vanilla cream and dense cherry and blackberry. The light, soft tannins will allow this wine to age gracefully for years.

"David Burke's New American Classics" 2006 (Alfred A. Knopf, \$35).

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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BUGLE KIDS

By J.R. Rose-Copley News Service

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FLOWER
ON THIS
WET
GROUND...

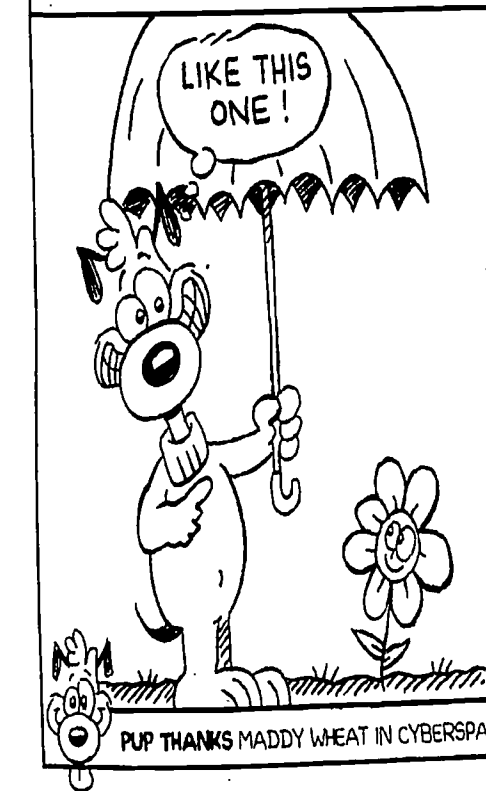
APRIL SHOWERS
BRING MAY FLOWERS !!

GIVE ME 5 RHYMES FOR
RAIN...



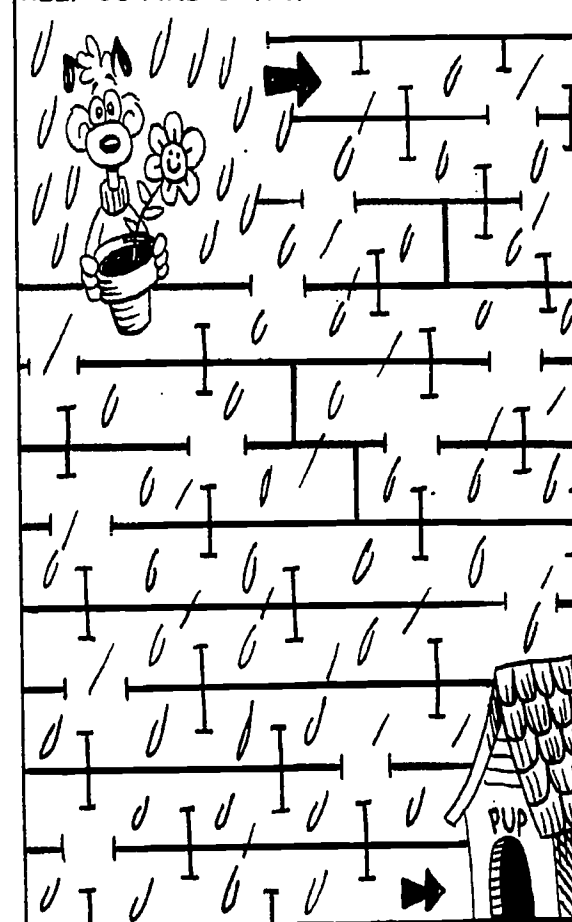
HOW
ABOUT
CANE ?

SOLVE THE RIDDLE:
HOW CAN THREE LARGE MEN
GET UNDER ONE UMBRELLA
AND NOT GET WET ?



PUP THANKS MADDY WHEAT IN CYBERSPACE

I AM OUT IN AN APRIL SHOWER
TO GET SOME WATER FOR MY FLOWER !
BUT WE GOT LOST IN THIS SPRING RAIN
HELP US FIND OUR WAY HOME AGAIN !



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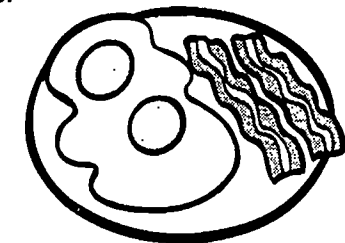
OUCH !! I SHOULD HAVE
KNOWN BETTER THAN TO
GO OUT IN A LIGHT RAIN !



