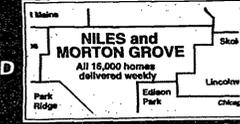




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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2000

VOL. 44, NO. 26

From the Left Hand

By Bud Besser

Christmas, 1944

Christmas, 1944 was a bitter cold and joyless season for American troops fighting in northern Europe. Our old-Bugle friend, Al Johnson, private C company, 39th regiment, 9th Infantry division was a member of a fighting division which fought through Africa and Italy before landing in Normandy and fighting its way through France, Luxembourg and Belgium and then crossing into Germany. His division sustained a 300% casualty rate.

Al wrote me the following letter: "I've been asked to reveal some of the thoughts and pressures of a soldier being away from home at Christmas.

"I don't care what religious persuasion you are, I'm sure there were no atheists living in foxholes.

"My most direct remembrance comes in a rather oblique way. A member of my squad, who was from North Carolina, was always singing, 'Somebody loves you and I want you to know- I wish to be near you, wherever you go. Somebody loves you-sweetheart can't you see? That somebody is me.' Unfortunately, on Christmas eve, December 24th, he suffered 12 shrapnel wounds. He died New Year's eve, 1944. His foxhole was next to mine...and I was devastated."

Continued on Page 44

Holiday Delivery Schedule

Due to the Christmas holiday, The Bugle Newspapers will be delivered to all homes in Niles and Morton Grove on Friday, December 30

Christmas Alone

Remembering Christmas Overseas



Christmas Day, Battle of the Bulge, 1944, when turkeys were flown in for the troops: "I don't know how they did it. We ate from our mess kits in the protection of whatever bombed out buildings remained standing. I was never as cold as I was there.....but there were evergreens all around."

— Matt Wojtaszek of Niles



CHRISTMAS OVERSEAS

NILES AND MORTON GROVE VETERANS RECALL CHRISTMAS IN UNIFORM AND FAR FROM HOME



Battle of Bulge meant Christmas dinner in bombed out buildings

by Barbara A. Mendelsohn

MATTHEW F. WOJTASZEK SR. was born Jan. 27, 1922. Raised in Chicago, IL and presently resides in Niles, IL. Drafted Dec. 11, 1942, at Fort Sheridan, IL. Basic and airborne training at Fort Bragg, NC, and qualified for the Glider Badge. Assigned to HHB DIVARTY, 82nd ABN. Participated in the glider invasion of Normandy, France and Nijmegen, Holland. He was awarded two Bronze Stars in his Glider Wings.

Other campaigns include: Sicily, Naples-Foggia, Ardennes, Rhineland and Central Europe.

Awards include the EAME Service Ribbon w/6 Bronze Battle Stars, Good Conduct Medal, Distinguished Service Badge, Bronze Arrowhead w/cluster. Unit Citations include Belgian and French Fourragere and Dutch Militaire Willems Order.

Discharged from Separation Center at Camp McCoy, WI, Nov. 19, 1945. Employed by US Postal Service and retired with 44 years of honorable service.

He married Bernice (deceased Feb. 5, 1995) and has two children, Matthew F. Jr. and Margaret Mary; and four grandchildren, Christine, James, Steve and Mary.

Nilesite Matt Wojtaszek's first Christmas overseas was 1943 in Africa where he and thousands of servicemen sat around in the sand watching Bob Hope's Christmas Show with Jerry Colonna and Frances Langford.

By early December of 1944, Wojtaszek, a glider trooper, was enjoying some R&R in Saisons, France when news broke that the 101st Airborne was surrounded by German fire in southeast Belgium, so Wojtaszek, who had already seen action in Holland, France and Italy, was asked to drop in again.

On Christmas day he was in Bastogne with Germany's final major counter offensive, the Battle of the Bulge, erupting around him. Turkeys were flown in for the troops. "I don't know how they did it," he muses. "We ate from our mess kits in the protection of whatever bombed out building remained standing," he recalls. "I was never so cold as I was there," he said, adding, "but there were evergreens all around."

Although the German army was the first to use gliders, the U.S. had used them twice before—in Sicily, July, 1943 and at Normandy, June 1944.

Built of canvas stretched over a metal frame, riding in a glider was "like sitting inside a box kite," how one former occupant described it. Towed by C47s, each glider (called CG4A in army parlance), carried 15 soldiers: 13 troopers plus the two-man crew. Towards the end of Wojtaszek's time overseas the Army reclassified glider duty to



Matt Wojtaszek

Christmas Day, Battle of the Bulge, 1944, where turkeys were flown in for the troops: "I don't know how they did it. We ate from our mess kits in the protection of whatever bombed out buildings remained standing. I was never as cold as I was there....but there were evergreens all around."

hazardous pay category.

He recalled the classic response given by General McAuliffe of the 101st. Surrounded by enemy at the Bulge, he was asked to surrender. The German interpreters were mystified by the answer he delivered in standard American slang. "Nuts," he replied, and fought on.

This year Wojtaszek will spend Christmas Eve with a daughter and her family and Christmas Day with extended family.

Beusse recalls Christmas with the Seabees

By Barbara A. Mendelsohn

For Walt Beusse of Niles, getting a real Christmas dinner during his navy service was "never a problem." During his stint with the Seabees (a sort of acronym for "Construction Battalion"), Beusse was assigned to an outfit charged with supplying ammunition to Admiral Halsey's Pacific Fleet.

The barge assigned to this duty had no power of its own and was towed down the Mississippi, eventually through the Panama Canal and into the Pacific, he recalls, and positioned in "the world's largest harbor," off the island of Ulithi in the Carolines. The Seabees onboard worked 12 hours on and 12 off. Smaller craft taxied the ammo to its point of use.

Referred to as a "hotel barge" since it was both living and working quarters, it was christened the "Ritz Carlton," one might expect with tongue-in-cheek.

"We did have it better than lots of guys," Beusse said. "On Christmas we sat down to turkey, ham, cranberries, stuffing and pie." Then he added, "Oh, and the bread."

Beusse explained that the ship's flour harder was weevil-infested, but for location security it couldn't be dumped overboard. So before using it, a portion was sieved, which eliminated the larger specimens but allowed the survival of the smallest. This led to a kind of table game wherein a diner held his slice up to light, and the high count won a prize, perhaps a serving of orange juice donated by a shipmate.

Beusse recalls seeing Bob Hope's show on an island in the Pacific during a torrential rain-fall so bad he couldn't see or hear a thing.

Beusse and his wife will spend this Christmas with their son's family in Elgin.



Walt Beusse



CHRISTMAS OVERSEAS

NILES AND MORTON GROVE VETERANS RECALL CHRISTMAS IN UNIFORM AND FAR FROM HOME



Philippines Christmas dinner recalled with k-rations and beer

by Barbara A. Mendelsohn

Nick Vittaco of Niles well recalls Christmas of 1944. He spent it in a slit-trench in the Philippines under intense air attack by the Japanese.

Vittaco was with the 7th squadron of the Army Air Corps' 49th fighter group. That was before the Corps became the Army Air Force, he explains.

The Christmas meal was nothing special, just the usual rations like any day. What he does remember is the beer. The army had procured some as a holiday treat. He recalls that the more beer they consumed, the less they focused on events overhead. "After all, it had been quite a while since our last; we weren't used to it." We quite understand, Nick.

Vittaco served from mid-1943 to November 1945 on a tour that

took him from Darwin in Australia, to New Guinea, Dutch New Guinea, The Philippines, (where he saw Bob Hope and company do their Christmas show), and finally, Tokyo.

He paused to remember the ace of the 49th, Richard Ira Bong, a member of its 9th squadron. Bong, from a farming community in northern Wisconsin, shot down 40 aircraft during his tour. As Vittaco remembers, this was the highest count in the Corps. Bong did survive the war, but died in a California plane crash.

For Christmas 2000, Nick will be right here in Niles with his wife Evelyn, their daughter and her husband Carol and Don Herzog, and extended family.

Have another beer, Nick, and Merry Christmas.



Nick Vittaco

Christmas Day, Philippines, 1944: The Army meal was nothing special...what he does remember is the beer. The army had procured some as a holiday treat. He recalled the more they drank the less they focused on events overhead. "After all, it had been quite a while since our last beer; we weren't used to it."



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Christmas in Wartime Vietnam

by Jeanine Kromer

Vietnam Veteran, Kenneth Trumbull ironically came into this world in a Veterans' Hospital. Trumbull's Dad was a lifer in the army and although Ken spent his childhood traveling it didn't stop him from joining the Marines. Being in the military one never knows where one may end up. Even holidays are up for grabs.

On November 5, 1969 at the ripe old age of 18, Trumbull enlisted in the Marines. Trumbull's first Marine Christmas was in Marble Mountain, Vietnam where he was a member of Mag16, Mab16 Company. He worked in TAFDS (tactical air refueling and dispensing system) that did exactly as its name suggests: refueled helicopters and jets. There was a ceasefire that lasted from midnight on the 24th to midnight on the 25th. Each of the three sections in Trumbull's company had an eight-hour shift to celebrate the holiday offline. The Christmas party included the traditional hot food, a Santa and drinks. Although Trumbull was not yet 21 and far from home the camaraderie he experienced in the Marines made him feel like he was with family.

Trumbull was lucky to spend his second Christmas on leave at home with his parents in Chicago.

Trumbull's third and fourth Christmases were spent in Okinawa, the Rock as it was affectionately called. Okinawa is an old volcano that is 13 meters long and seven meters wide. Trumbull celebrated his third holiday on base with the guys. There was less shelling on Christmas number four making a more peaceful celebration. Trumbull was engaged to a singer in the Special Services and the two enjoyed dinner at a restaurant and a night on the town.

Trumbull spent a commercial and expensive Christmas number five in Japan. There was a party at the USO with the traditional feast. The show included a magician and jugglers.

Trumbull's sixth and seventh Christmases were spent meeting his fiancée, Elizabeth's family. He was stationed at El Toro Marine Base in Santa Ana, California for number six. Trumbull enjoyed a classic family dinner off base with some of his future relatives. On Christmas number seven Trumbull took a military flight from Okinawa to the Philippines to meet Elizabeth's parents. They roasted a pig at their home and had a splendid meal.

Back on the base in Okinawa



Ken Trumbull

for Christmas number eight, Trumbull spent the day with the guys in his company.

On July 27, 1978, Ken Trumbull married Elizabeth in a Subu

village in the Philippines. They spent a romantic Christmas for two on base in Cherry Point, North Carolina for Trumbull's final Christmas in the Marines. Trumbull left the Marines on July 13, 1979 on a medical discharge due to a hearing problem. He currently works in the private security industry. Trumbull is active at the American Legion in Morton Grove.

The American Legion has 3.5 million members nationwide making it the largest veterans group. The Legion provides community service not only for veterans but kids as well. The members' dues and such fundraisers as Poppy Day are used to support programs for kids through schools and park districts. The Legion also donates money and volunteers time to Veterans Hospitals. Trumbull can be found tending bar on Friday nights at the Legion's weekly fish fry.

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CHRISTMAS OVERSEAS

NILES AND MORTON GROVE VETERANS RECALL CHRISTMAS IN UNIFORM AND FAR FROM HOME



A simple gift gave a GI his most memorable Christmas

by Jeanine Kromer

Morton Grove American Legion Post Commander, Phil Hutchins, is a veteran of both World War II and the Korean War. He said one Christmas of his five spent on foreign soil stands out in his memory.

Hutchins' second Christmas remains true to his heart. He was due to come back to the States after serving a year in Korea. President Truman enacted an extension for the military personnel already stationed in Korea. Hutchins had been planning to be home in Maine in 1952 for

Christmas Day, Korea, 1952: Hutchins had seven GIs and four South Koreans on his boat. One of the Koreans jumped into knee high freezing water and slugged up to an island where he returned with a Christmas tree. The soldiers decorated the tree with torn pieces of paper. The men recited the Lord's Prayer together and for a brief moment they forgot they were far from home.

Christmas where his Mother and Aunts would prepare a special holiday meal.

Instead, Hutchins was the skipper of an 85 foot Army Q

Continued on Page 7

Sailor remembers celebrating with Japanese children

by Jeanine Kromer

Jerry Weaver, of Morton Grove, enlisted in the Navy in 1953. Originally from Byron, IL, he thought he'd beat the draft by taking matters into his own hands. At 67", Weaver was too big for the Air Force (his first choice) and the Navy recruiter happened to be right next door.

After 16 weeks of boot camp at Great Lakes Naval Base, Weaver was sent to San Diego, CA for engineering school. There he learned to turn sea-water into drinkable water and was assigned to the APA 222, USS Pickaway. Weaver was a First Class Petty Officer whose division was in charge of evaporators. The Pickaway was an attack transport. It had 26 boats that it landed on shore loaded

with troops to send into battle. The ship also transported troops to Manila or Hawaii for R & R. Weaver's first navy Christmas in 1953 was spent at home. Although he enlisted in December he didn't have to report for duty until the next year.

Christmas number two Weaver spent at the Air Force Base in Subic Bay, Philippines. The troops enjoyed a real beach holiday complete with Tiki huts, swimming and fishing. Weaver was in El Cajon, CA for his third military Christmas. He spent the evening with his Aunt's family. Sasebo, Japan was the site of Weaver's final Naval Christmas. The USS Pickaway and another ship were on a goodwill mission



Jerry Weaver

for the poverty stricken children in Japan. The troops had a special Christmas party for the Japanese youngsters. At the celebration the troops gave candy, soda and a little toy as gifts for the kids.

Weaver received an Honorable Discharge from the Navy in December of 1956. After Korea, he worked for 22 years with Sunray-DX and then Smith Oil in the oil business. Next Weaver hooked up with Rockford Safety Equipment for 13 years. He was responsible for machine safety according to OSHA regulations. Weaver's company was considered experts in the field.

Weaver is a member of the Morton Grove American Legion and can be found there daily managing the post. He was Post Commander in 1999. The American Legion promotes patriotism and loyalty through such programs as High School Oratorical Competitions and Scouting Sponsorship. The Legion is also responsible for the McGruff Safe Kids Program. Veteran's affairs and rehabilitation are a top priority for the American Legion as well.

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CHRISTMAS OVERSEAS

NILES AND MORTON GROVE VETERANS RECALL CHRISTMAS IN UNIFORM AND FAR FROM HOME



Christmas for ship's cook meant food for 2,000 Simple gift...

Continued from Page 6

Melvin Baity, of Morton Grove, was inducted into the Army at Fort Sheridan in 1953. He was issued his first uniform and sent to Camp Breckenridge in Kentucky for 16 weeks of basic training. When Baity arrived at camp the men got off the bus and lined up. The Duty Sergeant went down the row and assigned each man a job. One was a driver, the next a secretary and so on. Baity was fortunate to draw a cook assignment.

Back home in Skokie Baity had gained valuable experience cooking at Toppers Restaurant and the Checkerboard Restaurant. Cooking was something he enjoyed. Since most senior personnel were actually over in Korea the training provided at Breckenridge was a little rough around the edges. Baity offered to help train because of his previous experience and was taken on that offer during the final eight weeks of basic training. Following basic training Baity was sent to cook and baker's school.

He boarded Marine Serpent, the World War II Kaiser Troop Transport One Stack Ship, for a 20-day trip to Sasebo, Japan. While on board Marine Serpent, Baity and four other men were responsible for cooking breakfast for 2000 troops. On Christmas Day in 1953, Baity began his usual midnight to six shift.

There was a bad storm that night and the weather deck was dark due to lights out at war-time. To make matters worse the deck was covered with water from the waves crashing on-board at either end. Baity had to go from his hold (a compartment where 300 men sleep) up over the deck to get around the watertight area (two places on the

ship where no water could reach to keep the ship from sinking if hit by a torpedo) to the galley (kitchen on the ship) for his shift. Talk about an adventure. Walking in the freezing cold air, through the pitch-black night, over a water-logged deck to crack 4000 eggs is quite a feat of magic.

Breakfast consisted of eggs and oatmeal. Baity made oatmeal for 2000 troops in a 100 gallon vat using steam from the engine to heat it. The galley had eight ovens, four on each side. The men took turns beginning on one side of the room, pulling the tray from each oven and stirring its contents and then moving onto the next oven until the man worked his way around the galley. The galley was about 140 degrees Fahrenheit. By the time the man made it around the galley he was red-faced and bathed in sweat. He would then go up two floors to the deck to cool off. Teamwork was the key in the galley.

Baity spent the Christmas of 1954 much the same way he did in 1953 cooking for 2000 hungry troops. The only difference was that he was on his way home.

Baity was honorably discharged from the Army on January 14, 1961. He returned to cooking at the Checkerboard Restaurant. Baity moved onto working for Commonwealth Edison where he worked for 39 years before retiring.

Baity has been a member of the Morton Grove American Legion for 33 years. He was Post Commander from 1980 - 1981 and Man of the Year by the Legion's Seventh District for February 2000 - February 2001. Mel Baity has a mission. He



Melvin Baity

doesn't want people to forget about Veterans, their commitment and sacrifice. Baity also wants to educate kids about the United States has been involved in. A project close to his heart is the future Korean War Museum and Library to be built in Tuscola, Illinois.

boat that was to pick up downed flyers and cruise the perimeter of Kojeda. Kojeda was a dusty red island that held the POW camps for North Korean soldiers being detained by the U.S.

Winter in Korea is brutally cold. Some say much worse than Chicago winters. Hutchins had seven GIs and four Katusa on his boat. Katusa were Korean Soldiers attached to the American Army. One of the Katusa, Che-si (tiny guy), realized how important Christmas was to the American soldiers. Che-si asked Hutchins to pull the boat into a small cove. Hutchins figured Che-si knew someone there and wanted to visit. Che-si jumped into the knee high freezing water in his bare feet and slugged up to the island. He returned moments later calling for the spotlight. What Che-si held up in the light was the saddest excuse for a Charlie Brown Christmas tree anyone ever saw but it was the most beautiful gesture Hutchins could imagine.

Che-si brought the tree aboard the boat. The soldier were overwhelmed by the Katusa's gesture and rushed to care for his freezing feet. The soldiers decorated the tree with torn pieces of paper. One GI requested Hutchins to say a prayer. The men all recited the Lord's Prayer together and for a brief moment they forgot they were far from home.

Hutchins marvels about that touching and gratifying Christmas. It ranks as one of his greatest Christmases and it was given to him by a non-Christian. Here were two cultures fighting a war and not understanding much about each other. The majority of Koreans were not Christians but the Katusa on Hutchins' boat understood the true meaning of Christmas. They respected the importance of other people's beliefs and were compassionate towards those who were far from their homes on a special and sacred day.

It was a Christmas to remember.

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Women's News

Christmas Around the World and Holidays of Light Fun Facts

How did Christmas Around the World start at the Museum of Science and Industry? Christmas Around the World started as a United Nations Salute to American Allies during World War II.

Why are there heart-shaped baskets on the Swedish tree? During the holidays the baskets are filled with candy.

What prompted Austrian Father Joseph Mohr and a church organist Franz Gruber to

write the song "Silent Night"? The song was written for Midnight Mass because mice had eaten through the bellows of the organ and it could not be used during mass. Father Mohr and Gruber performed "Silent Night" acoustically.

What do Belgians serve to commemorate Epiphany? Belgians serve a moist cake that has a bean placed inside one piece. The person who finds the bean is crowned king/queen for the

day in honor of the Magi present at Christ's birth.

How did Boxing Day, a Canadian holiday, receive its name? Boxing Day, the day after Christmas, gets its name from the old custom of giving. Employers would give their servants Christmas boxes made of earthenware. Inside the box, money was hidden and the servants would retrieve the money by smashing the box to tiny bits.

What legend guides Belarusians in decorating their tree? Trees are decorated in accordance to the Belarusian legend of a fairy that appeared to a family when they were searching for that perfect tree. The fairy held a tree decorated in all the colors of the rainbow. Families now decorate their trees with geometric shapes made out of straw.

