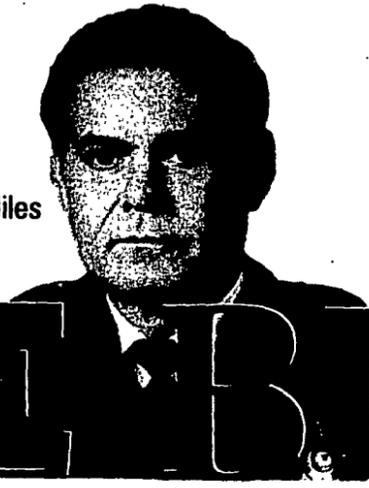


## FAREWELL

Dan Halley resigns from Niles  
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New insect threatens Illinois  
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# THE BUGGLE

JUNE 8, 2006

BUGLENEWSPAPERS.COM

VOL.50 NO.3

## Feds allege Blase took bribes

### Blase flatly denies charges

By Andrew Schneider  
EDITOR

The Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI) has been conducting a probe into the relationship between Niles Mayor Nicholas Blase and a Wheeling insurance firm, alleging that the two were involved in a scheme of

bribes and extortion, though charges have not been filed, the Chicago Tribune reported Wednesday.

Blase was reached by phone Wednesday morning and flatly denied the allegations, calling them crazy.

The Tribune based its report on files that were obtained from the FBI. Those files were sealed by a court order. The FBI investigation alleged that businesses in

Niles were pressured into taking insurance from Ralph Weiner Insurance in Wheeling even though it cost more than its competitors.

The supposed link between Blase and Weiner that the FBI has been investigating were commissions that were paid on Niles sales of Weiner insurance. The FBI thought those commissions were kickbacks and raided Weiner's offices Tuesday in connection

with the investigation. The alleged kickbacks were paid to what the FBI called a "shell company" controlled by Blase, but Blase denies that as well.

He maintained that he had insurance through Weiner and that when people asked for references for insurance that he would recommend them, but that he never pressured anyone to do business with Weiner nor took kick-

backs.

"I'm the mayor, people would call me and ask for recommendations and I would recommend Weiner, because I had insurance with him," he said Wednesday.

Blase also said that a man in his office building was the selling Weiner insurance in Niles. Blase said this man had his own agency and Weiner would pay him commissions.

See Blase, page 2

## SJB Flea Market a success



Richard Soprych, and his daughter, Carolyn enjoyed participating together in the St. John Brebeur's annual Super Flea Market for the first time on Saturday, June 3. The event is sponsored by the SJB's Youth Ministry and the boy scouts.

## Niles receives \$820K grant for Milwaukee

The Village of Niles will receive a \$820,000 Illinois Transportation Enhancement Program grant for Milwaukee Ave. Corridor Improvements.

Asst. Village Manager Steven Vinezeano said that the village requested about \$1.8 million for the beautification of Milwaukee Ave., but he said they are pleased to receive any financial support that they can.

The Milwaukee Ave. Corridor project was one of 57 different transportation related projects that the ITEP will assist.

Gov. Rod Blagojevich's office announced on June 1 that Chicago and the suburbs will receive \$28 million for the projects.

Vinezeano said the village has been working on the Milwaukee Ave. Corridor study that involved the conceptual plan for the area. He said that the next step will be to look at the details about how to specifically beautify the area.

"This grant is specifically earmarked for landscaping and scenic beautification," said Vinezeano. He said the plan may involve signage, decorative lighting, sidewalk improvements, trees and other landscaping.

Vinezeano said that the village will likely make improvements similar to the beautifica-

"This grant is specifically earmarked for landscaping and scenic beautification."

Steve Vinezeano

ASSISTANT VILLAGE MANAGER

tion that was made going east on Dempster through Skokie.

The ITEP program started in 1991 and is very competitive. During the final round, the Illinois Department of Transportation reviewed 376 applications with nearly \$350 million in federal funds that were requested by various municipalities. In total, there

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# Dan Halley retires from Niles Police

### Division Commander has held a post in every department

By Tracy Yoshida Gruen  
STAFF WRITER

Division Commander Dan Halley recently turned in his badge and retired from the Niles Police Department after 32 years of serving and protecting the people of Niles.



Dan Halley

What will Halley miss most about being a police officer? "The adrenaline rush," he quickly replied. "Danny did it all in law enforcement," said Niles Police Chief Dean Strzelecki, who has worked with Dan for 30 of the 32 years of his service. Looking through his files, Strzelecki said that Dan has held a position in every single depart-

ment of the police department, which he said is very unique. Halley has worked on patrol, as a sergeant, in administration, detective department and as a division commander. Strzelecki said that Halley always has worked very professionally in any position he has been in. Halley said he had always wanted to become a police officer to follow in his father's foot steps. His father worked for the Chicago Police Department. "I still love it but it's time to move on," said Halley, about police work. Halley plans to spend his Tuesdays baby-sitting for his grandchildren and he also plans to get a part-time job, possibly helping his friend with his remodeling business. "I enjoy working with my hands," Halley shared. "He was a very hard-working and dedicated police officer," said Deputy Police Chief Charles Giovannelli. Halley was recognized by the Niles Village Board at their last board meeting.

# Who's afraid of the big, bad rank?

Where does your student rank? Does it matter? Should colleges care about comparative class rank at all? Last week two schools in Naperville (you know, one of the country's best towns to live in) announced a decision to eliminate comparative class rank, something that they said was antiquated and, because of their large class sizes, negatively impacted their students resumes for college admissions. So, like that, Naperville Administrators were able to make their students more competitive. Or were they? Students at the schools believed that colleges would look at their rank, say 225 out of 801 and admit a student who had a higher class rank, such as 75 out of 267 and admit the one with the better rank even though they are at an equal percentile. In fact, that's why the class percentile exists: so that students from larger schools aren't penalized because of it. So why would they eliminate it at all? To confuse colleges. According to published reports, while the highest-achieving students continue to stand



Page Two  
ANDREW SCHNEIDER

out, the second-tier achievers are blurring together. The culprit: grade inflation. For college admissions, grade-point average seems to stand out as the best predictor of college success. Parents, administrators and teachers know it and each one tries their hardest to make sure that their children, schools and students achieve as many high grades as possible. Hence: grade inflation. But it's OK, everyone insists, because average becomes "B" instead of "C" and schools just delineate down to another decimal point so that everyone can still recognize the best students. There's even a bonus: the average students feel better about themselves because now they're receiving Bs instead of Cs. However, there's a 500-lb. gorilla in the room: how do we know that the students who are receiving Bs are actually earning

them? Now I don't mean to suggest that prestigious schools have any reason to artificially inflate grades (such as the school's reputation, pressure from parents for high marks, increasing property values, higher salaries, etc.) but I just want to point out that when a school decides to make a decision it's doing so to further its mission: improving college admissions. I didn't say the mission was "excellence in education" though it is the motto of the U.S. Department of Education and every school in the country because though that's their stated mission, the pressure from students and parents is to improve college admissions. Today, excellence in education and college admissions might be complementary goals: a great education will improve your chances at admission to the college of your choice and prepare you to compete there. But what if some day schools were able to improve students' chances of college admission without improving their educational experience at the high school level? What if our schools didn't have to put so much emphasis on writing skills and were instead able to do tricky things like eliminating class rank to improve the chances of their students? What then?

## Blase

continued from page 1

"The taxes were paid and the commissions went to him," Blase said. Phone conversations that were reported in the Tribune apparently confirmed Blase's assertions. Blase also pointed to the fact that the FBI documents were sealed by a court order and that no charges have been filed. His primary concern now, he said were the Weiner agents. "I'm concerned that the Weiner agents may have been over-stating things," he said. "They may have been over-selling the product." The Bugle will continue to follow this story and update its readers when new developments occur.

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# Body of Hampton Plaza resident found

The body of a 52-year-old resident of Niles was found in an open field east of the new Walmart on Golf Rd on May 31. Two people were walking by when they discovered the body of the man who suffered a massive heart attack. The police received a phone call about this at 6:23 p.m. The man was a resident of Hampton Plaza. According to Deputy Chief Charles Giovannelli of the Niles Police Department, the man signed out in order to go outside. Giovannelli said he had signed out a significant amount of time before his body was discovered in the open field. Hampton Plaza is a nursing and rehabilitation center located at 9777 Greenwood.

# New look for The Bugle

The Bugle has been overhauled this week and given a new look that will make the paper easier to read and more eye-catching. The Bugle's editor, Andrew Schneider, thanked members of the community for all of the reader surveys that were returned. "They were a big help to us in choosing a final design for the paper," he said. The Bugle Newspapers, Inc. also announced today that the first issue of The Bolingbrook Bugle will be published tomorrow June 8.

# Morton Grove says no to Political ads on Senior Bus

By Tracy Yoshida Gruen  
STAFF WRITER

It doesn't look like the Morton Grove village senior bus will be sporting a political advertisement for Republican Pat Kansoer, or for any politician. Kansoer, who is running for Cook County Commissioner in the 13th district, attempted to purchase a political placard on the village's senior bus, but was told by the village that was not possible. Village Administrator Joseph Wade said that the Village of Morton Grove reserves the right to screen and approve those type of advertisements and they can decide to reject any of those that are obscene, violent, partisan,

political or religious in nature. "Apparently, they are lumping political speech with pornography," said Kansoer, who said that senior citizens will be some of his greatest supporters and he wanted to let them know he was running for the position. Kansoer feels that by the village rejecting his political advertisement they are also denying him his first amendment rights. Kansoer felt there may have been political reasons why he was rejected. "It will apply to his opponent also," assured Wade. Wade discussed a U.S. Supreme Court case, Lehman vs. City of Shaker Heights. In this case, a candidate for state office was refused available advertising space on the vehicles of a city transit system. In the case it states, "There could be lurking doubts about favoritism, and sticky administrative problems might arise in parceling out limited space to eager politicians. In these circumstances, the managerial decision to limit car card space to innocuous and less controversial commercial and service oriented advertising does not rise to the dignity of a First Amendment violation." "I don't think they thought it through," said Kansoer. Kansoer said that he is running a "shoe-string" campaign and this type of bump in the road could be damaging to his campaign. Kansoer was planning to purchase the advertisement for \$200 for three months.

## Grant

continued from page 1

are more than 100 projects totaling \$60 million in enhancement grants. Another goal of the ITEP

grants are to improve the quality of life in Illinois through encouraging and promoting alternative means of transportation, such as hiking and biking trails and to preserve resources related to transportation. Any local or state government that has taxing authority is eligible to apply for the ITEP program. Work must begin on the projects within three years in order to be eligible for funding and local matching funds are required.

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## Fitness mogul strives to raise funds for ALS

By Jack Williams  
COPLEY NEWS SERVICE

Ever since he began equipping gyms with the revolutionary Lifecycle, Augie Nieto has been one of those big wheels of business who keep the fitness world spinning.

### FITNESS FORUM

But as he clings to his life by the most fragile of threads, struggling to comprehend a fatal muscle-wasting disease, a more profound legacy is taking shape.

Nieto, 48, is at the forefront of a fundraising tsunami that's attacking ALS (amyotrophic lateral sclerosis) with the same fury it has unleashed on him.

He knows there's no cure. He knows there's no way to stop it, slow it down or reverse the damage. "So the fundamental issue for me," he says, "is let's find out what causes it - the work no one likes to do."

With what he calls a Manhattan Project revisited, Nieto is spending whatever time he has left pumping energy into fundraising and rallying the scientific community to

save future generations."

Half of the people diagnosed with ALS die within 18 months," said Nieto, who has known he has the disease since March 2005. "What motivates me is not my hope that I will find a cure for myself. What motivates me is being a good role model for my family, showing how you deal with adversity. I don't think you have a better legacy in life."

Meanwhile, he's charting an agenda he hopes will yield \$12 million by next year for ALS research and identify the cause of the disease. (For details, log onto [www.augiesquest.org](http://www.augiesquest.org)).

Part of his quest involves promoting stem cell research. Another part involves more than 2,000 health clubs nationwide. If a member donates to Augie's Quest, the club offers a free personal training session.

While he may be a poster boy for his cause, a model patient who has used his influence and wealth to consult the world's most esteemed experts on ALS, Nieto can't deny his diminished capacity.

Nor can he ignore the irony of his changing role. "My goal in my companies (Lifecycle

Inc., Life Fitness and more recently Octane Fitness) has been to help the unfit become fit," he said. "Now, I'm dealing with a muscle-wasting disease."

ALS, also known as Lou Gehrig's disease, attacks nerve cells and gradually robs patients of their voluntary muscle control. More than 5,600 Americans are diagnosed each year, most of them between ages 40 and 70.

Nieto noticed the first symptoms when he began losing strength in the gym. Then he noticed muscle tremors. A visit to the Mayo Clinic, where he has regularly gone for comprehensive physical exams, confirmed the worst. "I went through a series of a tests and they said it's either ALS or MS (multiple sclerosis). With ALS, there's no 100 percent proof you have it. It's really a process of elimination."

Always a model of fitness, Nieto has added 10 pounds to his 6-foot-1 frame since his diagnosis with the approval of his physician, weighing in at a toned 215. While he continues to lose strength in his upper body, "My lower body probably has 80 percent of its horse-

power," he said.

Each day, he devotes an hour to exercise at his Corona del Mar, Calif., home overlooking the Pacific Ocean. Cranking up an elliptical trainer to Level 14, he burns 1,000 calories in 48 minutes.

"I've run 21 marathons," he said. "I have the ability to get in a zone, to enjoy it. It's an endorphin high for me, working out." There's a Zen-like pace to his life, driven more by focus than a sense of urgency.

"I taste wine differently, I interact with people differently," he said. "I also have less time for non-important things. I believe my mind has been enhanced by the deterioration of my body - like the blind man who can hear better."

"I'm focused more intensely today than I've ever been in my life, but I don't feel like I have to do something because of my limited time."

"There's one thing you must put in perspective: If you live every day like it was your last, you're going to wake up with a hangover in the morning." If Nieto sounds like a man serenely coming to terms with his fate, it is due in no small part to his track record of

effecting change - in himself and in the fitness industry.

It started in his youth, when exercise helped him redefine a 5-7, 250-pound body. It continued at Claremont McKenna College, where he played football and began flexing his entrepreneurial vision.

When Family Fitness Centers (now 24-Hour Fitness Centers) founder Ray Wilson showed him the newly developed Lifecycle exercise bike in 1977, Nieto immediately recognized its potential.

By the time Nieto graduated from college in 1980, a company he founded with Wilson had turned a \$500,000 profit.

In 1997, he sold his company, then called Life Fitness, for \$310 million. But the only numbers that interest Nieto these days are the ones he's counting on to fuel his fundraising quest. "We've already raised \$4 million, and we'll have \$4 million more by September," he said.

Meanwhile, he'll savor every taste of life. "No wine in my cellar is off-limits," he said with a smile.

Visit Copley News Service at [www.copleynews.com](http://www.copleynews.com).

## Niles Family Fitness Center holds class for 'Mini-Picassos'

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### Mini Picassos 18-36 Months

A great place for your toddler to explore their creative side. They will enjoy finger painting, play dough, bubbles, and more. Class may be messy so please dress accordingly. Tues. 9:45-10:30 AM 6/20-

8/8 \$38 Member/\$59 Non-Member

### Mini Picassos 18-36 months

A great place for your toddler to explore their creative side. They will enjoy finger painting, play dough, bubbles, and more. Class may be messy so please dress accordingly. Tues. 11:00-11:45 AM 6/20-8/8 \$49 Member/\$63 Non-Member

### Level 3

These classes are for children who are ready to be on their own. For some, that's when they are 2 1/2 and for others it's later. An inviting and fun environment will be provided where they can learn through play. Reinforcing simple directions, socializing with peers, exploration, experimentation and process thinking are goals for this level.

### Body flex kids 3-5 years

Scheduled during adult Body Flex, this high energy exercise class will get your child moving and grooving. To cool down we will end class with kids yoga. Our instructor will escort your child to and from the Clubhouse. Thurs. 10:20-11:10 a.m. 6/22-8/10 \$50 Member/\$65 Non-Member

### Saturday Morning Kids Club 3-4 years

Get the most of both worlds. Your child will love a 1/2 hour of arts and crafts in the multi-purpose room followed by a 1/2 hour of sports and games in the gym.

## Exercise will do wonders

By Ven Griva  
COPLEY NEWS SERVICE

This might sound familiar, but it bears repeating. Physical activity can reverse the effects of a sedentary lifestyle.

### LIFE WIRE

In fact, the effects of months or years of lazing about can be more than reversed by a similar period of moderate exercise, Duke University Medical Center researchers have found in an analysis of data from the first randomized clinical trial to evaluate the effects of exercise in sedentary overweight men and women.

