

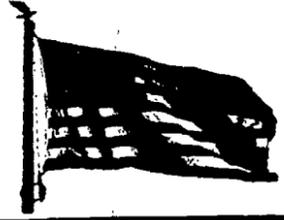


**THE 2005 NILES CITIZEN'S
POLICE ACADEMY BEGINS**
NEWS, PAGE 5



**OTB OPPONENTS FILE
REFERENDUM PETITIONS**
NEWS, PAGE 4

THE BUGLE



SINCE 1957

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 29, 2005

VOL. 49 No. 19

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Niles Board approves OTB for Golf Mill site

BY ANDREW SCHNEIDER
EDITOR

The Niles village board narrowly approved a proposed off-track betting (OTB)

facility to built opened in a renovated building that formerly housed the Golf Mill Circuit City Tuesday night.

The proposal was approved in a 4-3 vote with Mayor Nicholas Blase breaking a tie. Trustees Kim

Biederman, Bart Murphy and Louella Preston voted against the proposal while Trustees Robert Callero, Tom Bondi and Andrew Przybylo voted in favor.

The village board listened to about an hour of testimony from

Inter-Track Partners, the company proposing the OTB and from both proponents and opponents of the business.

One stipulation was placed on the proposal, tying the special user permit to Inter-Track's lease at the

site and allowing the village to review it when the first period ends in seven years and after each of the lease's five-year options.

Inter-Track testified that the

Story Continues...
see OTB page 4.

New Crossing Guard deployed to Maine South



BY JEFF BORGARDT
STAFF WRITER

A Sept. 2 accident at Maine South High School triggered a debate about whether or not to station a safety police officer in the school traffic zone before and after school. Late last week, the city stationed a crossing guard, but not a police officer at the school.

Sue Daul asked the Park Ridge City Council to take steps to improve traffic safety outside the school campus Sept. 19.

Her freshman daughter was hit after the 10th day of school by a student motorist. The student was transported to Lutheran General Hospital and treated and released.

Daul and three others requested action from the board.

Ald. Rex Parker was most vocal calling for action.

"I don't want another student getting hit," he said.

But police chief Jeff Caudill

Story Continues...
see GUARD page 7.

Crossing Guard John Morell stops traffic for students to cross Talcott Ave. Tuesday.

Golf Mill, Kerasotes sign deal for new theaters

14-screen complex will be constructed opposite existing food court, on Greenwood side

BY ANDREW SCHNEIDER
EDITOR

A new 14-screen movie theater will be constructed at Golf Mill

Mall in Niles, pending approval from the village, according to Chuck Ostman, Niles' Community Development Director.

The deal for the theater was signed Friday, Ostman said,

between Springfield-based Kerasotes Theatres, Inc. and Golf Mill. It paves the way for Kerasotes to submit plans to the village for approval, a process that could take several months.

Representatives from

Kerasotes were to begin discussions with the village of Niles on Wednesday, Ostman said after receiving a call from Kerasotes Friday confirming that the deal had been signed.

"I just got off the phone with

them," he said. "The deal is signed. They're coming in to meet with village staff Wednesday."

Kerasotes' Real Estate

Story Continues...
see THEATERS page 12.

Two dead in possible murder/suicide

The Park Ridge Police Department is investigating a possible murder/suicide, after two bodies with gunshot wounds were found at the 1300 block of West Lois Ave. on Thursday, Sept. 22.

A family member returned home to the 1300 block of West Lois Ave. and called the Park Ridge police after discovering the two dead bodies. The Park Ridge Police responded at 6:30 p.m. on a report that a person had been shot.

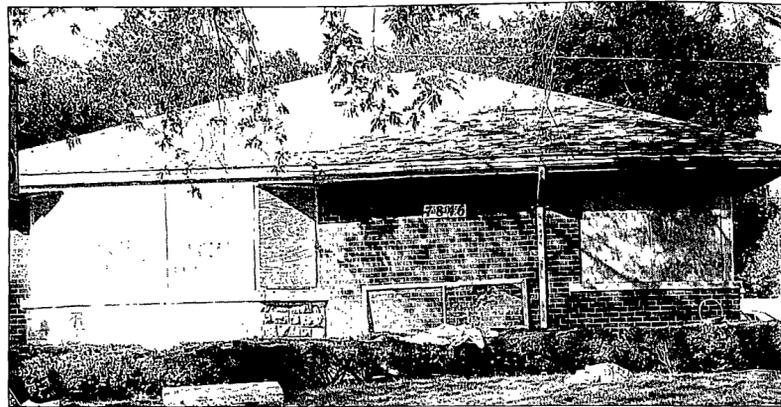
The victims have been identified as Cathy Lamonica, 51, of West Lois Ave. and Lorenzo Lamonica, 54, of the 4600 block of north Cumberland, Chicago. Park Ridge Police Chief Jeffrey Caudill said that the two victims got divorced several years ago. "Right now we're leaning toward a murder/suicide," said Caudill. On Friday,

Sept. 23, he said that the police will be interviewing neighbors and family members. "We're less than 24 hours into the investigation."

The woman was found in the kitchen and the man was found in the family room, both on the first floor of the home, according to Caudill. A 12-gauge shotgun was recovered from the scene.

Caudill said that the Major Case Assistance Team (MCAT) Forensic Unit, a regional team, is working with the Park Ridge Police Department on the case. Park Ridge Police were a founding member of the MCAT and two officers are a member of the team.

Caudill said the two bodies have been sent to the Cook County Medical Examiners office and they will be waiting for the results of the autopsy.



A Fire caused extensive damage to this Morton Grove home Monday.

Fire causes \$300K in damage to home

The Morton Grove Fire Department responded to a fire in the basement of a home located at 7846 Long St. at 12:47 a.m. on Monday, Sept. 26.

The cause of the fire is still under investigation, but Fire Chief Tom Friel said that the fire seems to be "accidental" in nature. The fire caused "extensive damage" to the home, totaling about \$300,000. None of the four occupants in the home at the time of the fire were injured.

Friel said that in 2001 the

Morton Grove Fire Department started a mailing campaign in order to confirm that every resident in town had a working fire detector in their home. The owners of the home in this fire participated in this program and a smoke detector was installed in their home in September of 2001.

"The program quite possibly saved at least four lives," said Friel. The program is still occurring today, although much of the campaigning is done over the telephone.

"Firefighters take a beating with basement fires," said Friel. He said that basement fires are stubborn and more difficult to put out, because they are more compartmentalized. The firefighters destroyed the main body of fire in about 35 to 40 minutes from the time of the 911 call.

The Morton Grove Fire Department received assistance from other local fire departments, such as Niles, Park Ridge, Skokie, Lincolnwood, Glenview and Northbrook.

Niles submits grant application for Milwaukee

With hopes of beautifying Milwaukee Avenue, The Village of Niles submitted a grant application for \$1.8 million for landscape and scenic work along Milwaukee.

The village will be competing with many municipalities within the state of Illinois for the funds that are provided by the Illinois Transportation Enhancement Program (ITEP). The ITEP is a funding source for community projects that expand travel choices and also improve the aesthetics and the environment of the infrastruc-

ture. Asst. Village Manager Steve Vinezeano said that the timing is just right, because the village's Milwaukee Avenue Corridor Study will soon be completed. If the village is awarded with the funds, they can be used toward parts of the village's plan, such as the beautification of the area.

The Village of Niles will host its third in a series of community meetings about the Milwaukee Avenue Corridor Plan on Thursday, Sept. 29.

MG Board tables Kogstad gas tax relief proposal

Kogstad says proposal will be revenue-neutral

BY TRACY YOSHIDA GRUEN
STAFF WRITER

A lively, heated, meeting was ignited by the topic of possibly eliminating the local fuel tax at the Morton Grove Village Board meeting on Monday, September 26.

Trustee Roy Kogstad made the proposal of eliminating the local fuel tax of about a penny per gallon and it was up for first reading at the village board meeting. The

item was tabled to be discussed during the budget process.

"The question I'm often asked is how much revenue will we lose?" asked Kogstad. He said that the village would actually gain \$150,000 in local tax revenue or at worst, it would be "revenue neutral." He said that if gas was a penny or two cheaper in Morton Grove, people would spend their money in Morton Grove rather than surrounding towns. According to Kogstad, Morton Grove residents are struggling with gas prices and natural gas prices and that the village board should follow their "campaign promise" and lower taxes.

According to Village President Richard Krier, a current survey

showed that gas prices are 3 cents lower per gallon in Morton Grove than in the Village of Niles.

Kogstad said that in order for the village to generate revenue, they should sell the property associated with the Lehigh/Ferris TIF and stop supporting the TIF by "borrowing" from the village's general fund.

"I feel, as a resident, that we're all creatures of habit and we're not going to go out of our way to save a penny or two," said Minx. "I believe our focus should be on balancing the budget."

"How do we know the gas owner is going to pass the penny on to the consumer?" asked Trustee Brunner. "Although I see Trustee Kogstad's nobleness in

trying to help the consumer, I don't know how far a penny will go today."

Krier said that although Kogstad's heart may be in the right place, he said he never gave the board time to discuss and review the situation. Instead, he said he surprised them with it without having a healthy discussion or debate.

"I don't think that's noble," said Krier, about Kogstad's actions. "Whenever I get information, all of the trustees get it at the same time."

"Well, first of all, I didn't think we'd get into personal attacks," said Kogstad. "What's wrong with being surprised with a good idea?"

"I'm not motivated to slap you,

Mr. Mayor, but I'm motivated to say I'm disappointed in you," said Patrick Kansoer, a resident who was unhappy with the events of the meeting. He believed that the mayor, "beat him (Kogstad) up in public." A couple other residents approached the board with the similar sentiment.

"The plain fact is that the village needs the revenue," said Trustee DiMaria, about the revenue created from the local fuel tax.

"I hate taxes as much as Trustee Kogstad does," said Trustee Staackmann. However, he said that the village needs revenue from taxes in order to provide the high quality services that it provides.

Trustee Kogstad: Village in violation of TIF Funding statutes

BY TRACY YOSHIDA GRUEN
STAFF WRITER

Morton Grove Village Trustee Roy Kogstad believes that the village is in violation of state statutes because he said they "borrowed" \$1.3 million from

the general fund for the Waukegan and Lehigh/Ferris TIF fund and have no plan for repayment.

The Waukegan TIF fund borrowed \$800,000 and the L/F TIF fund borrowed almost \$500,000.

"The Village would have a lot more money if they adhere to state statute," said Kogstad.

He said that he brought this issue up at the meeting on Aug. 8 and hasn't heard any response back.

Mayor of Morton Grove, Richard Krier, said that "borrowed," (which is the term used in the Illinois Municipal Code) is not the correct term to describe the transfer of funds

from the general fund to the TIF funds.

He said that "owed" is a better description for the situation.

"Borrowed isn't the right word," said Krier.

Krier said that it is impossible to pay the general fund back if the village does not have the money to do so.

Kogstad said that the \$1.3 million could go a "long way" to solve the village's pension funding problems.

Krier agreed that the money could have helped pay for pensions or toward road improvement plans, but he said the need was in the TIF fund.

THE BUGLE

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NEWS

OTB Opponents file petitions for referendum



Niles Village Clerk Marcia Jendreas, left, accepts petitions to put an off-track betting proposal to the voters from Jim Blue, center, a coordinator for the Illinois Churches in Action on Alcohol and Adiction and Morgan Dubiel, right, of Niles.

Petitions for March ballot largely symbolic, issue was decided Tuesday

Tuesday morning, opponents of a Niles off-track betting (OTB) facility filed petitions at village hall to put the question to the voters on the March ballot.

Morgan Dubiel, an occasional columnist for The Bugle and member of the Niles Library Board was one of the petition-circulators. He said that the petition-circulators had managed to obtain 986 signatures, though not all were against the OTB.

"Several signers said they were for the OTB," Dubiel said. "But they thought that the voters should have a say." He also said that with a vote pending that very night, a referendum was moot, though the petitions themselves made a statement to the board.

"This is a very important issue," Dubiel said. "We feel

that the people need a voice and that we need more time to discuss this issue."

Niles Mayor Nick Blase said that question of a referendum was moot because the decision would be made Tuesday night, yay or nay. He said that, if the village board had decided to table the proposal, Melrose Park-based Inter-Track Partners, LLC, the company that proposed the OTB first in Morton Grove and then in Niles would not wait around.

"They've said that they aren't going to wait around for us," he said Tuesday before the board meeting. "They've let us know that if we say no to this proposal they aren't interested in continuing to pursue a Niles site."

Blase said that Inter-Track would then look to another community for a site for a northwest suburban OTB.

