



A PET LAND

Niles newest pet store opens
PET STOP, Page 13

THE BUGLE



JULY 27, 2006

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Ash Borer found next door

Several trees in Evanston park area infested by insect

By Tracy Yoshida Gruen
STAFF WRITER

A second infestation of the emerald ash borer, a beetle that destroys Ash trees, has been found in Cook County, this time in Evanston.

The pest was recently discovered in Wilmette and village foresters in Wilmette have also found 16 trees in a five-block



area that have symptoms of emerald ash borer infestation.

"Wherever there is a find state officials come out and do a survey," said Gina Tedesco, a spokesperson for the Morton Arboretum in Lisle. She said that due to the discovery in Wilmette, state officials did a survey within

a half-mile area and found 10 infested trees in Lovelace Park.

The beetle was found in Evanston on Monday, July 17, and after the genetics were tested, it was declared an emerald ash borer on Friday, July 21.

"Every community should be vigilant and concerned right now," said Tedesco, although she said it is not time to panic.

Tedesco said that residents of Niles, Morton Grove and Park Ridge can do three main things to try to protect their trees from the pest.

Do not move firewood (this is

the primary way that the beetle is transported).

Become familiarized with ash trees and what the emerald ash borers look like

Contact a city forester, certified arborist, county cooperative extension office or the Morton Arboretum Plant Clinic if the pest has been spotted.

"A quarantine is expected for areas of Cook County," said Tedesco. There has already been a quarantine in Kane County and the senator has asked for a quarantine in Cook County as well.

West Nile found in Morton Grove mosquitoes

Mosquitoes in Morton Grove have tested positive for West Nile Virus on July 17, according to a test completed by the Northshore Mosquito Abatement District.

In July, the Northshore Mosquito Abatement District also found positive mosquitoes in Glenview, Skokie and Northbrook.

The Northwest Mosquito Abatement District detected positive mosquitoes in Park Ridge on July 6. They have also found positive batches in Glenview, Des Plaines Arlington Heights, Northbrook, Wheeling, Elk Grove Village and more.

"We're starting to see a very rapid increase in the number of positive mosquitoes and birds," said Mike Szyska, the director of the Northwest Mosquito Abatement District. He said that people need to protect themselves from now until September by wearing proper clothing, using repellent and removing any standing water around their homes.

Szyska said that as of July 19 the district tested 520 batches and

See West Nile, page 2

Leaning Tower has 6 remaining shows

The following performers can be seen at the Niles Leaning Tower as part of the on-going free concert series.

July 27 - Meisner Magic will return to the stage on July 27. Steve Meisner was inducted into the Polka Hall of Fame on June 25, 2004. This honor makes Steve one of polka music's youngest people inducted in the Hall of Fame.

Aug. 3 - The series introduces the White Saddle Band, performing a little country and some rock and roll.

Aug. 10 - The Blooze Brothers is a high-powered choreographed twelve-piece



band covering a wide variety of melodies. They are a favorite act from last season.

Aug. 17 - On the Chicago music scene for more than 10

years, Kevin Purcell and the NightBurners will perform a unique style of high energy rockin' blues.

Aug. 24 - Jimmy Damon,

who has been performing around Chicago since 1971, will perform the music from Frank Sinatra. He is the only singer authorized by Frank Sinatra to perform his music during his lifetime.

Aug. 31 - Stuck in the Fifties will perform doo-wop hits from the 1950s. People can recognize tunes from Elvis, Roy Buddy, Bobby and Chuck and more.

The concerts are held every Thursday from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Leaning Tower, 6300 Touhy Ave in Niles. People can enjoy food, fun and music and bring their own lawn chairs.

MEC raises \$110K at Brick Donation Day

The MEC in Morton Grove raised about \$110,000 at the Brick Donation Day for the addition that attracted Muslims from the Chicagoland area on Sunday, July 16.

"It was a hot day, but people were coming," said Afzal Sodagar, head of administration for the MEC.

Throughout the day, many people stopped by to make a brick donation and enjoy a barbeque lunch.

Sodagar said the goal is to finish the outer shell of the

addition by the September Ramadan. Sodagar said that they need about \$500,000 more to complete the outer shell.

"We'll make it," said Sodagar. He said that after the brick donation day more people are aware that the project is moving forward and more people are making donations.

"Construction is going faster than expected," said Sodagar. He said that the parking lot is finished and

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Project to reduce Des Plaines River Flooding

By Tracy Yoshida Gruen
STAFF WRITER

Officials announced the start of construction on the final phase of the Rand Park Flood Control and Multi-Use Trail project in Des Plaines on July 13.

This third and final phase is a new flood control levee, the Des Plaines River Levee 50, which will provide new flood protection for Des Plaines and Park Ridge and Maine Township as well.

"The city of Park Ridge supports any type of projects that reduce flooding," said Joe Saccomanno, public works director for the City of Park Ridge.

In the past several years, Saccomanno said that the city has undertaken their own flood control projects as well, including building walls and berms along the Des Plaines River.

"It seems to have helped the situation," explained Saccomanno. He said the city is currently involved in the flood relief sewer program as well.

Even though flooding problems have improved, he said that they always 100% support new flood control efforts.

Groundbreaking ceremonies took place on July 13 at the project site near Rand Road and I-294 on the Des Plaines River. Representatives from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, local legislators and other state and local officials and civic leaders attended the event.

Phase three also includes the construction of a .7-mile bicycle trail connection that provides a significant link in the Des Plaines River Trail to create a continuous 29-mile link in the Grand Illinois Trail system that benefits more than one million trail users every year.

The new flood control wall and bicycle extension will run along the east bank of the river from the Union Pacific Railroad to Rand Road.

The flood control structures will provide flood protection for more than 180 homes, busi-

See Project, page 12

Somewhere around 110

To those readers who think I don't work too hard I have actual evidence this week: my latest golf score is somewhere around the 110 area, I didn't bother to keep the score card so I can't tell you the exact score.

I attended a golf outing held by the Niles Chamber of Commerce last Tuesday at Oak Meadows Golf Club in Addison, IL and have to congratulate the Chamber on a well-held outing with some great raffle prizes including a 42-inch television which I did not win for some reason.

But, with a score like 110 it balances out the 9-under-par performance turned in by my golf group earlier this summer during a scramble at "Night Golf," a version of the game where everyone on the course was basically blind, leveling the playing field for me. To those readers who thought that performance indicated I wasn't working, now you know otherwise.

However, a performance as atrocious as 110 (something like 30-40 strokes over par brings



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ANDREW SCHNEIDER | EDITOR

home to me the reason I keep playing golf: it's not about the score, it's about one shot.

For me, golf is a very spiritual game. It isn't for the pros because they practice so often their swing is mechanical, automatic. But for those of us who can't make our living off of our sand wedges, the game requires that we separate each shot from those which preceded it and those which will follow. You must reach your center and make yourself at peace before you take a swing. Because if you're thinking about the shot you took a few minutes ago that landed you in the deep rough you're hitting from now, you'll never make it to the fairway, let

alone the green.

I find that I'm generally able to center myself once or twice a round and pull off a really spectacular shot. During the golf outing there are two that stand out: in front of four witnesses I managed to sink a 60-foot putt that broke 12-feet from left to right. I was furthest away from the hole in the group and when it slowly rolled in the whole green was cheering while I just watched in silence. I'd found my center.

The other time was, thankfully, the final shot of the day: I was standing off the green about 50 feet away from the hole and in a sand trap (that's where I spent most of the round). I managed to find that center again and chipped the ball straight into the hole.

Those two shots are the reason I keep coming back to golf even though I sometimes turn in scores well over 100. The quest for that center in myself is somehow easier on a golf course when all I'm worrying about is how to move that ball down to the green than it is in my day-to-day life.

MG Action Committee holds picnic

The Action Committee of Morton Grove will be hosting their annual picnic on Sunday, Aug. 6 from noon till 5 p.m. at the Morton Grove Civic Center, 6140 Dempster St.

At the event, there will be hot dogs, corn on the cob, and

cold beverages served. For the kids, there will be a moonwalk and games. For the adults, they will have door prizes and a horseshoe tournament.

Anyone who is interested in becoming more involved in

their community and learning more about the action committee, a local grassroots political organization, is invited to attend this event.

For more information, those interested can call Pat at 847 966 0822.

West Nile

continued from page 1

38 came up positive. So far, there have been no reported human cases. The state has found 36 birds that have tested positive for the virus so far. The eastern area, including Wheeling and Elk Grove, seem to have the most positive mosquito activity and they have started their spraying program in that area.

Szyska said that the night spraying program in Maine Township will soon begin as well. He said that towns in Maine Township such as Des Plaines have had human cases in the past.

"It's an important time," said Szyska. He said residents must be vigilant from now until September. He said that it's generally around this time of the summer that the first human cases begin to appear.

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Parking worries So. Milwaukee residents

By Tracy Yoshida Gruen
STAFF WRITER

A few residents are concerned that the southern parcel of a new retail center coming to Milwaukee Ave. will trigger parking problems and too much traffic.

"There's just not enough parking," said Valerie Stopka, a resident who has lived in the area for 17 years. "We always have people parking (on her street). They are always looking."

Stopka said that the area is already crowded with customers of Kokonuts Restaurant, The Village Pub, etc, especially on a Saturday evening. She said that there's also traffic issues caused by the Cigo station as well. Stopka has talked with a few residents who share her concerns.

Stopka said that that when people can't find parking they try to park on her street or on other nearby residential streets, or by the Niles Auto Repair. This becomes a challenge because she said most people have two cars and it's difficult to find

parking spaces.

Currently, she sees cars going in and out of the parking lot the same way and feels there needs to be better traffic control.

"It's terrible," said Stopka. She said that the mayor is trying to bring more revenue into the Village of Niles, which she said is nice, but she noted that they also should consider how new developments affect surrounding neighbors.

Stopka is concerned that the new retail center will bring too much traffic to the area. She said that there is already a lot of traffic and accidents that occur in that area.

The southern parcel is likely to have 12 to 14 retail shops and 100 parking spaces in front.

Community Development Director Chuck Ostman said that the new development will be similar to the Shops of Niles. He said he has talked with residents who live in the area near the Shops of Niles and he said residents have not had any problems. Ostman said the residents said they were pleased with the development.



Pictured above from left to right are: Deputy Fire Chief Barry Mueller, Mayor Nicholas B. Blase, Firefighter/Paramedic Keith Dutton, the woman whose life was saved, Lt. Bill White and Trustee Bart Murphy. Not pictured are: Firefighter/Paramedics Scott Guerino, Roman Kopinski and Byron Tull.

Niles honors firefighters

Niles Ambulance and Engine 2 were dispatched for a patient complaining of chest pain on Dec. 30, 2005. When they arrived a female patient was experiencing excruciating pain that radiated to her back, neck and jaw as well as dangerously low blood

pressure. The crew of Ambulance and Engine 2 administered quick and appropriate medical care while on the scene.

After the patient was transported to Lutheran General Hospital in Park Ridge she was

evaluated and eventually released. The men of Ambulance and Engine 2 were recognized at the June Niles Village Board meeting for providing excellent patient care and in an expedited manner that resulted in a life saved.

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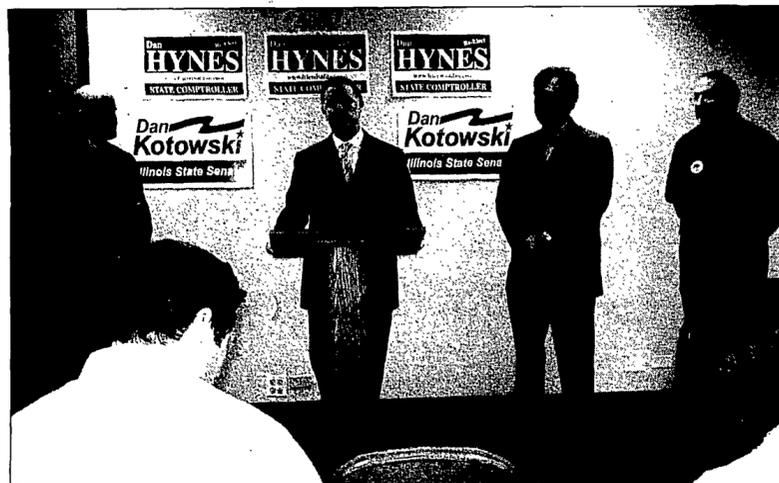
Hynes takes Stem Cell battle to local Senate Dist.

Hynes renews call for State Funding of research

In the wake of President Bush's veto of legislation supporting stem cell research, Illinois Comptroller Daniel Hynes renewed his call for state funding of stem cell research in Illinois. In appearances in Park Ridge and Elgin, Hynes declared that two Senate districts will make the difference whether Illinois continues the push for stem cell funding in Illinois.

"Following the callous veto by President Bush, it is apparent that funding for potentially life-saving research must come at the state level," said Hynes referring to the President's veto of federal funding for stem cell research. "For too long, families dealing with debilitating diseases have been denied hope," said Hynes.

Dan Kotowski, Democratic nominee for the 33rd Senate District, joined Hynes in Park Ridge demanding passage of his bill. "This is a real opportunity to help millions of individ-



State Comptroller Dan Hynes and local State Senate Candidate Dan Kotowski were also joined by State Senator Jeff Schoenberg. Also present at the announcement was Park Ridge Ald. Jim Rademacher.

uals and families who suffer from crippling diseases. Stem cell research holds hope and promise to bring about cures and to improve our quality of life," said Kotowski. In 2005, Hynes joined with Governor Blagojevich, in creat-

ing the Illinois Regenerative Medicine Institute, a program that awarded \$10 million in grants to medical research facilities for the development of treatments and cures using stem cell research. "While the state has already made a

down-payment on hope, it is time for us to guarantee long-term funding for stem cell research to keep hope alive," said Hynes. This past spring, Governor Blagojevich and Comptroller Hynes introduced a bill to pro-

vide \$100 million in continued funding for the Illinois Regenerative Medicine Institute by using dollars from the state's tobacco settlement fund for potential life-saving research. Discussing the use of tobacco funds, Hynes said, "There is nothing more appropriate than to use a portion of these dollars to fund research that could bring cures to millions of people."

While a majority vote was secured in the Illinois House, the bill was not called when the advocates determined that they were two votes shy in the Senate. The two districts Hynes visited would potentially secure passage of the legislation if favorable representatives are elected.

Hynes and Kotowski were also joined by State Senator Jeff Schoenberg, who is the chief sponsor of the stem cell legislation. Schoenberg has long been a proponent of stem cell research and will call on his colleagues to continue funding the Illinois Regenerative Medicine Institute for the next five years.

Program funding restored in District 69

By Tracy Yoshida Gruen
STAFF WRITER

Many programs and teaching positions have been restored for the upcoming school year at Skokie School Dist. 69 that serves children in Skokie and Morton Grove, thanks to the passing of the March referendum.