Grammar Matters

by Patty Gibbons Sannier

Food for Thought



Choose the correct verb in the following sentences.

1. Bacon and eggs (is/are) today's special.
2. The macaroni and cheese (is/are) burning.
3. Leonard still thinks peanut butter and jelly (make/makes) the best sandwich.

Answers: Usually a compound subject takes a plural verb, but here is an exception. If the compound subject acts as a single unit, it is treated as one and takes a singular verb. Macaroni and cheese, bacon and eggs, and peanut butter and jelly have been around for so long, the combinations are considered one. Therefore, all the sentences above take singular verbs. 1. is 2. is 3. makes

Copley News Service

Nature Newswatch

Carrying on

Nibbling off the pointy ends of nuts and seeds, the chipmunk loads them in his face, alternating cheeks until they are both well-balanced and full. He totes them to his hidden hoard, then carries on busily foraging over ground and up tree.

Least chipmunks are the smallest of their clan, yet are the most active and widely ranging, thriving in a variety of habitats from tundra to desert. The little striped scampers are adept climbers and tunnelers, building summer dens in stumps, rock piles or tree cavities and winter nests in underground burrows.

About now is when litters of five to six chipmunks are born blind, naked and weighing about one-tenth of an ounce. After about a week, the body stripes appear. After 30 days, their eyes open, and after another month, the tiny pups leave the nest to begin foraging with their mother, stuffing those cheeks and carrying on in the chipmunk way.

Least chipmunk *Neotamias minimus*
Head and body: 3 1/2-4 1/2 inches

Habitat: tundra, forests, sagebrush deserts
www.naturenewswatch.com

by Tim Herd
© 2006



REAL ESTATE

DECOR SCORE

New category of window treatments comes to light

ROSE BENNETT GILBERT
Copley News Service

Q: I don't know how to handle the windows in this 1900s farmhouse we are trying to renovate. The neighborhood has grown up around the house - the family who built it sold off the land in the 1960s. We need something more than sheer curtains on the windows for privacy, but I don't want to block what little light we get or spoil the "farmhouse" feeling. What do you suggest?

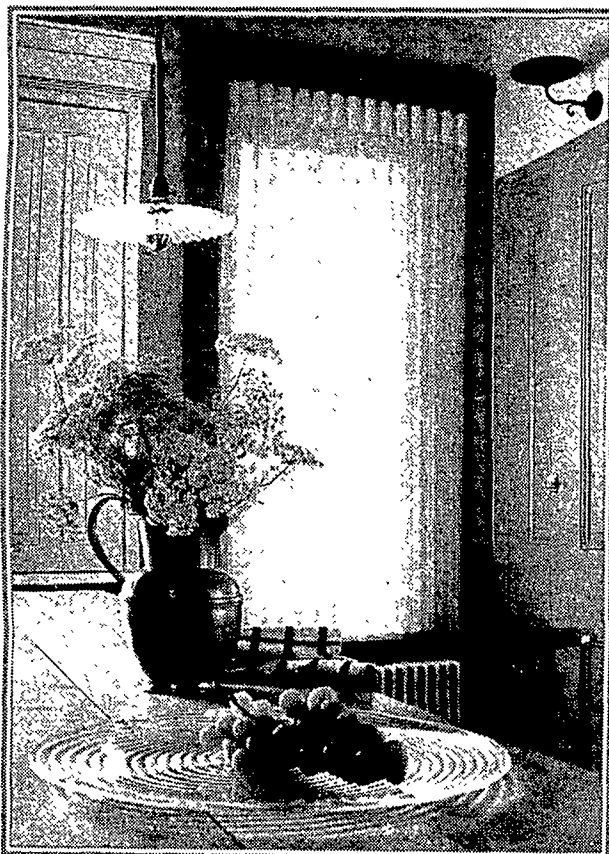
A: I'd suggest that you investigate a whole new category of window coverings that are neither curtains nor shades, but hybrids that offer the best features of both. In professional window-speak, these new window fashions are called "shadings," so dubbed by Hunter Douglas, the manufacturer that invented most of them.