OTB: Board approves Golf Mill OTB

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

facility, which was originally proposed for a site in Morton Grove would bring about 90 jobs to the village and around \$500,000 in revenue, representing one percent of overall projected gambling revenues of \$50,000,000.

Bob Bilcerkowycz, president of Inter-Track, said that the facility would also feature a full-service restaurant, renamed "Lucky Magee's" after the village's Plan Commission requested that the original name, "Bookie Magee's" be changed.

Bilcerkowycz also said that the facility would draw, not only racing fans who would wager, but also sports enthusiasts who could enjoy watching their favorite

events at the OTB's many flat-panel televisions.

After the board members had a chance to question Bilcerkowycz and Inter-Track's architect, Blase announced that three audience members from each side would have opportunities to speak for three minutes a piece.

Niles Resident Morgan Dubiel was the first individual to speak. Dubiel is an occasional columnist and contributor to The Bugle.

Dubiel said that the OTB was going to be a net-zero for the village and that it was a bad investment for the community.

"For many years the village has steered a course away from gambling," he said. Dubiel also argued that just because a business was legal did not necessarily mean that it was moral. He also rejected arguments that the village needed the money, saying that the OTB's projected revenue amounted to about \$20 per resident, per year.

Rosemary Palicki, of Niles, also spoke. She was one of several indi-

viduals who circulated petitions last week to put the issue of OTB to the voters in March.

"986 registered voters signed those petitions," she told the board. "986 voters want to address this issue."

Blase disputed the number, saying that the village clerk had examined the petitions and found only 530 signatures, far short of the required number of registered voters required to place a referendum on the ballot, about 700.

After all three opponents of the project were applauded loudly by the crowd, Blase said that the room had been stacked.

Proponents of the project, including Niles Park Commissioner Charles Barbaglia also had a chance to speak.

"I see no problem with off-track betting," Barbaglia said. "I came here to say I'm happy to see Niles getting [it]."

John Hook, a resident of unincorporated Maine Township, living just across Greenwood Ave.

from the future site of the OTB said that he was in favor of the project.

"Those of us who live by and shop at Golf Mill have seen it deteriorate," Hook said. "I think this will be a very good business for [the former Circuit City] facility."

After the public comment period had ended, each of the board members took the time to explain their votes.

On the "no" side, Biederman, Preston and Murphy all cited moral concerns with the expansion of gambling. Preston even said that she had visited several Inter-Track facilities anonymously and was not impressed, and that few of the patrons appeared to be there for the "sports bar" atmosphere.

Murphy said there were other ways to raise the revenue that would be generated by the OTB, such as a tax on eating out.

On the "yes" side, Bondi, Callero and Przybylo all addressed what they perceived as the moral issues, but said that they were concerned about the fiscal position of the village.

Przybylo said that he believed gambling was a moral neutral, while recognizing that it can have a deleterious effect on the lives of some individuals.

"I don't believe that gambling is intrinsically evil or good," he said. "I believe that gambling is a form of entertainment that can be destructive to certain individuals."

Przybylo continued by saying that Western, Democratic civilization had thrived precisely because of the freedoms that are guaranteed to its citizens, arguing by extension that Inter-Track should be free to open their OTB.

Blase broke the tie vote, saying that it was his duty to look out for the financial health of the village.

How They Voted

The Niles Village Board approved an off-track betting facility for a Golf Mill site at their meeting Tuesday. Here's how the trustees voted:

- Kim Biederman No
- Bart Murphy No
- Louella Preston No
- Tom Bondi Yes
- Robert Callero Yes
- Andrew Przybylo Yes
- Nicholas Blase Yes*

*The Mayor, Nicholas Blase, only casts a vote in the event of a tie.

"I wouldn't be doing my duty if I didn't recommend this to the board as strongly as I could," he said. Blase also argued that the village's revenue had flat-lined for three years in a row and that the gambling revenue would be a needed shot in the arm.

Throughout the meeting, board members endured about 100 jeering individuals who showed up. Several times, audience members interrupted them to take issue with their statements. After the final vote was taken many of the departing audience members yelled things like "time to clean house," and "vote them out." One individual even threw a crumpled agenda at the village clerk as she left.

NEWS

Cracking the case

The Bugle's Editor reports from the Niles Citizen's Police Academy

The Niles Police Department sponsors a Citizen's Police Academy each year. This year, our editor, Andrew Schneider, has joined the class and will be providing The Bugle's readers with a look at how the police department operates. Who knows, after reading this you may want to join up for next year's session!

Week 1: An Overview

Niles Deputy Chief Charlie Giovannelli greeted the 11th Session of Niles Citizen's Police Academy on opening night. He said he was proud of us for stepping up to learn about our local police department.

"I think we have one of the best CPA's in the state," Giovannelli said and praised the program's coordinators, School Resource Officer Robert Tornabene and Police Sgt. Jim Elenz.

"I didn't really know what to expect going in to the program. About a dozen people have joined up along with me and we spent our first week of the program getting to know our instructors and the Niles Police Department.

Niles has 65 sworn officers and about 70 civilian staff to respond to all the problems that attend a community that has both a large residential population and a large number of retail areas. Niles also has some of the highest-volume traffic areas in the area, with major roads like Dempster, Milwaukee and Golf criss-crossing it.

The first week, members of the Citizen's Police Academy were given an overview of the 12-week program, which will cover most of the aspects of the department. We'll even be able to ride along with a police officer on patrol and try out the department's firing range.

The Police Station

The new Police Station is an impressive facility. After being photographed for our ID badges, we were able to tour the station, which is generally closed to the public.

The police station includes facilities to conduct all manner of police work from suspect/witness interview room to a lock-up to offices for administrators and investigators. The new facility is

quite a step up for the department from their previous facility that used to stand right next store.

"You could walk around the whole department in 30 seconds," said Tornabene, in description.

Police officers certainly can't do that now and some have even admitted to getting lost in the new building.

The below-street-level garage houses many of the department's vehicles including those with sensitive chemicals like the evidence technician's vehicle.

Some Surprises

I always wondered whether the new light at the Milwaukee Ave./Waukegan Rd. exit to the garage. It turns out they don't.

"The timing is very complicated," Tornabene said. "But if we catch it just right, then we don't have to wait a whole cycle."

The police are also feeling the pinch from increased gas prices. Chief Strzelecki sent out a general order asking patrol officers to turn off their cars when possible to save on fuel. The only car that doesn't get turned off is the evidence technician's or any other with sensitive chemicals or technology.

I also learned that the lock-up in the station is no picnic. Not only can the officers on duty lock the doors, they can also lock windows, though they don't use the facility for long-term confinement.

And escape isn't too easy either; the police car pulls up to a secure sally-port if an arrested individual tries to escape, he can run circles around the vehicle while the officer watches, but he can't get out.

NEXT WEEK: Organizational structure, staff, the recruit academy, field training and probation. If you'd like more information on the Citizen's Police Academy, contact the Niles Police Department at (847) 588-6500.

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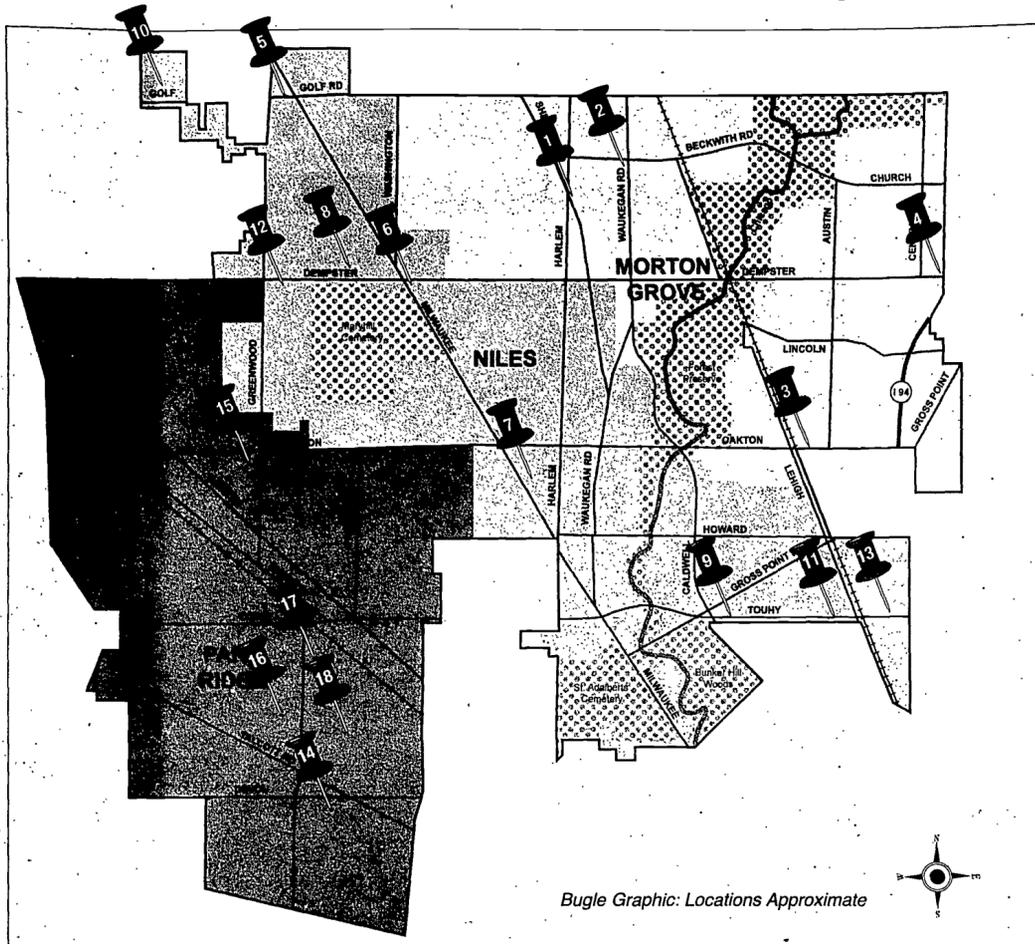
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POLICE BLOTTER



Bugle Graphic: Locations Approximate

MORTON GROVE

The following was derived from the official reports of the Morton Grove Police Department for the week ending Friday, Sept. 23.

1 Mail delivery stopped (9100 Marien)

Someone put in a mail 'stop order' for a Morton Grove man without his knowledge. The man suddenly stopped receiving his mail, went to the post office and learned about the stop order. He suspects his co-workers were 'playing a practical joke on him' and postal authorities are investigating.

2 Purse lost in massage parlor (9300 Waukegan)

A woman, 30, last saw her purse in a massage parlor on the 9300 block of Waukegan.

3 Suspicious men in factory (8000 Austin)

Two men purporting to visit a

tool shop factory for business purposes struck managers as suspicious men possibly casing the factory for a future burglary. The men asked a lot of persistent questions about the facility and one wandered around examining the factory.

4 Gas theft (5600 Dempster)

A woman driving a grey SUV pumped \$50.62 in gas and drove away without paying.

NILES

The following was derived from the official reports of the Niles Police Department for the week ending Friday, Sept. 23.

5 Teacher arrested (8600 Golf)

A teacher, 31, of the 9000 block of N. Terrace in Niles was arrested for battery and disorderly conduct Sept. 14 at a cell phone store on the 8600 block of Golf.

The teacher entered a Nextel cell phone store Wednesday,

Sept. 14. He complained to the cell phone employee, 21, that his phone bill was too high. The teacher became more angry and argued with the girl. He grabbed a sales display and threw it against the wall.

Then, the teacher took a cell phone and chucked it at the girl. The flying phone hit her in the chest. A police officer arrived on the scene, put the teacher in the squad car and then arrested him for disorderly conduct and battery.

6 Drugged driver asleep at the wheel (Milwaukee and Dempster)

A man, 29, was found unconscious behind the wheel at 5:56 a.m. Sunday, Sept. 11 with his car on the median. Police were unable to awaken the man and they learned that he has been known to use the drug GHB.

7 Bartender DUI (7800 Milwaukee)

A Glenview bartender, 28, was arrested for DUI last week.

8 Traffic fight (Prospect and Dempster)

A man, 40, of the 8300 block of W. Park in Niles was arrested for two counts of battery and leaving of an accident after allegedly slapping a thirty-four-year-old woman in the face after a traffic accident and then driving away.

The man, who works as a mover, allegedly "flipped off" the woman while they were both driving. He then followed her and "crashed his car into hers on the 8100 block of Dempster, according to the account relayed to police. The two then jumped out of their cars and argued. The man then allegedly slapped the woman, shoved a second woman and drove off.

