

THE BUGLE

DECEMBER 28, 2006

OUR VILLAGE, OUR NEWS

VOL. 50 NO. 32

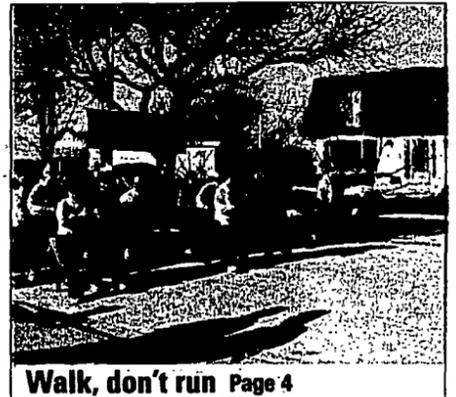


Grand Opening

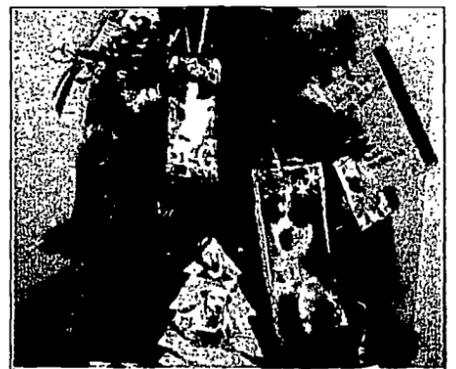
Morton Grove Welcomes Richwell Market, Dempster St.'s newest Asian market. - Published February 2.



Blase arrested Page 6



Walk, don't run Page 4



A pet wish list Pet Stop, Page 12

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JANUARY

Par-King Miniature Golf Course in Morton Grove Demolished

The popular Par-King miniature golf course that has been located on Dempster St. in Morton Grove for several years was demolished. Some of the classic pieces and figures were moved to the Par-King golf course in Lincolnshire. The village is working with the developer to fill the vacancy.

-Published January 12

Park Ridge Park Board Discusses Nepotism Policy

The Park Ridge Park Board thoroughly discussed the consideration of having a nepotism policy that would prevent two family members working together at the park district, one higher on the chain of command than the other.

The discussion was started because former Olympian David Santee expressed the possibility of wanting to become a staff member as a skating instructor, where his brother, Jim Santee, is the facilities coordinator.

-Published January 12

Fifth Third Bank robbed by man in his 20s

A man in his 20s robbed the Fifth Third Bank at the 5900 block of Touhy. The man handed the teller a note that read, "This is a robbery. My case is a bomb that could kill everyone in this bank..." The teller grabbed stacks of money and handed them over to the robber.

-Published January 12

Village of Niles to present Milwaukee Ave. plan

A formal presentation of the Milwaukee Ave. Corridor Study and Plan is slated for Jan.

24. The Milwaukee Ave. plan includes functional and aesthetic improvements to urban character, traffic and circulation, transit, streetscape, redevelopment opportunities, pedestrian environment and more. The study was funded by a grant from the Regional Transportation Authority.

-Published January 19

Muslim Community Center must find alternate site for prayer

The Village of Morton Grove is seeking an alternate site for prayer services of the Muslim

Continued on page 2

Continued from page 1

Community Center during construction. A special use permit states that the center is not allowed to hold prayer services at the site while construction going on. Resident Pat Kansoer believes the village was "mistaken in issuing the special use permit."

-Published January 19

Woman Injured in two car accident in Morton Grove

A 32-year-old Algonquin woman was injured in an accident involving two vehicles on Dempster St. in Morton Grove. The woman was struck by a 64-year-old Northbrook man who was pulling out of the private driveway of the Dunkin' Donuts near Hollywood Video. When the two cars struck, the woman's vehicle crossed over traffic and ended up on the sidewalk.

-Published January 26



Two students from Maine South High School were injured in a vehicle accident at Dee Rd. and Devon Ave. - Published January 26

Petitions filed by Niles residents to put off track betting referendum question on ballot short 700 signatures: Says Village of Niles

Village of Niles determined that petitions filed by Niles resident Morgan Dubiel to put a

referendum question on the ballot asking residents if they want an off-track betting parlor in Niles were short 700 signatures. The village approved the off track betting site, but Dubiel and other organizers still wanted the question to appear on the ballot so residents could voice their opinions on the issue.

-Published January 26

Culver School secretaries disappointed principal Nicholson not one of five finalists for new superintendent

Niles Elementary School, Dist 71 secretaries stood by Culver Principal Alexandra Nicholson, who applied to become the new superintendent to replace Supt. Eugene Zalewski. The secretaries wrote a letter to the district's search firm expressing that many staff members believe Nicholson was the right person for the job and they were disappointed to hear that she

wasn't one of the five finalists.

-Published January 26

Maine South students injured in car accident, one in critical care

Two students from Maine South High School were injured in a vehicle accident at Dee Rd. and Devon Ave. "Jaws of Life" equipment extricated the Park Ridge girls from the jeep. One of the girls was seriously injured and in critical care at Lutheran General Hospital.

-Published January 26

FEBRUARY

Off track betting opponents in Niles file lawsuit

Off Track Betting opponents filed a lawsuit in Cook County Court, arguing that the village had illegally rendered judgment that their petitions were invalid and refused to forward them to the Cook County Clerk's office. "To protect the referendum we had to file a lawsuit," stated Resident Morgan Dubiel.

The village hired an independent attorney who specializes in electoral law to represent them in court.

-Published February 2

Businessman in Morton Grove ordered to pay \$50,000 to Polish immigrants after fraudulent activities

A Morton Grove businessman was ordered to pay more than \$50,000 to Polish immigrants in a fraud settlement for falsely posing as an attorney. He is still in business, but is no longer able to charge attorney fees or give legal advice. A lawsuit was filed in September of 2005. The man did not follow through with his services that he promised his customers, such as obtaining a green card and a work permit.

-Published February 2

Village of Niles may see new ticket amnesty policy

The Village of Niles is considering a new ticket amnesty policy that would grant those with outstanding ticket violations a 50 percent break in their fines if they step forward and pay their fines. If they don't come forward and pay, there may be consequences. Niles has \$1,118,640 in uncollected fines from resident parking violators since December 2000.

-Published February 2

Park Ridge Park District does not change Nepotism policy for olympic figure skater Jim Santee

Park Ridge Park District Commissioners declined to change their nepotism policy for Jim Santee, the Olympic figure skater who wanted to be an ice skating instructor at the Park Ridge Park District where his brother is a facilities manager. "There wasn't any overwhelming rationale to make any changes," said Commissioner Dick Barton.

-Published February 9

Advisory referendum on Niles OTB will appear on ballot, village of Niles loses in court

The Village of Niles lost the off track betting lawsuit and the judge ruled that an advisory referendum on off track betting in Niles will appear on the March 21 primary ballot. The judge said that the issue dealt with a gray area of the law, but the petitions were in apparent conformity with the electoral code.

-Published February 16

Village of Niles requests new judge, OTB referendum lawsuit hearing postponed

An off track betting referendum lawsuit hearing was delayed, because the Village of Niles asked for a new judge. A spokesperson of the Niles 986, who petitioned for the question to appear on the ballot, said that the village asked for a new judge because the current judge has friends in Niles. The village said the petitions are "ambiguous."

-Published February 9

Morton Grove says it's time to move forward with Lehigh-Ferris TIF development

The village of Morton Grove held a special meeting to provide information on the Lehigh-Ferris TIF and an update on redevelopment projects. Community and Economic Director Bill Neundorff said, "It's time to start moving forward." For some time, the village has been consumed with litigation issues.

-Published February 9

Maine Township High School Dist. 207 Welcomes Dr. Joel Morris As New Superintendent

Dr. Joel Morris, who was once the asst. supt. for curriculum, was named Maine Township High School Dist. 207's new superintendent. Morris will take the place of Dr. Steven Snider, who is retiring after eleven years with Dist. 207. The search firm, Hazard, Young and Attea of Glenview was used in the selection process.

-Published February 16

Dan DiMaria, Niles Township Committeeman Candidate booted off the ballot

Niles Township Committeeman Candidate, Dan DiMaria, was booted from the ballot by an electoral board that was "appalled by the behavior of the candidate." DiMaria had a circulator gather signatures for his candidacy and later he had some blank spots improperly filled in with extra signatures.

-Published February 16

Johnson and Bell of Chicago to serve as Litigation Counsel, lawsuit between Muslim Community Center and Morton Grove

The village announced that Johnson and Bell of Chicago was selected to serve as special litigation counsel regarding the lawsuit filed by the Muslim Community Center in Morton Grove. The lawsuit is over the ownership of the Capulina Right of Way, whether the MCC owns the property or the village owns it. The village is preparing a response.

-Published February 23

Niles OTB begins construction

Construction of the new off track betting facility near Golf Mill in Niles kicked-off the same week as the advisory referendum victory by residents in the county court. The Bugle received a tour of the building under construction and CEO Bob Bilocerkowycz shared his excitement about the special day. The facility will be a state of the art facility.

-Published February 23

Lutheran General Hospital encourages minorities to play significant role in construction of new bed tower

A minority contracting fair for the new bed tower project at Lutheran General Hospital in Park Ridge was recently held. The goal of the event was to provide minority and women-based contractors and material suppliers with the opportunity to play a significant part in the construction of the hospital's new bed tower. The event promoted supplier diversity.

-Published February 23

MARCH

Raymond Costa to Lead Skokie-Morton Grove School Dist. 69

Culver School District named Raymond Costa its new superintendent to take the place of retiring superintendent Eugene Zalewski. Costa, the business manager for Skokie-Morton Grove School Dist. 69, said he wasn't even looking for a new job but Zalewski encouraged him to apply. Costa believes

Continued on page 4

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Continued from page 3
community outreach is extremely important.
-Published March 2

Digital information sign being installed next to Niles Police Department

Workers began installing a digital information sign located right next to the Niles Police Department. This sign will inform people about traffic situations and various upcoming community events. The digital sign, located on Milwaukee Ave., a very busy street, is a type of technology that is rather new to the area.
-Published March 2

Morton Grove Clerk urges residents to become familiar with new voting rules

New voting procedures and rules are in place for the primaries and Morton Grove Village Clerk Carol Fritzhall is encouraging Morton Grove voters to familiarize themselves with the changes. The Cook County Clerk also announced that his office is looking for hundreds of election judges.
-Published March 2

Offender showed employee chrome revolver and committed armed robbery at JP Cleaners in Park Ridge

An armed robbery occurred at the JP Cleaners on N. Northwest Hwy in Park Ridge. Police said the lone employee on-duty reported that he had been robbed at about 7:10 p.m. that evening. The offender showed the employee a chrome revolver. After receiving about \$200, the offender fled on foot north-bound toward Oakton St. The Park Ridge detective division is currently investigating the crime.
-Published March 9



The 19th annual Morton Grove Prairie View 5K event attracted more than 300 participants.
-Published April 13

Senators pass bill making consolidation of school districts easier

A bill making it easier for school districts to consolidate and save administrative costs and provide increased education opportunities for students was passed by senators in an unanimous vote on March 2. This bill allows school districts that want to merge to do so and those that want to remain independent to do so. A downside is that there may be less one on one rapport, according to Chief of Staff at Senator Lou Lang's office.
-Published March 9

Niles Public Works uses 200 tons of salt in snow fall

About two inches of snow fell on houses, streets and forest preserves and it was just the

type of snow that March is known for, the wet, heavy type of snow. During the snowfall in Niles, Public Works used about 200 tons of salt. Morton Grove Public Works said they used about 100 tons of salt and are at about 75% of their quota.
-Published March 9

Rolling Meadows man arrested by Morton Grove Police for local bank robbery

The Morton Grove Police arrested a 39-year-old Rolling Meadows man for robbing a local bank on March 9. The man walked up to a teller and handed her a note declaring a robbery. After obtaining \$6,000 in cash the man fled off in a white van. The man faces up to 20 years of prison time.
-Published March 16

Shermer Park in Niles acquired by Jewish federation

The Jewish Federation acquired a parcel of land known as Shermer Park. The Circuit Court of Cook County approved this transaction on March 2. "It is the obligation of the Jews in the Jewish Community to protect and preserve the graves," said Joel Schatz, representing the Jewish Federation. "We certainly believe there are graves there." The federation has an extensive volunteer network that will preserve and maintain the site.
-Published March 16

A Niles Police officer is recovering from injuries she received after she lost control of her squad car and spun into the westbound lanes. The officer was driving eastbound on Dempster St. in response to a medical emergency call a little after midnight on March 20 and when she attempted to change lanes her vehicle lost control. The squad car collided with a Toyota Corolla driven by a Skokie man.
-Published March 23

Man arrested for two armed robberies, one count attempted armed robbery

A Niles man, 17, was arrested for two armed robberies and one attempted armed robbery that took place recently in Niles and Park Ridge. The man was charged with one count of attempted armed robbery at Mario Cleaners, one count of Armed Robbery at VideoPol and one count of Armed Robbery at JP Cleaners. He was arrested at Portillo's on Dempster St.
-Published March 23

Niles considers changing current ticket amnesty ordinance

The Village of Niles was expected to consider changing their current ticket amnesty ordinance at the village board meeting on March 28. Village Attorney Joseph Annunzio said that it is time that they start enforcing the ordinance that allows the village to boot cars after 10 or more tickets. Park Ridge has an aggressive system in place. The city has had a booting policy since 1981.
-Published March 30

Construction of OTB in Niles ahead of schedule

Lucky MaGees, off track betting facility, may open in Niles earlier than expected. Construction is moving forward at a "rapid pace," significantly faster than anticipated. CEO of Intertrack Partners, Bob Bilocerowycz thanked the "silent majority" who spoke out and voted on Election Day in support of the OTB in Niles.
-Published March 30

Voters Support Skokie School Dist. 69 referendum to increase taxes

The sweet smell of victory is circulating Skokie School Dist. 69, On Election Day, March 21, voters went to the polls and 593

Sex offender arrested for being at Nelson School in Niles

A 45-year-old Lombard sex offender was arrested over the weekend and charged with being a registered sex offender within a school zone in early February at Niles' Nelson School. The man was recognized by a woman who recognized him and knew that he was a sex offender. He was at the school with his girlfriend and when asked what he was doing there he responded that he had permission from his probation officer to visit the school for a meeting regarding his girlfriend's daughter.
-Published March 16

Niles residents strongly support planned OTB in Niles; 2,400 to 1,900 in favor

Niles residents voted strongly in favor of a planned off-track betting (OTB) parlor at Golf Mill in Niles. The vote offered affirmation to the Niles' leaders who have firmly backed the project since it was first approved in 2005. The vote was 2,400 to 1,900 in favor with most precincts reporting Tuesday night. Official votes were not available at press time.
-Published March 23

Niles Police officer suffers injuries following car accident

voted in favor of a referendum to increase taxes and 446 voted in opposition of this. As a result, the district will be able to restore various programs that were previously cut and teaching positions that had been eliminated. The referendum was for 73 cents per \$100 assessed valuation, or \$428 per year on a \$350,000 home.
-Published March 30

APRIL

Niles Village board agrees to three-month ticket amnesty program

The Village of Niles Board agreed to a three-month ticket amnesty program. The program will allow those with outstanding parking tickets to pay the original balance of the ticket without penalties. The village is owed more than 1 million dollars in 5,300 outstanding tickets.
-Published April 6

Unified development code may be created for Village of Morton Grove

Morton Grove is considering the option of creating a unified development code in the village in order to make obtaining village code compliance information more customer friendly. The code, which has not yet come before the village board, would unify sections regarding development through a single land use ordinance.
-Published April 6

