

8746 N. SHERMER RD., NILES, IL 60714

Improvement bonus offered 219 teachers

by Rosemary Tirio

The District 219 strike is still not over.

Seemingly settled Nov. 5, union and Board of Education officials continue to haggle over contract language.

"We have a [negotiation] session scheduled for Wednesday at 7:30 p.m.," said Teachers Union President Frank Mayfield. "I hope something will happen, but I'm afraid nothing will."

Although Mayfield said he thought the retirement issues would be agreed upon Wednesday, the four docked days, which the union wants spread over the four years of the contract at this year's rate of pay but the Board wants to be deducted at the salary rate of the year in which the days are docked, will remain unsettled.

Dr. Vickie Markavitch, District 219 Superintendent, however, said the board was back at square one trying to compute the

basic 1.1 percent salary increase for this year. "There is a difference in rounding off the figures, and we have to reconcile those figures," Markavitch said.

The pension is not a "done deal" either according to Markavitch. The officials of both sides will examine several examples of other pension plans and will consider what might be done in District 219 at Wednesday's meeting also, she said.

Markavitch said that she and many of the Board of Education members have received numerous letters and phone calls from disgruntled citizens demanding more teacher accountability and generally unhappy with the high rate of pay District 219 teachers earn. With an average \$64,440 salary, the district is the ninth highest paid in the state.

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Northridge eyes move to South School

Northridge College Preparatory School, with an enrollment of 190 boys, has approached District 71 with a proposal to lease or buy the soon-to-be vacant Niles Elementary School South, 6935 W. Touhy Ave.

District 71 Superintendent Gene Zaleski said that the board has not yet decided what to do with the two-story school after the elementary school students

now occupying the building move into the addition currently under construction at the Culver Middle School, 6921 Oakton St.

School Board President John Lombardi said that the district is eager to combine the two schools before the start of school next September, but he fears construction delays could push the move-in date beyond the opening of

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Damage in Niles fire set at \$575,000

An estimated \$575,000 damage was done by a Nov. 14 fire in an 18-unit apartment building at 7860 N. Nordica Ave. that injured one Niles firefighter and left nearly 50 people homeless.

Structural loss was estimated at \$475,000 and property loss at \$100,000. Fire Department officials said the two-story brick building located near the Home Depot at Civic Center Plaza needs to be gutted and rehabilitated before it can be occupied again. Building residents were allowed to enter the building Nov. 15 to gather personal items.

According to Niles police, the fire was caused when a workman's blowtorch ignited lint on pipes in the boiler room and flames spread into the walls of the building.

Three library vacancies for April election

Three of the seven seats on the Niles Library Board will be in contention in the April election, and incumbents Ted Przybylo, Irene Costello and Tom Surace will all seek re-election to the board.

Instead of seeking a full six-year term, however, Costello will seek election to the final two years of the term vacated by Roseann Dulski earlier this year.

Costello said that she will have served on the board 20 years when the two-year term expires. She said she plans to retire from public service in 1999 but would hate to have spent so much time and effort on passage of the referendum for library construction and rehabilitation and then not

Continued on Page 47

Bethany Romanian Church seeks to erect building on Ircon property

by Kathleen Quirsfield

Zoners table church's land purchase request

The Bethany Romanian Church, currently in Chicago, came to the Plan Commission and Zoning Board meeting on Dec. 2 hoping to move its plans to purchase land from Ircon company, 7300 Natchez, Niles, further along toward its ultimate goal of building a church on the site.

However, because the representatives of Bethany Romanian Church did not present detailed designed plans for the proposed church, the Zoning Board continued the matter until Feb. 3.

Ircon Company currently owns over nine acres of property on Natchez avenue and at the present time is not of part of this property.

According to Anthony D'Amato, an attorney representing Ircon, the company has been considered selling a portion of the property for sometime.

Plans to sell to Bethany Romanian Church came about when the

church desired to construct a church at that location in Niles. "This is an ideal place for the church," said Louis Bellande, attorney for Bethany Romanian Church. "It is right next to two other churches, and not in a residential area."

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Flood ruins toys, food drive at fire station

by Rosemary Tirio

An observant Department of Sanitation worker salting the street in front of Fire Station 17 at 7424 N. Niles Center Road, Skokie, during the predawn hours of Thanksgiving Day noticed water flooding the parking lot of the station and rang the firehouse's emergency bell rousing the nine-man crew sleeping inside.

It was soon learned that an overflow valve on a nearby 4.9 million gallon water tower had failed during the night causing excess water to flow downhill for 75 feet across the station's parking lot finally pouring into the basement through an air intake grate and ruining thousands of dollars worth of food and toys the firefighters had already collected for their holiday charity drive.

The basement heating system and electrical center were damaged by the flood, and station personnel had to struggle without heat or electricity most of Thanksgiving

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Firefighter Wisniewski retires after 28 years of service



Pictured above are Trustee Bart Murphy, Wayne Wisniewski, and Mayor Nicholas B. Blase. Mr. Wisniewski was presented with a retirement plaque for his 28 years of dedicated service with the Niles Fire Department at the October Board Meeting. He had been certified as Firefighter III and as a Fire Apparatus Engineer. During his career, he received three commendations for outstanding service with the department.

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Parkinson's Support Group to host physician

Regency Centre will host guest speaker Dr. Neal Hermanowicz for the next Parkinson's Support Group meeting. The meeting will be held on Dec. 8th at 2 p.m. in the first floor dining room of the nursing center.

Dr. Hermanowicz is a board certified neurologist with particular interest in the treatment of movement disorders. He graduated from Temple University Medical School in Philadelphia in 1985, completed his general neurology training at the University of Wisconsin in Madison in 1989, and then spent an additional two

Violin concert held at the Goldman Home

On November 17, the Goldman Nursing Home was honored to have Mrs. Morna Roberts, teacher of the Suzuki Method of Violin Instruction, who brought six of her students for a violin concert at the home. The talented children played folk, classical, and suzuki songs and enjoyed refreshments and visiting with the residents of the home.

Many other events are planned by the Activity Department of the Goldman Home which is located at 6601 W. Touhy Ave., Niles.

years at the University of Michigan in fellowship training of movement disorders. He is a member of the Neurology Division of the Evanston and Glenbrook hospitals, and sees patients at the Movement Disorders Center at Glenbrook Hospital.

Regency's Parkinson's Support Group is free and is open to the general public. Regency Nursing Centre is located at 6631 N. Milwaukee Avenue in Niles. For more information call (847) 647-7444 and ask for Karen Gallo, Support Group Coordinator.

Devon Bank Presents Klemzer Band

Wednesday, December 11, 1996, Devon Bank will present the Tum Balalaika Klemzer Band in a free senior citizen entertainment program. The program will be held in the conference center at 6445 North Western Avenue in Chicago at 10:00 a.m. Refreshments will be served before the performance.

Devon Bank sponsors free entertainment for senior citizens on the second Wednesday of each month. The Bank has free senior citizen checking with direct deposit, which assures the safe, on-time arrival of government payments. Seniors with questions about Devon Bank products, services or the scheduled programs should call Iraida Carrazzo at 773-465-2500 ext. 1302 during regular banking hours.

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YARN NEEDED

The Senior Center is requesting any left-over yarn or scraps of material (8"x 8" or bigger). Lap robes and shawls are made for veterans at Hines Hospital. Volunteer knitters and crocheters are needed. If interested, contact Mary Vandenplas.

EXERCISE INSTRUCTOR NEEDED

The Niles Senior Center is currently seeking a qualified exercise instructor to oversee both a Men's and Women's exercise program for older adults. Exercise programs consist of weight training, aerobic exercises and organized team activities. The men's program is held on Tuesday and Thursday mornings. The women's program will be held twice a week, but the days and times are flexible. If interested, contact Mary Oleksy at 967-6100, ext. 376.

CARBON MONOXIDE APPOINTMENTS

Appointments are being taken for carbon monoxide inspections. Call the Senior Center at extension 376 to set up an appointment.

BOOK REVIEW

Book review will be held on Friday, Dec. 6 at 10 a.m. The cost is \$1 and includes refreshments. The book is *Crossing To Safety* by Pulitzer Prize winning author, Wallace Stegner. Registration required.

HANDLING HOLIDAY STRESS THROUGH MASSAGE THERAPY

Handling holiday stress through massage therapy is a free class given by students from the Chicago School of Massage Therapy. Free shoulder and neck massages will be given. Learn how massage can be used to handle stress and pain on Friday, Dec. 6 at 2 p.m. Registration required.

WOMEN'S CLUB HOLIDAY PARTY AND MEETING

The Women's Club Holiday party and meeting will be on Monday, Dec. 9 at noon. There will be Hors D'oeuvres followed by a cookie exchange and a sing-a-long. All are encouraged to bring FRESHLY BAKED cookies to exchange. The cost is \$2 per person.

HOLIDAY SLENDER TRIP

A Botanic Gardens trip sponsored by the Women's Club is scheduled for Wednesday, Dec. 11 from 11 a.m. until 5:30 p.m. Lunch will be at the Orrington Hotel in Evanston followed by a tour of the holiday displays at the Botanic Gardens. Price per person is \$23. Call for ticket availability.

LAST MINUTE SHOPPING TRIP

A Last Minute Shopping Trip has been scheduled for Friday, Dec. 27 from 8:30 a.m. until 5:30 p.m. Enjoy a full day of shopping at Woodfield Mall. Price per person is \$4, transportation only. Check for ticket availability.

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Annual Leaning Tower Lighting Ceremony



Photo by Mike Heuel

Niles Public Service employee, Gary Wendell, drapes garland on the Bell Tower in preparation for the Annual Leaning Tower Lighting Ceremony.

The annual Leaning Tower Lighting will take place on Friday, Dec. 6, beginning at 6 pm at the Leaning Tower on Touhy Avenue.

This year's lighting ceremony will include speeches by Niles Mayor Nicholas Blase and YMCA Board Member Jack Owens. Subsequently, Mayor Blase will light the half-size replica of the Pisa bell tower.

Following the lighting of the tower, the Culver school chorus will perform and refreshments will then be served in the YMCA. Sometime during the night there will also be a special appearance by a loved holiday figure.

"This year's ceremony will be a great opportunity for Niles' residents to come together and share in the holiday spirit," says Chris Bethel, Administrative Intern for the Village.

Niles new Firefighter/Paramedic



A new member of the Niles Fire Department was sworn in recently by the Fire and Police Commission. He is Orlando Diaz and started his career as Firefighter/Paramedic on September 3, 1996. Orlando worked for the Village of Schaumburg with his family.

For the next two years he will be attending training schools such as Firefighter school for six weeks, Emergency Medical Technician for six months, and Paramedic school which is also six months, all of which will make up his first two years of probation. All schools are state certified which maintain a professional level of training throughout the state.

Pictured from left to right are Commissioners: Sam Bruno, Joan Clark F.F.P. Prob. Orlando Diaz, Commissioner Anthony Scarlati.

Changes in the 411 Niles Free Bus Schedule

Beginning Jan. 1, 1997 there will be some changes in the schedule of Niles Free Bus, number 411. Increased traffic throughout Niles, and the installation of easy access lifts on the buses, has made it very difficult for drivers to adhere to the times of the old schedule.

"This is a real win-win situation for all those involved," says Chris Bethel, Administrative Intern for the Village of Niles. "Previously, one patch of bad traffic,

or one long stop, and the drivers were pushed off schedule and it was impossible for them to catch back up. That should no longer be a problem."

Copies of the new schedule will be available in late Dec. at the Niles Administration building and on the Niles Free Buses.

For further information regarding the new schedule changes please contact Ghida Mortorano or Chris Bethel.

Blood Drive

Park Ridge V.F.W. Post 3579 and The Ladies Auxiliary will have their annual Blood Drive on Thursday, December 5th from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. at the Rosemont Ramada Inn at Higgins and Mannheim Roads.

During this time of year, with the increase in Holiday travel, blood demands are high and blood bank levels are crucial. Doctors and Nurses from Hines Veterans Hospital will be in attendance to take the blood.

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Low-cost wills for seniors

Eligible senior citizens are offered low-cost will preparation services through the Senior Citizens Will Program on Wednesday, December 11, at the Skokie Office of Human Services. Advance appointments are required and will be scheduled between 9:30 a.m. and noon.

Attorneys from The Chicago Bar Association's Lawyer Referral Service will provide free consultations about wills to seniors who register for the service. At a client's request, an attorney will also prepare a simple will for a reduced fee. The cost for drawing up a will is not more than \$50 for an individual (\$75 for a couple).

Durable Power of Attorney and Living Will forms are available free of charge. A Durable Power of Attorney allows a senior to designate another person to make property or health care decisions in the event the senior becomes physically or mentally unable to do so. A Living Will allows an individual with a terminal health condition to express his or her desire to have

death-delaying procedures withheld or withdrawn.

Seniors may complete the Durable Power of Attorney and Living Will forms themselves, or they may hire the attorney to help fill them out and to explain the various options available on the forms. The fee for the attorney to provide legal advice about a Durable Power of Attorney is \$75 maximum for an individual (\$125 for a couple). The charge for a Living Will is no more than \$50 for an individual (\$75 for a couple).

To be eligible for the Senior Citizens Will Program, a client must be age 60 or over, annual income must not exceed \$15,000 (\$20,000 for a couple), and assets, excluding a home and personal car, should be worth no more than \$30,000.

Appointments for the Senior Citizens Will Program must be scheduled in advance. To register and be screened for eligibility, call the Skokie Office of Human Services at (847) 933-8208 (voice) or (847) 933-8455 (TDD).

Zen and the art of reading books lecture

Karen Thompson, Emeritus instructor, will discuss how to read books in a mindful state to appreciate language and meaning at 1 p.m., Dec. 10 as part of Passages, the weekly series sponsored by Oakton Community College's Emeritus Program. Lectures are held in Room A151 at the Ray Hartstein Campus, 7701 N. Lincoln Ave., Skokie.

In addition to Persig's *Zen and the Art of Motorcycle Maintenance*, excerpts from *The English Patient* by Michael Ondaatje, *Sweetbitter* by Reginald Gibbons, and *The Waves* by Virginia Woolf will be read. Listen for clues to symbolic intentions. Learn how to pace your reading and push past resistance to things you don't understand.

The admission fee is \$1. For more information on this and other programs sponsored by the Emeritus Program, call (847) 635-1414.

Morton Grove Senior Citizens 470-5223

BLOOD PRESSURE. 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. A free blood pressure clinic is offered from 9 to 10 a.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 10 in the Flickinger Senior Center.

COMMISSION ON AGING. The Morton Grove Commission on Aging will hold its next monthly meeting at 1 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 10 in the Flickinger Municipal 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.

"OPERATION LIFESAVER" Operation Lifesaver is a program to help prevent and reduce crashes and improve driver performance at rail/highway grade crossings. Pat Corcoran of Union Pacific Railroad will conduct this program at 10:30 a.m. on Wednesday, Dec. 11 in the Flickinger Senior Center, just prior to lunch. Hot, nutritious and inexpensive lunches are served at 11:45 a.m. every Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday. Make a reservation by calling the Morton Grove Senior Hot Line, 470-5223.

MALL TRIPS. The Morton Grove Senior Center operates five days a week, transporting seniors free of charge to destinations in Morton Grove. On the last Tuesday of each month it makes two trips to Golf Mill Mall at 9:15 and 10 a.m. with return trips at 12:15 and 2 p.m. To reserve a trip on Tuesday, Dec. 17, call the Morton Grove Senior Hot Line at 470-5223.

55 ALIVE. 55 Alive Mature Driving 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. The next course offered at the Flickinger Senior Center starts at 9 a.m. on both Thursday, Dec. 19 and Saturday, Dec. 21. Call the Senior Hot Line at 470-5223 to sign up.

LUNCHES NOW SERVED ON TUESDAYS. The senior nutrition program located within the Flickinger Senior Center (Village Hall) is now serving lunches on Tuesdays. The Community Nutrition Network, Inc. will operate four days per week (Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Fridays) by serving up to 60 meals each day to those over age 60. The suggested cost is between \$1.75 and \$2.25, depending upon what a person can afford. Serving time is 11:45 a.m. Call the Morton Grove Senior Hot Line to sign up for lunch in advance. Meals will not be served on Christmas Eve or New Year's Eve.

THAT SPECIAL GIFT. Often people wonder what to buy a certain someone, or perhaps others have a terrific idea for a gift they'd like to share? Just in time for the holidays, there will be a "Sharing Board" for gift ideas at the Prairie View Community Center. Send in or drop off ideas with Park District senior adult supervisor, Catherine Dean.