9 YMCA car won't start, burglarized (Touhy YMCA)

A man moving out of the Touhy YMCA packed some things in his car only to find it wouldn't start. He left the car there and returned to find \$300 in property missing as well as

the front and rear license plates.

10 Apartment burglary (9000 Heathwood)

The apartment of an accountant, 28, was burglarized Sept. 15 with jewelry and cash taken. The condo is for sale.

11 Retail theft (5600 Touhy)

A Chicago man, 29, was cited for stealing a box of condoms from Wal-Mart.

12 Gas theft (8500 Dempster)

A motorist driving a gold Honda pumped \$40 in gas and drove off without paying.

13 Shoplifting (Touhy Wal-Mart)

A woman, 54, was caught shoplifting a \$14.88 DVD at the Wal-Mart on the 5600 block of Touhy.

PARK RIDGE

The following was derived from the official reports of the Park Ridge Police Department for the week ending Monday, Sept. 26.

14 Speed wheels flattened (1200 Fairview)

A Park Ridge speed trailer device had tires flattened Sept. 21.

15 TV, Cash Burglary (800 N. Lincoln)

A home on the 800 block of N. Lincoln was burglarized Sept. 15. A \$1,400 TV and \$300 cash were taken.

16 Garage car burglarized (500 S. Greenwood)

A car parked inside a home garage was burglarized Sept. 19. A laptop computer was taken from inside the car.

17 Gift cards gone (500 S. Chester)

Six \$10 Target gift cards were stolen from a Honda Sept. 19.

18 Car manuel stolen (1400 Fairview)

A vehicle instruction manual and a luggage bag were removed from a vehicle parked on the 1400 block of Fairview.

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

NEWS

News from the Police Reports

Woman smashes neighbor in head with coffee cup

BY JEFF BORGARDT
STAFF WRITER

Morton Grove police fielded two calls relating to disturbed individuals recently.

One call came in Sept. 16. A disturbed woman, 40, rang the doorbell of her neighbor at 6 a.m. Sept. 16 on the 8800 block of N. Austin.

The woman was said to be taking a variety of medications and was hearing sounds and voices that were not there.

She believed she heard sirens and loud noises coming from the home.

She tore up the neighbors screen door and threw coffee on the door. She rang the doorbell

multiple times. Then, when a man opened the door, she threw coffee at him and hit him in the head with the coffee cup.

Police admitted the woman to Lutheran General Hospital for a mental evaluation and the victim declined to press charges so long as the damaged door is fixed.

The woman was said to be taking a variety of medications and was hearing sounds and voices that were not there.

On Sept. 19, Morton Grove police fielded another call of a disturbed person.

They arrived on the 8300 block of Mango and found a

man sitting in front of his house talking to himself.

He was delusional and believed he was talking to someone else, though no one else was there.

The man said that his home was filled with electronic recording devices that were recording his every word.

Police discovered no electronic devices in the home.

The man has stopped paying his bills and maintaining his home which was described as being in "unlivable condition."

Collections of the man's firearms were removed from his home by relatives and he was admitted to Rush North Shore.

**CROSSING:
60 students
crossed in two
days**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

A Sept. 2 accident at Maine South High School triggered a debate about whether or not to station a safety police officer in the school traffic zone before and after school. Late last week, the city stationed a crossing guard, but not a police officer at the school.

Sue Daul asked the Park Ridge City Council to take steps to improve traffic safety outside the school campus Sept. 19.

Her freshman daughter was hit after the 10th day of school by a student motorist. The student was transported to Lutheran General Hospital and treated and released.

Daul and three others requested action from the board.

Ald. Rex Parker was most vocal calling for action.

"I don't want another student getting hit," he said. But police chief Jeff Caudill resisted calls to station an officer at the school.

"If you are talking about putting an officer in the middle of the

street with flares, I'm not sure that's the right move," he said.

The chief said he didn't have enough manpower to spare to station an officer at the school.

"Park Ridge is divided into five districts. Sometimes, there is only one officer for each district. If I have to take an officer off the street and put them at the school, it will mean that district may not be patrolled at all."

Some aldermen said the city council should not try to micro-manage the police department on traffic safety but others tried to convince the chief to put an officer at Maine South.

The public works department is conducting a study to see if a traffic signal can be placed at the location of the accident and new signs are expected on Talcott in the next few days.

The city has jurisdiction over Talcott near the schoolgrounds.

During the discussion, crossing guard schedules and passenger roadwalks were debated.

Chief Caudill said he was concerned about the accident and safety before and after school at Maine South and said the issue is being studied.

Parker said 3,000 people enter the building in the morning and a police officer should be stationed there to control the crowds.

"If there was a city event with 3,000 people attending, we'd

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Notre Dame student, Eagle Scout candidate participates in veteran's flag-burning

Daniel Stolarski, a student at Notre Dame High School, participated in a flag disposal ceremony at Camp Dan Beard in Wheeling as part of an Eagle Scout project last weekend.

Stolarski, of Chicago, visited various VFW (Veterans of Foreign Wars) sites in order to collect the flags to perform the proper flag burning/disposal ritual. The ceremony took place at Camp Dan Beard in Wheeling Sept. 16 to Sept. 18.

"He's a nice young kid who's trying his best to be an Eagle Scout," said Walter Beusse, a member of the Niles VFW. Beusse started collecting flags as a park

district commissioner about five years ago. He said there is a barrel to collect flags for proper disposal at the Howard Leisure Center.

The flag burning involves the use of a 55 gallon drum and is a long process. "It takes hours and hours for them to be burned," said Beusse. He said that some flags are made of special materials that require "intense heat" to burn and take even longer. "We're trying to preserve the proper respect for our flags."

Along with the flag disposal ceremony, there was also a Court of Honor meeting that took place, which recognizes and congratu-

lates scouts who are working on merit badges and advancement. This special meeting only occurs two to three times each year.

Beusse believes that kids are becoming more patriotic lately. He said that he just received a phone call from an Eagle Scout who attends St. John Brebeuf. This boy plans to collect various goods from deposit areas throughout Niles and send them overseas to the soldiers in Iraq.

The Niles VFW has given \$3,000 to the Hynes veteran hospital and will send \$100 to the New Orleans VFW to show their support of Hurricane Katrina victims.

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COMMENTARY

Another Perspective

BY MORGAN DUBIEL
COLUMNIST



Ticketeers...

That is what a recent Chicago Sun-Times article, Driving in Niles? That's the ticket, implies our Niles Police force has become. Of 2,733 drivers of all races pulled over in the northern suburb in 2004, 2,731 got at least one ticket. That's the highest percentage of tickets given to stopped drivers in the six-county Chicago region, according to data in the Illinois Traffic Stop Study. That works out to a 99.93 percent rate of ticketing. Does the implication hold?

Now, many municipalities have reputations as speed traps. Although more tickets were given than is shown in the study (some stops involved multiple tickets) at \$75/ticket, 2731 tickets generate \$204,825.00. Is this amount sufficient to disparage the Niles Police force or alter their behavior to generate revenue?

Statistics only have relevancy in relation to something else. For instance if you were told that cancers of all types increased by 300% after a chemical plant was located in a community, what would you conclude? That the chemical plant caused the cancer, but you would be wrong. The raw numbers show that only one person got cancer the year before out of a population of 3000. This year four got cancer. True cancer went up from .03% to .13% of the population, but that is still below the state average of .2%. All these numbers mean nothing in isolation. You cannot determine anything from the numbers alone.

Even more unfairly, the Sun-Times article compared Niles to Geneva, Illinois. We have several major streets running through our village. You can access every major suburb in the Northwest &

Northern suburbs off of Milwaukee. It is a major feeder to hundreds of other roads and streets. Could not the opposite be true? That is, given the amount of traffic our village faces, that we are really quite tolerant.

It is common to drive Milwaukee at 45MPH. Higher speeds are seen everyday. We likely have an accident or more a day. If the average traffic stop was for speeding maybe our cops only pull over for excessive speeding, say 55MPH. That means that they are reasonable and simply have a higher standard for what constitutes an actionable violation. Our police did not pull over every possible violator, just the worst, given our traffic density and flow, that seems very reasonable.

2733 traffic stops works out to 7 stops a day. If our police gave out a ticket an hour the rate would be three times as high. This does not account for the fact that there is more than one officer writing tickets during any one shift. Our cops don't spend their days writing tickets. The danger in this study, analyzed by Northwestern University, is that it encourages and enhances a negative view of the police and particularly ours.

The original purpose of the study was to find incidences of racial profiling in police stops. Ironically, the United States is rapidly adopting the race consciousness of South Africa. Everything is about race. The study shows no statistically significant difference in minority vs. White stops. The real news, the data you will likely never hear about, is that there is absolutely no evidence of racial profiling by police in Illinois.

The tragedy of this study is its implications. First, that it is necessary thus implying a problem and a police force that cannot be trusted. Second, in the attempt to find news our media creates it: picking on the Niles Police is just such an abuse, both of statistics and logic.

The truth is that in the 21st century we have developed professional police forces which are colorblind when it comes to law enforcement. It seems that the only ones who are still race conscious are those collecting the statistics. Can't we just move along? When do we get to graduate from the era of segregation? This garbage will continue as long as guilt can be used as a political weapon.

Other Views



Cartoons From Copley News Service

BUSINESS

Morton Grove German Restaurant to become small mini-mall

Black Forest Catered for Governor, Once Business of the Month

BY JEFF BORGARDT
STAFF WRITER

The Black Forest restaurant is serving its last meals.

Developer George Londos is shutting down the eatery and planning to transform the 8840 Waukegan property into a mini-strip mall.

The eatery was known for its German fare and even had German-language speaking employees.

Smoked Hungarian Sausage was one of the popular items at the Black Forest as well as bratwurst.

The Morton Grove Chamber of Commerce selected Black Forest as the business of the month in February. They catered an Oktoberfest party at the governor's mansion in 2001.

Londos said he has spoken with several national companies that

“We are going to submit our drawings in the next couple of days.”

George Londos
Developer,
Black Forest Site

may be interested in moving into the mall.

However, none have made final agreements so Londos declined to name them.

“I don't think they'd want me to be quoted on that,” he said.

According to Londos, Black Forest has been in business for “a long, long time.”

He estimated the restaurant has been operating for between 20 and 30 years.

However, they have fallen on hard times of late and will likely shut down at the end of the month, he said.

The strip mall development has been discussed at Morton Grove Village Hall several times and the developer said he has been working with the building department.

“We are going to submit our drawings in the next couple days,” he said, adding that several meetings have already been held.

Kim Nelson of Interra Real Estate said the speed at which the 18,000 sq. ft. property is developed depends on how quickly vil-

Story Continues...
see BLACK FOREST page 10.

Six 'must' investment categories



When I buy toothpaste, I get irritated when I look at the choices that consume an entire aisle at my local Target. When I was a kid, you could buy Crest or Colgate in one flavor, period. Now you have to choose between toothpaste that whitens teeth; or fights tartar, or squeezes out as a gel, or is mixed with baking soda. Am I being a grouchy, or are all these choices necessary?

Unfortunately, investors must wrestle with even more choices. In its latest survey, the trade group for the mutual fund industry counted more than 7,900 funds that would love to send you a new account form. And that's nothing compared with the possibilities you face in the fixed-income world. Bond investors are currently holding onto roughly five million bonds.

But David F. Swensen, the chief investment officer of Yale University, believes you can ignore more than 99.99 percent of the investments out there. Most of them are no better than junk, overpriced and likely to weigh down the performance of your portfolio.

Last week, Swensen, the author of the new book “Unconventional Success: A Fundamental Approach to Personal Investment,” told us what investments he would leave out at the curb on trash day. Today, we'll look at the six investment categories that should not be tossed.

Here's the lineup:
- U.S. Treasury bonds. In his book, Swensen trashes most types of bonds, but he adores Treasuries for rather obvious reasons. Treasuries are the investment world's equivalent of chicken soup. During times of financial turmoil, investors chow down on Treasuries because they are the ultimate comfort food. No matter what kind of craziness is whipsawing the planet, investors need not worry about the federal government defaulting on its Treasury bonds. Uncle Sam also won't play Indian giver and ask for its bonds back when interest rates drop, which other bond issuers insist on doing with irritating frequency. Finally, unlike other types of bonds, Treasuries are cheap to buy.

- U.S. Treasury Inflation-Protected Securities. TIPS are Treasuries that provide a “real” rate of return - simply put, what you have left after inflation has gnawed away at your investment. Besides serving as the perfect hedge against inflation, TIPS are heralded as an excellent way to provide diversification to a portfolio. Numerous studies have shown that TIPS exhibit very low correlation with stocks, which just means they behave quite differently. And that's exactly what you aim for when putting together a portfolio.

