**Notre Dame Hockey’s plan for lockers at IceLand sparks argument at Park Board**

*BY ANDREW SCHNEIDER*
*editor@buglenewspapers.com*

The Notre Dame Ice Hockey Club considers the IceLand Arena their home rink and they’d feel more at home if they could leave their equipment in the locker rooms, but the proposal sparked controversy at the last Niles Park Board meeting, Tuesday, Feb. 15.

The proposal would require the Park District to remove small, square lockers that are used by swimmers during the summer months and replace them with larger lockers that will be able to accommodate the Hockey Club’s equipment.

The Hockey Club’s proposal is that the Park District would remove the swim lockers after the pool closed at IceLand in the fall and put in larger lockers that would be purchased by the Hockey Club.

“Notre Dame is the only Hockey team that uses IceLand exclusively,” said Park District Director Paul Tasch.

Swimmers’ lockers at the Niles Park District’s IceLand Ice Arena may come out for part of the year if a proposal from the Notre Dame Hockey Club to put in larger lockers during their season is accepted by the Park Board. The swim lockers would be back in place in time for the pool to reopen each spring.

**Resident criticizes Niles-D71 TIF agreement**

Proposed water main would pave the way for S. Milwaukee redevelopment

A resident of the Fountain View Condominiums spoke at last week’s Niles Board meeting, criticizing local officials for what he called inconsistent statements with regards to the Touhy/Milwaukee Tax Increment Financing (TIF) district.

Paul Tasch said that the recently approved amended TIF agreement with Culver Elementary School District 71 and a proposed $1.9 million increase in TIF funding was inconsistent with the statements of former village officials. The proposed use of the funds is a water main and sewer project on Milwaukee.

According to Tasch, former village officials said that the existing infrastructure was acceptable for the then-proposed Renaissance Condominiums and that no new sewer or infrastructure improvements would be needed.

“The Niles Village Manager at the time said that the sewer system, a 60-inch storm sewer, was adequate to handle the additional number of buildings and the contribution that those buildings will make to the storm system,” Tasch told the board.

However, Village Finance Director George Van Geem explained later, that the money was not going to be used to increase capacity needed for old development, but to clear the way for new development south along Milwaukee.

“That’s one of the oldest areas of the village,” Van Geem said. “The infrastructure improvements are needed anyway.”

That development may already be on the way; Developer Mega Properties of Chicago has purchased the Econo Motel and a vacant parcel of the southeastern corner of Milwaukee and Touhy and Village Officials have said that

**Assessor says allegation against Krier untrue**

Watch-dog group said Krier’s home is under-assessed

*BY ANDREW SCHNEIDER*
*editor@buglenewspapers.com*

A spokesperson for the Cook County Assessor’s Office said this week that allegations that Morton Grove Trustee and Mayoral Candidate Rick Krier’s home was under-assessed were untrue.

The allegations were made in a report from the Illinois Attorney General’s Office dated Feb. 14, 2005. Frank Avila, contact person for the organization was deployed and was unable to comment on it.

The report was titled “ Favoritism in Cook County Assessor’s Office? Investigation shows that appraiser Rick Krier, Morton Grove Mayor candidate keeps his home assessment and taxes low.” It alleged that Krier’s home was assessed well below other comparable houses.
Niles Fire Department plans mock accident

The Niles Fire Department will stage a Malaria Exercise at Niles North High School on May 29 and 30. The exercise will simulate the release of a gas from a train in the area, which would require an evacuation of the school and neighborhood. The exercise will test the department's ability to respond to such an event and ensure the safety of the community.

Niles Police Department CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) program members will also participate in the exercise, demonstrating the effectiveness of CERT programs in emergency situations.

New Niles Grads

The Niles Police Department CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) program was recently honored with a special recognition, as their program has successfully completed the CERT training course, making them certified CERT members.

Morton Grove plans Heritage Fest

The Village of Morton Grove and Morton Grove Chamber of Commerce are planning a "Heritage Fest" to be held on Saturday, May 27 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. The event will feature live music, food vendors, and cultural exhibits.

Niles Board honors Capparelli

The Niles Village Board honored retired State Representative Ralph Capparelli at their January board meeting. Capparelli was presented with a special Proclamation. He was elected to the Illinois House of Representatives in 1978 and served in the office of Mayor of Park Ridge. He is a long-time resident of Morton Grove.

Presbyterian Nursing Home patients will have an opportunity to participate in the exercise. The Fire Department personnel will use a smoke machine to create a realistic situation for the patients according to their injuries. The exercise is being conducted in the hospital to familiarize the Fire Department with the layout of the hospital, ensuring a smooth transition in case of a real emergency.

The exercise is part of the ongoing training program at the Fire Department. The Fire Department has been preparing for the event for several months and has practiced extensively. The exercise is a large part of today's Fire Department activities.

Commissioner Ray Currall said, "I think we've made the decision on it. We can make a decision today."

Commissioner Elaine Heilman added, "I think it's going to be more effective if we're going to have carp - kar and have them in the seat of the people who are going to have to use them."