Just as important, the trial participants who exhibited the greatest decline in physical status during inactivity benefited the most from exercise training, according to the researchers.

"Continuing to lead an inactive lifestyle leads to a gradual decline in many important markers for cardiovascular health," said Jennifer Robbins, an exercise physiologist at Duke, who presented the results of the study June 2 at the annual meeting of the American College of Sports Medicine in Denver.

"The good news is that a small amount of physical activity can make a big difference in reducing the risks for developing such conditions as heart disease, stroke or diabetes," Robbins said. "Our findings demonstrate that while the cost of choosing a sedentary lifestyle can be high, switching to an active way of life can be beneficial at any time."

The study stemmed from a recently completed trial known as Studies of a Targeted Risk

Reduction Intervention through Defined Exercise, or STRRIDE. The trial, funded by a \$4.3 million grant from the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute, investigated the effects of exercise on sedentary overweight adults at risk for developing heart disease, diabetes or both. The STRRIDE trial, in which the intervention ran for six months, randomly assigned 334 participants into three exercise groups and one control group. "At the end of the trial, we were surprised to see that many markers of cardiovascular health declined in participants in the control group, who did not exercise," Robbins said. "Our Duke group decided to see if these negative effects could be reversed after the participants spent the same amount of time in an exercise program."

According to Robbins, only a moderate amount of exercise is needed to counteract the detrimental effects of inactivity in these individuals. "When looking at the group as a whole, we found it wasn't the participants with the highest intensity of exercise who accounted for the combined beneficial effects," Robbins said. "That should be reassuring for people to know they don't have to do a high-intensity workout to get these benefits of exercise."

The study found that 12 miles of walking per week, less than two miles per day, erased the negative effects of a sedentary lifestyle.

People with diabetes who develop an infection are 55 times more likely to be hospitalized and 154 times more likely

ly to require amputation, according to research from Texas A&M University.

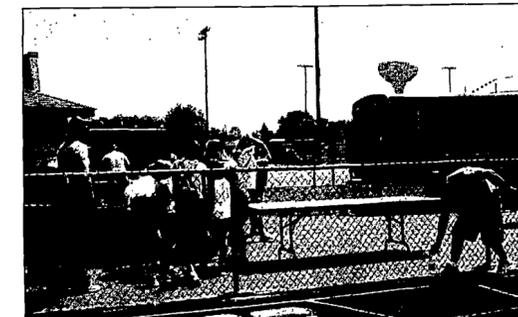
These are some of the startling figures emanating from the first population-based study on diabetic foot infection. Researchers from Texas A&M University, Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine and Science, and the University of Washington collected data on nearly 1,700 patients over a two-year period.

"The results strongly suggested that foot infections are common and complex. They are also costly in terms of morbidity," noted Dr. Lawrence A. Lavery of Texas A&M, the lead author on the study. The study also found that nearly nine in 10 amputations performed are instigated by an infection.

"This was perhaps the most interesting figure in the study," noted David G. Armstrong, professor of Surgery and director of Scholl's Center for Lower Extremity Ambulatory Research at Rosalind Franklin University and one of the study's principal investigators.

"It is infection that is the spark that led to nearly all amputations in this study," said Armstrong. "Poor circulation, while critically important, did not necessarily cause amputation. It determined the level of amputation. This subtlety makes a significant difference when designing strategies for prevention."

Seeking an alternative, he



Volunteers clean up after the Niles Community Track & Field event Saturday, June 3. (Photo by Tracy Yoshida Gruen)

## More runners at track event

The 6th annual Community Track and Field Day that was held on Sunday, June 4, attracted more runners than in past years.

Sponsored by the Village of Niles, Niles Park District and Notre Dame High School, the event included about 300 to 350 participants, according to Cathy Collins, director of development at the Niles Park District.

"Overall, it was nice," said Collins, about the event that was free and open to the public. It took place on the Notre Dame High School track.

In addition to being more runners than in past years, Collins also said that more adults participated this year. She said that about 1/3 of the people ran and 2/3 of them walked in the 1-mile walk/run.

Collins said that there were sprints for ages three to adults, long jumps and much more. MNASR provided bocce ball, which is like bowling on the lawn and a bean-bag toss.

The Niles Girl Scouts had an obstacle course set up and the Niles Youth Council had a concessions stand.



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## All the good news that's fit

By Scott LaFee  
COPLEY NEWS SERVICE

Organ donation [www.organdonor.gov](http://www.organdonor.gov)

### WELL NEWS

Broad and detailed information on most issues related to transplantation, with particularly interesting pages on myths and facts about organ donations as well as how many people are waiting for different organs. Produced by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

### Stories for the Waiting Room

Until the Renaissance (1350-1650), standard treatment for many wounds was a dose of boiling oil. Then one day, a renowned physician named Paracelsus (his actual name was Theophrastus Bombastus von Hohenheim, but Paracelsus was catchier) was tending wounded soldiers on a battlefield (some perhaps injured by vats of boiling oil falling from castle walls) when he discovered he was out of oil.

Seeking an alternative, he

decided to use a soothing ointment and noticed - to his surprise - that the soldiers healed better and suffered less with the new treatment.

Medicine, as the authors of "Weird Cures," note: "became a little less sadistic that day."

### GET ME THAT. STAT!

A National Institutes of Health study says roughly 6 percent of Americans - or 14 million - ages 12 and older are visually impaired. The vast majority, about 11 million, have uncorrected visual impairment, such as nearsightedness.

# Vandals break kitchen window, lamps

## Morton Grove

The following was derived from the official reports of the Morton Grove Police Department for the week ending Friday, June 2.

### 1 Broken Kitchen Window (9300 Mason)

The victim was watching TV in the basement when he heard glass breaking and teenagers yelling on May 28. Police said the kitchen window on the north side of the house was broken. His neighbors outdoor lamps were also broken. It appears that the offenders used lamps to break the windows, said police.

### 2 Burglary to Motor Vehicle (8900 Meade)

Police said a victim reported a burglary to his vehicle sometime between May 24 and May 25. A radio face plate in his car was taken from a vehicle that was left unlocked and parked on the street in front of his residence. The victim reportedly said that he knew who the three offenders who committed the crime were. Police said the victim said he offered these three offenders about \$20 to complete a scavenger hunt and that he provided them with a list of items. The victim said one of the items was a car radio. Police said the victim was highly intoxicated when he met the officer on May 26.

### 3 Theft of Gas From Truck (6400 Chestnut)

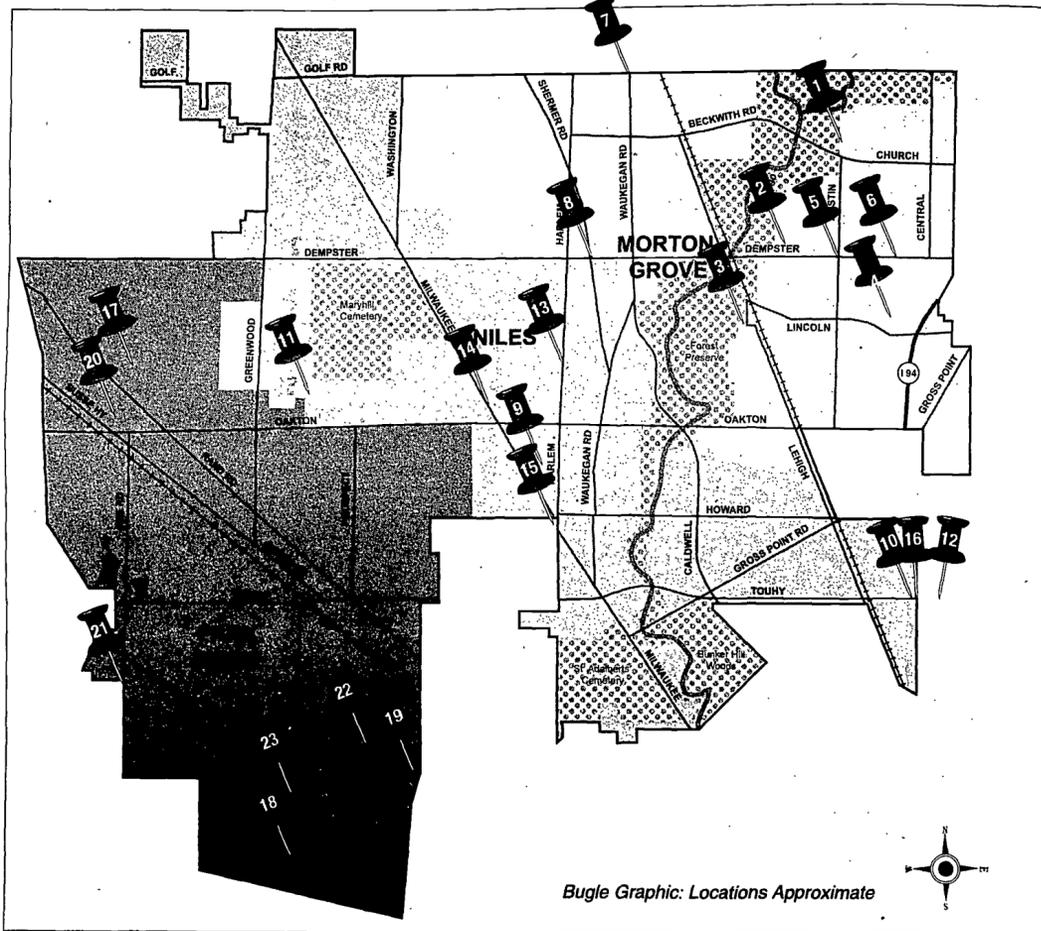
Police said unknown offender(s) cut the rubber filler tube to the gas tank and took 22.8 gallons of gas from one of his Yellow Box trucks sometime between May 23 and May 24. The victim said that it also happened to his friend's truck at the same time that was parked in the parking lot.

### 4 Burglary to Car (5800 Capulina)

Police said the passenger side window of a vehicle was broken and the stereo was stolen sometime between May 24 and May 25. The vehicle was parked on the street in front of the victim's residence.

### 5 DUI/Speeding Arrest (Dempster and Austin)

Police charged a 22 year old male from Chicago with driving under the influence of alcohol and speeding on June 1. Bond is \$1000 and he was



Bugle Graphic: Locations Approximate

bonded out.

### 6 Suspended Driver's License Arrest (8800 Major)

Police arrested a 29 year old male from Chicago for driving with a suspended license on May 30. The bond is \$2,000 and he was bonded out. The court date is July 5.

### 7 Revoked Drivers License Arrest (Golf and Waukegan)

Police arrested a 28 year old man from Bolingbrook for driving with a revoked driver's license on May 30. The court date is June 29.

### 8 Suspended plates, insurance and driver's license (Dempster/Shermer)

A 33 year old Antioch male was arrested for suspended plates, insurance and driver's license on May 31. Bond was \$3,000. The court date is June 14.

## Niles

The following information was derived from the official reports of the Niles Police Department for the week ending Monday, June 5.

### 9 Neighbor's Dog Attacks Dog (7800 Oconto)

Police said the dog belonging to the victim's neighbor jumped over a fence and attacked her dog and bit her dog on the left ear on May 26. The owner of the dog who attacked the other dog denied that his dog was in a fight, according to police.

### 10 Robbery in Parking Lot (5600 block of W. Touhy Ave.)

An offender demanded money from a victim on May 31, said police. The victim feared for her life so she took money from an envelope of cash which was rent money from a tenant and gave it to

the offender.

### 11 Criminal Damage to School (8100 block of Cumberland)

Police said offender(s) broke the glass in front of the door on the east side of the school sometime between May 26 and May 29. The broken glass came from a light fixture above the door. A wooden rake was lying on the ground. The K-9, Noah assisted in this case.

### 12 Burglary at a Business (5600 block of Howard St.)

Police said unknown offender(s) used a rock to shatter the interior entrance window in order to unlock the main entrance door on June 4. The offender(s) took two computers, worth \$1,500 and \$3,000; two flat screen monitors worth \$600 each and damaged an adding machine at the health equipment business.

### 13 Car Vs. Tree Rollover/Accident (Breen/Harlem)

A Niles woman was arrested for driving under the influence of alcohol on May 29. Police said the woman was trapped within her vehicle after crashing into a tree and she had a large gaping laceration on her forehead. The vehicle had front end damage. Her bond was \$1,000.

### 14 Asst. the Niles Fire Department (8100 block of Milwaukee)

Police said the Niles Police assisted the Niles Fire Department after a mattress on the ground was discovered burning in the alley on June 3. The Niles Fire Department put out the fire.

### 15 Going 89 in a 35 mph Zone (7600 block of Milwaukee)

Police arrested a 28 year old

See Blotter, page 7

## Blotter

continued from page 6

man from Chicago for driving 89 mph in a 35 mph zone on May 29. His bond was set at \$2,000.

### 16 Active Warrant Arrest (5600 block of W. Touhy)

A 28 year old from Evanston was arrested for an active warrant out of Evanston on May 28, said police. The complainant said he saw two males walking through the parking lot and looking into vehicles.

## Park Ridge

The following information was derived from the official reports of the Park Ridge Police Department for the week ending Monday, June 5.

### 17 Home Burglary (1300 N. Dee)

Unknown offender(s) entered a residence through an open patio door on May 30, said police. Police said the offender(s) took a ring that is valued at \$12,600 from a kitchen counter.

### 18 Theft of Wine Bottles (1900 S. Cumberland)

Police said a male, between 25 to 30 years of age, approximately five feet, eight inches tall, 140 lbs, was seen leaving the store after concealing two bottles of wine in his pants pocket on May 31.

### 19 Diamond Necklace Taken (1000 S. Harrison)

During March and April, the victim had numerous open houses in order to attempt to sell her residence. On May 26 she reported that she discovered a diamond necklace worth \$2,500 and medication missing from the residence.

### 20 BB Gun Shatters Glass Door (2700 Glenview)

Police said unknown offender(s) used a BB type gun to shatter the sliding glass door on the south side of the house on May 26. The estimated cost of the damage is \$1,200.

### 21 Damaged Cable Wires (1111 S. Dee Rd)

Someone damaged cable wires where the exterior walls between the field house and cafeteria of the school meet. The event was reported on May 28. The cable box was disturbed and the wires running up to the roof were pulled down. The estimated cost of the damage is unknown, according to police.

### 22 Motor Vehicle Burglarized (400 S. Vine)

Police said unknown offender(s) entered a 1996 Chevy Suburban by prying open the rear door. Taken was pine golf clubs worth \$450 and a golf bag that is worth \$150.

### 23 Reckless Conduct Arrest (Cumberland and Granville)

Police arrested a 62 year old man from Park Ridge for reckless conduct, fleeing-eluding a peace officer/illegal transportation of alcohol, aggravated revoked driver's license on May 25. Bond was \$75,000 and his court date was June 1.

## Notice

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

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

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## Editorial

### New Look, Same Bugle

We here at The Bugle appreciate all of the responses from our Reader Survey that was printed several weeks ago. We have been working on a refined design since we first started the paper and those who did return the survey helped us make some decisions on the direction of our paper's design. We encourage anyone who hasn't sent one in yet to do so because we always encourage our readers to voice their opinions.

The new look of The Bugle will help us and our readers in several ways some of which you might not have noticed. For example, we have increased the space for local news on each of our pages. We also hope that the new typeface we're using for our stories will make the paper more readable.

We've also refined the design of some of the smaller elements of the paper such as bylines, feature photos, graphics...we've even managed to refine our column heads and shrunk the head of our editor, Andrew Schneider on page two (no easy feat). But just because we've changed the

**"The only difference is that the newspaper will look better and be easier to read."**

**Andrew Schneider**  
EDITOR

look of The Bugle doesn't mean that we aren't still going to focus in on the news that matters to our readers: Romeoville news. We've succeeded as a publication because the readers know that our village comes first and we have no plans to change that. In fact, our publisher, Rich Masterson, insists that we do everything we can to expand and improve our local coverage. We will.

So you can expect to continue to receive the local content that has made The Bugle Niles' newspaper, the only difference is that the newspaper will look better and be easier to read.

And, as always, we encourage readers to let us know what they think of our new design or anything else that's on their mind by sending us a letter to the editor.

### Homeschool this summer

The level of competition in our society is increasing rapidly and not just within our country. We now face a global marketplace where the jobs Americans need are based on knowledge and information. You may think it is too hard or even possible, but if you are willing to spend just 20-30 minutes a day with your child you can move them an entire grade ahead over this summer in their worst subject. Think of the advantage that will give them.