TEENS RAKE LEAVES AND SHOVEL SNOW. The Flickinger Senior Center matches youth workers with senior citizen homeowners who need a little assistance with seasonal related chores around the house. Call the Senior Center at 965-4100, ext. 343 for more details.

SHOWBOAT. See this terrific show on Thursday, March 6 before it leaves town. Enjoy the wonderful music of Jerome Kern and Oscar Hammerstein featuring such tunes as "Old Man River," "Can't Help Lovin' That Man," and "Only Make Believe." The bus leaves the Prairie View Community Center at 12:30 p.m. and returns at 6 p.m. The cost is \$69.50 for residents and \$76 for non-residents. Register at Prairie View by November 22, reservations are limited.

Hearing loss lecture

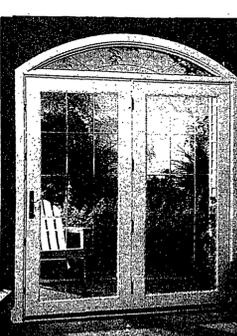
How We Hear and Why We Don't, a free lecture on hearing loss, will be offered by the Council for Jewish Elderly, 3003 W. Touhy on Wednesday, Dec. 11 from 2 to 3 p.m. An audiologist will use audio tapes to stimulate different sounds and explain how we hear them. The program will include options for improving hearing, including the use of hearing aids. For further information, contact CJEB at (773) 508-1050.

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Church and Temple News

NSJC Sabbath Services

Northwest Suburban Jewish Congregation, 7800 W. Lyons, Morton Grove, will hold Sabbath Services on Friday, December 6 at 8 p.m. Members of the congregation who have anniversaries during the month of December will be honored at the service. Saturday Morning Services begin at 9:30 a.m. Rabbi Daniel M. Zucker will conduct all services. Everyone welcome!

Sunday Morning, December 8, Northwest Suburban Jewish Congregation Men's Club will host a Sunday Breakfast Program following 9 a.m. Services. Guest Speaker: Phil Drell. An army photographer with General Eisenhower will present slides of the invasion of France and first photos of Dachau.

For further information, call 965-0900.

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Eva Weiner honored



Eva Weiner (center) is honored on her 80th birthday by Temple Judea Mizpah benefactors Carol and Ed Goldstein of Morton Grove.

Benefactors and other members of Temple Judea Mizpah (TMJ) recently honored Skokie Library Commissioner Eva Weiner on her 80th birthday.

Weiner, wife of the congregation's late Founding Rabbi Karl Weiner, celebrated her October 27 birthday with a reception following the October 25 Sabbath worship service at the synagogue, 8610 Niles Center Road, Skokie. During the service, she read from the weekly Torah portion and offered her commentary on it.

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Family members and friends then celebrated her 80th birthday milestone along with about two dozen TMJ benefactors who have donated \$1,000 or more to the temple.

"This event was a bridge between generations for the temple family," explained TMJ President Allan D. Klenetsky, Skokie. "Our benefactors help build that bridge so we can continue to provide service to the community."

TMJ Rabbi Marc E. Berkson also recognized Weiner for her contributions to the temple and the community.

"She and her husband were my teachers when I arrived here in 1978 and she continues to teach us today. She has reached four score years and we pray for her health, happiness and peace," Rabbi Berkson said.

For information about synagogue membership, contact Janine Busch, Executive Director, Temple Judea Mizpah, 8610 Niles Center Road, Skokie, IL 60077. Phone (847) 676-1566.

Book of Genesis at Maine TWP. Jewish Congregation

In conjunction with the television series GENESIS: A LIVING CONVERSATION WITH BILL MOYERS on channel eleven, Maine Township Jewish Congregation is also studying the Book of Genesis on TUESDAY NIGHT AT THE SHUL. The next session of the class conducted by Rabbi Edmund Winter: ALL IN THE FAMILY: A NEW LOOK AT THE BOOK OF GENESIS, will be held on Tuesday evening, December 10th at 8 p.m. The class is held in conjunction with the dawn Schuman Institute of Adult Learning.

Sabbath evening services at Maine Township Jewish Congregation will be held on Friday, Dec. 6th at 4 pm. Saturday morning services Dec. 7th begin at 9:30 am. Saturday afternoon and evening services commence at 3:45 pm. Sunday morning and evening services Dec. 7th begin at 9:30 am. Saturday afternoon and evening services commence at 3:45 pm. Sunday morning and evening services are held at 9 am and 7:30 pm. Weekday morning and evening services are held at 7:30 am and 7:30 pm.

Shabbat evening services at Maine Township Jewish Congregation will be held on Friday, Dec. 6th at 4 pm. Saturday morning services Dec. 7th begin at 9:30 am. Saturday afternoon and evening services commence at 3:45 pm. Sunday morning and evening services are held at 9 am and 7:30 pm. Weekday morning and evening services are held at 7:30 am and 7:30 pm.

Our Lady of the Angels Fire Survivors Group

Anyone affected by the 1958 Our Lady of the Angels School Fire (survivors, families, community members, firefighters, police, nurses, doctors) are invited to join our OLA SUPPORT GROUP. Please contact Linda Maffiola at (708) 343-2578 or at the above P.O. Box for further information.

Christmas recital at Edison Park Lutheran

Contralto Marilyn Baalson will present a recital, "Christmas Blessings," on Sunday, December 15, at 4 p.m. at Edison Park Lutheran Church, 6626 N. Oliphant Avenue, Chicago.

Marilyn will be accompanied by Dr. David Christiansen, Director of Music and Organist at EPLC, and by Melanie Chavin, flutist. She will sing carols by Ives, Dello Jaro, Gliere, Bacon, Niles, Caldwell, Cornelius, and Elgar.

Marilyn currently sings with the EPLC Choir, Lutheran Choir of Chicago, and at Messiah Lutheran Church in Park Ridge. She was with the Chicago Symphony Chorus; the Northwest Choral Society and the Maine Township Chorale, as well as the Northeastern University Chorus and the North Shore Choral Society. Marilyn was also soloist and section leader for the Wilmette Community Church for 17 years. She studies voice with Philip Krause.

NSJC New Year's Eve Party

Northwest Suburban Jewish Congregation, 7800 W. Lyons, Morton Grove, will hold their Annual New Year's Eve Celebration on Tuesday, December 31 at 9 p.m. A wonderful evening is planned with a professional D.J. and dancing, deli dinner, free bar, hors d'oeuvres, champagne, favors, a sweet table and a lot of fun. \$24.50 per person, reservations a must by Dec. 22.

For further information, call synagogue office, 965-0900.

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Church and Temple News

Grandparents and Special Friends Day



Kindergarten children and their grandparents enjoy refreshments during Grandparents Day at St. John Brebeuf School.

The Parish School of St. John Brebeuf hosted "Grandparents and Special Friends Day" on Friday Oct. 4th. Grandparents and special friends were invited to join the school children at a prayer service in the church and to visit the classrooms with their students.

Jews for Judaism to speak

Julius Ciss, Executive director of Jews for Judaism (Canada) will be speaking at Maine Township Jewish Congregation, 8800 W. Ballard Rd., Des Plaines, on Sunday, Dec. 15th at 10:15 am. His subject is: the battle for the Jewish soul: The Evangelical threat to the Jewish community. Jewish for Judaism is the counter-missionary organization of North America. Mr. Ciss, formerly a

member of a Hebrew-Christian missionary group, has unique insider's perspective on the growing Evangelical threat to the Jewish community. There will be NO charge for the lecture. Please make reservations by calling (847) 297-2006. The lecture is made possible by a gift by Sherman & Adria Klausner in memory of their son, Robert Joseph Klausner.

The Phoenix Support Group

The Phoenix Support Group invites all separated, divorced and widowed persons to meet Friday, December 6, starting at 8 p.m. There will be a small group discussion for those who are working through the grieving process starting at 7 p.m. (please be prompt) and ending at 8 p.m. in time to join the regular meeting. The place is McDonnell Hall (lower level of the Church) of Our Lady of Perpetual Help,

1127 Church Street in Glenview. In December we are getting ready for the Holidays by having a Pot Luck supper. It is a great occasion to get together with old friends and an excellent opportunity to make new friends. Bring a dish to share (something that will serve 6 to 8 people) and come and join the fun. A \$4 donation is requested, except to those who pay a baby sitter. Direct inquiries to: (847)-673-3411.

Our Lady of Ransom holiday concert

The Our Lady of Ransom Choir, The New Spirit Chorale, The Youth Choir and the Resurrection Choir will unite under the direction of Barbara Murphy-Sanders in a concert of sacred and seasonal music at Our Lady of Ransom Parish, 8300 N. Greenwood Ave., Niles.

This is the 16th annual OLR Holiday Choir Concert and promises to be a wonderful collection of traditional and contemporary music. Don't miss it! The event is a festive closure to the traditional twelve days of Christmas on the Feast of the Epiphany. The Concert is set for Sunday, January 5, 1997 at 3 p.m. The community is welcome. For additional information, call the OLR Ministry Center at (847) 823-2550.

Chanukah at Maine Township Jewish Congregation

Two Chanukah events at Maine Township Jewish Congregation, 8800 W. Ballard Rd., Des Plaines, will herald the observance of their joyous holiday, which begins Thursday night, Dec. 5.

On Saturday, Dec. 7th, following religious services for adults and children a luncheon will be held including dreidel games, songs and Chanukah stories. The program is made possible by a grant from the community Foundation on Jewish Education, family Education Fund. Religious services for adults begin at 9:30 am. Junior congregation for the children (with the students of the northwest Suburban Jewish Congregation Religious School) begins at 10:30 am. The program will conclude at 1 pm. Reservations for the lunch are required and made by calling 847-297-2006.

MTJC "Over 60 club" will celebrate Chanukah on Wednesday, Dec. 11th at 12 noon. The program will feature the entertainment of Anna Valenzuela. She will present Chanukah songs and show tunes part of the program. The program will be preceded by a Chanukah luncheon. The afternoon is free for all participants. Reservations may be made by calling 847-297-2006.

Christmas Program at St. John Lutheran

St. John Lutheran Day School and Sunday School present "What Christmas Means to Me."

Students tell what Christmas means to them in song, pictures, and words. The story "The Crippled Lamb" by Max Lucado is the basis for the program. The story of the crippled lamb tells how being left behind by the others turns out to be the great-

est gift of all. The little lamb is witness to the birth of our Savior.

Please join us on Wednesday, December 18th at 7:30 p.m. St. John Lutheran is located at 7429 Milwaukee Avenue, Niles. The students and staff invite you to join us in celebrating the greatest gift of all. For further information, call (847)647-1832.

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Health News

ANAD meeting

National Association of Anorexia Nervosa and Associated Disorders -- ANAD will hold a group meeting for anorexics, bulimics, parents, and families at 8 p.m., Thursday, December 5, at Highland Park Hospital, 718 Glenview Avenue, Highland Park, IL. The meeting is free. Those interested are invited to attend. ANAD groups now hold regular meetings in numerous North Shore communities and other sections of greater Chicago. For additional information, call (847) 831-3438.

Anorexia nervosa and bulimia are dangerous eating disorders characterized by extreme loss of weight and/or binge eating and purging.

St. Francis Hospital announces new cardiac test

St. Francis Hospital of Evanston is the first hospital in the country to begin using the CARDIAC STATUS Troponin I Rapid Assay test developed by Spectral Diagnostics & Princeton Biomedica, Inc. This comes just following the U.S. Food & Drug Administration's approval for its use.

"This is an exciting new test that will enable us to diagnose patients both accurately and rapidly," says Shahriar Dadkhah, M.D., Director of Cardiovascular Research at St. Francis. "This test will help us to confirm that a patient is having a heart attack

and thus enable us to initiate appropriate treatment rapidly, such as angioplasty or thrombolytics. The earlier we can definitely treat these patients, the more heart muscle we can preserve. This means a better future for our patients.

This qualitative, hand-held rapid test detects cardiac Troponin I, a cardiac-specific protein. This test is extremely sensitive and specific for myocardial injury. This test can help us to rapidly and accurately identify heart muscle injury such as in a heart attack. It is also sensitive enough to show minor damage that may be occurring as with unstable angina or other such cardiac conditions.

Dr. Dadkhah adds, "We are trying to diagnose not only when a heart attack is occurring, but also to diagnose those patients that are having minor myocardial damage now that are strongly indicative of an impending cardiac event. This is the focus of cardiology for the year 2000.

The rapid test is designed for use at the patient's bedside complementing other existing cardiac markers. It is easy to use with just a few drops of whole blood required. The results can be read in 15 minutes or less. Its ease of use and speed of results make this test ideal for use in the Emergency Department, the critical care units, free-standing care units and other area in and out of the hospital where a rapid decision regarding a patient's status is important.

St. Francis Hospital has been a leader in cardiac care for many years with their advances in both cardiac surgery and invasive cardiology. This new test is yet another way that St. Francis Hospital's Chest Pain Center is developing the most advanced methods of caring for their patients.

Center of Concern hosts annual holiday party

The Center of Concern is pleased to extend an invitation to all to attend their Annual Holiday Party on Tuesday, Dec. 10, at 7 p.m. at the South Park Recreation Center, Talcott and Cumberland, Park Ridge.

By popular request, they have invited **Pastor Prime and the Good Examples** to return to entertain. The trio is Pastor Paris Donehoo, Ann and Bill Schwartz, all from the Park Ridge Community Church.

Refreshments will be served and there is no charge. They would like to know how many people to expect and would appreciate your calling (847) 823-0453 by Dec. 3 to make a reservation.

People attending this holiday party are asked to bring non-perishable or canned goods to help stock the Maine Township Food Pantry. These donations will be given to hungry people in our community. If you cannot attend on Dec. 10, you can drop off your donations at the offices of The Center of Concern, Suite 310, 1580 N. Northwest Hwy, Park Ridge up to Dec. 15. Cash donations are also accepted.

The center is also home to RIC's Virginia Wadsworth Wirtz Sports Program, which offers 16 different year round and seasonal programs free of charge to disabled athletes.

According to Jeff Jones, Director of RIC's Center for Health and Fitness, the accessible equipment includes fitness machines designed for both ambulatory and wheelchair participants, and treadmills with a minimum speed of a half-mile per hour (instead of the usual one mile) for safe use by stroke patients and other people with disabilities. Aerobics classes for people with disabilities will also be offered by professional instructors.

The Wirtz Sports Program is completely funded by private philanthropies.

The Center of Concern offers many services and programs including shared housing, employment, intergenerational program, friendly visiting, and personal, medicare, financial and legal counseling. If you would like additional information, or have any questions, please feel free to call (847) 823-0453.

Health and Fitness Center opens

The Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago has opened the RIC Center for Health and Fitness at 710 N. Lake Shore Drive. A state-of-the-art fitness center especially designed for people with disabilities, the 8000-square foot center with all fully accessible fitness equipment is the only one of its kind in Chicago.

The center is also home to RIC's Virginia Wadsworth Wirtz Sports Program, which offers 16 different year round and seasonal programs free of charge to disabled athletes.

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Women's News

Kohl Children's Museum program

Kohl Children's Museum invites single parents and their children to a unique after hours event planned specifically for them. Join other single parents and their children on Saturday evening,

Dec. 14, from 6 p.m. - 8 p.m., for *Singles Mingle*.

This event, part of an on-going monthly series, will feature children's singer and songwriter Susan Salidor. Families will get caught up in the excitement of singing along as well as enjoy the many exciting, hands-on exhibits the Museum offers. Families are encouraged to bring a picnic dinner and enjoy this opportunity to meet and network with other single-parents.

Cost for this special program is \$8 per member family; \$10 per non-member family. Due to the popularity of the event, advanced registration is suggested. Please call Martha or Joan at (847)256-6056, ext. 339 or 338 for information.

The Kohl Children's Museum is located at 165 Green Bay Rd., Wilmette. Hours are Tuesday - Saturday, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.; Sunday, noon - 5 p.m. Closed on Monday.

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Bowling News

Catholic Women's League
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Candlelight Jewelers	61/23
Skaja Terrace	49/35
Classic Bowl	38/46
Tom Drozd, D.D.S.	37/47
Grand Nat'l Bank	34/50
Windjammer Travel	33/51

HIGH SERIES	
Geri Kenny	508
Gertie Schultz	496
Debbie Hendricks	480
Lisa Vanco	455
Fritzie Zablutowitz	452

HIGH GAME	
Geri Kenny	189
Rita Slechta	188
Gertie Schultz	188
Lisa Vanco	186
Debbie Hendricks	183

Bartlomiej Kolenda

Marine Pvt. Bartlomiej Kolenda, a 1996 graduate of Maine Township High School East of Park Ridge, recently completed basic training at Marine Corps Recruit Depot, San Diego.