In the event of a large-scale disaster, the Fire Department would have a "L" curve in the deck that would help them with the evacuation process.

For more information, call Mary at (847) 384-9033.

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SPORTS

With a year to go, Turin may still have a few Alps to climb

Turin has never particularly got along with major construction projects. The city’s signature edifice, the Mole Antonelliana with its 216 meter tall tower, was originally commissioned as a second pyramid to Memnon in the 1600s, but architect Giuseppe Vasi was never more attuned to seeing how high he could build it than sticking to any sort of construction budget and schedule.

With the Jewish community out of the picture skating arena and so many visitors the figure skating arena and so many visitors pulled off a 17-day global sports fest in Turin on Feb. 10, 2006. Just as scholars had anticipated, it was the burial centenary of the Duke of Windsor’s brother, Lord Louis Mountbatten, and the wedding of Prince Albert, the Duke’s son, to Charlene Wittstock, a South African swimmer. It was a ceremony that inside the Palazzo del Senato, or the Italian Senate in the 15th century cathedral in Turin, Italy, a nun was tucked away in a 15th century church in a cell.

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It was the Duke’s 60th birthday, and it was the 100th anniversary of his father, Edward, eighth Duke of Windsor, and it was the wedding of his son, Prince Albert of Monaco, to Charlene Wittstock, a South African swimmer. It was a ceremony that inside the Palazzo del Senato, or the Italian Senate in the 15th century cathedral in Turin, Italy, a nun was tucked away in a 15th century church in a cell.

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9. Gala events have been held here since 1910, including the March of Dimes and AAUW's "Dancing for S.M.I.L.E.S."

10. A dining tradition since 1910, with Lake Perch, Sautéed Frog Legs, and fresh spinach baked with a layer of pasta with fresh ricotta cheese, best!! Enjoy a lunch choice of beef and cabbage, or a selection from the quality Caddy Shook Milwaukie, Menus at the State of Illinois Building, 9511 Harrison St. in Des Plaines.

11. Security (SSA-1099), 1098 and others. Members receive three issues of the Traveling Times newsletter mailed at home; free Computer 

12. Tax services, including the following:

- Professional tax return assistance is available through a separate entrance in the State of Illinois Building, 9511 Harrison St. in Des Plaines.

- 2003 tax returns.

- Don't overlook your discount opportunities for seniors to join in many activities.

- A Wellness Screening is set for Wednesday, April 20 from 8:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Senior Center. A certificate of attendance will be provided by the Senior Center Library.

- More information and to register, call 847-760-2037.

In an effort to turn the tide, AIM of Illinois is working to develop new services and programs to address the needs of seniors who have low or moderate incomes that are not represented on basic IRS forms. Call the Senior Line (800) 332-2323 for a personal appointment.

The Morton Grove Senior Center provides the following:

- The Morton Grove Senior Center is open to seniors of all ages and abilities.

- Driver's Safety Courses are available.

- A Wellness Screening is set for Wednesday, April 20 from 8:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Senior Center. A certificate of attendance will be provided by the Senior Center Library.

- Bringing your own do-it-yourself mattress can make a difference.

- Don't break up a good pair.

- Buy size. You'll be shocked at the quality of life?

- Don't overlook your discount opportunities for seniors to join in many activities.

- More information and to register, call 847-760-2037.

- Office hours are from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday.
Chef Harry presents
Onions

Spring forth and a man's heart turns to dinner

SPRING ONION SOUP
4 cups spring onions, white and greens, chopped, and saute spring onions until golden brown. Add bell pepper, seeded and finely chopped. Add 1/2 cup dry vermouth and bring to a boil. Reduce heat and simmer for 15 minutes. Stir in 1 cup extra-dry vermouth and 1/2 cup cider vinegar. Bring to a boil. Reduce heat and simmer for 20 minutes. Stir in 1 cup freshly chopped blue cheese. Season with salt and pepper, to taste. Serve with crackers.

CUCUMBER SALAD
1 medium cucumber, peeled, seeded, and thinly sliced
2 medium carrots, peeled and thinly sliced
2 medium English cucumbers, seeded and thinly sliced
1 medium bell pepper, seeded and thinly sliced
2 medium tomatoes, seeded and cut into wedges
1 medium avocado, peeled and cut into wedges
1/2 cup fresh dill
1/3 cup fresh parsley
1/4 cup fresh rosemary

In small bowl, whisk together 2 tablespoons mayonnaise, 1 tablespoon fresh lemon juice, 1 teaspoon soy sauce, and 1 teaspoon Dijon mustard. Stir in 1/4 cup finely chopped blue cheese. Serve with crackers.

SPRING ONION-BLUE CHEESE DIP
2 tablespoons mayonnaise
2 cups spring onions, white and greens, chopped, and saute spring onions until golden brown. Add bell pepper, seeded and finely chopped. Add 1/2 cup dry vermouth and bring to a boil. Reduce heat and simmer for 15 minutes. Stir in 1 cup extra-dry vermouth and 1/2 cup cider vinegar. Bring to a boil. Reduce heat and simmer for 20 minutes. Stir in 1 cup freshly chopped blue cheese. Season with salt and pepper, to taste. Serve with crackers.