Academic success is so important, not just for those kids who are going on to careers that need a college degree. In many ways we are judged by how we speak, what we know and how we apply that knowledge. A proper education contains a solid grounding in the basics, as well as teaching patience, determination and success. Many educational "failures" are actually kids who never got the basics. I no longer believe in many of the psychological brands like ADD or ADHD naming kids learning disabled. I have simply seen too many success stories with children the school system branded as unteachable. That is the truth - they could not teach them, but learning is about the students, isn't it? So how do you get started?

Firstly, teaching is really easy. All it



**Another Perspective**  
MORGAN DUBIEL

takes is positive reinforcement, patience and focus. A study by the US government back in the early 80's showed this. The days when it was mysterious or challenging are long gone and there are now hundreds of books, programs and websites specifically for parents that want to take their child's academic life into their own hands.

Your goal this summer is fluency. When we think of being fluent we often think of language. Fluency mixes speed with skill and that is how we measure real learning. Language learning is an excellent choice for an educational focus this summer. I recommend simply building a big vocabulary in the language of your choice. There are online flashcard resources and some, like

See Perspective, page 13

### "Shop Locally" campaign started with one man

The expression "one man can make a difference" holds true for Dominic Cimilluca, a Park Ridge businessman. The popular kitchen store owner came up with an ingenious idea before the 2005 Christmas shopping season began.

At the urging of a friend, he applied his idea and made a sign that said "Shop Locally." The bright yellow sign in his storefront window immediately received positive reactions from customers and passers-by.

"Every day since I put the sign in the window I've gotten a great response," he says. "It is a simple message but it really seems to

click with people."

He admits that he had some initial concern before making this move. He feared people could be offended by a suggestion on where to spend their money. "But, quite the opposite happened," he says. "People appreciate it and like the message. Many people realize that keeping our shopping dollars in our own community helps residents and businesses alike. Sales taxes help pay for city services like police and fire protection."

How did this little yellow sign affect his bottom-line? Dominic loves to tell how it is responsible for several large purchases from

new customers including one for \$10,000 worth of pots and pans. He says the sign definitely brings in new customers every week.

"I have done a fair amount of print and other advertising but the yellow Shop Locally sign was the best move I ever made while being a new business," he says with pride.

As a member of the Park Ridge Chamber of Commerce's Board of Directors, he has recently spearheaded a new campaign based on his yellow sign. The first ever Shop Locally Month began May 1 with a proclamation from Mayor Howard Frimark and a citywide mailing

of a Shop Locally coupon book through Media Decks, another Chamber member. Shop Locally signs were produced by the Chamber and made available to members and even non-members.

The campaign is catching on as more and more businesses display signs. In addition to traditional retailers such as Dominic's Kitchen Store, other businesses are also showing their support.

Park Ridge residents are responding by opening their wallets and spending their money in their own community.

"This exciting new campaign was designed to unite local busi-

nesses - retailers, service providers, restaurants, financial institutions and other professionals with eye-catching signs that convey our dedication to providing the highest level of service to Park Ridge residents while supporting local business," says Dick Barton, President of the Chamber and head of the Shop Locally committee. "Congratulations and thanks to Dominic for getting all of this started."

To reserve an official Shop Locally sign and to obtain other information on the Shop Locally program please contact the Park Ridge Chamber Office at 847-825-1321.

### Avoiding financial scams

Asst. Vice President Marimel Lim from Fifth/Third Bank in Niles will describe various types of financial scams and how to be protected from them during the program titled "Avoiding Financial Scams" on Tuesday, June 13 at 7 p.m.

The program will be held at the Niles Public Library at 6960 Oakton St. The library is located at the northeast corner

of Oakton St. and Waukegan Rd.

Registration is requested. To register people can stop by the information desk on the first floor of the library or call 847-663-1234. Registration may also be done online at the library's website at [www.nileslibrary.org](http://www.nileslibrary.org). A complete schedule of all library programs can also be found at the website.

### Roth IRA better than traditional

**By Lynn O'Shaughnessy**  
COPYLEY NEWS SERVICE

Whenever I write about Individual Retirement Accounts, a few readers yearn for even

#### MONEY & YOU

more information about Roth IRAs. It must be an unquenched curiosity about this IRA wun-

derkind that compels people to call, e-mail or write. During my recent string of IRA columns, one guy even contacted my business editor to complain that I hadn't specifically addressed Roths. I was initially nonplussed at the reader's reaction, but later I got to thinking that we need more passionate folks like that. Investors apparently sit up straighter and focus more intently when they're devouring an article about Roth

IRAs. This sort of reaction would certainly delight the late Sen. William V. Roth Jr., who spent years trying to get Congress to give two hoots about his blueprint for the ultimate IRA.

Actually, it's unfortunate that more people aren't intrigued by the Roth because in the race to outlast your retirement nest egg, the Roth could easily be your trifecta winner. As long as you take

See Money, page 10

Richard Masterson - Publisher

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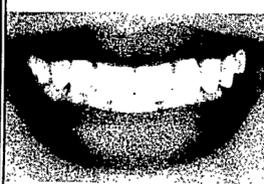
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**BY JEFFREY CARDELLA**  
*Special to The Bugle*

## Edward Jones

### New Tax Laws May Aid Your Investment Strategy

PUBLIC SERVICE ADVERTISEMENT

If you're an investor, you'll want to pay close attention to some of the provisions of a bill that President Bush signed into law on May 17.

The new legislation extends the lower tax rates on capital gains and stock dividends, temporarily removes restrictions on transfers from traditional to Roth IRAs and raises the exemption level on the alternative minimum tax (AMT). Clearly, the new laws can have a big impact on your investment strategies over the next few years.

Let's take a look at the tax law changes and see how they might affect you.

- **Extension of 15 percent rate on dividends and capital gains.** Until a few years ago, dividends were taxed at your personal income tax rate. But changes in tax laws resulted in a 15 percent tax rate on dividends through 2008. This rate has now been extended through the end of 2010. Also, the maximum long-term capital gains rate will remain at 15 percent through 2010; this rate, too, was slated to expire at the end of 2008. For taxpayers in the 10-percent and 15-percent brackets, long-term capital gains will be taxed at 5 percent for the 2006 and 2007 tax years and at 0 percent for 2008-2010. Clearly, these changes give you some incentives to look for high-quality, dividend-paying stocks and to hold your stocks for at least one year - long enough to receive the best capital gains rate when you sell. Some stocks have paid - and increased - dividends for 25 straight years, or more. These companies are typically well-run businesses that strive to reward their investors. (Keep in mind, though, that no company is obligated to pay dividends and may lower, or discontinue, dividends at any time.)

- **Removal of restrictions on conversions to Roth IRA.** Starting in 2010, you can convert your traditional IRA to a Roth IRA, regardless of your income level. Currently, only taxpayers with adjusted gross incomes of \$100,000 or less can make this conversion. The amount you transfer will be included in your gross income, so you'll have to pay taxes on it, but you can spread the taxes out over two years if you make the rollover in 2010. This traditional-to-Roth conversion may benefit you in at least two important ways. First, qualified withdrawals from a Roth IRA are not taxable. And second, you won't have to start taking distributions from your Roth IRA at age 70-1/2, as you must with a traditional IRA and a 401(k).
- **Increased Alternative Minimum Tax (AMT) exemption.** For many years, many taxpayers have been shielded from the AMT by its large exemption, but this exemption has not been adjusted for inflation, so, as wages and earnings rise each year, more and more people will be subject to the AMT. Recent cuts in income tax rates also mean that more people may face the AMT. The new tax bill provides AMT relief by raising the amount of the exemption to \$62,550 for joint filers, \$42,500 for singles and \$31,275 for married persons filing separate returns. This new exemption level applies only to the 2006 tax year, so when 2007 rolls around, watch for the results of new legislation.

So, there you have it - news you can use about the new tax laws. Consult with your investment professional and tax advisor to see how you can benefit from these changes.

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

# News from the Morton Grove business front

## House of Electronics

A wholesale distributor of mobile electronic goods recently opened a new facility in Morton Grove's industrial district. House of Electronics is owned by the Manchanda family. The new location has about 20,000 sq. ft. of space to operate a growing business.

The store specializes in business-to-business sales of electronic goods that are installed in automobiles, trucks and other vehicles. Common products include stereos, speakers, televisions, DVD players and other high-tech elec-

tronics. The Manchanda family has lived in Morton Grove for more than 20 years.

## VM Electronics

Recently opened for business in Morton Grove at 8430 N. Waukegan Rd. in Morton Grove. The business is owned and operated by Mr. Wayne Pavlovic.

The store services, repairs and modifies electro-mechanical equipment used in hospitals and medical centers. One of their major services is to modify wireless mobile workstations that are becoming standard data-management

equipment in many area hospitals.

## Horseworks

Has found a home at 5707 Dempster St. in Morton Grove. The site was formerly occupied by the Tack Shop.

Horseworks sells supplies for the care, dressing and grooming of horses, including blankets, bridles and more. They also offer riding apparel such as chaps, riding hats and boots. This store is owned and operated by Cindy Baffa, who also operates the Glen Grove Equestrian Center at 9453 Harms Rd. near Golf Rd.

## Super Cup Coffee Shop

Is back in business at 8509 Fernald, near Lincoln Ave. in Morton Grove. The new owner is Bill Wegner.

Super Cup has freshly brewed coffee, lattes, cappuccinos and other mocha beverages. They sell danishes, buns, muffins, whole-bean coffee, tea and sandwiches and chips, which is something new.

For more information people can contact the community and economic department of the Village of Morton Grove.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Friday, June 16

Job Shadow Day Sponsored by: Niles Chamber and Niles Youth Council 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

For guideline information contact Katie (847) 268-8180.

### Wednesday, June 21

Women in Business Networking Lunch @ Lucky Magee's Racino Grill & Sports Lounge 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. 9215 N. Greenwood Ave., Niles

(Southwest Corner of Golf Mill Mall) There is an \$8 charge for this event.

### Tuesday, July 18th

Annual Golf Outing @ Oak Meadows Golf Course, Addison

11:30 a.m. Check In & Lunch 12:45 p.m. Shot Gun Start 5:00 p.m. One Hour Open Bar 6:00 p.m. Dinner Registration and sponsorship forms are attached. Don't miss this event. It sold out last year.

Please contact Brenda (847) 268-8180 or email [brenda@nileschamber.com](mailto:brenda@nileschamber.com)

nileschamber.com

## Announcements

Print Bids Being Accepted

The Niles Chamber and the Niles Chamber Dollars for Scholars program have several printing projects we are accepting bids for. Job descriptions will be sent out Monday to all printing companies. If you would like the opportunity to bid and do not receive information via postal mail, please email [katie@nileschamber.com](mailto:katie@nileschamber.com) for more information.



## Ferguson Plumbing Supplies now open

Ferguson Plumbing Supplies celebrated their Grand Opening with Niles Chamber of Commerce ambassadors and board members and representatives for the Village including Village Manager George Van Geem. Check out their store at 7337 N. Harlem Ave. in Niles or visit [www.ferguson.com](http://www.ferguson.com) <<http://www.ferguson.com>>. For more information call (847) 647-7483. Ferguson is one of the largest distributors of plumbing supplies and pipes, valves, and fittings (PVF).

## Money

continued from page 9

some simple precautions, you can use the Roth to sink money into an account that's hermetically sealed against all further taxes - even after you're long gone. That's even better than Tupperware's lifetime guarantee against chipping, peeling and cracking.

Here's the nitty gritty on Roths: Withdrawals from any Roth are tax-free, as long as the account is at least five years old and you're at least 59 1/2. What's more, you can withdraw the actual contributions - as opposed to the earn-

ings - at any time without getting dinged with taxes.

Suppose you sank \$4,000 into a Roth last year and then lost your job and desperately needed cash to pay a health insurance premium. The Roth's escape hatch allows you to pull out the \$4,000 without tax or an early withdrawal penalty.

The Roth can also be a boon to older investors because they aren't required to begin raiding their accounts when reaching the age of 70 1/2. The IRS isn't interested in flushing out the cash from senior citizens' Roths because withdrawals won't generate any lucre for the federal coffers. Even better, heirs can keep

the Roth tax barricades erected long after an investor's obituary notice is yellowed and brittle. The money that beneficiaries extract from a Roth is also tax-free.

In comparison to the robust Roth, the traditional IRA suffers from flaccid muscle tone and pasty skin. Its best feature is its upfront tax carrot. Those who qualify to invest in a traditional IRA will receive an upfront tax break based on their income tax bracket. If you contribute \$4,000 and are in the 15 percent tax bracket, you'd get a \$600 tax break. All the money that accumulates in the account, however, will be taxed on the back end when withdrawals begin.

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# HAVE YOU HEARD

## PATRIOTISM WITH "AN OLD GLORIOUS CELEBRATION" AT GOLF MILL SHOPPING CENTER

### Campaign Kicks-Off with Flag Flying Pledge Drive, Support of AMVETS post 066

Shoppers will see red, white and blue as Golf Mill Shopping joins hundreds of shopping centers across the nation to kick off An Old Glorious Celebration, a national effort by the International Council of Shopping Centers, Inc. (ICSC) that promotes patriotism and the American flag. The campaign began Memorial Day weekend with a community pledge drive to raise the flag across America this Flag Day, June 14, and a call to action of support of our troops and veterans.

An Old Glorious Celebration 2006 is supported by Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) and AMVETS (American Veterans), two of the nation's most prominent veterans organizations. Niles Memorial Post 7712 Veterans of Foreign War and AMVETS post 066 are supporting the local campaign.

The community is encouraged to visit Golf Mill Shopping Center customer service center and pledge their support to fly the



Commander Bette Horstman, A Niles Boy Scout Troop 175 community announcement; the Park Ridge Chancel Choir Trio; Artistry in Motion Dance Company and a Niles Fire Department representative with fun buttons for kids. Plus a kid's flag parade around the mall with a cupcake and cookie reception afterward." said Zori Miranda, Event Coordinator. "These simple actions will make a huge impact on our country."

An Old Glorious Celebration, a national Flag Day campaign led by the International Council of Shopping Centers, Inc. (ICSC), unites communities in a commemoration of patriotism and the American Flag. This year more than 500 shopping centers from 15 leading developers are taking part in the program, including General Growth Properties, Inc. For more information, visit <http://www.golffmill.com>, [www.oldglorious.com](http://www.oldglorious.com).

flag. Participants will receive a free stick flag and will be recognized in a display at center court. "Patriotism is alive at Golf Mill Shopping Center and we are urging the community to come out and pledge to fly the American flag on Flag Day. And join us for a community Flag Day ceremony on June 14 at 12 noon. Festivities include Niles Memorial Post 7712 Veterans of Foreign War color guard presentation of the American Flag and speaker

### NEW HEARING AID TECHNOLOGY

by Phyllis Stern-Weisman, M.A., C.C.C.-A.

Recently there have been articles in AARP magazine, Newsweek, and the Chicago Tribune. Parade concerning new hearing aid technology. "Open-ear" or "Open fit" technology is a more recent advancement for people who have a high frequency hearing loss. This allows amplification of high frequency sound without a feeling of being plugged up or occluded.

Oticon Corporation went a step further in March of this year and introduced a new breed of open ear devices called Delta, which makes use of the Receiver in the Ear (RITE). Whereas other open ear devices have a tube bringing sound into the ear canal, Delta has an actual receiver in the ear canal to conduct sound. Delta is for people who wish to improve the clarity of speech especially in noisy environments. It combines both in the ear and behind the ear technology. They are available in 17 different colors and patterns. These new personal hearing devices are extremely tiny and lightweight therefore very cosmetically appealing. There are two varieties of Delta, but both are digital, have arti-

cial intelligence, noise management, and automatic directionality. These products are the answer to those people who are experiencing some difficulty in listening situations.

Because there are no earmolds to order, with a current audiological test to provide information for programming, a patient can be fitted and walk out the door wearing them.

As an audiologist with a high frequency hearing loss, I have had the opportunity to try different products and can choose which to personally wear. Since Delta was first introduced in Denmark in early March the choice of what to personally utilize was made easy. In the 29 years of practicing I have never seen a product that people have been so excited about using. North Suburban Hearing Service has been in Niles helping people to hear better for 44 years.

For more information contact:  
North Suburban Hearing Service, LTD.  
7638 Milwaukee Ave. Niles, IL 60714  
847-966-0060

## CONFIRMATION SUNDAY

This Sunday, June 11th at 9:30 a.m. the St. Luke's Christian Community Church will celebrate the Confirmation of four of its youth: Samantha Cuya, daughter of Sam and Allen Cuya of Morton Grove, Nathan Aleman, son of Frank and Jessica Aleman of Morton Grove, and Michael and Brian Hirschauer, sons of

Henry and Grace Hirschauer of Prospect Heights.

