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0256

Area residents can tee off to help a good cause at Wheaton Lions golf outing



Vicki Sebela
Wheaton

When the Wheaton Lions Club plans a golf outing, participants should be ready to register their foursome almost immediately. This popular event has been a tradition for many years and holds the reputation for tough competition, great fun, an incredible course and delicious food.

The event, scheduled for Wednesday at Cantigny Golf Club in Wheaton, already is sold out. There is much more to the Lions Club of Wheaton than a popular golf outing. The group has been around since Oc-

tober 1923 with a goal of assisting the visually and hearing impaired and enjoying good fellowship at meetings.

To the casual observer, they are the individuals risking life and limb in traffic each October to trade drivers a roll of candy for spare change. However, the Wheaton club, as a member of the International organization, accepted a challenge issued many years ago by Helen Keller as she asked Lions to become, "knights of the blind in the crusade against darkness."

To meet that challenge, the club hosts three big fund-raising events each year with its golf outing, candy day and a Christmas auction. Proceeds are used to provide the services and equipment necessary to meet Keller's challenge.

"Through our golf outing alone we typically raise more than \$10,000, and the Deicke Center is the primary beneficiary," said Jim Herrmann, who is co-chairing this event with Bob Haeger. "In reality, we make close to nothing on the golf itself, so

we rely heavily on the generosity of others to provide tee and green sponsorships, and raffle and auction prizes."

Many groan when asked for the proverbial raffle prize, yet Herrmann stressed these gifts make it possible for others to give generously. Then, in turn, all the money goes to benefit those who are in need. So something as little as a sleeve of golf balls or a donated \$25 dinner certificate can be turned into something more valuable.

The Wheaton Lions Club is urging six

more businesses or organizations to step up to the plate and become tee and green sponsors. For \$300, Herrmann said your company name and logo will be displayed for all 140 golfers to see and remember.

Lions Club members meet at noon Tuesdays at the Masonic Temple Building, 120 W. Wesley St., Wheaton.

For details and reservations, call (630) 369-4084.

To make donations, call (630) 933-0690 or Haeger at (630) 668-6644.

The briefs

Folk festival to provide funds for the area's needy

SARET's Summer Folk Extravaganza will be held from 3 to 6 p.m. Aug. 26 at Wheaton Park District's auditorium, 1777 S. Blanchard Road, Wheaton. The program features a sing-along and folk music of the W.F. Folk Trio with Lily Kuzma, Mary Ann and Hugh O'Connor. Music includes a variety, from traditional to Appalachian to the '50s and '60s. The event includes a raffle and healthy refreshments. The suggested donation is \$25 per person, \$40 per family. Proceeds will benefit SARET Charitable Fund, a 16-year-old, not-for-profit organization that provides emergency assistance to needy residents of DuPage and Kane counties. Reservations are requested by Wednesday by calling (630) 462-2846 and (630) 790-1176.

Women Voters invite all to summer open house

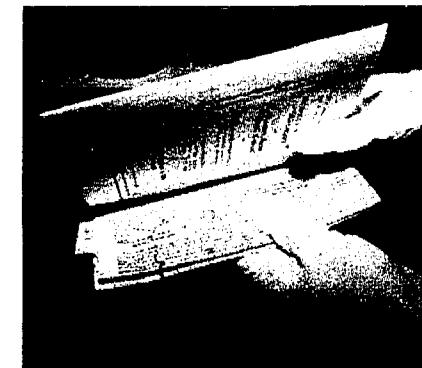
The Glen Ellyn League of Women Voters is holding a "Summer Frappuccino/Coffee" at 6:30 p.m. Aug. 23 at a member's house, 765 Hillside, Glen Ellyn. The meeting will include a brief new member orientation and a presentation at 7:30 p.m. that features Greg Mathews, Glen Ellyn village president; Chip Renfro, Civic Betterment Party president; Barb Fried, former Glen Ellyn village board and league member; as well as Mary Loch, current Glen Ellyn village board and league member.

All league meetings are open to the public. The League of Women Voters is a national, nonpartisan, grassroots organization with goals to enhance citizen participation in the election process and at all levels of government. Call (630) 668-2600.

Medicare 2001 discussion planned for Aug. 24

The informational seminar, "Understanding Medicare 2001," will be presented at 10 a.m. Aug. 24 at The Meadows, 60 N. Nicholl Ave., Glen Ellyn. Guest speaker Cathy Gleason, community relations representative of Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Illinois, will address topics concerning eligibility, deductibles, co-payments and benefit changes for 2001. Refreshments will be served. Seating is limited. Call (630) 942-0600.

Pet of the week



DAILY HERALD PHOTOS/BRIAN HILL
At right, Wheaton Warrenville District 200 Superintendent Gary Catalani, right, and school board President Andrew Johnson struggle to pry open a time capsule recently found at Longfellow School. Inside the capsule, they found old newspapers and other documents that will be displayed during a Sept. 15 dedication ceremony for the new Longfellow School.



History unearthed

Time capsule from 1930s found at Wheaton school a link to past

BY CARMEN GRECO JR.

Daily Herald Staff Writer

A surprise blast from the past has greeted school officials in Wheaton Warrenville District 200.

A time capsule buried on the grounds of Longfellow School in 1935 was recently uncovered by workers who are now demolishing the school at 311 W. Seminary St.

School Superintendent Gary Catalani and school board members Andrew Johnson and Donald Shaner opened the box during a recent school board meeting.

Old newspapers, school photographs, books and a 1935 Lincoln penny were among the items found in the box.

School officials in 1935 buried the time capsule as part of a dedication ceremony for a new gymnasium and other improvements to the school, which was then known

as Wheaton Junior High School.