- Domestic stocks. If you peer into a typical portfolio, you could easily conclude that domestic stocks are as essential as toilet paper to the average

Story Continues...
see MONEY page 10.

BY JEFFREY CARDELLA
Special to The Bugle

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Should you Work with a Financial Professional?

When you make investment decisions, you've got a lot of factors to evaluate: corporate earnings, economic climate, interest rates, oil prices and so on. In fact, navigating the investment world can seem like a daunting task if you're going it alone. So make it easier on yourself — and get the help you need.

Specifically, consider working with a financial professional. When you do, you may become a better investor, and you will almost certainly gain a broader perspective.

For starters, a financial professional can help you quantify your goals. You might know that you want to retire at age 60, buy a vacation home and spend your time pursuing your hobbies — but do you know much retirement income you'll need to attain this lifestyle? And do you know what sort of return you'll require from your investments to provide you with this income?

A qualified financial professional has the tools and expertise to help you answer these and other key questions. And if you wanted to explore several different retirement possibilities, your financial adviser could illustrate what you'd need to do, and how you'd need to invest, to achieve these outcomes.

At the same time, a financial professional might be able to help you avoid making some potentially costly mistakes. Suppose, for instance, that you get a “tip” on a “hot” stock from a friend, relative or neighbor. On your own, you might be tempted to invest in this stock. But if you work with a qualified financial professional, you would learn that by the time you buy a hot stock, it may already be cooling off. Even more importantly, a financial professional might tell you that the stock in question really isn't suitable for your individual situation.

Furthermore, once a financial professional is familiar with your needs, risk tolerance and time horizon, he or she can help customize an investment portfolio for you. And through regular reviews, your adviser can help you stay diversified, which is essential to long-term success.

Because it's their business, financial professionals stay current on changing tax laws and investment rules — and this knowledge can pay off for you. For example, you might not have known that IRA and 401(k) contribution limits went up in 2005 — but your financial professional did.

Finding the Right Professional

Clearly, it can be to your advantage to use a financial professional. But how do you find the right one? Here are some questions to ask of candidates:

• **What are your credentials?** Make sure a prospective financial adviser has the appropriate securities licenses.

• **How are you paid?** Financial advisers are paid through fees or commissions, or a combination of both. One way isn't necessarily “better” than another, but it's important for you to know the system of compensation being used.

• **How will you communicate with me?** Find out when you'll receive statements and how often you'll meet in person to review your portfolio.

• **What is your investment philosophy?** Different financial advisers have different ways of approaching the investment process. You will need to find someone whose philosophy feels like a good fit for you.

Finding the right financial professional for your needs can take some time — but it's worth the effort.

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

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BUSINESS

BLACK FOREST: Restaurant may close by October

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

lage approval is granted.

The restaurant is near to the Honda Castle auto dealership.

On Sept. 26, Londos said the restaurant was still open for business but preparing to close down as early as the end of the month. The Bugle called Black Forest that day and they were closed but Londos said they are always closed on Mondays.

The Black Forest site entails both a catering deli store and a restaurant. The new mini mall would encompass both establishments operated under the same

auspices.

The deli website blackforest-market.com reads, "We at the Black Forest Market are Chicago-land's leading German-European oriented deli. All of our products are made with Old German recipes, under the watchful eye and supervision of the owner, Harry. We take great pride in making our products fresh and with the best 'quality' ingredients. Our reputation speaks for itself. We produce the best bratwurst (white veal brats - nitrate free!), meats and homemade sausage, specializing in imported and domestic delicacies, Chicago area catering, holiday meals and gift needs. Place orders by filling out the simple online forms or just give us a call. Check out our many Products & Services on the left and don't forget to stop by The Black Forest Restaurant next door!"



The Black Forest Restaurant near Waukegan Rd. and Dempster St. It may close by the end of October.

MONEY: Good Investments

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

investor. With bonds providing cover, investors can aim for growth by sinking money into American corporations. Since 1926, the blue-chip behemoths

have generated annual returns of 10.4 percent, while small companies have earned the loving cup by outpacing the competition with yearly returns of 12.7 percent.

Foreign developed market stocks. Stocks from corporations in the developed world - think of companies like Nestle, Sony and Unilever - share remarkably similar performance records with their U.S. brethren. When you add foreign exposure to your portfolio, however, you can reduce its overall risk without sacrificing your expected returns. Only invest overseas if you are prepared to abandon any ethnocentric tendencies. Many investors stick with American stocks unless foreign equities are kicking butt. Only then do they belatedly pour money into foreign stocks in a mad dash to capture hot returns that are now probably as cold as yesterday's latte. If you're going to invest overseas, be prepared to stay put.

Emerging market stocks. Perhaps you believe that investing in emerging markets is foolhardy. A despot could seize control of a country, a tragic natural disaster could strike, or a monetary crisis could erupt. A few years back, a crisis involving Malaysian ringgits

and Thai baht - currencies most of us didn't even know existed - shrunk portfolios from San Diego to Hong Kong. But Swensen argues persuasively that flavoring your portfolio with a small dose of high-risk emerging market stocks can enhance its risk-and-return potential.

Real estate. In the investment world, real estate serves as a middle sibling. Over the long term, stocks perform better than real estate, but real estate typically outpaces bonds. Real estate investors might realistically expect returns that are roughly 2.5 percentage points a year better than bonds. Commercial real estate is a hybrid that, in some respects, acts like bonds, due to the money generated by tenant leases. But real estate also resembles stocks because of the possibility of rising property values. Investing in real estate investment trusts is an easy way to gain exposure to this inflation hedge.

Once you've assembled the building blocks, your job is not done. The proportions you select when mixing these six assets class- will make a big difference in the outcome. A baker can select the same ingredients, sugar, flour,

eggs and vanilla, but the proportions used will determine whether a cake or a souffle emerges from the oven.

To use as a starting point, Swensen provides the following model portfolio for long-term investors:

Domestic stocks 30 percent
Foreign developed stocks 15 percent
Emerging market stocks 5 percent
Real estate 20 percent
U.S. Treasury bonds 15 percent
U.S. Treasury TIPS 15 percent

The asset lineup meets all Swensen's critical requirements for a well-balanced portfolio. No assets class, for instance, exceeds 30 percent of portfolio and none dips below 5 percent. While the portfolio relies heavily on higher-returning assets - stocks and real estate - it reserves 30 percent of the portfolio for rock-solid government bonds that can serve as a reliable bomb shelter during financial turbulence.

Swensen acknowledges that his model portfolio won't suit everybody. For instance, someone who is unnerved by the prospects of creeping inflation may want to embrace more TIPS.

Investors who freak at pouring money into emerging countries may want to pass. Meanwhile, if your time horizon isn't at least a decade, this model portfolio will be too high-octane to drive.

Once you've established your own asset percentages, the last step is picking the right investments. Swensen believes individual investors should use mutual funds, but at the same time it wouldn't be a stretch to observe that Swensen loathes most of the fund industry.

In his book, he argues that most mutual funds are horribly expensive. These high fees dramatically sabotage performance, which leaves most funds operating as if they were missing their spark plugs. So where's an investor to turn?

As this column has advocated - ad nauseum since its beginning - investors should sink their money into low-cost index funds. Happily, Swensen strongly agrees.

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

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The October 12 seminar will start with registration and breakfast at 8:30 a.m.; presentation from 9 to 10:30 a.m. at the North Shore Senior Center - Cohn Auditorium, 161 Northfield Road in Northfield. Seating is limited; pre-registration is encouraged.

To register, call Ginee Ames at (847) 729-9090.



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Nick Katsoolias, the local Edward Jones investment representative, is using his office as a drop-off location for food donations to the Greater Chicago Food Depository and coats to Cornerstone Community Outreach Shelter.

Local residents may help those in need by bringing in nonperishable items or warm fall/winter coats they would like to donate. The items may be dropped off at 7627 N. Milwaukee Avenue during regular business hours, from 8:30am-4:00pm Monday through Friday, October 3rd to November 11th.

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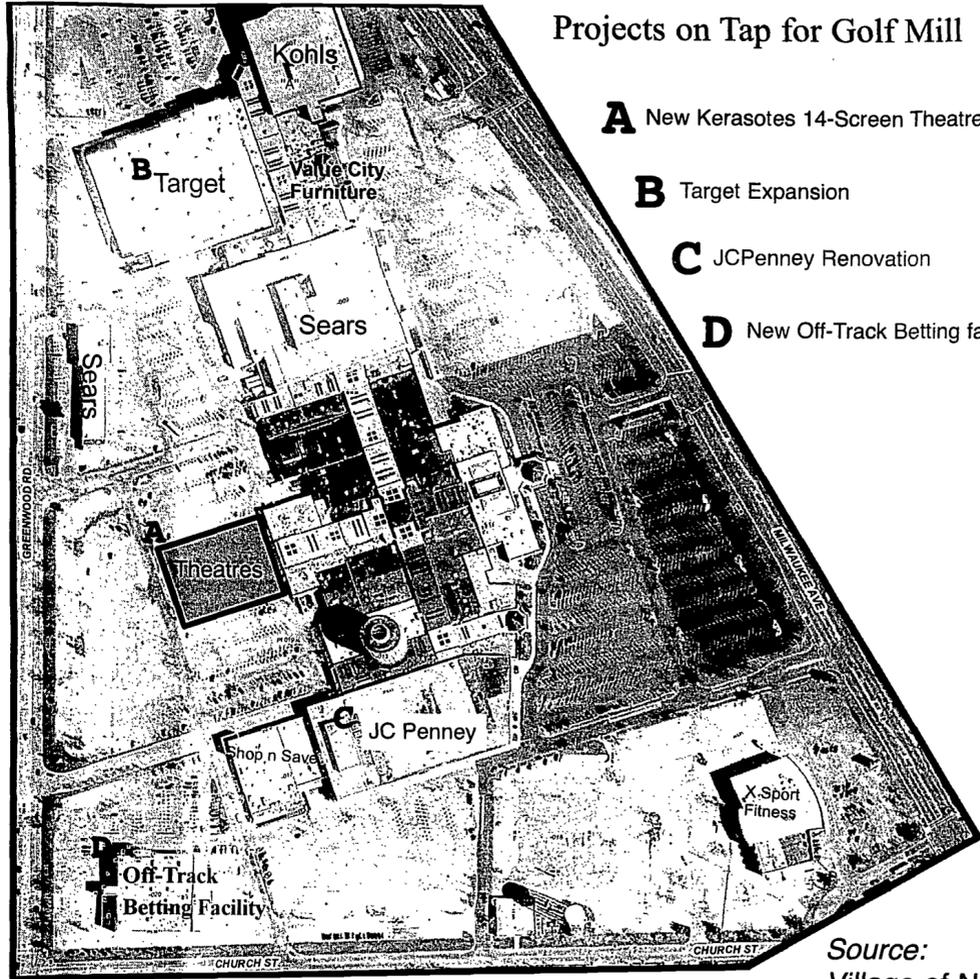
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Golf Mill

ROOM TO GROW

Projects on Tap for Golf Mill



A New Kerasotes 14-Screen Theatre

B Target Expansion

C JCPenney Renovation

D New Off-Track Betting facility

Source: Village of Niles

JC Penney's to begin renovation

The Golf Mill JC Penney's will soon begin an interior renovation.

According to Niles Community Development Director Chuck Ostman, the department store located on the south end of Golf Mill Mall is planning to remodel, though he did not know the extent of the plans.

The popular store serves as the southern anchor for the mall. A small, detached building with Church St. frontage is located to the south and was previously occupied by a bowling alley. It is currently vacant.

Wal-Mart to begin demolition soon

A new Wal-Mart, that will be located off of Golf Rd. north and east of Golf Mill Mall is scheduled to begin demolition in the next few weeks, Niles Community Development Director Chuck Ostman said.

The new store, Niles' second Wal-Mart, is expected to generate additional traffic to the business district at the village's extreme northwestern end. Ostman said that the traffic would help kick-start new growth at Golf Mill Mall.

Niles is one of only a few small communities that has two Wal-Marts, something Mayor Nicholas Blase attributes to the high traffic volumes on Golf and Touhy Ave. The village also has two Target Stores, located, coincidentally, on Golf and Touhy.

THEATERS: New theater will succeed where old theater failed

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Manager Robert Gallivan did not return calls for comment.

If approved, the theater will be constructed on a previously dedicated pad located on the east side of Golf Mill. They would be built off the entrance that is opposite the mall's food court entrance.

Word of the original proposal, which called for 16 screens at the site, circulated last week.

Ostman said, however, that the architectural plans and the size of the dedicated pad would probably not allow for that many.