100 Illinois communities participate in public awareness of underage drinking

One hundred communities in Illinois participate in a nation-wide effort to raise public awareness about the dangers of underage drinking. The

national event is called "One Night, One Mic, One Hundred Meetings Day. In Park Ridge, two town hall meetings were held and there was a meeting held at the Teen Center in Des Plaines as well.
-Published April 6

Three men stole \$200,000 in jewelry from out of state salesmen

Three men stole about \$200,000 worth of jewelry from two out of state salesmen. The incident happened at the Days Inn parking lot at Touhy Ave. The salesmen turned over three briefcases of jewelry samples as a result of the men threatening to shoot the victims, according to Niles Police. The offenders fled away in a blue mini van.
-Published April 6

300 walkers, runners participate in Morton Grove Prairie View 5K Event

The 19th annual Morton Grove Prairie View 5K event attracted more than 300 participants. The nice weather helped make the event a "tremendous success." The top three in each category received a medal and there was a special awards ceremony.
-Published April 13

Jim Santee resigns from Park Ridge Park District, takes position in Minnesota

Jim Santee is resigning from the Park Ridge Park District and taking a position as executive director for the professional skating association in Minnesota. Santee, the facilities coordinator, has worked for the park district for eleven years. Although he will miss Park Ridge, he said he couldn't pass up the wonderful opportunity.
-Published April 20

Joint task force fights street crime during spring break

During the spring break, local police departments were busy fighting street crime. A street crime suppression unit that involved Niles, Morton Grove, Park Ridge, Glenview and Cook County were out on the streets fighting crime during the week-long vacation. A warrant arrest, aggravated battery, marijuana and other arrests were made during this time.
-Published April 13

J.C. Penney files lawsuit, attempts to stop the Niles OTB development

J.C. Penney filed a lawsuit to attempt to stop the Niles OTB from being developed. "We're not commenting on any of the specifics," said Tim Lyons, a spokesperson for JC Penney. "The court filings speak for themselves." Village of Niles Joseph Annunzio said that JC Penney was attempting to get a restraining order to stop the OTB from being developed.
-Published April 20

Morton Grove introduces new animal control ordinance

The Village of Morton Grove Board of Trustees presented the first reading of an amendment to the village's animal control ordinance. Resident Sherwin Dubren said the ordinance does not protect residents from a dog attack. The ordinance states that if the chief of police declares an animal to be vicious, the animal's owner will pay a \$500 public safety fee.
-Published April 20



Children at the Niles Park District had a chance to visit with the Easter bunny, during one of the District's many holiday programs.
-Published April 6

Niles Fire Chief Kinowski will retire after 48 years of service

Niles Fire Chief Harry Kinowski announced his retirement that will be effective Sept. 1. "He gave 48 years of great service to the village and contributed to the overall success of our fire department," said Niles Mayor Nicholas Blase. Kinowski played a crucial role in the founding of NIPSTA.
-Published April 27

OTB parlor opened this week in Niles

Niles OTB parlor opened this

week and a grand opening with an official ribbon-cutting will take place next week. CEO Bob Bilocerowycz said that he hopes that Lucky Magee's will help to revitalize Golf Mill Mall.
-Published April 27

Niles Village Trustee Przybylo concerned about the proposed 1 percent excise tax

Village of Niles Trustee Andrew Przybylo sent a memo to Mayor Nicholas Blase expressing his concerns regarding the proposed 1 percent excise tax for prepared food.
Continued on page 6

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Blase leaves court

In this rendering Niles Mayor Nicholas B. Blase leaves court after pleading not guilty to federal corruption charges. The mayor's case is still on-going. - Published June 15

Continued from page 5
and beverages. He said that the excise tax as it is applied to large sales will have a negative impact on sales in Niles. He said that banquets should be exempt from this excise tax.
-Published April 27

MAY

Six-month moratorium on condominium conversions implemented

The Village of Niles has implemented a six-month moratorium on converting apartments to condominiums. During the six-month moratorium the village will draft an ordinance pertaining to this process. Community Development Director Chuck Ostman said it's popular for developers and apartment owners to convert their apartments to condominiums.
-Published May 4

Pat Kansoer running for Cook County Commissioner

Republican Pat Kansoer, a vocal Morton Grove resident announced he is running for Cook County Commissioner in the 13th district. "A strong voice, a clear choice and no

baloney" is Kansoer's slogan. He has a five point program to "fix Cook County government."
-Published May 4

Prairie View Park to be first park 100% handicapped accessible

Prairie View in Morton Grove becomes the site of the first completely accessible playground. The new park, which is 50% completed, is 100% handicapped accessible. It appears that the new Prairie View Park is the park in Illinois to be 100% handicapped accessible. State Rep. John D'Amico of the 15th district helped make the park a reality.
-Published May 4

Mayor of Niles Nicholas Blase questions vote totals for Niles OTB referendum

Mayor of Niles Nicholas Blase sent a letter to the Cook County Clerk's Office asking them to investigate why 13 precincts had low or no vote totals for the Niles OTB referendum. The mayor's office received a number of complaints from citizens claiming there are discrepancies in the totals.
-Published May 11

Joyce Carmichael to retire from Park Ridge Park District Board

Joyce Carmichael announced that she is resigning from the Park Ridge Park District Board. She said that she has enjoyed her year on the park board but her family and work commitments are making it hard for her to give her all to the board. The Park District is looking to fill the vacancy.
-Published May 11

Many headed to the Races for Niles' first Kentucky Derby

Niles experienced its first Kentucky Derby. A big crowd came out to Lucky Magees, the new OTB site in town, in order to watch the big horse race. The 600 plus seat facility was sold out with standing room only and the "Wager and Go" lines were out the door.
-Published May 11

Dist. 207 administration recommends canine drug detection team

Maine Township High School Dist. 207 administration will make a recommendation to

the board of education trustees on June 5 about whether to implement a canine drug detection team. Supt. Steven Snider said that the canine drug detection teams are being used in schools as a tool to detect drug usage. Over the past 20 years, on a five year basis, they have been surveying the students about drug/alcohol usage.
-Published May 18

Ticket amnesty program will be in place in Niles for two months

The Village of Niles will begin booting vehicles after ten or more tickets after the amnesty program is over. The village said they will use all legal means in order to make sure that parking tickets are paid. The ticket amnesty program will last for two months.
-Published May 18

Maine South High School Constitution Team competed in Washington DC

Members of the Maine South High School Constitution Team visited Washington D.C. and met with Senators Obama and Clinton. They were participating in the national Constitution finals. They took home the best

unit award and they placed somewhere between 13 to 20 out of the 51 teams competing.
-Published May 18

New State law to allow photo enforcement at railroad crossings starting Jan 1, 2007

A new state law will allow local governments the ability to use photo enforcement at railroad crossings. Niles Police Chief Dean Strzelecki said he is in strong support of this new law. Violators of the new law will receive a \$250 fine or 25 hours of community service for a first offense. The new law will be in effect on Jan 1, 2007.
-Published May 25

Niles Village Board will review petition for proposed retail center similar to Shops of Niles

The Niles Village Board was expected to review a petition for a referral for a one-story retail center on Milwaukee Ave. The proposed retail center is similar in size to the Shops of Niles. If approved, it will be located on Milwaukee Ave. between Touhy and Harts.
-Published May 25

Niles North High School receives National History Day honor

Niles North High School was named "National History Day Illinois School of the Year." They received this title during the annual Illinois History Expo on May 3 that took place in Springfield.
-Published May 25

JUNE

Niles and Morton Grove respond to house fire that caused \$200,000 in damage

Morton Grove and Niles Fire Departments responded to a reported house fire at 8900 Parkside that occurred on May 26. The house fire caused \$200,000 in damage. There were no residents or firefighters who were reported injured. The cause of the fire is under investigation.
-Published June 1

Residents come together at Niles Waterfall to celebrate Memorial Day

A crowd gathered at the Niles waterfall, next to the Abe Lincoln statue, to honor the fallen soldiers at the Niles Memorial Day celebration on Monday, May 29. The celebration included a few speeches, a rifle firing, a wreath presentation and more. VFW Commander Bette Hortsman was the Master of Ceremonies.
-Published June 1

Niles OTB parlor ballots recounted by Cook County Clerk's Office

The Cook County Clerk's Office recounted the ballots for the Niles off track betting parlor referendum question and changed the vote totals. The recount was spurred by residents who were concerned with the "discrepancies."
-Published June 1

FBI alleges Niles Mayor Nicholas Blase took bribes

The Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI) is alleging that Niles Mayor Nicholas Blase took bribes. The FBI is conducting a probe into the relationship between Blase and a Wheeling insurance firm, alleging they were involved in bribes and extortion. Blase flatly denied the allegations.

Niles receives \$820,000 grant for Milwaukee Ave. corridor project

The Village of Niles is to receive a \$820,000 Illinois Transportation Enhancement Program Grant that will go toward Milwaukee Ave. Corridor Improvements. The village requested about \$1.8 million for the beautification of Milwaukee Ave., but they are happy with whatever financial assistance they receive.
-Published June 8

Body found on open field in Niles, man suffered massive heart attack

The body of a Niles resident, 52, was found in an open field east of the new Wal-Mart on Golf Road on May 31. Two people were walking by when they saw the body of the man who suffered a massive heart attack. The man was a resident of Hampton Plaza, a nursing and rehabilitation center.
-Published June 8

Mayor Nicholas Blase arrested on birthday, one count of mail fraud

On his birthday, Niles Mayor Nicholas Blase was arrested in his home and charged with compelling business owners to purchase insurance through a specific company that kicked back a portion of commissions to him. Blase was charged with one count of mail fraud, a crime that is punishable by 20 years in prison and a \$250,000 fine.
-Published June 15

Glenview Man arrested for armed robbery at Morton Grove gas station

A 27-year-old Glenview man was arrested by Morton Grove Police and charged with armed robbery. He committed the armed robbery at the Mobil gas station on Golf Road on May 21 and he attempted an armed robbery at the same location on May 18. The man also committed a similar robbery at a 7-11 in Chicago.
-Published June 15

Family of Mayor Nicholas Blase stands by him

The family of Mayor Nicholas Blase is standing behind him. "We stand behind him and give him our

complete support and love," said Nick Beyer, Blase's grandson. "We felt good once he was home. We have a strong bond." Beyer said that Blase plans to fight the charges.
-Published June 15

New 12-screen movie theatre coming to Golf Mill in Niles

Kerasotes will open a new 12 screen movie theatre at Golf Mill this November. Dean Kerasotes, chief operating officer, said that construction is going smoothly and the walls are up. "The building will be spectacular," said Kerasotes. The theatre features very comfortable seating and free re-fills of soda and popcorn.
-Published June 22

Contract agreement for Park Ridge Niles Dist. 64 teachers reached after 9 hours of discussion

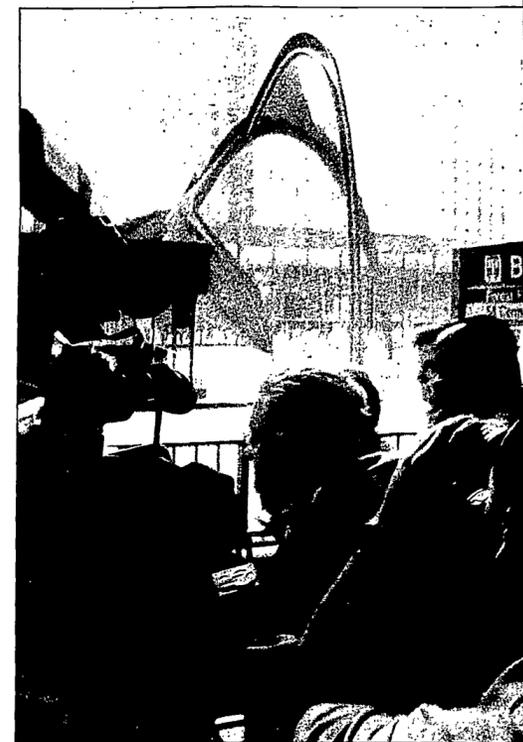
Park Ridge-Niles Dist. 64 reached an agreement with its teachers for a new three-year contract at 4 a.m. on June 2, after nine straight hours of discussion. The contract includes a three percent increase to the base salary plus a step increase based on a teacher's education and experience that averages about two percent.
-Published June 22

Canine crime fighter, Noah passes away; Niles Police mourn over his passing

Niles Police are mourning over the passing of their beloved canine and partner in crime, Noah. "We feel like we've lost an officer," said Niles Deputy Police Chief Charles Giovannelli. The 10-year-old Labrador retriever was diagnosed with cancer. Over the years, Noah has helped to apprehend a number of criminals and was used in narcotic searches.
-Published June 22

Mayor Nicholas Blase absent at his preliminary hearing

Mayor Nicholas Blase was not present at the preliminary hearing on June 21. The hearing started with a testimony by Ralph Renno, a special agent with the FBI of Chicago. At the conclusion of the hearing, Judge Mason said he still believes there is "probable cause" that Blase committed the crime.
-Published June 29



Niles Mayor Nicholas Blase leaves federal court surrounded by reporters. (Photo by Andrew Schneider)

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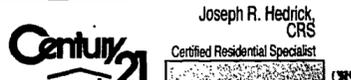
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Bring them home

It's Christmastime and the men and women of our Armed Services are scattered across the globe, including Iraq, a war some equate with another Vietnam. When my uncle was in Vietnam, "I'll be home for Christmas" was my grandmother's favorite song. She worried about him, not just that he was away from friends and family over the holidays, but the very real worry that he might be grievously injured or killed. Paraphrasing General Sherman, war is hell not just on soldiers, but on their families and loved ones.

The analogies drawn between Iraq and Vietnam are telling. The Tet Offensive of 1968 was expected to be the final push



Another Perspective
MORGAN DUBIEL | COLUMNIST

needed by Vietnamese communists to take over the country and "liberate" (enslave) South Vietnam. American military forces were on a relaxed footing. North Vietnam had announced in October that it would observe a seven-day truce from January 27 to February 3, 1968, in honor of the Tet holiday. Then, January

30 & 31, as news cameras rolled, a shocked America watched as U.S. installations were attacked in over 100 cities and towns, including the U.S. embassy in Saigon. At the embassy, the attack was repulsed with all but one of the attackers killed. The attack on the embassy was considered a "piddling platoon action", but Tet included the sieges of Khe Sanh and Hue. It also marked the psychological turning point of the war. The images made Americans doubt they could achieve anything like victory in Vietnam. A photo is worth a thousand words, but what if those words are lies?

The truth about Tet is that it was an unmitigated disaster, not for America, but for the communists. The American response was devastating. Over forty

See Perspective, page 10

Letters to the Editor

Trustee candidate decries bond vote

Dear Editor,
I was not surprised by the outcome of the vote taken on December 14 about the granting the museum the use of our bonding power to sell bonds worth \$30,000,000. The man in front of me turned and said "boy, did you call that one".

What I was surprised about was the lack of concern on the part of the "YES" voters for the future ramifications on the village.

I feel that several small concessions should have been negotiated by the board before this agreement was finalized.

The mayor said a number of times that the village staff worked hard and long on this issue. When asked if the village was going to be paid for these hours it then became an insignificant amount and was petty to ask for it.

The problem was not the amount of money. We could have chosen to somehow donate it back to the museum. The issue was, what about all the potential future cases. Could they ask the same thing of our village? Now we will have to bear these costs at our own expense like it or not.