Kolenda joins 41,000 men and women who will enter the Marine Corps this year from all over the country.

DAR Good Citizen Award

Each year a Maine East senior is selected by his/her peers and teachers to receive the D.A.R. (Daughters of the American Revolution) Good Citizen Award for citizenship, service, leadership, and patriotism. The first runner-up is then designated the S.A.R. (Sons of the American Revolution) recipient. Brenda Reter of Park Ridge was recently named the D.A.R. recipient at Maine East. She will now go on to compete for regional competition. Keith Chazin of Glenview will receive the S.A.R. award. Brenda and Keith will be formally recognized for this honor, according to Maine East Career Counselor Verne Farrell, at Senior Honors' Night in June.



Maine East Career Counselor Verne Farrell congratulates senior Brenda Reter of Park Ridge for being elected the school's recipient of the D.A.R. (Daughters

of the American Revolution) Good Citizen Award for citizenship, service, leadership, and patriotism.

Business and Professional Women's Club meeting

A silent auction will be the main attraction at the December 10 meeting of the North Glen Business and Professional Women's Organization. The meeting

will be held at Northbrook Hilton Allgauer's Fireside Restaurant, 2855 N. Milwaukee Avenue, Northbrook. Networking begins at 6 p.m., followed by dinner, the auction and the program which will feature the Glenbrook South Master Singers, dressed in Victorian costumes, who will sing holiday favorites.

The auction will include products, services, holiday gifts and baked goods. All working women are invited to attend the meeting. The deadline for reservations is noon, December 6. Those wishing to attend should send a check for \$22, payable to North Glen BPW, to 612 Huber Lane, Glenview, 60025. More information is available by calling Shirley Riley, (CruiseOne) (847) 724-7772 or (847) 724-3624.

NCJW meeting to be held

A meeting of the National Council of Jewish Women, Evanston-Niles Section will take place on Monday, December 9, at Temple Judea Mizpah, 8610 Niles Center Road, Skokie. The program, which starts at 12:30 p.m., will be "WHAT THE ELECTION MEANS TO YOU" given by Hannah Rosenthal, who is currently Regional Director, United States Department of Health and Human Services of Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio and Wisconsin.

There will be a lighting of the Chanukah candles. Admission is free. Refreshments will be served.

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Women's News

Christmas juicers might deliver more than vitamins

If Santa leaves a juicer under the tree, you'd better watch out. The same bad bug that sickened scores of people who ate tainted hamburger three years ago is back this time in unpasteurized juice.

"I think everybody's been kind of surprised that E. coli bacteria have been found in this kind of product," said Patricia K. Welch, a Southern Illinois University nutrition expert who is also a certified food service sanitation instructor.

While the Western states' E. coli outbreak is getting all the news coverage, these other bugs are nothing to be sneezed at. And they, too, can thrive in unpasteurized juice.

"Just storing your juice in a refrigerator won't necessarily keep bacteria from growing," Welch said. "E. coli bacteria, for example, can survive temperatures as low as 36 degrees."

Heat, the main element of pasteurization, kills bacteria, but most folks don't want to boil their freshly squeezed juice. They buy juicers, at least in part, to get that "natural" taste. When you can't rely on heat to bomb your bugs, safe food-handling techniques become crucial.

The No. 1 thing you can do to

keep not just your juice but all your food bug-free: Wash your hands. "And that doesn't mean dipping your fingers through a little cold, running water," Welch said.

You need hot water, soapy lather and 20 seconds of vigorous hand-rubbing to do the job right.

Next, thoroughly scrub everything you plan to put in your juicer. Use a vegetable brush; peel off the outer layer whenever you can. This step is vital in guarding against E. coli. Because this particular strain breeds in the digestive tracts of cattle, health experts theorize that it may spread to fruits and vegetables through contact with manure often used as fertilizer in organic farming.

"If I were to venture a guess, I'd say that the (E. coli) contamination more likely occurred as a result of the human dimension somewhere between picking and processing," Welch said. "When you're making something like carrot juice, those carrots come right out of the ground. If the ground is contaminated, the juice will be contaminated."

When preparing fruits and vegetables for the juicer, use a hard plastic cutting board. Wooden boards look nice, but bacteria can

breed in the surfaced cuts. Clean your juicer carefully as soon as you've poured out the juice.

"Wear rubber gloves so you can use really hot water," Welch said.

"I know it's a lot of trouble, but take it apart. You need to clean all

those little bits and pieces, and pay attention to the corners especially in the part that receives the pulp.

"Afterward, let it drain. Don't towel-dry it-you risk more contamination that way. Air drying is always better."

Cover stored juice so that bac-

teria won't land on it. "You wouldn't believe all the stuff that floats around in the air, even in a refrigerator," Welch said, and drink all the juice you make within 24 hours. If it sits around, bacteria could grow in it. If you can't drink it after a day, throw it out or boil it.

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Women's News

Retailers not obligated to give refunds

Every year during the holiday season Better Business Bureaus receive many complaints concerning retailers' refund and exchange policies. Here is a reminder to help harried shoppers and gift givers keep their holiday hassle-free.

The most important point for shoppers to know before they buy is that a store is not obligated to accept items for refunds, exchange or credit unless the item is defective or was misrepresented. BBBs caution consumers: never assume that a merchandise can be returned. Refund and exchange privileges vary from store to store, so before making a purchase a customer should inquire about and completely understand store policy.

Some stores may permit only exchanges, which allows the consumer to return one item for another. Other stores have more liberal policies which allow returns for just about any reason and offer a credit or refund, not just an exchange.

Refund policies usually require that the goods be returned within a specific period of time and in new condition. Some stores even require that hang tags remain attached to clothing, to provide the garment had not been worn once then returned.

In most cases, retailers will require a sales receipt or some other evidence that the item was actually bought there and not at another store. Without the receipt, a shopper may not get back the full price that was paid for the item, because there's no proof that it was not bought on sale.

Some retailers will provide a proof of purchase card to be placed in the gift box without revealing the purchase price. This will help a gift recipient who finds it necessary to exchange merchandise for a different size or color.

Research shows that if your job is going well and you have close relationships with people at work, you are less susceptible to distress associated with your children," said McClellan, who spoke recently at the Extension Annual Conference about the challenges of balancing work and family.

Like-wise, strong family support can help employed women deal with the stresses of work, she said.

While men report physical complaints when they are stressed, women report feeling pressured, down, nervous, exhausted, restless and lonely. Not surprisingly, women with children under age 6 have the greatest conflicts fitting family needs and work responsibilities into their daily schedules.

Research surveys also show that women still take primary responsibility for child care and spend more time than men on meeting the family's needs and doing housework.

"When it is difficult for a woman to change things at home, she can seek out a network of people at work to help her offset some of the problems in the home," McClellan said. "Women can also provide extra help for their co-workers who don't have family support."

Times of stress can be an opportunity for women to reevaluate their priorities. McClellan encouraged women to consider their most important priorities among work, family, building personal character, and other interests. Next, analyze where your time and thoughts are spent.

"Ask yourself these questions: what do I need more of in my life? What do I need less of in my life? Will it matter in 10 years? How am I feeling about the choices I've made," McClellan said. Remember, at the end of their lives, no one ever says, "If only I had spent more time with the business."

For those who decide they need more personal time and time with family, McClellan offered these tips:

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*Attend special school events in which your children are participating.

*Evaluate whether you should attend every event you are invited to.

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*Try to make time for exercise. You'll have more energy to handle stress.

*Use your vacation days and don't feel guilty.

For more information about managing time and balancing work and family, contact your local Cooperative Extension Service unit office.

The Cooperative Extension Service of University of Illinois provides educational programs and unbiased research-based information to help Illinois residents improve their quality of life, develop skills and solve problems, by "helping you put knowledge to work."

RDHS students lend the Lions Club a hand

Twelve Regina Dominican juniors and seniors assisted the Lions of Illinois Foundation with its annual fall Candy Day. Janelle Agulo (Skokie), Chris Batorski (Chicago - Edgebrook), Gina DiBella (Chicago - Sauganash), Jaime Franz (Deerfield), Pam Hall (Chicago - Sauganash), Kate May (Glenview), Tina Miller (Chicago - Edison Park), Anna Nowak (Chicago - Jefferson Park), Aileen Tereja (Chicago - Sauganash), Trisha Vallone (Chicago - Edgebrook), Sandy Vargas (Des Plaines) and Denise Wasilewski (Niles) worked this year's Candy Day to help the Lions Club raise money for additional services for the blind and deaf. The money raised was submitted to the Lions of Illinois Foundation through the Chicago Bayanihan Lions Club and Regina Dominican business instructor, Rey Pascua.

For some items, or even all items in some stores, the policy may be "all sales are final." Some stores have such a policy for goods that are on sale, merchandise sold at the end of the season, or for personal items.

"To save yourself and those on your gift list from possible embarrassment and possible financial loss, shop carefully and ask each store about their exchange policy before making a purchase," stated Steve Bernas. "More importantly we recommend consumers check out the reputation of the company before doing business with it," concluded Mr. Bernas.

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Juggling family and work responsibilities

Good relationships with co-workers can actually help ease the stress of balancing work and family, according to Debbie McClellan, University of Illinois Extension educator, family life.

Co-workers can help us relieve tension and serve as a sounding board for problems with children and home.

"Research shows that if your job is going well and you have close relationships with people at work, you are less susceptible to distress associated with your children," said McClellan, who spoke recently at the Extension Annual Conference about the challenges of balancing work and family.

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<p>AMAZING PRICE \$9.99</p> <p>Barbie® So Much To Do!™ Mall Food Court by Mattel® REGULAR PRICE \$18.99</p>	<p>AMAZING PRICE \$6.99</p> <p>Disney's The Hunchback of Notre Dame Esmeralda Beauty Collection REGULAR PRICE \$15.99</p>	<p>AMAZING PRICE \$4.99</p> <p>Pooh Soft Discovery Treehouse by Mattel® Touch 'n Sound Discoveries to Delight Baby. REGULAR PRICE \$12.99</p>
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Community Calendar

Bazaars

Dec 4-8

NPHS Boutique

The Norwood Park Historical Society sponsors the 9th annual Victoria's Christmas Craft Boutique at the landmark Noble-Seymour-Crippen House, 5624 N. Newark Ave., Chicago, daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday, December 4 through Sunday, December 8 and until 7 p.m. on Thursday and Friday December 5 and 6. The craft boutique will be held in conjunction with the Christmas House Tour. For information on Boutique call Gloria

Bazaars

Brown, (312) 792-2503. For information on Tour call (312) 631-4633.

Sun Dec 8

C.A.R.E. Holiday Bazaar

C.A.R.E. will hold its holiday bazaar and pet food drive on Sunday, December 8 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Levy Center, 1700 Maple Street in Evanston. The public is invited to bring pets along for pictures with Santa. C.A.R.E. requests donations of canned pet food for admission to the bazaar. All proceeds from the bazaar benefit the dogs and cats at the Evanston Animal Shelter. For

more information, call

C.A.R.E.'s 24-hour hot line at (847) 705-2653.

Wed Dec 11

SILENT AUCTION

On Wed Dec 11 from 7:30 - 10:30 p.m. The Oakton Street Antique Centre at 2430 E. Oakton Street in Elk Grove Village will present "Holiday Fest", a storewide sale and a silent auction. The auction, which runs through Sunday, December 15 is a charity benefit.

Dec 13 - 15

Christmas Bazaar

Friday, December 13, noon to 8 p.m., Saturday 10 to 6 p.m., Sunday noon to 6 p.m. American Indian Christmas Gift Bazaar at Okee-Chee's Wild Horse Gallery, 5337 N. Clark featuring four famed Native artists. (773) 311-5883 for more info.

Sat Dec 14

MG SENIOR BAZAAR

White Elephant Sale at the Morton Grove Senior Center, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Rear Entrance, of the Flickinger Village Hall, 6101 Capulina Ave. Admission is Free.

Sat., Dec. 14

REGENCY BAZAAR

Visit Regency Nursing Centre's Annual Holiday Bazaar. The fun begins at 11 a.m., Saturday, Dec. 14, and will continue until 3 p.m. Raffles will be given away and lucky winners will be awarded prizes such as dinner for two, toys, and gift certificates. Regency Nursing Centre is located at 6831 N. Milwaukee in Niles. For more information, call Paula Tagliere, Director of Activities at (847) 647-7444.



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HELD OVER Robin Williams "JACK"

EVERYDAY: 12:30, 5:10, 9:50 - Rated PG-13 -

HELD OVER John Travolta "PHENOMENON"

EVERYDAY: 2:45, 7:25 - Rated PG -

HELD OVER Gene Hackman "THE CHAMBER"

EVERYDAY: 12:40, 5:05, 9:30 - Rated R -

"BOUND" EVERYDAY: 2:55, 7:20 - Rated R -

HELD OVER "FIRST KID"

EVERYDAY: 12:50, 2:55 - Rated PG -

HELD OVER Ewan Burslyn "SPITFIRE GRILL"

EVERYDAY: 5:00, 7:20, 9:40 - Rated PG-13 -

ALL SEATS \$175

CHILDREN

Sat Dec 14

Christmas Tea Party

Everyone is invited to a Children's Christmas Tea Party on Sat Dec 14 at 3 p.m. at St. Alban's Church, 6240 N. Avondale, Norwood Park. Refreshments, music, stories hats and dresses. Boys may wear ties. Please call for reservations: (773) 763-8845 or (847) 647-0052. Children \$3 and Adults \$4.

CHURCH

Sun, Dec. 15

"Sing-Along Messiah"

Singers are invited to the seventh annual Glenview "Sing-Along Messiah" to be held 6 p.m. on Sunday, December 15, at St. David's Episcopal Church in Glenview. Those attending will sing as the chorus, and each is asked to bring their own music for singing voices, i.e. soprano, alto, tenor or bass. Admission is free. Donations will be accepted at the door to help defray costs. Located at 2410 Glenview Road, Glenview, at the corner of Glenview and Sherman Roads. The parking lot is on Sherman. For further information call (847) 724-1341.

ENTERTAINMENT

Sun Dec 8

The Classical Symphony Orchestra

The Classical Symphony Orchestra will present a free concert on Sunday, December 8, at 3 p.m. This is the second concert of the 1996-97 Season and will take place in Preston Bradley Hall, The Cultural Center, 78 East Washington Street, Chicago. The concert is free. Further information can be obtained by calling: (312) 341-1521.

Christmas Traditions given New Light

A new Christmas production entitled "A Canticle of Christmas" gives the ancient, biblical story of Christmas a new light. Traditional carols and art songs woven together by using sung narration, will be sung by soprano Pilar Noelle Kuhn with the help of fine Chicago musicians.



Pilar Noelle Kuhn

"A Canticle of Christmas" will delight audiences on Friday, December 13 at 7 p.m. and Saturday, December 14 at 7 p.m. in Alice Millar Chapel at Northwestern University in Evanston. Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$8 for children, students, senior citizens, and groups of 10 or more. Proceeds will go to Alice Millar Chapel and a new company which supports the fine arts. For tickets, call the Pick Staiger box office at (847) 467-4000. For more information, look on the internet: <http://pubweb.anc.nwu.edu/~pillar>

Dec 12 - 14

The Three Sisters

The classic play "The Three Sisters" by Anton Chekhov, which insightful deals with hopes, dreams and human failure, will be performed by the Niles North Theatre Department on Thursday, Dec 12 at 10 a.m. and Friday and Saturday, Dec 13 and 14 at 8 p.m. in the Niles North High School auditorium, 9800 N. Lawler Ave. in Skokie. Tickets are \$5 for the evening performance while the December 12 show is open to senior citizens at no charge. For further information please contact the Niles North Theatre Department at (847) 673-0051.

Fri Dec 13

Showcase

The Barat Repertory Dance Company Choreographers' Showcase Friday December 13, 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. The Hilltop Theatre at Barat College 700 E. Westleigh Rd., Lake Forest. FREE. For more information please call (847) 295-2620.