The new theater would succeed where the old Golf Mill Theater had failed, Ostman believed, because they will be state-of-the-art, new facilities whereas the old theater had been plagued by maintenance concerns that eventually led to its closure. It has been since reconstructed as a fitness business.

Kerasotes currently operates a total of 603 movie screens in 76 locations.

Most of those are located in the Midwest. They will be expanding to several locations

other than Niles in the next year, including Algonquin, Aurora, Chicago, Naperville and Vernon Hills. The company was founded in 1909.

The theaters are only the first of several proposals that Ostman said will rejuvenate the mall and turn it into a more vital shopping district. He said that several more announcements may be made over the next year, citing three more dedicated pads at the mall, two on the Milwaukee Ave. side and one on the Greenwood side.

Golf Mill will also boast an off-track betting facility at the former Circuit City site, just south and west of the theaters following its approval by the Niles Village Board Tuesday.

Right on Target Golf Mill Retailer will expand again

The Golf Mill Target Store is planning another expansion project, according to Niles Community Development Director Chuck Ostman.

The store, located at the north end of Golf Mill Mall, has already expanded once. This time, the expansion project will encompass all the remaining independent storefronts located in the mall north of Sears.

"It's going to be all large stores on the north end of the

mall," Ostman said.

The small storefronts to the north of the Sears store struggled in recent years. Many of the spaces were eliminated when Value City Furniture occupied the area between Kohls and Sears on the Milwaukee side of the mall.

The Target expansion will take over the few remaining storefronts currently located south of their mall entrance.

Ostman said he was not sure of the scope or timeline of the expansion.



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Rosh Hashanah...

Happy New Year! From The Bugle

Is the first and second days of the first Jewish month of Tishrei. It marks the beginning of the Jewish new year. The celebration of this holiday is marked with solemnity, as it is the day on which the whole world is judged for the coming year. Rosh Hashanah is the birthday of the world, as it was on this day that God created Man on the 6th day of creation. Every year, on this day, we proclaim God as our one and true King.

SCHOOLS



Washington School students assemble backpacks for Hurricane victims

Boxes of crayons, rulers, notebooks, binders, glue, sham-poo, soap, Spiderman toys and close to 300 backpacks filled the hallway at Washington School in Park Ridge on Monday, Sept. 26. The backpacks will be sent to children who were victims of Hurricane Katrina.

After having lunch, students in the student council lined up in the hallway and went through an assembly line, choosing supplies to put into the backpacks that were donated by families. With smiles on their faces, the children enthusiastically went through the line. Principal, Kim Nasshon, was helping guide the children through the line, along with teachers and parents who volunteered their time. Nasshon was thrilled that so many people donated supplies to help the victims. She said they are still in the process of deciding exactly where the back-packs will be sent.

Before the children started

off in the assembly line, some took a few minutes to share their thoughts on the project.

"I think it's a good idea that we're doing this," said Jordan, a student at

"I think it's a good idea that we're doing this."

Jordan

Washington Student

Washington School. She said that some students who are hurricane victims can go to their new school for free, but they often do not have the school supplies they need.

"I think it's pretty cool that people donated so much stuff," said John, a student.

"I love it," said student, Fiona, explaining what the whole experience was like.

"It's so, so fun and I like helping people."

DiFranco Orthodontist, a local business, and Target of Rosemont donated many rulers and binders to help out.

"The whole experience has been overwhelmingly wonderful and they showed so much compassion for the victims," said Mrs Mcgrath, a teacher at Washington School.

"I think the kids wanted to help out in some way," said Colleen Gebavi, PTO vice president. She said it's great that they can physically help out, by packing the backpacks with school supplies.

Lisa Arger, a member of the PTO, said that she believes it's inspiring for the kids to see that there are people everywhere that are in need. She said that her three children, who attend Washington School, came home and asked what they could do to help.

Throughout the year, the school will continue to hold fund-raisers in which proceeds will go toward the hurricane victims.

SJB Students Learn About Butterflies

Recently, SJB third graders enjoyed a "hands on" experience learning about the life cycle of a butterfly.

Mrs. Mary Banaszak shared her hobby of saving these insects from harm in order to let them fly to a healthy dose of freedom. The children learned how she finds the eggs on milkweed located in the forest preserve and at malls.

As a follow-up, each of the three classrooms has been observing an egg which has developed into stage 2 - "larva" or caterpillar. Daily the

boys and girls were amazed by the huge amount of milkweed leaf eaten by the tiny caterpillar.

They are now waiting for the "pupa" or cocoon stage to develop, once the caterpillar grows large enough in size. After that, the miracle of a butterfly will finally appear.

Incredibly, Mrs. Banaszak had examples of all four stages available to view. The third graders are anxiously waiting for the full-life cycle to complete development.

Maine East to Present Metamorphoses

Tickets are now on sale for the Maine East Drama Department production of Metamorphoses. Performance dates are October 7 & 8, 2005 at 7:30 PM and general admission tickets are \$5.00.

First performed by students at Northwestern University, this play opened at Broadway's Circle on the Square Theater in March 2002. Based on Ovid's transformation myths, the play subtly mixes the ancient stories of pathos and tragedy with contemporary language, humor, and thought. The themes of love, the inevitability of change, and the human ability to adapt to change are timeless, as is amply demonstrated by the sometimes eerie closeness of a vignette to the original lines from Ovid, which still manage to resonate with modern viewers. The stories that endure are the ones that touch something inside of us beyond the capacity of time to erase.

The stories of Ovid and the whole of Greek mythology itself are this universal, so it is perhaps unsurprising that Metamorphoses has a vital, enduring quality of its own. From the first moments of the

play, to the final, beautiful moment of the perhaps surprising coda to the piece, the stories are dramatic, humorous, and quite frequently riveting.

The Maine East production features an ensemble of 19 actors, including Neil Adamson, Samantha Allababidi, Paula Alvear, Laura Carstons, Daniel Carrasquillo, Sammi Esterman, Vicky Hurst, Zak Karner, Matt LaLuz, Franki Levinson, Stephanie Levy, Vicki Matej, Dipesh Patel, Christina Roth, Eli Taylor, Frieda Trovela, Sarah Tulicki, Chris Wesley, and Tyler Wilsey. The crew of 13 includes Neil Adamson, Keith Banaszak, Elle Burke, Maysa Farraj, Matt Gajowniczek, Michelle Khatchadurian, Beth Kloser, Katie Lenart, Katie Levinson, Jazmin Mazariegos, Megan Meyer, Tess Raser and Dan Wiechec.

The production is directed by drama teacher Karen M. Hall and designed by new technical director Kyle Waites.

Tickets may be reserved by calling the Fine Arts department at (847) 692-8500 or can be purchased at the box office on the night of the performance.

St. John Brebeuf hosts raffle

Enter a raffle to win cash prizes and have fun at the Halloween Bash Benefit for Anita Zoerink and her family, Saturday, Oct. 15, 7 p.m. to midnight, at the St. John Brebeuf Ministry Center.

Ms. Zoerink, who recently lost her mother, has taken into her small home her gravely ill sister and her sister's three children. This doubled the number of people for whom she was caring. For 21 years, Ms. Zoerink generously has given

her time to Niles area church, school, park and community programs.

Enjoy dinner, cash bar, cash and door prizes, the best DJ in the area, dancing and costume contests. \$20 door fee. Raffle tickets are \$25 each. Prizes up to \$1,000. Entrants need not be present to win.

For more information, and to support a wonderful family in its time of need, please call Linda/John at 847/965-1546 or Cathy at 708/703-0214.

SPORTS

SPORTS ROUNDUP

Trained as spy, he's the game's inquiring eye



JERRY MAGEE
Copley News Service

About a ground stroke's distance from the media entrance of the National Tennis Center is a bench. Through the U.S. Open, this fatherly figure generally could be found sitting there.

"It's my office," Bob Larson would say.

Larson having had an involvement with the game for 30 years, persons passing by from the tennis community, seeing him, sometimes would join him on the bench for a chat. Larson is an easy person to talk to. He also knows how to listen.

The gentleman whose e-mailed missives chronicle the goings-on in tennis was trained by the government as a spy.

No, he won't say what arm of the U.S. establishment sought him out. "I received a call from a man and he said, 'We have this opportunity,'" Larson said. "A couple of days later, I accepted it."

By his account, he was to become a counter spy, one who monitors the activities of the espionage agents of other countries. "In order to teach me what they wanted me to do, they first had to teach me to be a spy," Larson said.

His involvement in what author John Le Carre has termed "the secret world" would last only a couple of years, Larson said. He soon would get into investments, in which he apparently did very well. His home is in Edina, Minn., which is to the Twin Cities what La Jolla is to the San Diego area. If there are any poor persons residing in Edina, they are covering up their status very nicely. Settling in Edina, Larson had

some time on his hands. He said his wife played bridge. Since he does not play bridge, he suggested to her that they take up tennis. They did, beginning what for Larson has been an engrossing (and for years costly) association.

Larson said he became aware of a fellow who was putting out a publication dealing with softball in his area. Larson asked him if he would be interested in expanding his publishing interests to tennis.

"He told me that he didn't know a thing about tennis, but that if I would tell him what to do, he would do it," Larson said.

Larson thus became "The Spy Who Came In to the Service Line," to borrow a line from Le Carre. Beginning in 1976, for 20 years, he said, he lost \$25,000 annually touching on the activities in tennis through his publication. He now has two vehicles that are available through e-mail, Daily Tennis, circulated five days a week for \$97 a year, and Tennis Celebs, sent out 50 times annually for a \$47 a year.

Further, on the Web he maintains tennis news.com, which he culls from tennis organs worldwide. During the Open, Larson said tennis news.com had more than 50,000 hits.

He no longer is losing money from his tennis interests, Larson said, but neither is he making more than a modest profit. "I feel what I do is exciting," Larson said. "I just want to know everything that is going on in tennis."

Every day, he said he surfs the

Internet, combing it for items he considers of interest, and he also has three others peeking at the Web. His Tennis Celebs he considers akin to People magazine. He has made arrangements with persons within the tennis community who feed him odds and information.

"I don't want to say it's 'fluff' stuff," Larson said, "but I don't want to be negative about anything. I'm not an investigative journalist. For instance, if I find out that a certain player is not as nice as he seems to be, I won't use it."

Sitting on a bench at the Open, though, can be rewarding for a man trained to listen and to ask the proper questions.

Something Larson learned during the Open: that the U.S. Tennis Association was planning on increasing the annual dues paid by its members from \$35 to \$40. The USTA has 660,000 members. That \$5 increase would bring the USTA an additional \$3.3 million. In tennis news.com, meantime, there is an item, picked up from Khaleig Tennis in India, that an Islamic group named Jamaat-a-Ulema is opposed to how Sania Mirza of India, a coming star, dresses for tennis and is threatening to act to prevent her from playing in an event in Kolkata, India, unless she wears "proper clothes."

Good stuff. As the Open was pressing toward a conclusion, a visitor from San Diego shared Larson's bench with him. He was asked how much of the tennis he had observed.

"I've only seen one set," he said.

Professional Golf Tips With Tina Mickelson

Regaining your composure

If you find yourself suddenly struggling in the middle of a round of golf, the tendency is to get tense and quick. In an effort to "hurry up and get back on track," players often try to force things along. That is when you find the added tension as well as the faster tempo, which will contribute to your demise rather than help you get back on track.

When you feel yourself "losing it" out there, the first thing you need to do is take a very deep breath and relax. Once you've done that, concentrate intently on starting your backswing slowly and smoothly. You may need to force yourself not to snatch the club back too quickly. This initial move is what sets the pace for the rest of the swing so it is imperative you start back with good tempo and with no tension.

Another point in the swing where players can get way too quick, especially when they are struggling, is at the top. Make sure you don't rush your transition from backswing to downswing. Gradually accelerate up until impact and follow through. The club head should be traveling at the maximum velocity at impact and follow through, not at the top of the swing. By focusing on tempo and releasing tension, you will find yourself back on track much faster than trying to force things along.

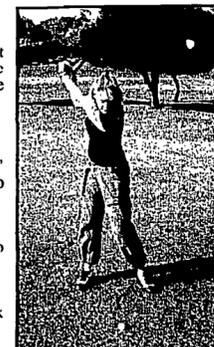
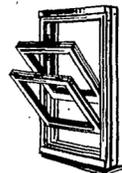


Photo by Paul Narsi

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SENIORS

Niles Senior Center attempts to procure more flu vaccinations

The Niles Senior Center is currently attempting to procure additional vaccine for the flu shot clinics. If you did not get an appointment for one of the clinics in October you may put your name on a waiting list (847 588-8420). If we are able to obtain additional vaccine you will be contacted. You may also contact your personal physician, pharmacy, local hospital or the Suburban Cook County Health Department, 708-492-2000, for possible flu shot locations.