The legal counsel that the village hired to research this issue for the village (paid for by the museum) stated that at this time there is no legal means for a future organization to sue Morton Grove to force us to give them the same "deal" that the museum got. However, precedent can be set at any time.

In the way that our society sues at a drop of a hat, what is to prevent any group of people from suing us? Even if it is a frivolous law suit we will have to hire a lawyer and pay legal fees to protect ourselves.

If the village would have required the museum to post a bond to protect us against this potential problem the precedent would have been set and we would have been protected. Now we are not.

I was not surprised that the museum did not step forward and offer this concession but I was extremely surprised that the village did not ask for it.

This issue of any 501c3 (tax exempt) organization coming out of the woodwork is the reason that the village of Skokie turned the museum down. Is there any way that any board member is gaining political capital from this issue? I wonder.

We have been told that this is an "economic engine" for Morton Grove. Huh? We have no hotels, no shopping centers and no restaurant anywhere near this museum.

I thought we could put a toll gate on Central Ave. going north off Dempster Street to raise money but I heard that the highway signage will direct people off at Old Orchard Rd. Thank goodness.

Skokie has no pain but all the gain on this issue. What was our village board thinking?

The entire give and take of this meeting was held strictly on the museum issue. The mayor stated this was not a "Jewish" issue. I totally agree.

The next day in the Tribune the mayor said that there is anti-Semitism around the world and again I totally agree! Some day humans may get past all bigotry issues. I hope so in my life time.

If the village had been protected from any future problems on this issue the vote would probably have been 6 to 0 for the bonding.

My hope for the immediate future is that our upcoming election in April is completely void of any public or privately whispered statements that the votes against this bonding issue be interpreted in any way other than a vote to protect the village. This would be a tragedy for the village and an insult to our Jewish neighbors that live in our community.

John Thull, Resident, trustee candidate

PR Chamber Prez lauds '06 achievements

Dear Editor,
This past year has been an excellent one for the Park Ridge Chamber of Commerce and for our business community. We have made real progress in several key areas. On a community wide basis, parts of the Uptown project have been completed adding new residents and retailers. The Prospect Avenue facade program is nearly complete. The store fronts are looking good and will add to the beauty of that business district.

Over 30,000 residents and visitors enjoyed a festive and

See Letters, page 10

Some nonprofits are targets for unscrupulous advisers

By Lynn O'Shaughnessy
COPLEY NEWS SERVICE

Just about every time I visit the grocery store, I am reminded this is the season of giving. Standing next to a big red kettle swinging from an old chain, a

MONEY & YOU

bell ringer from the Salvation Army wishes everyone a merry Christmas, even those who ignore his ringing entreaties to help.

Charities excel in cajoling us into reaching into our wallets to help the less fortunate, whether it's families trapped in the Darfur chaos or a brave child fighting a terminal diagnosis in an oncology ward. But charities also have an obligation to invest their hard-earned donations wisely. And I've seen no evidence that many nonprofits know how to invest even as well as my 14-year-old son.

As an occasional contributor to the Chronicle of Philanthropy, I've run across stunning examples of investment mismanagement. One board, for instance, directed \$500,000 into a noninterest-bearing account because they thought a charity's money couldn't generate interest.

An outside expert from BoardSource, which is devoted to helping nonprofits function better, convinced the board that generating a profit from their donations was not only legal, but an excellent goal.

When she paid a visit a few months later, however, the board had executed a hazardous U-turn and was talking about throwing a lot of cash at small speculative stocks.

Meanwhile, a well-known charity in San Diego, which once had \$150 million in assets, stupidly gambled it all on tech stocks and lost big-time. I'm sure its benefactors would have been livid if they knew how quickly their donations had shrunk to roughly \$50 million.

It's not hard to appreciate why so many charities fail to invest wisely. Often, nonprofits are created by passionate people who want to rescue rain forests, fight illiteracy or save blighted neighborhoods, but they've never even heard of modern portfolio theory. Many charitable boards wouldn't know where to begin to fashion investment portfolios that appropriately balance the finan-

cial risks they are willing to assume with the financial rewards they hope to gain.

For many board members, a charity's biggest risk is failing to raise enough money to meet their fundraising goals. Potentially losing this cash through boneheaded financial moves isn't something they dwell upon.

Seeking outside help may seem like the obvious answer for charities, but there are hidden hazards in following that course. Sandra Champion, who is principal of Champion Partners, a consulting firm in Savannah, Ga., that advises nonprofits on financial practices, says cultures clash when charitable-minded people meet in a conference room with financial experts.

Board members may be unwilling to admit they don't understand financial jargon, and experts may be unable to parse the concepts into understandable language. Champion once watched a board member lose it because he was so frustrated by the stilted language that the adviser embraced.

"A board member," she recalls, "got so angry that he turned red in the face and stood up and pounded the table at the jargon the adviser was using."

But if deciphering opaque terms was the extent of the problem, charities would be in far better financial shape. One of the biggest perils they face, however, is trusting people they shouldn't.

Many so-called financial experts, who want to sell investment products, see charities as irresistible suckers. Charities have cash and don't possess investment moxie, so it's easy to push ridiculous investments on them that would trigger peals of laughter from sophisticated institutional investors.

In one case shared by Scott Simon, an investment adviser at Prudent Investor Advisors in Camarillo, a stockbroker from a well-known brokerage firm portrayed himself as an institutional adviser and persuaded a charity with more than \$50 million to buy a complicated investment that was expensive and hard to ditch.

The board members were apparently impressed that the guy worked with institutional clients, but the broker never would have tried to pull this nonsense on knowledgeable investors.

Howard Street Inn objects to proposed smoking ordinance

Has say at Public Hearing Dec. 19

By Tracy Yoshida Gruen
STAFF WRITER

The Village of Niles held another public hearing on the drafted smoking ban ordinance on Tuesday, Dec. 19 and one restaurant owner in town was particularly concerned with the ordinance as written.

Currently, the drafted ordinance states that there will be no smoking in public places in the Village of Niles except for in bars or in the bar sec-

tions of restaurants that contain bars.

For places such as the Howard Street Inn in Niles, things aren't so cut and dry.

The Howard Street Inn restaurant has a bar in the same room as the restaurant so it's not easy to separate the two sections. Owner Ken Hoffman said that if the ordinance is passed as written then he would have to declare the Howard Street Inn as either a restaurant or a bar. If it is a restaurant, then smoking would not be permitted.

"It's a hard situation," said Hoffman. He said that over the years he has worked hard

at attracting families and both young and old to his restaurant. He is supportive of many little league teams and since Howard Street Inn is very family oriented he said he would have to claim it as a "restaurant" as opposed to a bar, and smoking would not be permitted. In that case, however, he says sales would be negatively affected because food sales are only 39% of his sales.

Hoffman said that the Village of Niles has always been good to him and he just hopes they keep things on an "even playing field" for businesses in town.

Multi-chamber networking breakfast Jan. 31

A Connect 7 multiple-chamber networking breakfast involving seven area chambers of commerce will take place on Wednesday, Jan. 31.

The Niles Chamber of Commerce, DBR, Glenview, Northfield, Skokie, Wilmette

and Winnetka Chambers will be involved in the multi-chamber networking breakfast.

The breakfast will take place at the North Shore Senior Center located at 161 Northfield Rd. in Northfield.

The event will feature a

progressive networking format and will begin with informal networking over a continental breakfast. Next, there will be two sessions in which participants will break off into small groups. Every individual will have the chance to present his/her business.

SEASON'S GREETINGS

This time of year makes us pause to remember all the good in the past and look forward to all the possibilities in the future.

May you have a wonderful 2007!

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Jeffrey Cardella
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Niles, IL 60714
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Nick Katsoulas
7627 N. Milwaukee
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When school board went Dutch, teachers paid up

By Malcolm Berko
COPLEY NEWS SERVICE

Dear Mr. Berko: I read your column about the 403(b) plan in Alachua County, Fla., school system and the ING/USA variable annuity. Please tell me about

TAKING STOCK

ING/USA and why their investments have done so badly. Could the teacher have selected the wrong funds? I need to know because I think my daughter's school system has this product. After nine years of teaching and investing, she's ahead by only \$3,644.05, and that's bad. I'm trying to give her some advice and, frankly, she'd be better off putting that money in a certificate of deposit.

B.W.
Syracuse, N.Y.

Dear B.W.: The ING Group NV (ING-\$43.83), headquartered in Amsterdam (that's Holland or as some say, the Netherlands), is a huge banking, insurance and

asset-management company with 60 million clients in 50 countries. In 2005, ING reported \$109 billion in revenues and some 50 percent of those derived from the sale of insurance products.

ING is one of the top five firms in the country serving the education market and has a local presence in 13,000 school districts representing 650,000 participants who have \$20 billion invested in its products. ING is a provider of choice for the higher education market in 42 states and their stock, in the past 10 years, has doubled.

Unfortunately, the teachers who participated in ING's retirement variable annuity programs haven't done as well as the stock. ING offers a choice of more than 80 mutual funds from which teachers can choose as investments in their 403(b) variable annuity retirement programs. Holy water, cow and mackerel - there isn't a stockbroker living who knows enough about 80 mutual funds to make an

informed investment decision!

But your daughter's school board believes that she and thousands of other teachers, employees and administrators have the knowledge to make that decision.

The problems with most 403(b) programs are:

■ Teachers do not have access to expert investment advice.

■ As a result, variable annuities have no incentive to select the best funds - such as Muhlenkamp, Stratton, Third Avenue, Delafield, Dodge & Cox, Bruce, Mairs & Power, etc. - which, by the way, won't share management fees with ING.

■ The commission costs (between 3 percent and 12 percent) and the annual administration costs (2 percent to 5 percent) are like necrotizing bacteria that cauterize the performance numbers of the funds.

■ For some reason, the powerful teachers unions are reluctant to help their members.

■ The enormous early-exit penalties can take a huge piece of flesh from the principal, destroying most of the gains.

■ Full disclosure problems: The necessary details are fully disclosed but in microscopic print and explained in stilted, cloudy language in mile-long run-on sentences.

Perspective

continued from page 8

thousand communist soldiers died. It eliminated the Viet Cong as an effective fighting force. During 1969 & 1970 Vietnamese communists continued to lose ground. Hanoi began to realize that militarily they could not win. But, the propaganda effect on American fighting ability was the real victory. Earle Wheeler, serving as Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, complained of "all the doom and gloom we see in the U.S. press" after Tet. General Westmorland wrote, "The war still could have been brought to a favorable end following the defeat of the enemy's Tet Offensive. But this was not to be. Press and television had created an aura, not of victory, but defeat." Sound familiar?

Then as now the press, not just anti-war, but anti-American in outlook, spun the truth to turn victory into defeat. Their sympathies lie not with their country, but with their ideology. A recent report stated that, "Roadside and other bomb attacks [in Iraq] 'are not aimed at killing U.S. soldiers,' but asserts the insurgents conduct the attacks for propaganda. 'They want those pictures to show up on TVs in America, and they use it to recruit on the Internet' It may be difficult for the average person to know exactly what the truth is, but it is not difficult to know the results of American defeat. What friend

would trust us or fear us, if we left Iraq as losers?

The real question for us, as Americans, is do we have the moral clarity, fortitude, and persistence to finish the job? Do we just quit when the going gets tough? What exactly do you think will happen when we run from Iraq? In Vietnam tens of thousands of our allies, most complete innocents, were killed by communist death squads. Hundreds of thousands were ripped from their families and sent to re-education camps for brainwashing. But, the Vietnamese communists' destructiveness was directed only at their own and ended at their border and coast.

Our enemies today are much different. Do you think you can reason with enemies who saw a living man's head off and broadcast it on television? Leaving Iraq ends nothing. A U.S. loss would embolden al Qaeda. They are madmen bent on destruction. What have they built or created of lasting value in the world? Nothing. They have sown destruction, devastation and death wherever they have a foothold. Do we really want to bring them home?

There would be little time for kisses, hugs and tears of joy if we send our troops home, tails tucked between their legs. This enemy would follow quickly on their heels seeking vengeance and death. The only option is victory and better to fight them there than here.

Letters

continued from page 8

successful Taste of Park Ridge in July. The planning for an even bigger, more family-friendly Taste is already underway.

Our Chamber enjoyed a year with positive cash flow. This was made possible, in part, by hosting several successful events, such as the June golf outing. Thanks are in order for Jim Waters of National City Bank and his Committee for a job well done.

The Chamber also added a Halloween themed event to our calendar. Not only did participants have a great time bowling, but the event was profitable for the Chamber. Personally, I hope this continues as an annual event enjoyed by more business owners and residents in the coming years.

Multi-chamber events are fast becoming big hits. Our Chamber staff worked hard with their counterparts to put

together successful events. We owe a special debt of gratitude to Rita McGovern, Executive Director of the Edison Park Chamber, for support of our golf outing and bowling events in which her members participated.

This year also saw further cooperation between the Chamber and the City as we mutually launched the "Shop Locally" campaign in May. If you've seen the yellow signs in retailer windows, you can thank Dominic Cimilluca of Dominic's Kitchen Store for getting the whole idea started. Special thanks go to Mayor Howard Frimark for his support of this campaign.

Cimilluca and a merchant committee also launched this fall's successful Winterfest. Just wait until next year for this event to really blossom!

I was very pleased with special efforts by some, especially the new Ambassadors program under JoAnn Arnswald of MB

Karen Anderson of Dental Auxiliary Placement Service and the Communications Committee for launching an impressive newsletter this summer. We will be expanding the distribution of this newsletter into the community at large in the coming months.

We've also managed to pass new bylaws to help modernize our procedures. Heartfelt thanks go to Curt Edlund of Edlund & Larsen for his efforts in drafting the bylaws.

I wish the new Board of Directors and incoming-President Ann Witek of State Farm Insurance every success as the Chamber continues to build on this year and plan for growth in membership and increased involvement in our community. We look forward to a wonderful year for Park Ridge in 2007. Please don't forget to shop locally and support local businesses.

Dick Barton, President, Park Ridge Chamber of Commerce

HAVE YOU HEARD

Upcoming Events at REFUGE

Jan 2, 2007
The Twelve by Twelve exhibition will travel to the Skokie Library. Anyone interested in helping install Jan 2, call 312.402.7530

Jan 13, 2007
Soul Collage Workshop, create a piece of art for Me Me Me.

Jan 19, 2007
Deadline for Me, Me, Me: The Self-portrait Exhibition

Feb 09, 2007
Opening Me Me Me

REFUGE survives solely on the generosity of time, energy and money from people, just like you. Please consider making a donation to REFUGE.
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REFUGE, Center for Artists in Recovery
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Special Epiphany Celebration "Las Posadas"

Special Epiphany Celebration "Las Posadas," which loosely translates to "the journey," is a traditional Mexican festival which re-enacts Joseph's search for room at the inn. Each Christmas season, a processional carrying a doll representing the Christ Child and images of Joseph and Mary riding a burro walks through the community streets. The processional stops at a previously selected home and asks for lodging for the night. The people are invited in to read scriptures and sing Christmas carols. Refreshments are provided by the hosts. The doll is left at the chosen home and picked up on the next night when the processional begins again. This continues for eight nights in commemoration of the journey of Mary and Joseph from Nazareth to Bethlehem.

Throughout Mexico there are many interpretations of Las Posadas. Here at Trinity, we will create our own interpretation on Saturday, January 6th, the Festival of Epiphany. Those who want to participate will gather at church at 4:15 p.m. We will journey with the three kings, searching for the Christ child and walk from church to a few pre-selected homes nearby. We will sing a carol or two. We will return back to church for the 5:00 p.m. worship. We will find the holy family at church. We will complete our journey as we process into the worship area singing "We Three Kings". Following worship, we will enjoy a piece of "Kings Cake" before we head home for supper. One lucky person will bite into a surprise and win a prize.