Why are firecrackers thrown at the Golden Dragon during the Feast of Lanterns, a Chinese celebration? According to legend, the Golden Dragon has been asleep for years. He will remain awake only during the Feast of Lanterns parade and will then go back into hibernation when it ends. To prevent the dragon from going to sleep during the parade, people throw firecrackers in its path to keep it awake.

What is the African American cultural holiday Kwanzaa based on? In Swahili, Kwanzaa means "first fruits of the harvest" based on seven important principles. The family lights one candle on the kinara (a seven-tiered candelabra) each night for

one of the seven principles. The principles are: umoja (unity), kujichagulia (self-determination), ujima (collective work and responsibility), ujamaa (cooperative economics), nia (purpose), kuumba (creativity) and imani (faith).

What other holidays do Swedes traditionally celebrate? St. Lucia Day on December 13. Originally, on the shortest day of the year, St. Lucia, whose name in latin (lux) means light, became the symbol of new hope.

What does the word "Hanukkah" mean? It means, "dedication" in Hebrew. The festival of Hanukkah is held to commemorate the miracle of the oil lamp that occurred more than 2,000 years ago in Jerusalem. According to Mosaic law, to rededicate a temple, a lamp had to be kept burning in the sanctuary for eight days and nights. After the lamp was lit, it was discovered there was only enough oil for one night. Miraculously, the lamp burned for eight days and nights, a sign to the Jews that the temple had been blessed.

Why is Isakha Puja Day celebrated by Buddhists? Visakha means sixth lunar month. Puja means to pay respect and honor. Buddhists celebrate Visakha Puja Day to commemorate important events which all occurred during the sixth lunar month in the Buddha's life (his birth, his enlightenment and his death).

Why are there egg ornaments on Polish trees? Egg ornaments on the traditional Polish Christmas tree represent birth.

According to Romanian tradition, what was one of the Magi's gifts? The Christmas tree.

Who brings children gifts from Puerto Rico? The children receive gifts left by the Three Kings on January 6.

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Women's News

What's hot for the holidays?

Toys

- Scooters
- Sony PlayStation2
- Harry Potter Trivia Game
- Robotic animals - Tekno the Robotic Puppy, Super Poo-chi the Interactive Dog, Meow-Chi and MGA's Me and My Shadow
- Let's Pretend Elmo
- Nintendo's Gold and Silver Game Boy cartridges
- Amazing Babies
- Lego's Championship Challenge
- Movie/television/comic book-inspired Toys and Games
- Pokemon (Think Chip Battle Stadium, Pikachu Radio Controlled Car)
- Harry Potter eyeglasses and other wizard stuff
- Survivor
- Who Wants To Be A Millionaire?
- Rocky and Bullwinkle
- X-Men

Apparel & Shoes

- Any clothing in velvet, cashmere, suede and chenille
- Wraps
- Embroidery and beading
- Animal prints (python, tiger, zebra, leopard, ostrich, crocodile)
- Sweater sets
- Leather
- Scarves
- Regis tonal dress shirts and

Books

- Mystery/Suspense books (ex. "The Perfect Storm" by Sebastian Junger)
- Bestsellers (ex. Harry Potter by J.K. Rowling; "Tuesdays with Morrie" by Mitch Albom)
- Selfimprovement
- Inspirational books/Advice books (ex. "Dr. Atkins' New Diet Revolution" and "Who Moved My Cheese?" by Spencer Johnson)
- Oprah's pick: "Drowning Ruth" by Christina Schwarz
- Personal Digital Assistants (PDA) with wireless Internet access (ex. PalmPilot, Compaq iPaq, Casiopeia, HP Jornada)
- Web appliances (ex. MailStation, WebTV Plus and iPhone)
- Mega-pixel Digital Cameras
- Cellular Phones with Internet access and/or email capability
- Sony PlayStation
- DVD Players
- Computers with colored monitor cases (ex. iMac)
- Personal TV server/recorder
- Jewelry & Accessories
- White metals (platinum, white gold and silver)
- Watches

Home Furnishings

- Throws and pillows in merino wool
- Accessories in velvet, chenille, and animal print fabrics
- Sterling silver home accessories (ex. trays, home-entertaining housewares)
- Indoor grills (ex. George Foreman, Philips, Hamilton)
- Microwave ovens in clear plastic
- Home Accessories in translucent plastic with color (ex., ca-

Misc. Gift Items

- Candle gardens
- Tabletop fountains and waterfalls
- Aromatherapy oils and scents
- Gift certificates
- Bath spa

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Police News

Video store robbed at gun point

by Lisa Ashkenaz Croke

Two women are wanted for an armed robbery of a Hollywood Video store located at the 7000 block of Dempster in Niles.

An employee had just opened the store for business and three customers entered, a mother with her small son and another woman. Approximately five minutes later, a second woman entered the store.

After finishing the sale to the mother and son, the employee went into an office area. The two remaining women approached the office and asked if the movie "American Beauty" was available. As he checked the computer, both women walked behind the counter.

The first woman took out a silver or nickel-plated handgun from beneath her jacket and concealed it in a plastic store bag. The employee told police that she pointed the gun at the employee and said, "This is a stick up. Open the safe."

Police did not identify the contents of the safe given to the women, who also demanded the employee's wallet.

According to the employee, the first woman did most of the

talking. She asked the employee to open the bathroom door. As the door was locked and the key could not be found, the employee used a screwdriver to open the door.

Once inside, the first woman handed the bagged gun to her accomplice. The employee said the second woman seemed nervous with the gun and was hesitant to take it. He heard the first woman tell her, "Be careful, it's loaded."

The employee was tied to the rail alongside the toilet with a black telephone cord and warned him not to leave the room or he'd be shot. After about five minutes, he loosened his bound hands and escaped to call the police.

The first woman is described as black with a light complexion, 20-30 years-old, 5'4", 120-130 lbs with a medium build. The second woman meets the same description but is taller, 5'7"-5'9" and 130-140 lbs. Both women wore dark clothes and hooded jackets.

The women's faces could not be seen because of the hooded jackets, but according to the police report, physical and photographic evidence of the incident has been recovered.

Morton Grove

Theft

Christmas decorations were taken from residential yards on the 8800 block of Marmora and the 8900 block of Menard on Dec. 7. A wooden Santa and plastic soldier were taken and wiring for other decorations damaged at the Marmora residence. The homeowner of the Menard residence discovered his "Merry Christmas" sign missing when he went to fix decorations in his front yard that a neighbor informed him had been knocked down.

The owner of the Pro-Tan salon on the 6700 block of Dempster suspects an employee may have been stealing from the cash register. He told police that on Nov. 30, he intentionally placed an extra \$16 in the register assuring that the drawer would not balance. When the suspect came to work the next day, the drawer balanced despite the extra money. The employer said he will not file charges but wants the incident as a matter of record.

An offender who stole a woman's wallet from a retail store on the 7200 block of Dempster on Dec. 6, used her debit card to purchase a Sony laptop computer and AIWA CD player for a total of \$2,208.20 at an electronic store in Schaumbur. The woman told police she was certain that she placed the wallet in her purse prior to entering the retail store at 2:30 p.m. She realized it was missing when she went to pay for her merchandise at 4 p.m. The debit purchases were discovered upon investigation, which also revealed attempts to use the card at an electronic store, but at that time, the card was rejected.

Criminal damage to property
A resident at the 7800 block of Churchill reported that a driver knocked down planters and Christmas decorations sometime after 2:15 a.m. on Dec. 9. The resident's daughter said she heard an automobile heading south on Mc-

Niles

rill from Churchill. As it approached the house, she heard a strange noise. When she went to look outside, she saw tire tracks on the front lawn and discovered the damage.

Police said that there was an earlier report of a reckless driver who drove onto a residential lawn at the southwest corner of Lake and Oketo. No damage was caused, but a silver Nissan Pathfinder was seen in the area at the time of the incident.

Forgery

The owner of a company located in Wheeling contacted police on Dec. 7 after he received a missing \$332.17 check made out to another company in his bank statement. The owner said that the check was left in his office on Oct. 18 with a statement for the company. The next day, the owner found the check was gone but the statement was still on his desk. He called and had a stop payment put on the check, but on Dec. 5 the check turned up in his bank statement. The company (payee) name had been crossed out and the name of the forger put in its place, including instructions to "Pay to the order of a bank in Morton Grove - For Deposit only." The owner has filed criminal charges.

Burglary

A purse containing \$300, wallet, initialed glasses case and glasses were stolen from a car parked in front of a cleaners on the 6000 block of Dempster. The owner told police she recalled a man standing next to her passenger's side and the door was ajar. He told her he was looking for a lost key. Shortly before leaving, another man exited a minivan and assisted the first man looking for the key. The woman said she discovered the purse missing when she returned home. She had left it in her unlocked car on the passenger front seat. The first man is described as black, about 35 years-old, 5'9, 160 lbs, wearing glasses. The second man is also black, in his thirties, 5'9 with a medium build.

Theft

Unknown person(s) removed a wallet containing \$170 from a purse at a food store on the 5600 block of Touhy on Dec. 8 at about 1:15 p.m.

A woman left her cart unattended briefly at a toy store on the 9500 block of Milwaukee. When she returned to it, the cart had been moved to another part of the store. Her coat and purse were taken.

Attempted burglary to auto

Unknown offender(s) broke the rear window of a 1999 Chevy van parked at the Civic Center. Once inside, items were gone through but nothing was reported missing.

Criminal damage to auto

The driver's door window of a 1997 Nissan Maxima parked on the north side of a lot on the 6300 block of Touhy was found broken sometime between 9 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. on Dec. 8.

Burglary to auto

Unknown offender(s) smashed the passenger window of a 1997 white Ford Econoline van at about 10:30 a.m. on Dec. 12. A jacket valued at \$90 was stolen from the vehicle.

Unknown offender(s) broke into a van parked in an auto repair lot on the 7000 block of Milwaukee sometime between 6:30 p.m. on Dec. 4 and 9 a.m. Dec. 5. The offender(s) stole an in-dash radio and attempted to open the locked dashboard storage compartment, but broke the lock mechanism.

In a similar case, a stereo was stolen from a vehicle parked in an auto repair lot on the 7000 block of Milwaukee sometime between 7 p.m. on Dec. 5 and 7:45 a.m. Dec. 6 when a mechanic went to work on the car and discovered the rear passenger's-side vent window broken out.

Elán Furs to keep you warm

Now that the cold winds and wintry snow are whipping through the area, a beautiful and toasty warm fur coat or jacket would be the perfect gift to brighten the season.

A lovely fur jacket or coat is waiting just for you at Barth Wind Elán. You can choose from mink, beaver, fox, lynx, chinchilla and numerous other fashionable furs at prices to fit any budget.

If leather is more to your liking, coats and jackets of soft, supple leather and shearling lambskin are also available in styles & prices to warm any heart.

Best of all, you won't have to go downtown or pay Michigan Avenue prices, because Elán is conveniently located at 6740 Dempster St. right here in Morton Grove.

While Elán, (the name is French for "verve" and "dash."), carries the sharpest designer styles by such names as Adolfo and Bob Mackie, about 80 percent of their inventory is made right there on the premises by expert master furrier Arlon Letsou who has 35 years experience in the fur business.

"We can cut out the middle man, the buyer, by producing our own fur coats," said Dean Pissios.

one of the owners of the family-owned and operated furrier that has two other locations, one on Michigan Avenue in Chicago and the other in Indianapolis where the firm was started 20 years ago. With their three locations, Pissios says they have the largest selection of quality fashion furs in the Chicagoland area.

However, if you can't find what you like on the racks at Barth Wind Elán, you can always have a custom-made fur made to order just for you. If you have a drawing, a picture or just a dream, Elán can create the fur to make that dream come true.

Customers come into the Barth Wind Elán Salon with a design, choose the type of fur they want, select the skins and in a few weeks, they are wearing the coat or jacket of their dreams and fending off the fierce and cutting winds of winter.

For more information about Barth Wind Elán Furs, call Dean Pissios at (847) 967-8444.



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Dining / Entertainment

The Field Museum celebrates with music and activities

Beginning Tuesday, December 26 and continuing through Sunday, December 31 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., The Field Museum will offer a variety of holiday activities for visitors to enjoy. Peacable Kingdom, a six-day festival, offers a time to relax and reflect on the past by listening to soothing performances, and celebrates the peace that blankets the landscape in the winter months.

Performances
Tuesday, December 26

through Saturday, December 30 at noon and 2 p.m. each day. Tom and Chris Kastle, will perform. The Kastles are singers, sailors, songwriters and storytellers. Their program will celebrate the bounty and beauty of the earth, land and sea, with warm and inviting vocals, skillful instrumentation and good humor. On Sunday, December 31, at noon and 2 p.m. the woodwind trio, Trio Vivant, will perform classical, as well as 20th century instrumental music.

Members of Trio Vivant will use a unique combination of woodwind instruments to engross the audience in an aura of elegant music.

Activities
Peacable Kingdom will also feature a Winter Wonderland Walk through a series of exhibitions depicting winter scenes of animals and humans in different regions of the world, and how they have adapted to Mother Nature's harshest season. Stroll through Mammals of Asia or

into the World of Birds, where families can partake in hands-on activities such as creating great horned owl masks, or constructing a paper ram hat. Other activities include creating a family identity flag, making a *parfleche*, an ornate Native American storage bag, or a pair of Eskimo snow goggles.

Musical Performances
Tom and Chris Kastle: Tuesday, December 26 through Saturday, December 30, noon and 2 p.m. The Kastles will perform

traditional as well as original songs and stories that explore the mysteries of the earth and her waterways.

Trio Vivant: Sunday, December 31, noon and 2 p.m. This woodwind trio will perform classical and contemporary music.

General Information
Peacable Kingdom is open to the public, free with basic admission. Basic admission to the Museum is \$8 for adults and \$4 for children ages 3-11, seniors, and students with ID. Basic admission is free on Wednesdays.

The Field Museum will remain open until 6 p.m. daily Tuesday, December 26 through Saturday, December 30. The Field Museum is open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on December 31. The Field Museum is closed Christmas Day and New Year's Day.

For general Museum information, call (312) 922-9410 or (312) 341-9299 TDD for the hearing impaired.

Location and Travel Information

The Field Museum is located at 1400 South Lake Shore Drive, on CTA bus lines #12 and #146, and close to the Roosevelt Road stop of the Metra and South Shore trains. Low-cost parking is available nearby. For information on public transportation, call CTA/RTA at (312) 836-7000. For more travel information, call The Field Museum at (312) 922-9410. Visit our web site at www.fieldmuseum.org.

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Thursdays - Jack Carr, Pianist, Singer - 6:30pm-9pm
& Jazz Jam - John Han, Charlie Braugham & Don Stille 9pm-1am
Saturdays - Lou DiGangi, Swing Band - 9pm-12:30am

FRIDAY, Dec. 22 - Bob Centano Quartet - 9pm-1am
SUNDAY, Dec. 24 - Jerry Owings 3pm-7pm
FRIDAY, Dec. 29 - Marshall Vente Quartet - 9pm-1am (\$5.00 Cover)

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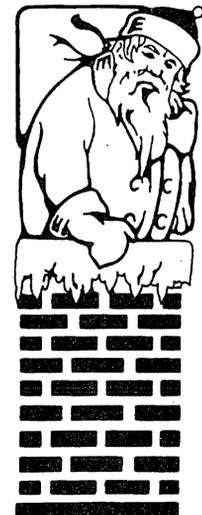
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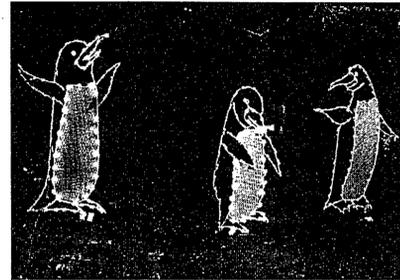


Dining / Entertainment

Catch the Dancing Laser Light Show at ZooLights Festival

Don't miss this phenomenal nighttime extravaganza! Gaze in amazement as vibrant, laser-projected images dance off a towering, cascading 15-foot water screen. New to ZooLights Festival this year, this spellbinding production is shown several times nightly at the Kovler Sea Lion Pool.

Also new this year are giant Holiday Characters! These 20-foot characters dance in the night sky. Frosty, Santa, Rudolph, and many other larger-than-life characters greet you as you discover the holiday attractions including Santa's workshop and the North Pole Express



Train, sponsored by Allstate Insurance Company, and Family Crafts and an Animal Fun-Fact Scavenger Hunt, sponsored by The University of Chicago Children's Hospital. Come see more than one million dazzling holiday lights, zoo animals, as well as try your hand at gingerbread cookie decorating. You can always pick up unique holiday gifts in Wild Things!, the zoo's gift shop.

Guests can warm up at Holiday Cafe, the zoo's restaurant, with dinner, hot drinks and other seasonal treats while enjoying nightly music entertainment from the player piano.

ZooLights runs through Sunday, January 7. The event is open from 5:30 to 9:30 p.m. Wednesday through Sunday. (Closed Mondays and Tuesdays and Christmas Eve, December 24).

Tickets are \$6 for adults, \$4 for children 4 through 12 and free for children 3 and under. Zoo members receive a \$2 discount with their membership cards.

Tickets for ZooLights are available at Gateway Pavilion, online or nightly at the gate. For more information please call (312) 742-2283 or visit the zoo's website at www.lpzoo.com.

Restaurant Guide
Enjoy Christmas Dinner At Your Favorite Restaurant

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Chicago, IL 60646
Phone: 773-774-2620

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6 A.M. TIL 2 P.M.
(847) 966-1130
6415 Dempster St.
Morton Grove, IL 60053

Johnny's KITCHEN & TAP
1740 Milwaukee Ave. (at Lake Ave.)
Glenview - 847-699-9999
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The Best Pizza
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Dining / Entertainment

The American Club in Kohler offers "Comfort and Joy" for the holidays

If your personal organizer is overflowing and your pager is a constant interruption, now is the time to book some personal "comfort and joy" for the holiday season.

No one combines more quiet elegance and pure pampering luxury with a bountiful menu of relaxing holiday activities than The American Club in Kohler, WI.

Christmas and New Year's celebrations at the Midwest's only

AAA Five Diamond resort hotel mix the solitude of cross-country skiing or reading by a crackling fire with the delicious aroma of freshly-baked cookies and sumptuous dining at your choice of six different restaurants.

Add a relaxing horse-drawn carriage ride, a little holiday shopping at the unique Shops at Woodlake, and an indulgent visit to the new Kohler Waters Spa for soothing water treatments, and you'll know the true meaning of "comfort and joy."

The Christmas Kohler package at The American Club also offers a nostalgic collection of such Yuletide delights as old-fashioned Christmas trees just waiting to be trimmed, holiday film festivals, caroling, a harpist for your listening pleasure, and other entertainment.

Holiday teas are offered on Friday and Saturday afternoons. Spicy, steaming blends of exotic teas are served with savory sandwiches and petite offerings.

Children of all ages will enjoy Frosty's Fun Fest and Storytime Tea with Mother Goose. Frosty offers heartwarming holiday activities and entertainment that include nature hikes, a hay wagon ride, cupcake decorating and crafts. Mother Goose herself will

be on hand to read her favorite stories and serve delectable holiday treats from a knee-high buffet. (Adults have their own buffet). Both events run December 26 through December 29.

On New Year's Eve, The American Club offers a sparkling way to ring in 2001 with a two-night package that includes luxurious guest room accommodations, an elegant five-course gourmet dinner with vintage wines, big band dancing, complimentary champagne and special holiday gifts.