Community Calendar

ENTERTAINMENT

Dec 13 + 14

Winter Concert

Wayne Staley, Park Ridge resident, will direct and be featured soloist as the ELMWOOD PARK CIVIC CHORUS presents its winter concert, "Christmas and More" at 8 p.m., December 13 and 14 at the Elmwood Park High School auditorium, 8201 W. Fullerton Avenue, Elmwood Park. Tickets are \$3 and available at the door. For further information call (708) 453-5847.

Dec 14 + 15

Maine Twp. Chorale

The Maine Township Chorale will be presenting "Sounds of the Season" Concerts held on two consecutive days, Saturday, December 14, at 7 p.m. and Sunday at 3 p.m. The concert location will be St. Luke's Lutheran Church, 205 N. Prospect Ave. Park Ridge. Admission will be \$10, \$8 for seniors, students 18 years and under will be free. For tickets or more information contact Dave Dadabo Ph# (847) 827-4613.

Sat Dec 14

Ben Sidron

Enjoy a wonderful evening of Jewish Jazz with Ben Sidron, original member of the Steve Miller Band sponsored by Anshe Emet and the Nathan Cummings Foundation. Tickets - \$10 for adults and \$5 children, students, and seniors. For information call Rachel at (773) 868-5114.

Sat Dec 14

The Hobbit

The Niles West Children's Theatre presents a special matinee performance of J.R.R. Tolkien's classic fantasy story "The Hobbit" on Saturday, December 14 at 1 p.m. at the Niles West High School auditorium, 5701 Oakton Street in Skokie. Admission is \$3 for adults and \$2 for children. For information call 847/966-8280.

Dec 14+15

CAT SHOW

Purebred and Household pets - Maywood Racetrack, Maywood, IL corner of North Ave. & 5th Ave., third floor. Saturday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Sunday 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Admission Adults - \$4 Seniors & Children under 12 \$2. For more information (847) 695-2436.

Dec. 18, 19 & 20

Nutcracker

DanceWest Ballet presents The Nutcracker in North Central's Pfeiffer Hall, 310 E. Benton Ave. Daily matinees at 10 a.m. On Friday, Dec. 20, there will be an evening performance at 7 p.m. For advance tickets, priced at \$4, call DanceWest Ballet at 630/778-1303.

USE THE BUGLE

Fri, Dec. 20

HEART OF CHRISTMAS MUSICAL

Nationally renowned singer songwriter Jim Post will bring an all-new version of his critically acclaimed musical show, "The Heart of Christmas" to friendship Concert Hall. Kolpin and Algonquin Roads, Des Plaines, on Friday, Dec. 20, 8 p.m.

Dec. 20 & 21

Kenny Rogers' Christmas Show

Kenny Rogers' Christmas Show, "The Gift", will appear December 20 and 21 at Pheasant Run Resort's Mega Center, 4051 E. Main St., St. Charles. Performance times are 5:30 p.m. on Friday, December 20, and 5:30 and 9:00 p.m. on Saturday, December 21. Ticket prices start as low as \$35. Dinner and overnight packages are available. Parking is free! For tickets call (630) 584-MEGA (63420) or ticketmaster at (312) 559-1212. For overnight packages call (630) 584-6300.

Dec 20 - 22

Gem + Jewelry Show

Treasure seekers, collectors and bargain hunters, don't miss this extravaganza - the incomparable "Original" Classic International Gem & Jewelry Show - on December 20, 21 and 22 at the Rosemont Convention Center 5555 N. River Road, Rosemont. Friday Noon to 7 p.m. Saturday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Tues Dec 24

"Kum Kibbitz"

"Kum Kibbitz" joins Schmoorza plaozza '96 on Tuesday Dec 24 at Excalibur 632 N. Dearborn, Chicago. Dancing, games, pool, comedy, and lots more. For information call (312) 661-1976.

Dec 29 - Jan 1

Vernon Hills Holiday Light Show

The grounds of Cuneo Museum and Gardens will sparkle with a spectacular holiday light show featuring an animated Winter Wonderland. Thousands of lights will form a Swan Lake, a Candyland and other childhood favorites. 847/367-3700.

Dec 31

Linda Eder

Linda Eder will perform one concert only at 10 p.m. on December 31, at Pheasant Run Resort's Mega Center, 4051 E. Main St., St. Charles. Party Packages start as low as \$99 and include a pass to four live entertainment parties featuring live bands, a deejay, open bar until 2:30 a.m., continental breakfast and party favors. Dinner and overnight packages are available. Parking is free! For tickets call (630) 584-MEGA (6342) or TicketMaster at (312) 559-1212. For overnight packages call (630) 584-6300.

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS FROM SANTA!

Dec. 13 14

Oak Park Festival

Oak Park Festival Theatre invites families to celebrate the 1996 holiday season with their production of THE HOLIDAY RADIO HOUR at the Unity Temple, 875 Lake Street in Oak Park, on Friday, December 13 and Saturday, December 14 at 7:30. Tickets are \$14. Festival Theatre Member tickets are \$12, and Group and Family Packages are \$35 for 4 tickets. Children under 12 and groups of 10 are \$8.75 per person. Box Office 708/524.2050

Sun Jan 12

"Ports of Call"

The Skokie Community Chorus Welcomes in 1997 with its Winter concert entitled "Ports of Call," on Sunday, January 12th, at 3 p.m., in the auditorium of the Mayer Kaplan Jewish Community Center, 5050 W. Church St. Refresh-

ments. Tickets are \$5 at door. For further info call (847) 675-3859.

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Every Sat. & Sun. in Hyatt's All Seasons Cafe
Dec. 7, 8, 14, 15, 21 & 22
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Free photo, coloring book & crowns

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Thursday, Dec. 17
3:30pm - 10:30pm • \$8 at the door
Featuring: Dick Holliday & The Bamboo Gang
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Community Calendar

Greetings



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- MONDAY**
GRECIAN STYLE CHICKEN with Grecian Style Potato
VEAL PARMESAN with Spaghetti, No Potato
- TUESDAY**
BROILED SKIRT STEAK
PORK TENDERLOIN, Brown Gravy
- WEDNESDAY**
SHRIMP IN A BASKET (21), Cocktail Sauce
GRECIAN STYLE CHICKEN BREAST, Greek Potato
- THURSDAY**
STIR FRY CHICKEN BREAST
VEAL CUTLET, Brown Gravy
- FRIDAY**
BROILED RAINBOW TROUT, Lemon Butter Sauce
CHICKEN KIEV, with Rice, No Potato
- SATURDAY**
CHOPPED STEAK, Grilled Onions
CHICKEN PARMESAN with Spaghetti, No Potato
- SUNDAY**
FRIED CHICKEN
LIVER with Onions or Bacon
Please... No Senior Citizen Discount



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HEALTH

Sun., Dec. 8 LEUKEMIA MEETING

The Lincolnwood-based Leukemia Research Foundation will sponsor its 3rd annual Town Hall Meeting, "Understanding and Coping with Leukemia," Sunday, Dec. 8, 1 to 4 p.m. at the Executive Plaza Hotel, 71 E. Wacker Dr., Chicago (Cloud 39 Penthouse). The Town Hall Meeting is free and open to the public. For more information call the Leukemia Research Foundation at (847) 982-1480.

Mon Dec 9 "Father's Class"

Expectant and new fathers have somewhere to turn for answers to their questions regarding childcare. A new "Father's Class" offered at The Evanston Hospital, 2650 Ridge Avenue, Evanston, meets every second Monday of the month. The next class is on Monday, December 9 at 7:30 in Room G601 in the Women's Hospital (inside Evanston Hospital). For more information, contact the Perinatal Family Support Center at Evanston Hospital, (847) 570-2880.

Mon Dec 9

Heart Transplant Support Group
A free support group for heart transplant patients and their families meets December 9 and 23 in Room G954 at The Evanston Hospital, 2650 Ridge Avenue, Evanston.

For more information call The Evanston Hospital at (708) 570-2030.

Tues. Dec 17

Bereaved Parents Support Group
The Support Group for Bereaved Parents will meet from 7:30 - 9:00 p.m. on December 17, in room 1230, by the Ocular Center, Evanston Hospital, 2650 Ridge Avenue, Evanston. The group is open to all bereaved parent(s) free of charge. For additional information please call Sorrelle Yones at (708) 570-2882.

SINGLES

ALL SINGLES OVER 45 INVITED

ST. PETER'S SINGLES DANCE
Friday, Dec. 13 at 8:45 pm Tivoli Gardens, 3258 N. Harlem and Saturday Dec. 14th at 8:45 pm Franklin Park American Legion Hall, 9757 Pacific. Both dances cost \$5.00.

ST. PETER'S SINGLES DANCE
Saturday, Dec. 21 Tivoli Gardens 3258 N Harlem at 8:45 pm. Cost \$5.00

Friday, Dec. 6

AWARE SINGLES DANCE
The Aware Singles Group and the Chicagoland Singles Association invite all singles to a singles dance at 8 pm on Friday, Dec. 6 at the Barn of Barrington Rd. Barrington. Music will be provided by Music Makers. Admission is \$6. For more information, call Aware at 708-632-9600.

The Aware Singles Group is a not-for-profit organization concerned with the needs of single, divorced and widowed people and is a member of the Chicagoland Association of Singles Clubs.

Friday, Dec. 13

AWARE SINGLES DANCE
The Aware Singles Association invite all singles to a "Black Friday Dance" at 8 pm on Friday, Dec. 13 at the Glen Elynn Holiday Inn, 1250 Roosevelt Road, Glen Elynn. All guests are encouraged to wear black. Music will be provided by Music Makers. Admission is \$6. For more information, call Aware at 708-632-9600.

CHICAGO SUBURBAN SINGLES

The Chicago Suburban Singles will sponsor a dance at 8 pm on Friday, Dec. 13, at the Barn of Barrington Restaurant, 1415 S. Barrington Road, Barrington. DJ music will be provided. Admission of \$6 includes a buffet. For more information call, 847-216-9773.

Contact Char Darr
1-630-595-6250

Note: The Chicago Suburban Singles will not be meeting on Friday Dec. 20.

Saturday Dec. 14

CHICAGO METRO SINGLES
The Chicago Metro Singles invite all singles to a dance at 8 pm on Sat. Dec. 14 at the Barn of Barrington Restaurant, 1415 S. Barrington Rd, Barrington. There will be DJ dance music. Admission of \$6 includes a buffet. For more information, call 312-509-5000.

DEC. 20

AWARE SINGLES DANCE
The Aware Singles Group and the Chicagoland Singles Association invite all singles to a "Super Dance" at 8:00 pm on Friday, Dec. 20 at the Nordic Hills Resort, Route 53 and Nordic Road, Itasca. Live music will be provided. Admission is \$8. For more information, call Aware at 708-632-9600. The Aware Singles Group is a non-for-profit organization concerned with the needs of single, divorced and widowed people and is a member of the Chicagoland Association of Singles Clubs. (CLAS).

PEACE

Community Calendar

Timothy Jon to entertain for Leukemia Research

Timothy Jon, Vocalist, will entertain the Golland-Orenstein-Sherman Memorial Chapter of the Leukemia Research Foundation at its Regular Monthly Meeting on Saturday, Dec. 7. Mr. Jon will sing songs from various Broadway Productions. The meeting will be held at the Morton Grove Community Church, Lake and Austin, in Morton Grove. Meeting time is 8:30 p.m. A social hour will take place from 7:30 - 8:30 prior to general meeting. An ice cream social will follow meeting.

The Golland-Orenstein-Sherman Memorial Chapter meets the first Saturday of every month from September thru June at the Morton Grove Community Church.

All who are interested are cordially invited to attend. For further information, call (708) 786-3992.

Santa visits Glenview State Bank

Santa Claus has announced that he will be visiting Glenview State Bank's main office at 800 Waukegan Road, Glenview, on Saturday, December 7. He and his helpers will be there from 10 a.m. to noon to listen individually to each child's requests and give them a small gift. Free photos will be taken and refreshments will be available.



Northwest Choral Society performs Holiday Concert

The Northwest Choral Society announces its holiday concert, "Behold, What Wonder!" to be performed Sunday, Dec. 8, at 3:30 pm at the First United Methodist Church, 418 Touhy Avenue, Park Ridge. Wassail! by John Owen Edwards and A Winter Triptych by James Adler are among the many Christmas selections featured in this delightful holiday concert, accompanied by harpist Stephen Hartman.

A festively decorated gingerbread house and a 1997 Entertainment Book will be raffled during the concert; raffle tickets will be available for \$1 each. In addition homemade bakery items and pointsettias will be on sale.

The Northwest Choral Society is a nonprofit community organization which has been performing both classical and popular music for the northwest suburbs for 31 years. It is dedicated to en-

couraging the appreciation, study and performance of outstanding choral music. Directed by John Melcher and accompanied by Lori Lyn Mackie, the chorus numbers nearly 50 men and women. Auditions for additional members will be held in early Jan.

Tickets for the Dec. 8 concert are \$10 for adults and \$8 for students and seniors. They may be obtained at the door or at the Colonial Coffee Shop, 800 Devon Avenue, Park Ridge. Season tickets for the three-concert season may also be obtained if requested by the Dec. 8 concert date. The chorus will perform a concert titled "Songs of Prayer and Praise" on March 15, 1997, in Edison Park and "Summer Song Fest" concert on June 7 and 8, 1997 in DesPlaines. For more information about concerts or membership, call (847) 259-4167.

Park Ridge Civic Orchestra's Holiday Gala Concert

Former Park Ridge resident, Nancy Almqvist, soprano soloist, will be featured in the Park Ridge Civic Orchestra's gala holiday concert on Wednesday, December 11th when the Orchestra will present Weber's Overture to *Der Freischutz*, Mozart's *Exsultate, Jubilate*, a selection of Christmas songs, and Dvorak's *New World Symphony*. In its second concert of its third season, the fifty-piece orchestra, under the direction of founder and music director Edgar Muenzer will have the pleasure of bringing Ms. Almqvist's extraordinary vocal skills to a

venue in her hometown. The concert will be held at 8 p.m. in the historic Pickwick Theater in downtown Park Ridge. Tickets may be purchased at the door. For additional ticket information, contact Nancy Muenzer at (847) 823-8861. Tickets for all performances are \$15 (\$10 for students and seniors, \$5 for children under 12). The Pickwick Theater is located at the intersection of Prospect and Touhy Avenues in Park Ridge, one block north of the main Park Ridge Metra Station.

Fri Dec 13

Shabbat Service
Shabbat Service followed by Dinner at Anshe Emet Synagogue. "Why God is Making a Comeback-Modern Jews and the Religious Search for Meaning" For dinner reservations/information call Rachel at (773) 868-5114.



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COMMUNITY DINING GUIDE

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RESTAURANT	TYPE	LOCATION	THIS WEEKS SPECIALS
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Father & Son Restaurant Pizzeria	Italian/American	5691 N. Milwaukee Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60648 (312) 774-2620	Everyday Pizza Special \$5.95 (THURSDAY) ALL YOU CAN EAT MEAT or SPINACH LASAGNA - \$8.25
La Pasta Ria Restorante & Catering	Italian/American	3711 Central Road Glenview, Illinois 60025 (847) 729-0084	- Complete Dinners - Fresh Poached Salmon - \$15.95 Fresh Grilled Swordfish - \$15.95
Matty's Wayside Inn	American Cuisine	1727 Waukegan Road Glenview, Illinois 60025 (847) 724-1314	

Letters To The Editor

Take the bull by the horns

Dear Editor:

Teachers of Niles Township Dist. 219 should be spanked like any spoiled child who has been given everything they asked for, otherwise, they would throw a tantrum and cry until they are blue in the face. Dist. 219 is not alone with outrageous demands for wage increases that far exceeds the ability of the majority of taxpayers to support economically. This pervasive, selfishness

would also include other greedy neighboring school districts who are well aware of DIST. 219 prosperity and are eagerly inclined to make similar demands for higher salaries negotiations and above all, ridiculous higher pensions and health benefits.

If I were in good health and younger, I would aggressively campaign for a more democratic control of our local financial demands which as a whole are able

to. I am looking for individuals who would begin to take the bull by the horn and say we had enough. I would like to see a group of taxpayers tax force group organize and present to Dist 219 administrators a petition of protest indicating that the teachers cannot use children and taxpayers as hostages to achieve their ridiculous goals of greed. I am positive that 98% of the population of responsible adults

would eagerly sign the petition of grievance saying to the striking teachers, sorry, we had enough - no more raises. Your present salaries and benefits far exceed what we can afford. This petition is the true democratic form of government where the people can express themselves and not by members who are powerless to express their true feelings.