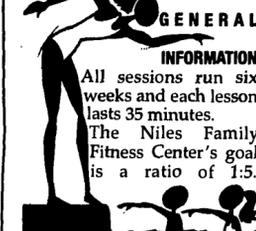
On Sunday, January 7th, we will also celebrate the Festival of epiphany, but in a different way. The three kings will be with us at the 10:30 a.m. worship. They will participate in various ways throughout the worship service. During the fellowship hour, we will again enjoy a piece of "Kings Cake" and a special program: "A Postcard from Puerto Rico". This will provide a brief snapshot of how "El Via de Los Reyes" (Three Kings Day) is celebrated on the island of Puerto Rico.

Trinity Lutheran Church 5106 North Lacrosse Avenue
Chicago, IL 60630 773-545-7300

Kerasotes Theatres
ShowPlace 12 - NILES
301 Golf Mill Center (West side of Golf Mill Shopping Center)
Niles, IL 60714
Office phone: 847-544-7390
ShowTime phone: 800-328-3284 #1643
ShowTimes for December 29-January 4, 2006

BLACK XMAS (R) 12:30, 2:50, 5:10, 7:50; Fri-Tues early matinee 10:15am
DREAMWORKS (PG-13) 12:45, 3:50, 6:50, 10:00; Fri-Tues early matinee 9:45am
THE GOOD SHEPHERD (R) 2:40, 6:30, 10:10; Fri-Tues early matinee 11:00am
NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM (PG) 2:20, 5:00, 7:40, 10:30; Fri-Tues early matinee 11:30am
WE ARE MARSHALL (R) 12:50, 3:45, 7:00, 9:50; Fri-Tues early matinee 10:00am
ROCKY BALBOA (PG) 1:20, 4:40, 7:10, 9:40; Fri-Tues early matinee 10:30am
CHARLOTTE'S WEB (G) 1:30, 4:00, 6:40, 9:00; Fri-Tues early matinee 11:10am
ERASER (PG) 1:10, 3:40, 6:20, 9:15; Fri-Tues early matinee 10:20am
THE PURSUIT OF HAPPINESS (PG-13) 1:50, 4:30, 7:20, 10:05; Fri-Tues early matinee 10:50am
APCALYPTO (R) 6:45, 9:45
BLOOD DIAMOND (R) 1:00, 4:10, 7:15, 10:20; Fri-Tues early matinee 9:50am
THE HOLIDAY (PG-13) 1:15, 4:20, 7:30, 10:35; Fri-Tues early matinee 10:05am
HAPPY FEET (PG) 12:40, 3:30; Fri-Tues early matinee 10:10am

SWIM LESSON REGISTRATION HAS BEGUN AT NILES FAMILY FITNESS



GENERAL INFORMATION
All sessions run six weeks and each lesson lasts 35 minutes.
The Niles Family Fitness Center's goal is a ratio of 1:5.

LESSON FEE: \$ 48
Member / \$63 Non-Member
SWIM CLUB FEE: \$90 Member / \$110 Non-Member
ADULT GROUP RATES: \$ 50
Member / \$65 Non-Member

PARENT-TOT: 6 months-3 years
Parents will accompany their child in the water. Primary focus is to help the child adapt to the water through games and songs. Parents will also learn skills to help them with their child while in an aquatic environment. Skills Taught: Blowing bubbles, floating on front and back, kicking on front and back, submerging face, passing, jumping into the water.

TINY TINY TOTS: 1-3 years
This class is designed for children who have progressed beyond parent-tot but yet are not ready for Tiny Tots. (Progression is based on whether the parent is in the pool after the 3rd class and the child's overall adaptation to the water and the class environment.) Skills Taught: Floating on front and back, kicking on front and back, alternating arms on front, water entry by self, and submerging face.

TINY TOTS: 3-5 years
The purpose of this class is to teach children how to become independent in the water while beginning to work on the basic skills of swimming and water safety. Skills Taught: Submerging face, floating on front and back, kicking on front and back, and alternating arms on front.

LEVEL 1
This level uses the base that is provided in the lower levels to begin building the necessary skills to develop the proper stroke. Skills Taught: Front and Back floats, glides on front and back, kicking on front and back, alternating arms for front crawl and back crawl, and water adaptation.

LEVEL 2
This will focus on getting

children to feel comfortable swimming on their fronts and backs. Upon completion of this course, the participant will have a basic understanding of how to swim front and back crawls. Skills Taught: Front and back floats, front and back glides, front crawl 10 yards, back crawl 10 yards and rotary breathing.

LEVEL 2
This class further builds on the front and back crawls taught in Level 2 while incorporating rotary breathing for front crawl and new strokes. Skills Taught: Front crawl 15 yards, back crawl 15 yards, breaststroke kicks 10 yards; streamline position for front and back, treading water and dolphin kick.

LEVEL 3
This class will focus on perfecting the front and back crawls while adding the element of endurance. Children will begin to develop the more advanced strokes. Skills Taught: Front crawl 25 yards, back crawl 25 yards, breaststroke 15yards, open turns, and treading water.

ADVANCED SKILLS
This class continues to work on the skills while introducing more advanced skills and strokes. Endurance is gradually increased at this level. Skills Taught: Front crawl 50 yards, back crawl 50 yards, breaststroke 25 yards, open turns, breaststroke speed turns, endurance and Lifeguard rescues.

STROKE DEVELOPMENT
The primary purpose of this class is to continue to develop previously introduced

strokes while continuing to develop a greater level of endurance. Skills Taught: Front crawl 100 yards, breaststroke 50 yards, butterfly 25 yards, flip turns for front and back crawls, breaststroke speed turns endurance and become familiar with Rescue Breathing and CPR.

STROKE REFINEMENT
Class is designed to further enhance stroke's effectiveness and efficiency. Purpose is to refine strokes to maximize the participant's ability while building up endurance for Swim Club. Skills Taught: Front crawl 200 yards, back crawl 200yards, breaststroke 100 yards, butterfly 50 yards, flip turns(one must be executed while swimming the 200 yards frontcrawl back crawl), Breaststroke speed turns (one must be executed while swimming the 100 yards breaststroke), Endurance and advanced lifeguard rescues.

SWIM CLUB
This class will teach different training techniques used for competitive swimming. This class will give the child the opportunity to experience what a practice for a swim team may be like. AGES: 7-15
Requirements: 100 yds freestyle, 100 yds backstroke, 50 yds breast stroke & 25 fly. Must meet all requirements efficiently. Participants must have good goggles and bring a water bottle to class.

Niles Family Fitness Center
987 Civic Center Dr.
847-588-8400
www.nilesfitness.com

Youth Basketball Winter League

Registration is being accepted for the Youth Basketball Winter Leagues for Grades 2nd through 8th Girls and Boys. These fun and exciting leagues begin February 10, 2007 and end April 1, 2007. Participants can sign up as a team or individually. Each participant will receive a team t-shirt and will play a guaranteed 10 games. Volunteer coaches are also needed. Registration deadline is January 22, 2007. Registration is being taken at the Howard Leisure Center. For more information about Youth Basketball or volunteer coaching, please call (847) 967-6975.

Youth Dodgeball League

Niles Park District is proud to present boys & girls, Grade 4-8, Youth Dodgeball Leagues. Games are fun, safe, competitive and exciting. Each team will play 10 matches and team jerseys are supplied. Sign up as a team or an individual. Session runs January 19 to February 23 from 5:00-9:00 p.m. Fee is Res \$39; Non-Res \$44 and registration deadline is January 12. For more information, please call (847) 967-6975.

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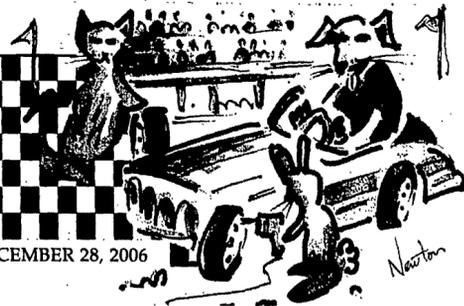
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*Interest rates and APYs on the T-Bill Money Market are variable and subject to change weekly, with no limit on the increase or decrease. The APY for balances of \$1500 but less than \$24,999.99 is equal to the rate on the Money Market account. On balances of \$25,000 or more, the APY is equal to 120% of the 11 week Treasury Bill as found in the money rates section of the Tuesday edition of the Wall Street Journal. Fees may include opening, maintenance, and other. Deposits are not FDIC insured. There is a limit of 1000 checks written on a T-Bill transfer per month. A service charge of \$15 will be assessed for each additional 10 checks. See our Account Agreement and Disclosure and Banking Services and Fee Schedule for specific terms and fees that relate to the product shown above. The disclosed APY is accurate as of 12/26/06.

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the PET STOP

12 THE BUGLE DECEMBER 28, 2006



A pet wish list

Niles Animal Hospital hosts tree with pets names, wish lists

During the holiday season even pets have wish lists.

The Niles Animal Hospital has a Christmas tree with ornaments that employees made and on each ornament is an item that comes from a wish list.

The wish lists were created by Animal Control Officer Peter Babikan and Dawn Keller, of Flint Creek in Barrington, on behalf of various pets and animals.

On behalf of animals in Niles, Babikan asked for towels, blankets, toys and gift certificates to pet stores.

Keller, who helps keep rabbits, duck, deer and many other types of animals safe, asked for cleaning supplies, blankets and even old fur coats that will be used to make nests for baby ani-

"We've had quite a few clients come in who are interested."

Sue Cook | VETERINARY TECH.

mals.

"We've had quite a few clients come in who are interested," said Sue Cook, a veterinary technician at the Niles Animal Hospital.

Cook said that the Niles Animal Hospital started this special donation Christmas tree last year. They collected items for Babikan as well as for a domestic bird rescue.

A second Christmas tree at the Niles Animal Hospital features photos and names of the staff members' pets.



Niles Animal Hospital employees gather around the tree at their office. The tree is decorated with pictures and wish lists of pets.

Niles Animal Control offers tips

The Niles Animal Control Office, Peter Babikan, is sharing the following tips so that pet owners can make sure their pets are kept warm during the cold winter months.

- Cats and kittens should always be kept inside as they are more susceptible to the extremes that winter brings.

- Don't leave your dog outside for long periods of time. If it is not safe for you to be outside than neither should your pet be left outside.

- Warm, adequate shelter is a necessity. If you use blankets, check them regularly to ensure they are dry. Lining the shelter with hay is also acceptable. Also, keep the opening in the opposite direction of wind and snow.

- Wet fur/hair is a poor insulator. If your pet gets

wet then bring him/her inside to dry off because the cold air and wind will increase heat loss thus making your pet susceptible to frostbite or hypothermia (internal body temperature drops too low).

- Walks should be shorter, especially for puppies or senior dogs. Their bodies cannot withstand drops in temperature.

- Rock salt, which is used to melt ice, can be irritating or cause a burning feeling to footpads. Be sure to wipe your dog's feet if they have gone thru a salted area. Some pet stores do carry a "pet friendly" ice melter that can be safely used.

- Antifreeze, which collects on the pavement from a leaking engine, is poisonous and can be lethal. Be sure to clean up any spilled antifreeze. Its sweet taste is

tempting to animals. Try using a "pet friendly" brand of antifreeze.

- Keep any supplemental heat sources such as fireplaces or space heaters out of the reach of your pet. These can burn your pet and if knocked over, can cause a fire.

- Candles and potpourri burners can also burn your pet and if knocked over can also cause a fire.

Residents who happen to see an animal outside during adverse weather conditions or want to express other concerns about a pet being kept outside, please call Niles Animal Control Officer Peter Babikan at

847-588-6508 or the Niles Police Department at 847-588-6500 or your local police agency.

Exercising your pet is a good resolution

If you've got a fat cat or a portly pooch, your pet may be in danger.

PET TALK

Pets need to count their calories - at this time of the year, or any time, for that matter, experts say. Animals can suffer from obesity just as people can, and like humans, it can shorten their lives or at the very least, affect their quality of life.

It's estimated as many as 25 percent of dogs and cats that enter a pet clinic are overweight, says Dr. Alice Blue-McLendon, a veterinarian at Texas A&M University's College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences.

The reasons for obesity in animals are the same ones that apply in humans. Number one is over eating, and the second major reason

is lack of exercise. The rule of taking in more calories than you burn, equals excess weight is true for pets just as in people.

"Almost all obese pets are mature animals, usually two years or older," she says. "The majority of obesity in dogs and cats occurs from about ages 2 to 10. It's easier to get dogs to exercise than it is cats. It's harder to manage weight control on cats."

Animals that have been neutered are more likely to be obese, Blue-McLendon explains.

Obese animals can suffer a variety of health problems. Some develop heart and liver problems, arthritis, diabetes, bladder cancer and skin disorders. Also, animals that are overweight have a higher surgical risk while undergoing anesthesia.

Animals that are obese can See Pet Talk, page 13

Vets loath to clip pups' heads or tails

By R.G. Elmore, D.V.M.
COPLEY NEWS SERVICE

Q: Have most veterinarians changed their opinions regarding ear cropping and tail docking in very young puppies? We have raised schnauzers for

POINTS ON PETS

years. Since our veterinarian retired a couple of years ago, we are having difficulty finding a new veterinarian to do our ear crops for us. We have found that most young veterinarians have not been taught how to do this procedure.

Although we do not feel strongly about whether or not to have our puppies' ears cropped, our customers generally want their dogs to have cropped ears. We do not see that this procedure is much different than humans being pierced in every conceivable place.

A: For many years, tail docking and ear cropping strictly for cosmetic purposes have been very controversial subjects among many groups owning and interested in animals. Most knowledgeable animal authorities have stated that routine ear cropping and tail docking are only cosmetic procedures and do not benefit the animals in which they are performed. These procedures do cause pain and suffering, particularly when not done by skilled and knowledgeable individuals using pain-control drugs during and after the procedures.

"Ear cropping and tail docking in dogs for cosmetic reasons are not medically indicated nor of benefit to the patient. These procedures cause pain and distress, and, as with all surgical procedures, are accompanied by inherent risks of anesthesia, blood loss and infection."

The American Veterinary Medical Association, which represents most of the practicing veterinarians throughout the United States, continues to support the following statement regarding ear cropping and tail docking:

"Ear cropping and tail docking in dogs for cosmetic reasons are not medically indicated nor of benefit to the patient. These procedures cause pain and distress, and, as with all surgical procedures, are accompanied by inherent risks of anesthesia, blood loss and infection. Therefore veterinarians should counsel dog owners about these matters before agreeing to perform these surgeries."

Although whether or not to have an animal's ears cropped or its tail docked is still a decision given to the owners in

most jurisdictions, many veterinarians do not do these procedures on the basis they do cause unnecessary pain and suffering and do not benefit the animal. Hopefully, dog owners of the future will appreciate full ears and tails.