For the past year these four young people have met with the Rev. Raymond W. Nyquist, their Pastor, and they have learned much about the Bible, the Christian Faith, and



means to be a member of the Christian Church.

During the service the youth will give testimony to their faith and receive the right hand of fellowship into the membership of the church. And it is the custom of the church to pres-

ent new Bibles to each youth which they may use the rest of their lives.

The Church is located at 9233 Shermer Road in Morton Grove and meets each Sunday morning at 9:30 a.m. during the summer. Pastor Nyquist welcomes everyone to join them for this meaningful service of worship.

### Summer Fun At The Niles Park District Pools

Have fun in the sun with Niles Park District! Stay cool this summer at Oasis Waterpark, 7877 Milwaukee Avenue, or IceLand Pool, 8435 Ballard Road. Stop by for a dip in the pool and make a day of it! Full season hours for Oasis Waterpark and IceLand Pool have begun. Please call (847) 967-6633 for pool hours.

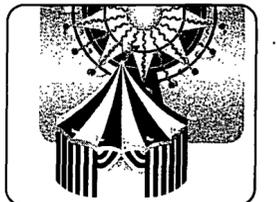
To purchase a season pool pass, please stop in the Howard Leisure Center, 6676 W. Howard Street or call (847) 967-6633. We have the same low rates.

## June Summer Fests at Niles Park District's Oak Park

Join the Niles Park District in June for Fun in the Park! Every Friday beginning in June and concluding in August, we offer FREE entertainment at Oak Park from 6:30-8:00 p.m. Questions, call (847) 967-6633. Here is what we have planned:

**Friday, June 9**  
**Down Home Family Fun**  
Down Home Family Fun will be happening at Oak Park. Your family can listen to the tunes of the very popular White Saddle Band. Children can take a pony ride and enjoy the petting farm.

Check out Niles Park District and Village of Niles large vehicles: Niles Police Department will be offering Free Car Safety Seat Checks.



**Friday, June 30**  
**Penny Carnival Night**  
The always crowd pleasing Saxophones will play to keep you moving and singing to the beat. Niles Park District summer camp kids will create penny carnival games for everyone to play and win prizes. So bring your pennies and be ready for some old fashioned fun.

**Friday, June 16**  
**Music in the Park**  
Music will fill the park as the Sting Rays are playing a variety of 50's, 60's and 70's popular music. Face painting and a balloon artist will be around for children.

**Friday, June 23**  
**Vehicle Adventure**  
The Only Sons, one of Chicago's most sought after bands, will play 70's, 80's and 90's greatest hits.

## GLENVIEW TERRACE HOSTS MONTHLY ALZHEIMER'S COMMUNITY SUPPORT GROUP

Glenview Terrace Nursing Center hosts a monthly Alzheimer's Community Support Group every third Wednesday at 6 p.m. All persons living in the community with family members with Alzheimer's disease are welcome to attend this Alzheimer's Association affiliated support group where they can ask questions about the disease process, receive educational material and seek support from other families living through the same situation.

Glenview Terrace Nursing Center is located 1511 Greenwood Road in Glenview. To find out more about the Alzheimer's Community Support Group, call Mr. Vasquez at (847) 729-9090.

# Insect could be as deadly as Dutch Elm

Morton Arboretum working to protect Illinois Ash trees

By Tracy Yoshida Gruen  
STAFF WRITER

The Emerald Ash Borer is an insect that has been damaging and killing millions of Ash trees in Michigan, Ohio and Indiana and the Morton Arboretum in Lisle is on the look out.

"It's not here yet in Illinois, but it's pretty close by."

Frederic Miller

ENTOMOLOGIST, MORTON ARBORETUM

"It's not here yet in Illinois, but it's pretty close by," said Fredric Miller, an arboretum entomologist. He said that the loss of the trees can be "quite destructive" to the economic and environmental state of a community. He believes it has the potential to be as devastating as the Dutch Elm Disease.

The Emerald Ash Borer is



The adult Emerald Ash Borer. (Photo: US Department of Agriculture Website)



The exit hole of an Emerald Ash Borer. In the insect's larval stage it feeds under the bark of the trees. (Photo: US Department of Agriculture Website)

an exotic insect that is native to Asia and attacks Ash trees. In the insect's larval stage it feeds under the bark of the trees. It disrupts the flow of water and nutrients and kills the trees in just a few years.

According to the website

for the Michigan Department of Agriculture, since first discovered in 2002, the Ash Borer has killed or damaged approximately 15 million Ash trees in Michigan.

The Morton Arboretum will lead a detection survey

for Northern Illinois that will target high-risk areas, as they have done in the past. The survey is in cooperation with the US Forest Service and APHIS. The Morton Arboretum has performed the survey since 2004. Miller

said that they have used "trap trees" in order to try to monitor the insect, but they have not had any positive results as of yet.

"We have so many Ash trees in this area," said Miller. He said that on his own block, if all of the Ash trees were destroyed, there would only be two trees left.

In a typical community, Miller said that 15 to 20 or even 30 percent of the mature trees are Ash. Trees are important to provide shade in hot weather and for the aesthetics of a community, he explained.

And how do these pests get around?

Well, Miller said they do not fly too much. Instead, they are often transported through firewood. Therefore, Miller said it's a concern that when people go camping or transport firewood they may also be bringing the Emerald Ash Borer with them.

"Not to be too negative, but it's similar to Cancer," said Miller. He said that when someone discovers they have cancer it might have been in their body for several years prior to the discovery and it spreads to other areas. Similarly, he said the insect may have existed several years prior to its discovery.

Miller said the Morton Arboretum is working with Michigan State University, on certain studies and trying to help them in any way they can.

### Pestilential Facts

Cause: Emerald Ash Borer  
Originated in Asia  
Feed on Ash Trees as larvae  
Make "D" shaped exit holes in bark

Effect: Ash Trees Killed  
15 million Michigan Ash Trees destroyed

Water, nutrient flow in trees disrupted

Ash Trees can comprise up to 30 percent of trees

What You Can Do:  
Don't move firewood across state lines

Watch for bright green insects

Watch for "D" exit holes in trees

## Perspective

continued from page 8

www.flashcardexchange.com, are free. You can use the existing sets of cards or make your own. Or just go "low-tech" and write out the vocabulary on 3 X 5 cards. The style is less important than the method.

Set a goal for yourself. A good one is sixty words per minute. Use a one minute timing device like a kitchen timer. You want to be able to count down or up and have it ring. Sit down and race through the cards as fast as you can and set aside your wrongs. Now study the wrongs and set them all back into the pile and shuffle. Start again and repeat. Do this for about five time per session and try to do 3-5 sessions every day. The method is called SAFMED and stands for Say All Fast Minute Every Day. Once you get really good at a pile simply review it once a day and add a new pile. As you get better you can review your best sets less and less. You should be able to add two piles a week, but many people are able to add five or more a week. If each pile contains 60 foreign words by the end of the summer you should now have over 1000 foreign words mastered.

The same method works just as well for foreign phrases, mathematics, vocabulary, phonics, and just about anything that you want to learn. It only takes 20-30 minutes a day and pays out massive dividends. If you keep using it throughout the school year you will see all your weakest areas mastered in no time. Set a goal and give yourself a reward after every set, once a day and overall when you have achieved your goal. That is called positive reinforcement and it really helps.

You can do it, stay positive and you have your child retested at the start of the next school year so that they are properly tracked. Academic achievement is not hard, it just isn't easy. Parents are the first line of defense against failure and the best cheerleaders for their children's success.

We have only discussed a hairsbreadth of all the ways you can improve your child's learning. If you would like more information write me in care of the paper and I will send you a data sheet on some outstanding ways to build your child's learning.

Have a winning summer!

## Lions Donate to Canines



The Niles Lions Club makes a donation to the Canine Companions, an independent organization to help people with handicaps at their dinner meeting at the White Eagle on Apr. 20.

## Carnival ordinance updated

With summer around the corner, an updated ordinance presented by the Morton Grove Village Board making carnivals and circuses safer for residents comes at just the right time.

The ordinance was introduced at the village board meeting on Monday, May 22.

The ordinance incorporates relevant State of Illinois statutory provisions that regulate carnivals and carnival workers and protect the health, safety and welfare of the village residents and carnival attendees.

In the ordinance, it states that the carnival workers should be at least 18 years of age, do not have warrants against him or her, have not been convicted of any sexual crime or sex offense and is not a registered sex offender and agrees to submit his or her fingerprints at the request and under the direction of the Chief of Police or a designee for the chief so that a criminal history check could be done.

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## Statue visits St. Juliana

Two fourth grade classes at St. Juliana School in Edison Park were delighted June 1 with a visit from Lady Liberty. The living statue came to tell them about how France decid-

ed to make her a gift to the United States over 200 years ago. The presentation was the second this week. The first was at Field School, Park Ridge. Both presentations

were given as part of a new program sponsored by Liberty Bank for Savings to educate children on the statue and its importance and meaning to Americans.

## East inducts students into NHS

Fifty-seven Maine East students were inducted into the National Honor Society on May 22, 2006. In order for students to be eligible for membership, they must meet a minimum GPA requirement of 3.5, and also be exemplars in the four standards of character, leadership, service and scholarship. The entire faculty is asked to evaluate the list of candidates in these four areas prior to selection of NHS students.

Senior inductees were: Adib Chaus, Artemis Deneko, Karla Gallo, Jooyun Lee, Gopi Patel, Hardik Patel, Puja Patel, Heena Rathod and Merin Thomas (all from Des Plaines). Junior inductees were: Erin Li, Faisal Masood, Cheryl Mathew, Christine Mathew, Mareen

Jennifer Bonaccorso, Sarah Choi, Jenna Grounsnick, Stephanie Jevtik, Alexandra Kachow, Cyril Kakkanad, Colleen Kelly Victoria Matej, Parth Nanavati, Ravi Shah and Bo-Na Yu. Junior honorees from Morton Grove were: Sydney Baloue, Kristin Cho, Artur Dzierzanowski, Nausheen Farishta, John Mathai, Ria Mathew, Lizbeth Muro, Adrienne Ordenez, Darshan Patel, Antonina Pondo, and Kristina Youmaran. Junior inductees from Des Plaines were: Pinal Chokshi, Bella Darji, Cathlynn Goldufsky, Pallavi Gupta, Jung Oh Ham, Sohaib Haroon, Mohammed Hussain, Rachel Johnson, Erin Li, Faisal Masood, Cheryl Mathew, Christine Mathew, Mareen

Mathew, Krunali Modi, Williette Nyanue, Bincy Philip, Jincy Philip, Sylvia Prokopowicz, Magdalena Puniewska, Krishna Surati, Krupa Tailor, Sony Thomas and Aleksandr Zhukhovitskiy. Junior Iliana Incandela from Glenview was also selected.

At the induction ceremony, English teacher Gregory Lundberg was named Honorary Faculty Member of 2006. Applied Arts and Technology teachers Patricia Zelikoff and Rebecca Stewart serve as co-sponsors of the organization. Newly elected officers for 2006-07 are: Erin Li - President, Ravi Shah - Vice-President, Nausheen Farishta - Secretary, and Sydney Baloue - Treasurer.

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## Loyola Academy Honor Roll

From Morton Grove, our Freshman Loyola Scholar is Kathryn In; Freshman First Honors go to Steven Higgins, Emily Szachowicz and Daniel Yoo; Freshman Second Honors go to Jennifer Favaro, Nicole Morisco, Nikhil Pillai and John Wibright; Sophomore Loyola Scholar is Sonu Joseph; Sophomore Second Honors go to Kevin Condon, Danielle Galian, Mateusz Placek and Brenda Sekosan; our Junior Loyola Scholar is Christine Favaro; Junior First Honors go to Michael Bermudez, Michael McLean, Charles Morello III, Cyrus Rashtchian and Denise Salinas; Junior Second Honors go to Michael Lauren; our Senior Loyola Scholar is Jerry Mandujano Jr.; Senior First Honors go to Kimberly Bauer and Conrad Ziembinski; and Senior Second Honors go to Andrew LaCorte and David Roti Jr.

From Niles, our Freshman Loyola Scholars are Alexis Bargione, Christine Bassig-Santos and Patrick Sen; Freshman First Honors go to Ki Seok Min; Freshman Second Honors go to Elyse Hagman, Kevin Kapolnek and Christine Penkala; our Sophomore Loyola Scholars are Jeena Chorath, Erin Mueller, Beatrice Toda and Charles Vasis; Sophomore First Honors go to Katie Dessent, Nancy Geden, Monica Gutierrez and Megan Konor; Sophomore Second Honors go to Kiley Bielecki-Mooney, Jennifer Okun and Paulina Placek; our Junior Loyola Scholar is Joshua Dessent; Junior First Honors go to Jeff Chorath, Michael Looby Jr. and Franci Rueve; Junior Second Honors go to Shawn Lopez, Emily McGuinn and Nancy Shaba; our Senior Loyola Scholar is Katherine Magdongon; Senior First

Honors go to Maura Kapolnek and Mary Naples; Senior Second Honors go to Joseph Penkala.

From Park Ridge, our Freshman Loyola Scholar is Tasia Hoffman; Freshman First Honors go to Elizabeth Appelt, Andrew Boychuck, Andrew Brito, Anna Marie Brodech, Caroline Davies, Patrick Falson, Colin Humanski, Thomas Kaminski, Alex Muench and Claire Tighe; Freshman Second Honors go to Nathaniel Armstrong, Gavin Farley, D. Zachary Keefe, Brenda Lodgy and Cassandra Pilarski; our Sophomore Loyola Scholars are Kelly Caputo, Angela Ginocchio, Kellyn Jackson and Christopher Miller; Sophomore First Honors go to Kathleen Burns, Hannah Cushing, Katie Festle, Tina Frukacz, Michael Habschmidt, Stephanie Makos, David Saladino and Veronica Wilson; Sophomore Second Honors go to Phillip Falson, John Gagliardo, Ryan Grego, Gregory Isaac, Michael Kusack, Jade Narrido and Daniel Steinfelds; our Junior Loyola Scholars are Kathleen Burns-Wick, Jacqueline Cichon, Andre Frukacz and Kathryn Iraci; Junior First Honors go to Kelly Block, Joseph Daly, Jacqueline Davies, Claire Demos, Kathryn Durkin, Elizabeth Kaczmarek, Lucas Michals, Sara Miletic and Erin Sullivan; Junior Second Honors go to Katie Dessent, Nancy Geden, Monica Gutierrez and Megan Konor; Sophomore Second Honors go to Kiley Bielecki-Mooney, Jennifer Okun and Paulina Placek; our Junior Loyola Scholar is Joshua Dessent; Junior First Honors go to Jeff Chorath, Michael Looby Jr. and Franci Rueve; Junior Second Honors go to Shawn Lopez, Emily McGuinn and Nancy Shaba; our Senior Loyola Scholar is Katherine Magdongon; Senior First

Honors go to Maura Kapolnek and Mary Naples; Senior Second Honors go to Joseph Penkala.

## Maine East student places 1st

Maine East senior Christopher Varughese of Morton Grove placed 1st in the Problem Solving Challenge Exam sponsored by the American Society for Mathematics. Varughese had the top score in the state of Illinois and has been invited to represent Maine East at the U.S. National High School Mathematics Championship to be held in Oklahoma City this July. Earlier this year he took

first place at the North Suburban Math League contest held at York High School. He had to solve three problems on the topic of parametric equations and present the solutions orally in front of judges. Varughese scored 47/50 points and was awarded a ribbon for his first place finish. Other competing high schools were York, Nequa Valley, Schaumburg and UC Lab School.



## Monreal-Berner wins freestyle wrestling title

Niles resident Dallas Monreal-Berner took home her first National Title at the Body Bar Women's freestyle wrestling United States National Championships, going 3-0 in the medal round of that competition.

Monreal-Berner is a senior at Niles West High School who co-captained her schools Varsity wrestling team this year.

The National Championships was held at the U.S. Olympic training center in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

After a grueling month of training, Monreal-Berner was ready for the big meet. In the medal round she defeated Lacey Novinska of Missouri Valley College with two spectacular throws putting her opponent in a position that she

could not recover from. Next, she took down Megan Richardson from Pacific University.

The championship match features Monreal-Berner versus college sophomore Colette Curtis of Kansas.

After graduating from Niles West High School, Monreal-Berner will attend Northern Michigan University and continue to wrestle at the U.S. Olympic Education Center in Marquette, Michigan.

"I think that I am at the beginning of a place where I will really take off as a student and as an athlete," said the champion wrestler, in a press release.

