Wheeling Articles
August 14, 1986
March 25, 1988

Wheeling Countryside

8-14-86

Crime jumps 9% here during first half of '86

By C.L. WALLER

The number of serious crimes reported in Wheeling during the first six months of 1986 is up more than 9 percent over the first half of last year.

But Police Chief Michael Haeger says that's not necessarily bad news.

In fact, he believes the higher rate is just a symptom of having younger, more aggressive officers patrolling streets.

There were 532 reports of serious crime in Wheeling from Jan. 1 to June 30, 1986 — a 9.2 percent increase over the 483 incidents reported during the same period in 1985.

SERIOUS CRIMES CONSIST of homicide, criminal sexual assault, robbery, aggravated assault, theft and arson.

The major reason for the overall increase in serious crime is the upsurge in reports of burglaries from vehicles. There were 147 vehicle break-ins during the first half of 1986 — a 91 percent jump over the 77 reported during the same period last year.

Aggravated assault/battery increased 121 percent over last year — from 14 incidents in 1985 to 31 in 1986. Robberies are up from five to seven, and there were three reports of criminal sexual assault this year compared to two reports in the first half of 1985.

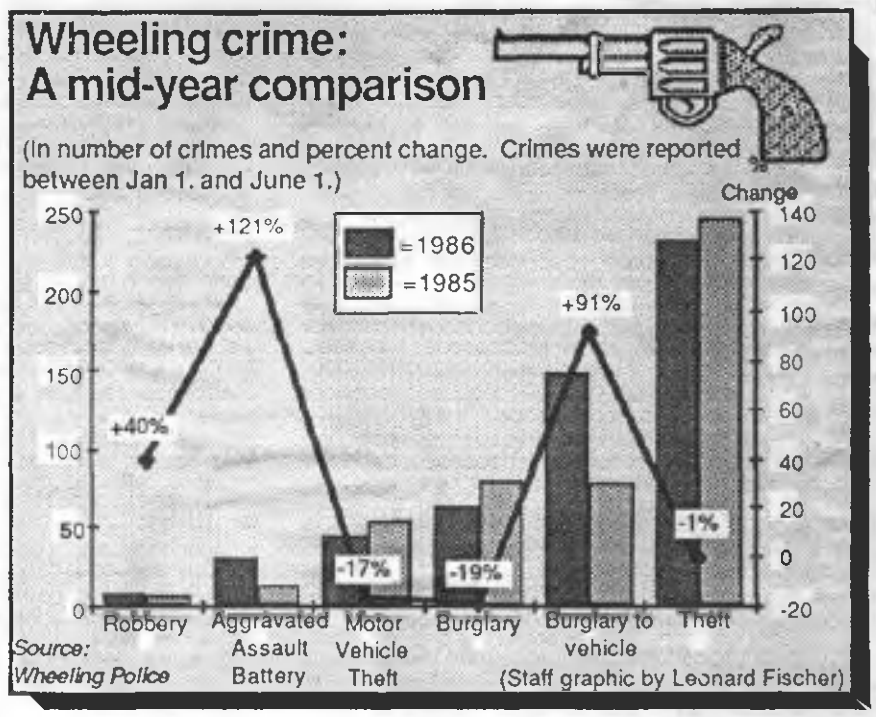
Other serious crimes are down. Burglaries dropped from 78 in 1985 to 63 the first six months of this year; motor vehicle thefts are down 17 percent; reports of theft dropped 5 percent; and arson dropped from seven incidents last year to five this year.

THERE WERE NO homicides the first six months of this year, compared to one in the first half of 1985.

Reports of disorderly conduct, battery, possession of cannabis and traffic offenses are up 27 percent over the first half of last year, and Haeger said it's likely the department's recent emphasis on aggressive patrolling has caused an increase in these areas as well as the more serious crimes.

"We're catching others with traffic stops," he said.

Wheeling hired four new officers in April who have completed training and have been patrolling on their own for the past two months.



YOUNGER OFFICERS HAVE a tendency to focus on traffic patrol, and other arrests are often made on routine traffic stops, the chief said. "I'd like to see traffic enforcement continue," he said.

Crimes such as possession of cannabis, motor vehicle offenses and disorderly conduct doubled when comparing the first half of 1985 to the same period in 1986. Possession of cannabis arrests increased from 13 to 24, motor vehicle offenses increased from 136 to 337 and disorderly conduct jumped from 117 to 239, according to a six-month comparison report compiled by Wheeling police.

"I think we had a good six months," Haeger said.

The department plans to hire four more

(Continued on page 18)

114th Year - 305 ck/Pub

Herald 8-17-86

Sandburg School not purchased

by Cheryl terHorst
Herald staff writer

A Buffalo Grove couple has decided not to buy the old Sandburg School in Wheeling because village officials won't approve zoning changes needed for some of the proposed business ventures.