Residents voted to raise the maximum tax rate for the education fund to \$2.575 per \$100 of equalized assessed value, which is an increase of 73 cents.

As a result of the referendum, ten teaching positions have been restored. The positions included one teacher at each grade level, a library media center specialist and art

and music instructors. Now that the teaching positions have been restored, class sizes will be able to be reduced.

Skokie School Dist. 69 Supt. Rebecca Nelson said she is thrilled that the teaching positions have been restored and that art and music programming can be improved. Nelson is also very pleased

that after school sports and activities will now also return to the district. These after school clubs include activities such as gardening, NASA club, a cooking club and much more.

Even beyond bringing back the teacher positions and programs, the district will be looking into additional program enhancement. Some of these

could possibly be implemented starting in 2007-2008 and may include a gifted program, full-day kindergarten and additions to programming for middle school students.

The school district now has the chance to do long range planning on a level that would not have been possible otherwise.

News, events from Oakton Community College

Get in Tune with Oakton Music Courses

Explore new horizons and earn college credit by enrolling in music instruction courses at Oakton Community College, 1600 E. Golf Road. Courses are available for musicians at all skill levels. Fall classes begin Monday, Aug. 21.

Courses are offered in the following disciplines:

- * Piano and Piano Ensemble. Call Glenna Sprague, professor of music, at 847-635-1905.
- * Voice. Contact Dan DeTloff, professor of music, at 847-635-1907.
- * Guitar (including bass, contrabass, and jazz), Brass, Violin, Viola, Cello, Percussion and Woodwinds. Call the Music Division at 847-635-1937.

*Performing Ensembles (choir, guitar, jazz band, percussion, and woodwind). Contact the Music Division at 847-635-1937.

Fall semester class listings may be found in the Fall 2006 Credit and Noncredit Class Schedule, which may be picked up at either Oakton campus, 1600 E. Golf Road, Des Plaines, or 7701 N. Lincoln Ave., Skokie.

Through Aug. 13, Oakton will observe summer hours, closed to all activity on Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays. In-

person registration at either campus is Monday through Thursday, 8:30 a.m. 7 p.m. Students also may register online at www.oakton.edu. Students with an application on file may register at my.oakton.edu.

For more information about assistance in selecting fall classes, contact the Advising and Counseling Center at 847-635-1741 (Des Plaines) or 847-635-1417 (Skokie).

Learn the History of Music at Oakton

Expand your understanding of music throughout the history of Western civilization this fall at Oakton Community College.

Music Literature and History (MUS 236-001) examines the styles, literature, and musical concepts of many acknowledged musical eras. The 16-week, three-credit course meets 12:30-1:45 p.m., Tuesdays and Thursdays, starting Aug. 22, at Oakton's Des Plaines campus, 1600 E. Golf Road. Music Literature and History is an approved Illinois Articulation Initiative (IAI) course for transfer to participating Illinois colleges and universities.

Additional fall semester music class listings may be

found in the Fall 2006 Credit and Noncredit Class Schedule, which may be picked up at either Oakton campus, 1600 E. Golf Road, Des Plaines, or 7701 N. Lincoln Ave., Skokie.

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For more information about assistance in selecting fall classes, contact the Advising and Counseling Center at 847-635-1741 (Des Plaines) or 847-635-1417 (Skokie).

Emeritus Program Spotlights Roman Empire

Enjoy learning about ancient history in this featured Emeritus Program class at Oakton Community College.

Tacitus: The Annals of Imperial Rome (HIS C29-91) examines the reigns of Roman Empire emperors Tiberius, Claudius, and Nero through the perspective of historian Cornelius Tacitus. Four-week course meets Thursdays, 10

11:30 a.m., starting Aug. 10, at Oakton's Ray Hartstein Campus, 7701 N. Lincoln Ave., Skokie. Course fee is \$50.

Oakton's Emeritus Program offers credit and noncredit courses, lectures, seminars, and tours, while providing a chance to share learning experiences with peers age 50 and over.

For more information about the Emeritus Program, including costs of featured lectures, call 847-635-1414 or 847-982-9888, press 3. For a complete list of Emeritus classes, course fees, seminars, and events, visit www.oakton.edu/emertus.

Oakton Offers GED Preparation Classes

Register now for fall General Educational Development (GED) courses offered by the Alliance for Lifelong Learning at Oakton Community College, in cooperation with area high schools.

GED courses prepare students age 19 and older to pass the GED Test, which covers five subject areas writing, reading, social studies, science, and math. Most employers and schools accept the credential as equivalent to a high school diploma.

A variety of test preparation classes begin in mid-September. In addition to the pre-GED class-

es in English, reading, and math skills, Oakton offers GED-level review classes in essay writing, reading, math, science, social studies, English, and the U.S. Constitution.

To enroll in GED test preparation classes, students must attend a free two-night session for placement testing, counseling, and registration:

Session I: Tuesday, Sept. 5, and Thursday, Sept. 7 (must attend both nights), 6:30-10 p.m., Maine East High School, 2601 Dempster St., Park Ridge.

Session II: Monday, Sept. 11, and Wednesday, Sept. 13 (must attend both nights),

6:30-10 p.m., Niles' North High School, 9800 Lawler Ave., Skokie.

To learn more about Oakton GED classes, call 847-635-1426.

Make Historic Pilgrimages on Oakton Tour

Make pilgrimages to the most famous European religious centers on a travel/study program sponsored by Oakton Community College. The final 2006 trip departs on Nov. 6.

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Two roosters abandoned in Morton Grove

MORTON GROVE

The following was derived from the official reports of the Morton Grove Police Department for the week ending Friday, July 21.

1 Abandoned Roosters (Frontage at Lincoln)

Police said a witness saw a van drive up to the stop sign and a subject exit the vehicle and place a white box next to the stop sign on July 18. The subject then drove west on Lincoln and the witness saw two roosters in the box. The birds were taken to the animal hospital.

2 Battery (5500 Lincoln)

The victim was at the location on July 19 to do electrical work for one of the residents in the building. The victim was told to move his truck and a verbal argument started. The subject threw a tool belt across the parking lot, grabbed and twisted the victim's wrist and began yelling at the victim. The victim complained of wrist pain.

3 Burglary at Restaurant (9400 Waukegan)

Police said unidentified person(s) pried open the back door and stole about \$150 and six packs of gum on July 16. The register that they never use was beeping and keys were sitting on the counter.

4 Eggs Thrown At Vehicle (7900 Maple)

Unknown person(s) threw eggs at a vehicle while it was parked on a private drive sometime between July 19 and July 20. Eggs were also thrown at the garage door as well. The daughter of the complainant said that her vehicle was egged on July 16, but it was not reported.

5 Stolen City Vehicle License Sticker (9100 Waukegan)

Police said that at a car wash an unidentified subject(s) took the city vehicle license sticker worth \$150 from an enclosed center console compartment in a vehicle on July 15.

6 Garage Burglarized (9200 Mason)
Police said sometime between July 14 and July 16 unknown

person(s) used body force to force open the rear west side garage door. The victim found the open door while working in the backyard. The victim reportedly said the door is kept closed and locked and the door appeared to have a wet-foot mark on the lower part where it may have been kicked in.

7 Suspended Driver's License Arrest (Arcadia and Harlem)

A 22 year old Niles man was arrested for driving with a suspended license on Aug. 21. His bond was set at \$2,000.

8 Heroine/Cocaine in Vehicle (Dempster/Lehigh)

Police arrested a 42 year old male from Ingleside for the pos-

session of a controlled substance, possession of paraphernalia, and issued a speeding citation on July 16. The offender was placed in a holding cell to await a July 17 bond hearing. The court date is July 26 in Skokie.

9 Burglary/Criminal Trespass Arrest (8600 Frontage)

Unknown person(s) entered an office in the building by prying open the door sometime between July 8 and July 9. Nothing was reported missing at the time.

Blotter

continued from page 6

Police arrested a man for a burglary that took place on July 8 at 8600 Frontage. The offender entered a home and stole about \$6,500 after pretending he was there to complete a home repair.

10 No Valid License Arrest (Church/Shermer)

Police arrested a 26 year old from Des Plaines for driving with no valid license on July 17. Court date is Aug. 23 in Skokie.

NILES

The following was derived from the official reports of the Niles Police Department for the week ending Monday, July 24.

11 Criminal Trespassing (8800 Kathy Lane)

A woman was screaming in a grassy area between the school at 9400 Hamlin and the park district building on July 19. Two people, who admitted they were homeless, were laying behind a row of bushes with their possessions up against the west side of the park district. The woman said she screamed because she was poked in the eye with a tree branch.

12 Switching Tags (6100 Touhy)

Police said a subject switched the price tags on two back packs, from \$49.99 to \$29.99 on July 19. The subject reportedly also took a third back pack and two games, stealing a total of \$95.97 worth of items.

13 Rock Salt Kills Tomato Plants/Neighbor Dispute (8100 Church)

The offender reportedly put rock salt at the base of tomato plants which bordered a fence that separates his property from his neighbor's on July 21. Police said the plants were found dead with rock salt at the base. The neighbors are in a dispute about property lines.

14 Barefoot Woman at Doorstep (8200 Oconto)

The victim and her husband opened their door to find a barefoot female and mud on their doorstep on July 20. The woman asked if she could come in to use their phone, but they handed her a cell phone instead. After the woman hung up she took off in an unknown direction. Police said the phone rang and it was a man and in broken English, asked to speak with his daughter. The man called five times and then stopped calling.

15 Home Burglarized (7800 Nordica)

Police said the back door of a

residence was opened with brute force on July 17. The door and the frame were damaged.

16 Criminal Damage to Property (8400 Normal)

Police said a white landscaping rock from the residence was used to break a four feet by two feet window in the front of the property on July 18.

17 Traffic Arrest (6800 Milwaukee)

Police arrested a 28 year old man from Chicago for speeding, driving under the influence, no tail lights, no driver's license, tinted front windows and no insurance on July 16. The bond was set at \$3,000.

18 Felony Retail Theft (9000 Golf)

A 50 year old female from Mt. Prospect was arrested for felony retail theft on July 28. The charge was enhanced due to past theft convictions. The woman stole a shirt, undershirt and bra totaling \$39.97.

19 Arrested for Domestic Battery (Odell/Oakton)

Police said a 21 year old Chicago male was arrested on July 16. An intoxicated man turned around and punched his brother in law with a closed fist in the face. The court date is Aug. 17.

20 Burglary to Auto Arrest (6900 Oakton)

Police arrested an 18 year old Skokie male for burglarizing a vehicle and stole one new cell phone and 15 used cell phones on July 16 and July 17. The man was charged with burglary to an auto and the possession of stolen property.

PARK RIDGE

The following was derived from the official reports of the Park Ridge Police Department for the week ending Monday, July 24.

21 Burglarized Hospital Office (1600 Dempster)

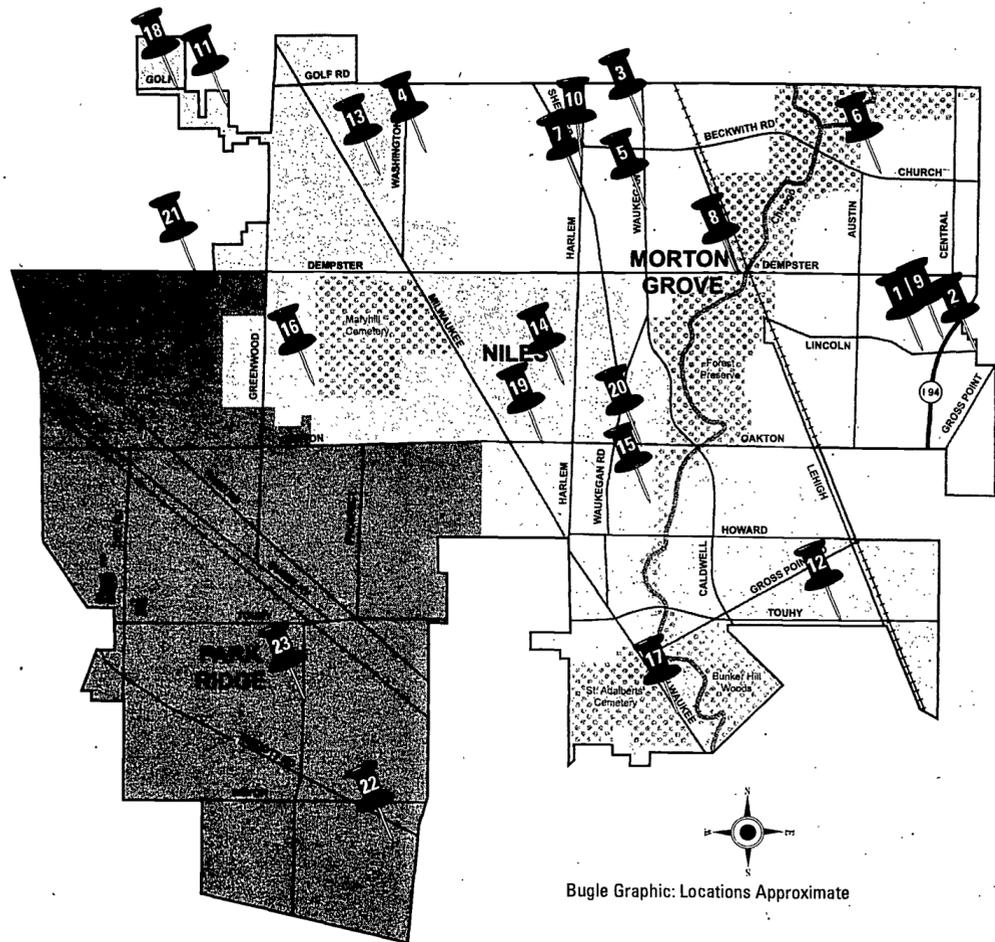
Unknown person(s) entered an office in the building by prying open the door sometime between July 8 and July 9. Nothing was reported missing at the time.

22 Camera Taken from Vehicle (1400 S. Washington)

Police said unidentified subject(s) entered victim's unlocked 2001 Dodge Dakota between July 15 and July 17. An Olympus camera and memory cards worth \$500 were taken.

23 2 BBs Shot at Porch Window (400 S. Cumberland)

Unknown subject(s) shot two BBs at a victim's front porch window causing two holes between July 14th and 15th. Estimated cost of damage is \$50.



Bugle Graphic: Locations Approximate

Do you have any information on these or other crimes in Niles?

Call the Niles CrimeStoppers at 847-588-6533.

Remember CrimeStoppers only wants information. They are not interested in your name.