Flu shots, blood pressure screenings at Park Ridge

692-3597 for the next day and time.

Park Ridge Senior News

VARIETY SHOW

FLU SHOTS AT PARK RIDGE SENIOR CENTER

Flu shots will be available for all seniors on Thursday, October 13 from 9 a.m. to 12 noon. The shots will be administered by the American Lung Association.

BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENING

Nurse Nora has recuperated from hip surgery and is back taking blood pressures. It's important to know what your blood pressure is and should be taken periodically. Call the Center at 847-

692-3597 for the next day and time. The first two performances of the Park Ridge Senior Center variety show and steak fry are over and were the usual success. A third matinee performance of the show (no dinner) is scheduled for October 30. "The Fabulous Forties" showtime is 2 p.m. at the Senior Center. This performance is open to anyone so members can bring families and friends. This year's show is full of music everyone loves performed by Center members. The program is filled with singing, dancing and comedy. Tickets are only \$6.00. Registration for the show should be done in advance according to current policy.

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SENIORS

Learn to make cards at the Niles Senior Center

Niles Senior News



A resident of Bethany Terrace, Lois Johnson (right) and Amanda Cortez (left), the daughter of a staff member at the facility fed the goats at the petting zoo for Grandparent's Day.

Grandparent's Day Celebrated at Bethany Terrace

Bethany Terrace Nursing Centre located in Morton Grove celebrated Grandparent's Day this month. Many of the resident's family members joined the facility for the annual celebration. Included in the festivities

were two live entertainment groups, clowns, caricatures, ice cream and a petting zoo. "Every year more people show up than the previous year," said Mila Gallardo, director of Activities at Bethany Terrace. "It's great for our residents."

CARD MAKING & STAMPING CLASSES, Thursdays at 9:30AM

It's the latest craze! The new techniques and adornments that make today's hand made cards so beautiful are easy to learn and use in the making of your own greeting cards or stationary. It's a great new hobby, but the supplies and tools can be quite costly. When you participate in our classes, you will have access to all the materials you need to create beautiful, heirloom quality cards. During each session, you will learn new techniques and have an opportunity to use them in making a set of cards to take home. We also have idea books for designing a variety of cards. For more information, contact MaryAnn (847 588-8420)

20th Join us at the Lone Tree Manor for a delicious Family Style lunch (Cash Bar). Following lunch the season's prize money will be awarded. Win one of many Door Prizes!

FINAL GRIEF WORKSHOP, SEPTEMBER 28th 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM
Niles residents touched by the loss of a loved one are invited to our final Grief Workshop. Call Bev Wessels, MSW, LSW, ACSW or Melanie Amin LCSW for more information about this final session or upcoming workshops (847 588-8420). The workshop, titled, "On My Own" will explore the stress of living alone and ways to adjust to new social roles and responsibilities.

4TH ANNUAL PET PARADE, Monday, October 10th at 1:00PM
The animal kingdom will reign supreme at the 4th annual Pet Parade! Whether large or small, Story Continues... see NILES next page.

OCTOBER REGISTRATION INFORMATION

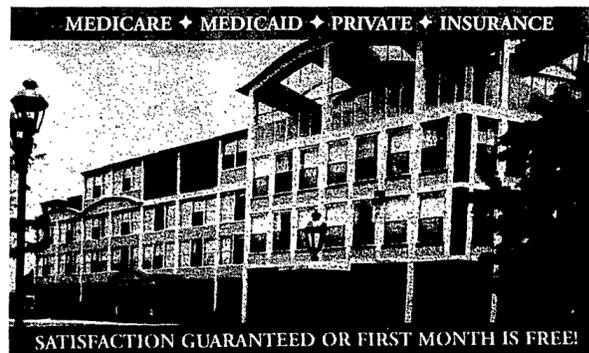
Drop off Registrations for Programs listed in the October Naturally Active are due at the Senior Center by 5:00 PM on Friday, October 7th. Walk-in Registration for programs with remaining space will begin at 9:00 AM on Wednesday, October 12th.

SENIOR MEN'S GOLF LEAGUE SET BANQUET DATE

Men's Golf Banquet, October 27th, Lone Tree Manor Cost \$15. Make reservations by October 12th.

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SENIORS

MaineStreamers offer fall programs, trips

Maine Township Senior News

The Maine Township MaineStreamers program offers a variety of opportunities for residents 55 and older. Membership is free and includes a subscription to the monthly newsletter that details all activities for the upcoming month. All activities take place at

Maine Township Town Hall, 1700 Ballard Rd., Park Ridge, unless otherwise noted. For further information on membership or call MaineStreamers at 1-847-297-2510.

COMPUTER WORKSHOP

"A Potpourri of Topics"

Tuesday, October 11

3 to 4:30 p.m.

Cost: \$10 - Registration Required

Presenter: Lee Huber

Has your computer speed

slowed down? Learn how to better manage it and keep it in top shape. Topics will include doing routine maintenance, virus and spyware options and much more. Buying a printer or photo printer? Learn how to avoid the hidden costs. Finally, a review of high speed internet and what to look for.

RULES OF THE ROAD CLASS

Thursday, October 13

1 to 3 p.m.

No Charge - Registration

Required

Need to renew your drivers license? Plan on attending this Secretary of State refresher course that prepares you for the written exam. Next Class: December 8.

MEN'S GROUP

Tuesday, October 18

11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Cost \$3 includes lunch

We are off to the races again...we mean table top races, for your enjoyment. Win prizes by select-

ing the lucky horse. We will also enjoy a game of Whammo.

BOWLING OUTING

Thursday, October 27

11:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Sims Bowling Alley

1555 Ellinwood, Des Plaines

Cost: \$12 members/\$14 guests

Come and have fun bowling with your fellow MaineStreamers. You will enjoy two games of bowling, prizes and a lunch featuring salad and pizza.

NILES:

Center sponsors health support groups

CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

cute or scary, four-footed (or three), costumed pets and their adoring humans of all ages will take center stage to thrill animal lovers of all ages. This event is open to Niles Seniors and community members of all ages! Pet Registration required. Contact Kelly for more information (847 588-8420).

FALL CLASS REGISTRATIONS NOW OPEN

The August edition of Naturally Active contains a full listing and description of the following Fall courses (please check Naturally Active or call for class times or other information including any prerequisites) Must register in advance. Minimum numbers required for a class to take place. Please call 847 588-8420 to find out if class space is available. Pre-Intro to Computers, Tuesdays & Thursdays, Sept. 20- Sept. 29th \$15

Intro to Computer Maintenance, Thursday, Sept. 29th (One Day Workshop) \$30

Intro to Microsoft Word, Tuesdays & Thursdays, Oct. 4 - Nov. 10 \$35

Digital Scrapbooking, Tuesday afternoons October 18 to November 22 \$30

Sculpting with Clay, Mondays, Sept. 12 to December 5 \$20 returning students/ \$30 New

Oil and Watercolor, Tuesdays, August 30 - Dec. 13 \$30

Stamping/Card Making Classes, Thursdays, Sept. 8 - Oct. 27th \$8 per session

WoodCarving, Wednesday Mornings, Sept. 14 - Dec. 7 \$25

The Carving Center, Thursday Afternoons, Sept. 8- Dec. 8 \$35

Ceramics Class, Thursday Afternoons, Sept. 22 - Dec. 1 \$30

FALL FANTASY, Friday, October 7th, 5:00-9:00 PM \$23.

Niles seniors are invited to join us for a fantastic evening of fine dining, friendship, music, and dancing at this annual Fall event. Dinner, served at 5:30PM, will feature a Spinach & Strawberry Salad, Beef Pot Roast with Portabella Mushroom Sauce, Barley with Wild Rice, and Dessert. Following dinner, Sark Antaramian and the MidNite Xpres will take the stage for your listening and dancing enjoyment. Reservations are required.

CHECK OUT OUR HEALTH SUPPORT GROUPS

Registration is required; please call for more information Weight Management Support Group, 1st Thursday of every month 1:00-2:30 \$10 annual fee Diabetic Support Group, 2nd Thursday of every month 1:00-2:30 \$10 annual Arthritis Support Group, 4th Thursday of every month 1:00-2:30 \$10 annual fee

MONTHLY GET ACQUAINTED MEETING 10AM - 11:00AM

Meet the staff, learn what the Center offers in the way of classes, programs, and outings. You'll have a chance to tour the building, and ask questions. Meets the third Thursday of every month. If you are planning to attend the next meeting on October 20th, please register in advance by calling (847) 588-8420.

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Morton Grove Senior News

MEDIEVAL TIMES LUNCH AND TOURNAMENT

Journey through time to the age of chivalry and knighthood on Friday, Oct. 7 with travelers from the Morton Grove Senior Center.

At Medieval Times in Schaumburg, step back to an exciting time of the glory of the Middle Age while experiencing the spectacular pageantry, dramatic horsemanship, tournament games, breathtaking swordplay and romance while feasting on a four-course meal served in true medieval pre-silverware fashion.

The experience culminates in an authentic jousting tournament between the six brave knights of the realm. Cheer them on as they fight to the finish! The bus will depart from the Senior Center at 9 a.m. and return at 2 p.m. The cost is \$42 for Senior Center Members and \$49 for non-members. Please register in person at the Senior Center.

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Periodic blood pressure measurement is helpful in determining if health is threatened by high blood pressure (hypertension).

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Come and celebrate the beautiful sights and sounds of Fall at the Alta Villa's first ever "Harvest Moon Ball" on Wednesday, Oct. 12. Traditionally, the Harvest Moon is the full moon closest to the autumnal equinox (when day and night are of equal lengths). Full of magic and merriment, this is a special and unique time of the year! Come and enjoy Big Band sounds as the Ron Mills Orchestra helps to provide the perfect harmonious backdrop to this gala event. The bus leaves the Morton Grove Senior Center at 10:30 a.m. and returns at 4 p.m. The cost is \$37 for Senior Center Members and \$42.50 for non-members and includes transportation, the show and lunch. Please register in person at the Senior Center.

A stroke, also known as a "brain attack" is ranked as the third leading killer in the world. Through preventive screenings, the risk of having a stroke can be greatly reduced. Life Line Screening provides non-invasive, painless

screenings using Doppler ultrasound technology. Screenings scan for potential health problems related to: blocked arteries, which can lead to a stroke, aortic aneurysms which can lead to a ruptured aorta and hardening of the arteries in the legs.

There will be no charge for Morton Grove residents who have Medicare Part B and bring their Medicare card with them. For those residents who do not have Medicare Part B, the charge for the flu shot will be \$20 and the charge for the pneumonia shot will be \$35.

Those who should not receive the flu shot would be anyone allergic to chicken eggs, those who have had a severe reaction to a flu shot in the past or anyone who has previously developed Guillain-Barre Syndrome in the six weeks after getting the flu shot. Any person with an active infection or fever should postpone their shot until their symptoms subside.

Resurrection Medical Center will be administering the immunizations at the Morton Grove Senior Center on:

Tuesday, Oct. 18 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Wednesday, Oct. 19 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 29 from 9 a.m. to 12 noon

Wednesday, Nov. 2 from 1 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Reservations are required and can be made by calling the Morton Grove Senior Hot Line at 847/470-5223.

Join Eloise Sapperstein of the Cook County Forest Preserve as she discusses local forest preserves and what neighbors can do to protect plants and animals while enhancing the natural beauty and cleanliness of the environment. This free lecture will begin at 1:30

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BUGLE KIDS

By J.R. Rose-Copley News Service

DRAW IT!

DRAW GLASSES ON THIS GRANDPA...



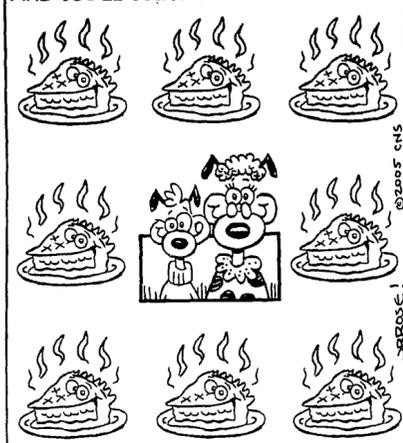
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WHAT DOES A DOG CALL ITS GRANDFATHER?



Nature Newswatch

Week of Oct. 2-8, 2005

Autumn Song

One of the most studied of all songbirds is the white-crowned sparrow. Its abundance, wide distribution and ease with which it can be kept in captivity have allowed ornithologists to learn much about bird song development and function.