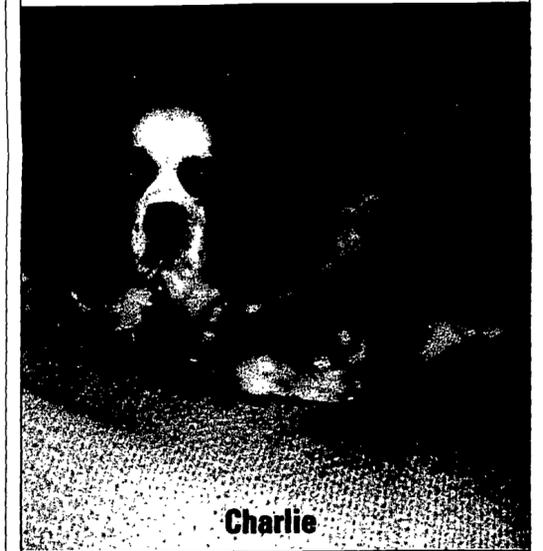
Q: After our dog was involved in an accident in which he had to receive blood transfusions, I began to wonder if there are commercially available blood substitutes for dogs. I am concerned about the safety of blood transfusions. Are veterinarians trained to screen blood for diseases that might be transmitted between dogs?

A: Commercially prepared products are available for veterinarians to use instead of whole blood transfusions in dogs. However, these are not always helpful in every case in which a blood transfusion might be required.

Most veterinarians maintain a group of disease-free blood donors. These are often clinic pets that live great lives and do not resist donating blood occasionally. These dogs get pampered and are greatly appreciated for their donations to help save other dogs. Generally, you should not worry about your dog being exposed to diseases because of needing a transfusion.

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.

Pet of the Month



Charlie

This is Charlie, a "Cavalier King Charles" who is the newest addition to our family. We dearly love him as he is as calm as he looks and has brought much joy to our lives. He loves to walk and greet all the neighbors as we go along.

The children love to pet him and he loves it too. Charlie loves to watch the squirrels and rabbits and sometimes chases them but never catches them. He is a joy.

- Dotty and Bernie Warchol

If you'd like your pet to be The Bugle's next "Pet of the Month" send a picture and a description of what makes your pet special to: The Bugle Newspapers, 7400 N. Waukegan Rd., Niles, IL 60714 or editor@buglenewsapers.com

Pet Talk

continued from page 12

have a shortened life span compared to an animal whose weight is normal, she adds.

Obesity in dogs occurs in some breeds more than others. Breeds that have a genetic tendency toward obesity include Dachshunds, Labrador Retrievers, Cocker Spaniels, Beagles, Basset Hounds and some Rottweilers, she notes.

Obesity in cats is not confined to any specific breed, Blue-McLendon points out, but she adds that a significant proportion of the cat population tends to be overweight. Diabetes and hepatic lipidosis, a potentially fatal liver disease, are conditions

that affect obese cats.

As with humans, controlling obesity requires no magic formula.

"The pet owner needs to decrease the amount of food given to the animal," she points out.

"If the animal is obese, you need to take it to your veterinarian and he or she can diagnose the problem. It's important to take the pet in every 3-4 weeks to be reweighed to determine if it is getting closer to its optimal weight.

"Exercising your pet is also recommended, and if a dog enjoys swimming, it helps a great deal.

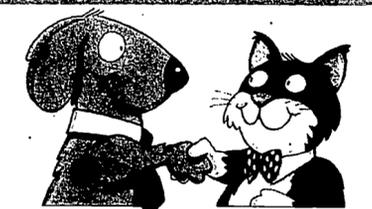
"Sometimes, a special diet may have to be prescribed and these are available from many pet food companies,"

About Pet Talk

Pet Talk is a service of the College of Veterinary Medicine, Texas A&M University. Stories can be viewed on the World Wide Web at <http://communications.tamu.edu/pettalk/>

she says. "There are currently no medicines available that control obesity in animals, but numerous companies are working on such drugs right now. In the meantime, pet owners should be careful they don't over feed their pets. The No.1 nutritional problem for all pets is obesity."

Congratulations Charlie!



We hope you're enjoying our Pet Stop Section. Charlie is our the Pet of the month this issue. If you think your pet is the most lovable, our next issue is January 25 2007, so send or e-mail your photos to:

Pet Stop: Pet of the Month
The Bugle Newspapers
7400 N. Waukegan Rd.
Niles, IL 60714

Or e-mail: editor@buglenewsapers.com



Holiday Gift & Dining Guide

New Year's Eve

Dish Envy!

Fig-Stuffed Pork Loin With Roasted Vegetables and Herbes De Provence

Makes: 6 servings

1 boneless top loin pork roast, about 2 1/2 pounds

Stuffing:

1 cup packed (6 ounces) Blue Ribbon Orchard Choice or Sun-Maid California figs, stemmed and halved

1/2 cup white wine
1 tablespoon packed brown sugar

2 teaspoons dried herbes de Provence or Italian herb seasoning

1/2 teaspoon pressed or minced garlic

1 tablespoon drained capers or finely chopped parsley (optional)

Glaze:

1/4 cup Dijon mustard
1/2 teaspoon pressed or minced garlic
1/2 teaspoon each salt and freshly ground black pepper

Roasted Vegetables:
1 1/2 pounds small (1- to 1 1/2-inch) red potatoes
1 pound medium carrots, peeled and cut into 1-inch pieces

12 medium shallots, peeled
2 tablespoons olive oil
1 tablespoon dried herbes de Provence or Italian herb seasoning

3/4 teaspoon salt
1/2 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper

Combine all stuffing ingredients except capers in small saucepan. Bring to simmer over medium heat. Cover



and simmer 1 minute. Uncover and stir until wine evaporates, about 1 minute. Stir in capers. Arrange rack in lower third of oven. Preheat oven to 425°F. Stand roast on end and insert thin-bladed knife down center of loin to make 1 1/2-inch opening all the way through. Pack stuffing into center opening, working from both ends of roast. In small bowl, combine glaze ingredients and spread mixture over pork.

In oiled 9- x 13-inch baking pan, combine vegetables and seasonings. Spread in pan. Place stuffed pork on vegetables. Roast 15 minutes; reduce oven temperature to 350°F and continue roasting 50 to 60 minutes, or until instant-read thermometer registers 155°F. (Insert thermometer into meat, keeping tip away from fruit.) Transfer roast to carving board, tent with foil and let rest 15 minutes. (While roast rests, return vegetables to oven; keep oven on to continue cooking or turn oven off and keep vegetables warm.) Slice roast and arrange on serving platter. Surround with vegetables.

What is dish envy? The term may be unfamiliar, but the concept is anything but. It's the dish that makes others jealous by stealing the spotlight whenever it's served — and has friends and family pleading for the "secret" recipe. If you think creating dish envy means complicated ingredients and labor-intensive preparations, think again. Unexpectedly delicious flavor combinations — like sweet dried California figs and succulent pork loin and smoky bacon — deliver big on taste, without big-time hassles. So go ahead, cook up a little dish envy for your next holiday get-together.

All materials courtesy of:
Blue Ribbon® Orchard Choice® and Sun-Maid / National Pork Board



Cubano Pork Appetizer Skewers and Cilantro-Citrus Dip

Makes: 8 skewers

Cubano Rub:

1 tablespoon olive oil
1 teaspoon finely grated orange zest

1 1/2 teaspoons packed brown sugar

1 teaspoon dry mustard
1 teaspoon dry thyme or oregano leaves

1/2 teaspoon pressed or finely chopped garlic
1/2 teaspoon salt

1/4 teaspoon paprika (sweet)
1/2 pound thin-cut boneless pork chops

16 ham cubes (3/4-inch)
16 Swiss cheese cubes (3/4-inch)

24 mini dill pickles
8 (8- to 10-inch) skewers

Cilantro-Citrus Dip:
Makes: about 1/2 cup

1/4 cup mayonnaise
1/4 cup sour cream

1 tablespoon finely chopped cilantro
1 tablespoon spicy brown mustard

1/4 cup (2 ounces) cream cheese
3 tablespoons milk
2 teaspoons finely chopped fresh thyme leaves or 3/4 teaspoon dry thyme leaves

Preheat oven to 425°F. Place 4 layers of paper towels on microwave-safe plate.

Top with bacon slices. Cover with two more layers of paper towels. Microwave on high 1 to 2 minutes to render fat from bacon but not crisp. While bacon cools, slice each fig twice, starting at stem end, and cutting three-quarters of way to bottom. Stuff each fig with a pecan piece. Wrap a half strip of bacon around each fig and secure with toothpick. Place on foil-lined baking sheet. Bake 10 minutes. Turn. Return to oven for 5 minutes or until bacon is sizzling and begins to crisp. In small bowl,

Bacon-Wrapped Figs With Maple Snakebite Glaze and Goat Cheese and Thyme Dip

Makes: 12 servings

6 strips bacon, halved crosswise

12 Blue Ribbon Orchard Choice or Sun-Maid California figs, stemmed

12 pecan pieces, toasted
3 tablespoons pure maple syrup

1/8 to 1/4 teaspoon ground cayenne pepper
Goat Cheese and Thyme Dip:

Makes: about 1/2 cup
1/4 cup (2 ounces) soft goat cheese

2 teaspoons fresh lime juice
1 teaspoon granulated sugar
1/2 teaspoon finely grated orange zest

In small bowl, combine ingredients for rub. Spread on both sides of pork chops. Grill chops or broil 4 inches from heat source 3 to 5 minutes, turning once, until cooked through. Let stand 5 minutes. Cut into 8 1/2-inch strips. On each skewer, thread 1 ham cube, 1 cheese cube, 1 pickle, 1 strip roasted pork (skewered three times in an "s" shape), 1 pickle, 1 ham cube, 1 cheese cube and 1 pickle. For dip, combine all ingredients in small bowl. Serve kabobs with dip.

Chocolate Ganache Tart With Glazed Figs and Nuts

Makes: 8 to 10 servings
1 refrigerated pie crust, at room temperature

1 cup packed (6 ounces) Blue Ribbon Orchard Choice or Sun-Maid California figs, stemmed and halved*

2/3 cup water

1/3 cup packed brown sugar
2 tablespoons almond-, hazelnut- or orange-flavored liqueur

1/2 cup whipping cream
6 ounces bittersweet chocolate, finely chopped

1 cup unsalted or lightly salted mixed nuts (omit peanuts and select hazelnuts, cashews, Brazil nuts, almonds and pecans)

Whipped cream, optional

Preheat oven to 450°F. Unroll pie crust and press into bottom and up side of 10-inch tart pan with removable bottom. Prick all over with fork. Bake until light brown, 9 to 11 minutes. Cool on rack.

In small saucepan, combine figs and water. Bring to boil over high heat, then reduce heat and simmer until liquid is reduced to 1/4 cup, about 2 minutes. Stir in brown sugar and simmer, stirring, 1 minute. Remove from heat. Stir in liqueur. Let steep 10 minutes. Strain figs through fine-meshed sieve, reserving syrup. While figs cool, in small saucepan, bring cream to simmer over medium heat. Remove from heat, add chocolate and stir until smooth. Spread over baked



Refrigerate 5 minutes or until chocolate begins to firm up but is not set. Alternate fig slices and nuts in concentric circles on tart, pressing slightly into chocolate to secure. Chill 2 hours or up to 1 day. To serve, brush figs and nuts with reserved syrup. Remove side from tart pan and place tart on platter. Cut into wedges. Top with whipped cream, if desired. *Cut large figs (greater than 1 1/4-inch diameter at the base) into three lengthwise slices.



Foods With Style!

combine syrup and cayenne pepper. Brush mixture over appetizers. For dip, combine all ingredients in small bowl. Cover and chill until serving time. Serve appetizers warm with dip.

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Holiday Gift & Dining Guide

A Comfort Snack For That Holiday Withdrawal



Family Features The post-holiday season has us putting away our holiday décor and making New Year's resolutions. One resolution that I intend on keeping is to spend more time doing what I really enjoy... baking. Nothing makes me feel quite as grounded and worthwhile as when I'm creating goodies.



audience: a group home in your community, a retirement complex, your local fire station. Call ahead to check on any restrictions.

The holiday season was a warm-up for my baking equipment, and the baking season keeps my kitchen warm all winter. When I can also spend kitchen time with my daughter and her friends — passing on baking tips and skills, and creating good memories with them — well, I guess that's multi-tasking of the best kind!

baked goodies: It's a new year. Try a cookie, bar, cake or pastry you've been interested in baking. During the holidays we focus on making our best, classic baked goods. Now's the time to try something new. Ask your teens or 'tweens for input on "something new": Kids tend to be less stuck in the "same old" routine as adults are. Plan to take trays of home-baked goodies to an apprecia-

Who doesn't love the classic cinnamon-scented snickerdoodle? Try this contemporary twist on this all-American favorite: Snickerdoodles studded with dried cherries and whimsical swirled chocolate morsels will impress everyone before they vanish. Better plan to make multiple batches!

Sweet inspiration for baking is always available at www.VeryBestBaking.com.

CHERRY-CHOCOLATE STUDD SNICKERDOODLES

Makes 4 dozen cookies
 2 1/2 cups all-purpose flour
 1 teaspoon cream of tartar
 1/2 teaspoon baking soda
 1/4 teaspoon salt
 3/4 cup (1 1/2 sticks) butter or margarine, softened
 1 1/2 cups plus 3 tablespoons granulated sugar, divided
 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
 2 large eggs
 1 2/3 cups (10-ounce package) Nestlé Toll House Swirled Real Semi-Sweet & White Chocolate Morsels, divided
 1 cup (6 ounces) dried cherries, coarsely chopped
 1 1/2 teaspoons ground cinnamon

PREHEAT oven to 350°F.

COMBINE flour, cream of tartar, baking soda and salt in medium bowl. Beat butter, 1 1/2 cups sugar and vanilla extract in large mixer bowl until creamy. Add eggs, 1 at a time, beating well after each

addition. Gradually beat in flour mixture. Stir in 1 1/4 cups morsels and cherries.

COMBINE remaining sugar and cinnamon in small bowl. Roll dough into 1 1/4-inch balls and roll in cinnamon-sugar mixture until coated. Place on ungreased baking sheets. Top balls with remaining morsels.

BAKE 12 to 14 minute or just until centers are set. Cool on baking sheets 2 minutes; remove to wire racks to cool completely.

Nutrition information per serving (1 cookie): 120 calories, 45 calories from fat; 5g total fat, 3g saturated fat; 15mg cholesterol; 50mg sodium; 19g carbohydrates; 0g fiber; 10g sugars; 1g protein, 4% Daily Value vitamin A; 2% Daily Value iron.

Jenny Harper is Senior Culinary Specialist for the Nestlé Test Kitchens and [VeryBestBaking.com](http://www.VeryBestBaking.com).

Courtesy of Family Features

Warm hearts with some home-

New Year's Eve Package

Gourmet Dinner Menu

\$45.00 Per Person
9:30PM - 4:00AM

Starting with Hot & Cold Hors D'oeuvres
 Featuring Filet Mignon & Shrimp
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SENIORS

Niles Senior Center closed New Year's Day

Niles Senior News

2007 Auto Show

Lawry's Thursday, February 15 9:45 a.m. - 5 pm \$48
 Join us at the nation's oldest and largest auto show, but first enjoy a fabulous lunch at Lawry's (Downtown) where you will have a choice of entrée: luncheon cut prime rib or salmon - both served with salad, sourdough bread and butter, and homemade apple pie. Plenty to see! Extensive walking!

Bronzeville Legacy

Thursday, February 22nd 9:00 a.m. to 3:45 p.m \$56
 Celebrate Black History Month as we explore the historic Bronzeville neighborhood of Chicago. Many famous African-Americans like, Ida B. Wells, Mahalia Jackson, Margaret Goss Burroughs, and Louis Armstrong lived and worked in this area. Tour Quin

Chapel, the oldest African American church in Chicago, which served as a station on the Underground Railroad. Lunch will be a Southern feast, served family-style at Army and Lou's -featuring corn bread, chicken, mashed potatoes, green beans, dessert and beverage. We'll also visit the DuSable Museum. An exciting day for all!