Sincerely Yours,
Morris Pawly

Dudycz thanks supporters

Dear Editor:

Now that the 1996 elections have concluded, I can reflect upon my past accomplishments and prepare for the next Illinois General Assembly.

In every campaign, endorsements play a part, political organizations give input and contributions are important. However, the ordinary citizens exercising their rights to get supporters and volunteers for their efforts and for the time they invested on our behalf.

Walking precincts, stuffing envelopes, displaying yard signs and neighbor-to-neighbor activities were crucial to our victory. These individual citizens became involved because they sincerely believed in the things we are fighting for in Springfield, not because patronage jobs depended on it. By knocking on thousands of doors, attending hundreds of events, and meeting in various forums, I learned much from my constituents.

As I prepare to return to Springfield, I will continue to maintain an open and close working relationship with my constituents, keeping them informed on the issues and activities in Springfield.

I thank the people of the 7th District for the trust and faith they have placed in me. On behalf of my family, I wish everyone a happy Holiday Season and a healthy and prosperous New Year.

Sincerely,
Walter W. Dudycz
State Senator

Will the real John Hagen please stand up?

Dear Editor:

John Hagen, a member of the First Party, recently wrote a letter to you advocating a referendum on breaking up Morton Grove into voting districts because "the community gets to directly make choices on public policy." Is he the same John Hagen who tried to bump candidates from the ballot in the 1993 village election because of the name of their party, and the same John Hagen who listed community choice when he kicked school board candidates off the 1994 ballot because they didn't number the pages of their nominating petitions?

Districiting is an election tactic of the First Party. It may be good for them, but it is not good for the village.

Sincerely,
Joseph Alessi
President, Morton Grove Action Committee

Scholastic Bowl wins

Maine East's Scholastic Bowl varsity and junior varsity teams will participate in the Dec. 7 Richards Invitational. On Dec. 14 the junior varsity has been invited to compete at Fremd High School's JV tournament.

When school resumes after winter break, the teams will face competition at the Homewood-Flossmoor Invitational on Jan. 18.

Maine East's varsity Scholastic Bowl team had a successful Saturday, Nov. 23. They finished

6-1 at the Rockford-Boylan Invitational to capture the consolation championship. In addition, Maine East senior Steve Gelber Morton Grove was awarded the Top Scorer Award at the Invitational and was also named to the All-Star team.

As of mid-Nov. Maine East's varsity team record was 14-4.

Maine East hosted Niles North Tuesday, Nov. 19. Maine East's junior varsity team was also victorious. The JV score was Maine East 275, Niles North 246.

Regina Dominican presents Winter Concert

Regina Dominican's music department proudly presents its annual Winter Concert on Tuesday, December 10 at 7:30 p.m. in the O'Shaughnessy Theatre. Admission is free and the program features Regina Dominican's Chamber Singers, the Artistry Show Choir, the Regina Singers and the Regina Orches-

tra. This year's Winter Concert will treat music lovers to a delightful program including holiday classics, Disney scores as well as a folk song or two. Immediately following the performance, Regina Dominican's Mothers' Club will host a reception in the foyer of the theatre.

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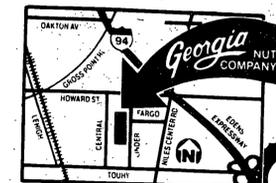
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Holiday Toy Shopping Tips

During the holiday season, stores are flooded with new and exciting toys. So how do you know which toys to buy? There are many things to consider when buying toys, everything from safety to whether the toy is age appropriate (designed and made for a child of the same age).

Basic Considerations
 Early childhood educators agree that toys play a significant role in helping all children, from infancy through school age, develop important educational concepts and life skills. Good toys must entertain and occupy. In fact, one of the main values of a good toy is to extend a child's attention.

The following toy shopping points should be considered before buying:

- Is the toy safe? (see below)
- Will the toy appeal to the child's personal likes and dislikes? This is a vital consideration because not all children of the same age share similar interests. Is this appeal based on the child's real interests or because a friend has the toy, or it was seen on TV?
- Is the toy durable and well built? Will it survive typical child use?
- Will the child be capable of enjoying the toy? Some toys are just too complicated or too simple for a specific age group.
- Will the toy hold the child's interest over a period of time? Most toys are designed just to satisfy a child's initial interests.

Toy Safety
 The topic of safety is particularly relevant when selecting toys for children of all ages. Following are a few general guidelines which have been provided by the Colorado Department of Health, Division of Laboratories, Toy Testing Laboratory.

- Choose toys with rounded edges and no points.
- Toys should be unbreakable and should be able to withstand use and abuse.
- Rattles and other toys for infants should be carefully checked for poor construction and parts that a child could swallow. Make sure that they cannot be opened by mistake or through normal use.
- Paints on all toys should be non-toxic and lead-free. Be sure also to check the materials used in stuffed toys.
- Follow package guidelines for age appropriateness to prevent getting a toy that is too complex for a child's age and development.
- Never hang toys with long strings, cords, loops or ribbons in cribs or playpens.
- Make sure that materials on toys such as dolls, including clothing, etc., are non-flammable.

Age Appropriateness

When determining whether a toy is appropriate for a child, always take the age of the child into consideration and whether the toy is developmentally appropriate. Following are tips for selecting toys which satisfy the developmental needs of various age groups:

Infants (birth to 12 months)
 Because an infant will put everything into his or her mouth to explore its taste and feel, it is essential to select toys which cannot be easily swallowed. Even large toys should be carefully inspected to ensure they contain no buttons or other detachable parts which could be swallowed.

Stuffed toys have long been popular for infants. These toys provide infants with a sense of security and help develop the ability to grasp and hold objects.

When selecting stuffed toys for infants, parents should make sure the products are easily washable and made from soft, non-irritating materials.

Rattles, which stimulate an infant's oral, auditory and cognitive development, also are extremely popular and come in a wide variety of styles and prices. Parents should choose rattles made by well known companies which follow recognized safety standards.

Mobiles, which hang over the infant, help stimulate their interests in visual images and movement, and develop tracking skills. However, the moving objects projecting from the mobile should be kept out of the way of an infant's hands. Remember to take down the mobile at about six months, or when the child begins to sit and pull up in the crib. Also remember the infant's view of the mobile is from underneath, so objects need to be three dimensional or hang horizontally.

Toddlers (twelve to thirty-six months)
 Active and ready to explore, toddlers direct their energy toward investigating, experimenting and interacting with the world around them. Among the many toys which help a toddler develop are:

- Dolls - provide both boys and girls with the opportunity to express their emotional needs. Dolls also strengthen a child's ability to socialize and communicate more effectively, therefore parents should select multicultural dolls.
- Blocks - build a toddler's motor skills while exercising the imagination. Select lightweight materials and large sizes to match the toddler's abilities at this age. Pictures and letters on blocks do not add to their value.
- Push and pull toys - exercise a toddler's large motor development and coordination skills.

These toys also teach cause and effect by showing the child an action which results from their input, teaching the child that he or she has some control over the environment.

- Remember to avoid small pieces, as toddlers are still learning through tasting and could easily swallow or choke on something small.
- Large, light balls help to develop children's motor skills, while serving as a tool for many simple games with an adult or another child.

Preschool Children (three to five year olds)

This is a child's time for enjoying "make believe," fantasy games and favorite stories. To maximize a child's fantasy activity, toys should have a general function (a playhouse, a stove, a truck), but not a specific, detailed function (an ice cream truck). Toys that allow a child to express his or her creativity include hand puppets, and the whole range of art supplies from finger paints to modeling clay, and crayons to felt pens. Construction toys, which also come in many shapes and forms, teach children spatial relationships, eye-hand coordination skills and thinking skills.

School Age Children (six to twelve year olds)

A child's horizons widen as he or she grows older and explores the world. Improved motor, communication and social skills also contribute to a child's growth during this period. Toys which meet these development needs include:

- Bicycles, which are excellent for improving motor skills and coordination.
- Board games remain popular choices because they combine fun with learning to play games with rules.
- Musical instruments enhance the important concepts of rhythm, sequence, repetition and love of music.
- A wide range of scientific and mechanical toys are available to encourage all children's natural interests in the real world and in figuring out how things work.
- Balls, including basketballs, tennis, soccer and rubber balls, and baseballs, help to develop hand-eye coordination, social skills and muscle development.

For additional information on Children's World Learning Centers and the educational programs offered, contact your local center. With 535 locations in 23 states, Children's World operates both community-based and employer-supported learning centers, as well as before and after school programs on the premises of elementary schools. Children's World has been operating early childhood and school-age educational programs since 1969.

Holiday Gift Guide

Give wisely to reputable charities

During the holiday season of giving, charitable organizations make their pleas for funds to sponsor their programs. Not all solicitors are genuine, however, so it pays to ensure your contributions are spent wisely.

Fraudulent phone solicitations and mailings are common this time of year, said Karen Chan, University of Illinois Extension consumer and family economics educator. Some groups keep your money and others spend a large percentage on fund raising and other administrative costs, and little for charity services.

While it can be difficult to distinguish between the sincere and fraudulent requests, there are "red" flags that signal the charity or collector may not be honest.

"Be suspicious if the name of the charitable organization doesn't sound quite right," Chan said. "Some groups try to make their name sound very familiar to well-known charities. Also be leery if a telephone solicitor pressures you into giving the money by way of a credit card at that first contact. A reputable charity will volunteer to call you back if you want to think about it, or mail your information about the charity."

If you receive a gift in the mail with a notice that looks like a bill, take a closer look, warned Chan. Remember, you do not have to pay for something that you did not order.

Before you donate money, ask for written information about the organization and its services. If you receive a phone solicitation, ask the person if he or she is a volunteer or if they are paid to raise the money. If they are paid, the charity will receive less money for services—perhaps much less money, Chan said.

A charitable group should use at least 60 percent of its funds for charitable work, according to the National Charities Information Bureau. Find out how much of your donation will be used for expenses and how much for charity.

Finally, ask about the charity's services. The collector should be able to tell you the purpose of the group and give you examples of its programs.

You might feel safer donating money to a local group you know about, Chan said. If you are involved in a community group, a church, synagogue or other organization, you may know about how they handle their money.

No matter how generous you are with donations, you'll want to be assured that your money will be used for the good of others.

The Cooperative Extension Service of University of Illinois provides educational programs and unbiased research-based information to help Illinois residents improve their quality of life, develop skills and solve problems, by "helping you put knowledge to work."

Holiday Concert at Wright College

The Northwest Chicago Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Professor Michael Holian, will perform the annual holiday concert at 3:00 p.m. on Sunday, December 15, at the Wright College SOUTH campus Auditorium, 3400 N. Austin Avenue. This Performance Series event is sponsored by the Wright College Cultural Events Community. Ample parking is available.

For more information, call the Music Department at (773) 481-8863 and ask to be placed on our Audience Mailing List.

The opening selection will be Italian composer Giovanni Gabrieli's *Sonata Piane Forte*, written to show the dynamic differences between high and low brass. Continuing the concert, a string trio of orchestra members—Concert Mistress Daria Horodyskyj, Paul Urbanek, and Peter Kohn—will play Italian composer Antonio Vivaldi's *Concerto Grosso*.

The NCSO will continue the program with German-born Britain-adopted composer George Frederick Handel's *Water Music*, written to be played on a barge on the Thames River during the King's strolls.

Following a brief intermission, the trumpet trio of NCSO members—Dr. Verne Schwager, Aaron Newman, and Jim McBride—will play 20th century American composer Leroy Anderson's ever-popular *Bugler's*

Christmas Tree farms

Looking to recapture that old-fashioned holiday spirit this year? Feeling a little overwhelmed by shopping mall santas, blinking home video games and rock 'n roll Christmas carols?

This might be the year to gather the family together and head to one of the Christmas tree farms near Chicago. Choosing and cutting your own Christmas tree is the type of family activity that revives the holiday spirit and brings back memories of the yuletide traditions of a slower-paced, simpler era.

There are a number of Christmas tree farms within easy driving distance of Chicago. For a free listing of Chicago area farms and for information on the care of holiday poinsettias, send a self-addressed business size envelope (\$.32 postage) to: Christmas Trees &/or Poinsettias, University of Illinois Cooperative Extension Service, 5106 South Western Avenue, Chicago, IL., 60609.

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Holiday Gift Guide

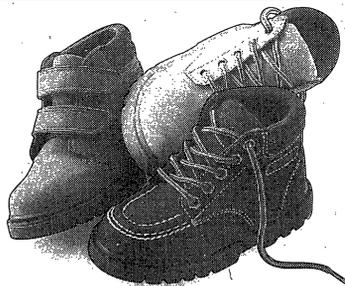
Holiday events at Des Plaines Historical Society

Hot roasted chestnuts, spiced apple cider and homemade cookies greet visitors to the Des Plaines Historical Society's annual Holiday Gala on Sunday, December 8 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., 789 Pearson Street. The museum will be decked in early twentieth century holiday style. Based on turn-of-the-century women's magazines, these decorations were created for the young at heart. Ornaments created in Marilyn O'Brien's Holiday Decorations class and by Brentwood School Brownie Troops will adorn the main tree in the sitting room.

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As always, there will be a variety of entertainment, crafts and games in which to participate as well as the traditional cookie sale. Dr. William Heller, on viola, will play during the afternoon hours. The gift shop offers a number of items for holiday gift giving including canvas bags, barbecue aprons, miscellaneous stocking stuffers and the Society's book *Greetings From Des Plaines, Illinois: A Community History Post Cards*.

The Historical Society is participating in the City's white lights decorating program. To see the museum in its nighttime splendor, visitors are welcome Friday evening December 13, 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. The historical society's gazebo will be festooned with lights and holiday decor, and the museum will be aglow with "candles" in the windows and white lights in the trees and bushes. Nighttime visitors will be treated to the same fare as daytime visitors.

On December 15 from 1 to 4 p.m., the museum will host its second annual "Winter Holiday Traditions" program which features local groups and individuals sharing their ethnic and cultural heritage through songs, exhibits and crafts. The Maine

East Polish Club will fill the house with the harmony of Polish carols. A Mexican Posadas enactment, popular during last year's program, will take place as well. Czechoslovakian traditions will be one of the new features this year. Not everyone celebrates Christmas, so visitors can share in the Jewish tradition of the Dreidl game or view Dipsa lamps from the Indian Diwali celebration or "festival of

lights." Enjoy other cultural traditions as well, while sampling goodies from the International Bake Sale.

There is no admission charge for any of the events, but donations are welcome. If you would like to participate in the "Winter Holiday Traditions" program or need additional information, contact the museum, (847)-391-5399.

Lutheran General Hospital displays the holiday spirit

Lutheran General Hospital, Park Ridge, has lined up a flurry of spirited holidays events during December.

The hospital is in the midst of a calendar full of activities that have a festive flare. Visitors to Lutheran General should be on the lookout for the following highlights during the coming weeks:

Through Friday, December 20, the Bear Family-Lobby of Lutheran General will be transformed into Santa's Forest, a display of two-foot-tall Christmas trees decorated by hospital individuals and departments. Visitors are invited to stroll through this hospital Service League-sponsored fund-raiser to spot "the best of show," "the most beautiful" and other award-winning trimming efforts. All trees can be purchased; award winners will be available through silent auction.

Other hospital holiday traditions include: performances on patient floors by community carolers; newborns going home December 24 through 26 nestled in holiday stockings handmade by the volunteer sewing group; flowers and gifts delivered to Jewish patients on Hanukkah; complimentary poinsettia plants and newspapers given to patients December 25; and an appearance by Santa Claus on Christmas Day.

Santa and the Skokie Park District to spread holiday cheer

Let the Skokie Park District and Santa's Hotline make your child's Christmas a little brighter when jolly ol' St. Nick makes a long-distance phone call from the North Pole.

Parents can sign up their child by Thursday, Dec. 19, at the Weber Leisure Center (9300 Weber Park Place, Church Street and Gross Point Road) or Devoshire Cultural Center (4400 Greenwood St.). All calls will be made on Monday, Dec. 23 between 5 and 9:30 p.m. Please indicate when registering what time Santa should call. The fee is \$4 per person. For more information, call the park district, (847) 674-1500.

Chapel; and Roman Catholic Mass will be celebrated at 5:30 p.m. and 11:30 p.m. December 24; 3:30 p.m. December 25; and 3:30 p.m. January 1 in Johnson Auditorium. In addition, the noon Christmas Eve worship, an 11 a.m. Christmas worship service and the noon New Year's Eve worship service will be televised for patients on the hospital's Carevision channel.