The shadings we show here are Luminettes, sheer fabric vanes encased in translucent fabric panels. The vanes rotate to give you varying degrees of light control and privacy without shutting out the light. In fact, as Hunter

Douglas VP Joe Jankowski puts it, such shadings can actually "suck in and soften" the light. And, as you can see, they still look traditional enough to fit into a farmhouse atmosphere.

Another advantage shadings can offer over ordinary window curtains is energy control. Because they fit snugly at the window, they can cut heat- and cool-loss dramatically. In fact, multi-layered honeycomb shades promise the highest R-value of any window covering (R = resistance to the transfer of heat), and the higher the R-value, the lower the energy loss. Honeycombs are also highly effective at noise-control, another potential problem with neighbors who, like yours, may live a bit too close.

To check out more options, click on www.hunterdouglas.com or call (800) 274-2985.



change the cabinets or even paint them?

A: Concentrate on making temporary changes. For example, hanging a wall of mirrors in handsome frames will add instant sparkle, especially in such a small space.

Plus, there is a way to change the walls themselves without forfeiting your security deposit: "Peelable" wallpapers really do live up to the description. They look and apply like regular wallpapers, but when you're ready to move on, just pull on one edge of each panel and it should peel right off. Sponge away any remaining glue and your landlord will never suspect.

You can also lay a small colorful area rug - no threat from shower moisture in a powder room. And don't neglect the

ceiling. One New York designer jazzed up her own powder room ceiling by painting it dark then centering a square of gilded wallpaper, framed with a decorative wallpaper border. Definitely worth looking up to!

Q: Love your stainless steel appliances, but hate those constant fingerprints?

A: There's good news in the latest bulletin on kitchen fashions: the new hot metallic finish is bronze. Jenn-Air has just introduced such appliances as refrigerators and ovens in what they're calling Oiled Bronze, an antique metallic finish that's warmer and richer than stainless. And, we hope, less prone to fingerprinting. (Have a look at www.jennair.com; 866-385-4370).

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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SMALL SPACES Cut clutter with organized kids

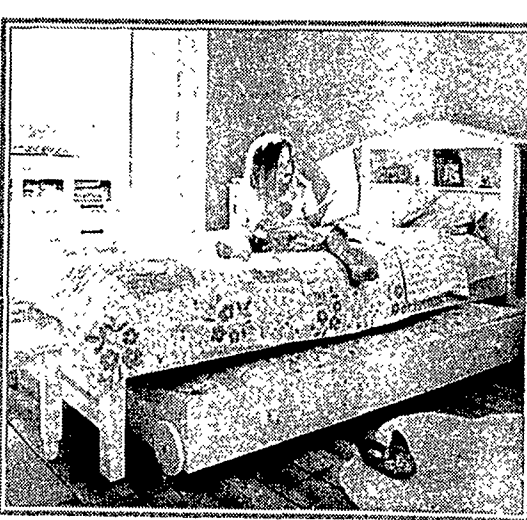
CHRISTINE BRUN
Copley News Service

Clutter means chaos, which can drive any parent completely around the bend. It is essential to learn how to combat this insidious opponent if household harmony is to be the result. Having "stuff" everywhere is unsettling visually, and it gives us a sense of being out of control on many levels.

The adults in the house have to take charge. In addition to leading by example, it is important to teach children at a young age to develop an awareness of clutter. A first step is to show them how

to put their belongings away.

One idea might be to use a trundle-bed drawer, like the one shown here, as a place to hide personal belongings. Instead of storing bedding, maybe your child could stash his or her toys in the cavity and just push it closed. A toddler could also use this as a place to toss dirty clothes in



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place of a hanpcer.

To a child, the idea of opening and closing this kind of a compartment seems like fun rather than a chore. If you package the task in an appealing way, you'll be more likely to grab your child's attention. This one also features a stylish headboard that provides a narrow shelf suitable for a flashlight, snack and nap-time reading materials.

Cleaning their rooms always seems boring to kids, but there are ways to make it more interesting. Make a game out of organizing by putting the clutter away to the words and melody of any song - from hip-hop to a nursery

SMALL SPACES
continued onpage 25

A GREENER VIEW 'Green' products great for grappling with grubs

JEFF RUGG
Copley News Service

Q: I read your column religiously every week, and I find your tips come in handy many times. We have a recurring problem with grubs in our

lawn. We pay to have a company come five times a year to treat our lawn, and they continue to fail to bring the grub problem to our attention until it's too late. We ended up losing a good part of our lawn in early summer last year that had to be replaced with sod, and by the end of summer the grubs were back with a vengeance.