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Mary Gregory glasses. The story of the glasses is told through the ages by that Mary Gregory text. The glasses are from a Sandwich Glass Works in Boston, decorated with whalemen figures of children in the 1870s. No one knows for certain how the original design began. The legend has never been documented and remains a mystery.

A battle trophy still has value. Not to be confused with a trophy. Not to be confused with a mystery. It is still made today. Marked on the bottom of the flag, the style of yours was American soldiers sometimes treated as trophies. Not to be confused with a mystery. It was part of the collection of a soldier who died in 1943 after an battle in the summer of 1943. No one knows why. Note the symbol. Flags surrounded by black writings on the flags were usually well-wishes of long life, because of the symbol. Flags usually sent to veterans who have kept their records.
Porcelain dolls 'baby-sit' your piano

By AMY MCCULLOCH
Copley News Service

What can you tell me about the porcelain dolls you collect? My daughter likes these dolls. We have a piano and have found it hard to keep its wood from getting dents from these dolls. We want to make piano scarves to keep them from slipping on the pianos and piano babies.

A: Your vase was made in the early 1900s. If you could tell me its value and when it was made, it would help. For more information, call (630) 224-2900.

You are planning to add a great room addition that includes the old home offers other suggestions for decorating ideas. Please send your questions to architecturalartifacts.com; www.heartpinefloors.com; or www.rugmarkfoundation.com. As for decorative hangings for the old home offers other suggestions for decorating ideas. Please send your questions to architecturalartifacts.com; www.heartpinefloors.com; or www.rugmarkfoundation.com.

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A: The Bravo! Reinhold and Andrew Pepe)’s artist Dark Home Comics. PUNISI-IER artist and through a trading card series and cartoon characters. SPOONS and BUCK ROGERS IN ROB!N will also be exhibiting. Local artists will be selling a variety of collectibles all weekend.


A: Your vase was made in the early 1900s. If you could tell me its value and when it was made, it would help. For more information, call (630) 224-2900.
4 Money-Saving Tips for Every Homeowner

Using electric power and gas can be expensive. In many cases, it is possible to reduce your utility bills and save money by making simple changes to your home or lifestyle.

1. Turn off lights when they are not in use. The American home Shield, a national home warranty company, estimates that the average homeowner pays $250 to $500 per year for electricity to run their home.

2. Use energy-efficient appliances. Many appliances use more energy than they need to operate. By choosing energy-efficient models, you can save money on your utility bills.

3. Use natural light as much as possible. Natural light is free and can help reduce your electricity usage. Open your curtains and blinds during the day to let in natural light.

4. Use a programmable thermostat. A programmable thermostat can help you save money on your heating and cooling bills by automatically adjusting the temperature in your home.

Selling Your Home? Don’t Make A $10,000 to $15,000 Mistake.

Anyone can sell your Real Estate, but not always at the best price.

Our agents are trained to use our exclusive “Home Value Improvement Checklist” to maximize the selling price of your Real Estate.

Common household myths debunked

If you are planning on selling now or in the future, we can help you improve your home by using our “Home Value Improvement Checklist” to maximize the selling price of your Real Estate.

How to buy a big house for a small-house price

By PETER CONTI

If you are considering buying a big house, you may be wondering how you can afford to buy a big house. Many people are afraid of taking on the financial burden of a big house, but there are ways to make it possible.

One way is to look for homes that are already being sold by their original owners. These homes may have been purchased for less than market value, and the seller may be willing to negotiate a lower price. Another option is to look for homes that have been renovated or updated. These homes may be more affordable than new construction, and they may have features that are more desirable than those in older homes.

Ultimately, the most important thing is to make sure you can afford the mortgage payments and the other expenses associated with owning a big house. If you are unsure, it may be best to consult with a real estate agent or financial advisor.
How to buy...

Before you get started, look at the areas in which you want to purchase a home. Measure the price of homes in that area until you are comfortable with these values. Your goal is to know the values of homes well enough so that a good deal will be obvious to you.

1. Find out what you can afford. Start by making offers that are at or near 5% to 7% below the asking price, rather than making only one offer at a time, make five or 10 offers each week. Make sure you write "To be deposited only upon acceptance of this offer" on your current deposit checks.

2. Make low offers. Start by making offers that are at or near 5% to 7% percent of the asking price, rather than making only one offer at a time, make five or 10 offers each week. Make sure you write "To be deposited only upon acceptance of this offer" on your current deposit checks.

3. Expect most of your offers to be rejected. You'll know you are in the right path when your real estate agent complains that your offers get rejected too few. Wait for a good deal. If a seller accepts your offer, or counter offer with all after tax amount at or less than the buyer's value, you've probably found a good deal. You will be tempted to think that you are probably going to accept one of your low offers. However, when a good offer finally comes along, the same deal you got to enjoy in your new house will make it all worthwhile.

This strategy will test the patience of both you and your real estate agent. You will be tempted to think that you are probably going to accept one of your low offers. However, when a good offer finally comes along, the same deal you got to enjoy in your new house will make it all worthwhile.
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