The Kohler environs offer additional entertainment choices. For example, there's a Gingerbread Festival at the Waelderhaus, a recreation of the Kohler family home in Austria that's just down the street from The American Club. There's also the John Michael Kohler Arts Center in nearby Sheboygan. Newly expanded, the Arts Center is a treasure-trove of exhibitions, celebrations, performances and workshops plus unique gifts created by artists and designers from around the world.

Christmas Kohler is already underway, with holiday activities scheduled daily. The celebration continues through New Year's Day. Guests can make reservations or obtain additional information by calling 920-457-8000 or 1-800-344-2838, or by visiting www.americanclub.com on the Web.

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1 full slab of Ribs
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Lasagna Dinner for "Two"!!
2 orders of Lasagna
2 Salads and 2 Breads

Baked Mostaccioli for "Two"!!
2 orders of Baked Mostaccioli
2 salads and 2 Breads

Exp. 12-31-00
Mention Specials When Ordering

2 for 1
16" PIZZAS
up to 3 toppings
\$17.95

Exp. 12-31-00

SUPER SPECIAL!!
ONLY \$17.99

2 Lasagnas
4 Salads • Garlic Bread
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1 topping
Exp. 12-31-00

New China Buffet

All You Can Eat
• Include Drinks and Ice Cream •
Every Day 4 Soups, 40 Main Entrees
Plus Fruit and Salad Bar
DINE-IN • CARRY OUT • CATERING
(Carry Out Buffet Includes Soda or Soup Order)

Children Under 3 Years Eat Free
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6-10 Years for 1/2 Price

OPEN 7 DAYS
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DINNER BUFFET 3:30 TO CLOSE
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FRI-SAT: 11:00 AM - 10:00 PM
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- Turkey Burger

\$6.50

All meals include Soup, Bread Basket and Fresh Fruit.
Salads May Be Substituted for Soup for \$1.00 Additional

(847) 966-1130
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Morton Grove, IL 60053

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CHRISTMAS CANDY
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STOCKING STUFFERS
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QUALITY NUTS & CANDIES

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Winter Hours
Monday Thru Friday
7:00 AM - 6:00 PM
Saturday: 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM
CLOSED SUNDAY



COME LET US ADORE HIM
Christmas Services



St. John Lutheran Church
7429 Milwaukee Ave., Niles, IL 60714
847-647-9867
Rev. Marvin F. Mueller, Pastor
CHRISTMAS EVE
5:00 and 11:00 p.m. - Candlelight Worship
11:00 p.m. - Holy Communion Celebrated
CHRISTMAS DAY
9:30 a.m. - Festival Worship with Holy Communion
NEW YEAR'S EVE
7:30 p.m. - Holy Communion celebrated

St. Lambert Church
8148 N. Karlov Ave.
Skokie, IL 60076
(847) 673-5090
CHRISTMAS 2000
Christmas Eve-Sunday, December 24th
The Vigil
4:40 p.m. Christmas Carols
5:00 p.m. Family Mass Choral Group
Midnight Mass
11:30 p.m. The Carol Service
12:00 a.m. Solemn Mass at Midnight
Christmas Day - Monday, December 25th
(Holy Day of Obligation)
8:00 a.m. Mass
10:00 a.m. Choral Mass
12:00 noon Mass



HOLY TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH
8201 N. Karlov, Skokie
(847) 673-1434
Rev. Peter N. Campbell, Rector
December 24, 2000
Children's Service 4 pm
Christmas Carol Singing 10:30 pm
Solemn High Choral Eucharist 11:00 pm
December 25, 2000
Solemn High Eucharist 10:00 am
December 31, 2000
Christmas Pageant 10 am
Handicapped Accessible



St. Peter's United Church of Christ
Oakton Street & Laramie Avenue.
(We're Across from the Library)
(847) 673-8166
Rev. Richard A. Lanford, Pastor
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24th
10:00 a.m. - Worship
Sunday School Play
"Our Family Memories of Christmas"
CHRISTMAS EVE, SUNDAY DEC 24th
11:00 p.m. Worship
Traditional Service of Lessons, Carols,
Communion and Candlelight



Saint Timothy's Epistle
9000 Kildare (at Grove)
Skokie 60076 (847) 676-1300
The Reverend Frank W. Anderson, Pastor
December 24 + Christmas Eve
Fourth Sunday of Advent
10:30 am Worship
Christmas Eve Family Service
7:00 pm Holy Communion
(bring the Christ Child from a home Nativity Scene for Blessing)
Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
11:00 pm Holy Communion



Saint John's Lutheran Church
4707 West Pratt Avenue
Lincolnwood * 1-847-673-3378
Your Home For Christmas!
Sunday, December 17 at 8:30 and 10:30 A.M.
The Third Sunday of Advent
Sunday School Christmas Program at the 10:30 A.M. Eucharist
Sunday, December 24
8:30 A.M. - Eucharist in the Chapel
10:30 A.M. - Family Service of Lessons and Carols
Music by Combined Sunday School and Senior Chorus
11:00 P.M. - Candlelight Service of Holy Communion
For More Information Visit Our Website:
www.stjohnsllincolnwood.com

ST. ISAAC JOGUES PARISH
8149 Golf Road, Niles, IL 60714
847-967-1060
CHRISTMAS 2000
SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION
Communal Reconciliation Service
Saturday, December 16, 11:00 a.m.
The Sacrament of Reconciliation will not be celebrated December 23.
LITURGIES: FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
Saturday, December 23, 5:00 p.m.
Sunday, December 24 - 7:30 a.m., 9:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 12:00 p.m.
LITURGIES OF CHRISTMAS
Christmas Eve
Sunday, December 24 - 4:00 pm, 10:30 pm - Carols at 3:30 pm, 10:00 pm
Christmas Day
Monday, December 25 - 7:30 am, 9:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 12:00 p.m.
LITURGIES: MARY, MOTHER OF GOD
Monday, January 1, 2001- 9:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.



Edison Park Lutheran Church
6626 North Oliphant Avenue
Chicago, Illinois 60631
(773) 631-9131
Rev. Les Gyllstrom
Rev. John Linn
CHRISTMAS EVE
5:00 p.m. Family Worship for all ages
9:00 p.m. Candlelight Service with Holy Communion
11:00 p.m. Candlelight Service
CHRISTMAS DAY
10:00 a.m. Festival Worship with Holy Communion
5:00 p.m. December 31, 2000
NEW YEAR'S EVE Taize Communion Service
Lift Available for the Handicapped



2000 CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE OF THE SEASON
MASS SCHEDULE
Sunday December 24th Christmas Eve
4:00 p.m. Family Mass
(Preceded by Carols at 3:30 P.M.)
Midnight Mass - (Preceded by Carols at 11:30 P.M.)
CHRISTMAS DAY
Monday December 25th
Masses at 7:00 A.M., 9:00 A.M.-11:00 A.M. ONLY
NO 4:00 P.M. MASS!
FEAST OF THE MOTHER OF GOD
NEW YEAR'S EVE MASS
Sunday December 31, Auditorium Chapel
4:00 P.M. Mass (Anticipated)
NEW YEAR'S DAY MASS
Monday January 1st, 2001 Auditorium Chapel
One Mass at 10:00 A.M. NO EVENING MASS

COME LET US ADORE HIM
Christmas Services




Come Celebrate Christmas
St. Luke's Christian Community Church
9233 Shermer Rd
Morton Grove, IL 60053
Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship
8:00 pm. December 24th
Rev. Carl Miehke
Choir sings
The Music of Christmas
Sunday Worship 10:15 A.M.
Rev. Raymond W. Nyquist
For Information Call 966-9233

Our Lady of Ransom
8300 N. Greenwood Niles, IL60714
847-823-2550
Rev. John R. Hall, Pastor
Saturday, December 23
Sacrament of Reconciliation - 11:00 a.m.
Sunday, December 24
Christmas Eve Masses
3:00 P.M.
5:00 P.M. - Family Mass
12:00 - Midnight Mass
(Carols Begin - 11:30 p.m.)
Monday, December 25
Christmas Day Masses
7:30, 9:00, 10:45 A.M. & 12:15 P.M.
New Year's Masses
Sunday, December 31 - 9:00 p.m. - Mass
Monday, January 1 8:00 & 10:00 a.m. - Mass



Messiah Lutheran Church
1605 Vernon Avenue Park
Ridge, Illinois 60068
(847) 823-6984
Rev. Mark Larson - Pastor
December 20 Sunday Services
8:30 & 11:00 a.m. Worship Services
9:45 a.m. Family Advent Celebration
December 24 Christmas Eve Services 4:00 p.m.
Family Service with Christmas Carols 11:00 p.m.
Messiah Choir and Candlelight Service
December 25 Christmas Day Services
10:00 a.m. Christmas Worship Service with Holy Communion
December 28, Sunday
8:30 & 11:00 a.m. Worship Service
MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH
WELCOMES YOU! "COME AND WORSHIP"



8307 N. Harlem Ave.
Niles, IL 60714
(847) 966-8145
NATIVITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST
December 25, 2000
Christmas Eve Liturgies - 5:00 P.M., 10:30 P.M. & 12:30 A.M. (Polish)
Christmas Day - 7:30, 9:00, 11:00 A.M. & 12:30 P.M. (Polish)
FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY
December 31, 2000
Holy Family Day - 7:30, 9:00, 11:00 A.M. & 12:30 P.M. (Polish)
SOLEMNITY OF MARY
January 1, 2001
New Year's Eve - 5:00 P.M., 6:30 P.M. (Polish)
New Year's Day - 10:00 A.M., 12:30 P.M. (Polish)
THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD
January 7, 2001
Epiphany Day - 7:30, 9:00, 11:00 A.M. & 12:30 P.M. (Polish)

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
5106-52 North LaCrosse Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60630-2431
773.545.7300
The Reverend Ivon P. Harris, Pastor
Mr. Floyd Rueger, Music Director/Organist • Vicar Jill Flynn, Intern
Thursday, December 21st through Saturday December 23rd - 7pm-9pm on Foster Avenue
A LIVING NATIVITY
with live people and real animals plus hospitality "Hot Cider, Coffee, Tea & Pastry."
Live organ music with carols inside the church & carillon Christmas selection outside from the Bell Tower
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23rd Communion Worship 5 p.m.
SUNDAY DECEMBER 24th - 10:30 a.m. Communion Worship • 12:30 p.m. Slovak Stedry Vecer Service
CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT WORSHIP - 7 P.M. WITH HOLY COMMUNION
CHRISTMAS DAY FESTIVAL WORSHIP
Slovak Communion at 8:30 a.m.
Christmas Festival Communion Liturgy with Trinity's Chorus Zora singing
REDISCOVER JESUS WITH US TODAY!

Taking charge of your credit cards

For most of us, the holiday season means increased spending on gifts, travel and entertaining. And, like it or not, increased spending usually translates into heavy credit card usage that can make or break you. As credit card options become more diverse and, in some cases, more expensive, the Illinois CPA Society offers the following advice to help you take charge of your credit card dept.

Know Your Options
All credit cards are not the same. In addition to bank credit cards, travel and entertainment cards, and charge cards issued by retail businesses, now there are cards that give rebates, offer frequent flyer miles and hotel room discounts, and a credit

card that doubles as a telephone calling card.
Keep in mind that even though a card belongs to the Visa or MasterCard network, the issuing bank or financial institution sets the rules regarding annual fees, interest charges, and payment billing practices. With all the options available, it's easy to see why choosing the right credit card is more challenging than ever.
Choose the Card That Suits You Best
If you typically carry a balance on your credit card, you should look for a card with the lowest interest rate. On the other hand, if you pay your balance in full every month -- which is recommended -- you want to look

for a card with no annual fee, and with a grace period (the amount of time you have to pay your bill before you start accruing interest) of 25 days or longer.
Rebate and airline cards usually carry a higher interest rate, but if you pay the entire bill each month, you can come out ahead, particularly when you charge large purchases, such as college tuition, and pay your balance in full at the end of the month. Just be sure to read the fine print. For example, on airline cards check out blackout dates, types of seats available, route restrictions, expiration dates, and the limit on the number of miles you can earn in a year.

And don't kid yourself when it comes to credit cards with tempting introductory offers of super low rates. You may think you'll pay off the balance before the rate skyrockets, but unless you're absolutely sure you have the discipline to either pay off the balance or switch the balance to another low-rate card offer, don't fall for this marketing ploy.
Reduce Interest Costs
If you're paying high interest rates on your credit cards, you should consider transferring your balances to a lower-rate credit card. You can search the Internet for a better deal, but if you're a good credit risk, that may not be necessary. In many cases, a credit card issuer will lower the rate rather than lose a customer. Call the toll-free number on your bill and inform your current card issuer that you're planning to switch cards for a lower rate. If you are a good customer, it may not be too difficult to negotiate a lower interest rate.
Know Your Credit Card Rights
It's a good idea to keep the receipts for all your charge purchases during the month and check them against your monthly statement. If you believe there is an error on your bill, the Fair Credit Billing Act provides you with recourse. You are required to write to the creditor within 60 days of the bill's date, with your name and account number.

Church and Temple News

Obituaries

COSMO PAUL ANGELINO
Cosmo Paul Angelino recently passed away. Beloved husband of the late Flossie (nee Hommer). Beloved father of Paul and Laura (William) Crowley. Grandfather of Christopher (Deborah) Bauer and Rebecca Bauer. Dear brother, uncle and friend of many. Services were held at St. John Lutheran Church, Niles. Arrangements handled by Cumberland Chapels, 8300 West Lawrence Avenue, Norridge. Entombment was in Ridgewood Cemetery, Des Plaines. In lieu of flowers, donations to: Alzheimers Association appreciated. Veteran of WWII.

ROBERT J. GEIMER
Robert J. Geimer, of Morton Grove, died October 19 at Lutheran General Hospital, Park Ridge. Beloved husband of Mildred Mary Stejskal. Beloved father of Carol (Dennis) Lefevre, Karen (Robert) Hinson and Robert J. Jr. (Diane). Grandfather of Denise Rodgers, Stephen, Bryan and Lisa Hinson and Kevin and Kelly Geimer. Great-grandfather of Luke Hinson. Services were held Saturday, October 21. Arrangements handled by Simkins Funeral Home. Interment was in St. Mary, Techny. Recent retiree of the Morton Grove Public Works Department.

LILLIAN V. PUERKEL
Lillian V. Puerkel, 77, of Niles, died Sunday, October 1. She was born November 28, 1922 in Chicago. Beloved mother of James Puerkel. Arrangements handled by Skaja Terrace Funeral Home. Interment was in Maryhill Cemetery, Niles.

CHESTER ANTONCZYK
Chester Antonczyk, 84, of Glenview, died Wednesday, October 18 at Lutheran General Hospital, Park Ridge. He was born August 18, 1916 in Chicago. Beloved husband of Ruth Antonczyk. Services were held October 21. Arrangements handled by Skaja Terrace Funeral Home. Interment was in St. Adalbert Cemetery, Niles.

ANNA LOVITZ
Anna Lovitz, 94, of Niles, died Monday, October 2 at St. Andrew Home. She was born August 20, 1906. Beloved mother of Barbara (Raymond) Eck. Grandmother of Steven (Karin) Eck, Thomas (Mary) Eck, Ellen Eck, Anne (Frank) LaBarbara and Gregg Eck. Arrangements handled by Skaja Terrace Funeral Home. Interment was in Maryhill Cemetery, Niles.

ANNA POSCH
Anna Posch (nee Schilling), 94, of Morton Grove, died Sunday, November 19. She was born December 23, 1905 in Chicago. Beloved wife of the late Joseph H. Beloved mother of James, Jo Anne, John and the late Joseph Posch. Grandmother of Michelle and Stephanie. Services were held Wednesday, November 22 at St. Isaac Jogues Church, Niles. Arrangements handled by Colonial-Wojciechowski Funeral Home. Interment was in Holy Name Cemetery, Wilmet, WI.

JOHN DENNIS ZMOLEK
John Dennis Zmolek, 63, of Morton Grove, died December 8 at Rush North Shore Medical Center, Skokie. He was born June 4, 1937 in Tama County, IA. Beloved husband of Patricia (nee Schindler). Beloved son of Hilda and the late Anton. Beloved father of Michael and Andrew (Gwyn). Grandfather of Jared, Elle and Vaughn. Services were held December 12 at St. Martha Catholic Church, Morton Grove. Arrangements handled by Simkins Funeral Home. Memorials to: Juvenile Diabetes, 291 Hastings, Highland Park, IL 60035.

JAMES TRIVISONNO
James Trivisonno, 80, of Niles, died Wednesday, October 25 at Hospice of the North Shore, Skokie. He was born July 25, 1920 in Cleveland, OH. Beloved husband of Bernice (nee Giampoli). Beloved father of Barbara (Jim) Evansizer and James (Nancy) Trivisonno. Grandfather of Amy, Christopher and Nicholas. Brother of Albert, Agnes, Marie and Mary. Loving uncle to many. Services were held Saturday, October 28. Arrangements handled by Colonial-Wojciechowski Funeral Home. Interment was in All Saints Cemetery, Des Plaines.

SALVATORE LAPAGLIA
Salvatore LaPaglia, 72, of Morton Grove, died November 1. He was born November 11, 1927 in Chicago. Beloved husband of the late Shirley. Beloved son of the late Angelo (the late Mary Rini) LaPaglia. Beloved father of Larry (Donna), Jim and Kenny. Grandfather of 9. Great-grandfather of 1. Services were held Saturday, November 4. Arrangements handled by Simkins Funeral Home. Interment was in St. Adalbert Cemetery, Niles.

PABLO MAGUNDAYAO
Pablo Magundayao, 83, of Skokie, died Monday, October 23. He was born March 21, 1917 in the Philippines. Beloved husband of Necifora (nee Pagulayan). Survived by children, grandchildren and other family members. Services were held Saturday, October 28. Arrangements handled by Colonial-Wojciechowski Funeral Home. Interment was in All Saints Cemetery, Des Plaines.

STANLEY SLONINA
Stanley Slonina, 88, of Arlington Heights, died Friday, October 27. He was born December 15, 1911 in Chicago. Beloved husband of the late Alma (nee Ptak). Beloved father of Stanley (Juanita), Kenneth (Sue), Nancy Dibelka, Canole (Joseph) Koscal and Larry (Christine). Grandfather of Karen, Judith, Mark, Steven, Ann, Michael, Leslie, Joseph, Kenneth, Matthew, and Lawrence. Great-grandfather of Michelle, Douglas, Miranda, Michael, Mallory, Katie, Jacob, Nicholas, Alec, Connor and Isabella. Services were held Monday, October 30 at St. Isaac Jogues Church, Niles. Arrangements handled by Colonial-Wojciechowski Funeral Home. Interment was in St. Adalbert Cemetery, Niles.

NAOMIA KOLKO
Naomi A. Kolko, 65, of Skokie, died October 31 at Vencor Hospital, Chicago. He was born November 12, 1934 in Chicago. Beloved wife of the late Eugene. Beloved mother of James, Terri Reed, John, and Richard. Grandmother of 5. Sister of the late Ruth P. (Sam) Aprle. Services were held Saturday, November 4. Arrangements handled by Simkins Funeral Home. Interment was in Memory Gardens Cemetery, Arlington Heights.

WILLIS F. OLSON
Willis F. Olson, 81, of Morton Grove, died October 25 at Lutheran General Hospital, Park Ridge. He was born April 17, 1919 in Fort Dodge, IA. Beloved husband of Joanna (nee Moberg). Beloved son of the late John (the late Alice) Olson. Beloved father of Mary (Dana) Sears and Carol (William) Burke. Grandfather of Jill Sears, Kestin and Sandra Burke. Services were held Sunday, October 29. Arrangements handled by Simkins Funeral Home. Interment was in Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, VA. U.S. Army Ranger officer in the South Pacific during WWII fighting with the cooperation of the Island of New Britain Headhunters to attack the Japanese Imperial Marines. Founder of Chicago and North Shore Chapter of the Retired Officers Association; charter member of the Morton Grove Historical Society.