My question is this: Is there a safe, non-toxic and inexpensive way to treat lawn grubs? I read once that an ammonia mix (1 part ammonia to 2 parts water) works safely to kill grubs. Will this work, or do you have another "home remedy" for grubs?

A: I try never to recommend home remedies because they tend to do much more harm than good. They are often based on something store-bought that had to go through rigorous Environmental Protection Agency testing before being licensed, but in this case I don't know of any real grub killer with ammonia in it. Ammonia is used in many fertilizers, but the high rate you have suggested would probably burn your grass out.

It would be unusual for grubs to kill a large area in a lawn in early summer. The females lay eggs in midsummer, and in late summer a new batch hatches and begins to feed. They grow rapidly until the first frost, then they burrow down into the soil to go dormant. They winter below the grass roots and come up to do a little feeding, then they pupate to become beetles.

After they become adults, they leave, so there are no grubs in the lawn.

You would need at least 10 grubs in an area the size of a sheet of paper to make it worth treating the lawn, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture's

warmer weather. Pesticide chemical applications in early spring tend not to have much effect on grubs.

There are a couple of methods of working with nature to try to control grubs without using chemicals. Milky spore products apply a naturally occurring bacterium that infects the grub while not being harmful to other insects, birds, pets or people. Like most natural control methods, it can take some time to be effective. It can take several years for there to be enough milky spore bacteria present to keep the grub population under control.

The treatment slowly kills the grubs over one to three weeks, and although the grubs don't feed during that time, they are still alive and you may think you should use some chemical treatment to finish them off. If allowed to run its course, however, the grub will die and many billions of new spores will be released into the soil.

St. Gabriel Laboratories has a milky spore product specifically designed to treat Japanese beetle grubs. You can find more information at www.milkyspore.com (How's that for an easy one to remember?).

A product from Gardens Alive uses nematodes, which are microscopic parasites that kill grubs and other harmful insect larvae like cutworms and weevils. They have different versions for northern and southern regions. Check out Grub-Away at www.gardensalive.com.

I am surprised that your lawn company has done so many treatments and yet has missed the grubs. I would commend them if they do not apply chemicals for problems that don't exist. Many such companies apply once or

twice yearly treatments whether you have a problem with grubs or not (as well as many other treatments for nonexistent problems). That is harmful to the environment in general, and possibly to your family in particular, wastes your money and is definitely not recommended. (It has actually been found that repeated applications of insecticides cause a buildup of bacteria that consume it, making repeated applications more and more useless.)

The problem with being safe is that sometimes the treatment might come late. If they are coming in five of the eight months between March and October, they might have been able to prevent the problem with a properly timed application. There are some long-lasting grub-control chemicals that last six months, which if properly applied should prevent the lawn replacement situation. It might not get every grub, but it should prevent wholesale lawn damage. The label directions for these products are detailed, and should be followed as closely as possible.

Natural controls take time. Chemical controls should only be applied when the problem occurs. Since you have had the problem two years in a row, it is probably appropriate to apply a long-lasting chemical this season if you desire.

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SMALL SPACES

continued from.....page 24

rhyme.

It's vital that you provide your children with the proper equipment. If you don't decide on a trundle bed, give them under-the-bed storage in the form of rolling storage containers. Or provide stackable storage boxes in different colors for each child. Different children in the family might be assigned a different color. Boxes are readily available from catalog sources, on-line vendors and retailers such as Target, Kmart and Costco.

Storage boxes on wheels and benches that double as storage boxes when the lid is lifted are other possibilities. Children love containers such as cedar chests and storage ottomans where they can store their treasures. Be sure none of these can accidentally lock and trap a little one inside.

It's also useful to station some kind of storage in a high-traffic area, such as right inside the front or back door. Another approach is to use pocket storage hangers, the clear-plastic devices designed to hang on a door. Kids can stow socks and underwear or little toys such as stuffed animals, dolls or blocks.