In keeping with the giving spirit of the season, Lutheran General employees have chosen several community benefit activities.

Because of the urgent need for blood donors during the holidays, a **Blood Drive** will be held from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday, December 18, in the Grainger Atrium. In addition, hospital staff members are collecting non-perishable food items for the Maine Township Food Pantry to help meet the emergency needs of individuals and families.

Other hospital holiday traditions include: performances on patient floors by community carolers; newborns going home December 24 through 26 nestled in holiday stockings handmade by the volunteer sewing group; flowers and gifts delivered to Jewish patients on Hanukkah; complimentary poinsettia plants and newspapers given to patients December 25; and an appearance by Santa Claus on Christmas Day.

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A series of Holiday Services have been scheduled at the hospital. Christian worship services will be held at noon December 24 and December 31 in Johnson

Holiday Gift Guide

Naper Settlement Christmas Memories

Imagine a Christmas with no stockings hung by the fire - a holiday when no presents were given and none were expected. There was a time, right here in Naper-ville, Illinois, when Christmas was a day like any other, spent washing and cooking and caring for animals.

Now picture, in stark contrast, a Creole feast where revelers dance, drink, and gamble all through the night. This, too, is a holiday scene from early Naper-ville - and one reason early settlers came to this area from the eastern states; they saw it as their mission to "civilize" the area's non-believers: the sailors and fur traders, French voyageurs, Potawatomi and their mixed blood children.

This holiday season, visitors to the log house and fort at Naper Settlement can relive days such as these, when Christmas was controversial - as well as the celebrations typical of the Civil War era, the Victorian years, and the turn of the century. It all comes to life during **Christmas Memories**:

December 13, 14 & 15; 19, 20, 21 & 22 6:30-9:30 p.m.
December 23 3:30-9:30 p.m.
December 27 12:30-3:30 p.m.

Christmas Memories

The sights, sounds and scents of a 19th-century village bustling with holiday festivities enchant visitors of all ages during **Christmas Memories**, an annual tradition at Naper Settlement, Naperville, Illinois, Chicagoland's only 19th century living history village.

December 13, 14, 15; 19, 20, 21, & 22 6:30-9:30 p.m.
December 23 3:30-9:30 p.m.
December 27 12:30-3:30 p.m.

Throughout the village, costumed interpreters and entertainers celebrate holiday traditions from the 1800s-a time when this northern Illinois community grew from a pioneer frontier settlement to a prosperous farming community. Visitors to **Christmas Memories** stroll through historic residences and businesses decorated for the holidays and lighted by kerosene lantern. Meet Father Christmas and Ebenezer Scrooge, enjoy holiday treats in the Sweet Shop, then stop into the Museum Store or the Weed Ladies Country Store for last-minute gift items.

Naper Settlement is located in the heart of downtown Naperville, just south of the Riverwalk. Follow the brown and signs to 201 West Porter Avenue at Webster Street. Admission is \$6 for adults, \$5.50 for senior citizens and \$ for youth (age 4 to 17). For more information call 630-420-6010.

Anti-Cruelty Society offers new gift certificates

Looking for something unusual for that special pet owner? Why not a gift certificate for a spay/neuter procedure at The Anti-Cruelty Society Spay/Neuter Clinic? For \$25, The Anti-Cruelty Society will provide you with a certificate for a spay/neuter procedure for any dog, cat, puppy or kitten. The gift recipient will need to make the appointment at the Clinic.

This procedure is often passed by because pet owners have sometimes found the fees to be cost prohibitive. But at The Anti-Cruelty Society, all procedures are \$25. "By giving a gift certificate for these procedures, you are showing that you truly care about the health of that animal," states Jane Stern, executive director. "We have never had the opportunity of helping so many pet owners before but at this holiday season, we are prepared to offer this new idea," Stern continued.

To obtain a gift certificate for a spay/neuter procedure, stop by the Customer Service desk at The Anti-Cruelty Society Shelter, 510 N. LaSalle Street every day between noon and 5 p.m. For more information call, (312) 644-8338.

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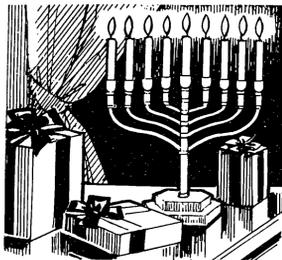


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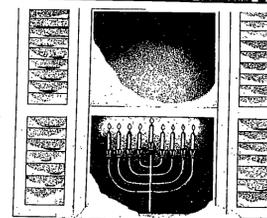


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Amelia Island Plantation: The Last Resort?



For those who think that Mickey Mouse is holding Florida hostage and the concrete jungle is the state's only thriving habitat, there's a last resort-Amelia Island Plantation. It is located on the northernmost barrier island in Florida, surrounded on three sides by water-the Atlantic Ocean, the Intracoastal Waterway and Nassau Sound. It is dappled with marshes and threaded with lagoons. Giant live oaks filter sunlight through one continuous canopy of leaves. It is the home of herons, egrets, sea turtles, raccoons, deer and the other wildlife and is arguably the state's greenest and most naturally-beautiful resort. From its interesting history to its award-winning children's program, Amelia Island Plantation is a compelling destination.

Plantation guests enjoy a wide variety of accommodation options. The 17 varying types of accommodations include hotel rooms, suites, and penthouses as well as two and three-bedroom villas and townhomes. Guests may choose oceanfront, marsh or fairway views. Carefully placed in the midst of this island sanctuary are amenities that afford guests unparalleled recreational options. The 45 holes of championship golf designed by Pete Dye and Tom Fazio provide every level of experience, bordering the ocean, marshes and wooden interior of the Plantation.

The world class tennis facilities, featuring 27 courts, have been recognized by Tennis magazine as ranking among the top 50 in the country. Racquet Park Health and Fitness Center offers state-of-the-art equipment for weight training, aerobics, racquetball, indoor swimming, steam baths, saunas, whirlpools, massage, facials, manicures, pedicures and other spa activities. In addition to man-made

diversions, water and beach activities offer year-round recreation. Miles of white sand beaches, ranked among the 10 best in the world, invite long walks, jogging and horseback riding. The Atlantic provides both surf fishing and deep sea excursion opportunities. Chartered sailing expeditions are popular as well. Inland, freshwater lakes and brackish lagoons yield bass, bream, tarpon, snook, redfish and others. Walker's Landing, a recreation and boat launch area on the creek, has excelled crabbing. To take advantages of the resort's lush forests and scenic inland waterways, bicycles and paddleboat rentals are available. The Plantation boasts more than seven miles of canopied bike and hiking trail.

Children are big fans of Amelia Island Plantation! Twice voted by Family Circle magazine readers the "Best Family Beach Resort of the Year," the resort's Youth Program scores high with kids and parents alike. Young guests also enjoy a number of unusual play areas: Drummond Park features a Robinson Crusoe atmosphere complete with a treehouse, swings, slides, an outdoor basketball court and walkways to the marsh. Nature sings along the way detail the animal and plant life of the marsh. In the Sunken Forest, boardwalks traverse the peaks and valleys of gigantic sand dunes in the edge of the wood, and again, nature signs point out the flora and fauna of this unique habitat.

The resort's Aury Island features an exclusive fishing hole for the 12 and under set as well as an extensive jungle gym. With seven restaurants and grills to choose from and daily room service available, guests at the Plantation never go hungry. Whether it's Crabmeat & Shitake Dim Sum prepared by master chef Jacky Burette at Amelia Inn or a Calypso Grilled Chicken

sandwich at The Coop, the resort has something to please even the most finicky palate.

For guests who find time to venture off the Plantation, nearby historic Fernandina Beach is an alluring draw. In addition to a 50-block historic district, this picturesque Victorian seaport is home to Fort Clinch State Park and the Amelia Island Museum of History. South of the resort, guests visit Kingsley Plantation State Historic Site, a restored plantation built in 1804 on Fort George Island, which features one of the few remaining examples of the plantation system of Territorial Florida.

Meanwhile, back on Amelia Island Plantation, there are no signs of Mickey Mouse or Spring Break crowds and guests plot ways to keep this last resort a secret.

Amelia Island Plantation is only 29 miles from Jacksonville International Airport. Private and corporate aircraft and charters can fly directly to Fernandina Beach Municipal airport, four miles north of the Plantation.

Major Airlines Serving Jacksonville International Airport with direct and non-stop service: American, Northwest, USAir, Continental, TWA, Value Jet, Delta, United, and Air South

For more information about Amelia Islands Plantation, call the public relations manager toll-free 800/874-6878.

Paul R. Judi

Navy Seaman Recruit Paul R. Judi, son of Felix J. and Norma V. Judi of Niles, recently completed U.S. Navy basic training at Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, Ill.

He is a 1994 graduate of Maine Township High School East of Park Ridge.

The Fairbanks House of Amelia Island

Imagine stepping back into a bygone era - the gracious southern hospitality of a quaint seaside town; daily gourmet breakfast overlooking colorful gardens surrounding the pool and patio; the warm comfort of an antiques-filled bedroom within an 19th century Italianate villa. If all this sounds too good to be true, it's not - and innkeepers Mary and Nelson Smelker invite you to join them at The Fairbanks House for an unforgettable experience. Offering special packages for almost any occasion, The Fairbanks House on historic Amelia Island, just one-half hour north of Jacksonville, Florida, provides a peaceful retreat for visitors looking for a good excuse to escape from their day-to-day routine.

Conveniently located on Amelia Island, the northernmost Atlantic coast barrier island in Florida, the Fairbanks House is set in the historic downtown section of Fernandina Beach. This small 12-room luxury inn is 45 minutes from downtown Jacksonville and 15 minutes from I-95.

Nestled on an acre of blooming gardens and manicured lawns, The Fairbanks House is an object of admiration for passers-by. This elegantly designed mansion, built in 1885, is still praised for its unusual windows and piazzas. The four-story Italianate villa greets visitors with polished hardwood floors, 12-foot ceilings and a magnificent staircase leading guests to their quarters.

Four-poster canopied beds combined with hand-crafted bedroom linen ensembles, antiques collected from around the world

and oriental rugs decorate the villa's guest rooms and suites. Guests may select their favorite decor from any of the six rooms and three suites, or enjoy the privacy of the more secluded three cottages on-property. Most rooms have carved soap-stone fireplaces and jacuzzi or claw-foot tubs.

In-room amenities include television, telephones, robes and turn-down service. A complimentary social hour each evening offers wine, soft drinks and light snacks.

Guests also enjoy a full gourmet breakfast served on the piazza or in the dining room. The year-round-pool and patio is the ideal setting for relaxation amidst carefully tended grounds. Guests may also choose to take advantage of the complimentary bicycles and beach chairs available everyday at the inn. Off-street parking is provided.

Brides-to-be can sit back and allow The Fairbanks House to coordinate that special occasion.

Wedding planner services are provided by Mary Smelker, who oversees all the details - food, music, flowers, nuptials, photographer, etc. The Fairbanks House is one of few inns in Fernandina Beach that permit weddings. Nelson can even perform the ceremony! In fact, small functions to celebrate virtually every occasion can be arranged.

For information on honeymoons, romantic getaways and golf packages, contact The Fairbanks House at (904) 277-0500 or (800) 261-4838.

HAPPY CHANUKAH

SEND US YOUR NEWS
 All press releases must be in our office by Friday for publication in the following week's edition.
 Send to:
NEWS EDITOR
The Bugle Newspaper
 8746 N. Shermer Road
 Niles, Illinois 60714

School News

District 71 News

How to Protect Your Child from Sexual Abuse

On Monday, December 9th at 7 PM at South School (6921 W. Oakton Street in Niles), District 71 will hold a free program for parents, entitled *How to Protect Your Child from Sexual Abuse*. Free child care will be provided. For more information or to register for child care, please call Marguerite Adelman at 647-9752.

This program is designed to educate parents and concerned professionals about the problem of child sexual abuse and the need for early prevention education. Participants are given prevention information and what to do if a child discloses an incident of abuse. Also included in this program is information on the Mandatory Reporting Act and resources for treatment. The

program presenter is Pamela Rundle, Child Sexual Abuse Prevention Coordinator with the Cook County Sheriff's Youth Services Department.

PTA General Meeting and Winter Concert

On December 10th, the Niles Elementary Schools PTA will hold a General Membership Meeting at 7 PM at Culver Middle School (6921 W. Oakton Street in Niles). The meeting will be followed by the Winter Concert at 7:30 PM, featuring the Concert Orchestra and Band, Culver Chorus, and Jazz Band. The public is invited to attend.

District 71 Board of Education Officers

At their November 20th meeting, District 71 Board of Education members elected new officers. Mr. John Lombardi was

elected President; Mr. Clifford Drexler, Vice-President; and Mr. Dave Scheler, Secretary. Other members of the Board of Education are Mr. Vincent Bugarin, Mrs. Veronica Meyer, Mr. Barney Namovic, and Mr. John Zuckerman.

PTA Thanks Area Businesses for Support

The Niles Elementary Schools PTA would like to thank the following merchants for their donations to and support of the PTA's November 23rd Craft Bazaar and Book Fair: Pontarelli Builders, Abt Television & Appliances, Colonial-Wojciechowski Funeral Home, Skaja Terrace Funeral Home, Niles Target Store, The Paint Wagon, United Hair Lines, Nabisco, Foley Family, European Imports, Rossini's Restaurant, Grand National Bank, Golf Mill Mall, Learning Tower YMCA, Hair Cuttery, Home Depot, Chicago Cubs, Blockbuster Music, Minelli Brothers Food & Liquors, Mayor Nicholas Blase, Heidi's Bakery, Sobczak's Sausage Shop, Niles Fire Department, Candlelight Jewelers, HALO Industries, Sam's Club, Barszcz Family, Amie's Restaurant, Graziano's Restaurant, TCF Bank, Discovery Zone, Dirt Busters Car Wash, Wells Lamont Glove Company, Gigio's Restaurant, Sports Authority, and Four Flags.

Melzer School collects coupons for cash

Melzer School, 9400 Oriole, Morton Grove, is collecting General Mills Cereal UPC Symbols to earn cash for the school. Melzer School is also collecting Campbell's labels to earn points for catalogue items for the school.

General Mills will refund 25 cents to Melzer school for each UPC symbol collected while Campbell Soup labels will be redeemed for educational equipment for the school. The Melzer

PTO is collecting these items in a located in front of the office.

We hope that parents of Melzer students will contribute heavily to this project. Some of the General Mills cereals are Wheaties, Cheerios and Kix and we are all familiar with Campbell Soups. Some of the other products would be labels from Open Pit, Swanson poultry, Viasic pickles, Franco American pasta, and Mrs. Paul's Frozen Seafood.

Educator addresses community at forum



Dr. Lawrence W. Lezotte, a renowned educator and expert on effective schools research and implementation, emphasizes how learning can expand throughout the school community during a recent presentation at Niles North High School for District 219 teachers, staff and community members. His lectures on "Learning For All-Whatever It Takes" explored the process of changing compulsory schooling into compulsory learning. He also addressed overall school improvement and the concept of effective schools.

Loyola participates in Cardinal's prayer services

Seniors Kevin O'Donovan and Angela Russo, both of Glenview, were two of six Catholic high school representatives at the first prayer service held for Joseph Cardinal Bernardin. They, along with Headmaster Bernard Boullette, took part in the private service at Holy Name Cathedral, representing students of Archdiocesan schools from across the city of Chicago and suburbs. The Academy held its own school prayer service in memory of the Cardinal the day of the funeral. On the day of his death, the entire school prayed for the repose of his soul during homeroom. Throughout the week following, students and faculty had the opportunity to remember the Cardinal in the chapel where his portrait was enshrined with candles and flowers. Many people alone or in groups, remembering a man who was a devoted, loving shepherd to his entire flock and a friend of Loyola Academy.

Netware 4.1 Administration (CIS 174) classes will be offered days, evenings and weekends in the spring at Oakton Community College's Des Plaines campus, 1500 E. Golf Rd. Registration for spring classes is currently underway; classes start the week of Jan. 21.

OCC Computer Information Systems class

This is the first class in networking which is offered the first 10 weeks of the semester. Students may take an advanced administration class, (CIS 274) on Saturdays the last six weeks of the semester. Students who need Netware 3.12 may take CIS 173 and CIS 273. An additional class, Data Communications (CIS 170), which requires LAN experience, is also available. Students should take CIS 170 after CIS 173 or CIS 174. More classes in this area are planned for the future.