Bird songs are well-known as the calls to attention in the breeding season, as individuals find mates and claim territories in spring and early summer. But not only do the male white-crowned sparrows sing throughout the year, so do the females and juveniles.

In fall and winter, when the large seed-eating sparrows forage together, their singing speaks not of territorial aggression, but of keeping social order in their feeding flocks, and is used to maintain a dominant-subordinate structure. A series of clear whistles, buzzes and trills in different pitches is their tune.

To hear a recording of the white-crowned sparrow song, log on to www.naturenewswatch.com.



White-crowned sparrow
Zonotrichia leucophrys 5 1/2 - 7 inches
Habitat: brushy thickets, woodland undergrowth
Range Key: Summer Year-round Winter
by Tim Herd © 2005 www.naturenewswatch.com

Grammar Matters

by Patty Gibbons Saunier

Giving More

Modifiers used for comparisons can be expressed by changing the form by adding -er or -est or by adding the words more or most before them. Read the sentences below and decide the proper modifier.

1. That was Virginia's (most fine, finest) piano performance.
2. It was (more foggy, foggiest) this morning than yesterday.
3. I am (most happy, happiest) when I am at the lake house.
4. Harriet is (more patient, patienter) than my last voice instructor.
5. The newspaper would like to use your (recentest, most recent) photo.

Answers: Most of the time your ear will tell you whether to add -er or -est or to use more or most with comparative modifiers. However, the dictionary is the only way to know for sure. 1. finest 2. foggiest 3. happiest 4. more patient 5. most recent

Copley News Service

LIFE

PERFECT PAIRINGS

Pair of appetizers pair well with Girard petite sirah

RON JAMES
Copley News Service

THE CHEF

"I was sort of an indentured servant growing up working on my family's farm and in my grandfather's Italian restaurant in New York," Keith Luce said with a chuckle. "I decided I really didn't want to do either thing as a living."

What Luce wanted to be was a musician. At 17 he moved to Manhattan to go to music school. To make ends meet he began working in some of the city's better restaurants.

"For the first time I got the chance to work in really professional kitchens of great restaurants with a lot of energetic professionals - and I wasn't forced to do it," he said. "My first job was in the pastry shop of the Rainbow Room."

It seems his grandfather was a respected friend of many New York City chefs - so his many hours of servitude finally paid off. Luce accepted the offer of noted chef and his first great mentor Jean-Jacques Rachou and found a spot on the line at one of New York's temples of gastronomy, La Cite Basque.

"It was a tough time, it was in the late '80s and I was a young American working in an all-French kitchen," Luce explained with a hint of pain in his voice. "There was a lot of yelling and getting worked - not the sexy side of working in an American kitchen."

The young chef continued to develop his craft at Daniel Boulud's Le Cirque in New York, and historic Greenbrier Resort in West Virginia. At the Greenbrier,

Luce became friends with its executive chef, Walter Schieb. "Meeting Walter was a big thing," says Luce who was 23 at the time. "When he was asked to become the chef of the White House for the first Clinton administration he asked me to come on board as his sous chef and that's a hard thing to turn down."

In 1997, as chef/partner of Spruce in Chicago, Luce won the Food & Wine Best New Chef Award and the James Beard Rising Chef Award, and a Beard nomination for Spruce as the Best New Restaurant of the Year. He eventually opened Merenda in San Francisco with his wife, Raney. But after discovering the travails of owning a restaurant, Luce decided that having someone else worry about paying rent and making payroll might be a good idea. In 2005, he headed north to California's Napa Valley to open the wine country's newest restaurant, Press, in St. Helena.

THE DISHES

Luce selected two appetizer dishes, Goat Cheese Gratin With Olive "Toasts" and Roasted Porcini With Toasted Garlic and Parsley, that reflect the rustic charm and savory flavors of his new restaurant.

"One of the great things about the south of France is goat cheese," explains Luce. "I wanted to do something playful and inviting that a group of people sitting around a table could share. I came up with this idea of taking goat cheese and putting a little egg in it to stretch it out and make it lighter and creamier."

Luce warns that even though

this dish is simple, there are a couple of things to watch out for. "Simple can be the most difficult thing to accomplish," he said. "When you're creaming the goat cheese it's important not to overwork it or you can separate out

the fat of the cheese and then you'll end up with a bit of a mess. "And when you're baking the finished product, it's important not to be overly concerned with how brown the top gets. It's more important that the center is warm

and not to overcook it or you'll wind up with a granular mess." Luce found that the porcini dish needed a little something extra to match it with bold red wines. "I was looking for a way to make this dish a bit more savory and something that would stand up to the heartier red wines," he said. "I found the way to do that was to use a little bit of duck fat. It really brings out a rich, meaty almost baconlike quality to the porcini that works very well with the extracted fruit, tobacco flavors and soft tannins in the red wines of the Napa Valley."

THE WINE

Luce selected the Girard 2002 Napa Valley petite sirah to go with his appetizers.

"The winery was originally founded by Steve Girard in the 1970s," said owner Pat Roney, who is also co-owner of Press. "We're a small ultra-premium winery, nestled up on Pritchard Hill in the middle of Napa Valley alongside other mountain wineries, including Colgin and Chappellet. It's a real nice neighborhood for growing grapes. Our estate-bottled cabernet sauvignon sells for \$60 compared to \$240 to \$300 for our neighbor wineries."

"You have to understand the structure of food, the ingredients and how it is made," said Roney when asked about food and wine pairing. "And because our wines are all about structure, balance and good acidity you'll find our wines work very well with food. "The petit sirah is an interesting wine from vines over 90 years-old from Calistoga. It's really a massive, dense wine with great blueberry and cherry flavors. It's a wine that can complement a wide range of flavors and it loves it when it gets a piece of meat where you marry the acid with the fat."

"As a chef it's really fun to know what wine you are going to be cooking for," said Luce. "What's exceptional about working with the Girard wines is that they're not just big fruit bombs. There's certainly fruit there, but there's structure and acid that's a chef's dream."

"You don't have to worry about how much fat you're going to be using or about adding a bit of acid to the dish. You can really finesse the food when you're talking about wines with this many layers of flavor."

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

GOAT CHEESE GRATIN WITH OLIVE TOASTS
2 cups fresh goat's cheese, room temperature
2 egg yolks
2 tablespoons creme fraiche
1/2 teaspoon thyme, chopped
16 slices of rustic olive bread cut about 1/8-inch thick
Yields 4 servings.
Preheat oven to 500 degrees
Cream goat cheese into a smooth texture by hand or with a paddle attachment in an electric mixer. It is important not to overwork the cheese, as it may separate. Slowly work in the creme fraiche and egg yolks until homogenous, then add thyme and mix to incorporate.
Divide goat cheese mixture evenly into 2 (9-ounce) ramekins or casseroles and refrigerate for about 1 hour.

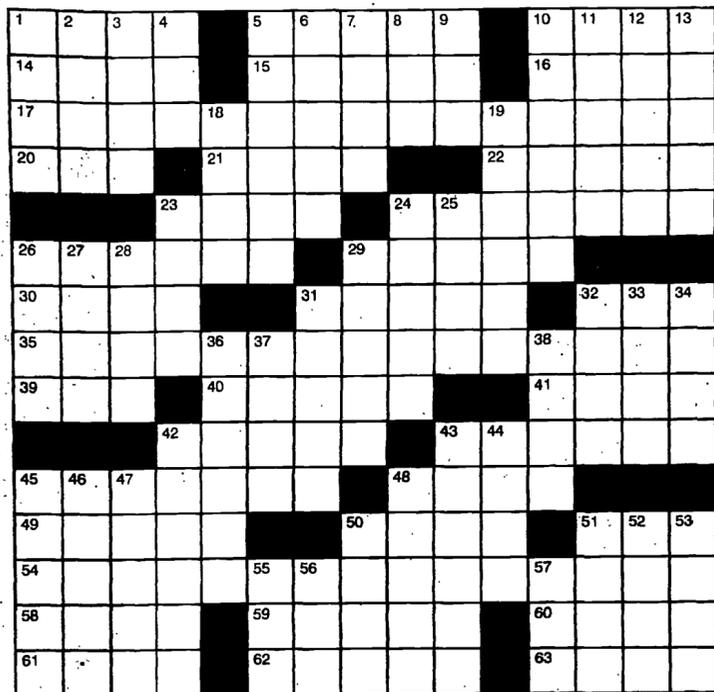
Bake for about 5 minutes, or until the top is browned and cheese is warmed through and creamy.
Toast bread slices on a grill, in a pan with a little olive oil, or in a toaster. Serve on the side.
ROASTED PORCINI WITH TOASTED GARLIC AND PARSLEY
Mushrooms:
1 pound whole, fresh, premium-quality porcini
1/4 cup duck fat
6 large garlic cloves, peeled and thinly sliced
1/4 cup Italian flat-leaf parsley, washed dried and clipped into small pieces with kitchen shears
Coarse gray sea salt and freshly ground white pepper, to taste
Serves 4 as side dish or 2 as appetizer.
Preheat oven to 450 F.

Gently brush mushrooms with fine bristle toothbrush or a pastry brush to remove any dirt or debris. Peel porcini stems, trim stem bottoms and remove the gills from porcini with paring knife. Quarter mushrooms lengthwise, making sure all pieces are similar in size.
Warm 2 tablespoons of duck fat in large, heavy-bottomed roasting pan about 14 inches in diameter (see note) over medium-low heat. Once fat is warm, add garlic slices and toast over moderate heat until golden brown, stirring frequently with wooden spoon. Drain and discard fat, placing garlic on clean paper towels to drain and reserve.
Return pan to medium-high heat. Add remaining duck fat, making sure to evenly distribute it. Add mushroom pieces carefully. The ideal is to achieve 1

layer with cut sides of mushrooms down. Cook for about 1 minute, season with salt and pepper, to taste.
Transfer to preheated 450 F oven for 4 minutes. Remove pan from oven, check mushrooms for tenderness (they are perfect if they are tender yet slightly toothsome) adjust seasoning and gently stir for a more interesting presentation. Don't overdo this step, the goal is to simply have some of the more-caramelized pieces facing up.
Garnish with toasted garlic and parsley and serve.
Note: This dish can be prepared in any large, heavy-bottomed saute or roasting pan, but the presentation will be more dramatic and clean up easier when using a casserole such as Staub or Le Creuset. Both make great investments for serious cooks.

LIFE

STARTING OVER



COPLEY NEWS SERVICE

By Charles Preston

ACROSS

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- 35 Advice after failure
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- 58 Gumbo vegetable
- 59 Baskervilles beast
- 60 Have status

DOWN

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- 5 Shirk
- 6 Halt, legally
- 7 Actress Arlene ___
- 8 ___ out: barely manage
- 9 Chump
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- 12 States with conviction
- 13 Alley button
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- 25 OT prophet
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- 53 Carnival performer
- 55 Sounds of surprise
- 56 Arlo, to Woody
- 57-NOW interest

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LAST WEEKS ANSWERS

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REAL ESTATE

DECOR SCORE

'Country Victorian' combines style, practicality

ROSE BENNETT GILBERT
Copley News Service

Q: We have bought a real Italianate Victorian "pile," as the English say, mainly because it is in the right place at the right price. What's wrong is its condition. A lot of things need fixing,

be.

The story's about an old Victorian house, spectacular when it was built (in the 1860s by wealthy sea Capt. Jedidiah Hawkins), but haunting - quite literally - in its long decline when neighborhood children swore it was home to the ghost of old

house back to life as the North Fork Designer Showhouse (www.captainhawkinshouse.com), where the hands-on magic of some three dozen designers, landscapers and artists will be open for the public to peruse until Oct. 28.

One of those designers faced exactly your kind of problem when she set out to remake the front parlor. Teri Seidman was determined to avoid a "bustles and taffeta look," she says, opting instead to make the room "comfortable and appropriate for today, not a museum." Here's how she did it. She leaned to the country side of Victorian - "less fussy than original Victoriana and less rustic than other country styles," says the designer. "Country Victorian combines the charm of the past with a modern sensibility." To wit: the original mantel mirror - brought home, goes the story, from one of Capt. Hawkins' seafaring voy-

ages - and the elaborate plaster crown mouldings and ceiling medallion, reproduced inch-by-inch, then painted and gilded.

But that's where the 21st century comes in. Seidman next covered the walls in teal silken grass cloth "the color of Long Island Sound," she says. Antiques coexist with a super-sized TV and an ultra sound system. The 12-foot-high ceiling is covered in a basket-weave wallpaper, and out on the verandah and side yard, outdoor-indoor fabrics and carpeting also sneak into the scene seen through the floor-to-ceiling windows.