Monreal-Berner hopes to go for the gold and compete and take home a medal in the 2008 summer Olympic games.

## ND High School hosts golf clinics

Notre Dame High School's head golf coach Bob Beckman is pleased to announce the continuation of three one-week beginner golf clinics scheduled for Monday, June 12-Thursday, June 15 at the Notre Dame Golf Center on the school's Niles campus. The clinics will be one hour and 15 minutes in length and will be grouped according to age. Clinic 1 for ages 5-8 will run from 4:30-5:45 pm; Clinic 2 for ages 9-12 will go from 6-6:15 pm; Clinic 3 for ages 13 and

over will run from 6:30-7:45 pm.

Coach Beckman is beginning his 19th season as Notre Dame's head coach this fall. He is a member of the USGA and former golf instructor of adults and juniors for the Park Ridge Park District. Coach Beckman was recently certified by the (USGTF) United States Golf Teaching Federation as a Level 1 instructor. Cost of the clinic is \$110 per person. Clinicians will need to bring a set of golf clubs.

## Late surge stifles Wolves

Niles West 0  
Loyola 5

By Ali Bhanpuri  
STAFF WRITER

The sensational softball season ended for the Lady Wolves last Wednesday afternoon as the sixth seed Niles West fell to the first-seeded Loyola Ramblers 5-0. Although the Wolves (22-15) battled bravely for the majority of the game, a major stumble in the sixth led to the Ramblers' advancement to the next round of the Class AA playoffs.

Junior Shayna Duffy was by no means efficient with her pitch count, throwing 14 more balls than strikes. However, her defensive prowess and determination helped the Wolves to get out of two dangerous situations in the third and fourth innings.

In the former, with the bases loaded due to errors and walks, Duffy was able to force a comeback groundball, which she turned into a double play. After allowing a run in the following inning, Duffy was

"There was no doubt in my mind that I thought we could beat Loyola, but our major problem was a lack of execution."

Steve Ramseyer  
WOLVES HEAD COACH

aided by senior outfielder Cora Gibbs, who rushed in from left field to make a catch and then hurled a strike to junior catcher Audrey Kolodziej to tag a Rambler out at the plate.

Despite West's near flawless defensive play through seven innings, the few errors they did commit proved to be the turn turning point in the game. According to head coach Steve Ramseyer, the team was "inconsistent" defensively and lost because of it.

"There was no doubt in my mind that I thought we could beat Loyola, but our major problem was a lack of execution. Early on I thought we played great defense in tough situations and I couldn't be happier," Ramseyer said. We fell apart in the 6th though,

and we knew we weren't going to win if we gave up outs."

Duffy's knack for escaping trouble dissipated during a four-run rally in the bottom-half of the sixth inning. After the first two batters reached base (walks) and moved to second and third respectively on a wild pitch, Duffy surrendered a bloop single, the first of three consecutive hits. By the time she maneuvered her way out of trouble, the damage had already been done.

Ramseyer noted that with the season now over, the team "will come back and reload, then see what we can do." Though feelings of disappointment were common with the Wolves, Ramseyer is confident in his group returning next year.

"We are losing our first baseman and shortstop and those are going to be two huge holes to fill. We have talent coming up, and we'll be ready for next season."

The Ramblers continued their post season run this past Saturday, losing to the third seed, New Trier, 3-1.

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### NSC Highlights

For a detailed description of programs & activities or to ask about membership or registration requirements, please check the Naturally Active Program Guides or call the Niles Senior Center at 588-8420 ~Visit us online at www.vniles.com.

Pre-registration is required for most programs. Call for more info.

### June Registrations

Drop off Registrations from the June Naturally Active were due at the Center on Friday, June 2. In-person Registrations for programs with space available began Wednesday, June 7th.

### Cubs Game

Chicago Cubs vs Milwaukee Brewers at Wrigley Field, Thursday, June 29th 10:30AM - 1 hour after game \$65

Niles Senior Men's Club is sponsoring an outing to the Cubs Game. Registration is now open to non-residents. Cost includes motor coach transportation, lunch at the fabulous Stadium Club Buffet prior to the game, and Terrace Reserved seats along the First Base Line. Check-in at the Niles Senior Center is 10:30AM. We will return approximately one hour after the end of the game. Open to Non-Residents. For info, call MaryAnn.

### Summer Evening Movies

Special summer evening movie schedule goes into effect in June \$2.00 (with dinner) 5:00p.m. - 8:30p.m.

Beginning with the first Wednesday in June, Niles Senior Center will begin offering a weekly "Dinner and a Movie" featuring a broad spectrum of movie favorites from 1930 to the present. Before the movie, enjoy the special \$2.00 Hot Dog Dinner served at 5:00PM and then relax and enjoy the movie.

Advanced Registration is Required if you are planning to join us for dinner. If you want to come for the movie only there is NO charge and you are not required to register in advance. The remaining June Movie Schedule is as follows:

- June 14 ~ Wizard of Oz (1939 G)- Judy Garland
- June 21 ~ Just Like Heaven (2005 PG13) Reese Witherspoon & Mark Ruffalo
- June 28 ~ Casablanca (1942 PG) Humphrey Bogart

### Moonlighters Trip

Moonlighters Trip to Tommy Gun's Garage, Thursday, June 15th \$50.

The Roaring Twenties come alive at Chicago's original Speakeasy Dinner Theater. You'll be transported back to the 20's for an interactive musical comedy revue. Choie of Entrée! 5:00PM check-in at the Niles Senior Center; return approx 10:00PM. For info on ticket availability, call Jaymi. 847 588-8420 for ticket availability.

### Heart Health

Is your heart health worth 15 minutes of your time? Wednesday, June 14, 9:00-4:30 by Appointment only (847)

956-6850, \$70.

The Niles Senior Center and the Alexian Brothers Hospital Network are taking the first step in stroke and heart attack prevention by offering the innovative Alexian Brothers Assessment Program. The Screening consists of Carotid Artery Ultrasound, ABI (a test for blockage in the legs), EKG, AAA (scans for aneurysms of abdominal aorta), Blood Pressure and pulse, Body Fat Measurement, Health Education Materials, Immediate Results and Consultation. Anyone can participate. The cost is \$70. Registration is Required - call 847 956-6850. A limited number of appointments are available.

### Over 90's Celebration

June 22, 2006

Are you or someone you know celebrating your 90th (or over) birthday in 2006? If so, this celebration is for you! Please contact Jaymi Ostman at the Niles Senior Center for more information about this wonderful celebration.

### New Members

New members invited to get acquainted with the center, June 15 from 10-11:00a.m. Newcomers are asked to call the Niles Senior Center to reserve a place at our June 15th Newcomers meeting and Tour. Take a tour of our beautiful facility and meet members of our staff. 847 588-8420.

### The Effective Communication Group

A supportive, informational See Events, page 17

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## Father's Day reunion may shatter 15 years of silence

By Doug Mayberry  
COPLEY NEWS SERVICE

Q: Father's Day is coming up soon and I'm indecisive. I haven't talked to my dad in 15 years. He left my mother for a younger woman when I was 12 years old. I'm now 34 years old. I haven't been able to forgive

### DEAR DOUG

him for walking out on her. In all of these years he has not tried to contact me, nor have I him. We live within 50 miles of each other. My mother is seriously ill, and he does not know it. Should I let him know her condition?

A: By all means, yes. Both Father's Day and Mother's Day should focus on family events. Time puts another perspective on our relationships. Your feelings as a teenager are not what your feelings are now. No doubt your parents' breakup was fraught with anger, silence and unforgiving feelings. However, if love is indeed the key to happiness, it's possible that your dad has mellowed his thoughts as you may have. Dads are not all bad, and of course you have had only your mother's perspective over the years. Reasons for divorce are never one way.

Father's Day offers you an opportunity to reconnect if you and your dad choose to do so. Combined with your mother's illness, he may want to visit with her also. Even if he chooses not, contacting him may start a new relationship. You only have one father in your life, and you may be his only son. And you may have step-brothers and stepsisters that you might like to meet.

Doesn't it make sense to

explore your missing relationship at this time? Don't miss the opportunity to reunite with your dad!

Q: My wife is really depressed. She has experienced tinges of depression over the years, but now it appears to be affecting her dramatically. I have been trying my best to help her, but so far I have been unsuccessful. What should I do?

A: It's tough! There are multiple reasons for depression. Such problems as deteriorating health, lack of money, divorce, death of a child, accidents and other impactions.

As a child, did her parents compare her to a sibling or criticize her for not meeting their standards? I know of a case in which a girl lost her self-esteem as she was growing up because of her family's negative attitude toward her.

As humans, we typically have strong reactions to criticism. Some people choose to agree with the criticism and believe another's comments to be true. Others refuse to accept the criticism and move forward with what they believe to be true.

Perhaps one of your wife's siblings was smarter or better-looking in their parents' eyes. Family members can form bad habits and misjudge their children. Every person I have ever met reflects their own individuality. Although I may not always agree with their opinions, I respect their contributions, talents and gifts. Life would certainly be boring if we were all alike.

The resurfacing of old wounds can come to the forefront long after our critics are gone. Begin by trying to

See Doug, page 17

## Maine Township seniors plan summer movies, trips and more

The Maine Township MaineStreamers program offers a variety of opportunities for residents 55 and older. All residents and property owners are invited to apply for membership. Membership includes a free subscription to the MaineStreamers monthly newsletter, which details all activities for the upcoming month. Most activities take place at Maine Town Hall located at 1700 Ballard Rd. in Park Ridge. Members pay individually for whichever activities they want to participate in. For more information contact the MaineStreamers at 1-847-297-2510 or visit us at www.Mainetown.com.

### "Hooked on Fishing"

Big Bear, Little Bear, Vernon Hills Friday, June 16 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Cost \$12

Come and enjoy a day of fishing. Included in the price is fishing, bait, Continental Breakfast, lunch of Submarine Sandwiches, Chips, Dessert and prizes. Please note: Transportation on your own. Maps are available.

### Events

continued from page 16

group that deals with hearing loss issues and the latest in assistive technology. We welcome anyone with Hearing Loss issues to the Effective Communication Group, which meets the last Thursday of the

Liberty Bank for Savings sponsors...

### Movie of the Month

Friday, June 16 Location: Pickwick Theatre 10 S. Prospect, Park Ridge Movie Begins: 10 a.m. No Charge or Registration Required.

This month's movie is Rumor Has It- starring Jennifer Aniston. A woman discovers that a part of her family history may be very complicated. Rated:PG 13 Refreshments on your own.

### Men's Group

Tuesday, June 20 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Cost: \$3 - Lunch Provided Registration Required

Enjoy lunch together as we socialize...then Steven Frenzel will do a presentation on the "Greatest Car Scenes in Movie History". Don't miss this special program...just for you!

### Day Trip

The following Day Trips are currently on sale. In order to sign up for a Day Trip you must first sign up to be a member and then a reservation form will be sent to you. To become a

month. If you have any questions or want to look at assistive device catalogs, please contact Trudi Davis (847 588-8420).

### Niles Senior Center's Red Hat Society

Women members of the Niles Senior Center should call Kelly Mickle to register for the

member call the MaineStreamers at 1-847-297-2510 and ask for an application. All Day Trip departs from the State of Illinois Building, 9511 Harrison St. in Des Plaines.

### "Little Women" Trip

Milwaukee, Wisconsin Saturday, July 29 9:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Trip 2

\$95 members/\$100 guests

Treat yourself to a wonderful day of great food and fantastic entertainment. Let's start at the "Pieces of Eight" Restaurant that overlooks beautiful Lake Michigan. Choose your entrée ahead of time between Shrimp Chardonnay- Jumbo Shrimp in Garlic Butter, Roma Tomatoes and a splash of Chardonnay or Pieces of Eight Chicken-Marinated Chicken with Smoked Ham and Jack Cheese. Both entrees served with Salad, Vegetable and Dessert.

Join the remarkable March sisters-Jo, Meg, Beth and Amy - as one of America's most beloved books soars to the stage in "Little Women- The Musical." Enjoy main floor seats at the "Marcus Center for the Performing Arts."

Red Hat Society. Your membership allows you to attend the club's monthly luncheons.

On June 27th, the Red Hatters are off to Rio De Churrascaria in Northbrook. For more information regarding this luncheon or Red Hatter Membership, please contact the Niles Senior Center (847 588-8420).

## Park Ridge seniors plan Ravinia trip

### July Trips

A new and exciting destination is planned for Thursday, July 13 when the Center will visit Delavan, Wisconsin to see the Magical World of Dancing Horses. The main show is the 1 1/2 hour magical Vegas-style show where people, horses, lights, and fountains of water, dance in a kaleidoscope of music and color. A ringside lunch will be served which includes split pork ribs and chicken, dressing, mashed potatoes, and honey glazed carrots.

Dessert is Grandma's Apple Pie Delight. Also included in the day is a guided tour of the Arabian Horse breeding farm, and an amazing and colorful Macaw show. The trip leaves the Center at 9 a.m. and returns at 4 p.m. Reservations in advance are required according to current policy and you must be a member.

### Ravinia

Saturday, July 15 is a

Gershwin Gala at Ravinia. It will be Rhapsody in Blue and more featuring the Chicago Symphony Orchestra. This special evening starts when leaving the Center at 5 p.m. No meal is planned on this trip, but you may want to get a snack at Ravinia. We have pavilion seats for the performance which begins at 7 p.m. Reservations are required in advance following current policy and you must be a member. Charge is \$64.00 for ticket and motorcoach transportation.

### Camera Club

The third annual Print Photo Contest is open to everyone and is for digital or roll film photography. The categories are travel, flowers, animals and pets, landscape, collage, people, black and white, sunset/sunrise and humorous. The next meeting of the club will be June 27 at 10 a.m. Winners of the photo contest will be displayed in the Senior Center during the following month.

### Doug

continued from page 16

determine the root cause of your wife's depression. Open communication is an excellent start. Many people who are depressed do not even know why or how they got there. You may need to seek professional help to get an outside perspective and see what is really going on.

If the reason for her unhappiness is diagnosed correctly, you

can direct your energies to helping her regain her balance. Over time, most of us have the ability to rationalize our thoughts to feel better and have a positive outlook on life. Good Luck!

Doug Mayberry lives in a retirement community in Southern California. Send your questions to him at deardoug@msn.com or write to him at P.O. Box 2649, Carlsbad, CA 92018. © Copley News Service Visit Copley News Service at www.copleynews.com.

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## 'Do Lunch' with Morton Grove 'Lunch Bunch'

### "Let's do Lunch"

Come visit the "Lunch Bunch" any Monday through Friday at the Morton Grove Senior Center. Reservations are required and can be made by calling 847/967-6876. Lunch is served at 11:45 a.m. but the Center opens at 9 a.m. where many come in for bingo, cards, camaraderie, crafts, games, health screenings, quiet reading, seminars and just plain fun. The following special "Lunch Bunch" events are coming up:

Fathers Day Party on Friday, June 16. Lunch is Chicken Royale.

Polish Heritage Day on Tuesday, June 27. Chef Bob will prepare a sampling of Polish delights (cost of \$3.50).

The lunch cost is a \$2.75 to \$3 donation. For information about the menu or transportation call the Morton Grove "Lunch Bunch."

### Visually Impaired Motivators

The Morton Grove Visually Impaired Motivators is a low vision support group for seniors with macular degeneration and other degenerative eye diseases and their families. Their next meeting will be at 9:45 a.m. on Tuesday, June 20 in the Morton Grove Senior Center. They discuss everyday problems of living with low vision and possible solutions, exchange ideas on the latest technology and assistance devices available, and share what has worked for them individually. For more information please call Richard Englund at 847/965-8517.

### "Nunsensations"

Drury Lane, Oakbrook Terrace

The Little Sisters of Hoboken are at it again, this time they are offered \$10,000 to do a Las Vegas Revue. Set in the Pump Room Lounge high atop the third floor of the Mystique Motor Lodge in the soul of Sin City. Come watch as the world's favorite Nuns put on the show of their lives on Wednesday, June 21 at the Drury Lane Theatre. Lunch choices are Baked Lemon Sole or Roast Sirloin of Beef plus spinach mandarin salad, garden vegetables, potato or rice, fresh bread, dessert and beverage. The bus departs from the Morton Grove Senior Center at 10:30 a.m. and returns at 5:30 p.m. The cost is \$72 for Senior Center Members and \$82 for non-members. Register in-person at the Senior Center before May 31.

### Circuit Court of Cook County

Those who have wondered what goes on inside of the Cook County Circuit Court Clerk's office can find out from John Chatz at 1:30 p.m. on Monday, June 26 in the Morton Grove Senior Center. The cost is \$1.00 so please register for this program in-person at the Senior Center before June 16.