For more information regarding CIS spring course offerings, contact Pamela Schmidt, CIS chairperson, at (847) 635-1834.



Sports/Parks & Library News

Safety Corner presented to library



The Niles Fire Department Public Education Unit recently presented the Niles Public Library with a Library Safety Corner. The Safety Corner was built by Lt. Erwin Fleischmann and painted by FF/PM Rich Teper. The Safety Corner is new to the library and will house information on various safety concerns for the public and a children's book section housing the library's fire department related items, including books, videos, and computer programs.

Pictured l to r: Library Administrator Cary Czarnecki, Lt. Erwin Fleischmann, Chief Harry Knowski, Children Librarian Phyllis Wilson, FF/PM Rich Teper and FF/PM Bill White Public Education.

Objective: To provide a specific area in the library for the sole purpose of housing Fire and Life Safety information for use by the general public.

Goals: To be a reference source of safety information for the general public, school teach-

ers and the business community.

Methods: Through self education children, adults, and seniors can learn about various fire and life safety issues. The public will be taught through books videos and computer programs.

Idea: Fires Safety Corner

stocked with books and videos. Computer program on fire safety on file in computer lab.

List of other libraries: Barb Adriano Hoffman Estate branch 885-3511 Gwyneth Dehette Palatine 358-5881

Jr. High Sport Night

All junior high students in grades 6 through 8 from Gemini, Nelson, Washington, Golf, Jerusalem Lutheran, St. Martha, Park View, and Lincoln Jr. High are invited to a Jr. High Sport Night Sat Dec 14 from 7:30 - 9:30 p.m. at the Prairie View Community

Center, 6834 Dempster Street, Morton Grove. Admission is \$3. Pizza and soda will be available for a small charge.

A TEENS IN CHARGE identification card must be presented to enter. I.D.'s will be on sale for

The Agape Ringers at Morton Grove Library

Need a respite from the hustle and bustle of the holidays? The Agape Ringers, an English handbell ensemble, will perform holiday and classical music in a special performance at the Morton Grove Public Library on Sunday, December 8 at 3:30 p.m. Refreshments will be served.

Admission is free, but seating is limited.

The Morton Grove Public Library is located at 6140 Lincoln Ave. For more information, or for mobility and communication access assistance, please call (847) 965-4220, for TDD call 965-4236.

Kids jump on board the North Pole Express

Imagine the smile on your child's face when they receive a personalized letter from the jolly old guy from the North Pole.

Thanks to the Skokie Park District's North Pole Express, Santa will drop a letter to your child and make their Christmas a lot brighter. Make sure to register at the Weber Leisure Center (9300 We-

ber Park Place, Church Street and Gross Point Road) or Devoshire Cultural Center (4400 Greenwood St.) before Sunday, Dec. 15, since Santa is very busy around this time of year. The fee is \$4 per person.

For more information, please call the park district, (847) 674-1500.

Eugene Kung photography display

Beautiful photographs of historic and scenic wonders in the United States, Europe and China by Eugene Kung are currently on display at the Lincolnwood Public Library, 4000 W. Pratt Ave. through January.

Kung was born in Wangtung, China in 1923. He was introduced to the world of photography at the age of 12 when his father presented him with a Eastman Kodak box camera, a treasure he still owns today.

He emigrated to America in 1939 and worked in his father's hand laundry. In 1946, Kung met well-known Chinatown portrait photographer Buck Hoy, who became his mentor and taught him the complexities of picture taking

and techniques to ensure fine photos.

His work has been displayed in various corporate offices and at the Renaissance Court of the Cultural Center in Chicago.

Kansas City at Morton Grove Public Library

On Monday, December 16 the Morton Grove Public Library shows *Kansas City* (rated R) at 11 a.m., 2:30 p.m. and 7 p.m.

The Morton Grove Public Library is located at 6140 Lincoln Ave. For more information, or mobility and communication access assistance, please call (847) 965-4220, TDD 965-4236.

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Police News

Aggravated assault

A 17-year-old Glenview youth was pumping gas into his auto at the service station in the 8500 block of Dempster Street when a 17-year-old Niles youth with whom he had previously had a verbal altercation confronted him and raised his jacket to reveal a black-handled handgun tucked in his waistband.

The victim went to the station attendant and called police. Moments later, the offender's vehicle was stopped by police, but no weapon was located.

Battery

A 28-year-old Chicago salesman reported that he was bowling with an unknown subject in his mid 20s at the bowling alley in the 7300 block of Milwaukee Avenue around 10:45 p.m. Nov. 28 when an argument erupted between the men and the offender grabbed a beer bottle and struck the victim in the head. The offender left the scene.

The victim requested a follow-up investigation and told police he will sign a complaint. The victim refused medical treatment.

Aggravated robbery

A 43-year-old Des Plaines man was arrested at 6:38 p.m. Dec. 1 near the intersection of Cumberland and Clara and charged with aggravated robbery after he admitted pretending to have a gun and took money from a cash register in the convenience store in the 8200 block of Oakton Street.

A \$50,000 bond was set for the arrestee and he was given a Dec. 17 court date.

Stolen credit card

A 30-year-old village employee reported that a male clerk in the auto supplies store at 797 Civic Center failed to return his credit card when he made a purchase in the store between 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. Nov. 21. When he informed the credit card company that his

card was missing, he learned that two unauthorized gas purchases had already been made on his card.

The victim told police he can identify the suspect and will sign a complaint.

Criminal damage to auto

A 24-year-old Chicago man reported that unknown offender(s) used a hard object to flatten all four tires on his 1987 Ford Thunderbird and broke the mirror and pulled it from its mounting while the vehicle was parked in a lot in the 7000 block of Austin Avenue sometime between 3 p.m. and 8:40 p.m. Nov. 22. Damage was estimated at \$500.

A 65-year-old Niles resident reported that unknown offender(s) used a sharp object to flatten all four tires on his 1991 Honda Civic while it was parked in the 7500 block of Lawler Avenue between 6 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. Nov. 22. Damage was estimated at \$250.

A 22-year-old Niles man reported that unknown offenders used a paint ball gun to shoot red colored paint balls at his vehicle while it was parked near a sports store in the 8900 block of Milwaukee Ave. sometime between 3 p.m. and 6:38 p.m. Nov. 25. Damage was estimated at \$200.

A 43-year-old Park Ridge writer reported that unknown offender(s) used a sharp object to scratch both sides, the top of the hood and the front bumper of his 1995 Ford Windstar van while he was shopping in the food store in the 8900 block of Greenwood. Damage was estimated at \$1,100.

A 17-year-old Niles youth reported that unknown offenders using an unknown weapon broke the back windshield of his 1982 Honda Accord sometime between 7:15 p.m. and 8 p.m. Nov. 30 while it was parked in the 8200 block of Oakton Street.

Theft of property
A 64-year-old legislative aide from Des Plaines reported that

while she left her shopping cart unattended in the food store in the 8200 block of Golf Road around 6:30 p.m. Nov. 23, unknown offender(s) removed her wallet containing \$20 and her Social Security card from her purse.

A 35-year-old Park Ridge woman told police that she lost or had her purse stolen while she was shopping at the home improvement store at 901 Civic Center around 5 p.m. Nov. 27.

The light brown leather purse contains a black leather wallet with \$100, earrings valued at \$200, eight credit cards and a checkbook. The victim learned that unauthorized charges had been made on her credit cards. Someone called the victim at her home and said they had found her purse and would call right back but never did so.

A 39-year-old paralegal from Chicago lost or had stolen a black leather wallet, containing her driver's license, \$120, a library card and assorted credit cards and personal items while she attended a movie theatre at the Golf Mill Center between 4:45 p.m. and 7 p.m. Nov. 29.

Theft
The 41-year-old owner of a liquor store in the 7600 block of Milwaukee Avenue reported that a suspect between 22 and 23 years of age, standing 5 ft. 8 in. tall and weighing about 120 pounds and wearing a green waist jacket fled from the scene on foot after reaching over the counter and grabbing with both hands a bunch of cash from the open cash register drawer.
No weapon was displayed or inferred. The victim thought that between \$450 and \$500 was taken.

An Oswego (Ill.) contractor in the employ of an Oakbrook real estate firm reported that unknown offender(s) removed two six-foot Christmas stocking decorations which were placed at the base of a light pole prior to being set up. The loss was estimated at \$600.

Unwanted subjects
The manager of the food store in the 8200 block of Golf Road called police when a 16-year-old youth and an 18-year-old Riverdale man, whom he had verbally advised on numerous occasions not to solicit at the store, were selling candy on the premises telling patrons that they were collecting money for their school. The 18-year-old offender told police he was raising money for himself and the "Gangster Disciples."

The 18-year-old offender was issued a P-ticket for soliciting. The other suspect fled the area on foot and his identity could not be proven.

Niles resident guilty in insurance scam

Niles resident Harry T. Gio, 31, was sentenced to 52 months in prison and fined \$2,500 by U.S. District Judge James Holderman for his part in a scam to sell worthless auto insurance to more than 800 people in 1993.

Gio pleaded guilty last July to one count of mail fraud. With co-defendant Lawrence J. Goldstein of Skokie, Gio used television ads promising low-cost premiums and then pocketed the down payments.

Another defendant, Frank Bonanno of Chicago, was convicted, along with Goldstein last August.

Telephone fundraising scam warning

Cook County Sheriff Michael F. Sheahan is warning citizens throughout the county to beware of over-the-phone solicitations from callers claiming to represent the Sheriff's office.

Sheahan issued the warning after his office received numerous complaints about telephone solicitations by individuals seeking cash donations for various anti-drug efforts, including the Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE) program. The DARE program in Cook County is funded entirely by the Sheriff's Office and does not rely on any fundraising monies.

Those making the solicitations often identify themselves as members of law enforcement agencies, such as the Cook County Sheriff's Office or fraternal police organizations. While some police union law enforcement groups hire telemarketing firms to conduct fundraising campaigns over the phone, sheriffs deputies and most law enforcement officers from other agencies are strictly forbidden to make any solicitations while acting in an unofficial capacity.

According to Sheriff's Police investigators, most of the "scam" callers claim they are seeking cash donations for programs aimed at fighting drug abuse among the young. They then offer to come personally to the home to pick up the payment. In some cases, the solicitors have asked the victims to tape the cash donation to their doors for pick up later that evening.

"You should be suspicious of any caller that asks for money," Sheahan said. "No matter how legitimate or worthy a cause might sound, never make a cash donation based solely on a phone conversation with an unfamiliar caller."

Police News

Pursue a law enforcement career at Oakton



If you would like to help take a bite out of crime, pursue a law enforcement career at Oakton Community College.

After almost two years at the Illinois Institute of Technology (IIT), Mike Wasowicz, a Skokie Police Officer, abandoned his plans to become an architect, turning in his drafting table for a badge and a blue uniform. This change of heart came when he began working in retail security for Montgomery Ward. "I enjoyed what I was doing and realized that the work appealed to me much more than my studies at IIT. Police work experience and satisfaction because it allowed me to get involved and help others." Wasowicz says.

The 12 year decorated, veteran police officer enrolled in Oakton's Law Enforcement program in 1990, after serving six years on the force. "I realized that I would need additional knowledge and I recognized the importance of an education," Wasowicz says. He earned an associate's degree in law enforcement in 1995, and is currently taking accounting classes at Oakton. While accounting skills are not a requirement for police officers, he says they can be very useful. "Law enforcement agencies need to be equipped to deal with white collar crimes, particularly at the local level. I'm taking these classes so that I am more knowledgeable on financial matters as they relate to criminal activities." He also revealed that there has been a shift in law enforcement. "College degrees are becoming a requirement for new officers as well for promotional purposes."

Thanks to Oakton's program," Wasowicz says, "I was exposed to a variety of backgrounds and to different perspectives on law enforcement and it was a very positive experience." Oakton's curriculum is designed to help prepare men and women for careers in the field of law enforcement in police and sheriff's departments, federal and state agencies, retail/hospital/industrial security and for private investigative agencies. The program also serves to help individuals already employed in the field, like Wasowicz, improve their skills and to move up in rank.

Restaurant Association Awards Park Ridge Student

The Illinois Restaurant Association Educational Foundation honored Michael Regan of Park Ridge, and 17 other students at the annual black tie Restauranters Ball on Friday, November 8th. The event was held at the Hyatt Regency Chicago.

Regan, who attends Kendall College, received a \$500 scholarship for the 1996-1997 school year. Criteria for the scholarship was based on academic performance, work experience and career goals for the future.

Michael currently teaches Hospitality/Foodservice classes at Lexington College. His goal for the future is to work with the best in the industry.

Opera Corps talk on "Magic Flute" Dec. 8

A member of the Skokie Valley Lyric Opera Lecture Corps will present a talk on "The Magic Flute" by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart at 2 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 8, at the Lincolnwood Public Library. This fairy tale is about a prince set on winning a princess with the help of a jolly bird-catcher. The library is located at 4000 W. Pratt Ave. Phone 847-677-5277, voice and TDD.

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Business News

Record Real Estate sales

Niles based ERA Callero & Catino Realty is continuing their record year of real estate sales. For the ten months of 1996 ending in October, they are maintaining a 37% increase in real estate sales compared with the same period last year.

Kay Quinlan, received recognition as the "Salesperson of the Month" for October. She was also the top agent for January and June. Kay has maintained a perfect record of getting her listing sold for the last eleven years, not having failed even once. She has been associated with ERA Callero & Catino Realty for the past 17 years, and has received numerous "Million Dollar" awards from real estate boards. One of Kay's specialties is in working with senior home sellers. She is very aware of their



needs and problems, and does an excellent job of making the entire move smooth and trouble free. ERA Callero & Catino started a major advanced skill training program for its agents this year, and the results are showing. They will be hiring and training a number of additional agents during the next few months.

Where has the Sunbeam Factory Outlet gone?

What tastes better than home baked cookies and breads? You can make it happen with a KitchenAid mixer or blender from Household Appliance Company in Niles.

Household Appliance, formerly on Harlem Avenue, has moved to a new location at 7411 N. Milwaukee Ave. They are known for their excellent service department, but now they also offer factory seconds and closeouts of many well known brands of small appliances at very reasonable prices.

Maybe you are looking for just the right gift for a man in your life. You will find a Braun shaver or a Ryobi cordless drill kit. Buy yourself a present this year. How about a new coffee maker made by Braun or Mr. Coffee? Household has many

small appliances, such as toasters, irons and hair dryers, all offered at the best price for you. Come and see for yourself. Household appliance company at 7411 N. Milwaukee Ave., Niles, is open Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. To 5 p.m. And Saturdays from 9 a.m. To 4 p.m. For more information, call 647-8250. Now an authorized Black & Decker dealer for sales and repair.

Call-A-Lawyer offers free legal information

Attorneys will provide free legal information during The Chicago Bar Association's Call-A-Lawyer program, Saturday, December 21, from 9 a.m. to noon. Chicago-area residents who call the Lawyer Referral Service at (312) 554-2001 will speak to volunteer attorneys with experience in various areas of the law.

Call-A-Lawyer is designed to assist the public with general legal advice. Attorneys will be available by phone to discuss a variety of topics including bankruptcy, divorce and personal injury. Callers will be advised of steps they can take to resolve their legal problem. If callers need legal services, they will be advised to see their attorney or receive information on the Lawyer Referral Service.

The program is staffed by attorneys from The Chicago Bar Association Lawyer Referral Service, a public resource for obtaining referrals to Chicago and suburban lawyers.

Transaction completed in suburban Chicago

Brian Netzky, Vice President of The Rose Group's Brokerage Division, has recently announced the completion of a transaction in suburban Chicago.

The sale of a 60,000 square foot facility at 7500 N. Natchez in Niles, Illinois was arranged for Lewis Spring & Manufacturing. This free-standing one-story masonry manufacturing facility was chosen by Lewis Spring because of its central location. The building, which was constructed in 1960, has been updated to feature 100% air conditioning and 5,000 square feet of office space. Howard Branson represented Lewis Spring and Mike Fonda of Cushman & Wakefield represented the seller.

Ameritech contributes to ALS Foundation

Ameritech has contributed \$1,000 to Skokie's Les Turner Als Foundation to honor Ameritech employee Bettie Jee's volunteer efforts to the organization. Jee, a resident of Des Plaines, is employed in Ameritech's Summit office.

Employees volunteer for a variety of organizations: child welfare, education, culture and the arts, environmental, neighborhood community improvement, health, housing and shelter programs, civil rights, youth development and many other social and human service groups.