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GROCERY/FROZEN		
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Peace on Earth

Too many parents spend too much time negatively influencing their child. Although it is true that children need discipline, but there is a right and a wrong way to go about it. Study after study show that negative reinforcement - spankings, punishments, yelling, etc. - simply do not work. What happens is that children simply adjust over time and you have to increase the threat and the punishment to get the same response. That is how you get normally loving, good parents saying things like, "I will beat the living daylight out of you."

As a kid, when I first heard that phrase (of course I was a little angel and never gave anyone any grief), I wondered, "What are living daylight out of you?" I mean I had seen streetlights at night, but "living daylight out of you"? It served more to confuse than to clarify, but I did know that I had gotten my parents frustrated to the point of desperation. Is that a victory for the parent or for the child? I remember when my



Another Perspective
MORGAN DUBIEL

brother laughed during a spanking. He really deserved a good whack and was unbelievably obnoxious to my mom. She threw him over her lap and started spanking him at which point he laughed hysterically. He said, "It did not even hurt." The look on her face was one of sheer shock and spankings stopped forever.

A willful child is not a threat to family unity or peace. Willfulness in children is just the first steps towards independence and maturity, two things every parent should be working for in their children. This behavior appears willful and wrong

simply because a child is trying to assert themselves in the limited ways available to children. The proper response is to redirect this budding maturity toward productive activities by using positive reinforcement.

A boy we know often acts out and misbehaves for his mother. They are in a state of conflict and no adult can win a battle of wills with a child - what you get is either a hostile relationship, a withdrawn child, or a broken one. I got a chance to spend some time with him and he was great. I explained clearly what behaviors would get my attention and which would not. Once the rules were clearly stated I reinforced every positive action, even little ones. He was great and fun and very obedient. We have a relationship based on mutual trust and respect. I did not relinquish a nib of my authority, but never had to yell or ask twice. When his mom came to pick him up and I complimented him on his good behavior she commented that, "It must be a full moon because that is not how he normally is." Can you see how she missed a chance to

reinforce his positive actions? She is literally programming him to be a brat.

Another mom was wiser. She had been dealing with a child that would not clean up a thing. She was always picking up after him and his room was a complete debacle with everything; food, clothing, toys all on the floor. She realized by studying how to be a better parent (a recent study indicates that only 16% of parents ever work to improve their parenting skills) that she had been negatively reinforcing his behavior. One day she accidentally observed him put one item away. She immediately praised this small act. He was too savvy for this and said she was just trying to get him to clean his room. She said that, "Yes, she would like his room cleaner, but that his little act meant a lot to her anyway." Over time she would only compliment him when he cleaned up after himself and never scolded. Today his room is not perfect, but it is essentially clean. It took three elements to succeed: Time, Positive Reinforcement, and Patience.

There is no need to have a negative or manipulative rela-

tionship with our children or any children. We want them to grow-up to be responsible, thoughtful adults. There is no need to give into tantrums and if you are now thinking that there is no way this would work for you - you are right. If you think you will fail you will continue to fail. You cannot be a lazy parent and expect great results. You have to learn and stay a step ahead. What is your goal for your child? Where should they be years from now? How should they behave?

I really love the book The Power of Positive Parenting by Glenn Latham. It changed my relationship with my children from one of authoritarianism (where your power is always threatened) to one of parent - someone who nurtures and grows a child into a mature, pleasant adult. The philosophy of win-win is well known to succeed in practice. The positive approach has improved my relationship with my spouse, friends, and co-workers.

Another great resource is www.positiveparenting.com. It has detailed articles on how to parent so you don't go **See Perspective, page 14**

Letters to the Editor

Resident criticizes Niles Vehicle Sticker

Dear Editor,
After first seeing the Niles 2007 sticker I was surprised to see flags of other countries. What person thought of flags of other countries? Then it came to me that Niles Village President Nicholas Blase and other elected officials have approved sister cities. These are not flags of cities, but countries. How improper, insensitive and wrong to approve, spend taxpayers money, print and have every owner and driver extending their approval. A proper sticker should be designed without flags. A new sticker should be issued, mailed and paid for by all those who approved of this grave mistake. That's correct, mistake. Having purchased my sticker the first week in June, it is not on my car. Having respect for all countries and other people, I would expect the same, for this is the United States. If people wish to display flags of their country and cities that's their choice. Another concern about stickers are rows of old ones that are blocking the driver's view.

Many Americans and others

died for our freedom. The soil our homes and businesses are built on. If you have any questions or would like to learn more about the proper procedure and display of the United States Flag contact your U.S. Congressman for a copy of the Flag Code. That's correct, they pass public laws to protect our United States flag. All elected officials take an oath to protect the U.S. Constitution, state and local laws. Other sources are the American Legion, "Flag Etiquette" and the Encyclopedia, just to mention a few.

With our service people serving in war zones and many in areas of danger, show them that we care at home. Fly the United States flag above other countries and designs. Respect those who gave their lives, those we know, along with our founding fathers. Sometimes one must point out something that others feel is right. This is their choice, but the money they spend is the taxpayers. The Niles 2007 vehicle sticker is a mistake. Please correct it this month.

Thank you
Niles Resident,
Name withheld by request
See Letters, page 14

Be a philanthropist; not a millionaire

By Lynn O'Shaughnessy
COPLEY NEWS SERVICE

Thirty-seven billion dollars is a nearly unfathomable amount of money. If you counted each dollar bill of that fortune, it would cripple your wrist and consume years of your life.

MONEY & YOU

As most of you know, that's the stunning sum that Warren Buffett recently announced he would be donating to mankind. The money will primarily flow into the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, which is hellbent on eradicating diseases from Third World countries. Much of the rest will be dispatched to foundations that were created by Buffett's late wife, as well as his children, who have incredibly eclectic interests.

When Warren Buffett divulged that he was going to dedicate most of his wealth to charitable causes, I bet it prompted many people to dream about how they could play Santa Claus if only they had a few billion to scatter like birdseed.

It's not necessary to be worth billions or even millions, however, to make a difference, say, in the lives of autistic children, or adults who can't read a bus schedule.

If you've outgrown writing modest checks for your favorite charities, there are many avenues you can take to connect with causes that you feel most passionate about, whether it's cleaning up the oceans, fighting global warming or providing picture books to your neighborhood library.

You can become a philanthropist by creating a donor-advised fund.

These funds, which look and feel like minifoundations, are revolutionizing the world of philanthropy. If you've got at least \$5,000 to \$10,000 to get started, you can launch a fund that's dedicated to the causes dearest to you. Once your money is sitting in a donor-advised fund, a portion of it can be distributed each year to any charity.

You may rightfully be wondering why you need a donor-advised fund when you can write a fat check directly to the American Heart Association, the Audubon Society or your alma mater.

The beauty of one of these

funds, however, is that it provides you with an entree to a professional philanthropic staff, which can help you pinpoint the ideal place for your donations. Doing good works through a donor-advised fund can also be far more rewarding than writing a check because you can become more involved, if you choose, in the cause you are supporting. You can also get your children or grandchildren involved.

The best way to create a donor-advised fund is through a community foundation. Across the country, there are more than 700 of these foundations, from the largest, the New York Community Trust, followed by the Cleveland Foundation, to tiny ones in places like Mifflinburg, Pa., and Scott City, Kan.

In our community, the San Diego Foundation's donor-advised fund program has attracted small donors, as well as major contributors, including Audrey Geisel, the widow of Theodor Seuss Giesel (aka Dr. Seuss), and the late aviation pioneer Reuben H. Fleet.

Another alternative is the International Community Foundation, which was created by the San Diego Foundation many years ago to foster charitable giving in Mexico and other foreign countries.

What's nice about these foundations is that they are plugged into their neighborhoods. The city's Police Department, for instance, contacted the San Diego Foundation when its officers began riding larger horses and needed bigger saddles. The foundation found the perfect donor: a woman who is passionate about horses.

The foundation also maintains a donor-advised fund for a woman who was distressed by the tattered flags flying at the downtown library. Her fund, which was started with about \$4,000, ensures that the library will never fly a torn flag again.

Community foundations also research donor requests, if they are initially stumped. The San Diego Foundation, for instance, has helped a donor who relishes unusual charitable causes. With the foundation's assistance, the man connected with a group that fits handicapped people, including soldiers maimed during the conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan, with prosthetic devices and special wheelchairs

See Money, page 10

35th Annual Niles Chamber Golf Outing a huge success

By Tracy Yoshida Gruen
STAFF WRITER

The 35th annual golf outing, the largest fund-raising event at the Niles Chamber of Commerce, was a big success. "We hit our financial goals," said Katie DiMaria, the director of the Niles Chamber of Commerce. "It was very successful."

DiMaria said the weather was perfect for the outing that kicked off at 11:30 and finished in the evening after dinner and the raffle.

About 134 golfers participated in the event and more attended the dinner, with a total of 145 people participating.

The event included a raffle prize of a plasma television and a \$5,000 cash raffle. There were also other games, such as a Hole in One contest, the prize being a Mustang convertible.

DiMaria said that they do not yet have the total raised from the event.



Members of the Niles Village Board get ready to hit the golf course during the Niles Chamber's annual Golf Outing at Oak Meadows Golf Club in Addison, IL last Tuesday.

The Niles Chamber of Commerce Dollars for Scholars chapter is offering their fourth annual spring scholarship raf-

fle. A total of 250 tickets will be sold. Five cash prizes will be awarded with the grand prize of \$10,000.



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MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

American economy may have to bear with recession

By Malcolm Berko
COPLEY NEWS SERVICE

Dear Mr. Berko: I have two questions for you. Can you tell me without beating around the bush if there will be a recession this year or next and, if there

TAKING STOCK

will be, can you tell me why? And can you provide me with the names of a half-dozen industries that will not be affected or will be profitable if we have a recession?

I've asked several well-known market pundits (including you) and they all beat around the ball. Of course, all the analysts at all the major brokerage houses are roaringly bullish. They're bullish because they're paid to be bullish. So asking an analyst at Smith Barney or Merrill if we have a recession is like asking them to go against their employer's wishes. Can I depend on you for an honest answer?

T.W.

Fort Walton Beach, Fla.

Dear T.W.: It's not politic to mention "recession" and it's

certainly not politic to even hint that a recession is possible. But certain as I am that the sun will rise tomorrow, I am as certain there is an 87.5 percent degree of probability that a recession looms within the next six months to a year. To deny the very real possibility of a recession (others prefer to use a less contentious word, like slowdown) is to disavow empirical evidence and renounce the existence of an economic cycle.

Of course there isn't an analyst on the Street who has the courage to use the R word, no less admit that a recession is a real and almost inexorable possibility. However, the real story may be clearly recorded for posterity by the recent negative changes in market value of thousands of public companies.

According to the National Association of Realtors, the housing market accounted for 33 percent of all U.S. growth in the past three years. The housing market is responsible for 21 percent of our U.S. gross domestic product, and 40 percent of disposable household income is spent on housing and housing-related goods and services. That's just the housing market and does not include commercial or industrial construction, which increases

those numbers between 7 percent and 12 percent, depending upon who is calculating.

The construction market is, incontrovertibly, responsible for employing more people than any other industry ... by orders of magnitude. In the past few years, the housing market was so explosive that the Big Bang by comparison was barely a burp.

Yes, I believe we are headed in the direction of a recession. Between January 2001 and June 2003, the Federal Reserve chief Alan Greenspan frantically began lowering interest rates from 6.5 percent to 1 percent. The Fed lowered rates too fast, too much and bulldozed the economy into overdrive.

After 12 months of interest rates flat as a flapjack at 1 percent, the economy became spring-loaded and, in June 2004, the Fed felt compelled to begin raising rates to cool the economy. Two years and 17 rate hikes later, "The Mumbler" and, now, "Gentle" Ben S. Bernanke, nudged rates to 5.5 percent. However, they became impatient, raised rates too much, too fast and I believe overcorrected again. Higher rates collapsed the housing industry and may now put a hex on consumer demand.

Over the following six

months, DuPont may be manufacturing less synthetic fiber for carpets, Weyerhaeuser could be producing less lumber and Hughes might be selling fewer plumbing fixtures. Home Depot will sell fewer lighting appliances while Sherwin-Williams sells less paint. Whirlpool will make fewer washers and dryers, while GAF sells fewer roofing materials and Rheem fewer air conditioning units.

As fewer people are employed producing, transporting, selling and installing these products, the economy may slip into "underdrive" or "recession," if you choose to use the R word.

Corporations will then report lower revenues and as earnings fall, they will reduce their staffs. Household income will decline and with it so will demand for new cell phones, TVs, vacations, clothing, electronics, toys, PCs, tools and recreational vehicles. Prices - especially home prices - will begin to crash, foreclosures will become alarming, unemployment will reach uncomfortable levels and the stock market may react accordingly.

Then the Fed will begin to lower interest rates as it tries to jump-start the economy once again. We are watching some

of these events happen now, especially with the recent fall of commodity prices and home prices.

There are many industries that will not be affected by a coming recession. The liquor (especially beer and wine) industry. Pawn shops, refinancing and small-loan companies, banks that make sub-prime loans, discount department stores, infrastructure construction (roads, bridges, sewers), defense/aerospace, retail, food, tobacco, gambling and credit-counseling companies. The education field, funeral service industry, motion pictures (TV and movies), games and toys (non-electronic), home repair, auto parts and medical services, to name a few.

This is my no-holds-barred economic forecast for the economy over the next two years. However, I must remind you that the purpose of all economic forecasts is to make astrology look good.

Please address your financial questions to Malcolm Berko, P.O. Box 1416, Boca Raton, FL 33429 or e-mail him at malber@adelphia.net.

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Money

continued from page 9

so they can continue playing sports.

Many ways exist to establish an irrevocable donor-advised fund. Cash donations are always appreciated, but you can also use stock. You can deduct the fair market value of the stock and avoid capital gains taxes on the profit. Real estate is also

welcome.

Life insurance can also be used to create a major gift for a relatively small price. If the community foundation is named the owner or beneficiary of a new or existing policy, the donor receives a tax deduction. Additional premiums paid through the foundation are also tax-deductible.

If setting up a donor-advised fund in your community or

hometown sounds rewarding, you might find it puzzling that most people who establish them never hook up with a community foundation.

Instead, they sink huge amounts of money into commercial donor-advised funds that are offered by such financial giants as Fidelity Investments, the Vanguard Group, Merrill Lynch and Charles Schwab. These financial institutions can't

tell donors what school in St. Louis needs computers or what animal shelter is in desperate need of leashes and blankets in Houston. They can't tell you where to go if you're interested in clam restoration in New England.

Frankly, these money management firms horned into this field so they could continue investing their clients' money. You can't expect them to do much more than cut checks. So why are these behemoths getting most of the cash? They've got the monster marketing budgets to attract the money. Community foundations, which most people don't even know exist, can't compete with that.

If you're interested in finding a community foundation in your hometown, visit the Web site of the Council on Foundations, www.cof.org, where you can search for these organizations by region or ZIP code.