### Mall Shopping

Morton Grove seniors wishing to join shoppers on a trip to Golf Mill Mall on Tuesday, June 27 should call the Morton Grove Senior Hot Line at 847/470-5223 to reserve a seat on the Seniortran. Home pickups begin at 9:15 a.m. with arrival at Golf Mill at 10:15 a.m. Trips are free for Senior Center Members and \$1 for all others.

### Diabetes Screening

Many people with diabetes go undiagnosed because they are unaware of the signs and symptoms. Some of the warning signs are frequent urination, excessive thirst, extreme hunger, unusual weight loss, increased fatigue, irritability and blurry vision. Diabetes screening is offered at the Morton Grove Senior Center from 9 to 10 a.m. on Tuesday, June 27. Screening is free for Senior Center Members and \$1 for all others. Please fast for 12 hours. Water is allowed. Hold diabetic medications.

### New Wednesday Men's Poker Club

A new Men's Poker Club is kicking-off at the Morton Grove Senior Center on Wednesday afternoons starting Wednesday, July 5. The Club will meet every Wednesday for six-months (July through December) from 1 to 3 p.m. The fee for the Club is only \$13 for Senior Center Members and \$16 for non-members. If interested, please register in person at the Senior Center.

### "Leonardo da Vinci: Man, Inventor, Genius" Exhibit

Leonardo Da Vinci was an artist of masterpieces whose brilliance extended beyond the paintbrush into science and engineering. Morton Grove seniors will travel to the Museum of Science & Industry for an interactive journey through more than 60 large-scale models of his innovative designs reproduced in vivid detail from his drawings. The bus leaves the Morton Grove Senior Center at 10:30 a.m. on Friday, July 7 and returns at 4 p.m. The cost

is \$26 for Senior Center Members and \$28.50 for non-members and includes lunch. Register in-person at the Senior Center before June 7.

### Men's Poker Club

The Morton Grove Senior Center's Friday "Men's Only" Poker Club will continue for another six-month series (July through December) from 1 to 3 p.m. on Fridays, starting July 7. The guys are always open to welcoming new players. The fee for the Club is only \$13 for Senior Center Members and \$16 for non-members. If interested, please register in person at the Senior Center.

### AARP Driver Safety Program

AARP's "Driver Safety Program" is an eight-hour two-day course for motorists age 50 and older. It focuses on the physical changes that accompany aging and on ways drivers can compensate for these changes in improving their driving skills. Additionally, drivers will find that by completing this course they may receive a discount on a portion of their automobile insurance.

Courses are now offered monthly in Morton Grove with the next course times from 12 noon to 4 p.m. on Tuesday, July 11 and Thursday, July 13 in the Prairie View Community Center; and from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturdays, Aug. 12 and 19 at the Morton Grove Senior Center. The cost of the course is \$10. Call the Morton Grove Senior Hot Line at 847/470-5223 to sign up.

### Morton Grove Spelling Bee

Seniors are invited to show off their knowledge and cheer on their friends as the first and second place winners will advance to the Regional Spelling Bee. The Morton Grove Spelling Bee will be held at 1:30 p.m. on Thursday, July 13 in the Morton Grove Senior Center and is absolutely free! All participants will receive a copy of the Spelling Bee word list at registration in order to prepare for the event. Register before June 27 at the Senior Center or call 847/470-5223.

### Kane County Cougars Baseball Game

Join the Morton Grove Senior Center for a fun day at the ballpark for a Kane County Cougars game on Monday, July 17. The bus will leave the Senior Center at 10:30 a.m. and return at 4:30 p.m. The cost is \$25 for Senior Center members and \$27.50 for non-members and includes the ball game, bus trip, hot dog, and drink. Don't forget to bring a hat. Register in-person at the Senior Center before June 26.

### Music Music Music

Join the Morton Grove Senior Center for a musical afternoon of "Just Good Music" performed by the Bob Acri Jazz Octet as part of the Cavalcade of Music at the old Skokie Theater. The bus will leave the Senior Center at 12:45 p.m. on Wednesday, July 19 and return at 3:15 p.m. The cost is \$5 for Senior Center Members and \$6 for non-members. Register for this program in-person at the Senior Center before July 6.

## LIFE

## Fritsch builds better burger, bonanza follows

By Ron James  
COPLEY NEWS SERVICE

### The Restaurateurs

Little did chef Klaus Fritsch know that the simple hamburger he was preparing would change his life forever.

As chef for the Playboy Club in Montreal in the early 1970s, Klaus was experimenting with new items for the menu. He sent one of his new creations, a hamburger, out to Arnie Morton, the food and beverage director for all of the Playboy Clubs.



In a new venture, he turned to Fritsch. In 1978, they opened Morton's of Chicago. The new restaurant did well from the start, but it really took off when Frank Sinatra paid a visit six weeks after the opening.

"It was a cold Friday in February," Fritsch recalled. "We did not expect a celebrity of Sinatra's stature to walk through the door. The press got wind of it and the next day our phones rang off the hook with people calling for reservations." With the boost from Sinatra and endorsements from other celebrities, the two began expanding the business. By the time they opened Morton's in Washington, D.C., in 1982, they had developed an elaborate "presentation of the menu" where raw cuts of beef, chicken and live Maine lobster were wheeled in front of guests. By 1987, the chain, now eight strong, had sales of more than \$15 million. Morton and Fritsch decided to cash in and sold the chain for more than \$12 million. Fritsch stayed on as president of the enterprise and is now vice chairman responsible for 69 Morton's worldwide - all because of cooking a simple hamburger one night in Montreal.

The food business was not new to either Fritsch or Morton, both of whom came from restaurant families. Fritsch first learned to cook in his family's restaurant in West Germany. After four years of study and an apprenticeship at the prestigious Restaurant Kaiser Keller in Frankfurt, Fritsch worked in several Swiss resorts and restaurants before moving to the United States.

Morton was born into a family of Chicago restaurateurs. It was a most fortuitous meeting for both men who turned that occasion into one of the world's most famous high-end restaurant chains. Morton, who had been described in the Chicago Tribune as the "man who pinned the tails on the bunnies," left his post with Playboy when Hugh Hefner moved from Chicago to California in the 1960s. Looking for a partner

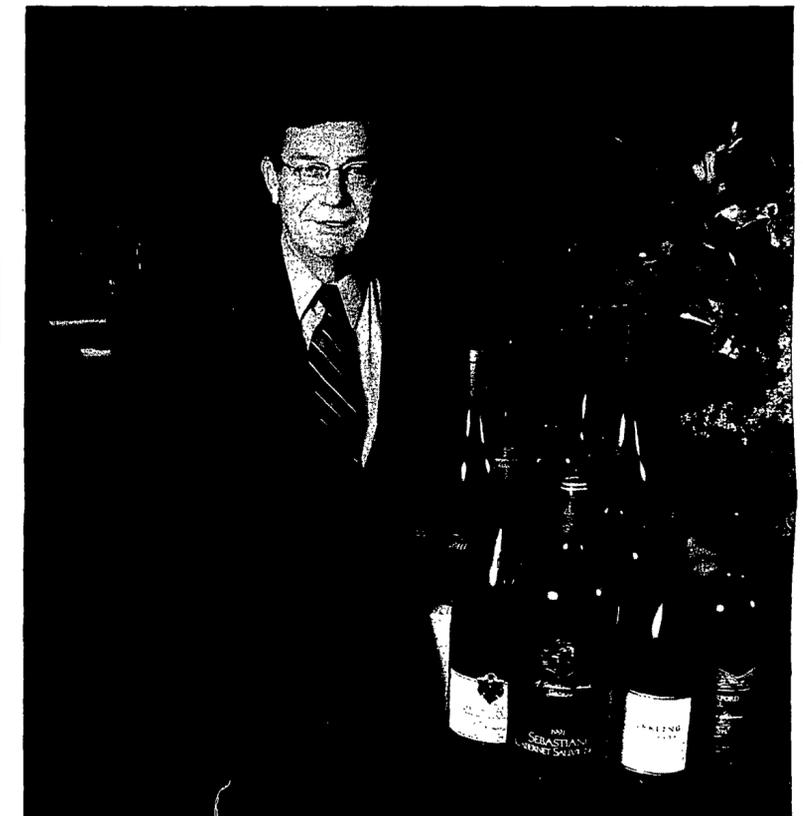
### PERFECT PAIRINGS

A few minutes later Arnie burst into the kitchen, demanding in no uncertain terms "Who cooked that hamburger?" Fritsch writes in his new cookbook, "Morton's Steak Bible: Recipes & Lore from the Legendary Steakhouse" (Clarkson Potter, \$30). "As I stepped forward to claim the distinction, I wasn't sure if he was pleased or not. Arnie exclaimed that it was the best he'd ever tasted. From that day forward, we worked together and eventually opened Morton's Steakhouses. So I have always called this the 'Million-Dollar Hamburger!'"

The food business was not new to either Fritsch or Morton, both of whom came from restaurant families. Fritsch first learned to cook in his family's restaurant in West Germany. After four years of study and an apprenticeship at the prestigious Restaurant Kaiser Keller in Frankfurt, Fritsch worked in several Swiss resorts and restaurants before moving to the United States.

### The Dish

Despite the fact that Morton's is known mostly for its steaks, we couldn't resist the recipe for Fritsch's million-dollar burger. It's a rather simple dish made from ground sirloin, eggs, tomato juice, salt and pepper. The secret is in the cooking technique and quality of the ingredients. Although Fritsch calls for his burgers to be cooked in a broiler, no self-



## Morton's Hamburgers

- 4 pounds coarse-grind ground sirloin
- 4 large eggs
- 3/4 cup tomato juice
- 1 tablespoon salt
- 1 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper
- 6 large hamburger buns
- 3 tablespoons clarified butter
- 6 (1/2 inch) slices tomato
- 6 (1/4 inch) slices Spanish onion
- 6 large leaves iceberg lettuce
- Ketchup or other toppings, for serving

Yields 6 servings.

Preheat broiler. Lightly oil and position rack as close to heat source as possible. In mixing bowl, combine sirloin, eggs, tomato juice, salt and pepper. Use your hands or a wooden spoon to mix thoroughly. Divide meat into 6 equal portions and gently form into patties. Transfer to broiler pan. Using a small sharp knife, make a crosshatch mark on the top of each burger

about 1/8 inch deep. (This lets the juices percolate through the burger, and we also like the way it looks.) Brush inside of each bun with butter. Toast buns in broiler for about 30 seconds on each side, or until lightly browned; be careful that the buns don't get too browned. Remove buns and cover to keep warm. Reposition broiler tray so that it is about 6 inches from heat. Broil burgers for 3 to 3 1/2 minutes on each side for rare, 4 minutes on each side for medium-rare, and 4 1/2 to 5 minutes on each side for medium. To serve, put bottom 1/2 of each bun on plate. Top with a burger and then a tomato slice, onion slice and lettuce leaf. Add top of bun. Repeat to make five more burgers. Serve with ketchup, if desired. At the restaurant, we offer ketchup but also top the burgers with sautéed mushrooms, sautéed onions and all sorts of cheese, as requested. Cheddar, Monterey Jack, Swiss and blue cheese are the most popular.

### The Wine

In 1982, Sinatra, who was now a regular at Morton's, dined there with his friend Jack McHugh, a successful Chicago businessman.

Sinatra ordered four bottles of his favorite wine with the meal. The maitre d' checked the cellar and told the singer that there were only three bottles on hand but that he could substitute with

a very nice Chateau Lafite Rothschild. The businessman picked up the bill for the meal, but called the next day, questioning the \$4,000 tab. The maitre d' explained that the three bottles of wine were Chateau Petrus and, although pricey, they were Mr. Sinatra's favorite. The businessman paused and then asked the maitre d' to pick up a case the next time he was at auction so he could send it to Sinatra.

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## New and recent releases: 'The Break-Up'

COPLEY NEWS SERVICE

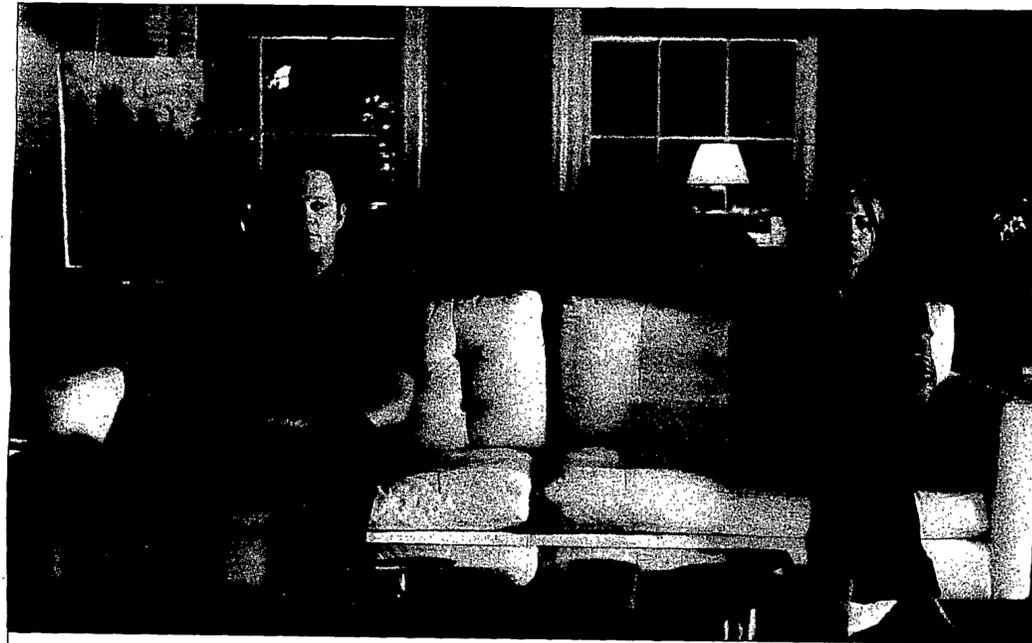
### New Releases

**THE BREAK-UP** -- Will Jennifer Aniston and Vince Vaughn break up for real in "The Break-Up"? Will they break up as well in real life? By the way, is there anything

### FILMS IN FOCUS

real in "The Break-Up"? Anyway, story: Gary (Vaughn) is a comical tour guide in Chicago, meets art gallery manager Brooke (Aniston) at a Cubs game, and they soon share a rather dishy condo where he fiercely wants a pool table in the living room, and she frantically wants more help with the chores. The movie, a waste basket of talent, is very simple. Their warmth diving like a Chicago winter day, Brooke and Gary are soon spitting venomously while their friends look very embarrassed. They still share the condo, but a conniving friend provides "therapy" by foxing them into putting the place up for sale, and Brooke starts dating. Reportedly a focus group chose the ending. Doesn't matter. No ending can fix a movie that breaks up early. A Universal Pictures release. Director: Peyton Reed. Writers: Vince Vaughn, Jeremy Garelick, Jay Lavender. Cast: Vince Vaughn, Jennifer Aniston, Ann-Margret, Joey Lauren Adam, Vincent D'Onofrio, Jason Bateman. Running time: 1 hour, 40 minutes. Rated PG-13. 1 1/2 stars.

**WAH WAH** -- "Wah-Wah" is not baby talk for "water" but director and writer Richard E. Grant murmuring "nostalgia," bittersweetly. Born in Swaziland (a tiny nation tucked into South Africa), and trained in South Africa, the London sensation as 1980s star of "Withnail and I" and "How to Get Ahead in Advertising" is now a middle-aged fella, gazing back. Despite its affection for lovely, rustic Swaziland, the movie is best when angrily tormented. Maybe the film is loyal to memory, yet it loses steam while gaining speed. The plot becomes a turnstile. But, despite its adult strengths, "Wah-Wah" turns a little goo-goo. A Roadside Attractions release. Director, writer:



Vince Vaughn and Jennifer Aniston star in the new film "The Break-Up" which premiered last week in Chicago. Vaughn is a native of Lake Forest and Aniston currently resides in Chicago.

Richard E. Grant. Cast: Gabriel Byrne, Emily Watson, Miranda Richardson, Julie Walters, Nicholas Hoult. Running time: 1 hour, 37 minutes. Rated R. 2 stars.