"At first, I thought I would do deep Victorian, all dark, with peacock feathers, a real design history lesson," Seidman confides. "That would have been fun for me, but that's not what a show house wants to teach." There are more decorating les-

sons in abundance to be learned from this and other designer show houses this fall. You can track them down on the Internet by clicking on such sites as www.interiordec.about.com, and looking under "Fall Showhouse Season." Just don't forget to take your spy camera for stealing the designers' secrets.

Q: I have a sliding patio door in my kitchen dining area that I don't know how to cover, or if I should cover. There are no homes in the rear of my house. I have two side windows that I have put wood blinds on. I really don't like a vertical blind. What other ideas might you have?

A: Because privacy control doesn't seem to be a major concern, I'd give some thought to window treatments that merely filter the view and still let the light come

Story Continues... see DECOR SCORE page 25



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Every Picture Tells a Story

REAL ESTATE

A GREENER VIEW

Getting to the root of a stump problem

JEFF RUGG
Copley News Service

Q: Last January, we had a large, 30-year-old locust tree cut down. They did not remove the stump. We are having lots of shoots coming up all over our yard. Is there something we can do to keep the shoots from continuing to grow?

A: A completely dead stump won't fungi that are trying to decay the still-green wood. When you cut down a live tree, the roots system feels a large shock of not having the top of a tree pulling moisture up and out of the roots. The tree can react to this severe pruning by sending up new tops from many locations.

especially at the time of the original removal will also help kill it. Continual removal of the suckers every time they are noticed will eventually work, too.

If you wish to remove a trunk physically, it should be left at about 4 feet tall so you can have leverage to push and pull on it. Digging a trench around the tree to cut the roots off is a lot of work. It needs to start as far from the trunk as at least the trunk diameter. So, a 2-foot trunk needs a trench starting two feet away. Stumps from trees larger than a foot in diameter can be very time-consuming to remove, even with a chain saw cutting off the roots as they are found. And of course, call your local utility locating company to check on underground wires before digging and cutting.

As far as helping the natural process of rotting, you can be patient and let nature take many years to break it down into soil. To speed things up the first few years, cut off as much wood as possible as low as possible. Drill wide holes as deep as possible in the trunk. Apply a high-nitrogen fertilizer and cover it all with garden soil from nearby - not new, pasteurized topsoil. Keep the whole thing damp.

After the first few years, the decay organisms are not as limited by nitrogen as they are carbon. Applying carbon is easy but weird. Apply sugar in any form into the holes. Jelly, molasses, straight sugar or any other sugary product will work. Cover it back up with soil. Some trees have naturally decay-resistant heartwood. Locust trees of all varieties are somewhat decay-resistant, so it may take a while for the stump to decay. As the stump rots, you may need to

add more topsoil to fill in the depression. Don't expect grass or perennials to grow over the decaying stump; they will not be able to compete with the decay organisms for nutrients and will do poorly.

If a stump is ground out, the remaining sawdust-filled soil should be removed because its decay will also be accomplished by decay organisms, which will out-compete any new tree or other plant trying to grow in the sawdust-filled soil. Burning a stump out has a number of safety issues. The above-ground burning is easily understood, but the roots and underground stump can burn for weeks in the low-oxygen environment they occupy. A sort of charcoal is formed that can burn long distances. A trench around the stump can help prevent problems, but by then you might be halfway to digging it out.

If you know before cutting down a tree that you can't grind out the stump, you might be creative in its use. Cut it off really tall and carve it like a totem pole. Cut it off at seat height and use it as a natural chair. It can also be used as a platform for flowerpots and birdbaths.

Q: I have a very tall old Norway pine. It seems to be dying from the top down. The dead part has bare branches without needles. Each year, a section of the pine branches become bare with the small branches falling to the

ground. Below the dead area, the tree looks green and healthy, with large pine cones. The bottom area near the ground has new growth. At the present time, the top dead area is about 10 to 15 feet to the living section. Is there something I can do to stop this deadness that keeps moving down the tree?

A: Old trees die sometimes. The tree might have been hit by lightning or was damaged in a storm, or even by having a bird break off the very top.

After that, any number of organisms could have begun growing in the top. The spread of these slow-growing disease organisms might be prevented by systemic injections by a licensed arborist. Possibly, if they are slow-growing, they haven't spread too far down the trunk past the visible dead area and by pruning off the top little bit of green, the spread of the organism can be stopped. Faster-growing organisms would have already killed the whole tree.

The tree may not look as nice without a tall top, but I have seen storm-damaged and strangely pruned trees last for many years without true top. If the dead area is spreading, there is no reason to assume it will stop on its own. Call a licensed arborist for an up-close diagnosis.

E-mail questions to Jeff Rugg at info@greenview.com.
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GARDEN TIP

Stumped about stump removal?

1. As a rule, the farther away from the stump you are, the easier it is to remove, and the more successful you will be in digging.
2. Cut some of the roots around the perimeter of the

3. Cut all the roots around and under the stump and you will be able to pull the stump from the ground easily.
4. Once the stump starts moving, it's as good as out.



NOTE: If patience is your virtue, pour sugary substances into holes drilled into the stump and wait a couple years. That way, the added carbon will have a chance to decay the stump.

Copley News Service / Pete Chenard

We are wondering if there is some way to rot the stump instead of having someone come in and grind the stump and if this would stop the shoots from growing. A: Despite the advertisements of some chemical treatments, there is no miracle cure on the market that dissolves a stump overnight. Some of them are acids that can work eventually. Others are fertilizers that help feed bacteria and

send up new suckers, but the roots can, and in effect, you have many different trees in many different locations. Removing the stump at the time the tree is removed is best. Hand-spraying each sucker with a broad-leaved weed killer or total plant killer, trying to not hit the grass and other plants, will work best at stopping the suckering. Applying weed killer to the trunk,

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HOME-HOW-TO

Flush that smell

If a toilet's connections seem to be in good condition, check its parts for the source of an odor. To begin the job, the remove the toilet from the floor - which means draining the water from the tank, removing the water connection from the tank, then the tank from the bowl, then the bowl from the floor.

WAX RING SEAL: A deteriorated seal allows water and sewer gas to leak from the waste line. Water often seeps out from the toilet base onto the floor when a wax ring seal has gone bad.
■ Remedy: Replace the wax seal (below).

VENT PIPE: If obstructed, sewer gas cannot vent to the atmosphere and the gases back up into the bathroom.
■ Remedy: Clean the vent.

TRAP: If the trap is impaired, gases will back up. If a toilet fixture gets little use, it could be that the water has evaporated in the drain trap.
■ Remedy: Pour water into the drain to fill the trap.

To replace the wax seal:
1. Turn off the water.
2. Remove excess water from the bowl and tank and access the wax ring.
3. Replace the old ring with a new one according to package directions.

Copley News Service / Pete Chenard

REAL ESTATE

DECOR SCORE:
CountryVictorian CONTINUED FROM PAGE 23

through. Some of the new window "shadings," as they're called, go well beyond the old verticals that you don't like (me neither!). Although they, too, feature vertical panes that rotate like blinds, in these updated versions, they are encased in sheer fabric so you get a softer look - with no clattering in the breeze.

One such shading, "Luminette Privacy Sheers" (by Hunter Douglas) comes in a range of colors and three different fabrics,

including a sheer linen texture. Have a close-up look at www.hunterdouglas.com. Rose Bennett Gilbert is the co-author of "Hampton Style" and associate editor of Country Decorating Ideas. Please send your questions to her at Copley News Service, P.O. Box 120190, San Diego, CA 92112-0190, or online at copleysd@copleynews.com.
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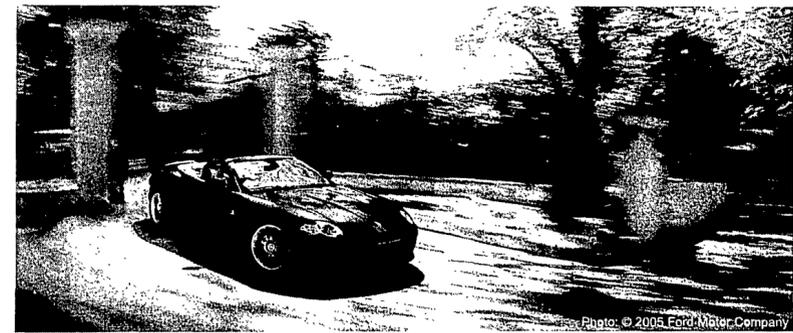
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and rivals - is the lightest car in its competitive set.
A 300bhp, 4.2-litre V8 engine and Jaguar Sequential Shift steering-wheel-mounted gearchange controls ensure rapid performance of 0-60mph in just 6.0 seconds (0-100kmh in 6.3 seconds) and an electronically limited top speed of 155mph (250kmh).
The luxurious triple-lined, fabric roof - which can be powered up or down in less than 18 seconds - stows fully out of sight beneath an aluminium tonneau

cover when retracted. A roll-over protection system comprising two 'hidden' aluminium hoops that deploy in the event of an incident is standard on all XK Convertibles.
"The all-new XK was designed from the outset to be a beautiful convertible. It is a statement of confident Jaguar design, elegant as well as powerful and with the performance and driving dynamics to match its looks", commented Jaguar Design Director, Ian Callum.

FORD FREESTAR & MERCURY MONTEREY EARN TOP RATINGS IN IIHS' 2005 MINIVAN HEAD RESTRAINT TESTS

The Insurance Institute for Highway Safety has recognized Ford Freestar and Mercury Monterey as the only two top performers in the IIHS 2005 minivan head restraint tests. This recognition by IIHS confirms the high level of safety performance that Ford designs into our vehicles.
According to IIHS chief operating officer Adrian Lund, "Moms often are behind the wheel, and women are more vulnerable to whiplash injuries so they especially need good seats and head restraints."
IIHS reports that painful and debilitating neck injuries are the most common kind reported in automobile crashes and are most likely to occur in rear impact collisions.
Ford Freestar and Mercury Monterey are offered with many standard safety features including the Personal Safety System™ consisting of restraints control

module, safety belt pretensioners, driver's seat position sensor, dual-stage front airbags, front safety belt usage sensors, energy management retractors and front crash test severity sensors.
Also included standard are front row and second row manual 3-point lap/shoulder safety belts with D-ring height adjusters, third row 3-point lap/shoulder belts for all three positions, four-wheel anti-lock disc brakes, side intrusion beams and child safety sliding door locks.
Safety features also include available Safety Canopy with side impact air bags, and traction control on most models.
The Insurance Institute for Highway Safety (IIHS) recently tested seats/head restraints in 14 current minivans for protection against neck injuries in rear crashes. Only two vehicles, Ford Freestar and Mercury Monterey, earned IIHS' top overall rating.

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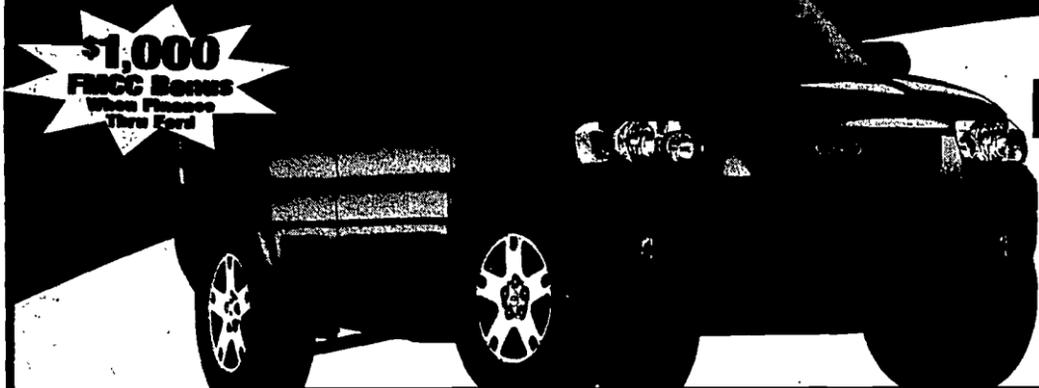
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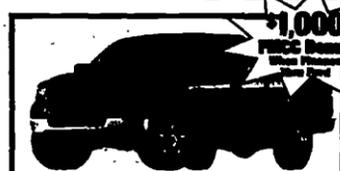
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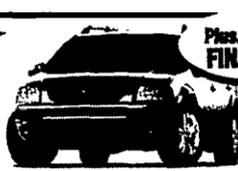


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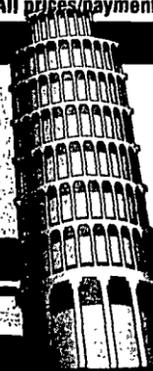
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