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Professional Secretaries international

The Professional Secretaries International (PSI), Skokie Valley Chapter invite you to attend their holiday party, on Monday, December 9, at the Studio Restaurant, 8717 N. Lincoln Avenue, Morton Grove.

The celebration includes entertainment by "La Vie En Rose" an elegant spirited cabaret of the world's best loved songs enhancing the beauty of the holidays. Guests are welcomed.

Social hour at 5:30 p.m. with dinner served at 6:30 p.m. Reservations are required by Friday, December 6, by calling Puline Wehr at (847) 965-4400 ext. 245.

Professionals Guide

A directory of area professionals and services

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Business News

Annual sale of delinquent real estate taxes

The annual sale of delinquent real estate taxes will commence January 6, 1997 and continue through February 28, 1997. Treasurer Edward J. Rosewell announced today.

Rosewell said the sale will cover 108,214 Cook County properties with a tax delinquency of \$183,185,267 in 1995 real estate taxes collectable in 1996. Last year's tax sale involved 96,482 properties with a tax delinquency of \$154,180,900. However, that sale did not start until March 11, 1996.

Rosewell said that the lists of tax delinquent properties will be published during the week of December 2 in neighborhood and suburban community newspapers.

The sale will be held in the second floor corridor of the County Building, 118 North Clark Street. Sale hours are from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. daily. The hours will be extended if the sale falls behind schedule.

Rosewell urged any property owner who has not paid his or her real estate taxes to do so prior to

the sale to avoid additional interest and expense. He said that payments will be accepted on delinquent properties up until the date of the sale.

The taxes are sold on a bid basis, the bid being the amount of interest a purchaser will receive when and if the property owner redeems his taxes. The bidding begins at 18% and continues downward, with the lower bidder winning the tax purchase.

Under this formula, the tax purchaser with an 18% bid would receive 18% interest for the first 6 months; 36% for 6 to 12 months; 54% for 12 to 18 months; and 72% after 18 months.

The owner of the property has two years after the sale to redeem or buy back the taxes, plus interest. If the property owner fails to redeem, the tax purchaser can file suit in the Circuit Court to seek title to the property.

Rosewell cautioned tax purchasers that the sale does not entitle them to any physical right or use of the property. The tax purchase is merely a lien against the property until it is redeemed or

the purchaser receives a court ordered deed.

All bidders must register for the sale, and the law requires the potential tax buyer to submit to the Cook County Treasurer's Office ten days prior to any bid a complete and approved surety bond, letter of credit, money order or cashier's check in the amount of one-half times the amount of the delinquent taxes which he desires to purchase on any one day.

If the payment for delinquent taxes is not tendered prior to the end of the next business day after the date of purchase, the Cook County Treasurer will draw on the guarantee document (surety bond, letter of credit, money order, or cashier's check) and the tax buyer will not be allowed to further participate in the sale.

Forms and copies of the rules and regulations are available in the Tax Sale Department in the downtown office at 118 North Clark Street, Chicago, as well as in all satellite offices. The satellite offices are located at 16501

South Kedzie, Markham; 1500 Maybrook Drive, Maywood; 5600 Old Orchard Road, Skokie; 10200 South 76th Avenue, Bridgeview and 2121 Euclid Avenue, Rolling Meadows.

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Senate Week-in-Review

In the Illinois General Assembly's first week of its fall veto session, Illinois senators voted to increase public disclosure of names and other information for recipients of General Assembly Scholarships, according to Assistant Senate Majority Leader Walter Dudyycz (R-7th, Chicago).

The Senate voted to accept the governor's amendatory veto to Senate Bill 1122, which would require public notification of certain personal information regarding tuition waivers awarded by state lawmakers, including: the name of the legislator awarding the scholarship; the name of the recipient; the recipient's address; the recipient's university; the recipient's degree program; and the amount of tuition waived.

Senators voted to override the governor's veto of Senate Bill 1440 to establish an 11-member Deal and Hard-of-Hearing Commission to promote the needs of persons with hearing disabilities. The legislation also requires the State Board of Education to develop a resource center for deaf and hard-of-hearing children who have a behavior disorder.

Both proposals now move to the House.

Senators voted to accept the governor's proposed changes to the following bills, which now advance to the House:

Insurance coverage for abuse victims (SB 1425) -- Provides that no insurance company may deny or terminate coverage or

charge different rates because an individual has been the victim of domestic abuse or has sought treatment for abuse.

Curfews (SB 1467) -- Allows courts to impose a sentence of community service on parents and their minor children who violate curfews.

The Senate also passed House Bill 2702, which would address the technical problems of taxing districts that lie in part within Cook or the collar counties, where property tax caps were imposed by the legislature, and in other counties where tax caps may be imposed by referendum. The legislation would also allow counties to repeal tax caps by referendum, except in Cook and the collar counties. In addition, counties with populations under 180,000 would be able to impose a Retailers' Occupation Tax for public safety by front-door referendum. The proposal advances for consideration in the House of Representatives.

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to "An Act in relation to the use of an Assumed Business Name in the conduct or transaction of Business in the State," as amended, that a certification was filed by the undersigned with the County Clerk of Cook County, File No. D038780 on Nov. 18, 1996, under the Assumed Name of G. F. Handyman Service with the business located at 9144 W. Barbary Ln., Des Plaines, IL 60016. The true name(s) and residence address of owner(s) is: Guy Forstrek, 9144 W. Barbary Lane, Des Plaines, IL 60016.

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Area News

J.J. Bittenbinder at South School



Photo by Mike Heuel

Detective J.J. Bittenbinder recently appeared at South School in Niles to deliver his crash course on Street Survival Skills. Through his extensive experience on local police forces, Bittenbinder has developed a hard-hitting "tough target" strategy that he shares with his audiences.

The event was sponsored by School Districts 71 and 219, Niles Elementary Schools PTA, Niles Human Services Department and the Niles Police Department.

A 45-Year Tradition for First National Bank of Morton Grove

As more banks merge into massive financial institutions, the community bank is becoming a rare entity. Throughout the month of December, First National Bank of Morton Grove celebrates 45 years of dedicated, community banking in the North Shore Area.

"Our roots go back to an era when business was done face-to-face. We at First National Bank of Morton Grove are committed to maintaining that standard. We know our customers, their names and faces," said William F. McCarty, President. "We want to be their banker, not just their bank."

As a locally owned financial institution, First National Bank of Morton Grove (FNBMG) has firsthand knowledge of the needs and concerns of area residents. This community focus translates to direct decision-making and prompt, personal service.

"Our bank's maxim is "Staying Close to Home," and that's a position we take seriously.

Whether it's developing specific products to meet the needs of local customers or helping a community organization reach its goal in a fundraising effort, First National Bank of Morton Grove is dedicated to our neighborhood," said McCarty.

Opened in Dec. 1951, the bank's original facility was located at 6300 Lincoln Ave in Morton Grove. Despite a massive expansion effort in 1956, FNBMG outgrew the facility. Riding a wave of rapid growth, the bank moved to its current location in 1958. The bank is currently beginning a major remodeling project that will be completed mid-1997.

FNBMG has prospered through the years by reaching beyond traditional banking products to include programs for mature adults and children. The Gold Medallion program offers special banking and travel benefits and events to customers over age 50. FNBMG also is active in "Bank at School" programs at several local schools

which teach children the value of saving money.

"We fill a niche that other banks simply can't," said McCarty. "We offer the flexibility, security and product variety of a bigger institution, but we're small enough to have a personal interest in our customers and their financial futures."

To celebrate their anniversary, FNBMG will sponsor an old-fashioned holiday celebration on Saturday, Dec. 7. All those stopping by will be treated to roasted chestnuts and hot apple cider. Special anniversary presents will be available while supplies last.

First National Bank of Morton Grove is a member of the Mid-City Financial Corporation, a \$1.5 billion-asset bank holding company with headquarters in Chicago. Other member banks include The Mid-City National Bank, Chicago, Ill.; Bank of Elmhurst, Elmhurst, Ill.; and Union Bank and Trust Company, Oklahoma City, Okla.

Des Plaines Camera Club December Competition

THE DES PLAINES CAMERA CLUB will hold its Inter-Club Monthly Slide and Print Competition on Monday, the 9th of December, at the Des Plaines Public Library in their meeting room downstairs. The Library is located on the corner of Thacker and Graceland Avenues in Des Plaines.

A brief business meeting begins at 7:30 p.m. prior to the competitions. Members may submit four color slides and/or prints. There are several categories for both color and monochrome (black and white) photographs. The submissions will be judged and critiqued by a panel of three judges from local camera clubs. Awards and Honorable Mentions will be announced for those scoring the highest points in each category.

The November Print-of-the-Month was captured by Jerry Peterson for his small Monochrome print. Awards were received by Jerry Hug and Jerry Peterson for small Monochrome prints. Evalyn Mikes received an Award for a small color print with Honorable Mentions to Tom Chiakulas, Chuck Michaely and Evalyn Mikes.

Slide-of-the-Month for November was awarded to Lana Pedersen. Awards were received by Ernie Stolle and Lana Pedersen with Honorable Mentions to Nancy Blouin and Evalyn Mikes.

THE DES PLAINES CAMERA CLUB meets twice monthly on the second and fourth Mon-

day of each month, September through May. If you are interested in photography and would enjoy meeting people with the same interest, you are encouraged to attend and learn more about photography and make new friends.

For additional information about the Club and its activities, please call (847) 699-2837 or 824-5926. Guests are always welcome.

Blood Drive

LifeSource Blood Services, Illinois' premier blood center and the Chicago Bears are teaming up for "A Rivalry for Life" Blood Drive against the St. Louis Rams.

The Chicago Bears and St. Louis Rams are calling upon all eligible blood donors to participate in a blood drive challenge. Each day of the promotion will be highlighted with a special event and incentive for everyone that registers at LifeSource's donor centers and mobile operations, now through Sunday, December 8.

LifeSource Blood Services and the Chicago Bears kicked off this special event at the Chicago Marriott Downtown, Friday, November 29th. Individuals may call 1-800-486-0680 to find a convenient donor center location or nearby mobile blood drive.

Help each metropolitan area bolster their blood supply during the holiday season when chronic shortages routinely exist.

Annual Christmas Oplatek Dinner to be held

DISTRICT 1-POLISH WOMEN'S ALLIANCE will hold its Annual Christmas Oplatek Dinner on Sunday, December 15, at 12 Noon in the Jolly Club, 6501 West Irving Park Road, Chicago. Tickets are \$18 for Adults and \$8 for Garland Children. Included in this cost will be dinner and entertainment by the Dzieci Choir and also the Lechici Dancers.

Try your luck on our raffle of wonderful prizes. Bring your family and friends (members and non-members) to celebrate with us the beautiful Polish tradition of sharing the Oplatek (or Christmas Wafer). For further information and tickets, call (847) 647-1855 or (773) 631-2006. See you there!

"Beauty and the Beast" marionettes at the library

Linda Roberts Marionettes perform "Beauty and the Beast," a colorful production accompanied by classical music, at the Lincolnwood Public Library on Saturday, Dec. 14, 2 p.m. A complete live theater experience in miniature, it is an encounter kindergartner and up will cherish for a lifetime. The library is located at 4000 W. Pratt Ave., Phone 874-677-5277. Tickets are required and are available free at the circulation desk to Lincolnwood residents three weeks before the performance and one week before to the general public.

Mickey's Very Merry Christmas Party



With a little pixie dust and a dash of Disney magic, subtropical snowflakes will fall in the Magic Kingdom at Walt Disney World Resort.

Main Street, U.S.A. is set to become a Winter Wonderland -- complete with snow flurries -- just in time for the seven evenings of "Mickey's Very Merry Christmas Party," Dec. 5, 6, 7, 12, 13, 19 and 20. The fun begins at 8 p.m. (after regular theme park operating hours) and continues until 1 a.m.

The Magic Kingdom is transformed into a colorful holiday festival with one of the most spectacular fireworks displays of the year -- 360 degrees of pyrotechnics choreographed to joyous holiday music. There also are two performances nightly of "Mickey's Very Merry Christmas Parade" at 9 p.m. and 11:30 p.m. When the parade steps off, Disney magic kicks in as snow fills the air and snowmen fill the street.

The magic continues around Cinderella Castle -- magically transformed into the world's largest birthday cake in celebration of the 25th anniversary of Walt Disney World Resort -- with the festive stage show "Every Day's A Holiday." Other holiday-themed

shows take place throughout the park, including "Mickey's 'Twas the Night Before Christmas" and "Miss Minnie's Country Christmas."

To top off the evening guests receive complimentary family photographs, souvenir buttons, cookies and hot chocolate.

Throughout the holiday season, the Magic Kingdom will be meticulously decorated -- much like its Christmas centerpiece, a 65-foot-tall tree in Town Square. The tree will glitter with 5,000 lights, 600 electric candles and 1,000 Victorian-style ornaments, as well as a 500-foot strand of popcorn garland featuring kernels 6 inches across.

More holiday lights will lead to the Magic Kingdom's newest land, "Mickey's Toontown Fair," featuring The Barnstormer, a roller coaster just right for the pint-size set. During "Mickey's Very Merry Christmas Party," the coaster and other attractions -- including Big Thunder Mountain Railroad, Space Mountain, Splash Mountain and The Extra-TERRORestrial Alien Encounter -- are open all evening.

Admission to any of the seven "Mickey's Very Merry Christmas Party" celebrations is \$26 in advance and \$29 at the gate for

guests 10 and older; \$17 in advance and \$19 at the gate for guests 3-9. Tickets can be purchased at Florida Ticketmaster locations, Disney Store locations in Florida and Walt Disney World ticket outlets. For more information, call (407) W-DISNEY.

"King Midas and the Palace of Gold"

The musical comedy, "King Midas and the Palace of Gold" opens Saturday, Dec. 7 and runs through Dec. 22 on weekends at the Northbrook Theatre, 3323 Walters Ave., Northbrook.

Performances are on Saturday at 12:30 pm and 4:00 pm and Sundays at 3 pm. Tickets are \$5 and can be purchased in advance by calling (847) 291-2367 or at the door the day of the performance. The box office is open one half hour before the show, on the weekends. On weekdays, the Performing Arts Office is open Monday-Friday 10 am-6 pm; and is located at the Northbrook Park District Leisure Center.

"King Midas and the palace of gold" will be presented in two

acts with an intermission and the approximate running time is one hour and forty-five minutes. It is appropriate for children grade levels kindergarten through high school, as well as adults. We offer Birthday Party packages with a party room included.

For more information, please call the Performing Arts Office (847) 291-2367. Mondays through Fridays 10 am-6 pm.



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INSTITUTION	LOAN TYPE	DOWN PAYMENT	TERM	RATE	POINTS	APR
THE WILLIAM BLOCK CO. 256 Market Square Lake Forest, IL 60045 (847) 295-5554 (Broker) "The Smart Mortgage" "Zero Points" "Zero Closing Costs"	Fixed	5%	30 Years	7.150	0.00%	7.510
	Fixed Arm	5%	15 Years	6.875	0.00%	7.390
	Fixed Balloon	5%	1 Year	5.000	0.00%	7.670
	Fixed Balloon	10%	7 Years	7.000	0.00%	7.420
FIRST CHICAGO BANK PARK RIDGE One S. Northwest Hwy. Park Ridge, IL 60068 (847) 518-7100 (Lender) "Large" refers to loans between 207,000 and 650,000	30 Year Fixed Conforming	5%	30 Years	7.800	0.00%	7.800
	15 Year Fixed Conforming	5%	15 Years	7.400	0.00%	7.400
	7/1 Arm Conforming and Large	5% up to 350,000 20% over	30 Years	7.900	0.00%	8.115
	5/1 Arm Conforming and Large	10% up to 350,000 20% over	30 Years	7.600	0.00%	8.047
JAIN MORTGAGE CORP. 135 N. Addison Ave., #229 Elmhurst, IL 60126 (630) 279-4555 (Broker) MANY OTHER PROGRAMS AVAILABLE NO INCOME VERIFICATION IS AVAILABLE	30 Year Fixed	5%	30 Years	7.625	0.00%	7.625
15 Year Fixed	5%	15 Years	7.250	0.00%	7.250	
30 Year Jumbo	10%	30 Years	7.875	0.00%	7.875	
1 Year Conforming	10%	30 Years	5.500	0.00%	5.500	
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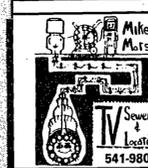
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