The items in the box — 28 in all — have been turned over to the Wheaton History Center, where they will be studied and added to the history center's collections.

History center Director Alberta Adamson said the variety of the material in the box was significant. Besides school-related artifacts, other items such as a printed bulletin from St. Paul's Lutheran Church were unearthed.

"It means they had community involvement in it," Adamson said. "It wasn't just the school doing it."

The school — the oldest in District 200 — first opened as Central School in 1874. It underwent several expansions and renovations over the years.

But school officials and parents decided it was outdated and launched construction of the new Longfellow School, which is almost complete just to the west



School officials wore white gloves as they gently removed the contents of the time capsule.

near West Street.

Adamson said the class lists of students found in the time capsule could be valuable for genealogists.

History center officials also are excited about the never-before-seen photographs of the old school found in the capsule.

Looking at the big picture, Adamson said the contents of the

time capsule will help increase the community's understanding of Wheaton's history.

"It's nice to have that documentation," Adamson said.

The history center will put together an exhibit of the time capsule, which will be on display at a Sept. 15 dedication ceremony for the new Longfellow School.

W. Chicago officials to hold forum on diversity

BY JAKE GRIFFIN

Daily Herald Staff Writer

Diversity has been an issue in West Chicago that many have tip-toed around and handled with care.

The touchy subject has been broached before by the city, which is nearly split evenly between whites and Hispanics. With five new faces on the city council dais and a new mayor, the issue is again at the forefront.

"We need to address all the needs of every part of the community," said Mayor Michael Fortner.

A lengthy council discussion about starting a diversity program in the city yielded a plan to bring in a consultant and hold a town hall meeting on the topic.

Tony Reyes, an independent consultant also working with DuPage County on a similar program, will moderate the meeting, which is scheduled for 7 p.m. Wednesday.

"Step one is bringing leaders from all over the town together, and step two is getting the community to participate," said Reyes, a West Chicago native. "You're not going to create diversity in a vacuum."

Tom Tawney, an advocate for the Hispanic community in West Chicago, is pleased with Reyes' involvement.

"It's very appropriate at this time and place to reach out to someone who is a conciliator in order to bring the two sides together," Tawney said.

However, Reyes doesn't see the issue as two-sided.

"There are some issues for every immigrant group," he said. "This shouldn't be just for whites and Latinos. There are other groups out there. But the biggest issue is the language

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Well-rounded Naperville Express worked hard for great year

The Naperville Express, a team of 15-year-olds from eight different high schools, finished fifth in the Continental Amateur Baseball Association World Series, which was held in Crystal Lake July 27 to Aug. 5.

Their week was highlighted by a 4-2 victory over a team from Japan in the second round.

"That was the big showcase game," said Express manager Marty Kobernus. "They (Japan) had 10,000 kids try out for their team. They were very well-disciplined and had some really good ballplayers."

But, obviously, they weren't the only team with some really good ballplayers.

The tournament featured 36 teams divided into six, six-team divisions in the first round. The Express went 4-1 in a division that included teams from Mexico, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio

and the host town of Crystal Lake.

Their performance was good enough to advance to the double elimination round where they defeated Cincinnati 8-0, as well as Japan, before losing to Issaquah, Wash., and Akron, Ohio.

During a summer season that consisted of tournament play every weekend since the beginning of June, the Express finished with a solid 27-9 record. At one point they won three tournaments in a row, including the state championship event at Lincoln-Way that propelled them into the World Series.

Kobernus, who started the tournament travel team last summer, said they experienced similar success in 2000. Most of the players had just finished eighth grade and were heading into high school at the time.

"It was their first year being surrounded by this type of competition," Kobernus said. "We didn't do too badly. The kids enjoyed themselves. They thought it really prepared them for high school."

All of the members of the Express played for their high school freshman teams. Some even saw time at the varsity level, so they were also well prepared for this summer session. Tom O'Shea and Matt Reimer will be sophomores at Glenbard South. A catcher and outfielder, O'Shea batted third and led the team in hitting with a hefty .490 average. He also led the Express with 12 World Series hits

while batting .500.

Reimer, a slick fielding shortstop, batted .372 this summer and played with the varsity Raiders this spring. He hit .407 in the World Series.

"He might be the best fielding shortstop that we've seen all year," Kobernus said.

Naperville North was represented by sophomores Mike Perconte, Drew Locascio and Kyle Kobernus, as well as junior Peter Norris.

Norris is an outfielder with great speed who saw limited playing time in the World Series due to a pulled hamstring. When he did play, he batted .556 (5-for-9).

Perconte anchored the second base position and is the son of former major leaguer Jack Perconte, while Locascio is a steady infielder who saw time at both second and short.

Kobernus is the youngest member

of the team, but at 6-feet-3 and 205 pounds you'd never know it. The first baseman/pitcher batted .450 and has been clocked at 83 mph on the mound.

Center fielder Kenny Williams, who will be a sophomore at Plainfield High School this fall, batted .321 leading off for the Express. His father, Ken Williams Sr., is the general manager of the White Sox.

"He's some kind of fast," said Kobernus of his speedy leadoff man.

Two right-handers from Naperville Central, Matt Mennen and John Elwardt, provided some solid pitching for the Express and saw action at third base. Mennen was the team's No. 2 pitcher and went 2-0 in the World Series with 7 strikeouts in 10 innings.

Elwardt, a new addition to the team

See SKRABACZ on PAGE 3



DAILY HERALD PHOTO/SEV HORNE
High energy describes the personality of this year-old spayed female miniature pinscher. Dixie would do best in a family with adults and teenagers, not young children. For details, call the DuPage County Animal Control, 120 N. County Farm Road in Wheaton, at (630) 682-7197.



Ron Skrabacz
Neighbor Sports