Laughter!

Learn how a little giggling can do you a lot of good, Monday January 8th and January 22nd 10:30 - 11:15 a.m. \$2.

Laugh it up! Laughter is really very good for you! Research indicates it can strengthen your immune system, improve breathing, arterial blood flow, digestion, sleep and even reduce calories! Facilitated by Om Jahari, Certified Laughter Leader.

Advanced registration required. No walk-ins \$2.

Meditation Encounter

Monday, January 8th and 22nd, 11:30 - 1:00 \$2

Learn a number of non-denominational meditation techniques which will be demonstrated. No prior knowledge or belief system is required. Some of the meditations will be listening, observing the breath, tea or coffee drinking, standing in balance, and more!

Advanced Registration Required. No walk-ins!

The Attitude of Gratitude

Friday, January 12, 10:00-11:00 a.m. Free

What does it mean to be grateful? What difference does it really make? In this penetrating seminar Om Jahari explains how physical, emotional, and spiritual well-being and relationships are all affected by whether or not we have a grateful heart. Free...but please register in advance.

Senior Music Group Seeks Members

This enthusiastic group wants you if you like to hum, sing or even whistle. If you can carry a tune, bring your voice! We want you if you play a conventional reed, percussion, keyboard, or stringed instrument, guitar or ukulele. We'd especially love you if you play a harmonica, kazoo, washboard, spoons or whatever (have your own homemade instrument - we can incorporate it into the band!). No pay, but lots of fun! Join the Niles Senior Center Kitchenaires Kitchen Band. Call for our practice schedule or for more information (call MaryAnn 847 588-8420). Non-residents are welcome.

Internet Class

Tuesdays & Thursdays, Jan. 16th - Jan. 25th 9-10:30 \$20

Explore the internet and learn the tools to successfully surf the world wide web.

In this intensive 2 week, 4 session class, you will learn to master the skills needed to surf the net.

The King and I at Drury Lane

Thursday, January 18th 11:15 - 5:30 \$50.

You're sure to enjoy this Rodgers and Hammerstein classic with its enhancing musical score. But first, enjoy a fabulous lunch featuring your choice of Roast Sirloin of Beef or Stuffed Chicken Breast. Cost \$50. Call for ticket availability.

Art Insights

Thursday, January 11, 1:30-2:30 p.m. \$1.00

Join Char Hadley of the Chicago Art Institute as she takes us on a slide show tour of some of the most exquisite works of art displayed at the Art Institute. Participants in this program will also receive a complimentary family-pass to the Art Institute.

Morton Grove Seniors enjoy Tai Chi classes

Morton Grove Senior News

Tai Chi Class
 Join the Morton Grove Senior Center for a six-week Tai Chi class. Tai Chi uses slow, gentle movements to improve flexibility and build muscle strength gradually. It can help ease sore joints and muscles. The series of classes will be held from 10 to 10:45 a.m. beginning on Monday, Jan. 8. Register in-person at the Senior Center at a fee of \$29 for Senior Center Members and \$33 for non-members.

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, Jan. 9 in the Morton Grove Senior Center.

Morton Grove Advisory Commission on Aging

The Morton Grove Advisory Commission on Aging will hold its next monthly meeting at 1 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 9 in the Morton Grove Senior Center. The Commission provides an arena for discussion and planning of services and programs to benefit Morton Grove's senior citizen population. All interested residents are welcome to attend.

Making Glass

Join the Morton Grove Senior Center for an afternoon at the "Making Glass Studio" in Highland Park on Wednesday, Jan. 10. Travelers will observe a glass blowing demonstration and hear about the history and science of glass. Following the presentation, all participants will have the opportunity to design and create a paperweight. The bus departs from the Senior Center at 1 p.m. and returns at 5 p.m. Please register in-person at the Senior Center at a fee of \$54 for Senior Center members and \$68 for non-members. See Morton Grove, page 19

From All of Us, Happy New Year!
 *Closed New Year's Day, January 1st Only

LONE TREE MANOR RESTAURANT

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BUFFET BANQUETS CATERING

WE FEATURE EUROPEAN-AMERICAN CUISINE
 COMPLETE CATERING & CARRY-OUT
 ALL YOU CAN EAT: OVER 50 HOT & COLD SELECTIONS

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|--|---|
| Lunch & Dinner Buffet • Soups • Salad Bar • Carving Station • Hot Buffet Table • Fresh Fruit Station • Sweet Table • Ice Cream | Banquet Facilities • For All Occasions • Guest Seating 10-400 |
|--|---|

Family Style Memorial Luncheons @ \$8.95 Per Person
 On Location Parking

7730 N. Milwaukee Ave.
 Niles, IL 60714
 847-967-0966

Open 7 days a week at 11am

Obituaries

Olga Nugoli of Des Plaines

Olga Nugoli, 97, of Des Plaines, IL died Tuesday, December 12, 2006 at Ballard Nursing Home.

She was born March 12, 1909. Beloved daughter of the late Antonio Puccetti and the late Altavilla (Puccetti) Puccetti. Beloved wife of the late Peter Nugoli. Beloved mother of Joanne (the late Daniel) O'Donovan. Of Des Plaines, IL Grandmother of Gail (Stephen) Viermeisel, Danette (Mat) Matyas and Dennis (Laura) O'Donovan.

Beloved sister of the late Albert Puccetti and the late Harry (Alice) Puccetti. Friend to Many. Services were held December 18 at St. John Brebeuf Church.

Arrangements were handled by Skaja Terrace Funeral Home. Interment was at Maryhill Cemetery.

Irene H. Sochacki of Niles

Irene H. Sochacki, 92, of Niles died Monday, December 18 at St. Andrew Life Center.

She was born September 30, 1914 in Chicago. Beloved daughter of the late Apolnary Wisinski and the late Bronislaw (Sonnenberg) Wisinski. Beloved wife of the late Leo Sochacki. Beloved mother of Robert (Paulette) Sochacki of Griffith, IN and Ann Marie (Bill) Larsen. Grandmother of Sheryl (Ralph) Puccinelli, Michael (Mary) Larsen, Rich Larsen, Terri (Mike) Sulimowski, Michael (Melissa) Sochacki and Robert (Kare) Sochacki. Great Grandmother of Thomas & Bryan Larsen, Jessica Puccinelli and Steve & Dean Sulimowski. Services were held December 22 at St. Andrew Life Center.

Arrangements were handled by

Skaja Terrace Funeral Home. Interment was at Maryhill Cemetery.

Dorothy M. Zefeldt of Palatine

Dorothy M. Zefeldt, 83, of Palatine, IL died Thursday, December 14 at St. Matthew Home.

She was born March 26, 1923 in Chicago. Beloved daughter of the late John Musielski and the late Anna (Nikulski) Musielski. Beloved wife of the late Richard T. Zefeldt. Beloved mother of Elaine (Gerald) (Zefeldt) Prowicz of Hanover Park, IL, Wayne (Lydia) Zefeldt. And Karen Zefeldt. Daughter-in-law, the late Barbara Zefeldt. Grandmother of Michael (Laura) and Jefferey Prowicz, Wayne Richard Zefeldt, II and Lara-Anne Zefeldt. Great Grandmother of Jasmine and Kane Prowicz and Elaine and Grace Cizma. Beloved sister of Harriet (Raymond) Tantilto. Aunt of Many. Services were held December 18 at St. Thomas of Villanova Church.

Arrangements were handled by Skaja Terrace Funeral Home. Interment was at St. Adalbert Cemetery.

Maine Twp. Seniors plan winter trips, classes and more

Maine Twp. Senior News

MaineStreamers

The Maine Township MaineStreamers program offers a variety of opportunities for residents 55 and older. All residents and property owners are invited to apply for membership. Membership includes a free subscription to the MaineStreamers monthly newsletter, which details all activities for the upcoming month. Most activities take place at Maine Town Hall located at 1700 Ballard Rd. in Park Ridge. Members pay individually for whichever activities they want to participate in.

For more information contact the MaineStreamers at 847-297-2510 or visit us at www.mainetownship.com.

Winterfest Luncheon

Tuesday, Jan. 9. Doors Open: 11 a.m. Lunch served: 12 noon. Chateau Ritz, 9100 Milwaukee, Niles. \$13 members/\$14 guests + \$1 fish.

Come and enjoy a wonderful lunch featuring cream of asparagus soup, chicken breast Copenhagen filled with apple-celery dressing, mixed vegetables, wild rice, and sorbet for dessert.

Then enjoy a wonderful dance performance by the Ballroom City Dancers-Norm and Heidi. Bingo will follow. Reservations and cancellations must be received by Tuesday, Jan. 2.

Rules of the Road Class

Thursday, Jan. 11, 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. No charge - registration required.

Need to renew your driver's license? Plan on attending this Secretary of State refresher course that prepares you for the written exam. Next class: Apr. 12, 2007.

"AARP's Driver Safety Program"

Mon., Jan. 29 & Wed., Jan 31, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Instructor: Stanley Fukai, AARP. Cost: \$10 check due on the first day made payable to AARP

This two-part class helps you update your knowledge

of age-related changes and rules of the road. Upon completion, your automobile insurance company will offer a discount.

Used Cell Phones Collected

Maine Township, in cooperation with the Cook County Sheriff's Office, is collecting used cell phones to be converted for emergency 911 usage for Senior Citizens. If you have a phone you would like to donate, drop it off at Maine Town Hall. Distribution of the cell phones will occur at a program scheduled in Dec. Watch for details to follow.

Day Trip

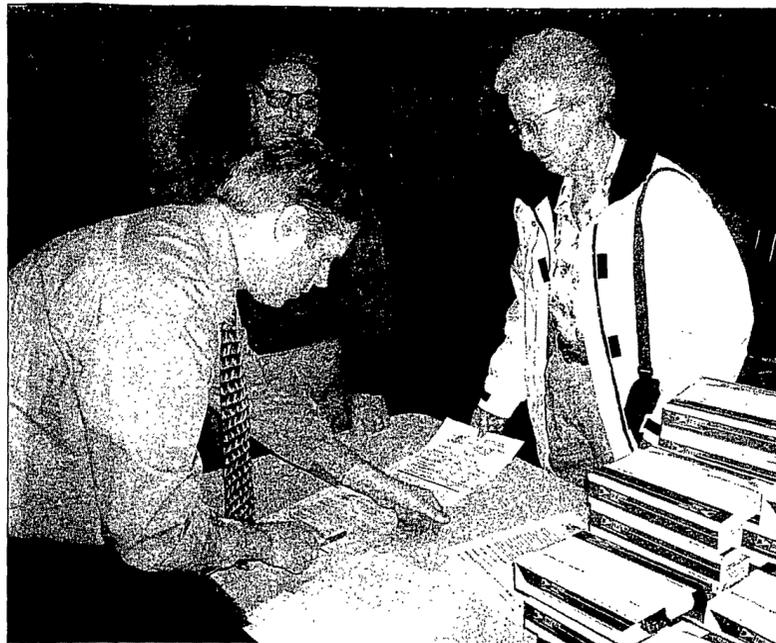
The following Day Trip is currently on sale. In order to sign up for a Day Trip you must first sign up to be a member and then a reservation form will be sent to you. To become a member call the MaineStreamers at 847-297-2510 and ask for an application. All Day Trips depart from the State of Illinois Building, 9511 Harrison St. in Des Plaines.

"Legends" Trip

Italian Village and LaSalle Theatre. Wednesday, Feb. 28 - 10:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. - Trip Rate 3. Cost: \$95 members/\$100 guests.

This comedy, by Tony Award-winning author James Kirkwood (author of A Chorus Line), centers on two somewhat waning movie stars played by Joan Collins and Linda Evans. Both are courted by an unscrupulous producer to star in a Broadway show. He continues to mislead them by saying that Paul Newman will be starring in the show.

We will be in First Balcony Seats, and prior to the show we will enjoy lunch at the famed Italian Village. Our lunch consists of homemade minestrone soup and your choice of tortelli tre formaggi-pillow shaped pasta filled with cheeses served in a tomato-garlic sauce or lasagna alla Village. Rum cake will be our dessert.



Free cell phones given to seniors

Over 100 Maine Township seniors were given free cell phones and instruction on Dec. 21 as part of the 911 Emergency Cellular Phone program from the Cook Co. Sheriff's office in cooperation with the MaineStreamers Senior Program. The reconditioned phones only dial 911 for emergency use.



Senior Citizens

We Work On Volume- Not Price!!

Shampoo & Set ... \$5.00
Haircut ... \$5.00

Everyday Except Sunday

Sr. Men's Clipper Styling ... \$3.00 & Up

Men's Reg. Hair Styling ... \$5.00 & Up

Manicure & Pedicure Together ... \$16.00 & Up

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NEW! Are you worried about dizziness & falls?

Falls

Diagnosis

Dizziness

Treatment

Vestibular Rehabilitation

Balance Program

The National Institute of Health estimates that 40%-50% of people over age 40 experience dizziness or balance problems at some point in their lives. Many fall patients are rarely diagnosed and treated for the root cause of the dizziness and falls, which may be musculoskeletal, cardiac, neurological, or vestibular in nature, or a combination thereof. New technology is now available, using an ekg-like technology that objectifies and measures physiological indicators as to the cause of the fall.

Videonystagmography, VNG testing is now available by appointment only. The testing is painless, covered by Medicare, and takes only 20 minutes to administer. The results of your VNG are ready after 48 hours, and are evaluated by a Board Certified Rehabilitation Medicine Physician. Only a licensed physician can interpret, and evaluate the results of your test, and diagnose, prescribe, or treat a medical condition.

VNG TEST Now Available!

For further information, and appointment availability, contact: Sherry Mauer, R.N., Balance Program Administrator at: Grrosse Pointe Manor Rehab Center. Call Today (847) 647-9875 ext. 105

Covered by Medicare

Morton Grove
continued from page 17

Members and \$62 for non-members.

'Mr. Taps' Dance Program

"Mr. Taps" takes audiences for a thrilling review of tap dance. From Vaudeville to Broadway Musicals, to The Hoofers Club, to the days of Rock & Roll and Rap & Tap. "Mr. Taps" will be appearing at the Morton Grove Senior Center at 1 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 11 and is sponsored by Summit Square Retirement and Assisted Living. Please register in-person at the Senior Center at a fee of \$2 for Senior Center Members and \$3 for non-members.

'The King and I' show at Drury Lane

It's an age of pleasantry in 1862 in Siam, and the King is looking to educate his children in the ways of the west. Anna Leonowens and her young son have been brought to the palace to help change the King's image. In this elegant setting, cultures clash, sparks fly and before we know it, love is in the air. This seeping romantic musical includes many musical favorites like "Shall We Dance," "Getting To Know You," and "I Have Dreamed." Travelers from the Morton Grove Senior Center will take in this show on Wednesday, January 17. The bus leaves the Senior Center at 10:30 a.m. and returns at 5:30

p.m. Please register in-person at the Senior Center, the cost is \$73 for Senior Center Members and \$84 for non-members.

Winter Wonderland

Join the Morton Grove Senior Center for a presentation on the winter wonders unfolding in local forests by a Naturalist from the Cook County Forest Preserve at 1:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 23. Register in-person before Jan. 5 and pay a reduced cost of \$1 for Members and \$2 for non-members. After Jan. 5 the costs are \$2 for Members and \$3 for non-members.