Continued on Page 19

Church and Temple News

Former pastor of St. Luke's to preach

The Rev. Carl Miehke will lead the worship service and preach the sermon at the Candlelight Christmas Eve Service at 8 p.m. on December 24th at St. Luke's Christian Community Church, 9233 Shermer Road, Morton Grove. Rev. Miehke served the church as its pastor for 11 years, from 1976 - 1987. His pastorate was the longest of any pastor who served the church in its entire history. Members and friends of St. Luke's Church look forward to seeing and hearing Pastor Miehke at this annual traditional Christmas Eve service, when the choir and the congregation will

sing the familiar carols of Christmas. Following his message, Pastor Miehke will lead the people in the candlelight ceremony as all together they sing "Silent Night." Rev. Miehke and his wife, Pat, are looking forward to greeting many of their former parishioners and friends at this festive worship service.

At the regular Sunday morning worship service at 10:15 a.m. Pastor Raymond W. Nyquist will lead the service and bring the message. All are welcome at either or both of these Christmas services on this Dec. 24th when Christmas Eve falls on Sunday.

Jerusalem Lutheran Church & School

School news, forensics competition. The fifth through eighth grades at Jerusalem Lutheran School recently competed at the Chicago Area Lutheran League (CALL) Forensics Contest in Chicago. Competing in the public speaking contest against 11 other teams from eight area Lutheran schools, the Jerusalem team took first place. Jerusalem has now kept the championship for seven years in a row! Congratulations! Jerusalem Lutheran School offers quality education for pre-school through eighth grade. For more information, please call Principal Gustafson at 965-4750.

Fire Prevention poster contest. Jerusalem Lutheran School is pleased to announce that two of its students received awards from the Morton Grove Fire Department for its fire prevention poster contest at the November 27 village board meeting. Paul Schoephoester, a sixth grader, won the overall prize and his sister, Laura Schoephoester, won the prize for eighth grade. All the winning posters are currently on display in the main entry to the Village Hall.

St. John Brebeuf installation



President David Ladao. Village of Niles Trustee Andrew Przybylo.

On October 4, 2000, the Student Council of St. John Brebeuf held their installation ceremony. The entire student body was on hand to hear Mr. Przybylo, Village of Niles Trustee. Mr. Przybylo talked to the Student Council about their role as leaders and how important it is to take their responsibilities seriously.

This year's Student Council Representatives are Alexis Bagnone, Myrene Gallardo, Alina Barnas, Christina Lapke, J.J. Paliser, Emily Ruede, Tiffany Bartley, Andy Bishop, Julie Johann, Melissa Infusino, Sarah Musur, Marty Peterson, Katie Stasiak, Amayla Wagner, Valerie Castillo, Amy Bishop, Gabby Gabbo, and Michael Sachaj.

With the closing of St. Martha's, an Auxiliary Board was added to the Student Council at St. John Brebeuf. The students elected to offices at St. Martha's make up this board and help add new ideas and activities. They are Reggie Lara, Sarah Hwang, Jessica Jurado, Khrista Harris, Daryl Baldemor, and Chris Gattora.

The students elected this year are David Ladao as President, Ricky Podkowa as Vice President, Catherine Casey as Secretary, John Johann as Treasurer and Marcella Yaniz as School Spirit. They are all doing a great job and working very hard to make this an exciting year for the student body at S.J.B. Keep up the good work!

Obituaries

Continued from Page 18

JULIANNE E. KARSTEN
Julianne E. Karsten, 78, of Morton Grove, died November 4. Beloved wife of the late Howard. Beloved mother of Karen (John) Anzalone, Kris (Jimmy) Marinaitis, Grant (Sandy) and Kathy O'Laughlin. Grandmother of 6. Great-grandmother of 2. Services were held Wednesday, November 8 at Jerusalem Lutheran

Church, 6218 Capulina Avenue, Morton Grove, IL 60053. Arrangements handled by Simkins Funeral Home. Interment was private. Memorials to: Jerusalem Lutheran Church and School. Member of Telephone Pioneers of America. Longtime member of Morton Grove Legion Auxiliary 134.

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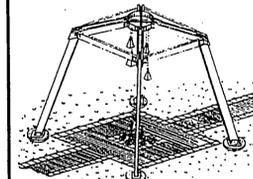
Jesus.

★
Jerusalem Lutheran Church
6218 Capulina Ave., 2 blocks west of village hall
Morton Grove, IL 847/965-7340
Christmas Eve: 8 & 10:30 a.m. Carol Services
6:30 p.m. Children's Service
10 p.m. Candlelight service
Christmas Day: 10:30 a.m. Festival Service
New Year's Eve: 7:30 p.m.
New Year's Day: 10 a.m.

MILLENNIUM

Chime Tower and Walkway St. John Brebeuf Parish

8307 North Harlem Avenue
Niles, Illinois 60714



St. John Brebeuf Parish invites parishioners, friends, local businesses and supporters to participate in a parish project to provide funds to refurbish the pews, paint the metal window frames, and continue maintenance of the church building.

The Millennium Chime Tower and Walkway connects the church and school for safer passage for children. It provides a safe walkway to the South parking lot and another place for prayer.

Please give generously. There are five (5) donation categories:

Benefactors/Chime Tower.....	\$1,000
Patrons/Benches.....	\$ 500
Contributors/Landscaping.....	\$ 250
12x12 inch Brick.....	\$ 200
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Letters to Santa

Santa letters from St. John Brebeuf



Dear Santa,
I want a PlayStation with red stripes and blue stripes too. I need a house for the poor, a blanket, a new sled and a new jacket. This jacket is itchy. That is why I need a new jacket. I hope that nobody gets sick.

From, John Kowalski


Dear Santa,
I want a ball for my cat. Please leave a collar for my cat under the Christmas tree. Please give the poor some blankets to keep them warm. I want a scooter for myself, a puppy, and a robot too. I think the poor should have money.

Love, Bianca Papini

Dear Santa,
On Christmas I hope to get food for the needy, a million books for the poor, and a pool table for the poor. I hope that my PlayStation for the poor, a computer, computer games, and a clock for the poor. These things I would like to have. I would love this Santa. Thank you for whatever you give me.

From, Justin Besyk

Dear Santa Claus,
I want Mario Tennis and a dart game. For my brothers, two toy trucks, two small toy tops, and a video called Jack Frost. For my mom, a calendar. Please give my dad a set of tools. For the poor, money and riches. I hope my family stops yelling at me.

Love, Matthew Sojka

Dear Santa,
Please can I have a G.I. Joe? I would also like to have a toy truck. Then I would like a train set. For the poor, bring toys and clothes.

Love, Eric Carrabotta

Dear Santa,
I want a Super Poo-chi. I want a 102 Dalmatian Poo-chi, a box of crayons, a puppy, and a kitten. Please bring a scooter and a Nintendo game. Give some clothes for the poor. I hope that my uncle and aunt come for Christmas.

From, Catherine Cwieka

Dear Santa,
I want a Nintendo 64 and money. I like to celebrate.

From, Michael DeBartolo

Dear Santa Claus,
Please give some food for the poor. I want some Pokemon cards and lots of Legos. I also want Mario Tennis, gold version, and a million dollars.

Love, Chris Uhrk

Dear Santa,
I want a jacket for the poor, and a toothbrush for the poor, and I want an American Girl Doll clothes. Please bring me a new backpack and a new pair of pants. Please also bring me a shirt to go with it and I think that I should get the poor a pair of pants and a shirt to go with it.

Love, Tracy Catalo

Dear Santa,
Can you get me a big house to live in? I want my dad to be there for Christmas. I also want Molly the American Girl Doll and 102 Dalmations movie. I hope I have a merry Christmas, a big house for my dog, a golden retriever and dog toys, a bed for the dog, make-up, jewelry, clothes, and everything of Samantha and her trunk. Also, a suitcase to put my stuff in all the time.

By, Julian Mazur

Dear Santa Claus,
I want a Radio DJ please. Can you please give a backpack to me? I would like clothes and socks and shoes for me, a big light brown teddy bear, and a Bahama CD. For the poor, clothes, socks, shoes, hats, gloves and jackets.

From, Alyssa Faye Tomas

Dear Santa Claus,
Beneath my tree I want to get Pikachu 2, Pokemon version, gold and silver. Please wrap it so it looks like one present. I hope I am good this year so I can get the stuff I wanted. My brother is probably the same good and wants the same things except Pikachu 2. The best present I ever got was God, Jesus and my family. These things are not just gifts, but they also mean love.

From, Stephano Hong

Dear Santa,
I would like 3 footballs, major league baseball, lots, lots, lots, lots of toys and lots, lots, lots of jerseys. I hope for good luck.

From, Jimmy Wallenberg

Dear Santa,
I would like a remote control car and a Power Puff Girl.

From, Citlaly Carbajal

Dear Santa,
I want furniture for my doll. Please get a computer for my sister. Please get a glass angel for my mom and dad, and a jacket for the poor.

Love, Andrea Martinez

Dear Santa,
Get the poor new clothes. Could you please get my sisters dolls? Please get me the movie called Little Vampire. Please get me wrestling movies and some wrestling games. For my mom and dad, a new furnace.

From, Brian Robbins

Dear Santa Claus,
May I please have an American Girl Doll? I want anything, just as long as it is good. I also want Playdough with different colors. I would also like a Merry Christmas for my family.

From, Nicole Delort

Dear Santa,
Please bring me a radio and a TV for my bedroom. I love you Santa, and Jesus too.

From, Pam Mulhern

Dear Santa,
I want hats for the poor. Could you get a Santa for my mom, little toys for my friends, and love and care? Also a cup for my dad and a PlayStation game for my brother.

Love, Samantha Moser

Dear Santa,
I want a new working, talking doll. Could I have a pink Gameboy? I want a Mary Kate and Ashley pocket planner and a Barbie house with a working elevator. Let the poor have money. Please let my family have a better life!!!

From, Gina Orlandi

Santa Letters from St. John Brebeuf School

Dear Santa,
Can I please have the American Girl Doll kit? Please give some blankets and pillows to the poor. My whole family loves you so much. Thank you for all your help. May I have a surprise present?

Love, Yassaman Shemirani

Dear Santa,
Please get a scooter for me. Please get a Pokemon silver version for my brother. Please bring a new bike. Please bring a pair of slippers for my dad and a new necklace for my mom. I want a PlayStation 2 for my brother and me. Please bring some clothes for the poor.

From, Dan Cichon

Dear Santa,
For Christmas I want a Poo-chi. I want a nutcracker. I want a movie of Pokemon the Movie 2000. I hope for love for my family.

From, Lina Daoud

Dear Santa Claus,
We had a Christmas concert. I would like a big box of Pokemon cards and a remote control airplane.

From, Joseph Disclafani

Dear Santa Claus,
I want a remote control airplane and a PlayStation 2 for my brother, a scooter for my baby brother, a new ring for my mom, more money for my dad, and a new radio for my sister. I think Jesus will have a great birthday.

Love, Peter Sliwka

Dear Santa,
I know it's Jesus's birthday. I would like a scooter, a Gameboy, Transformer, Pokemon cards, a G.I. Joe, and a color-by-number set.

Love, Nick Wheeler

Dear Santa,
I would like to have a boombox for me and a computer for my family. I have a manger by the piano. We always say prayers every night.

Love, Jennie Johann

Dear Santa,
I have a manger. I want American Girl clothes and a sweater. I go to church on Christmas Eve.

From, Kaitlin Murphy

Dear Santa Claus,
Can I please have a Nintendo 64, a baseball play set, a new baseball mit, a new bike, and can we have a new stable?

From, Matt Perchess



Dear Santa Claus,
I would like to ask you if you could get a PlayStation 2 for my family and I would like a radio. I hope Jesus has a great birthday.

Signed, Therese Casey

Dear Santa,
I have 3 Jesus sets on my table by the tree. I hope you get me a puppy and a toy puppy, and a lot of money for my mom and dad. Have a very happy Christmas.

Love, Maddy Gedon

Dear Santa,
For Christmas I would like Kit and clothes for her, and Hangman games. I know Jesus is coming.

From, Lisa Raheer

Dear Santa,
I would like to have a computer, a radio and an arcade. I celebrate the birthday of Jesus.

From, Konrad Kucharski

Dear Santa Claus,
I would like 2 remote control cars, Nintendo 64, a radio and money. We have a manger.

From, Eric Hagman

Dear Santa Claus,
We sang songs in the Christmas concert. I would like Kit, the new American Girl Doll and American Girl Doll clothes.

From, Alexandra Lynn Pizafarro

Dear Santa Claus,
My family has two mangers. Can I please have a scooter and a good Christmas?

By, Aimee Svachula

Dear Santa,
Please bring me a Mia Ham poster and 2 soccer nets at Christmas. Under our tree is a manger set. We go to mass on Christmas Eve.

Love, Katy Casey

Dear St. Nicholas,
I know that Jesus's birthday is in December. I would like to have 102 Pokemon cards and Nintendo 64.

Love, Alex Kulaga

Dear Santa Claus,
I would like to have money.

From, Matthew Bardelas

Dear Santa,
I would like a teddy bear and a little toy dog for my brother. Every Christmas, we put lights, ornaments, and an angel at the top of the tree. We celebrate Christmas because Jesus was born on that day.

Love, Geneva Toledano

Dear Santa Claus,
I want some candy. I know that Jesus was born on Christmas day.

Love, Jenny Thompson

Dear Santa Claus,
I would like a table, sled, money, PlayStation 2, a remote control airplane that flies, a remote control car and antlers.

Love, Michael Navarro

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Community Calendar

CJE Support Groups

Council for Jewish Elderly (CJE) offers support groups on a wide variety of topics of interest to seniors and their families. For information or to join a group, please call CJE at 773-508-1000.

Mondays, January 8, 15, 22 & 29, 1 to 2:30 p.m.

Coffee and Conversation meets from 1 to 2:30 p.m. each Monday at the Holocaust Memorial Foundation of Illinois, 4255 W. Main Street, Skokie.

The group, for Holocaust survivors, is sponsored by Council for Jewish Elderly and Jewish Family and Community Service. No charge. To register, call Ann Hartman Luban at 773-508-1000.

Tuesdays, January 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30, 3 to 4 p.m.

Coping with Parkinson's meets from 3 to 4 p.m. each Tuesday at Lincolnwood Place's Auditorium, 7000 N. McCormick, Lincolnwood. Individuals with Parkinson's disease share coping strategies, practical ideas for making tasks easier, and day-to-day struggles and triumphs. Sponsored by CJE, the group is free. To register, call Sharon Dornberg-Lee at 773-508-1000.

Wednesdays, January 10, 17, 24 & 31, 1:30 to 3 p.m.

Living with Parkinson's provides ongoing support, guest speakers, helpful resources and medical updates are featured. The group meets at Lieberman Geriatric Health Centre, 9700 Gross Point Road, Skokie. No charge. For registration, please call 773-508-1000.

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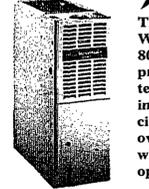
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Tax appeal seminar to be held

In keeping with her reputation as a taxpayer advocate, the office of Cook County Board of Review Commissioner Maureen Murphy will conduct a seminar for property owners who want to appeal their property tax assessments. The seminar will be hosted by acting the City of Des Plaines on Monday, December 20th at the Des Plaines Village Hall, 1420 Miner St. in Des Plaines. Registration begins at 6:30 p.m. and the seminar will start promptly at 7 p.m. The hour-long seminar will coach taxpayers on the "ins and outs" of the appeal process, detailing how to gather and present the information they will need for a successful appeal. Citizens attending will receive pamphlets containing information to reinforce the seminar as well as appeal forms needed to begin the process of reducing their assessments. Taxpayers are encouraged to bring their own property tax identification numbers to the seminar so they can submit their applications for appeal right away. December 27th is the last day Maine Township residents may file their appeals. Property owners can call Commissioner Murphy's office at 312-603-3644 for more details.

Real Estate Tax Assessment Appeal Filing Dates

Joseph Berrios, Maureen Murphy, and Robert Shaw, Commissioners of the Cook County Board of Review, have announced the dates for filing assessment appeal complaints by property owners in Niles and Wheeling Townships. The filing dates for property assessment appeals runs through Monday, January 8, 2001, at which time it will close.

Owners of homes, condominiums, townhouses, apartment buildings, and businesses may appeal their assessments to the Board if they feel that their assessment is too high. A lawyer is not required to file an appeal on behalf of a residential property owner.

Evidence which can be particularly helpful to the homeowner seeking an assessment reduction includes any of the following items:

- a photo of the taxpayer's property;
- proof of recent sale prices of homes similar to the home of the taxpayer who is appealing;
- a real estate appraisal, if available;
- assessed valuations of comparable properties in your neighborhood; and

* evidence of flood, fire, demolition, or structural damage.

Anyone interested in receiving an assessment appeal complaint form can write the Cook County Board of Appeals, Room 601, 118 N. Clark, Chicago, Illinois 60602 or call (312) 443-5542. Appeal complaint forms can also be picked up in person at the Board, or at one of the following satellite offices:

Skokie - (847) 470-7522, 5600 Old Orchard Road, Room 155.

Skokie, Illinois 60076, (2nd Municipal District Circuit Court).

Rolling Meadows - (847) 818-2067, 2121 Euclid Avenue, Room 237.

Rolling Meadows, Illinois 60008, (3rd Municipal District Court).

Maywood - (708) 865-5509, 1500 Maybrook Drive, Room 082.

Maywood, Illinois 60153, (4th Municipal District Circuit Court).

Bridgeview - (708) 974-6074, 10200 South 76th Ave., Room 237.

Bridgeview, Illinois 60455, (5th Municipal District Circuit Court).

Markham - (708) 210-4116, 16501 Kedzie, Room 237.

Markham, Illinois 60426, (6th Municipal District Circuit Court).

Property owners in the townships mentioned above have until 5 p.m. on Monday, January 8, 2001 to file assessment appeal complaints.

The Board will then notify the taxpayer of a hearing date when they will be able to argue on behalf of their request for a lower property tax assessment.

Anyone interested in more information or with questions regarding the appeals process should call the Board at (312) 603-5542.

Notre Dame December Don of the Month

Senior Mike Misk (Niles) was named Notre Dame High School for Boys' Don of the Month for December by the school's National Honor Society.

To be eligible for Don of the Month, the student must be a junior or senior, have a 3.2 or higher grade point average, and be involved in multiple extra-curricular activities. The Don of the Month must exhibit qualities consistent with those that students in National Honor Society embody: academic excellence, strong character, demonstrated leadership and commitment to service.

Community Calendar

Teens help Township children have a Merry Christmas

Dozens of teens from Park Ridge and Niles schools and churches will be putting "Santa Packages" together as part of the massive holiday effort from Maine Township's Emergency Food Pantry. They will be assembling toys and other items for needy families and children for distribution in the coming weeks.

Some of the toys were donated by the U.S. Marines Toys for Tots program or donated by lo-

cal residents. Other toys were purchased with funds collected by the Township's Senior and General Assistance Departments.

The best time for photographers and reporters is from 5 - 7 p.m. at Maine Township Town Hall, 1700 Ballard Rd., Park Ridge.

The on-site contact is Dick Barton. For questions up to 5 p.m., call 847-698-5069. After 5 p.m., call 847-910-6720.

Center of Concern holiday closing

The Center of Concern, a social service agency located in Park Ridge and serving the north/northwest suburban area, has announced the holiday closing schedule for its office and services.

Area residents who depend on The Center should note that the

office will not be open Friday, Dec. 22, through Monday, Dec. 26. In addition, the office will close at 12 noon on Friday, Dec. 30, and remain closed through Monday, Jan. 1.