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

Kamys joins MG Police Force

Keith Kamys was sworn in as a new police officer at the Morton Grove Village Board meeting on Monday, July 10.

Kamys started his career as a Morton Grove police officer on July 3. He grew up in Niles and attended Notre Dame High School. He is engaged and enjoys the game of hockey.

Kamys' mother stood proudly next to her son at the village board meeting.

"She's pretty much the one who's supported me through everything," said Kamys, about his mother.

Fire and Police Commission Chairman Mike Simkins said

that the village is lucky to have someone like Kamys join the team. Police Chief Paul Tasch was also present at the podium.

Village Administrator Joe Wade also presented the employee recognition awards at the village board meeting.

Paul Yaras was recognized for working 10 years at the police department; Bonnie Jacobson for working 10 years with the building and inspection services; Ted Kobeski for 15 years with the public works department; Giovanni Sparacio for 20 years of service with the public works depart-

ment; Mike Mitchell for 20 years with the fire department and Al LeHew, for his 20 years of service with public works.

Also at the meeting, many village board members thanked all of the volunteers who helped to make the four-day Morton Grove Days festival a success. They also thanked police, fire and public works for their presence at the event. One trustee shared that a Niles resident told her that she comes to the Morton Grove fest every year and another trustee said a woman who now lives in Florida comes back every year for the fest.

Village of Niles Retirements



Gaertner retires from Community Development

Evelyn Gaertner retires from the Niles Community Development Department and as Secretary to the Planning and Zoning Board of Appeals after 42 years of service, the village announced at their June board meeting.

Gaertner is a life-long resident of Niles. She started part time with the Public Works Dept. in 1964. In 1966 she

became a full time employee and nearly four and a half years later she transferred to the Code Enforcement Dept. In 1984 she became the secretary to the Planning and Zoning Board of Appeals.

Gaertner takes with her a vast amount of knowledge of not only what pertains to her department but also to the best of the village.

IDOT tries to conserve fuel

This summer, the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) is making a fuel conservation effort.

Timothy Martin, IDOT secretary, has ordered the agency's nine highway districts to reduce fuel consumption this summer by five percent without compromising public safety.

The fuel reduction is being implemented as a result of fuel prices that have been skyrocketing. IDOT is also conserving fuel by eliminating one of three daily roundtrip flights between Springfield and Chicago during the summer months.

Another way to reduce fuel consumption is to cut back on mowing in areas where it does

not affect sight lines and safety along the highways, according to a press release. Grass will be mowed alongside interstates twice instead of three times this summer, and there will be increased time between the first and second mowings.

A five percent reduction in fuel use would save an estimated 72,000 gallons of fuel.

Park Ridge 'National Night Out' Aug. 1

The annual National Night Out in Park Ridge will take place on Aug. 1 in Hodges Park, in front of City Hall.

The goal of the nationwide program organized locally by the Park Ridge Police is to increase crime and drug prevention awareness and generate support and participation in local anti-crime programs.

The event also intends to strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships and send the message to criminals that the police and community are fighting crime together.

Open remarks will be made by Sen. Cheryl Axley, Rep. Rosemary Mulligan and Mayor Howard Frimark at 6:30 p.m. at the City Hall steps.

The police department open house will be held from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. Child inspections will be given at Hodges Park from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.

The event will include crime prevention information booths including information from the Secretary of State, State's Attorney's Office, Ill. State treasurer's office, Internet Safety; refreshments and giveaways, McGruff the Crime Dog, Radio

Disney, face painting and crafts for kids, Battle of the bands, Ask a cop information booth, police fire equipment display, free raffle, and a flashlight walk through uptown.

The National Night Out is also an opportunity to strengthen relations with community groups such as Teens Organized for Youth Service (TOFYS), Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD), Students against Drunk Driving (SADD), Maine Community Youth Assistance Foundation (MCYAF) and the local school districts.

Sorensen retires from Fitness Center

Ron Sorensen has retired from the Niles Family Fitness Center, the village board announced at their June meeting.

Sorensen has worked at the Center for seven years and retired as the Operations Supervisor.

Throughout his career with

the village, Sorensen was a good person, not only to his entire staff but all the guests who visited the fitness center. He was active with the Employee Participation Committee and ran the annual United Way campaign and really was a true friend to all the village's employees.

Niles Chamber of Commerce and Industry

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Niles, IL 60714
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LGH holds reunion picnic

Families of current and previous patients at Lutheran General Hospital's Neonatal Intensive Care Unit will come together for a reunion picnic on Sunday, July 30 at Lions Woods Pavilion in Des Plaines.

The "Fun in the Sun" picnic

will be for patients, their families and staff members.

There will be a dinosaur moon jump, face painting and raffle prizes at the event. Tours of Lutheran General Hospital's pediatric ambulance will also take place from noon to 2 p.m.

Krista and Scott Briney of Roselle are parents of triplets who were cared for in the hospitals NICU and they say they are looking forward to seeing other parents they became acquainted with while their children were in the hospital.

Lions Honor Hoppe



The Niles Lions Club met for their monthly dinner at the White Eagle on June 15. Lion District Gov. Richard Walters presented the Lions International Foundation Life Membership award to Lion member, David Hoppe. Hoppe has been an active Lion member for more than 50 years and is a retired Niles fireman. According to the Lions Club, Hoppe is what Niles is all about. Also pictured is Zone Chairman Dennis Burns.

PB&J Tourney Aug. 18

Supervisor Bob Dudycz's second annual Peanut Butter & Jelly Golf Tournament promises to be a fun time. The charity event benefiting the Township's Emergency Food Pantry will begin at 5 p.m. on Friday, August 18 at Mountain View Adventure Golf, 510 E. Algonquin Rd., Des Plaines.

The public is invited to participate along with elected state and local officials, township staff and township vendors. Admission is three jars of peanut butter and three jars of jelly. Financial contributions will also be accepted.

Along with golfing, there will be raffles, souvenirs, goody bags for all participants and prizes for winners. This year's skill contests will include: longest and shortest drive, closest to the pin, hole in one and putting with marshmallows. There will also be games guessing how many tees are in a jar, picking one orange golf ball out of a box of 25 and a Treasure Chest with prizes.

Dudycz is also challenging the Mayors of Park Ridge and Des Plaines. The golfer with the lowest overall score will have the loser purchase the winner's weight in food and donate the food to the Emergency Food Pantry.

This year's hole sponsors to date include: State Senator Cheryl Axley, State Senator Susan Garrett, State Representative Elaine Nekritz, Cook County Commissioner Liz Gorman, Supervisor Bob Dudycz, Park Ridge Mayor Howard

Frimark, Clerk Gary K. Warner, Highway Commissioner Robert Provenzano, Collector Susan Flosi-Moylan, Trustee Laura Morask, Dean Morask, Trustee Peter Ryan, Trustee Carol Teschky, Eric Leys, ARC Disposal, Barton & Barton Ltd., BDS Software, Dowd, Dowd & Mertes, JC Mink Construction Company Inc, Parkway Bank & Trust, Pines of Park Ridge and Viking Travel Service.

Mountain View Adventure Golf is an 18-hole miniature golf course designed with a mining theme complete with creeks, bridges, waterfalls and rock formations.

Carol Langan, the Township's Food Pantry Coordinator, says any contributions of non-perishable food and money are always appreciated. The most pressing needs are for peanut butter, jelly, spaghetti sauce, canned fruit, chunky soups and large cans or plastic bottles of juice especially apple, orange and grape flavors. The Pantry is open on each Tuesday and Friday from 1-4:30 p.m.

Regular donations may also be brought to Maine Town Hall, 1700 Ballard Rd., Park Ridge on Monday-Friday between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. For questions or assistance with large deliveries, contact Ms. Langan at 847-297-2510, Ext. 268.

Donations

continued from page 1

some of the classrooms are completed.

The Brick Donation Day included a reception, opening remarks by community members and leaders, recitation from the Qur'an, prayers

and lunch.

Community members had the option of donating a Qibla-side brick for \$1,000 or donating a wall brick for \$100. Community members donated bricks on behalf of themselves and their families and some wrote their names on the bricks.

Project

continued from page 2

nesses and public facilities that have previously suffered from flood events, including a tragic flood in 1986 that caused more than \$35 million in damage in the Des Plaines watershed area and in nearby areas.

The Rand Park Flood Control

Project will cost \$15.2 million. More than \$12.8 million in state funds were used for the project and additional funding includes more than \$1.5 million from Park Ridge and Des Plaines. Also, up to \$900,000 was dedicated to the project from federal transportation funding to support the multi-use trail aspect of the endeavor.

the PET STOP



Owners of the new Niles Petland held a grand opening Saturday, July 8 at their new location in the Village Crossing Shopping Center.

'Petland' opens doors to enthusiastic village

Store is largest location in Chicago

By Tracy Yoshida Gruen
STAFF WRITER

The Petland store opened at the Village Crossing Shopping Center in Niles on Saturday, July 8.

The owners of the store are Franchisees LaVance Wells and Sharon Schroeder. The two wanted to start a business

together and a pet store seemed to be a good fit since Wells has an interest in pet supplies and Schroeder has a great concern for animals.

The 8,000 sq. ft. pet store will be the largest Petland in the Chicago area.

"Working with the community and educating them about pets, and how to care for them, is what I am most looking forward to do," said Wells, in a press release.

"Working with the community and educating them about pets, and how to care for them, is what I am most looking forward to do."

LaVance Wells
NILES PETLAND OWNER

Schroeder stated in the release, "I am excited to take

care of all the wonderful animals and to work with people who have the same interest in pets as I do."

The Petland store is next to Dick's Sporting Goods and Michael's at the intersection of Touhy Ave. and Carpenter Rd. It officially opened its doors on Saturday, July 8 at the location in Village Crossing, 5661 W. Touhy Ave. A ribbon cutting ceremony was held with the store's owners and Assistant

Village Manager Steve Vinezeano, Niles Chamber members and ambassadors.

Their mission is to match the right pet with the right person and meet the needs of both. For customers who already have pets, they are dedicated to enhancing your knowledge and enjoyment of the human animal bond.

For more information contact their store at (847) 588-1133 or visit www.petland.com.

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Pet of the Month



Winky

"My name is Winky and I'm six years old. My parents bought me last October from a lady in the southern suburbs. My dad named me Winky because I only have one eye. I lost my other eye during an operation a long time ago, but I can see just fine with one eye.

Unfortunately, I was used as a "puppy mill" and my new vet said I probably had three litters.

The ball in the picture is my favorite toy. I got it from my friend "Stella" another pug who lives in my building. I love to play catch with it. Whenever someone comes to visit I drop my ball by them so they can throw it and I can run to retrieve it.

I keep my trim figure because I only eat dog food. My mom will not feed me "people food." Every time I go out to go potty Mom

gives me a doggy treat.

I love my new home and I'm very glad they adopted me.

Everybody loves me!"

If you think you have the most lovable pet, send a brief description of what makes your pet special to The Bugle, Pet of the Month, 7400 N. Waukegan Rd., Niles, IL 60714 or e-mail editor@buglenewspapers.com.

Perspective

continued from page 8

crazy. Parenting can and should be fun and positive. Your relationship with your children is critical. You are their first adult and your training will affect them for the rest of their lives for either good or ill. Parenting is chal-

lenging, but the rewards are enormous. We live in an age where too many people avoid the real challenges in parenting - changing and improving themselves first and then their child.

It can be done. Glenn Latham's book is available through bookstores or the library and it will change

your life. Check it out along with the above website. With a little positive effort your household can have peace on earth.

"You've got to accentuate the positive, eliminate the negative, latch on to the affirmative, don't mess with Mister In-Between." - Johnny Mercer

Letters

continued from page 8

Resident calls for live board meeting broadcasts

Dear Editor,
While watching a rebroadcast of the Village of Morton Grove Board Meeting of July 10, 2006, I noticed that there was a problem with the recording of the resident comments on agenda items. In the middle of my questions to the

board, the recording failed and many of my comments were lost. Also, another resident, Bill Luksha who followed me with his comments, appeared for a few seconds and was subsequently cut completely off. I was assured by the mayor months ago in a conversation about an earlier taping problem that this kind of thing would never happen again. Someone who is involved with the taping of these broadcasts is censoring the recordings to their

benefit. The remainder of the recording was flawless, so I do not think this was an equipment problem. I invite the mayor to review the recording for himself, and investigate who is modifying these tapes. For this reason, I strongly urge that future board meetings be broadcast live, as this seems to be the only way we can be sure that resident comments are not being edited.

Sherwin Dubren,
Morton Grove

Cat food should have all the needed vitamins

By R.G. Elmore
COPLEY NEWS SERVICE

Q: Is it possible to give a cat too many vitamins? Although we feed our cat a premium diet marked "complete," my wife insists on feeding her additional vitamins. I look at

POINTS ON PETS

this as just an added expense and unnecessary. Only by convincing my wife that feeding excessive vitamins might be harmful will I ever get her to quit. Our cat appears to be healthy and happy and has been vaccinated for everything possible. Needless to say, my wife is overly concerned about our cat's well being.

A: It is great that your wife is concerned about your cat's well-being and is trying to do everything possible to ensure a long and happy life. Without knowing which vitamins and how much of each your wife is actually feeding your cat, it is impossible to state whether or not she is causing any harm. Your veterinarian can best evaluate your cat's total diet and advise you regarding the use of supplements, including vitamins.

Most cats being fed commercially prepared balanced cat foods do not need supplemental vitamins. Cat foods labeled as "complete," "balanced" or "scientific," should contain all of the required nutrients in a balanced formulation for your cat. You should not have to supplement such a diet for your cat.

It has been documented that excessive calcium, phosphorus, and vitamin D can cause abnormal growth in kittens. Feeding too much vitamin D can cause bone to calcify and cause deposition of calcium in the lungs, heart, and blood vessels. Feeding excessive vitamin A can cause swollen, painful joints; slow bone growth, sterility and loss of hair.

Your wife should be aware that large commercial pet food companies spend a lot of money on research and development of their products. Large pet food companies are regulated by state and federal laws to maintain high standards and consistency in their products. It is true that the

"Large commercial pet food companies spend a lot of money on research and development of their products. Large pet food companies are regulated by state and federal laws to maintain high standards and consistency in their products."

quality of the products available commercially far exceed what most cat owners can make routinely in their own homes. Your veterinarian can give you the best advice about how to feed and care for your cat throughout her entire lifetime.

Q: While visiting a large city recently I noticed a young couple playing with a small turtle, the kind you might purchase at a pet shop, while eating lunch at an outside diner. I was shocked, to say the least. Is the risk of getting salmonella from a turtle no longer a concern? Were the people just ignorant about the health risks of playing with a turtle while eating? I could not eat at the diner knowing that a turtle might just have crawled across the table.