'Auroris' Dance Performance

Travelers from the Morton Grove Senior Center will enjoy the "Auroris" Dance Performance at Niles North High School in Skokie from 9:30 a.m. to 12 noon on Thursday, Jan. 25. Register in-person at the Senior Center before Jan. 2 and pay a reduced cost of \$1 for Senior Center Members and \$2 for non-members. After Jan. 2 the costs are \$2 for Senior Center Members and \$3 for non-members.

Mayflower Tours Trip Preview

Mayflower Tours will highlight their upcoming "Europe by Train," "Yosemite/Lake Tahoe/San Francisco," "Alaska," and "Hawaii" Tours from 1:30 to 2:30p.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 31 in the

Morton Grove Senior Center. Register for this free program before Jan. 15 by calling the Senior Hot Line at 847/470-5223.

'Barefoot in the Park' Theatre Trip

Morton Grove seniors will take in one of Neil Simon's best shows on Thursday, Feb. 1 at the Metropolis Performing Arts Center in Arlington Heights. This merrily entertaining comedy about newlyweds who are as beguiling as Romeo and Juliet, but much funnier, as they try to settle down in a wildly impractical apartment at the top of six flights of stairs. The bus departs from the Senior Center at 6 p.m. and returns at 10:30 p.m. Please register in-person at the Senior Center before Jan. 2 and pay a reduced cost of \$37 for Senior Center Members and \$43 for non-members. After Jan. 2 the costs are \$43 for Senior Center Members and \$50 for non-members.

'Morkes Chocolate Experience'

Join travelers from the Morton Grove Senior Center as they tour Morkes Chocolate in Palatine on Tuesday, Feb. 6. Enjoy the experience of making a chocolate pizza, chocolate dipped pretzels and molded chocolate along with sampling the end product! There will of course be time for shopping at the Morkes retail store. The bus departs from the Senior

Center at 1 p.m. and returns at 3:30 p.m. Please register in-person at the Senior Center before Jan. 8 and pay a reduced cost of \$12 for Senior Center Members and \$14 for non-members. After Jan. 8 the costs are \$14 for Senior Center Members and \$16 for non-members.

'A Tribute to George Burns'

Don Angelo will entertain the Morton Grove Senior Center with a tribute to George Burns on Monday, Feb. 12. For years, Don Angelo has entertained seniors with this comedy tribute. His show also includes an audience participation sing-along. Please register in-person at the Senior Center before Jan. 29 and pay a reduced cost of \$2 for Senior Center Members and \$3 for non-members. After Jan. 29 the costs are \$3 for Senior Center Members and \$4 for non-members.

'Tommy Gun's Garage' Lunch Theatre

Go under the "E!" track and give the secret password. Enter through the big metal door and be transported back in time to 1920's speakeasy. Join the Morton Grove Senior Center will attend this show on Sunday, Feb. 18. The bus departs from the Senior Center at 1:30 p.m. and return at 5 p.m. Register in-person at the Senior Center before Jan. 11 and pay a reduced cost of \$57 for Senior Center Members and \$66 for non-members. After Jan. 11 the costs are \$66 for Members and \$76 for non-members.

The bus will leave the Senior Center at 11:30 a.m. and return at 4 p.m. Please register in-person at the Senior Center before Jan. 15 and pay a reduced cost of \$70 for Senior Center Members and \$81 for non-members. After Jan. 15 the costs are \$81 for Senior Center Members and \$93 for non-members.

'Assassins' Musical Theatre Trip

"Assassins" lays bare the lives of nine individuals who assassinated or attempted to assassinate U.S. Presidents. Creators, Stephen Sondheim and John Weidman bend the rules of time and space, taking the audience on a roller coaster ride where assassins and would-be assassins from different historical periods meet, interact and ultimately inspire each other to harrowing actions in the name of the American Dream. The "Assassins" brilliant musical score, features American music from folk to ragtime to 1970's soft rock. Travelers from the Morton Grove Senior Center will attend this show on Sunday, Feb. 18. The bus departs from the Senior Center at 1:30 p.m. and return at 5 p.m. Register in-person at the Senior Center before Jan. 11 and pay a reduced cost of \$57 for Senior Center Members and \$66 for non-members. After Jan. 11 the costs are \$66 for Members and \$76 for non-members.

'Pursuit of Happyness' inspiring audiences

COPLEY NEWS SERVICE

The Pursuit of Happyness ★★ - "The Pursuit of Happyness" is "inspired by a true story" and is, lo and behold, actually inspiring. One suspects

FILM IN FOCUS

that Thomas Jefferson, quoted in the movie, would have savored it. Jefferson's Declaration of Independence words about happiness keep recurring to Chris Gardner (Will Smith). In the story Chris must, to find happiness, endure quite a pursuit. Set in the early 1980s as the Reagan boom cooks, Steve Conrad's script is based on the actual Chris Gardner. He is a bright guy starting to feel some age, with limited prospects - he sells bone-scanning equipment to doctors but is often rejected, and before the movie's end we hate the boxed machine as if it were a hound of fate. Tragedy is no option here, despite some vapors of it, and though the ending is expected it's also quite moving. This is one of the few American movies to deal with how people live and survive. It admires smart brokers but also feels for the many people down below, and we know that Chris will not claim his "happyness" by becoming a cold fish in a glass office. A Columbia Pictures release. Director: Gabriele Muccino. Writer: Steve Conrad. Cast: Will Smith, Jaden Christopher Syre Smith, Thandie Newton, James Karen, Brian Howe. Running time: 1 hour, 56 minutes. Rated PG-13.

Eragon ★★ - The most frightening moment in "Eragon" comes early and passes quickly. Relief in the theater is palpable when it is revealed that the blue, giant-football-size capsule discovered by Eragon the farm boy is not, in fact, what it first appears to be: the biggest damn suppository you've ever seen in your life. "Eragon" is taken from the 2002 dungeons and dragons/sword and sorcery novel by (then) teenager Christopher Paolini. An evil king (John Malkovich) has subjugated a peace-loving people; his eviler henchman (Robert Carlyle) does all kinds of evil henching; an innocent boy (newcomer Edward Speleers) with undreamed-of powers bonds with a nearly forgotten tradition of magical warriors, the last of whom (Obi-wan Irons ... Jeremy



Jaden Christopher and Will Smith star in the drama "The Pursuit of Happyness." (CNS Photo courtesy of Zade Rosenthal)

Jeremy Irons) will be his reluctant mentor. Also: a beautiful, tough-as-spikes princess (Sienna Guillory) held captive, about whom the boy has a vision; a band of freedom-loving warriors waiting for someone to lead them in rebellion; a wisecracking ne'er-do-well (Christopher Egan) ... Been to that galaxy, done that ring.

Another problem with "Eragon" is its confused tone: It seems geared to older children and young to middle teens, but there are many too many dark, brutal images, and the violence, though not lingered on, is occasionally gruesome. A Twentieth Century Fox release. Director: Stefan Fangmeier. Writers: Peter Buchman, Lawrence Konner. Cast: Edward Speleers, Jeremy Irons, Sienna Guillory, Robert Carlyle. Running time: 1 hour, 43 minutes. Rated PG.

Recent Releases

The Nativity Story ★★ - And the U-turn Oscar for 2006 goes to - Catherine Hardwicke! Yes, the director of "Thirteen" and "Lords of Dogtown," who also did design work for "Tombstone" and "I'm Gonna Get You, Sucka!," has made "The Nativity Story." Perhaps Snoop Dogg can now become Judah

Ben-Hur, and Borat can show up reverently in "Return of the Silver Chalice." "The Nativity Story" is, true to title, an illustrated Bible tale. Hardwicke, whose scabrous candor about teenage girls in "Thirteen" offended many people, has found the most virginal of all possible Marys: Keisha Castle-Hughes, whose awed encounter with a whale in "Whale Rider" was a warm-up for receiving the Holy Spirit in this film. Hardwicke is very literal, biblically. How moved you are by this holiday fare depends, beyond basic human empathy, on your piety (or nostalgia for childhood readings and Nativity plays). Hardwicke is basically turning pages, with a few notes on the margins, but she isn't dull, flip or (except with some light effects) kitschy. Nor does she work herself into a foamy froth of theological improvisation and overkill like Mel Gibson's Christ film. "The Nativity Story" profits from the comparison but, of course, never really invites it. A New Line Cinema. Director: Catherine Hardwicke. Writer: Mike Rich. Cast: Keisha Castle-Hughes, Oscar Isaac, Ciaran Hinds, Shohreh Aghdashloo. Running time: 1 hour, 41 minutes. Rated PG.

Bookshelf

continued from page 20

is all about.

It was Sister Bernadette, Florey's sixth-grade English teacher, who taught her to diagram sentences, beginning simply with "The dog barked." It doesn't take Florey long to demolish a pernicious myth: that diagramming sentences was deadly dull, tedious make-work, dreary drudgery foisted upon helpless children by frustrated fuddy-duddies.

"You took a sentence," she writes, "threw it against the wall, picked up the pieces, and put them together again, slotting each word into its pigeon-hole. When you got it right, you made order and sense out of what we used all the time and took for granted: sentences. Those ephemeral words didn't just fade away into the air but became chiseled in stone - yes, this is a sentence, this is what it's made of, this is what it looks like, a chunk of English you can see and grab onto."

For me, the satisfaction in diagramming a sentence was

akin to that of proving congruency in a pair of triangles. The thought processes involved in working through the solutions are, I suspect, similar: Just as you can stare at a (not-too-complicated) sentence and make it fall apart, the words milling about for a moment before slipping into their proper, diagrammed slots, so you can concentrate on two geometric shapes, with their given angles and segment lengths, and after a while have the proof lay itself out, step by step, like a computer printout in your head.

Florey's diagrammatic dissertation eventually - inevitably? - leads to the throwing against the wall, etc., of one of Henry James' most Henry Jamesian sentences. The result looks like one of those equation-filled blackboards theoretical physicists are always getting all chalk-dusted over, at least in cartoons. But it's an adventure and a half to put back together, even if it is something of a cheat: The semicolon that bisects it could just as easily have been a period, cutting the diagram (and the fun) in half.

Recipes

continued from page 20

But for those with a more timid palate, Anderson suggests sampling cheeses, starting with the mildest variety. "Sometimes you tell a customer about a cheese and they'll say, 'That's weird,'" she said. "But as soon as they taste it, they go, 'Mmmm.'"

Appetizer recipes featuring cheese from www.ilovecheese.com:

Baked Brie with Strawberry Glaze

1 (13 to 16-ounce) whole brie cheese, with rind left on
3 tablespoons strawberry preserves
2 teaspoons balsamic vinegar
½ cup sliced fresh strawberries
1 ½ tablespoons toasted hazelnuts or sliced toasted almonds
Crackers or party-bread slices
Yields 16 servings.

Preheat oven to 350 F. Place brie on baking sheet or in shallow baking dish. Bake for about 10 minutes or until cheese is soft and warm, but not runny.

While brie is baking, heat preserves and balsamic vinegar in small saucepan until thick and bubbly and then remove from heat.

Remove cheese from oven and transfer to serving dish. Arrange strawberries on top of

round. Drizzle with heated preserves and sprinkle with nuts. Serve with crackers or party-bread slices.

Nutritional analysis per serving (without crackers): 110 calories, 6 g protein, 3 g carbohydrate, 8 g fat, 25 mg cholesterol, 0 g fiber, 170 mg sodium.

Cheese and Bacon Triangles

6 (8-inch) flour tortillas
12 slices American cheese
½ cup cooked bacon bits
Butter, for cooking
Salsa (optional)
Yields 12 servings.

Cut tortillas in ½ to form 12 half-circles. Place 1 slice of cheese over each tortilla ½, tearing cheese to leave a ¼-inch border around edges. Top cheese with bacon bits. Brush a small amount of water around the edges of the tortilla. Fold in ½ forming a rounded triangle. Press the watered edges of tortilla together to seal.

In skillet over medium heat, cook triangles in small amount of butter until golden brown, about 3 minutes per side. Let stand 1 minute before serving.

If desired, serve with salsa. Nutritional analysis per serving: 180 calories, 9 g protein, 14 g carbohydrate, 10 g fat, 20 mg cholesterol, 1 g fiber, 550 mg sodium.

BUGLE KIDS

By J.R. Rose - Copley News Service

DRAW IT!

DRAW AN UMBRELLA...

SO I WON'T GET WET!



GIVE ME 5 RHYMES FOR WET...



SOLVE THE RIDDLE: WHAT GOES UP WHEN RAIN COMES DOWN?

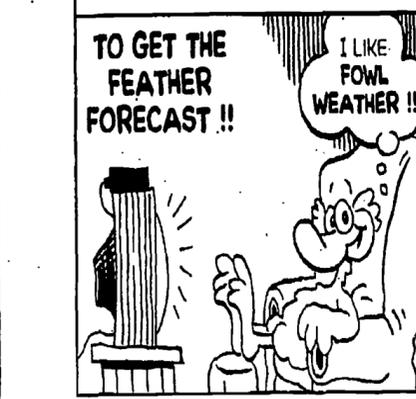


LOOK UP ABOVE...THIS IS NO LIE... COINS ARE FALLING FROM THE SKY! UNSRAMBLE PUP AND YOU WILL SEE JUST WHAT IT WAS HE SAID TO ME!



WRITE US... WE'LL WRITE YOU BACK!
IF YOU HAVE ANY FUN GAMES OR JOKES SEND THEM TO: PUP
95 LAUREL STREET
HARRISONBURG, VA 22801
OR E-MAIL: PUPTOON@AOL.COM

WHY DO DUCKS WATCH THE NEWS?



Tim Herd's Watchable Wildlife Guide

wildlife observation in the right place at the right time

Week of Dec. 31, 2006 - Jan. 6, 2007

The lively black-capped chickadee

The little gray and white bundle of woodland energy with the black head inhabits its full range all year round, but is more noticeable in winter when leafy cover is absent and the chickadee frequents the well-stocked bird feeder.

Insects are the black-cap's favorite prey, but when it's cold and they're harder to come by, the perky songster switches to moth eggs, spiders and plant materials to provide its high-energy needs. Adding suet and sunflower and safflower seeds to a bird feeding station is an invitation it can't resist.

"United we stand" could be the little chickadee's defense motto. The first one to spot a predator sounds a warning note, and the whole flock freezes, then all members begin uttering thin, ventriloquial notes, confusing the predator into abandoning its quest.

In the warmer southeast, look for the black-cap's cousin, the Carolina chickadee, which is very similar in appearance, save for showing a little more gray and a little less white, and being slightly smaller. As common and widespread in its habitat as its northern kin, there is surprisingly little fraternization between them in a narrow zone of overlapping ranges.



WHERE TO OBSERVE

Often attracted to bird feeders anywhere within range
Kenai National Wildlife Refuge, Alaska
Wood Buffalo National Park, Alberta
Spatsizi Plateau Park, British Columbia
Rocky Mountain National Park, Colo.
Superior National Forest, Minn.
Mount Carleton Park, New Brunswick
Adirondack Forest Preserve, N.Y.
Malheur National Forest, Ore.
Monongahela National Forest, W.Va.
Necedah National Wildlife Refuge, Wis.
Green Mountain National Forest, Vt.

LOOK FOR

field marks:
small fluffy bird with large head
black head and throat
white nape
long tail

habits:
slow, undulating flight, usually in short distances

LISTEN FOR

"Chickadee dee dee dee" call

Black-capped chickadee *Parus atricapillus*

5 inches
Habitat: mixed forests and woodlands, thickets, suburbs
Range Key: ■ Black-capped chickadee ■ Carolina chickadee

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Grammar Matters

by Patty Gibbons Saunier

Food for Thought

Choose the correct words in the parentheses.