For further information about The Center of Concern, please call (847) 823-0453.



New Year's Eve at Karizma
An American Dilemma

Featuring a 4 course menu by Chef Marty Rogak

Entrees include: Sections of Venison, Beef Tenderloin w/Lobster, Duck, & Pan-Roasted Halibut. Package includes a champagne split.

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Trustee opening available for Lincolnwood Library Board

There will be openings for the office of trustee on the Lincolnwood Public Library Board in the April 3, 2001 election. The terms are for six years. A resident of the Lincolnwood Public Library District who intends to run for a seat on the board must file by January 15, 2001. Names of candidates will appear on the ballot in the order in which the filing papers are received.

Prospective candidates may pick up the filing forms at the front desk in the library, 4000 W. Pratt Ave., during regular hours. Required documents include a non partisan statement of candidacy, a receipt for a statement of economic interest and a petition for nomination with a minimum of 50 signatures from registered voters in the district. An additional 25 signatures is

recommended in case some are valid. All Lincolnwood residents are also residents of the Library District. Candidates for library trustee must reside in the district and be registered voters. The board meets monthly on the third Wednesday to decide library policy. Phone: 847-677-5277.



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Community Calendar

Gift solution for the Holidays

(NAPS) - Americans are expected to buy more gifts than ever this holiday season.

Ninety-three percent of American adults celebrate a December, gift-giving holiday.

Americans are predicted to spend over \$50 million on holiday gifts in 2000.

On average, American women give 19 gifts per year while men give 15 gifts per year.

The average American will visit seven stores to complete holiday gift shopping.

For many, a terrific gift can be the Robomower. It works well for almost anyone on your list. The lawn care enthusiast, the over-worked executive, the technophile, the one who has everything - everyone who would like to make mowing the lawn simple, safe and convenient.

Perimeter wires secured by plastic pegs, sensitivity bumpers and an onboard computer with proprietary RoboScan® technology allow the Robomower to mow the grass while the family sits back and relaxes or finishes other work.

The Robomower, Friendly Robotics' first product, runs on rechargeable batteries, eliminating

expensive trips to the gas station. The mower also mulches, cutting up and depositing grass clippings back into the lawn as natural fertilization and eliminating the tedious cleanup process.

Equally useful in the fall and winter months, the Robomower can mulch leaves to lessen the chores of raking and bagging.

"We anticipate Friendly Robotics' Robomower to be one of our top sellers this holiday season," says Meredith Taylor, a store manager for hardware chain, Elliott's Hardware. "Thus far, the customer response has been amazing. This unique product is the perfect present for anyone with a lawn to mow."

The Robomower retails for \$795, including batteries, charger, perimeter switch, 660 feet of perimeter wire, 100 plastic pegs to secure the wire, manual controller, user manual and installation video.

For more information on Friendly Robotics, the Robomower and a complete list of retailers, visit: www.friendly-robotic.com. Sales representatives can be reached at 1-888-404-ROBO.

Former leaders hold reunion

At the recent annual reunion of the past commanders and past presidents of the Morton Grove American Legion Post #134 and its Auxiliary Unit, Mrs. Patricia Jordan played a duo role.

The yearly social welcomes into its ranks the newly retired heads of the Post and Auxiliary. Mrs. Jordan just retired as the 1999-2000 leader of the Auxiliary Unit. She served with Jerry Weaver.

However, the honored guests are the current heads of both groups. Mrs. Jordan was re-elected and is serving her second consecutive term as the 2000-2001 club president. Her counterpart who was also a part of the festivities is Phil Hutchins.

The dinner reunion is planned by the preceding year's leaders; and this chairman was past commander Tom Williams. He was being assisted by his counterpart Mrs. Julie Karsten until her demise just a short time before the reunion party.

Mrs. Jordan was happy to see former leader Mrs. Phyllis Rieck (1980) in attendance. Mrs. Rieck, now of Arizona, usually flies in once a year to attend the special evening which this year featured entertainment also by the We Threes.

Come join us for Christmas break!

Do you need a place for your child to go during the Christmas break that is both fun and safe? Leaning Tower YMCA is offering a School's Out Program for children in grades K-8 from 7 a.m. - 6 p.m. The days of the program will be from Tues., Dec. 26 through Fri., Dec. 29, 2000 and Tues., Jan. 2 through Fri., Jan. 5, 2001.

The cost of the program is \$25 per day for YMCA members and \$40 per day for non-members.

Children will be supervised by trained, caring staff and will be able to participate in a variety of activities including: gym, swim, arts & crafts, games and much more!

All children attending will need to bring the following: a non-refrigerated bag lunch with a drink and snacks, a swimsuit, towel and swim cap (for hair longer than earlobe length). Please dress your child in comfortable clothes and gym shoes.

Please do not bring toys, walkmans, Gameboys, or money. If you are interested in sending your child, you must register. There is no registration deadline; however, it would be very helpful for us to know by Friday, December 22nd if your child will be attending. Payment must be made at the time of registration.

St. Genevieve Reunion

St. Genevieve Catholic School (4854 W. Montana - Chicago, IL 60639), in celebration of their 75th anniversary will be hosting a reunion March 25, 2001. Festivities will start with a 2 p.m. mass followed by a reception and open house in the school building. For more information or to offer your support, please call 1-773-237-3193.

St. Genevieve Catholic School provides a quality education experience promoting a sense of community among the diverse elements of Chicago's Belmont/Grain neighborhood.

Park & Library News

The Niles Park District Ranger Review

Minor Mites: Maroon Wolves Shutout White Wolves

A pair of goals off the stick of Anthony DeSalvo helped lead his Niles Maroon Wolves Minor Mite team to a 4-0 shutout victory over the Niles White Wolves on December 3. Also scoring for the Maroons were Marty Foss and Joe Galotto. Kaitlyn Mulroney played brilliantly in goal turning aside twelve shots to earn the shutout.

The White Wolves practice for a while and won't play another game until after the holidays. January 6 against Skokie.

Major Mites: Niles Blackhawks Turn Aside Evanston

Tommy Durand scored one goal and had one helper to lead the Major Mite Blackhawks to a 3-1 victory over the Evanston Wildkats on December 12. Durand gave the Hawks a 1-0 lead midway through the first period. Dean Kazamias made it 2-0 after getting a pass from Durand and putting it inside the Evanston goaltender for his first goal of the season.

Late in the second period Matthew Cronin bulged the Blackhawks lead to 3-0 as he scored his first goal of the year

unassisted. Evanston scored their only tally late in the third period to break Ian Zielke's bid for a shutout. It was Zielke's second win for the Hawks in as many games. John Pagliari contributed to this game with a solid defensive effort as well.

Squirts: Avalanche Sweep a Weekend

The Niles Squirt Avalanche had a very productive weekend on December 2 and 3 as they opened the weekend with a 3-1 victory over McFetridge 2 at IceLand Arena and then returned to IceLand the next day to squeak by the Niles Sharks 5-4.

Matt Tormie opened the scoring against McFetridge 2 late in the first period. Alex Tzotzakis gave the Avs a 2-0 lead after getting a pass from linemate Bijan Shemirani. McFetridge cut the lead in half when they answered just a minute after Shemirani's effort. However, with just thirty seconds to go in the game Patrick Byskiewicz iced the victory for the Avs capping off the 3-1 victory.

Against the Sharks the next day, the Avalanche jumped out to a 2-0 lead on goals off the stick of Shemirani and Byskiewicz.

Joey Tines had a helper for the Avalanche on Shemirani's tally. The Sharks answered with two goals of their own equaling the score 2-2 on goals from Andrew Boychuck, assisted by Ricky Anderson and Dominick Ambrosia, assisted by Daniel Turano.

The Avalanche and the Sharks continued to trade off goals late in the first period and throughout the second. Shemirani's second goal of the contest gave the Avs a 3-2 lead, but then the Sharks took a 4-3 lead on consecutive goals coming from Warren Mroczek and Ambrosia's second of the game. Still late in the second period Phillip Wagner tied the score for the Avs - and Michael Schmalz scored, assisted by Paul Vandenburg, which stood up as the winning goal. The scoreless final period featured some great goaltending from both the Sharks John Kerulis and the Avalanche's Kevin Peters, as Peters' sparkling saves preserved the 5-4 Avalanche victory.

Peewees: Niles Devils Pitchfork the Niles Sharks for Championship

To cap off a very successful "Gobble-Gobble" Thanksgiving

Tournament at IceLand Arena November 24 - 26, the Pee Wee Championship Game had an all-Niles final as the Devils defeated the Sharks 6-2 in a highly intense exciting final on November 26.

The Devils victory was certainly a true solid team effort as six different players scored the six goals for the Devils. The Devils took control of this game early, jumping out to a commanding 3-0 lead in the first period and they never looked back. Goals from Jimmy Doering, Kyril Ikoma and Ryan Berena with assists on these tallies from Tony Ambrosia, Justin Milam, Brendan Sweeney and Derek Ventresca.

The Sharks answered with a goal from Betim Arifi, assisted by Tyler Ladendorf, but the Devils kept their three goal edge when Ventresca made the score 4-1 midway through the second period. Ladendorf kept things interesting with a tally later in the second period making it 4-2, however a strong Devils defense shut down the Shark attack the rest of the game. Ambrosia's effort and then an empty net goal from Kevin Crombie iced the victory for the Devils and their Thansgiving Championship.

Bantam: Winnetka Squeaks by Niles Devils

They dug themselves a hole and couldn't quite get out of it as the Niles Devils lost to Winnetka 4-3 on November 27.

After a scoreless opening period Winnetka scored four straight goals in the second period controlling the game 4-0 as it went into the third period. Two goals from Sean Everly, his first assisted nicely by Michael Gagliardo and Andrew Witek, and a solo goal from Matt Klug, assisted by Nicholas Edwards, brought the Devils to within 4-3. A tough Winnetka defense and outstanding goaltending shut down the Devils the rest of the way as the game ended with Winnetka having the 4-3 victory.

Winnetka's goaltender was the story in this game as the Devils outshot their opponent 40-19 in their losing effort. The Devils next contest isn't until December 16, as they travel to Highland Park to take on Falcons 2.



CAMBRIDGE BANK

Invites You to Share Our Holiday Tradition!

There is nothing that depicts a traditional Christmas scene more than a Christmas tree with all of the shimmering, bright lights and a model train circling it.

Christmas trees and trains just seem to go together, and Cambridge Bank, is continuing a holiday tradition with our fifth annual drawing for a Holiday Express Electric Train.

*Just open a savings account for \$100.00 or more or add \$100.00 to an existing account, now through December 23, and you will automatically qualify to enter the drawing for a Holiday Express Electric Train.**

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Drawing to take place December 23, 2000 at 11:00a.m.
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Happy Holidays, NILES!

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Bethany Terrace Nursing Centre recognizes Employee of the Quarter

Bonnie S. Williams, Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA), was recently named "Employee of the Quarter" at Bethany Terrace Nursing Centre, 8425 N. Waukegan Rd. in Morton Grove, where she has worked as a full time CNA for the past eight years. According to Administrator Ken Kolich, "Bonnie is a true asset to Bethany Terrace. Both staff and residents alike have recognized her dedication and hard work over the years."

Williams received several nominations from her peers for

her outstanding commitment to Bethany Terrace and has earned the respect of the entire Bethany Terrace staff. In addition to her recognition within Bethany Terrace, Williams was recently honored by Rush Alzheimer's Disease Center (RAD) for her commitment to health care. Having worked as a CNA for 37 years, Williams was among three other Bethany Terrace staff members who received recognition by RAD.

The Employee of the Quarter Award is given to recognize employees who demonstrate excel-

lence, outstanding performance and dedication to the quality of life for the residents at Bethany Terrace Nursing Centre. "Our staff is extremely committed to the work they do," said Kolich. "People like Bonnie are leaders, who help to sustain everyone's motivation and good spirits."

Bethany Terrace Nursing Centre has been providing its residents with the most advanced care in a home-like setting for 35 years. This extensive experience has positioned Bethany Terrace as one of the most knowledgeable health care organizations in the greater Chicago area. Bethany Terrace Nursing Centre is located at 8425 N. Waukegan Rd. in Morton Grove, south of Dempster and north of Oakton. For more information about Bethany Terrace, please call 847.965.8100.

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Morton Grove Senior Citizens 470-5223

DIABETES SCREENING

Non-insulin-dependent diabetes is gradual in onset and usually occurs in adults over age 40. Some of the warning signs are: blurred or any change in vision; tingling or itchy skin; slow healing of cuts and bruises; and drowsiness. Free diabetes screening is offered from 9 to 10 a.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 26 in the Morton Grove Village Hall Senior Center. People coming in for the screening should fast from the evening meal of the night before.

COMPUTER TUTORS

The next "Computer Tutor" session which matches senior citizen students with individual tutors who are students attending Park View School, will be held from 3:30 to 5 p.m. on three Tuesdays, January 16, 23, and 30. This set of classes will emphasize, "Using the Computer as a Typewriter." Beginning computer experience is desired. As with the previous class session, this program is limited to Morton Grove residents. Registration will begin on Dec. 11. Please call Catherine Dean at the Morton Grove Park District, 965-1200, on or after that date. Space is limited and will be given on a first-come basis.

EXPLORING ELMHURST!

Join the Prairie View Travel Club on Tuesday, Jan. 23 as they explore Elmhurst. The tour begins with the Elmhurst Art Museum which is known for its incredible structure and walls of art, followed by lunch at McNally's traditional Irish Pub. After lunch, travel to the Theatre Historical Society of America located in the restored 1924 York Theater. Please note, there are 23 steps to climb in the theater and 15 steps in the restaurant. The cost is \$30 for residents and \$36 for non-residents. The bus will leave the Prairie View Community Center at 9:30 a.m. and return at approximately 3 p.m. Register at the Prairie View Community Center.

HELP OTHERS WITH THEIR TAX RETURNS

There's something very good an individual can do about taxes. Volunteers are being sought now to help people in the Morton Grove community who need assistance with their tax returns. Receive free IRS training during January and receive on-the-spot satisfaction from helping others. Volunteers qualify if they:

- 1) can meet and deal with a variety of people;
- 2) have experience or can learn about preparing income taxes;
- 3) have general administrative or publicity experience;
- 4) take pride in complete and accurate work;
- 5) are willing to complete the IRS training program at the Morton Grove Village Hall Senior Center; and
- 6) can spend a few hours a week from February through April 15 in helping others.

For more information call the Morton Grove Senior Hot Line at 470-5223.

MORTON GROVE HOMECARE SERVICE

The Morton Grove Homecare Service is a program offered by the Village of Morton Grove and funded by a Cook County Community Development Block Grant. The service is for residents age 62 and older who may need assistance with a combination of the following: bathing, laundry, personal care, companionship, preparing meals and light housekeeping. The amazing thing about this program is that all services are provided at no charge for a duration of up to six months through Evanston Northwestern Healthcare. To qualify a person must be age 62+, a Morton Grove resident, demonstrate a medical need for home care, meet income (less than \$28,150 annually) and asset (less than \$50,000) eligibility criteria. For more information contact Morton Grove's Senior Citizens Services at 965-4100, ext. 6110.

For more information about these senior services and recreation programs, call the Morton Grove Senior Hot Line at 470-5223, or the Prairie View Community Center at 965-1200. To receive the "Seniors in Morton Grove" newsletter, Morton Grove residents can send \$3 and non-residents send \$4 to the Morton Grove Park District, 6834 Dempster Street, Morton Grove, IL 60053.

Niles Senior Citizens 588-8420 - 588-8000

NILES SENIOR CENTER REGISTRATION

The Niles Senior Center offers FREE membership to Village of Niles residents, age 62 and over, and their younger spouses. To register for classes, trips, or purchase tickets, you must be a member of the Center. Please call or visit, and be placed on the mailing list.

The Center will be closed Monday, Dec. 25 for Christmas Day.

CLASS REGISTRATION

Class Registration for the Winter and Spring classes began Monday, Dec. 4. See the Niles Senior Center News & Views for all class offerings. Call for availability.

YARN NEEDED

The Senior Center is requesting left over yarn or scraps of material for veterans and senior crafters. Lap robes and shawls are made for veterans at Hines Hospital. Volunteer knitters and crocheters are also needed. Please call us.

GENERAL TICKET SALES

Check On Ticket Availability

Poker Tournament - Wednesday, Dec. 20, 1 to 3 p.m. Play Seven Card Stud and Five Card Draw. Cost: \$3.50 includes lunch at 12 p.m. and prizes. Registration is required.

Fireside Christmas II - Friday, Dec. 22, 8 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. A second trip has been arranged. Join in this popular outing to Fort Atkinson, Wisconsin, for their spectacular musical celebration of Christmas. Features a fabulous meal and magnificent theatrical experience. Call for availability. Cost: \$48.

January Lite Lunch and Movie - Friday, Jan. 5, 12 p.m. Enjoy a hotdog, bag of chips, and enjoy musical, *Bye, Bye Birdie* (1963). Cost: \$2.

Sunday at the Center: Pancake Breakfast - Sunday, Jan. 14, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Join us for a good old fashioned pancake breakfast! Breakfast will include pancakes, sausage, and scrambled eggs. Following breakfast, Comedian George Casey, opening act for Rosemary Clooney, will keep you laughing. Cost: \$6. Registration required.

Evening at the Center: A Chinese New Year Celebration - Wednesday, Jan. 24, 5 to 8:30 p.m. Music and traditional Chinese Dance as performed by members of the North Chicago Chinese School in Des Plaines. Followed by a Chinese Travelogue featuring world traveler and humorist, Joe Cuniff. Dinner is 5:15 to 6:15 p.m., featuring a meal catered by Jade East Restaurant. Cost: \$10.

HUMANITIES IN ACTION

Humanities in Action is Wednesday, Dec. 20 at 10:30 a.m. Topic: Humanities and the Future.

KITCHEN BAND GROUP

The Kitchen Band Group meets the first and third Wednesday of each month at 11 a.m. We are looking for new members. The next meeting will be December 20. See Mary Ann for more information.

FRIDAY AT THE MOVIES

Friday at the Movies is Friday, Dec. 22 at 1 p.m. Join us for that holiday classic: *It's a Wonderful Life* (1946) starring James Stewart and Donna Reed.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

MEALS ON WHEELS DRIVERS are needed to deliver meals to Niles homebound, weekdays between 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Please contact Kelly at 588-8420.

COMPUTER LAB VOLUNTEERS needed to assist other older adults in learning to use computers (2 to 4 hours/week). Computer experience required. Training provided. Contact Jaymi.

TAX COUNSELORS are needed for the AARP Foundation's Tax-Aide Program to help other seniors with tax preparation. Training is provided. Contact Maryann at 588-8420.

CLASS INSTRUCTORS for Learn to Crochet and Cross Stitch classes. Contact Maryann.

SENIOR COMPUTER LAB

The Niles Senior Center converted a classroom into a Computer Lab with 6 computers (with 9 more scheduled by the end of the year). Sign up at the Reception Desk for 45 minutes of computer practice time. Help is always available in the computer lab and practice time is free. Check throughout the year for time and cost of computer classes.

MONTHLY SUNDAYS AND EVENINGS AT THE CENTER

The Niles Senior Center is open one Sunday every month, and one evening every month. All Niles seniors are welcome. Niles seniors who can't attend during regular hours, please join us on Sunday or in the evening. Please call to register.

Exciting Circuit Breaker changes

The new year will ring in significant changes in both the Circuit Breaker and Pharmaceutical Assistance programs and CJE's resource centers are getting ready to help the influx of seniors that will now qualify for a cash rebate or prescription drug coverage. Appointments can be made by calling (773) 508-1000 for February and March dates. Seniors can either go to CJE's main office, 3003 W. Touhy, Chicago or Gidwitz Place, 1551 Lake Cook Road, Deerfield.