### Recent Releases

**X-MEN: THE LAST STAND** -- The latest "X-Men" movie is hellbent for leather - at times, in fact, the action resembles a clash of supernatural biker gangs. The film is slightly less hellbent for hair gel, at least compared with its predecessors. Hugh Jackman, back as the matchless Wolverine, no longer calls to mind a disgruntled troll doll. This is the third and, supposedly, final movie in the series about the comic world's most sulky superheroes. But consider its subtitle, "The Last Stand," a little suspect. (And for additional convincing, make sure to stay past the closing credits.) The "X-Men" franchise, thankfully, is one that could stand another installment or two. The latest chapter has a new director - Brett Ratner of "Rush Hour" fame replacing Bryan Singer, who has ascended in the comic firmament to do the new "Superman" movie. But like the first two films, this one crackles with action, delves

smartly (but not smarmily) into social relevance, and salts in enough humor to make all the vaporizations and razorizations feel a bit more festive. A Twentieth Century Fox release. Director: Brett Ratner. Writers: Simon Kinberg, Zak Penn. Cast: Hugh Jackman, Halle Berry, Ian McKellen, Famke Janssen, Anna Paquin, Kelsey Grammer, Patrick Stewart, Rebecca Romijn. Running time: 1 hour, 44 minutes. Rated PG-13. 3 stars.

**THE LOST CITY** -- The fall of the Batista regime and Fidel Castro's arrival in Havana (January 1959) have been heavily romanced by movies. The comedy "Our Man in Havana" was filmed there as history turned, and later came "Cuba," "Havana," even "Dirty Dancing: Havana Nights." Most famous are the Havana segments of "The Godfather, Part II." Andy Garcia, born Andres Garcia in Havana (1956), starred in Part III of the saga, and has long yearned to make "The Lost City." Garcia got the esteemed, exiled Cuban writer Guillermo Cabrera Infante to script it. He died last year, leaving this memorial that Garcia directed, produced and stars in. His matured, urbane charm as

nightclub owner Fico has flecks of Bogart's Rick Blaine in "Casablanca." Fico, who simply cares about staging great Latin shows at El Tropico, is not political, but his rich father (moving work by Tomas Milian) is an old-school liberal. Fico's brother peels off to join Castro in the mountains, and another leads a suicidal attack on Batista's palace. A Lionsgate Films release. Director: Andy Garcia. Writer: Guillermo Cabrera Infante. Cast: Andy Garcia, Bill Murray, Tomas Milian, Millie Perkins, Ines Sasto, Dustin Hoffman, Jsu Garcia, Richard Bradford. Running time: 2 hours, 38 minutes. Rated R. 2 1/2 stars.

**THE DA VINCI CODE** -- Next April 15 is the 555th birthday of Leonardo Da Vinci. So we have 331 days in which to lift our Leonardo vision from Dan Brown's novel, "The Da Vinci Code," and its new movie version. Brown's book has redefined "best seller" and caused the grandest Leo-mania since DiCaprio sank in "Titanic." It's a major page-turner, if you like nearly every page to crowbar your nerves with a new teaser. In the film, Hanks often seems fuddled, as if waiting for someone to

decode the script for him. Director Ron Howard (of "Cinderella Man," but no Renaissance man) and writer Akiva Goldsman (of "A Beautiful Mind," but no Leonardo mind) shove Brown's lurid thriller into a Louis Vuitton bag of devices. There are even computerized flashbacks to medieval and pagan times. "DVC" is a freakish book and a lavishly ludicrous film, a bouncing mass of high-priced gas given some stability by culture-tour settings (even Isaac Newton's tomb and, of course, the Mona Lisa) and by Hanks' solid, sensible presence. It is crazily viewable, but not persuasive. A huge crowd awaits this movie (did the prophetic Leonardo predict it?). Some of us, of a more worldly faith, await "The Ginchy Code," starring Audrey Hepburn and the outfits that launched a billion sighs. That, too, can use the Louvre. A Columbia Pictures release. Director: Ron Howard. Writer: Akiva Goldsman. Cast: Tom Hanks, Audrey Tautou, Ian McKellen, Alfred Molina, Jean Reno, Jurgen Prochnow and Paul Bettany. Running time: 2 hours, 29 minutes. Rated PG-13. 2 stars.

## Brief book reviews

COPLEY NEWS SERVICE

The late John V. Lindsay said being mayor of New York was the second most important job in the United States after that of president. "The Toughest Show on Earth: My Rise and Reign at the Metropolitan Opera," by Met general manager Joseph Volpe gives the impression that running America's foremost opera company is the second most important job in New York. As Volpe points out with his

### SCANNING THE BOOKSHELF

literary collaborator Charles Michener, an editor at both Newsweek and The New Yorker, the Met is "the biggest performing arts institution in the world."

On a budget of about \$220 million a year, the mighty Met presents 240 performances of 30 or so operas annually. It employs 2,000 artists, technicians and administrators. Aficionados pay as much as \$320 for a box seat to hear the biggest names in opera and see eye-dazzling productions. Even though the Met's pedestrian postmodern auditorium isn't as grand and ornate as most European opera houses, the Met is the Mecca of opera. If you can make it there, you really can make it anywhere.

Volpe's businesslike memoir comes as he prepares to retire in August. His successor will be Peter Gelb, a former record company executive who has vowed to shake up the Met and bring it out of its stodginess with new directors and some nontraditional productions. If Gelb's credentials seem an odd qualification to take the helm of an opera company, consider that the Brooklyn-born Volpe worked his way up to the Metropolitan Opera's top administrative post from apprentice carpenter (1963), master carpenter (1966), technical director (1977), director of operations (1980), assistant manager for operations (1981), general director (1991) and his current post two years later.

Not bad for someone who hated school, got a high school diploma and lasted just a week at St. John's University, Brooklyn, because he preferred to run an auto repair shop. After the garage burned, Volpe went to work as a stagehand at New York's Morosco Theatre, moving sets for such shows as "I Can Get It for You Wholesale," with "waif" Barbra Streisand. "(Instead of going crazy about Streisand) I was more interested in what was going on behind the curtain," Volpe writes. Thanks to landing an International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees apprenticeship, Volpe went to the Met and got his first taste of hard-core organized labor and bizarre creativity. He learned union politics, contract negotiations and how to wear a poker face.

Volpe writes that as a Met AP (apprentice carpenter), he earned \$74 a week. He doesn't give a clue about how much his current Met job pays, but the Met's financial report to the IRS for fiscal year 2003-04 says Volpe's annual salary was \$713,000. So, \$13,711 a week. Better than president of the United States.

Born in Brooklyn 66 years ago, the grandson of Italian immigrants, Volpe developed a scrappy, street-smart personality. For years, he's sported a beard, which only reinforced his image as a plebeian rather than a patrician. When he first tried to land the Met general management, but failed, a Met trustee told The New York Times Volpe was "N.O.C.D." Not our class, dear." Volpe says he suspected some decision-makers were saying, "How can we take him to a fundraiser? We need someone with more social status."

The top job came only after Volpe's predecessor, Hugh Southern, proved unequal to the task and lasted just seven months. Few ever saw Southern "a Cambridge University graduate" around. The Met board could not deny that Volpe's macho personality and knowledge about productions and labor relations were just what the company needed. Of course, when it came to musical matters, Volpe had to defer to Met music director James Levine. Volpe admits to occasionally getting "a little emotional," yet insists his bark is worse than his bite. The press has portrayed him as abrasive and tough. Those traits - and his dishing about certain directors, singers and other arts personalities - make Volpe's memoir sing.

His iron will proved useful when dealing with such stage directors as Franco Zeffirelli, Jean-Pierre Ponnelle and Piero Faggioni. In 1991, Volpe forced

Faggioni to put two black Met chorus members in the climactic ball scene of Verdi's "Un Ballo in Maschera" near the apron of the stage. "There are no blacks in (18th-century) Sweden," Faggioni balked. "Piero, this is America," Volpe said.

As for problematic singers, Volpe didn't put up with the prima donna antics of Kathleen Battle, Roberto Alagna and Angela George. He fired Battle for being rude and ugly to her Met colleagues, and made Alagna and George comply with production dictates they didn't like.

Unabashedly, Volpe loves Luciano Pavarotti, Renee Fleming, Denyce Graves, Kiri Te Kanawa, Karita Mattila and Dmitri Hvorostovsky. Many of those artists were among nearly 30 performing when the Met recently honored Volpe with a gala at the opera house. The top ticket price was \$2,000. Attention social snobs: This time Joe Volpe was the fundraiser. "The Toughest Show on Earth: My Rise and Reign at the Metropolitan Opera," by Met general manager Joseph Volpe with Charles Michener; Knopf; 280 pages; \$25.95. Preston Turegano is a Union-Tribune arts writer.

### Flower Power

Let's cut to the vase: Flowers are all about sex - the romantic kind, perhaps, the reproductive kind, without doubt. Until about 100 million years ago, there were no flowers. The Earth was a green but generally drab place of limited diversity, more suitable for fern-loving dinosaurs than mammals like us.

The debut of flowers - or more broadly, flowering plants - changed everything, writes William C. Burger, the former curator of botany at Chicago's esteemed Field Museum of Natural History, in this delightful and insightful new book "Flowers: How They Changed the World." By evolving in extraordinarily diverse fashion, flowering plants transformed the world. Fundamentally, they became and remain a primary source of energy. By capturing the energy of sunlight and converting it into carbohydrates and sugar that can be consumed by others, flowering plants, or angiosperms, established the first link in the world's food chain. Out of roughly 300,000 known land plants, 260,000 are angiosperms. They are what

we eat.

With the emergence of angiosperms came new ecosystems and habitats to be filled and exploited by new forms of life, among them evolving primates like us, who thrived on the greater diversity and calorie content. Later, flowering plants like wheat, potatoes, cotton and coffee would become the basis of agriculture and a key to our civilization.

Without the gift of flowers and the diversity of their fruits, man and bird, if they had continued to exist at all, would be today unrecognizable," Burger quotes the great anthropologist and poet Loren Eiseley. "Archaeopteryx, the lizard-bird, might still be snapping at beetles on a sequoia limb; man might still be a nocturnal insectivore gnawing a roach in the dark. The weight of a petal has changed the face of the world and made it ours."

High-minded words, but Eiseley doesn't explain what exactly a flower is or what exactly it's good for. That's where Burger comes in, with detailed but understandable essays on flower anatomy, purpose and function, all of which brings us back, of course, to sex.

Crassly put, flowers are really just prettified sex organs. Those petals and structures of exuberant color, ornateness and aroma are merely bold and brassy blandishments for what lies within: the plant's reproductive machinery, its stamens and pistils.

Flowers evolved to attract would-be pollinators. While some plants rely upon the wind to disperse their pollen, it's a costly and not very efficient way of doing things. Much better to entice others - birds, insects, mammals - to do one's reproductive labors. And is there a more lovely enticement than a colorful, sweetly redolent flower?

Evolutionarily, flowers emerged as a means of survival and salvation. This is something every husband knows instinctively, though it's good to understand the science behind it. "Flowers: How They Changed the World" by William C. Burger; Prometheus Books; 337 pages; \$23.

Scott LaFee is a science writer for the San Diego Union-Tribune. Visit Copley News Service at [www.copleynews.com](http://www.copleynews.com).

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## Books for the beaches

By Lee Littlewood  
COPLEY NEWS SERVICE

Books and beaches go hand in hand. These fabulous new tales are perfect for enjoying before, during and after beach-going - just be sure to keep them away from water!

### KID'S HOME LIBRARY

"Abigale the Happy Whale" by Peter Farrelly; illustrated by Jamie Rama; Little, Brown & Co., 32 pages; \$15.99.

Famed Hollywood writer Farrelly turns his attentions to polluted oceans in this humorous yet inspiring picture book for the 3- to 6-year-old crowd. When carefree baby humpback whale Abigale realizes all the other whales in Santa Monica are sad and want to beach themselves, she and her sea friends concoct a plan. Abigale and Golphin' Dolphin, Clem the Clam, Fred Doofish the Red Bluefish and others decide to encourage the humpback whales to use their blowholes and blast all the discarded items from the bottom of the ocean back out at the beach. Their plan works, and the humans clean up the beach, carting away all the trash.

Farrelly's friendly and fun story should make kids aware of a big environmental problem and is a smart and entertaining way to inform the future's denizens of our planet. Also helpful - half the proceeds of the book's sales will go to Heal the Bay, an organization "dedicated to making Santa Monica Bay and Southern California coastal waters safe and healthy for people and marine life."

"Beach" by Elisha Cooper;

Orchard Books; 36 pages; \$16.99. Cooper's tiny thumbprintlike illustrations depict a bevy of intriguing beach happenings, while perceptive descriptions add a storytelling aspect to this appealing waterside read. Nothing's left out in this likable picture book - not the drone of an airplane dragging a tail banner or how the smell of grilling mixes with the smell of the ocean or that the only person wearing pants is flying a kite high overhead.

Children who think the beach is only good for swimming and building sand castles will discover a whole other world of sand-based activity - from watching clouds that can look like spilled popcorn or a whale eating a pancake to observing how the beach fills up and then empties out at the end of a day.

"Once Upon a Tide" by Tony Mitton; illustrated by Selina Young; David Fickling Books/Random House; 40 pages; \$16.95.

A super fun, adventurous seafaring tale, Mitton tells, in simple, satisfying poetic text, about a boy and his sister who embark on a voyage "to the place where the sea meets the sky." The pair build their very own boat, stitch together a sail from "rags of red" and buy a chart and compass from Capt. Bart. They find their own island, encounter pirates and a whale and build a sea shanty with other children in this cheery, colorful fantasy - a marvelous bedtime read after a day spent at the beach or poolside.

"The Pirate's Plot" from the "Taylor-Made Tales" series by Ellen Miles; Scholastic; 100 pages; \$4.99.

## Kids' Home Newspaper

Games, rhymes and riddles for children and their parents, too!

By J.R. Rose-Copley News Service

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WHAT DID THE DUCK SAY HIS CUSTOMER IN THE RESTAURANT?



June 5, 2006

## Getting your home sold for the highest price

In earlier reports we discussed removing excess clutter and taking care of minor repairs, to prepare your home for sale. Now you are about ready to place your home on the market. How should you choose a real estate company and agent. Your real estate agent will be representing you in what is probably the highest priced transaction in your life, so you want to make an informed decision. The skills of the agent and office you hire will have a direct impact on the price you get and the problems you encounter during the sale.

A local realtor will normally have a better knowledge of the local market, and where buyers for this community come from. If you don't already know a successful agent, call a couple of local offices and interview the agents. There is a range of value on any home of about 10%. Where your home sells within this range is dependent on the condition as well as the marketing and negotiating skills of your broker. Besides helping you to establish an asking price for your home,



Smart Real Estate  
BILL ALSTON

the agents should be able to give you ideas and tips that will help sell the real estate near the top end of that 10% range, instead of the bottom end.

A good agent should have a marketing plan. Specifically, what are they going to do to attract buyers to your home. If one method of marketing will attract 20 buyers to your real estate but a better way of marketing will attract 40 buyers, it is just business logic that you will get a better price using the methods that attract more buyers. What marketing tools do they have? A home warranty, for example, can easily add 2% to the selling price.

See Sold, page 24



## Mom was right: You need arch supports

By Rose Bennett Gilbert  
COPLEY NEWS SERVICE

Q: Our great room has French doors with arched windows on top. I don't know how to cover the arch, or even if I should. My mother is suggesting sheer curtains on the arches, but how would it look if I just hang drapes across the top of the French doors and leave the arches open for the light?

### DECOR SCORE

A: Your mother is right: shirred semicircular sheers (say that fast!) have long been the dressing of choice for arched-top windows. But they're no longer the only choice. Check out your local window-covering show and you'll find options like wooden shutters and pleated blinds that can be custom fit to the arch. Some of the blinds can even be made operable - most conveniently by remote control - so you can open the arches to daylight or close them against glare and privacy-invasion.

Then again, you might opt to leave the arches altogether bare and dress only the lower glass doors, as the designer has done in the sunny sitting room we show here. In this case, the French doors open outward, so there's no problem mounting the curtain rods on the main

door frame. When the doors open inward, be warned, you will have to install either hinged rods that can swing the curtains clear of the exit, or install the rods on the individual door frames so they open together.

Now, what about the glare through the undressed arches? One easy solution: an invisible window film that is professionally applied to block ultraviolet rays, the kind that can harm furniture, floors, fabrics and family members. You can't see the film, except on the bottom line of your reduced energy bills. One resource is Vista UVShield Window Film. For information, go to [www.vista-films.com](http://www.vista-films.com) or call 800-345-6088.

### How long since you've vacuumed under your beds?

The longer the better, and never mind what your mother would say. Come up with the country's worst dust bunnies - and 100 words on why they are - between now and the end of June, and you stand to win a package of housecleaning helpers worth \$15,000. Prizes include an air filtration system for your home and a once-a-month housecleaning service for the next year. Check out details at [www.americanstandardair.com/dustbunny](http://www.americanstandardair.com/dustbunny).