- Colleen asked the waitress for more (Tabasco sauce, tabasco sauce).
- This restaurant serves the best (French fries, french fries).
- Grandma ordered a (Martini, martini) before dinner.

Answers: 1. Tabasco sauce. Always capitalize brand names.
2. french fries. If a food word can stand on its own and be understood without the adjective before it (fries), do not capitalize the first word.
3. martini. Use lowercase for all common words.

Copley News Service

No shortcuts for appropriate silver care

By Gene Gary
COPLEY NEWS SERVICE

Q: Do you have any recommendations on how to clean and polish sterling silver? I was recently given a set of tableware, including some serving pieces. However, they

HERE'S HOW

are badly tarnished from storage and disuse. Any advice you can give would be greatly appreciated.

A: The best way to clean silver is the old-fashioned way - with an anti-tarnish silver polish purchased from a jewelry store, fine china shop, or a well-stocked home center. Avoid instant chemical cleaners, as most chemicals tend to eat away the surface and repeated use will permanently erode the finish.

The same is true with electrolytic cleaning - a process that uses an aluminum plate or foil and a combination of boiling water, baking soda and salt to lift tarnish from the silver. This process tends to dull the finish and might remove antique shading.

The best method is to polish your silver with a soft cotton or flannel cloth and a brand name liquid or paste silver polish. Rub each piece lengthwise; never polish clockwise or with a circular motion as this may cause scratches. Polish thoroughly and rinse right away with soap and warm water. Dry with a soft towel.

The best way to maintain the finish is to use your silver regularly. Frequent use actually reduces tarnish and develops a glow called patina, which

enhances its beauty. Remember to rotate pieces you use so the patina develops evenly across different pieces in your set. If you use your silverware regularly, expect to polish it just one or twice a year.

Silverware should be rinsed immediately after use, especially after contact with acidic or corrosive foods such as salt, mayonnaise, ketchup, mustard or eggs. These foods, if left in contact with silver, can cause pitting and tarnishing.

Always wash your silver pieces separately to avoid bumping and scratching. Wash silverware in hot, sudsy water, then rinse with clear, hot water. Clean crevices with a worn toothbrush or fine natural-bristle brush. To avoid spotting, immediately dry pieces with a chamois or soft cotton cloth.

Don't soak silverware overnight. Extended immersion can damage the metal.

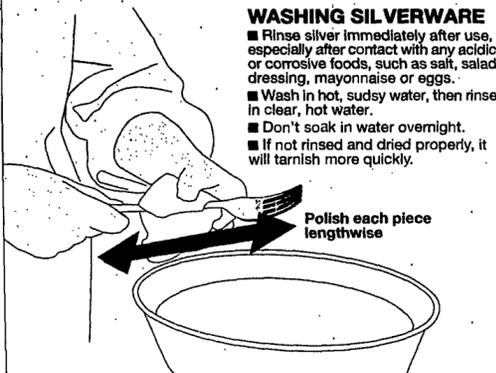
Although silverware is considered dishwasher-safe, high temperatures can loosen hollow handles or dissolve a decorative, oxidized pattern. If you do clean your silver in a dishwasher, keep the detergent to a minimum and remove silverware from the dishwasher prior to the drying cycle. Never put stainless steel and silverware in the same basket; direct contact can permanently damage silver.

If storing your silver for an extended period, seal it from air, moisture and direct sunlight. Even a light bulb that shines directly on silverware will cause it to tarnish faster than it will in a dark, dry place. The best storage is in airtight silver chest or protective bags made of tarnish-proof cloth, available from jewelry stores, then placed in zippered plastic bags.

HOME HOW-TO

Caring for your silver

Owning silver requires some work to keep it looking beautiful. With proper care and a few preventive measures, silver will last for many generations.



WASHING SILVERWARE

- Rinse silver immediately after use, especially after contact with any acidic or corrosive foods, such as salt, salad dressing, mayonnaise or eggs.
- Wash in hot, sudsy water, then rinse in clear, hot water.
- Don't soak in water overnight.
- If not rinsed and dried properly, it will tarnish more quickly.

HOW TO POLISH SILVER

1. Use a high-quality silver cream or polish.
2. Follow the manufacturer's instructions.
3. Collect all silver to be polished and set the pieces near the kitchen sink. Lay soft cotton towels nearby to provide an area to set the pieces once the cream is applied.
4. With a soft towel or flannel cloth, rub the polish on the metal using straight strokes, as opposed to circular movements.

STORING SILVER

- Keep all silverware away from dampness and direct sunlight. Even a light bulb that shines directly on silverware will cause it to tarnish faster than a dark, dry place.
- To keep humidity levels low in storage area, add desiccated silica gel to storage drawer or cabinet.
- Avoid wrapping silverware in plastic, aluminum foil or newspaper.
- Store silverware in an airtight chest or protective bags made of tarnishproof cloth. Exposure to air promotes tarnishing.

Copley News Service/Bob Kast

faces, especially oak, as wood often contains acids that can mar the finish.

You can create your own silver drawer with a length of tarnishproof fabric. Line any drawer with the cloth, allowing plenty of overhang. Place a cutlery rack inside the drawer. Line the dividers with silver cloth, lay silverware in place,

then fold the extra length of cloth over the top. Avoid wrapping silverware in plastic, aluminum foil or newspapers, or binding flatware with rubber bands, which can result in damage.

Q: In moving recently, a friend placed duct tape on a wooden picture frame to hold the joints together. How do I remove the residual glue left by the duct tape? An answer to this problem would be greatly appreciated as I don't want to scrape the frame.

A: I would try one of the citrus-based removers, such as Goo Gone or Orange Sol - commercial products developed to remove grease, gum, tape and sticker adhesives, crayon marks, candle spills and a host of other stains. These removers will be less likely to mar the finish of your wood picture frame than stronger solvent-based products.

A stronger remover product, Goof Off, would be effective, but might damage the finish on your wood frame.

It is very important to test any of these products in an inconspicuous area first to observe results. Be sure and follow manufacturer's directions carefully.

These products are readily available at home centers, hardware stores, general merchandise stores and even supermarkets.

Send e-mail to copleysd@copleynews.com or write to Here's How, Copley News Service, P.O. Box 120190, San Diego, CA 92112-0190. Only questions of general interest can be answered in the column.

Fitting a workstation into your space

By Christine Brun
COPLEY NEWS SERVICE

With the Internet at our fingertips almost everywhere we go, the "home office" doesn't

SMALL SPACES

necessarily have to be at home anymore. These days, coffeehouses, airport lounges and waiting areas can be used as work space by anyone with a laptop or Blackberry. Whether at home or on the road, staying in touch with co-workers and clients doesn't require a lot of room.

That's good news to those whose living spaces don't have room to spare. With an Internet connection, your computer can be your entire office. In a profession like interior design - one where you might guess most of the work occurs on-site with clients - we find ourselves spending more and more time being productive at the computer. We can communicate with clients very efficiently by e-mail and, best of all, the Web makes searching for product

information a breeze. Gone are the days of long-distance phone calls, waiting for faxes and driving from showroom to showroom in search of samples.

Certainly, there are those whose home-office needs require a desk and storage space for scanners, printers, copiers and fax machines. Client files can take up plenty of space, too. But if your space is forced into double duty, a kitchen counter or dining room table can suffice. Even a cocktail table with a little storage space can offer a spot where one can work, then stash away the computer.

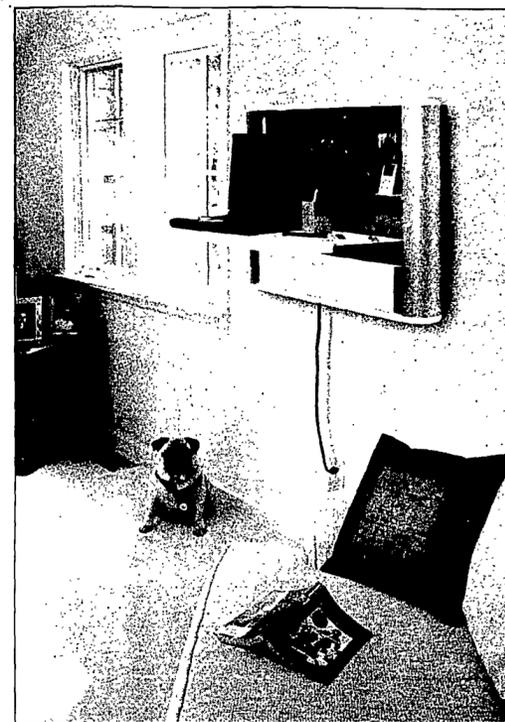
Trunks of all styles can also provide good storage space for notes, software and back-up materials. Use plastic bins or baskets to divide the space in a typical trunk and keep your office necessities neatly separated.

There are also dining tables and bedside tables that adjust in height in order to provide the just the right work surface for someone truly starved for space.

And don't overlook your vertical space. One idea for using wall space effectively is shown here. It's a wall-mounted system called eNook. The flip-down work space comes out just 7 1/4 inches from the wall when closed. When open, however, it provides a 30-inch-deep, 35-inch-wide mini desk - more than enough room for a laptop, mouse and notepad. The back panel becomes acts as a bulletin board and you can even add small shelves that can hold your digital camera, speakers or cell phone. With this installation, the only other piece of equipment that you need is a bar stool to sit on.

Think of the possibilities. A hallway linen closet or built-in bookcase can be converted into a mini-office and you can start working from home with ease.

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.



Work space - The eNook provides all the space needed to work from home. (CNS Photo courtesy of Anthro Technology Furniture)

Dishwasher 'in sink' with multitaskers

By Linda Pescatore
COPLEY NEWS SERVICE

No more leaving the dishwasher door wide open after mealtime, hoping your family and guests will take the hint and leave their tableware in it -

HOME ZONE

in-sink models let you load the dishwasher while standing at the basin. And one model, the Briva from KitchenAid, even lets you use the space as a sink when you're not using it as a dishwasher.

By removing its rack and spray arm, the Briva, winner of several industry design awards, transforms one side of its double-sink design into a full second sink. KitchenAid says Briva is the only in-sink model that can make that claim.

When you don't need a sink or a dishwasher, you can still put the Briva to work by covering the lid with an included

cutting board.

That space-saving versatility makes Briva a good fit where you need a dishwasher, but not a full-size one. That could mean a small kitchen, a second kitchen, or a very busy kitchen.

The Briva was originally designed for installation in custom 42- or 48-inch cabinets, but an updated model will fit a standard 36-inch cabinet. The new model features the same dishwasher, but with a smaller sink.

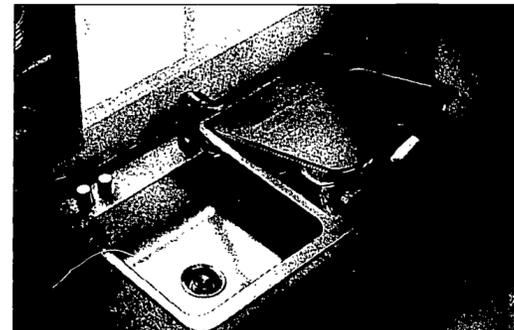
The dishwasher's 14-inch-deep compartment can handle as many as five place settings, with plates as wide as 11 inches in diameter.

Briva was designed to make fast work of dirty dishes. Using its own optional dedicated water heater, the Briva takes just 18 minutes to wash a lightly soiled load, or 30 minutes for a regular load. That's two or three times as fast as a standard dishwasher.

Seldom-used bowls, uten-

sils, or wine glasses can be rinsed before used for serving by utilizing Briva's two-minute rinse-only cycle. A 160-degree sanitizing option is available during the quick wash, normal and pot-scrub cycles. The Briva also features sound insulation that keeps your kitchen quiet and a flash-dry option that lets you unload clean dishes immediately.

The 36-inch model retails for \$1,849, and the 42-inch model is \$30 more. To find a dealer, call 800-422-1230 or visit www.kitchenaid.com.



Versatility on tap - KitchenAid's Briva in-sink dishwasher is the only such model that can double as a full second sink, according to the manufacturer. (CNS Photo courtesy of KitchenAid)

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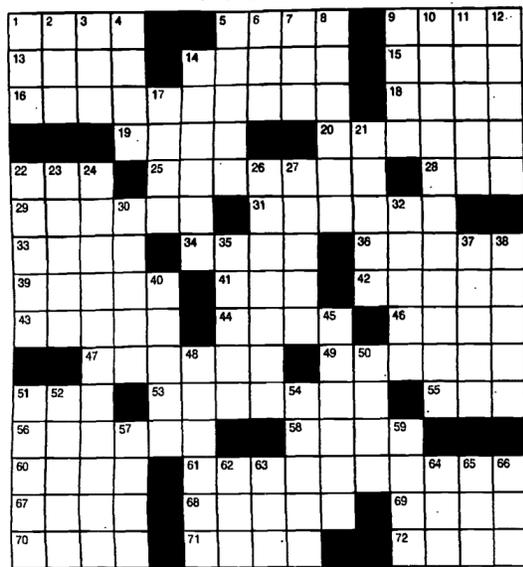
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NAME GAME



COPLEY NEWS SERVICE By Charles Preston

- ACROSS**
- 1 Thin coin
 - 5 Ring
 - 9 First place
 - 13 Landed
 - 14 "___ little pony..."
 - 15 Actor O'Shea
 - 16 Karen and Chuck
 - 18 Composer Charles
 - 19 Gardener
 - 20 Reason
 - 22 Servicewoman, formerly
 - 25 Kappa followers
 - 28 Sparks or Beatty
 - 29 Theme of noted King speech
 - 31 Delaware Indian
 - 33 Stone and Stallone
 - 34 Anima
 - 36 Done for!
 - 39 Dated
 - 41 Highly excited, with up
 - 42 Where Greek met
 - 43 Positioned
 - 44 Close to closed
 - 46 Pitcher
- DOWN**
- 1 Slight touch
 - 2 Under the weather
 - 3 Ms. Farrow
 - 4 Emulate Durer
 - 5 Heat combiner
 - 6 Scull
 - 7 Head man; abbr.
 - 8 Nonprofessional
 - 9 Give forth
 - 10 Spiritual energy
 - 11 Soissons student
 - 12 Pried
 - 14 Construction pieces
 - 17 Tonic nut
 - 21 Honshu port
 - 22 Stingers
 - 23 Loser to Dwight
 - 24 Billy and Lucille
 - 26 Ben and John
 - 27 River-mouth triangle
 - 30 Ruhr Valley city
 - 32 Summoned
 - 35 John or Scarlett
 - 37 Skin affliction
 - 38 Weight allowances
 - 40 Fiat
 - 45 Texas lawman
 - 48 Mason's tool
 - 50 Osiris's wife
 - 51 Kind of time
 - 52 External
 - 54 Of a grain
 - 57 Sobriquet for Adenauer
 - 59 Army's foe
 - 62 Ball
 - 63 Figure-skater Midori
 - 64 Old card game
 - 65 See 71 Across
 - 66 Keep a date

Last Week's Puzzle Answers

DON'T GIVE UP



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

THE WINNER'S

- 1st Ralph Stempinski
- 2nd Lorraine Truskolaski
- 3rd Leo Madura

Send your answers to the editor:
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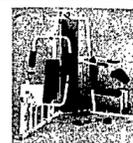
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| Alliance Bank 7840 Milwaukee Ave. | Village Creamery 8000 Waukegan Rd. | Scissorhands Barber 739 Devon Ave. | Morton Grove Senior Center 6140 Dempster St. |
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