The Circuit Breaker Tax Relief Program is a cash grant from the Illinois Department of Revenue that reduces property taxes and rent, or nursing home or retirement facilities fees that qualified individuals must pay if they live in a privately owned dwelling.

The Pharmaceutical Assistance Program pays for approved medications and will now cover medical conditions including heart conditions, high blood pressure, arthritis, diabetes, Parkinson's disease, Glaucoma, Alzheimer's disease, lung disease and cancer. This program is for people who are not on Medicaid.

To qualify for assistance, an individual must be 65 years of age or older or disabled, an Illinois resident for all or a portion of 2000, live in a privately owned building and meet the following maximum income eligibility: \$21,218 per one person household; \$28,480 per two person household; \$35,740 for three or more people.

The following information is needed to complete the application: a social security card; records of all income for 2000, including interest statements; landlord's name, address and telephone number; statement of the amount of rent paid in 2000 or amount of property tax paid. Proof of age and/or disability is also required for first-time applicants.

CJE Resource Centers provide a variety of consumer assistance including information about community services, policy, legislation affecting seniors; tax rebates; health/nutrition; and crime trends.

For information or to schedule an appointment for Circuit Breaker assistance, call (773) 508-1000.



FOR YOUR HEALTH
FLU VACCINE
IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT:
Flu Vaccine has finally arrived at the Senior Center!

Flu shots may still be available for Niles residents, 65 years or older, or Niles residents with a chronic illness. You must have an appointment. Contact 588-8420 for more information.

JANUARY 17
PROSTATE HEALTH LECTURE

Wednesday, 2 p.m. Dr. Jeffrey Norris, Urologist from Lutheran General Hospital will speak on prostate health and the various treatment plans that are available if a problem develops. Registration needed.

JANUARY 24
FREE HEARING SCREENINGS

Thursday, 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. by North Suburban Hearing Services. Appointments needed.

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Pneumococcal Vaccine is still available. Contact Terry Dalla Valle, RN, BSN, for an appointment.

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Health News

Ear infections need prompt care

Untreated ear infections can prove serious to a child's health and may lead to permanent hearing loss, delayed speech development or even meningitis, warns Dr. Albert Park, pediatric otolaryngologist with the Ronald McDonald Children's Hospital of Loyola University Medical Center.

Parents and other caregivers of children must be more vigilant for signs and symptoms of ear infections. These infections are so common, in fact, that they are second only to the common cold as the cause of a child's visit to the doctor's office.

"The good news is that ear infections can be treated with proper medical attention to prevent further health problems," said Park.

Ear Infections: what causes them and why are children at greater risk?

Ear infections first occur when bacteria become trapped in the middle ear. Oftentimes, the trapped bacteria grow rapidly because the eustachian tube somehow has become blocked. The eustachian tube runs from the back of the throat to the space behind the ear drum and provides ventilation to prevent pressure

from building up in the middle ear.

Ear infections are most common in children who are between six months and two years of age; more than 65 percent of all children experience at least one ear infection by age three.

Children are more at risk for such infections in part because they have immature immune systems and in part because of the short length and horizontal position of the eustachian tube, which can interfere with proper draining of fluid.

As youngsters grow to age 5 or age 6, the eustachian tube becomes more fully developed - becoming more vertical and allowing for better draining, which minimizes the risk of ear infections.

Recognizing the Symptoms of Infection.

Symptoms of ear infections can vary dramatically, from very subtle signs such as mild fever, irritability, insomnia or ear tugging to more serious symptoms such as hearing loss, high fever and severe pain.

"When one or more of these symptoms are present, the child

Continued on Page 31

Record attendance at Rainbow Hospice Benefit



(l-r) Executive Director Pat Ahern with Gigi & Mayor Ron Wietecha of Park Ridge at the 11th Annual Benefit for Rainbow Hospice.

A crowd of 550 helped Park Ridge-based Rainbow Hospice

honor the Payton Family for their dedication to improving quality of living - not just for those waiting for organ transplantation, but also for those who are living with terminal illness. This special recognition took place at Rainbow Hospice's 11th Annual Benefit held at the Hyatt Regency O'Hare.

Rainbow Hospice provides support, encouragement and special care for patients and their families at the end of life. Rainbow Hospice had the privilege of caring for Walter Payton and his family during the final days of his life. "We believe our annual benefit was the perfect venue to honor this wonderful family," says Patricia Ahern, president, Rainbow Hospice. "Connie Payton is an inspiration to us in hospice care because of her strength, poise and deliber-

ate desire to improve the way families experience illness and loss."

The benefit began with a reception and Silent Auction viewing, followed by dinner, a raffle drawing, and special recognition of honoree, Connie Payton. The event netted over \$60,000 for the nonprofit organization. "Money raised from this event will be used for patient and bereavement care programs of Rainbow Hospice," said Dave Samson, director of development. The Patient Care fund is used to cover costs pertaining to the patient's plan of care that are not reimbursed by Medicare, Medicaid or private insurance. Examples include medications, supplies, durable medical equipment or professional services. "The Center for Loss & Life Passages - the bereavement arm of Rainbow Hospice - will also prosper from this event," Samson concluded.

Attending the benefit was this year's honoree, Connie Payton, State Senator Dave Sullivan, Congressman Henry Hyde (6th District), Representative Rosemary Mulligan, Park Ridge Mayor Ron Wietecha and CEOs from Rainbow's affiliated hospital systems, Advocate Health Care and Resurrection Health Care.

For more information about Rainbow Hospice, contact Dave Samson, development director, at (847) 692-8882, or email at dsamson@rainbowhospice.org.

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Ear infection. . .

Continued from Page 1

should be seen by a physician as soon as possible," said Park, who recommends a pediatrician, or family practice physician. "The only definitive way to determine if a child has an ear infection is by consulting a doctor." If a child has re-occurring ear infections, known as an ear, nose and throat specialist, for more specialized treatment.

Diagnosing and Treating Pediatric Ear Infections.

According to Park, diagnosing an ear infection is painless. Physicians use an otoscope - a medical instrument that allows the physician to see inside the ear canal - to determine whether fluid has built up behind the eardrum, a sign of an infection.

Children who are diagnosed with ear infections typically are prescribed an antibiotic to treat the problem.

"A child should begin feeling better within five days of taking the first dose of antibiotic," said Park. "If this is not the case, or if the child's condition worsens, return to the doctor as soon as possible. Ear infections can spread beyond the eardrum and can lead to a more serious condition, such as meningitis."

Tips for Preventing Ear Infections.

The best action against ear infections, of course, is prevention. Based on the age of the child, Park recommended the following prevention techniques:

- Breast-feed a child as long as possible. Studies have shown that infants who are breast-fed exclusively until at least 4 months of age have approximately 50 percent fewer ear infections than infants who were never breast-fed;
- Avoid bottle-feeding an infant in bed. Children who are fed while lying on their backs have an increased risk of milk draining into their ears;
- Do not smoke near children. Also, limit a child's exposure to cigarette smoke;

- Practice good hygiene. Wash hands frequently to reduce the spread of colds, which can lead to ear infections; and
- Avoid the use of pacifiers. Pacifiers increase saliva and can lead to the spread of viruses from child to child.

For more information about ear infections and other ear, nose and throat problems, contact Park at Loyola University Health System by calling 888-LUHS-888.

HOLD (Healing Our Lost Dreams) support group

The Counseling Center of Advocate Lutheran General Hospital offers a free Healing Our Lost Dreams (HOLD) support group twice a month for persons who have experienced pregnancy and infant loss.

Meetings are held from 7 to 8:30 p.m. the first and third Tuesday of each month at The Counseling Center, 1610 Luther Lane, Park Ridge. Upcoming sessions are scheduled for January 2 and 16, February 6 and 20, and March 6 and 20.

Parents, grandparents and other adult family members are in-

ited to attend the sessions, share their feelings with others who understand what they are going through, receive support as they move through the first season of grieving, serve as resources for each other, and gain new perspective of life. The group sessions are led by Julie Milne, licensed clinical professional counselor at The Counseling Center.

For more information, call The Counseling Center of Lutheran General Hospital at 847-518-1800.

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Minimally invasive heart surgery performed at Resurrection

New technology for minimally invasive heart surgery is now being used by cardiovascular surgeons at Resurrection Medical Center, 7435 West Talcott Avenue. The HeartPort® technology allows surgeons to perform heart surgery through small openings or "ports" in the chest wall between the ribs, eliminating the need to open the

chest through a 12-inch incision in the breastbone. Tubes to connect the patient to the heart-lung machine are placed through small incisions in the thigh and neck instead of into blood vessels in the heart, as in the standard open-chest heart surgery. The heart-lung machine circulates blood throughout the body while the heart is temporarily stopped, allowing surgeons to operate more precisely. Surgeons look at the heart directly or through small cameras, operating through the small ports between the ribs using specially designed instruments.

"HeartPort® technology allows us to make a very precise incision over that part of the heart we're going to fix, whether valve repair or replacement or coronary artery bypass graft," said cardiovascular surgeon Bradford Blakeman, M.D. "An incision is made between the ribs off to the side of the breastbone."

Because of the smaller incision, patients experience less pain and trauma. "The incision is much more cosmetically

pleasing," Dr. Blakeman said. "In fact, for many women, the scar is unnoticeable because we can often go between ribs and underneath the breast."

Patients are typically in the hospital three to four days, compared to eight days with standard heart surgery. They are up 24 hours after surgery and able to resume normal activity and return to work much quicker.

Surgeons at Resurrection are also using a minimally invasive procedure to remove a leg vein used to bypass the coronary arteries. The vein is removed through two or three small incisions instead of an incision the length of the leg. This reduces the leg pain patients experience after open-heart surgery.

"We are proud to have surgeons on our staff whose expertise allows us to offer our patients the latest in minimally invasive heart surgery," said Sister Donna Marie Wolowicki, C.R., Executive Vice President and CEO of Resurrection Medical Center. "These more patient friendly procedures result in less pain, a shorter hospital stay and a quicker recovery."

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Ten Star All Star Basketball Camp

Applications are now being evaluated for The Ten Star All Star Summer Basketball Camp. Boys, ages 8 - 19, and Girls, ages 10 - 19, can apply. Players are selected by invitation only. Past participants include: Michael Jordan, Tim Duncan, Vince Carter, Jerry Stackhouse, Grant Hill, Bobby Hurley, Antonio Jamison, Christian Laettner, Tom Gugliotta, and Trajan Langdon. Camp locations include: Champaign, IL; Macomb,

IL; Redlands, CA; Thousand Oaks, CA; Sackville, N.B. Canada; Babson Park, FL; Gainesville, GA; Greencastle, IN; Atchison, KS; Midway, KS; Hillsdale, MI; Saint Paul, MN; Fayette, MO; Rochester, N.Y.; Boiling Springs, N.C.; North Canton, OH; Lock Haven, PA; Bristol, R.I.; Lebanon, TN; Commerce, TX; Fort Worth, TX; Blacksburg, VA; Olympia, WA.

Taste of Summer Camp at Morton Grove

Jerusalem Lutheran Church

Christmas services Jerusalem Lutheran Church of Morton Grove invites the community to its special Christmas celebration services. On Christmas Eve, December 24, there will be carol sing-along services at 8 and 10:30 a.m., a children's service at 6:30 p.m. and a candlelight service at 10 p.m. On Christmas Day, a festival service will be held at 10:30 a.m. All services are easy to follow, with many familiar Christmas carols and hymns. Jerusalem Lutheran is located at 6218 Capulina Avenue in Morton Grove.

New Year's services Get your New Year off to a great start at Jerusalem Lutheran Church, located at 6218 Capulina Ave. in Morton Grove. A New Year's Eve service, December 31, will be held at 7:30 p.m., with a New Year's Day service at 10 a.m. Regular Sunday services are held at 8 and 10:30 a.m. For more information, please call Pastor Kleist at 965-7340.

Property tax appeals questions

Two representatives from Commissioner Maureen Murphy's office at the Cook County Board of Review will be at the Niles Senior Center, 999 Civic Center Drive at 1 p.m. on Thursday, January 4th. Residents will be informed of their property tax appeal options to help ensure that your property has been fairly assessed. Timing is critical for filing appeals at the Board of Review. Residents must file their appeal application before the end of the thirty day period that the township is open. Townships are opened in random or-

der between September and June with no advance notice. While the appeal process for Maine Township has closed, the appeals process for residents of Niles Township is now open but appeals must be filed by January 8, 2001.

If you have questions regarding your property tax assessment or have questions regarding the other exemptions available for your property, be sure to attend Thursday, January 4th at 1 p.m. Registration is requested. Call 588-8420.

Taste of Summer Camp at Morton Grove

The Morton Grove Park District and District 219 Niles West High School DECA Program present Big Fun For Everyone! "Get a Taste of Morton Grove Park District Summer Camp Program," Saturday, December 23 from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Need to get that last bit of shopping in before the holidays? Entertaining this weekend and want time to get ready? We have the solution for you! Big Fun for Everyone Day Camp is open to kids in Grades K-6 and will be held at the Prairie View Community Center, 6834 Dempster Street. Trained camp counselors will supervise and interact with your kids. There will be games, songs, crafts, music, giveaways and

more. Campers should bring a lunch and appropriate clothes for possible outdoor fun! Program #9257-5. Cost: \$15/child. Make your checks payable to M-NASR*. Deadline to register is Wednesday, December 20.

*All proceeds of this event will go directly to M-NASR (Maine Niles Association of Special Recreation). M-NASR is dedicated to improving the quality of life and, through advocacy and awareness, promoting a successful leisure life-style for individuals with disabilities. Any questions please call 965-1200 or stop by the Prairie View Community Center and register today.

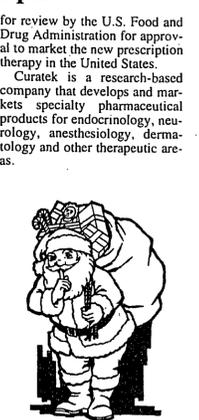
Curatek begins study of new treatment for neuropathic pain

Curatek Pharmaceuticals announced that it has begun Phase III human clinical trials with topical clonidine gel, an innovative treatment for peripheral neuropathic pain, including widespread and frequently debilitating conditions where current treatments are often ineffective. The new treatment is an innovative topical gel formulation of clonidine that has been designed to provide concentrated, site-specific therapy over the complete painful area without blocking motor or sensory nerve function. In initial clinical trials, it was associated with minimal side effects and was found effective where other treatments had failed.

In the new multi-center, double-blind, controlled clinical trials, the novel treatment is being studied for two of the most common forms of peripheral neuropathic pain, painful diabetic neuropathy (PDN) and postherpetic neuralgia (PHN). Peripheral neuropathic pain is estimated to affect up to 4 million Americans, and has also been associated with cancer, spinal cord injury, causalgia, multiple sclerosis, postamputation, stroke, HIV and the douloureux. Diabetic neuropathy affects approximately 10 percent of diabetics as a result of injury to peripheral nerves of the feet and

legs, causing pressure-sensitive pain that renders many unable to walk. Postherpetic neuralgia is the chronic and disruptive pain that often follows reactivation of herpes zoster, commonly known as shingles, which is especially prevalent among the elderly. While clonidine has been widely prescribed in oral form or as a transdermal patch for the treatment of hypertension, it has also been shown to act as a potent local anesthetic. Because its effect is concentration-dependent, however, the compound does not provide analgesia at the site of pain when administered orally. Moreover, when delivered via transdermal patch, clonidine produces analgesia in only a narrow band with poor pain relief in areas not covered by the patch. In addition, the systemic concentrations of clonidine produced by the transdermal patch may result in systemic side effects, including dry mouth, drowsiness, fatigue, headaches, lethargy and sedation, insomnia, dizziness, impotence, dry throat, constipation, nausea and change in taste.

The new 600-patient clinical trials will be conducted at 20 study centers around the country. Pending successful results of the multi-center clinical trials, the company plans to submit a New Drug Application (NDA)



LEGAL NOTICE

The Plan Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a public hearing on Monday, January 8, 2001, at 7:30 P.M. at the Niles Municipal Building, 1000 Civic Center Drive, Niles, Illinois, to hear the following matter(s):

- 01-ZP-1 Robert Gragnani 7857 Nora Niles, IL Requesting a variation from required 25 foot side yard to 5 feet on corner lot to replace enclosed frame entrance and increase size of current structure at 7857 Nora.
- 01-ZP-2 Gergory Trzynek 700 S. Clinton, Ste. 200 Chicago, IL Requesting a change in zoning from B-1 to B-1 Special Use to construct a bank with drive-in facilities at 740 Civic Center, First American Bank.

The Village of Niles will comply with the Americans With Disabilities Act by making reasonable accommodations for people with disabilities. If you or someone you know with a disability require accommodation for a Village service or have any questions about the Village's compliance, please contact Abe Selman, Village Manager, 1000 Civic Center Drive, Niles, Illinois, 847/588-8000.

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Niles Public Library

Book Discussion for Teen Readers

Teens, ages 12-14 -- start the new year off with a good book and join us for our Teen Book Discussion and Lunch on Thursday, January 4 from noon - 1:30 p.m. at Niles Public Library District. During this informal gathering, teens will share their thoughts about a selected book while enjoying deli sandwiches and beverages provided by the Library. January's featured novel is *Monster* by Walter Dean Myers. To register and pick up a copy of *Monster*, stop by the Reference Desk or call Kate Wolicki at 847/663-6433.

Free Arc you looking for something fun and educational to do with your family during the holidays? Stop by the Niles Public Library District and check out a Family Explorer Card. Available at the Circulation Desk, Family Explorer Cards entitle you and your family to a variety of services including paid admissions and free gifts at participating museums and cultural centers in the north suburban area. Patrons can check out up to two cards for one week through June 2001.

Some of the museums participating in this project include *Health World, Cuneo Museum and Gardens, Mitchell Museum of the American Indian* and *The Power House* -- just to name a few! Funding for this project was provided by the Illinois State Library, a Division of the Office of Secretary of State, using federal Library Services and Technology Act funding.

Holiday hours for Morton Grove Library

The Morton Grove Public Library will be closed on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day and will resume service on Tuesday, Dec. 26 at 9 a.m.

Sunday, Dec. 31 and Monday, Jan. 1, for New Year's. Service will resume Tuesday, Jan. 2 at 9 a.m. For further information, please call the Library at 965-4220.



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BASIC 24.42 + TAX	VICEROY 22.35 w/sticker + TAX	PYRAMID 22.47 + TAX	DORAL 22.95 + TAX	CARNIVAL 18.45 + TAX
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\$1 OFF PLUS FREE LIGHTER On any carton purchased
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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. D067595 on the NOV 27, 2000. Under the Assumed Name of DIAMONDS BY GIANNI With the business located at 640 B. NORTHWEST HWY., PARK RIDGE, ILLINOIS 60068. The true name(s) and residence address of owner(s) is: GALEFANO GIANNI, 640 B. NORTHWEST HWY., PARK RIDGE, ILLINOIS 60068.

DELIVERED TO ALL 16,000 HOMES IN NILES AND MORTON GROVE EVERY WEEK OF THE YEAR! **THE BUGLE CLASSIFIEDS** DELIVERED TO ALL 16,000 HOMES IN NILES AND MORTON GROVE EVERY WEEK OF THE YEAR!