A: Salmonellosis, a very serious disease in humans, can be contracted from infected turtles. Although salmonellosis usually causes severe diarrhea in humans, it can also cause meningitis. It is important to know that direct contact with an infected turtle or other infected reptile is not necessary to get salmonellosis. Merely coming into contact with something the infected reptile has contacted could be dangerous.

You were right to be alarmed about seeing a turtle crawling on a cafe table. You were also wise to avoid eating at the diner that allows such occurrences.

Send e-mail to copleysd@copleynews.com or write to Pets, Copley, News Service, P.O. Box 120190, San Diego, CA 92112-0190. Only questions of general interest will be answered in this column.

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Spend an 'Afternoon in Paris' with Niles Seniors

Niles Seniors

Afternoon in Paris

Thursday, August 3, 12:00 - 2:00 \$12

Claudia Hommel is back to awe us with her cabaret show. Claudia and singer/pianist Bob Moreen will introduce you to "Marcelle" a Parisian cabaret owner who recounts through song and spoken word, the events of her life in France before, during, and after WWII. Tres Bien! Lunch served at noon followed by entertainment. Reservations required. NOW OPEN to Non-Residents. For more information, contact Kathlyn (847 588-8420).

Men's Club Fall BBQ.

Friday, September 8
11:00am - 2:30pm \$12

It's not too early to purchase your tickets to this annual event. Lunch features the always tasty hamburgers and brats, freshly grilled to perfection by our master chefs. Then be prepared for a "journey to the islands" with the dancing of the Royal Polynesian Review.

Reserved seating! Cost includes lunch, entertainment and raffle.

Fall Class Schedule announced, in August: Naturally Active

The August copy of Naturally Active program guide contains the list of classes offered this Fall. Please be sure to get your registration in on time as it is the best way to assure you will have a place in the class of your choice. Many classes fill rapidly and others are cancelled if interest is low. Please note that Computer Classes do have prerequisites.

present. Before the movie, enjoy the special \$2.00 Hot Dog Dinner (Hot Dogs - Pizza rotation starts in mid July) served at 5:00PM and then relax and enjoy the movie.

Last Call, Niles Senior Idols Wanted!

It's not too late for you to become the ILLINOIS SENIOR IDOL. Any and all Niles seniors who are interested in auditioning, should contact Kathlyn at the Niles Senior Center (847 588-8420). Individuals or groups of up to 4 people are invited to perform. Stop by the Senior Center Front Desk for a set of rules and an application. Seven cash prizes will be awarded. The Registration Deadline is Wednesday, August 9th. Transportation will be provided for qualifying Niles senior participants to Drury Lane for both the Auditions on September 6th and the competition on September 7th.

The Effective Communication Group

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

Summer Evening Movie Schedule

\$2.00 (with dinner) 5:00PM

This summer, join us for Niles Senior Center's weekly "Dinner and a Movie" featuring a broad spectrum of movie favorites from the 1930s to the

present. Before the movie, enjoy the special \$2.00 Hot Dog Dinner (Hot Dogs - Pizza rotation starts in mid July) 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. Following is a list of upcoming movies:

August 2 - Little Women (1933) Katherine Hepburn, Joan Bennet (Pizza)

August 9 - Failure to Launch (2006 PG13) Matthew McConaughey (Hot Dog)

August 16 - Guys and Dolls (1955) Frank Sinatra, Marlon Brando (Pizza)

August 30 - Take the Lead (2006 PG-13) Antonio Banderas, Alfre Woodard (Hot Dog)

Memoirs of a Geisha Light Lunch and Movie

Friday, Aug. 4

Join us for a lite lunch at noon followed by the movie. Lunch is a Ham and Cheese Sandwich, Potato Salad, and Dessert. This film, based on the novel by Arthur Golden, tells the story of Geisha Chiyo, who in the 1930s was sold to a Geisha House at the age of nine. Rated PG-13. Advanced registration required if you are planning to join us for lunch.

Hooked on Fishing?

All Fishing Outings are open to residents and their non-resident friends. We meet at the selected site at 8:00am. Cost includes bait, morning snack, lunch and prizes. A valid Fishing License is required. Call MaryAnn (847

588-8420) for more information.

Friday, September 15 - Busse Woods, \$12 - Meet at the specified site at 8:00AM.

Friday, October 13 - BANQUET at DesPlaines Elk Club 4 - 6:30PM \$15

Niles Senior Center's Social Scrabble Group Wants You!

If you enjoy playing scrabble, this group is for you! We meet every Friday at 10:00am in Room 231. We have the games, but we need the participants. Drop on by and get acquainted.

Get Acquainted with the Center

August 17th from 10-11:00am

Newcomers are asked to call the Niles Senior Center to reserve a place at our August 17th NEWCOMERS MEETING and TOUR. Take a tour of our beautiful facility and meet members of our staff. 847 588-8420.

Lunch with the Red Hatters

On August 16th lunch is at Tsukasa of Tokyo, 561 Milwaukee Ave in Vernon Hills. Please register at least one week in advance. Call Kelly for costs, car pooling and/or directions. Red Hats and Purple Outfit required.

On Monday, September 11th, it's Red Hatter TRIP TIME. Take a two-hour trolley tour of Chicago and see where motion pictures have been filmed. Following the tour, we'll stop at Lawrey's downtown for a fabulous lunch. Cost \$40.

Grief Workshop

Three Session Fall Series

in September Beginning Wednesday, September 13, the Niles Senior Center will hold a three-session Grief workshop for residents touched by the loss of a loved one. For more information, please call Bev Wessels, MSW, LCSW, ACSW, or Melanie Amin, LCSW (847 588-8420). The workshops will meet on Wednesdays from 1:30 - 3:00pm and will focus on the following areas:

Workshop #1, Sept. 13 - "What Has Happened to Me?" Trying to make sense of the many feelings you experience after the loss of a spouse or a loved one is a difficult process.

Workshop #2, Sept. 20 - "Dealing with Expectations of Ourselves and Others" Dealing with other peoples feelings and concerns can raise anxiety, especially when they want us to "move on" or "be happy again."

Workshop #3, Sept. 27 - "Adjusting to a Difficult Lifestyle." We will explore the stress of living alone and ways to adapt to new social roles and responsibilities.

'Educated Caregiver'

Video series begins Sept. 6. Please contact Bev Wessels or Melanie Amin for more information about this program.

On Wednesday, September 6, at 1:00pm, the Niles Senior Center Caregiver Group will premiere the first part of our three-session "Educated Caregiver" Video Series. Our first session will help community members learn how to cope effectively with the demands of caregiving for spouses or other family members. This program is offered at no charge but enrollment is necessary.

Morton Grove holds Intergenerational Program

Morton Grove Seniors

Intergenerational Program

"Magic Brad" is a nationally recognized talent who is an unparalleled performer and entertainment industry consultant. He is an innovative and mesmerizing master magician and illusionist whose skill, experience and talent is a perfect fit for audiences of all ages. Please join us for an afternoon of fun sponsored by Tamarack Gracious Retirement Living on Monday, Aug. 7 for this Intergenerational Show from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. in the Morton Grove Senior Center. This is an event where seniors are encouraged to bring the children and grandchildren. The cost is just \$5 for a family of four or less (for Senior Center Members), \$6 for a family of four or less (non-members) and \$1 for each additional family member. Refreshments will be served. Please register in-person at the Senior Center.

'When Harry Met Sally' at the Senior Center

Harry and Sally meet when she gives him a ride to New York after they both graduate from the University of Chicago. The film jumps through their lives as they both search for love, but fail, bumping into each other time and time again. This romantic comedy will be shown at 1:30 p.m. on Monday, Aug. 14 in the Morton Grove Senior Center. The cost for the show is only \$1 for Senior Center Members and \$1.50 for non-members. Please register in-person at the Senior Center before Aug. 7.

Blood Pressure Screening

Periodic blood pressure measurement is helpful in determining if health is threatened by high blood pressure (hypertension). Hypertension is a contributor toward strokes, heart disease and kidney failure. Unfortunately, hypertension usually has no symptoms so a person can feel great and not know they have it. Free screenings are offered from 9 to 11 a.m. on Tuesday, July 11 in the Morton Grove Senior Center.

Afternoon Concert with Larry Levin

The Larry Levin Concert at the Morton Grove Senior Center scheduled for Thursday, Aug. 10 has been postponed. For more information contact Morton Grove Senior Citizens Activities Coordinator by calling 847/663-6127.

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 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturdays, Aug. 12 and 19 at the Morton Grove Senior Center; and from 12 noon to 4 p.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 12 and Thursday, Sept. 14 in the Prairie View Community Center. The cost of the course is \$10. Call the Morton Grove Senior Hot Line at 847/470-5223 to sign up.

'When Harry Met Sally' at the Senior Center

Harry and Sally meet when she gives him a ride to New York after they both graduate from the University of Chicago. The film jumps through their lives as they both search for love, but fail, bumping into each other time and time again. This romantic comedy will be shown at 1:30 p.m. on Monday, Aug. 14 in the Morton Grove Senior Center. The cost for the show is only \$1 for Senior Center Members and \$1.50 for non-members. Please register in-person at the Senior Center before Aug. 7.

Brain Games Part II

As we get older, we often begin to see changes in our mental functioning, having difficulty with memory, processing information more slowly, or having that "tip of the tongue" phenomenon. Many of these are natural changes yet there are many things that can be done to help combat their effects on brainpower. Come and learn about some of the functions of the brain along with some fun and interactive exercises at 1:30 p.m. on Monday, Aug. 21 in the Morton Grove Senior Center. There is no cost but please register before Aug. 14 by calling the Senior Hot Line at 847/470-5223.

Spend a Day at the Botanic Garden

The journey will start with a delicious lunch overlooking one of the many beautiful Chicago Botanic Gardens. After lunch, enjoy a fact filled narrated tram tour that will provide an overview of the 385 acres on Wednesday, Aug. 23. The bus will leave the Morton Grove Senior Center at 10:30 a.m. and return at approximately 2:30 p.m. The cost for the trip is \$25 for Senior Center Members and \$29 for non-members. Please register in-person at the Senior Center.

Morton Grove Baby Boomers Group

This new group, organized at the Morton Grove Civic Center, has scheduled a fun outing to

Navy Pier and Ed Debevis between 10:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Aug. 29. The cost is \$30 for Civic Center Members and \$34.50 for non-members. Please register in-person at the Civic Center before Aug. 14.

Art Institute Senior Trip

Morton Grove seniors will be traveling to the Art Institute of Chicago on Wednesday, Sept. 6 to enjoy a special tour entitled, "Senior Celebrations." This trip includes lunch at the Institute. The bus leaves the Senior Center at 9:45 a.m. and returns at 2:45 p.m. The cost is \$25 for Senior Center Members and \$29 for non-members. Please register in-person at the Senior Center before Sept. 15.

King Tut Exhibit

Join the Morton Grove Senior Center for a day at the Field Museum to see the King Tut exhibit on Tuesday, Sept. 19! The King Tut exhibit consists of more than 130 priceless artifacts including treasure from the tomb of the celebrated "Boy King". This trip will require a lot of walking, so please wear comfortable shoes. The bus will depart from the Senior Center at 10:30 a.m. and return at 3:30 p.m. The cost is \$40 for Senior Center Members and \$46 for non-members and includes a sandwich lunch, transportation and of course the tour. Please register for this program by Sept. 1 in-person at the Senior Center.

Computer Classes

Decrease frustration by increasing keyboarding skills! The "Computer Keyboarding Class" is great for the "hunt and peck" keyboarders as well as "old world typists" who want to increase their speed and accuracy. This one-day class from 9 to 11 a.m. will be held on Saturday, Sept. 23 at the Morton Grove Fire Station #4 at Lincoln and Callie Avenues. The fee is \$10 for Senior Center Members and \$12 for non-members and is taught by the Center's awesome instructor, RJ Bruno. Please register in person at the Senior Center before Sept. 8.

"Getting Started with Computers" is a class designed for students with little or no computer experience. Topics include computer terminology hardware vs. software, mouse operation and Windows navigation. There will be lots of hands-on exercise and loads of fun in this four-week course from 9 to 10:30 a.m. starting Sept. 30

through Oct. 21 at the Morton Grove Fire Station. The fee is \$32 for Senior Center Members and \$37 for non-members. Please register in-person at the Senior Center before Sept. 15.

The "Internet" course is designed for beginner Internet users and explorers who want to increase their Internet knowledge and proficiency. Topics include e-mailing and searching the web by address or subject. This four-week series meets from 11a.m. to 12:30 p.m. starting Sept. 30 through Oct. 21 at the Morton Grove Fire Station. The fee is \$32 for Senior Center Members and \$37 for non-members. Please register in person at the Senior Center before Sept. 15.

Notary Services

Seniors can bring in their important documents for notarizing at no cost in the Morton Grove Senior Center. It is always good to call ahead if planning to come in. Call Nancy Reynolds at 847/470-5246 if interested. Bear in mind that documents that need notarizing should be signed in the presence of the notary. Just bring in the documents along with another official form of identification.

Guard Against Identity Theft

In an effort to thwart identity theft and financial exploitation, the Morton Grove Police Department has installed a high volume paper shredder in the Morton Grove Senior Center. Identity theft is the unauthorized use of another person's personal identifying information, such as name, address, date of birth, Social Security number or mother's maiden name. Identity thieves use this information to open phony bank accounts, obtain unauthorized credit cards, apply for car or house

loans and lease apartments using your identity. The thief tries to spend as much money as possible before the victim becomes aware of the theft. Personal documents should be shredded before disposal. The Senior Center shredder is available to any resident every weekday between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m.

Call the Morton Grove Senior Hot Line at 847/470-5223. Membership in the Morton Grove Senior Center provides these benefits: six issues of the Seniors in Morton Grove newsletter; three issues of the 'Travelin' Times' newsletter; free Diabetes Screening; free passage on the Seniortran (for residents); free Computer usage in the Senior Center Library; 15% discount on trips and classes; an annual members-only party; and a photo i.d. card. Membership registrations are accepted any weekday morning between 9 a.m. and 12 noon at the Senior Center, 6140 Dempster Street. The membership fee is \$15 for an individual resident; \$25 for a resident married couple; \$25 for an individual non-resident; and \$40 for a non-resident married couple.

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On-field insults require thick skin, not thick head

By Nick Canepa
COPLEY NEWS SERVICE

It was a classic case of literal insult leading to figurative injury.

SPORTS UNLIMITED

Zinedine Zidane, well-traveled and wise to the world, should have developed a leather hide by his ripe age. Instead, the planet's most accomplished active soccer player developed a temperature and lost it - lost it for himself and his French teammates.

This nearly has been pushed aside in what will certainly go down as one of the more infamous incidents in the history of sports, right there with Mike Tyson nibbling on Evander Holyfield's ear. Zidane's head-butt to the chest of Italy's Marco Materazzi - over whatever the Italian said - and his prompt ejection in the World Cup final not only was foolish, but one of the more momentous selfish acts to have taken place on a field of play.