Why are we telling you this in a column about decorating? Despite New York designer

Mario Buatta's insistence that "dust is a protective coating for fine furniture," we believe that being house-proud still depends on good housekeeping.

### Does Bling begin at Home?

A random survey of designer show houses and furniture fairs this spring says bling is in for interiors, too. Crystal chandeliers were so everywhere they're almost old news. We saw them in kitchens and closets, as well as hallways and bedrooms. At "A Mansion in May" in the countryside of Basking Ridge, N.J., Vanessa DeLeon ([www.vanessadeleonassociates.com](http://www.vanessadeleonassociates.com)) ignored the historic-farmhouse setting and designed a totally glam dressing room where a black chandelier glittered over a mirrored dressing table.

Mirrored furniture a la the 1940s also sparkled in the bedroom by the British Pine Emporium design team ([www.britishpineemporium.com](http://www.britishpineemporium.com)), and the snappy country studio designed by Kenneth Davis Inc., which featured a wall paved in framed Playbill covers from Broadway hits. Mirrors also wrapped accent furniture in the master bedroom Tami Kinley created for the 35th showhouse sponsored by the Junior League of Montclair and Newark, N.J. For information, e-mail [kenneth@calleroandcatino.com](mailto:kenneth@calleroandcatino.com). See Decor, page 24

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# Charles (404-31)

By Scott McAlexander  
COPLEY NEWS SERVICE

Designed for a large family, the 3,469-square-foot Charles (404-31) features six bedrooms, four and a half baths and an innovative floor plan. A lengthy covered porch and several windows surround the exterior of this elegant home.

## DESIGNER HOMES

Walk through the arched entryway of this two-story home and step down into the angled living room. This is the perfect place to spend an afternoon with a good book or engage in quiet contemplation. Located in the hall, for your guests' convenience, is a half-bath and coat closet.

Occupying the entire right corner of the home's first floor is the luxurious master suite. Isolated for absolute privacy, this room is replete with all the amenities to ensure comfort. It includes a home security system, his-and-her walk-in closets, a private bathroom with raised tub, twin basins, compartmentalized toilet with skylight and access to the extensive back deck.

The central area is open, with only the staircase as a divider. The family room and nook are adjacent to the kitchen, which allows the cook to prepare meals and still take part in family conversations. The kitchen features double ovens, a walk-in pantry and an eating bar.

The formal dining room is near the entrance and is spa-

cious enough for large gatherings. On the left side of the first floor are two small bedrooms with wall closets and a bathroom to share in the hall. There are three bedrooms on the second floor. Two are actually minisuites, each with a private bathroom. The smallest bedroom, although it is more than 11 feet by 11 feet, has a walk-in closet and a vaulted ceiling. The room is perfect for guest quarters.

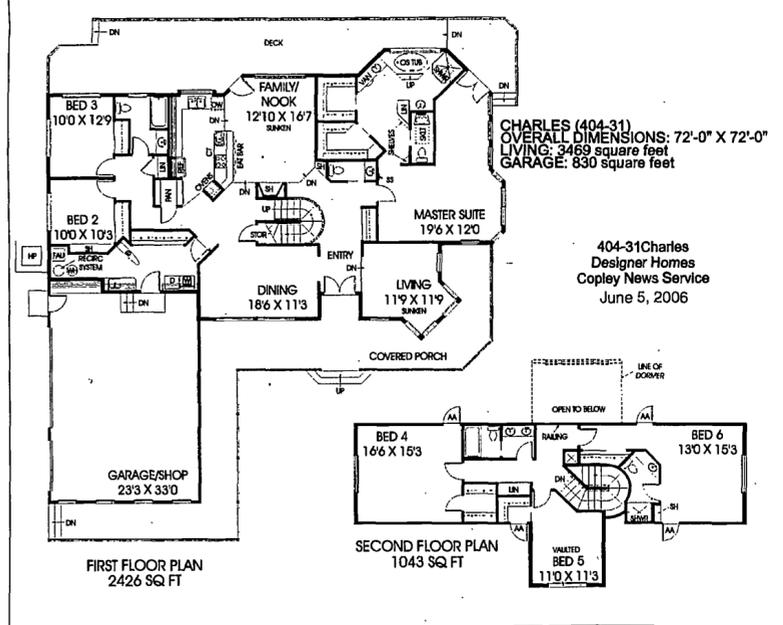
For an extended-family situation, this entire second floor can be used as an apartment. The smaller vaulted front bedroom, if not used for sleeping, can easily be converted to a home office or library.

Down below, the garage has a large shop area and opens into a big utility room, which includes a washer, dryer, built-in ironing board, closet, sink and air-recirculation system.

For a study plan of the Charles (404-31), send \$15, to Landmark Designs, 33127 Saginaw Rd. E., Cottage Grove, OR 97424 or call 800-562-1151. Be sure to specify plan name and number.

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## Decor

continued from page 23

davisinc@optonline.com. Meanwhile, among the tony crowd at Kips Bay, N.Y., the mother of all designer show houses, now onto its 35th year, the bling came mainly from clever ideas. For example, Charles Pavarini III outlined a tall, velvet-covered headboard with LED backlighting that transitioned in subtle colors along with the glow from the ceiling moldings.

Pavarini - mirabile dictum - used the word "mauve" to describe the color of the bedroom. Yes, he says, that once-overdone rerun from the 1890s and 1980s is coming back yet again, but this time, as a soft and

sophisticated alternative to taupe. The designer also made fabric news with his sheer panels of copper, bronze and silver metallics, hung from ceiling moldings like a canopy around the light-morphing bed. See why we urge you to visit designer show houses with a notepad in hand? All this ingenuity can be yours just for the borrowing.

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](mailto:copleysd@copleynews.com). © Copley News Service Visit Copley News Service at [www.copleynews.com](http://www.copleynews.com).

## Sold

continued from page 23

2% of a \$350,000 house is \$7,000. Isn't that worth knowing about? How many agents and offices will your broker be co-operating with? The multiple listing services are like computerized catalogs. If your home is available to an office and they have a buyer for it, they can sell it. If your home isn't in their catalog, they don't know it is for sale and can't show it to their buyers. So often we think of Chicagoland as being mainly Cook County, but buyers for this area can come from any of eight local counties, as well as from out of town. You want 100% coverage of all offices, nothing less. A good agent should help you to stage your home for sale. What

is staging? We all live in our homes in a manner that is comfortable to us. We get so used to the objects in our home that we no longer consider them. When we place our real estate for sale, however, we want to impress strangers so they will pay us the highest price. For example, kitchens can have cluttered counter tops and a bunch of refrigerator magnets. Cleaning up these minor items makes your kitchen look larger and cleaner. Women like nice kitchens, and women have a lot to say when buying a home. Taking the leaf out of the dining room table makes the dining room look a little larger. Overgrown house plants can make any room look smaller. Kids like to decorate their bedrooms and doors with pictures, posters and stickers, but

that is a big turn off for buyers. Bathrooms are usually limited in size. What can you do to make yours look larger? Your agent should be looking at your home with an experienced eye to make suggestions that will add to the impression you wish to make on the buyers. Can the extra preparation be a pain? Yes. Is an extra \$10,000 added to the selling price nice? Yes. Your real estate will not sell for the same price regardless of who you hire to represent you. What is 10% of the value of your home? That is the range of value it will sell within. Do you want to sell it at the high end of this range or the low end. Do your homework when choosing a real estate broker and you will realize an extra profit that will greatly exceed the brokerage fee.

# Other trees can't hold a candle to a well-pruned evergreen

By Jeff Rugg  
COPLEY NEWS SERVICE

**Q:** How do I go about pruning evergreens? I have a pine tree and a spruce tree that are beginning to grow toward the driveway.

## A GREENER VIEW

**A:** The new growth on pine trees looks like a candelabra; the individual new branches are called candles. To shorten the growth on a pine, the candle can be cut back. Cut off more of the candle to reduce the new growth a lot and only cut off a little to encourage branching on longer stems.

During this candle growth period, when the new pine needles are not full-grown, new buds will form along the sides of the candle for the following year's new side branches. After the candle is fully grown, it pretty much loses the ability to form these new buds. So, cutting off a pine branch at any other time of year will probably create a dead stub of a branch, without the possibility of new growth.

If you have a branch headed toward a location where you don't want it, such as the driveway or house, cut the branch back flush with a side branch growing in an acceptable direction. The cut branch will now be headed in that direction. If you just cut back the candle, you will get more branches headed toward the driveway. More branches are a good thing for creating a denser plant that will block out more of the view, but it is a bad thing if more branches are headed toward the driveway.

Spruces are best pruned

**Sprucing up or down?**  
Directing the growth of pine and spruce trees is a matter of pruning and trimming in the right places at the right time.

**Candelabra and candles** - New growth on pine trees looks like a candelabra and new branches are called candles; to stunt growth, cut back on the candles to varying degrees, encouraging different lengths of growth.

**Cutting off new growth** - After a candle is fully grown, it loses the ability to form new buds; cutting off candles at any time other than the growing period creates dead stubs.

**Controlling direction** - cut the candelabra flush with one growing in the desired direction and it will grow in that direction.

**Spring spruce pruning** - Pruning while growth is maturing allows new buds to produce along the sides of the remaining branches.

**Green needles** - If pruning cuts so far back that there are no live leaves (needles), the chance of that side growing new buds is not good.

Copley News Service / Jay Wing

during the spring as new growth is maturing. Each branch will produce new buds along the sides of the remaining branch as long as there are green needles. Most other varieties of evergreens keep their ability to grow new side buds only as long as there are still live, green needles on the branch where the cut is made. If the pruning cut is made so far back that there are no live leaves, the chances of that branch growing new side buds are not good.

**Q:** I love watching the birds and squirrels at the feeders in my backyard. My son makes them for me. Where is the best place to hang the Baltimore oriole feeder he just made for me? I've seen their nest next door and I've heard them singing, but I never see any.

**A:** Bird-watching can be a lot of fun yet frustrating at the same time. My oriole feeder is getting nothing right now, but my parents have two pairs. I have a feeder, but they are just orange halves placed on a wooden deck railing, and the orioles feed from them several times a day. Orioles tend to be shy if there is movement inside the window or if someone is on the deck, but otherwise I don't think you need to worry too much about placement. Once they find the feeder, they will use it, even if you move it

around. You can place it out farther from the house to begin with and then move it toward the house after they find it.

**Q:** How do I keep black birds off my feeders?

**A:** Black birds of all kinds tend to be much bigger than other birds that come to feeders. Using feeders with small perches can help prevent them from reaching the food easily. Tube-shaped feeders are better than platform feeders for letting small birds and not large birds eat.

Some feeders have perches and doors that are weighted. You can adjust the balance point of the perch so that only smaller birds don't shut the door. Place a different food type in every feeder and see which ones your black birds prefer to eat. Don't put that food out whenever the black birds show up. If all else fails, take the feeders down for several days. Smaller birds have smaller territories and will find the feeders quickly once they are back up again.

**Q:** I've been reading your reply to various problems people are experiencing in their yards, and I hope you can help me. First, let me say I am a lover of nature; I wrecked my vehicle once trying to avoid hitting a squirrel. However, I am having a major problem with bird feces on my car, driveway and sidewalk. I think because my house stands highest among my neighbors, birds perch themselves on my fireplace chimney. When they fly away, they always leave me something. What can I do to discourage them from visiting my house?

**A:** Birds have a weight

problem. They need to eat a lot to maintain a high metabolism and yet they need to be able to fly quickly to get away from predators, so they need to weigh as little as possible. Just about every time they are going to fly after having been sitting for even a short time, they will jettison some extra weight just before or after taking off. For that reason, it is not a good idea to clap your hands loudly to cause a flock of birds to leave a tree overhead or the area in front of you.

The leaving behind of droppings can become a problem when the birds perch in the same place all the time. Birds that are sitting above the rest of the landscape have the best view of earthly predators, such as cats, and an unobstructed view of the surrounding air space for avian predators. Birds are going to use your chimney, since it is the highest.

Decoy products tend not to work as well since the birds get used to the decoy not moving. Products that make distressing noises that the birds don't like will be much more distressing to you and your neighbors. Instead, you will need to create a physical barrier to keep them off the top of your chimney and, possibly, off your roof. An effective method is using plastic spikes that prevent them from landing. They are practically invisible from the ground. The spikes can be found at [www.bird-x.com](http://www.bird-x.com).

E-mail questions to Jeff Rugg at [info@greenerview.com](mailto:info@greenerview.com). Copley News Service Visit Copley News Service at [www.copleynews.com](http://www.copleynews.com).

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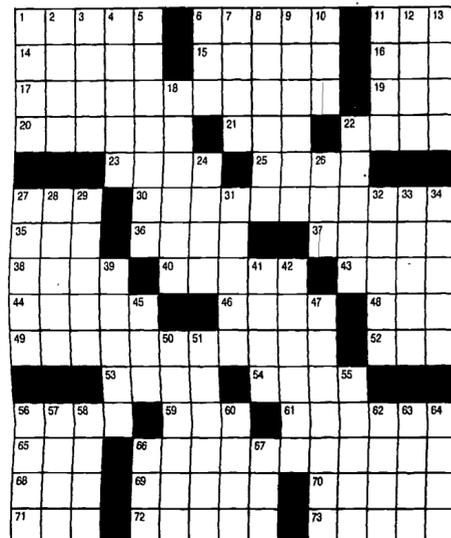
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70 City in northern France
71 Morsel for Dobbin
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DOWN
1 Island so. of Australia
2 Draft status
3 Snart
4 Sicily sight: var.
5 No longer existing
6 Initials after a knight's name
7 Major
8 Sage plant
9 Preparing to drive
10 Southerly dir.
11 Seaweed or kelp
12 Sly glance
13 Carryall
18 Deadly
22 Nevada border lake
24 Locale
26 Zeus or Thor
27 Green
28 Egyptian peninsula
29 Correspond by computer
31 Erie or Panama
32 Chose
33 porridge hot...
34 Detroit fiasco
39 Uppily ones
41 Metal fastener
42 Ah! Wilderness author
45 English Channel feeder
47 Seminole chief
50 Safeguard a purchase
51 Complained
55 Sound-absorption unit
56 Cellist Ma
57 Precinct
58 Superman's alter ego
60 A good way away
62 Sediment
63 Supermodel
64 Macpherson
66 Type of jazz
67 Hullabaloo

Last Week's Puzzle Answers

Table with 10 columns and 10 rows of words: MALES, SEA, VOCAL, ADELA, TEN, TMON, CHALK, TALK, BARTO, HESSIAN, LAD, PIP, ORE, EDGER, TOTO, EDEN, OAST, URAL, TIPS, ISLAND, COCK, OF, THE, WALK, CACHES, RERAN, ALTE, TELL, PEGS, SAUD, ELCID, APE, AMP, ART, CESARES, BALMS, SHOCK, JOCK, AREAS, HAN, YALIE, SITON, ADS, EMEER

Be the First to send in the answers to this week's crossword puzzle and your name will be listed in next week's Bugle.

This Week's Winner is... Lorraine Truskolaski

Send your answers to the editor: Andrew Schneider Fax: 847-588-1911 E-mail editor@buglenewspapers.com

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LEGAL NOTICES: A non-mandatory Pre-Bid Meeting has been scheduled for 1:00 PM (CST) on Tuesday, June 13, 2006. This pre-bid meeting will take place at TAM Tennis Facility located at 7686 N. Caldwell Avenue in Niles, Illinois 60714.

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LEGAL NOTICES: The competency and responsibility of the bidders will be considered in making awards. The successful bidder shall, upon acceptance of his bid, be required to procure and pay for a Performance Bond and Labor and Material Payment Bond in an amount equal to one hundred percent (100%) of the bid.

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LEGAL NOTICES: ASSUMED NAME/LEGAL NOTICE. Notice is hereby given, pursuant to "An Act in relation to the use of an Assumed Business Name in the conduct or transaction of Business in the State," as amended, that a certification was filed by the undersigned with the County Clerk of Cook County, FILE NO: D06102824 on June 02, 2006.

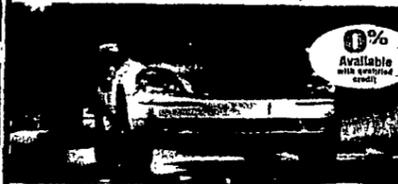
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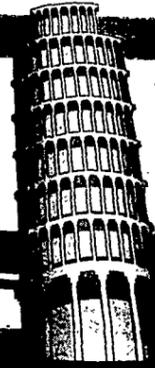
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