FULL/PART TIME	FULL/PART TIME	FULL/PART TIME	FULL/PART TIME	FULL/PART TIME
ACCOUNTING	CLERICAL/OFFICE OPPORTUNITIES		CLERICAL/OFFICE OPPORTUNITIES	
BOOKKEEPER Non-profit agency needs responsible person for AP and backup for payroll/general ledger. HS Diploma, basic computer skills, 2+ years of special training or college required. Excellent benefits; competitive salary. Resume & cover letter to: Orchard Village, HR 7670 Marmora Manor Skokie, IL 60077 Fax: 847-679-3909 EOE	*RECEPTION A Luxury Retirement Community Lincolnwood Place, has immediate opening for Part-Time Receptionist (Saturday & Sunday - 4 PM-11:30 PM) Call Tania: (847) 673-7166 Or Fax Resume To: (847) 673-7185 EOE		MUSEUM POSITION The Historical Society/Museum of the Village of Niles is seeking an energetic, motivated and organized individual to work 20 hours per week. Responsibilities include: registration, answering phones, correspondence and related duties. The ideal candidate must have a high school diploma or equivalent and computer literacy. Good verbal communication skills, telephone etiquette, interpersonal skills and prior office experience necessary. Knowledge of museum collection procedures and database desirable. Starting salary \$10.75 per hour. Interested parties should apply to: Personnel Office, Village of Niles 1000 Civic Center Drive, Niles, Illinois 60714 E-mail personnel@vniles.com Fax: 847-588-8051 EOE M/F	
Accountant Growing CPA firm seeks Jr. Accountant for full time permanent position. Call: 847-675-4275	DATA ENTRY Des Plaines company needs 5 full time and 4 part time Data Entry Clerks. Must key 8500 to 9500 keystrokes per hour, alpha/numeric. Experienced is preferred. Hours range from 8-4:30, 2:30-11:00 and 5:30-11:00. Please call 847-227-4512 for an appointment. Fax resumes to 847-299-8286 or e-mail to: jboberg@pic-online.com	GENERAL OFFICE CPA Firm looking for intelligent, detailed minded individual to assist office manager during tax season. Full or Part-Time from January to April. Experience working on Word Perfect & Excel a must. If interested please call Carol at: (847) 564-7600 Or Fax Resume To: (847) 564-7609 Niles - Order Entry/Transportation Clerk needed - Part-Time + Full-Time. Mon.-Sat. Flexible. \$7.59/hour based on experience. Knowledge of MS Office preferred but not necessary. Will train. Call Greta: 847-795-9560		
NOTICE The Bugle Newspapers does its best to screen advertisements for their authenticity and legitimacy. However, we cannot be responsible for all claims, products and services of advertisers.	VISION THERAPY ASSISTANT You'll learn most interesting specialties in eye care. We want a bright, energetic individual who loves people and will commit to a new career opportunity. Will train. 847-255-1040 Arlington Heights	GENERAL OFFICE Part Time SEPTRAN has an immediate opening for a mature person with typing and good office skills to work from 12pm to 5pm Monday thru Friday in busy, congenial, casual office. This position offers lots of action and variety for the right person. We will train for C.D.L. Northwest suburbs. \$10/Hour, Generous Paid Vacation. Contact Don McCarthy SEPTRAN (847) 392-1464 E.O.E. - DRUG SCREENING REQUIRED		
ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY For our fast paced Manufacturing/Distribution Company to assist sales staff. Position requires good organizational/typing skills. Computer literacy. Knowledge of WP or Word plus Lotus or Excel extremely helpful. Ability to work independently needed. We offer in addition to a good starting wage, benefits including 401k, health, dental, life, long term disability insurance and vision care. Send resume and salary history/requirements. Handi-Foil Corp. 135 E. Hintz Rd, Wheeling, IL 60090 Fax 847-520-7270 e-mail rderon@Handi-Foil.COM	SECRETARY/EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT Customer service Northbrook, good computer skills and knowledge of Word, Excel, Accuracy, minimum of 3 years experience in secretarial/clinical. Internal sales a plus. Full time and benefits. Fax resume to: Ellie Snell 847-498-9958 e-mail nv2ellie@aol.com Phone 847-498-1818	Accounting/Bookkeeping, Payroll, General Ledger. Full Time Position With An Accounting Firm. Minimum 2 Years Experience. Benefits, Excellent Salary. Call 773-202-8880 Fax 773-202-8882	DATA ENTRY Niles company seeks a Full Time Office Clerk to do Data Entry and provide bookkeeping support. Excellent benefit package. 401K, health and other. Call 847-647-1717 x101	
A VERY HAPPY HANUKKAH TO ALL OUR CUSTOMERS Thanks From The Classified Department Beverly - Debbie - Dolores Harv - Laura - Velda	Data Entry Rapidly growing Northbrook Medical billing office seeks people for data entry, payment processing, customer service. Incentive plan, good benefits. 847-412-5521	CREDIT UNION ASSISTANT BRANCH MANAGER United Credit Union, a Chicago area credit union, is seeking an Assistant Branch Manager. This position's responsibilities will encompass all duties necessary to assist the Branch Manager, Staff, and our members with their financial needs. Supervisory experience and good communication abilities are required. Please send resume and salary history to: Gail Klopke, United Credit Union 5901 N. Cicero Avenue, Suite 106 Chicago, Illinois 60646-5711		
	RECEPTION/GENERAL OFFICE PART TIME Friendly Skokie dental office seeks person to work Tuesday and Thursday from 8-5. Experience preferred, but will train. Contact Jennifer: 847-675-0521 Your credit is good with us. We accept Visa and MasterCard! Card! Call: 847-588-1900			

DELIVERED TO ALL 16,000 HOMES IN NILES AND MORTON GROVE EVERY WEEK OF THE YEAR! **THE BUGLE CLASSIFIEDS** DELIVERED TO ALL 16,000 HOMES IN NILES AND MORTON GROVE EVERY WEEK OF THE YEAR!

FULL/PART TIME	FULL/PART TIME	FULL/PART TIME	FULL/PART TIME	FULL/PART TIME
CUSTODIAN	BUGLE NEWSPAPERS CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING OFFICE HOURS	FOOD SERVICE	MARKET RESEARCH	
CUSTODIAL/SCHOOL Custodial Experience Needed. Night shift. Must speak English. Competitive salary and benefits. Apply in person 9-11 am or 1:30-2:30 pm SKOKIE SCHOOL DISTRICT 69 5050 Madison St., Skokie, 60077 (847) 675-7666	DEADLINES Our offices are located at 7400 Waukegan Road, Niles and we are open weekdays only, 9am-5pm. You may stop in or call (847) 588-1900 to place your ads. Our deadline for all insertions for our Thursday editions is Tuesday prior to publication at 2 pm. Call your representative for other specific information.	 Immediate Openings Full & Part Time Extraordinary Benefits! DISHWASHERS For application and information call: Highland Park * Michael Sohovich * 847-432-5500 Northbrook * Bruce Gonzalez * 847-272-7700 Lake Forest * Bill Tarpey Jr. * 847-234-8380 Libertyville * Allen Perin * 847-573-9570 *Scholarship Program *Employee Referral Program	\$\$\$ EARN \$\$\$ EXTRA MONEY Market Research Company Needs MALES & FEMALES of all ages To Participate in TASTE TEST on an "as is needed" basis. CALL: PERYAM & KROLL 6323 N. Avondale (6300 North - 7300 West) (773) 774-3155 Ask For Jack	
EDUCATION	Immediate Special Education Vacancies 1 School Secretary, 12-month position, working knowledge of word processing, database and spreadsheets to provide secretarial support at the Holly Education Center. 1 Licensed Practical Nurse to assist high school student with multiple medical needs on a one-to-one basis for the remainder of the 2000-01 school year and for approximately 27 days during the summer of 2001. 2 Teacher Assistants to work with developmentally delayed students with physical disabilities on a one-to-one basis. Competitive salary and benefits. Send letter of application and resume to: Dr. Kenneth Randle - Executive Director Niles Township Department of Special Education 8701 N. Menard Avenue, Morton Grove, IL 60053 Phone: 847-965-9040 Fax: 847-965-0003		MEDICAL/HEALTHCARE Podiatry Office in Niles Variety of duties & computer entry. Office experience desired but will train. Tuesday, Thursday, Friday PM's. Saturday AM's. \$8.00/hour. Direct work with patients. Call (847) 823-5510.	
		INVENTORY MERCHANDISER Part-Time For Costco In Niles Silk Plant Supplier needs inventory count 2 times weekly prior to 8 A.M. 1-800-631-3825 Ext. 259	RN/LPN/CMA Needed for Family Practice office. Responsible for Patient care services and Phone triage. Full and/or Part time. Please fax resume to Kris: (847) 374-0420 Or Call: (847) 563-3001 x6454	
		MAINTENANCE MAINTENANCE WORKER Full Time position for non-profit organization. Basic knowledge of electrical, plumbing, painting, carpentry necessary. HS diploma or GED and valid drivers license required. Salary low-mid 20s and benefits. Call 847-679-3501 or mail/fax resume to: Human Resources Orchard Village 7670 Marmora Skokie, IL 60077 Fax: 847-679-3909	OUTPATIENT DIALYSIS NURSES **\$3000.00 BONUS If you have medical/surgical experience, Neomedica will introduce you to the fast-paced chronic environment of hemo-dialysis. Current openings are: ••Niles ••Evanston Neomedica offers excellent training, competitive salary, and benefits in addition to the opportunity to join a growing specialty field. Interested candidates should call: FMC/Neomedica, Inc. Human Resources Department 450 E. Ohio Street, Chicago, IL 60611 Phone: (312) 654-2790 Fax: (312) 654-0599 EOE M/F www.Neomedica.com Email: hr@neomedica.com	
EDUCATION/ CHILDCARE GYMBOREE is looking for warm, bubbly responsible people in their Northbrook and Wilmette location. Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday AM or PM. TEACHERS - BA degree required. AIDES - 12 hours college credit. BABYSITTERS - Must speak English. Excellent salary and working conditions. For information call: (847) 676-9464	* CHILD CARE * * LEAD * * ASSISTANTS * * CLERK * * SCHOOL AGE CARE * ATTENDANTS Part and full time positions with benefits. \$8.33-\$14.84/hour depending on education and experience. Position located at Glenview Naval Base. For details call: Margie 847-832-9580		ACTIVITY AIDES Glenbridge Nursing & Rehabilitation Center Currently Has Opening For Part-Time/Full-Time Activity Aide For Our Alzheimer's Unit. This Individual Is Enthusiastic & Dedicated To Enriching The Lives Of Our Elderly Residents. Contact Tiffany: (847) 966-9190 Or Apply In Person At: 8333 W. Golf Road - Niles	
NOTICE The Bugle Newspapers does its best to screen advertisements for their authenticity and legitimacy. However, we cannot be responsible for all claims, products and services of advertisers.	FLORAL DESIGNER Niles - Part-Time + Full-Time Floral Designer Positions Available. Some experience required. Wages based on experience. Overtime a must! Call Greta: 847-795-9560			

FULL/PART TIME	FULL/PART TIME	FULL/PART TIME	FULL/PART TIME	FULL/PART TIME
MEDICAL/HEALTHCARE		MEDICAL/HEALTHCARE		RETAIL
<p>DIALYSIS TECHNICIANS Dialysis Clinic In Niles Has Openings At: 7332 N. Milwaukee Ave. 8565 W. Dempster St. For Full-Time Dialysis Technicians. Position requires a minimum of 6 months medical experience. We provide a 2 week training class in dialysis & an excellent benefit package. Qualified candidates should contact Human Resources Dept: Fresenius Medical Care/Neomedica, Inc. (312) 654-2790 A Drug Free Work Place / EOE M/F</p>		<p>HEALTH CARE/HOME \$ Signing On Bonus \$ CNA's and Companions Hourly and Live-in positions available for Chicago and surrounding suburbs. English speaking. Interviewing in Highland Park Call for an appointment Monday-Friday Ask for Mary or Linda Gentle Home Services, Inc. 847-432-9100</p>		<p>See Ad In MEDICAL/HEALTHCARE CNA's Need A Change?</p>
<p>A Luxury AL/SNF Facility The Manor At Lincolnwood Place Has Immediate Full-Time Openings For *RN/LPN (3 PM-11 PM & 11 PM-7 AM Shifts) *CNA (7 AM-3 PM & 3 PM-11 PM Shifts) Excellent Pay, Benefits & Wonderful Work Environment Call Ron For Appointment At: (847) 673-7166 EOE</p>		<p>Fabulous opportunity, don't miss this. Experience necessary. Great salary, benefits, outstanding pension plan. Gorgeous Skokie office & excellent hours. 847-675-2100 - Barb</p>		<p>CAN YOU COUNT? RGIS Is Seeking Dependable People To Count Inventory In Retail Stores \$9/Hour - Weird Hours (847) 296-3031 1-888-242-RGIS Equal Opportunity Employer We accept Visa and Master Card! Call: 847-588-190C</p>
<p>Healthcare Medical Office Assistant 2 MD practice needs person responsible for appointment scheduling, reception & collecting insurance information. Computer skills a must. Knowledge of insurance billing a plus. Full and/or Part time Please fax resume to Kris: (847) 374-0420 Or Call: (847) 563-3001 x6454</p>		<p>PROFESSIONAL OPPORTUNITIES</p>		<p>SOCIAL SERVICES</p>
<p>CNA's Need A Change? No Nights, No Sundays No Holidays Full-Time Position For Retail Sales Consultant For Home Medical Equipment Computer Skills Helpful Salary Commensurate With Experience Call Mr. Lee At: (847) 676-7770 Or Fax Resume To: (847) 676-7774</p>		<p>*WRITER Freelance For Suburban Newspaper Steady Work Call Marti At: (847) 588-1900</p>		<p>DIRECT CARE STAFF For Developmentally Disabled Adults In Niles - Group Home Setting Weekend Shifts Available (773) 594-0921</p>
<p>PROFESSIONAL OPPORTUNITY</p>		<p>RESTAURANTS/FOOD SERVICE</p>		<p>SALES</p>
<p>PROGRAM COORDINATOR For Des Plaines, NAEYC accredited Day Care. Outstanding benefits, wage and work environment. BA in ECE and three years experience with one year supervisory needed. Call Lois at: 847-824-5122 Or fax resume to: 847-824-5248 The Bugle Newspapers "The Newspapers That Deliver" Serving The North and Northwest Suburbs</p>		<p>Hiring Part Time + Full Time Hostess/Cashier & Servers For New Pancake House In Niles. Must Be Experienced. Accepting Applications At 8501 W. Dempster, Niles. Or Call Dave: 847-692-2748</p>		<p>SALES-CEMETERY Management trainees. Looking for 3 motivated and hungry people to learn this rewarding business from the ground up. Discipline & honesty a must. Benefits include high commission, health, dental, 401k, monthly bonus, paid vacation and a four week training bonus. Realistic 1st year earnings, \$30-\$75K. Call Bob: 708-453-0273</p>
<p>TELEMARKETING Part-Time - In Niles 3 Days A Week - Salary Plus Commission Tuesday - 9 AM-6 PM Friday - 9 AM-6 PM Monday or Thursday - 9 AM-5 PM Must Have Experience! Please Fax Resume To Beverly: (847) 588-1648</p>		<p>TELEMARKETING Part-Time - In Niles 3 Days A Week - Salary Plus Commission Tuesday - 9 AM-6 PM Friday - 9 AM-6 PM Monday or Thursday - 9 AM-5 PM Must Have Experience! Please Fax Resume To Beverly: (847) 588-1648</p>		<p>TRADES</p>
<p>*MAINTENANCE A Luxury Retirement Community Lincolnwood Place, has immediate opening for Full-Time Maintenance Person. Previous residential building maintenance experience preferred. Up to \$10/Hour. Call Paul At: (847) 673-7166 EOE The Bugle Newspapers "The Newspapers That Deliver"</p>		<p>TRADES</p>		<p>WAREHOUSE SUPERVISOR For small, thriving, busy manufacturing company in Northbrook. Ideal candidate is dependable, organized, handy and pleasant, with good mechanical skills. Non-smoking environment, valid drivers license required. We offer pleasant working conditions, a competitive wage, health insurance, 401k, and educational reimbursement. Call 847-205-9000 For A Great Place To Work</p>

FULL/PART TIME	FULL/PART TIME	FULL/PART TIME	FULL/PART TIME	MISCELLANEOUS
TRADES		TRADES		FATHER'S RIGHTS
<p>PART TIME MINI BUS DRIVERS Septran needs responsible drivers who enjoy children for routes in the Northwest suburban area. Will train on easy to drive, fully automatic school buses, vans and 9 passenger suburbans. \$500 sign on Bonus for December only Suburbans - \$8.85 Mini Bus - \$10.00 Wheelchair Bus - \$11.90 Big Bus - \$15.40 *Year round part time employment available *3 hours/day *Paid Training *10% performance bonus monthly Transportation to and from work for mini van & suburban drivers. If you are over 21 with a good driving record and valid DL for 3 years, call today! SENIORS WELCOME - DRUG SCREEN REQUIRED! SEPTRAN 847-392-1464 2161 Foster - Wheeling</p>		<p>SUNSET FOODS Immediate Openings Full & Part Time Extraordinary Benefits! DISHWASHERS For application and information call: Highland Park * Michael Sahovich * 847-432-5500 Northbrook * Bruce Gonzalez * 847-272-7700 Lake Forest * Bill Tarpey Jr. * 847-234-8380 Libertyville * Allen Perin * 847-573-9570 *Scholarship Program *Employee Referral Program</p>		<p>MEN'S DIVORCE HELP! Fathers Deserve Fair Treatment! www.dadsrights.com Attorney Jeffrey M. Leving 312-807-3990</p>
<p>LINE HAUL 4 MONTHS EXPERIENCE - 30¢/MILE EXPERIENCED - 34¢/MILE TOP PAY - 40¢/MILE DEDICATED HOME WEEKLY STUDENTS MSC PROFESSIONAL DRIVING ACADEMY INTEREST FREE LOAN LEASE PROGRAM NEW/USED OWNER OPERATORS WANTED 800-231-5209 M.S. CARRIERS EOE</p>		<p>PRO-INSTALLATION MANAGER Our Newest Showroom in Morton Grove has an exciting opportunity available. Individual will field measure, estimate, sell, and oversee the installation of kitchen and bath and millwork remodeling projects. Product knowledge and installation background preferred. When you join us, you'll enjoy excellent earning potential along with a full benefits package, including health, life, 401k, and more. To inquire, please send resume or call our Corporate office: SEIGLE'S Building Centers, Inc. Corporate Office Phone: 847-742-2000 Fax Resume to: 847-697-6521 EOE M/F/D/V</p>		<p>PERSONALS</p>
<p>CROSSING GUARDS East Maine School District 63 in Des Plaines is looking for permanent crossing guards to work in Glenview, Niles and Des Plaines area. Please Call Personnel Office for additional information. (847) 299-1900</p>		<p>STORE DETECTIVE MORTON GROVE STORE We offer an excellent starting salary along with top benefits which include health care, medical, dental, and prescription, immediate 401(k), and a generous store discount. If you have what it takes, Lohmann's will do everything to support your career. For confidential consideration, please apply in person: Lohmann's 7234 W. Dempster St., Morton Grove, IL 60053; call for directions: 847-966-1350; or fax resume to: 847-966-1373. We are an equal opportunity employer m/f/d/v. Please visit our website at: www.lohmanns.com.</p>		<p>POWERFUL PRAYER TO THE HOLY SPIRIT! You who solve all problems, who lights all roads so that I can obtain my goals. You, who give me the divine gift to forgive and to forget all evil against me and that in all instances of my life, you are with me. I want in this short prayer to thank you for all things and to confirm that I never want to be separated from you, even and in spite of all material illusions. I wish to be with you in eternal glory. Thank you for your mercy towards me and mine. Say this prayer for 3 consecutive days and a favor will be granted. Thank You, G.D.</p>
<p>NOTICE The Bugle Newspapers does its best to screen advertisements for their authenticity and legitimacy. However, we cannot be responsible for all claims, products and services of advertisers. CANCELLATIONS - No Classified Advertisements will be cancelled after 12 noon on Monday preceding the Thursday publication date, or Thursday 12 noon preceding the Weekend Job Guide.</p>		<p>\$ DRIVE & SELL Guaranteed salary, bonus, commission. Unconventional team-oriented company seeks several people to distribute drive and sell audio electronic equipment. No experience required. Company vehicle and paid training provided. Call Anthony 847-202-4640</p>		<p>REAL ESTATE</p>
<p>WANTED WURLITZERS JUKE BOXES ALSO Slot Machines Any Condition 1-830-988-2742 Fax: 1-830-988-6181</p>		<p>APTS. FOR RENT NILES - 7626 N. Milwaukee 1 Bedroom - \$650 (773) 764-0802 Niles - 3 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath, carpeted, C/A + C/H, Milwaukee & Dempster - Call Al: 847-966-5822</p>		<p>CHRISTMAS SPECIAL FREE PORTABLE TV/CD PLAYER while supplies last w/purchase of Wolff Tanning Bed Flexible financing. Available Home/Commercial Units FREE Color Catalog 1-800-711-0158</p>
<p>DOG ADOPTION Dog Up For Adoption To Animal Loving Home 5-Year Old Black Lab-Male Great With Children! 1-312-296-6529</p>		<p>DOG ADOPTION Dog Up For Adoption To Animal Loving Home 5-Year Old Black Lab-Male Great With Children! 1-312-296-6529</p>		<p>VACATION FOR SALE Time Share 4-Sale or Rent St. Thomas - April 22-29th - \$700 Call Richard - 773-914-1228 After 4 p.m.</p>
<p>WANTED TO BUY</p>		<p>WANTED TO BUY</p>		<p>CASH PAID FOR USED AIR CONDITIONERS (773) 531-4835 Our classified ads reach more people per week for the least amount of dollars.</p>
<p>A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL OUR CUSTOMERS Thanks From The Classified Department Beverly - Debbie - Dolores Harv - Laura - Velda</p>				

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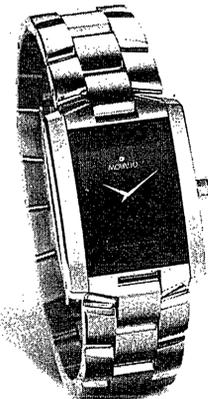
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Ireland's Sister City members golfing buddies

During October, members of their Sister City from Leixlip, Ireland were hosted to golf by the Niles members.