Sticks and stones? You roll with words.

About the only thing baseball great Tony Gwynn took a swing at when he played was a baseball. And they called him real bad things. He kept his cool. I hate to think what they've called Barry Bonds, not all of it deserved, for sure. Still, he has kept control and continues to play through it.

Some athletes can handle it, some can't. There have been baseball players who have gone into the stands after fans. It doesn't happen often, but it's stupid. Selfish. You're affecting your team. This isn't John McEnroe hurling insults at referees or Tyson being hungry. You're not just playing for yourself.

"I heard it all from the fans, especially in Wrigley, Philly, Shea, and I can't forget my buddies in San Francisco," says Gwynn, the future Hall of Famer who now coaches San Diego State's baseball team. "It's part of the game. I never let it get to me. If you take it seriously, if you've got rabbit ears, then you're not going to make it."

"Baseball is about the only game out there where there really is little raggin' on the field.

But, from the stands, all the time. If you put a mike on a football field, people would be shocked what is said. It's got to be hard to keep your cool during a football game. Same in the NBA."

Racial slurs? "Of course," Gwynn says, "especially when I broke in (1982), when we went to places like Atlanta or Houston. Some pretty outrageous stuff. The fun stuff, I'd acknowledge."

"Rickey Henderson cracked me up once in Wrigley. The fans were giving him the business. Rickey told them, 'Don't you know who I am? I'm the best ever.' Rickey told me, 'They don't know who they're raggin' on.'"

But they did. To paraphrase Reggie Jackson, they don't boo stiffly.

"I wish I'd said that," Gwynn says, laughing. "For you to be heckled, you've got to be pretty good. It's kind of a show of respect, really. You don't heckle guys who can't play."

And don't think there aren't players out there who know who can and who can't take it. People laughed when Yogi Berra said, "Baseball is 90 percent

mental; the other half is physical." But he was within a few percentage points of being right.

Just the other day I was having lunch with, among others, a longtime restaurateur who played football through the collegiate level. When the subject of Zidane's head-butt came up, he said a former player of his acquaintance studied his opponents to the point where he knew the names of their mothers, wives and children.

Trash-talking in sports obviously didn't start yesterday. This guy had become an artist, but he probably didn't invent the tactic and I'm sure he wasn't the last one to use it.

We have no idea if Materazzi studied up on Zidane's background and family members. We have no clue what Materazzi said to the Frenchman during that crucial moment of the World Cup final - there are conflicting reports - but we do know the results.

Zidane head-butted Materazzi in the chest, the Italian flopped like a tuna on a deck, and France's best player was red-carded. Soccer players collapse for much less. Did the

blow force a true knockdown? Doesn't matter. It was a supreme act of athletic selfishness on Zidane's part and probably an act of brilliance by Materazzi. I doubt the Italian feels any remorse.

France lost its best player and its most devastating penalty-kicker, and the French eventually lost the match on PKs. Zidane had a chance to walk away. He turned and went back. Premeditated - briefly, anyway - but a conscious act.

Zidane has been banned for three matches, Materazzi two, over the incident.

"His (Zidane's) scenario might be a bit different," Gwynn says. "A regular-season game, maybe you blow it off. But in a World Cup final, emotions are going to flow higher than normal. I guess I can see it happening, because it did."

"But, that said, you can't let your teammates down by losing your composure. Whatever was said sure ticked him off, but I thought that guy (Materazzi) Vlade Divaced it a little bit. You've got to wonder about a sport when you've got to sell it like that."

Professional Golf Tips With Tina Mickelson

Head cover drill

In an attempt to generate faster swing speed and more distance, many players' initial move to start their downswing is over the top. The only result this achieves is a misguided shot. Try the following drill to train your body to feel the correct move from the top:

At address put a head cover between your wrists/forearms. Take your backswing and as you initiate your downswing, make sure you keep that head cover in between your wrists and forearms. If your right elbow starts to fly and you make that over-the-top move, the head cover will fall out from between your wrists.

Once you have made enough practice swings like this, remove the head cover and try to duplicate that feel from the top into your full swing. Before actually hitting a ball, take a number of practice swings first. And when you do hit a golf ball with this swing, pay more attention to duplicating the correct feel rather than to where or how far the ball goes.



Copley News Service/Tina Mickelson, PGA

Photos by Paul Nasri

HAVE YOU HEARD

Local Midas Hosts Customer Training Day



Your local Midas Auto Service Experts in Niles will be hosting a "Customer Training Day" on Thursday August 3rd from 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM. This will be open to the public for anyone interested in learning basic vehicle maintenance. This "hands-on" demonstration will review how to check oil level, transmission fluid, power steering fluid, brake fluid, belts, hoses, and changing a tire. They will also answer questions regarding vehicle repairs, even if it's not at their shop!

This independent and family owned Midas repair facility is committed to excellence and serving you. All employees are ASE certified automotive technicians to ensure your vehicle's maintenance and repair issues are addressed correctly the first time and in a professional manner. For more information contact: Midas Auto Service Experts 7369 N. Milwaukee Avenue - Niles 847-588-1800

Peruvian Festival 2006 To Take Place At Daley Center Plaza

The Peruvian Arts Society, in conjunction with the Consulate General of Peru in Chicago the AIPEUC Chapter of Peruvian Institutions of Chicago, and the Peruvian American Medical Society will celebrate the "Peruvian Festival" which will take place at the Daley Center Plaza from Wednesday July 26th through Friday 28th, 2006 between 10:00am and 3:30pm



Wednesday July 26th, Thursday July 27th and Friday July 28th
10:00AM - 3:00 PM
FOOD, ARTS AND CRAFTS
(all 3 Days)

Sample Peru's delicious cuisine (considered to be among South America's finest) and marvel at Peru's colorful weavings and exquisite jewelry, along with an exhibition of Luy Ken Art's sculptures in the arts and crafts booths, located at Daley Plaza. Representatives of the Peruvian Consulate

of Chicago will also be on hand with promotional materials about travel to Peru.

THURSDAY JULY 27TH
12:00 Noon - 1:30 PM

The musical portion of the Festival will take place in Daley Plaza. Local Peruvian singers and dancers interpreting the haunting melodies of the Andes, the fascinating music of the jungle, and the elegant dances of the Coast and the Andes by well known artists and groups including Miss Carmen Mejia and her talented dance folkloric group "Perú Profundo"

FRIDAY JULY 28TH
12:00 Noon - 1:30 PM

The Capitulo del medio Oeste will present the Peruvian folklore with the dancing group "America Baila" by the Pachas family, Directors of Peruvian Dances and twenty eight children. This program will be presented with the cooperation of the Daley Civic Center Programs, the Department of Cultural Affairs, the Mayor's Office of Special Events and the Peruvian community celebrating the 185th Anniversary of the Independence of the Republic of Peru.

SUMMER CAMPTASTIC 2006

The Niles Family Fitness Center's Camptastic is the perfect way for your child to spend the Spring Break. Activities include sports, outdoor games, swimming, crafts, field trips and more!

AGES: Ages 6 - 12 welcome.
CAMP DATES: Monday June 12th- Aug 18th
CAMP HOURS: 9AM - 3 PM Monday through Friday

Extended Camp Hours: 8 AM-9AM 3 PM-5PM
CAMP SESSION FEES: Full Time: \$128 Member / \$166 Non-Member 3 Days: \$86 Member / \$111 Non-Member
EXTENDED CAMP FEES: 8 AM-9 AM \$5 3 PM-5 PM \$10

SESSION DATES
July 31-Aug 4
Aug 7-11
Aug 14-18

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120 Youth Participated At Niles Fitness Day

On Friday, July 14, 2006, the Niles Family Fitness Center hosted a Youth Fitness day for 6-12 year olds. The program was a cooperative effort with the TLC program from School District 63. Staff from TLC and the Niles Family Fitness Center coordinated the event that day.

More than 120 children participated in 2 hours of fun and fitness using scooters, hula hoops, exercise balance balls and basketballs. The children were also asked to complete an obstacle course that challenged their speed and agility. The children received a free day pass to the center for all their hard work.



Festa Italiana at Summit Square

Families are invited to attend Festa Italiana on Thursday, August 24, 1:30 p.m. at Summit Square Retirement & Assisted Living Residence, 10 N. Summit Ave., Park Ridge. An afternoon of comedy will be provided by entertainer Frank Pisani and refreshments will be served. Guests are encouraged to tour Summit Square before lunch or after the program. Parking is available in the Library lot across the street. Seating is limited and reservations are required. Please RSVP to Gina by August 21 at 847-825-1161 x115. Visit www.summitsquareretirement.com for more information.

Fried fish sandwich toasted with sparkling wine

By Ron James
COPLEY NEWS SERVICE

The Chef

Sometimes, even celebrity chefs get too much media exposure.

PERFECT PAIRINGS

Rocco DiSpirito certainly falls into that category. Just a couple of years ago, he was on the cover of *Gourmet* magazine and tapped as one of the Top 10 new chefs by *Food & Wine* magazine. Today he is a chef without a restaurant, selling his line of pots and pans on QVC. (To his credit, he sells a lot of pots and pans.)

To some in the industry, he's one of the bad boys of the kitchen; others say he's a creative genius who made a few bad decisions.

DiSpirito was born in the New York City borough Queens in 1966. "I grew up in an Italian family that adored food," he writes in his award-winning cookbook, "Flavor, Rocco DiSpirito" (Hyperion, \$35). He graduated from the Culinary Institute of America in 1986 and earned a bachelor's degree in business from Boston University in 1990.

"I wanted to be a French chef - I spent a year in France and then returned to the states to work with various French chefs," he writes.

Among those chefs were some of the best in the business, including Charlie Palmer, David Bouley, Jean-Michel Diot and Gary Kunz.

In 1994, DiSpirito opened Annabelle, which closed after just six months despite glowing reviews. He then opened Dava to equally great reviews. Ruth Reichl of *The New York*



Times wrote in 1995, "Rocco DiSpirito isn't a name you are likely to forget. But you are bound to be hearing a lot of it, because Mr. DiSpirito is turning out food so personal and intense you can't help asking, 'Who's the chef?'"

Despite the great reviews, Dava, too, was history after six months.

In 1997 things began to turn around for DiSpirito when he opened Union Pacific in New York. The restaurant was a hit, earning three stars from *The New York Times*. For six years, DiSpirito was on a roll, authoring best-selling cookbooks and garnering awards and adulation. *Gourmet* magazine called

him America's most exciting young chef and *People* magazine called him the "sexiest chef alive." His "Flavor, Rocco DiSpirito" won the James Beard Cookbook Award.

But things began to unravel in 2003. While remaining at the helm at Union Pacific, DiSpirito unwisely decided to open Rocco's 22nd Street with Jeffrey Chodorow. His new partner was a financier and convicted felon with a history of litigation under his belt. The embarrassing fiasco that followed was broadcast for two seasons around the world in an NBC reality television series, "The Restaurant." The show featured a restaurant in disarray, highlighted by a nasty power struggle between the two. Ultimately, the pair wound up in court and the restaurant closed.

During this period, the once thriving Union Pacific was having its share or problems capped by a scathing review from *New York Times* critic Marian Burros, who described waiting nearly an hour and a half for less than stellar food.

"The unevenness of the cooking I sampled over four visits brought up the same question," she wrote. "Is Rocco DiSpirito, the chef, spending more time at Rocco's on 22nd Street, his television-created

Cod Sandwich with Curry Aioli

- 1 head garlic, top 1/4 cut off
- 1 cup plus 1 tablespoon extra-virgin olive oil
- 1 1/2 tablespoons curry powder
- 1 tablespoon sugar
- 2 tablespoons fresh lime juice (about 1 lime)
- 1 tablespoon white wine vinegar
- 1 egg
- 1/2 teaspoon salt, plus more to taste
- Ground pepper, to taste
- 1/2 cup corn oil
- 2 boneless cod fillets, 6 to 8 ounces each, cut in 1/2 lengthwise (yields 4 filets)
- 1 cup Wondra or all-purpose flour
- 12 scallions, dark green tops only, sliced lengthwise into ribbons 1-inch thick
- 8 slices brioche, challah, Pullman loaf, or other good-quality bread
- 1/4 cup butter (1/2 stick), at room temp.
- Yields 4 servings

Preheat oven to 375 F. Wrap garlic in foil and roast in oven until cloves are completely soft, about 40 minutes. Remove from oven and, when cool enough to handle, squeeze garlic paste from individual cloves.

Heat small saute pan over low heat with 1 tablespoon olive oil. Add garlic paste and curry powder, and lightly saute for 3 minutes, stirring. Remove

pan from heat and stir in sugar, lime juice and vinegar. Stir until sugar is completely dissolved.

Transfer paste to food processor and puree until smooth. Add egg and 1/2 teaspoon salt through the feed tube, and continue to puree until smooth. Slowly pour remaining 1 cup of olive oil through the feed tube, adding it drop by drop until an emulsification is created, then adding the rest in a steady stream. Transfer aioli to small bowl and season to taste with salt and pepper. Hold aside.

Heat large skillet or saute pan, preferably cast-iron, over medium-high heat. Add corn oil and heat until very hot. Season cod fillets with salt and pepper and dredge in flour. Shake to remove excess. Carefully slip fillets into skillet and cook until golden brown and crisp on both sides, about 5 minutes per side. Transfer fillets to paper towels to drain.

To the same pan, add scallion greens and saute until wilted and tender, about 3 minutes. Remove greens and wipe pan with a bunch of paper towels.

For each slice of bread, butter one side and spread the other with aioli. Assemble sandwiches by layering cod and scallions inside bread slices with the aioli sides facing in.

spaghetti parlor, than at his premier restaurant, which opened in 1997?"

By "mutual agreement" Rocco and his Union Pacific partners parted ways and the restaurant closed in late 2004. DiSpirito then had a short career in radio ending in less than a year because of "creative differences" with management.

At this writing, the chef is still restaurantless, and is now selling his cookware and making media appearances, including "Celebrity Poker" and ongoing bits on the "Tony Danza Show." According to his Web site, DiSpirito is working on a new cable TV reality show called "The Good Life."

We wish him just that.

The Dish

DiSpirito may not be the best restaurateur, but there is no doubt he is a wiz in the kitchen. Our featured dish, a fried fish sandwich with curry aioli, was inspired by a DiSpirito favorite from his youth.

"I won't claim any lofty inspirations for this sandwich," he explains in his cookbook. "It's the evolution of my childhood passion for Mrs. Paul's fish sticks and my later discovery of British fish and chips. I started getting creative

with fried fish condiments in college, when I worked part time in a cafeteria at Harvard (not just any cafeteria, mind you!). The aioli here has some great flavors, including curry, garlic and lime."