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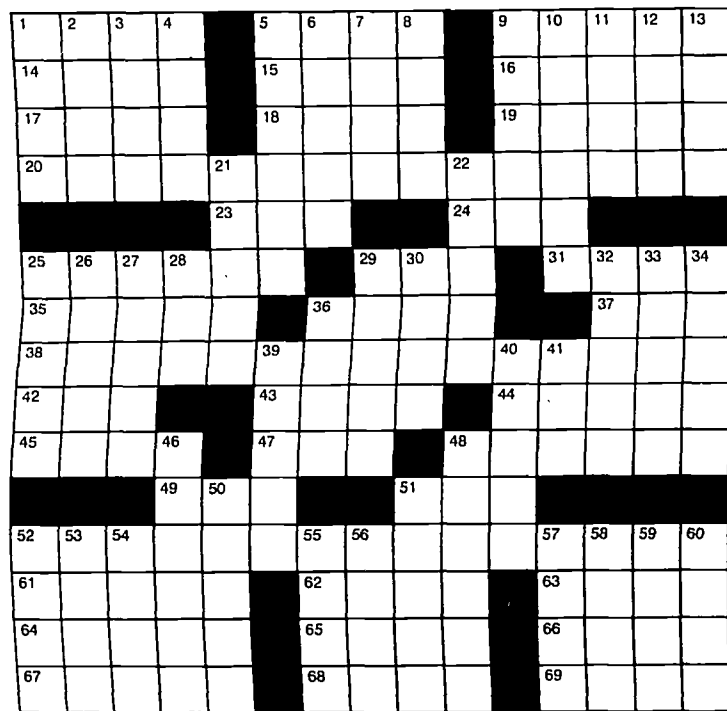
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By Charles Preston

ACROSS

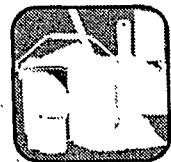
1 Somewhat
5 Food preservative?
9 Loses it
14 Kind of duck
15 Socks
16 Ditto
17 Let my people go,
e.g.
18 Oh, gross!
19 Expert
20 Heard at an Elvis
look-alike contest
23 Derek and Diddle
24 Visitor from
Melmac
25 Shocked and
amazed
29 Lender's letters
31 Tinhorn's game
35 Gettysburg victor
36 In two parts, musi-
cally
37 Terhune canine
38 Hula instructor's
assurance
42 Where grass roots
43 Sets one's sights
44 Passed out
45 Snitched
47 Hways, and byways
48 Strike zones
49 Pack animal
51 Short way to go

52 Pre-discipline
directive
61 Not at all
62 "East of Eden" son
63 Art study
64 Tropical fruit
65 Like Albee's Alice
66 Encore, country
style
67 Word of welcome
68 Bud holder
69 Comes by

DOWN

1 Yodeler's range
2 Scheherazade
specialty
3 The last word
4 Wanted poster
option
5 Let's!
6 Mops the floor with
7 Author Sholem
8 Diminutive dog
9 Pint-size
10 Went first
11 Transcontinental
hwy.
12 Sulk
13 They lead a lush life
21 "Ghosts" writer
22 Seven-time
American League
batting champion

25 Rack up
26 Simon Boccanegra
setting
27 "The Creation
creator"
28 "Oklahoma!" Annie
29 "Dilbert" cartoonist
30 20 Across, 38
Across, and 52
Across
32 Kelp beds,
essentially
33 Tennis term
34 "Waiting for Lefty"
playwright
36 Beginning to rain?
39 Center of gravity
40 Shirked work
41 Get set
46 Rut
48 It's assumed
50 Doing battle
51 Eremit's
companion?
52 Picnic playwright
53 Subject matter?
54 Just one of those
things
55 It's what's for dinner
56 Court order
57 Whitewater hazard
58 Really big
59 Change for the
better, perhaps
60 Bear necessities

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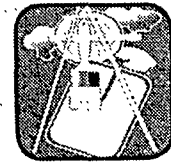
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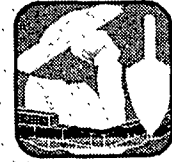
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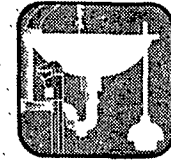
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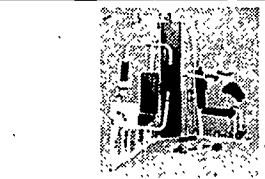
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AUTO SCENE

Sprinter van from Dodge is a working-class Mercedes that handles well

MARK MAYNARD
Copley News Service

A 10-foot-tall, silver bread-loaf of a
van gets a lot of looks on the road.
Stunned, appalled looks.
The heavy-duty Dodge Sprinter van
is a little too much truck for most
family needs, but it might be the best
trade Mercedes-Benz has given
DaimlerChrysler.