Shown are: (back row) Trustee Bart Murphy, Police Commander Dennis McEnerney, Mayor Nick Blase. (front row) Trustee Bob Callero and Park District Director Joe LoVerde along with their Irish friends.

Knighly News & Views

North American Martyrs Council 4338, Knights of Columbus, Grand Knight Rich Zaprzalka invites all membership candidates and brother knights to attend the 1st degree exemplification and regular business meeting, Wednesday, January 3, 2001 in St. John Brebeuf School's Flanagan Hall, starting at 7:30 p.m. All candidates are encouraged to attend this meeting and to participate in the degree and become a brother knight.

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Holiday season calls for putting work, life in perspective

by Rex Martin

Ah, the holidays: A wondrous time filled with great food, gifts, and thoughts of good will toward men. It's also the season when you have to dig like a gopher to find those decorations stored back behind all that other stuff. And, it's the season that makes you feel like an aging salmon as you fight your way through the river of shoppers at the local mall.

Yes, the holidays certainly fill the heart with joy, the wallet with receipts, and the soul with stress. We are, at times, left wondering what it's all about: We know we're supposed to be as jolly as old St. Nick and as loving as Tiny Tim, but we find ourselves identifying more with Ebenezer Scrooge. Getting into the holiday spirit can seem like one big hassle.

At such times, putting our work, and our lives, in perspective can help. Try walking out-

side some evening and looking up at the night sky. Centuries ago, the Psalmist did this and was moved to ask, "What is man, that thou art mindful of him?"

That brilliant strip of stars spread across the heavens is the Milky Way galaxy. Our home. And, it's big. Real big. So, big, in fact, that light -- traveling at a speed of 186,000 miles per second -- takes 100,000 years to come from one side of the galaxy to the other.

Meanwhile, here on planet Earth, we are hurtling around the Sun at a speed of about 67,000 mph while at the same time the planet is spinning like a top on its axis at a speed of 1,000 mph at the equator. Feeling dizzy?

The Sun and our solar system are halfway to the edge of the Milky Way, out along a spiral arm called Orion. The Sun revolves around the center of the galaxy at an impressive speed of -- fasten your seat belts, please -- half a million miles an hour. Even so, one revolution of the Sun around the galaxy takes 220 million years.

Because the Sun is 5 billion years old, we can estimate that it has revolved around the galaxy about 23 times during its relatively young life. The Milky Way itself is about 10 billion years old in a universe estimated to be around 14 billion years old.

The Milky Way is not the only galaxy, of course. Some 100 billion galaxies exist in the visible universe. Each galaxy has a couple of billion stars and, probably, planets. Scientists say that if the universe is infinite, there could be an infinite number of galaxies. If it is not infinite, there could be a few trillion galaxies, give or take a billion here and there.

All these galaxies are moving away from each other through space at incredible speeds. How incredible? Well, astronomers measure these velocities in kilometers per second per megaparsec, where a megaparsec is equivalent to 3.26 million light years. Go figure. Astronomers also believe the universe's expansion is actually accelerating. They base this theory on the ob-

servance of supernovae, or exploding stars, that are about 5 billion light years from Earth. Which means, I believe, that their theory is based on information that's 5 billion years old, but, hey, who's counting?

The "closest" galaxy to the Milky Way is Andromeda, which is 2.5 million light years away. Just one light year equals 6 trillion miles. And, here's some big news: Astronomers say the Milky Way and Andromeda galaxies are going to slam into each other about 3 billion years from now. When they collide, the galaxies could tear each other apart and throw millions of stars, not to mention the Earth, into space, so be prepared.

When we stop to consider the grand scheme of the universe -- with its trillions of stars, billions of galaxies, light-year distances and megaparsec speeds, which our human minds can calculate but cannot truly comprehend -- our daily concerns at work and at home absolutely pale in comparison. It may help to keep that in mind when all those holiday bills come due in January.

Happy Holidays!

Drive defensively this winter

The Illinois State Toll Highway Authority is reminding motorists to drive defensively this winter and to reduce speed to match traffic and road conditions.

"We encourage all motorists to be prepared for winter driving conditions," said Executive Director Thomas Cuculich. "It's important to adjust your driving habits with the road conditions, and to be aware of the other driver who may not be taking the proper precautions."

Motorists should be sure to keep a close eye on the other cars on the road and to anticipate unexpected moves from other motorists. It is also important for motorists to know how their vehicle will perform in winter conditions, and the Tollway encourages drivers to practice winter emergency maneuvers, such as skidding and braking on ice, in an isolated area or an empty parking lot.

"The key to safe driving, especially during inclement weather, is to drive defensively," said John Benda, Manager of Tollway Maintenance and Traffic. "Allow larger intervals between yourself and the vehicle in front of you and refrain from making unnecessary lane changes. Above all, remember to reduce your speed to match the roadway and traffic conditions."

Cars should be checked thoroughly for fluids, tire pressure, brakes and windshield wipers. Fuel tanks should be kept full. Carry jumper cables, salt or sand and a shovel, ice scrapers, gloves, and de-icer for frozen locks. A cell phone in the car can be an important safety device.

If stranded in a disabled vehicle, stay in the car until help arrives. The Tollway's H.E.L.P. (Highway Emergency Lane Pa-

trol) trucks will be patrolling the system ready to provide emergency service. The seven patrols run from 4 a.m. to 8 p.m. weekdays during the winter season. During extreme cold temperature conditions, H.E.L.P. drivers are supplemented by Zero Patrol vehicles and emergency service is expanded to 24 hours per day, systemwide as required. This emergency service can be alerted via cellular phone by dialing *999, which is funded by the Illinois Tollway and the Illinois Department of Transportation. All Tollway vehicles, including snow plows and State Police District 15, are connected via radio to Central Dispatch and also report any road emergency, especially during extreme snow storms. The toll system is patrolled 24 hours so stranded motorists might be helped within 30 minutes.

In addition to snow plows, end loaders and 24 hour staffing, the Toll Authority uses computerized weather data fed to our Snow and Ice Operations Center from 14 pavement sensor/weather station locations. A satellite dish atop the Tollway headquarters in Downers Grove directly links the Tollway weather center with a Data Transmission Network. This network provides extensive weather information to assist the Tollway in accurately identifying storm characteristics. This information, along with meteorological forecasts received from a professional meteorological firm, helps Tollway staff keep abreast of weather and road conditions and allows the Tollway to make rapid operational adjustments as conditions change.

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From the Left Hand

Continued from Page 1

"By luck, I got in a position of capturing a Nazi officer, taking him a prisoner of war. He had a Luger revolver which was a prize in itself. The Air Force flyboys were paying 200 bucks for one. I carried it for a couple of days and then gave it away to Thornton. I didn't want to have it on my person if I was captured. For the same reason Thornton gave it to Slaughter and he gave it to Au Coin who passed it on to Levitsky. But the revolver was a bad omen. Each one of the men who were handed the Luger were killed within the week."

Jerry Berg lived on Church Street in Morton Grove for 30 years. Jerry E-mailed this letter about his remembrances of Christmastime, 1944.

"I wasn't expecting a very merry Christmas that December in 1944. I was temporarily stationed at a staging area outside of Boston when we were advised we would be shipping out to Europe in the morning. So I made one last call to home, but I was not permitted to say 'goodbye' or even hint that this was my last day in the country. 'The Enemy is Listening' the sign in the phone booth warned, so when my mother asked whether I would be coming home for the holidays, I lied, 'I'll try my best, Ma.'"

"The next morning we departed on a fast troop transport which went to Europe without escort despite warnings of German submarines in the North Atlantic. For more than a week, Allied troops were withdrawing during the Battle of the Bulge, and new troops were needed to replace the heavy casualties. In only 4 days we landed at Liverpool where the British Red Cross met us at the docks and fed us tea and something they called a donut. Docksides trains immediately took us to Southampton where we were boarded onto an ancient Indian tugboat which took 4 days to cross the Channel instead of

the usual 4 hours because of waiting our turn to pass through the unmined lanes.

"From LeHavre on the French side, we were squeezed into unheated box-cars for a three-day journey, where we took turns in the dark cars, either sitting or standing because there wasn't enough room for all of us to sit on the cold floor at the same time. Finally, in a small town in Belgium we debarked and were crowded into a cold abandoned warehouse on Christmas Day. We were fed turkey for dinner, but it wasn't very festive and failed to lift our spirits very much."

"After the early dinner, we were standing in an open courtyard dipping our mess-kits into pots of boiling water to wash them, when we became aware the sun was peeking through. We looked up into the sky and for the first time saw the gloomy clouds beginning to part, replaced by patches of blue sky and a shining sun. Then came a loud drone of motors, and through the parting clouds came wave after wave of American and British bombers, the first able to fly for weeks because of the overcast weather. We stood there with our upturned faces as though watching Santa Claus arriving, and we cheered, shouted, screamed and waved our arms wildly. At last we were able to hit them back with our strongest weapon. 'What a merry Christmas!'"

"That night, we were assigned to our permanent units and I joined the Seventh Armored Division. It had taken a bad beating 10 days previous and needed replacements badly. Several days later, we received our orders to retake the town of St. Vith in Luxembourg adjoining Bastogne. After a few days I was withdrawn and sent back to a General Hospital in Paris.

"It was a merry Christmas, but not a very happy New Year."

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 Newspapers
7400 Waukegan Road, Niles, IL 60714

Holiday gifts for the whole family to play

(NAPS)-Get in the game! With a host of exciting games, both old and new available this holiday season, playing games together will be playing games together.

The best games are those that have little waiting between turns, easy-to-learn rules, educational elements and a combination of luck and skill that give everyone a chance to win.

One such game is University Games' **Kids On Stage**, an award-winning game of charades for kids. Also available is the **Dr. Seuss Family Trivia Game**, in a collectible tin. This special game features fun questions, riddles, and pictures taken from the most popular Seuss books. With the holiday season fast upon us, here are some tips on the hottest products:

• **Additional new Dr. Seuss titles** include **Dr. Seuss's ABC**, which helps children learn the ABC's the Seuss way!

• **Show and Tell** - a game designed to stimulate children's creative storytelling abilities.

• **Rapunzel's Revenge** - invented by a 9 year-old girl, this year's winner of the National Young Game Inventors Contest, encourages social interaction as players race to rescue Rapunzel from the witch.

For older kids and adults, the fun continues with:

• **21st Century 20 Questions** - one of the US's top-selling games, this all-new edition in a tin box features 5,000 clues that lead players to figure out the mystery identity of well-known people, places and things.

• **Battle of the Sexes** - this top selling game helps players decide once and for all who is superior, men or women, as women answer stereotypical "men's" questions, and visa versa.

Colorforms is turning 50 next year! New for Christmas is the **Colorforms Amazing Art Activity Kit**, with over 15 different projects from making chalk to finger-painting. Other hot items from Colorforms (for kids 3 to 8) include:

• **Maisy Floor Puzzle** - kids build the puzzles and then play on the picture they created with Colorforms pieces.

• **Little Bear Stick-On Play Set**, and the **Silly Faces Stick-On Game**.

• **Story Time Puzzles** - a delightful book-on-a-hook, kids read the story, then pull off the pieces to solve the puzzle. Also new from BePuzzled this holiday season:

• **How the Grinch Stole Christmas!** Puzzle

• **Fuzzy Puzzles** - these two-sided puzzles feature a cute image of an animal on one side and fake fur on the other for an extra challenge.

Great Explorations offers **Wow Science**, science that works like magic! Also great for stocking stuffers this year are glow-in-the-dark stars that can turn any bedroom into a glowing universe.

Loony Lawsuits of the Month

Illinois Lawsuit Abuse Watch (I-LAW) announced its list of loony lawsuits of the month of December. I-LAW is a statewide organization that is dedicated to fighting frivolous lawsuits and reforming Illinois' lawsuit system.

• **Trip over fan**, collect \$57,600 (Jersey County, IL)... A Jersey County woman visited her sister in a nursing home, and when she walked into her sister's room she noticed a box fan on the floor. She walked past the fan to place her purse on her sister's bed, turned around to leave the room and tripped over the fan, badly bruising her head during the fall. She sued the nursing home, and during the trial she admitted that she saw the fan upon entering the room but forgot to look down when turning to leave the room. The jury still awarded her \$57,600. Thankfully, a higher court reversed the award on appeal.

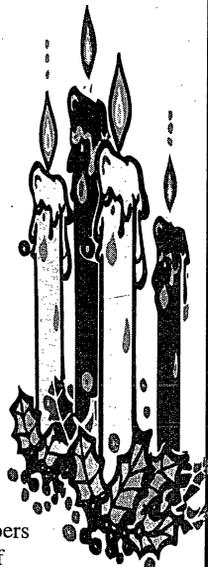
• **"You want to see my scar?"** (Lake County, IL)... A Lake County surgeon was sued by a former patient who claimed she was left with a terrible scar after an operation. During deposition, the doctor's lawyer asked to see the woman's scar, and it turns out she didn't have a scar after all! The lawsuit was dropped, but not before the doctor and his insurance company had to spend \$30,000 in legal defense bills.

• **Loony lawsuit update...** This summer I-LAW told you about the case of an Evanston, IL woman who is being sued by a tree trimming service company after she complained to the city council that tree trimmers "half-butchered" the city's trees. The company filed a \$250,000 defamation of character suit against the woman. The woman is fighting the case, and the City of Evanston has rallied around her. The tree trimming company is now offering to drop the lawsuit in exchange for a new tree-trimming contract with the city. Evanston Alderwoman Ann Rainey told the Chicago Tribune the offer is a "joke" and the whole thing smacks of "blackmail" and "coercion."

Got a loony lawsuit you want to share with I-LAW? People are encouraged to send examples of loony lawsuits to I-LAW by e-mail (doug@I-LAW.org), calling 1-800-493-5952, faxing 773-880-8843, or mail at I-LAW, 2835 N. Sheffield Ave., Suite 214, Chicago, IL 60657. Loony lawsuits must be from Illinois.

Happy Holidays

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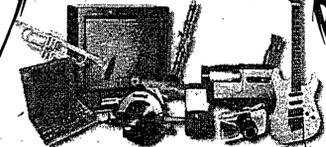
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Holiday 'Celebration Stations' combine family togetherness and sense of accomplishment

Before the uproar of the holiday season begins, designate a half-day to gather family, friends and neighbors to spend time enjoying each other's company and preparing for the festive season. Serve hot cider in mugs and butter cookies while playing music to create a merry mood. Set up "Celebration Stations" throughout your house including cookie decorating, gift making, and festooning stations.

"With a touch of creativity and the right products anyone can create fabulous holiday accent pieces and gifts," states Jan Healy, avid do-it-yourselfer and Rust-Oleum brand manager. "Paints like Painter's Touch™ and American Accents® Decorative Finishes come in an out-

standing variety of vibrant seasonal colors such as antique and metallic gold and silver, bright greens and radiant reds. These paints are available in spray and brush paints and can transform ordinary items into sensational holiday accents for the home."

Following are some tips and activities to turn your holiday "Celebration Stations" into gift giving and decorations centers:

"Raw wood, wicker and ceramic items from arts and crafts stores are ideal for small paint projects. Choose things with simple detail and use your imagination to create remarkable gifts and decorations."

"Give old or new candlesticks holiday fever. Spray the top and base with painter's Touch Apple

Red and the body with Painter's Touch Meadow Green. Finish your candlestick by tying a green and red plaid ribbon at the top of the body.

"Another clever idea for holiday gift giving is a festive tin. Turn old coffee tins into beautiful accent pieces by spray painting with bright holiday colors. Fill the tin with baked goods for the perfect hostess gifts during the barrage of holiday parties."

"Save those old items from the trash! Rummage through the attic and garage for old bowls, picture frames and children's toys. Refinished remnants make perfect holiday decorations! Turn an old metal bucket into a wine bucket with American Accent Decorative Finish Kit in Patina. Use it during holiday dinners to wow guests or add a bottle of wine and give as a great gift."

"Christmas ornaments make great gifts especially for extended families, newlyweds and college graduates. Gather pinecones from the yard and paint with Rust-Oleum Specialty Gold Metallic paint. Tie red or green ribbons to the end of the pinecones for sparkling holiday ornaments!"

"An ordinary urn or bowl finished with American Accents Decorative Finish in Antique Gold or Pewter becomes a courtly container for folded holiday towels and guest soaps."

"Give your holidays a southwestern flavor. Get an assortment of plain ornaments: reindeer, hearts, stars and angels. Spray the ornaments with American Accents Decorative Finish in Terra Cotta. Tie strips of leather at the top of each ornament and attach small feathers."

"Simply spray a wicker basket and create an instant holiday container. For a country theme, use Colonial Red from the American Accents Heritage Collection and tie on a raffia bow. For a Victorian theme, use Claret Wine from the American Accents Tapestry Collection and tie on a band of gold ribbon. Enjoy your "Celebration Stations!" Happy Holidays!

Language Club begins at SJB



Pam Mulhern, Geneva Toledono and Ms. Veronica Mendoza get ready to enjoy another Spanish lesson.

The Language Club at St. John Brebeuf School has started meeting for the 2000-2001 school year. The club is a program that is offered through the Kids' College of Oakton Community College. Students in Kindergarten through eighth grade are able to enroll in the Club, which meets twice a week after school. The children are learning the Spanish language through a variety of activities, which include songs, games and

manipulatives. They also use a workbook in class and for homework assignments.

The program makes use of a theme-based approach. Some of the themes are the alphabet, numbers, greetings, food, animals, weather, sports and geography. As the students move past the beginner level they work with reading and writing dialogs and grammar.

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