The Wine

The match that immediately comes to mind for this dish is a crisp and cold bubbly. Nothing contrasts and complements with the rich flavor of fried foods better than a refreshing sip of sparkling wine. They were made for each other, one enhancing the enjoyment of the other. We've selected one of California's best sparklers, the flagship Roederer Estate Anderson Valley Brut to go with our crunchy fish dish.

This is not only a wonderful sparkling wine but it is a great value at about \$20. It is a multi-vintage wine, which means it might have wine from different years blended into it.

Roederer is located in the Anderson Valley and owned by the legendary 200-year-old French Champagne maker by the same name. It consistently scores in the high 80s and low 90s in *Wine Spectator*. The dry-crisp wine sports intricate small bubbles with subtle citrus and pear flavors and a bit of an almond finish.

New and recent releases: 'Lady in the Water' spooky

COPLEY NEWS SERVICE

New Releases

LADY IN THE WATER - Just the idea of Paul Giamatti doing heroic underwater swimming is funny. It's the sprinkling of humor that could help you to stick with the floating whimsies of M. Night Shyamalan's

FILMS IN FOCUS

"Lady in the Water." As janitor and fix-it man for an apartment building, Cleveland Heep (Giamatti) is not a happy man. In fact, he is haunted by past tragedy. His drab life takes a dramatic turn when he detects a strange visitor in the pool at night. She (Bryce Dallas Howard) is a narf, a creature who has risen from "the blue world." Heep bonds with her and must protect her from ugly, grass-haired wolves called scruntis.

A Warner Bros. release. Director, writer: M. Night Shyamalan. Cast: Paul Giamatti, Bryce Dallas Howard, Sarita Choudhury, M. Night Shyamalan, Bill Irwin, Bob Balaban. Running time: 1 hour, 46 minutes. PG-13. 2 stars

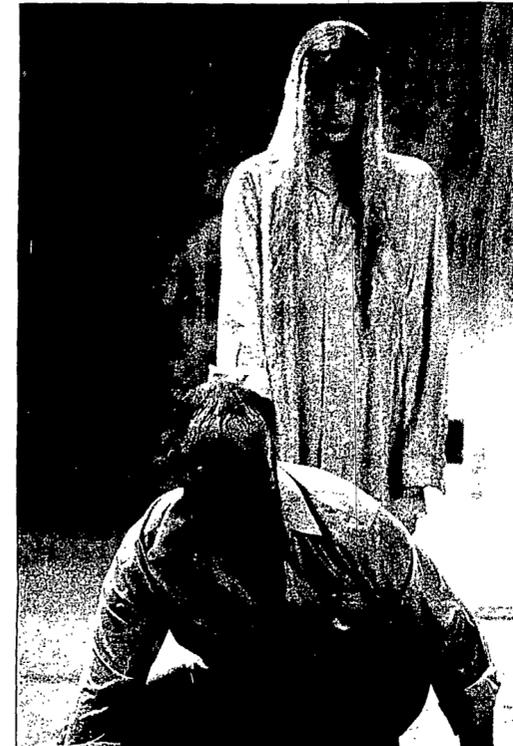
Recent Releases

YOU, ME AND DUPREE - Owen Wilson began as a cute and

funny young actor. But now he is like a cocktail party windup, his surfer hair a "love me" halo, his bent nose the logo of his market status as an attitude clown. The Russo brothers, Joe and Anthony, use Wilson as the plot motor of "You, Me and Dupree," which gives the impression of a caveman rubbing sticks together to ignite a sitcom (the wet sticks belong to writer Mike LeSieur). As Dupree, Wilson is the old chum and now best man for Carl (Matt Dillon), who is marrying darling Molly (Kate Hudson). As more gag freight, Michael Douglas plays her dad and Carl's boss. He humiliates Carl at their greedy developing firm, and urges him to get a vasectomy. The marriage, though barely begun, is now "at risk." Douglas plays fatherly ego games and Dupree has a stag party, watches porn, sets the house on fire, virtually slobbers on Molly, wears a pillow over his crotch as he jumps around naked. He's meant to be adorable, like a frat house Peter Pan who will always goof his way back into favor, and he recruits the neighbor kids to reinforce his boyishness. A Universal Pictures release. Directors: Joe and Anthony Russo. Writer: Mike LeSieur. Cast: Kate Hudson, Owen Wilson, Matt Dillon, Michael

Douglas. Running time: 1 hour, 48 minutes. Rated PG-13. 1 star.

PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN: DEAD MAN'S CHEST - Probably nothing can stop "Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Man's Chest" from hitting big. There is also nothing to stop most viewers from feeling fleeced and fatigued. Maybe if you are 17 and want desperately to be Johnny Depp's tattoo, there is little to complain about. Otherwise, the sequel has the roaring groan of a repeater so smug about its summer right to rule that we feel lined up for sacrifice to the god (Disney) of excess (Gore Verbinski's approach). Sequel is what we get, the big tonnage, for well over two hours. The dominant sensation is of sweat, halitosis and barnacled rust. Just about everyone but Keira Knightley, never more feminine than when her Elizabeth Swann scampers around in a boyish sailor rig, is hair-matted, dentally awful and bathless since birth. A Walt Disney release. Director: Gore Verbinski. Writers: Ted Elliott, Terry Rossio, Stuart Beattie, Jay Wolpert. Cast: Johnny Depp, Orlando Bloom, Keira Knightley, Bill Nighy, Stellan Skarsgaard, Naomi Harris, Jonathan Pryce. Running time: 2 hours, 25 minutes. Rated PG-13. 1 1/2 stars.



Paul Giamatti stars as Cleveland Heep in M. Night Shyamalan's new film, "Lady in the Water."

Our brief book reviews

COPLEY NEWS SERVICE

"A Mind of Its Own: How Your Brain Distorts and Deceives" by Cordelia Fine; Norton; 224 pages; \$24.95.

There's an unresolved dilemma in reading Cordelia Fine's, uh, fine "A Mind of Its

SCANNING THE BOOKSHELF

Own." The premise of the book is that, simply put, you don't have complete control of your faculties, that conscious, reasoned thought is frequently subservient to a devious inner mind that deludes and distorts reality to protect us from ourselves.

If that's so, then how can you believe what you've just read? If Fine's contentions are true, then we are all dupes and dopes. And what self-serving brain is going to

allow us to think that?

But a self-serving brain is a healthy brain, it seems. It twists and tangles real-world experience to save us from the mind-numbing, ego-destroying effects of ever-present failure and pessimism, says Fine, a research associate at the Centre for Applied Philosophy and Public Ethics at the University of Melbourne in Australia and the holder of degrees in psychology, criminology and cognitive neuroscience.

Like a mythological hydra, Fine divides the book into multiple headings, with chapters exploring and explaining the brain, from its vanity and pigheadedness to its penchant for secrecy and bigotry.

Fine supports her observations and conclusions with

citations of numerous psychological studies, most of which tend to fall into two types: Studies based upon subjects who have suffered some sort of brain injury, the particular incapacity revealing something about the nature of brain function and its origins, and studies employing human volunteers as guinea pigs.

In the latter, the volunteers (usually college students) are prodded and probed and occasionally subjected to semiabusive psychological experiments, such as being told that a high tolerance for pain (measured by how long one could keep an arm immersed in ice-cold water) was a key indicator for a long and healthy life. It's not true, of course, but students who believed it tended to keep their arms immersed longer.

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Kids' Home Newspaper

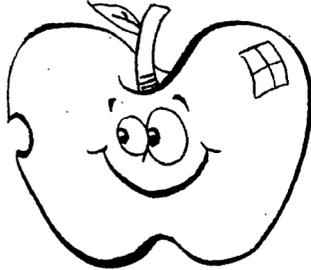


Games, rhymes and riddles for children and their parents, too!

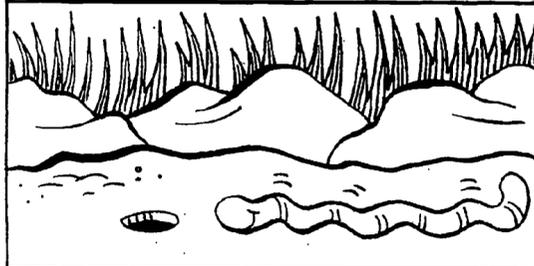
By J.R. Rose-Copley News Service

DRAW IT!

DRAW A WORM IN THIS APPLE !!

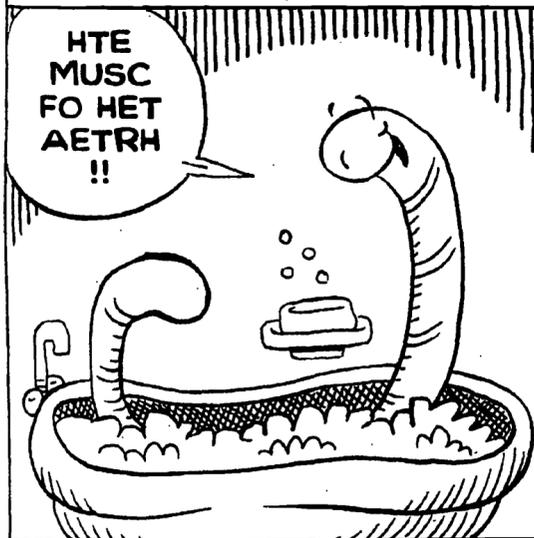


GIVE ME 5 RHYMES FOR HOLE...



UNSCRAMBLE THIS EARTHWORM TO SEE WHAT WORMS LEAVE AROUND THEIR BATHS...

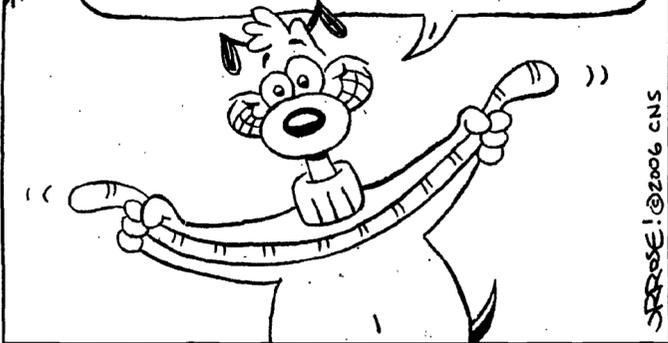
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WHAT DID THE BIRD GO TO THE LIBRARY ?

IT WAS LOOKING FOR A BOOKWORM !!



REAL ESTATE

Relationships key when designing a bathroom

By Rose Bennett Gilbert
COPLEY NEWS SERVICE

Q: We are doing over the master bath and adding a dressing room in the extra space over the garage, off the master bedroom. Should there be a door between the bath and the dressing room? Do the cabinets have to match

DECOR SCORE

between the two areas? We did the bath itself more than two years ago and we may not be able to find the same cabinets.

A: Much depends on the nature of the relationship between those who will be using the spaces. If you are comfortable sharing, it's not unusual for the entire space to be open with no demarcation between the activity areas (exception: the water closet, meaning toilet, is often set apart in its own space for obvious reasons).

The handsome bath-dressing area we show here is on-flowing from the tub to the dressing room with cabinets that match throughout, all by Wood-Mode at www.wood-mode.com/. But there is another school of thought that prefers to keep the closet/dressing room behind closed doors and thus protected from the moisture of the bath itself.

As with any major (read expensive) undertaking, you'd be wise to seek hands-on advice from a design pro. Touch base with a good kitchen-bath shop in your area, or look into the directory of certified kitchen and bath designers - CBDs and CKDs - available through the National Kitchen & Bath Design Association (www.nkba.com). The association also offers a slew of booklets full of inspiration and information, all for free.

Q: What celebrity couple's home incites the most curiosity among would-be sneak-peekers?

A: Funny you should ask, one may say, but the Minwax Co. did during a recent survey of the majority of some 750 American men and women over the age of 18. The majority gave their



voyeur vote to the digs of country music stars Faith Hill and Tim McGraw.

Second place was a tie between Hollywood's official Mr. and Mrs. Smith (Will and Jada) and Barbra Streisand and hubby James Brolin. And only 7 percent of those surveyed

showed interest at all in peeking behind the front door of the house Jennifer Lopez and Marc Anthony call home.

More oddments of information from the Minwax fact sheets:

■ Women are willing to spend more on remodeling than men, \$10,000

vs \$6,000.

■ Kitchens and baths are still the most often made-over rooms in the American home today.

■ One out of four couples who teamed up on a do-it-yourself project believed they "made a great team." Six percent admitted to fighting "like cats and dogs" over the project. And 13 percent said that next time they'd rather do it themselves - alone.

P.S.: Together or alone, if you've got a do-it-yourself project on the horizon, look into Minwax's free magazine, called Wood Beautiful. It's available at home centers and paint stores, or at www.minwax.com.

Q: We're looking to buy shades or shutters for our sun porch that will block some of the heat that makes it almost impossible to sit out there during the warm months. They all seem to be rated for energy efficiency, but we don't know how to interpret the ratings. Are high or low numbers best?

A: You may run into three different kinds of ratings: R-value, shading coefficient and UV blocking.

According to the Department of Energy, R-value stands for thermal resistance, that is, how well a material resists heat loss. The higher the R-value, the better.

The shading coefficient of a window covering tells you how well a window treatment resists the gain of heat. In this case, the lower the number, the better.

The UV blocking rating shows what percentage of harmful UV rays are blocked by the window covering. Here, you want a high percentage, as close to 100 percent as possible.

Rose Bennett Gilbert is the co-author of "Hampton Style" and associate editor of Country Decorating Ideas. Please send your questions to her at Copley News Service, P.O. Box 120190, San Diego, CA 92112-0190, or online at copleysd@copleynews.com.

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No one-size-fits-all solutions for sprinkler systems

By Jeff Rugg
COPLEY NEWS SERVICE

Q: I have a question on water times for automatic sprinklers in the months of July and August for Pomona, Calif. Currently I water at 10-minute intervals daily, starting at 5 a.m.

A GREENER VIEW

A: As I wrote in a recent article, using a timer doesn't take into account the environment of your lawn. Does it have slopes that face the sun or away from the sun? Does the water run off within 10 minutes or is it just getting the top 1 or 2 inches of soil wet? A timer-based system needs to be fine-tuned so that every irrigation zone matches that area's slope, sun exposure, soil type and plant material choices. Then the whole system needs to be adjusted weekly or, at a minimum, monthly, based on the grass life cycle stage (growing or going dormant), climate, expected temperature and the amount of rain that recently fell.

Running a zone 10 minutes once is not the same thing as running the zone for 10 minutes several times in one day or running it for 30 minutes in one day. By allowing the water to soak in, several 10-minute waterings with time in between can apply the water more effectively than one 30-minute watering that has a lot of runoff.

The most effective watering

GARDEN TIP

Summertime watering tips

Sprinkler heads have adjustments that can help you tackle any situation. The amount of sun and at what time, slope of your yard and soil quality are just a few factors to consider.