Sprinter is a commercial-grade
Mercedes-Benz chassis that has been
routed to Dodge to take the place of
the discontinued big Ram van. Many
under-the-skin parts are applied to
DaimlerChrysler vehicles from
Mercedes, but Sprinter is the first
transplant.

As a working-class Mercedes, there
is nothing cushy about the van, but it
is not unrefined and represents a sub-
stantial technological advancement
from the old van it replaces.

Built on a heavy-duty chassis and
offered only with a five-cylinder
diesel engine, this 19-foot-long rig
gets 25 miles to the gallon - Dodge
says - in combined city and highway
driving.
The base price of \$33,991 provides a
spartan experience, but the well-

optioned test truck - \$42,000 -
costs much less than some
full-size SUVs.

But don't expect any price
breaks. The 2007 models
will have engine modifica-
tions to accommodate new
emissions regulations that
will boost the price signifi-
cantly. If you were consider-
ing one of these, this might
be the year to buy one.

Hard to believe, but this
ungainly looking vehicle
handles, accelerates and
brakes better than its lower-
profile large-van competitors. And
it can carry almost twice the payload of
a pickup truck. The interior is hose-
it-out, rubber mat utility grade.

The chassis can be configured in
three lengths up to 22 feet as a cargo
van, chassis cab (such as for a motor
home or plumber's truck) or a 10-
passenger van, which a hotel or large
family might value.

My kids nicknamed the test truck
the "space shuttle," because of its
size and shape. This one had the
option for the "super high roof,"
which allows 6 feet of standing room.
Head room will be reduced a couple



of inches by the optional air condi-
tioning ducts.

And the extra AC, part of a \$2,668
option group, would be necessary for
people-hauling. To expect the dash-
board air conditioning to cool more
than 300 cubic feet of space would be
illogical.

The test truck even came with an
auxiliary heater.

It might seem limited as a people-
hauler when compared with the
available 15-passenger rigs offered
by Ford and GM, but the individual
bucket-like seats in Sprinter have
adult width. They're firm - hard firm

for a long drive - but
better than being
squeezed onto the
spongy bench seats
offered by the competi-
tion.

There's also substantial
motion if you have rid-
ers who are sensitive to
carsickness. The side
windows don't slide or
lower.

The tester also came
with additional sound
insulation, but the first
thing I'd do as an owner

would be to treat the underside of the
interior and headliner to a layer of
Dynamat soundproofing. That would
blunt the "airport van" ambience and
help muffle the din of squeaks and
rattles that were incessant in the test
truck.

Not even the four-speaker audio sys-
tem - an upgrade from a two-speaker
- couldn't outdo the racket. Dodge
says the squeaks and rattles are not
typical and is having the test truck
checked out.

The van lives up to its name in
acceleration. The 2.7 liter inline five-
cylinder diesel might seem modest in

dimensions, but the turbocharged
torque gets it out front fast from the
light. The five-speed automatic trans-
mission - with manual shift mode -
has fuzzy logic to hold gears on
downhills and to prevent gear-seek-
ing on long freeway uphill.

Braking force has the German "more
is better" engineering. Four-wheel
discs are integrated with electronic
brake force distribution, acceleration
skid control and electronic stability.

The 42-foot turning circle is another
marvel of German engineering that
allows the words "Sprinter" and
"nimble" to be used together. Many
passenger cars require more room to
make a U-turn. The driver sits with
the big bus position behind the ste-
ering wheel and the optional parabolic
mirrors are a big help to monitor traf-
fic along the sides.

Sprinter is bought overwhelmingly
by business customers, but with this
van's good fuel economy, enlight-
ened engineering and easy drivabili-
ty, retail customers might begin to
rethink their need for a full-size SUV.
Just don't try to park the Sprinter in
the garage.

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