• Watering early in the morning causes less evaporation than if you water in the midday sun. Allowing plants to dry throughout the day also reduces the chance of mildew.

• On sloping surfaces, you'll get less runoff if you use less water for shorter periods, but water several times throughout the day.

• Be aware of high spots in your lawn. High spots can't absorb water fast enough, which causes brown spots or thin patches.



Let your lawn grow longer in the summer months. This keeps the soil from drying too fast.

Copley News Service / Paul Nasri

would be to add water a tiny bit at a time all day long as the plants used up the water, but that is, of course, unrealistic and unnecessary as a good soil acts as a sponge to give the water to the grass as it needs it.

Test each of your irrigation zones by placing coffee cups around the zone. Run the zone to see how long it takes to apply 1 inch of water. A quarter-inch in the cup after 15 minutes would mean an hour for an inch.

Most lawns need 1 inch of water every 10 to 14 days to stay green. They can go dormant and use a lot less water, but they still need some to stay alive. You can apply a half-inch each week if you want.

As you test each zone, time how long it takes before water starts running off where it should not go. If you need an hour to get an inch, but the water starts running over the sidewalk after five minutes, you will need to set that zone

for several five-minute runs with some time off in between for water to soak into the soil.

If your soil has a lot of clay or good black organic matter, you might be able to water once every week to 10 days or split it up into two or three smaller waterings depending on how long it takes to water a section before the water runs off and how many hours a day your local jurisdiction allows. If it would take five hours to water your whole landscape, but the law says you can only water for three hours a day in the morning, split your zones accordingly.

If your soil is sandy or you live in a dry desert or mountain climate, you might need to water several times each week or even daily. Daily waterings of 10 minutes per zone can be an appropriate amount, but it should be based on your soil, climate and the other factors mentioned above.

Early morning is typically the best time of day because the water on the plant leaves should evaporate before disease organisms can infect the leaf. Evening watering tends not to evaporate as quickly and can help promote lawn fungus disease problems.

Q: We keep getting a fungus-like mold on top of our mulch. It is bright yellow and, after one day, turns brown. Obviously, we don't want to touch it, but if we pick it up with gloves when it is yellow it feels very heavy, almost wet. When it is yellow, if we don't pick it up in a single unit it

seems to have spores underneath. If we wait till the next day when it is brown, it is more compact and much lighter.

What is this mold or fungus? Is it dangerous in any way and how can we prevent it from starting?

A: You have done a great job describing an organism that is similar to fungus, but it has a mobile stage like an amoeba. It is called a slime mold. There are several kinds, but the common one on bark mulch is called vomit slime mold, because it looks like a dog got sick in your flower bed.

It is in your flower bed all the time, decaying the bark mulch as a fungus would, but it eventually develops into a large mass that has no internal cell walls. It is filled with cell nucleus masses. It slowly moves around but then, as you saw, it can overnight develop into a dried, foamlike mass that is easy to remove. This dried-up stage is similar to the mushroom form of a fungus; it is releasing spores that will start new slime mold colonies in the mulch.

There is nothing harmful about the slime mold except its appearance. Covering it with bark mulch whenever you find it will help to prevent it from spreading by moving or by releasing spores.

E-mail questions to Jeff Rugg at info@greenernews.com.

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Formica offers formidable array of kitchen options

By Linda Pescatore
COPLEY NEWS SERVICE

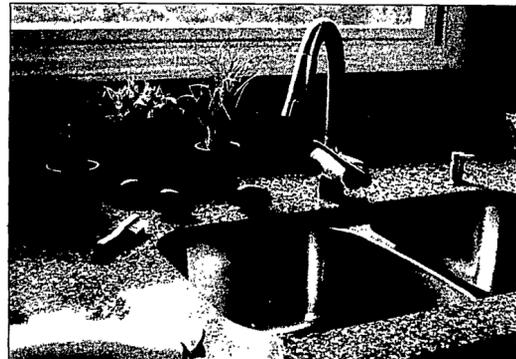
You don't have to tell anyone it's Formica.

The company known for once-ubiquitous laminate coun-

HOME ZONE

tertops may lack snob appeal these days, but it doesn't lack selection for kitchen and bath surfaces.

For example, Formica's granite- and marble-look counter-tops come in a dozen shades, and they're not a flat imitation of stone, but a deep, natural-looking aggregate that includes 93 percent quartz, according to spokesman Bill Roush. Polymers make up the remaining 7 percent, and the result is a



durable, nonporous surface that, unlike natural granite, doesn't require sealing, buffing or polishing, according to Roush.

The pattern choices run the gamut from the light-hued Raw

Silk to the dramatic Black Andes, with rich golds, greens, blues and browns in between.

And Formica isn't just for countertops. In one very up-to-date application, metal laminate

panels in Goldtone Crush line one wall of a Zen-like bathroom. Contrasted against dark wood accessories, and opposing white walls, white tile floor and white towels, the gold is not garish but soft and spa-like, making for an inviting retreat that's easy to duplicate.

Rounding out the options are acres of laminates, scores of solid surfacing selections and 30 patterns of wood veneers - not exactly natural wood, but a "premium wood surfacing" made from real wood - in choices from the traditional to the off-beat. Formica's wood veneers include the expected oak, cherry and walnut, but you will also find exotic woods, like the jangly White Ice Tree or the striped Colour Wood. They're not run-of-the-mill wood veneers.

Don't Curb the Curb Appeal

Call them superficial, but it's the skin-deep improvements you make to your house that draw the attention of guests, potential buyers and your own family.

Curb appeal, as real estate pros refer to it, communicates that the owners take pride in their home. A pergola with personality, a charming chimney, a whimsical walkway - these thoughtful but often inexpensive details break your home out of cookie-cutter mode. Ironically, once it's uniquely your own, your home is more appealing to everyone else - especially buyers.

But if you lack the creativity to conceive of, say, a copper downspout in the shape of an open-mouthed fish, the "Curb Appeal

See Home, page 25

New device is space-conscious and functional

By Christine Brun
COPLEY NEWS SERVICE

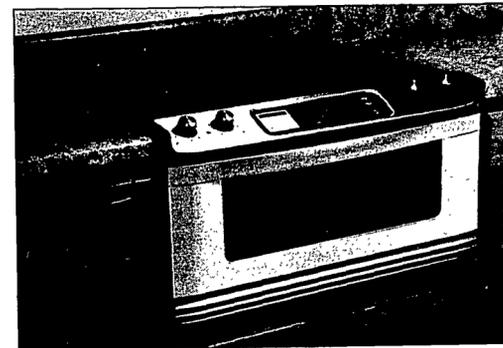
Appliance manufacturers seem to be getting the message about compact space and universal design. If you are planning a kitchen remodel in a

SMALL SPACES

very tight space or designing an accessible kitchen, this announcement about a new appliance will be good news.

Designers at Sharp Electronics Corp. have created the Cooktop-Microwave Drawer combination. This new product allows for a glass ceramic electric cooktop and a pullout microwave in only 30 inches of space. What does that do for your design concept? A lot.

Perhaps most importantly, the two-in-one concept eliminates steps between cooking appliances. Imagine melting butter in the microwave drawer that is right below your cooktop or steaming vegetables down below as you fry a pork chop on top. With just a



few additional steps, the entire meal can be ready to serve.

The front-mounted knob-style controls are easy to see and clean, and the microwave drawer opens with the touch of a button. This is important for seniors who might have hand impairments and sight problems.

Whether you are designing a kitchen in a new situation or remodeling an older kitchen, this product offers easy under-counter installation without additional trim or venting, which can be expensive or

even impossible to create. Combine the unit with a pot drawer or deep pullout for other countertop appliances such as a blender, food processor or mixer to be stashed away from sight. Keeping a clean counter is critical if you only have 2 or 3 feet of it in the first place.

For an accessible kitchen, lower the entire unit to a 30-inch height to make cooking possible and comfortable for someone in a wheelchair. Then plan for a wall oven to be mounted at 36 inches above

the floor, which is regular counter height. This would allow for the three typical cooking appliances in any kitchen to be in one spot.

For a person in a wheelchair, this means logical and functional design within a 60-inch length of wall. With a refrigerator on the opposite wall and a sink, the entire kitchen would be possible within just a few feet. An under-the-counter washer/dryer combo is also a possibility.

This invention is the latest in the appliances-in-a-drawer concept. Dishwasher drawers that allow for energy-efficient small loads are also available. Refrigerator and freezer drawers can be inserted into the tiniest kitchen in order to satisfy basic kitchen needs.

The design of such appliances demonstrates an increased awareness of how people really use their kitchens. The compact designs that roll out are also looking at the demographics of an aging population with reduced needs in shrinking space. A significant number of baby

boomers will move out of their larger family homes into smaller places. Smart developers who build for this population will emphasize the realistic use of space and easy function.

When major manufacturers design with small-space function and accessible design in mind, they nearly always deliver many other terrific residual benefits to the public. Imagine using this unit in a family room or basement playroom. The combination is also perfect for a granny flat or small guest suite where more elaborate meals requiring an oven might be cooked in the main kitchen.

Christine Brun, ASID, is a San Diego-based interior designer and the author of "Big Ideas for Small Spaces." Send questions and comments to her by e-mail at cbaintdes@hotmail.com or to Copley News Service, P.O. Box 120190, San Diego, CA 92112.

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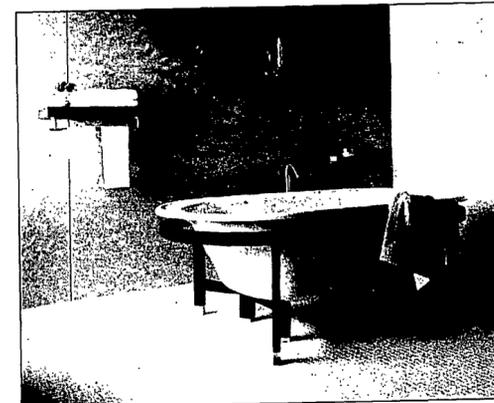
continued from page 24

Idea Book" by Mary Ellen Polson (Taunton Press; \$20) can help. That decorative detail is found on page 85.

Each of the book's five main chapters - "Style on the Outside," "Exterior Appearances," "The Entry," "The Approach" and "Supporting Players" - focuses on a different aspect of the home, breaking down features such as the roof, garage or front door in detail, examining ways to personalize not just the door, but the door handle (how about a carved bone or a cast metal dragon) and hinges (add drama with exaggerated straps).

With a mix of styles that includes cottage, Mediterranean, Victorian and contemporary, no single look predominates; the author's tips are aimed at reinforcing whatever style your home already has.

Clear color photos brighten each of the book's 165 pages. Scattered throughout the book are boxes that survey topics like adding a fountain or choices in roofing materials. The book isn't heavy on how-to or buying guides, but, as an idea generator, it's an excellent, well-balanced resource.



Betcha Wanna Beach House

Odds are good that the decor you desire evokes simple days spent barefoot at a beach house.

Thirty-three percent of home dwellers prefer the casual elegance of beach house style, according to a recent survey by Caravan Research for discount retailer T.J. Maxx.

Closely related to cottage or nautical themes, beach house style uses natural materials in sun-bleached colors. Staples include sheer window treatments, seashell accents or sailboat prints, and wide-planked painted or distressed wood

floors covered by knobby cotton throw rugs.

Don't overdo the cool seaside colors, however. Designers at T.J. Maxx recommend contrasting soft sea foam blue bathroom walls with punchy coral embroidered towels, for example. Or, in the bedroom, top a blue quilt with a red waffle blanket.

Linda Pescatore is an editor with Copley News Service and a former magazine writer and newspaper editor. E-mail linda.pescatore@copleynews.com.

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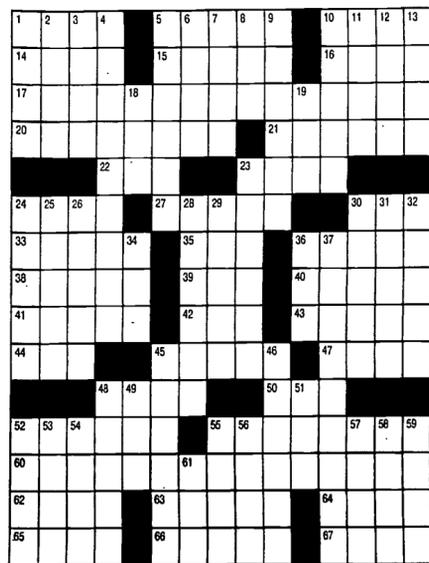
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By Charles Preston

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Last Week's Puzzle Answers



This Week's Winner is...

1st Helen Dorian
2nd Lorraine Truskolaski

Send your answers to the editor: Andrew Schneider
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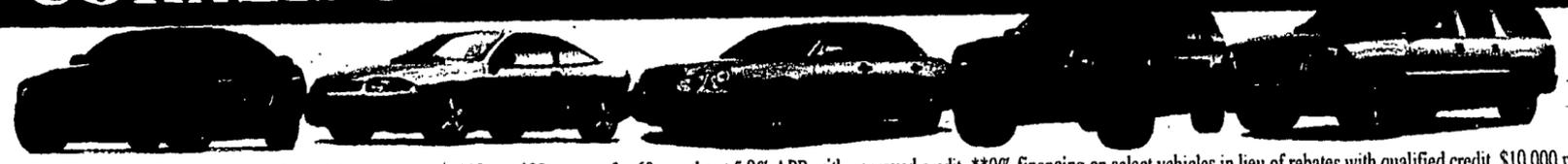
BRING CURRENT:

- PAYCHECK STUB
- HOME PHONE BLLL
- DRIVER'S LICENSE

VEHICLES AVAILABLE (AT TIME OF PRINT)	
4-DOOR SEDANS 374 AVAILABLE	'00-'05
SPORT UTILITIES 104 AVAILABLE	'99-'05
MINI VANS 128 AVAILABLE	'99-'05
CONVERTIBLE SPORT CARS 34 AVAILABLE	'99-'05

NEW SHIPMENTS OF VEHICLES ARRIVING DAILY

CORNER OF TOUHY/MILWAUKEE IN NILES!



*\$19 denotes a down payment. Example \$5019 - \$19 down, finance \$5000 pay \$99 per mo. for 60 months at 5.9% APR with approved credit. **0% financing on select vehicles in lieu of rebates with qualified credit, \$10,000 max amount financed. ***Guaranteed financing based on longevity. Min. 3 years continuous employment. 1/3 down payment may be required. Fraudulent applications will not be considered.

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DAYS ONLY!!!

WEDNESDAY JULY 26th 9am-9pm	THURSDAY JULY 27th 9am-9pm	FRIDAY JULY 28th 9am-9pm	SATURDAY JULY 29th 9am-6pm
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Call: **1-800-749-6796**