Judith Katz, of J.N.K. Associates, said she and her husband instead will purchase the old Rainbow Path building at the corner of Ellen Drive and Dundee Road in Buffalo Grove. They had planned to buy Sandburg School, 3315 Schoenbeck Road, for $700,000 from Wheeling Township Elementary District 21.

"It's a little frustrating, but when you're in the real estate business, and we are whether we want to or not, you have to recognize that some go through and some don't," District 21 board President Barrett R. Peterson said. "That's inherent in those deals. I wouldn't say I'm panicked."

"Sandburg did not meet our needs because, unfortunately, the village had problems with zoning," Katz said. "It was not an economically sound decision."

J.N.K. had planned to rent out facilities for picnics and banquets, which would be classified as a commercial use in a residential area, said Wheeling Director of Community Development Robert W. Fialkowski.

"We can deal with whoever comes in and rents, and they do have to recognize that there are zoning restrictions that don't affect the school," he said.

THE KATZES also had planned to move their Minee Subee day-care center into the Sandburg building after losing their lease at Irving School, a closed District 21 school sold last year to the Northwest Jewish Community Center.

Meanwhile, District 21 is losing Sunnie Kiddies Day Care Center, which leased space in Sandburg School for three years. Eilene Lombardo, executive director of the day-care center, bought the former John Muir School in Prospect Heights Elementary District 23 for $525,000. Lombardo previously also had been interested in purchasing Sandburg School.

The district earns $75,480 in rent annually from Sandburg School, which was closed in 1980. It is one of four school buildings the board of education determined it would no longer need and targeted a few years ago to sell.

District 21 officials say they now will have to decide whether to continue to try to rent Sandburg or to sell it. If the district changes the selling price, it will have to hold another public auction. The district originally had put the school up for auction because J.N.K. in May said it would buy the school for $700,000.

Sewer repair contract set

Herald 8-15-86

The village of Wheeling has awarded a $329,248 contract for sewer repairs in the Meadowbrook West subdivision.

Ingram Construction Co. Inc. of Russell was the low bidder for the work. The other bid submitted was from George W. Kennedy Construction Co. of Wadsworth for $405,010.

Village officials had budgeted $460,000 for the project, which is expected to begin at the end of the month and last three months, Robert D. Gray Jr., director of public works, said. "There's sufficient money in the budget," he said.

The work will consist of repairing water mains that have broken down repeatedly because of corrosive soil conditions in the subdivision, which is located west of Wolf Road and South of Heritage Park.

GRAY SAID no streets would be torn up for the work.

However, other projects being conducted in the village will mean some disruption.

The village recently awarded a $4.6 million contract to Kennedy Construction Co. for a two-year massive sewer rehabilitation project aimed at sections of Wheeling built before 1970. In conjunction with that, Wheeling Road will be reconstructed at a cost of $1.6 million.

The village also is in the middle of a $1.1 million street improvement program that will upgrade nearly 90 percent of village thoroughfares. That work should be completed this fall.

Village to grant ducks safe passage

8-16-86

by Evelyn Dorman
Herald staff writer

Saying county officials are ducking their responsibility, Wheeling village officials will install their own street signs warning motorists about ducks waddling to watering holes off of Hintz Road.

Ever since a resident in June voiced his concern about ducks being run over on busy streets, village officials had been waiting for permission from the Cook County Highway Department to install duck-crossing signs on county-owned roads.

But irked at the lack of response, Wheeling Public Works Director Robert D. Gray Jr. ordered six yellow duck-crossing signs at a cost of about $15 to $18 each and says he's going to have them installed on village streets in September.

"What's the worst they can do? Take down the signs?" Gray asked. "If they're not going to give me a yea or nay or even a comment, then I'm going to post them."

County highway officials Friday first said they didn't recall a request for the signs, and then later said they would reject the request.

BOB HEDRICK, chief engineer of transportation and planning, said he had "no recollection" of a request from Wheeling, although someone in the department remembered a private request from some residents.

"I don't recall it and I just went over our hit list of unanswered letters. Not knowing where the signs are going to be, I can't really comment," Hedrick said. "We do not install the signs. Nobody pays attention to them, including the ducks. Certainly, I think that if it (a request) came from the village, I would have remembered it."

Gray had planned to install the signs on Hintz Road between Schoenbeck and Buffalo Grove roads and on Buffalo Grove Road north of Hintz Road on the Wheeling side of the roadway, which is under county jurisdiction.

Gray says he will install the signs where Wheeling has jurisdiction — in front of Lakeside Villas and on Lakeview Drive.

Village delays vote on airport manager's pact

by Evelyn Dorman
Herald staff writer

Herald 8-19-86

Wheeling officials Monday delayed acting upon a manager's contract for the proposed buyout of Pal-Waukee Airport until airport commissioners revise the agreement to include a cap on total expenses.

The delay in the contract's approval pushes back the eventual buyout of the private airport by Wheeling and Prospect Heights at Hintz and Wolf roads until early next year.

Pal-Waukee Municipal Airport commissioners, who have been negotiating with Airport Corp. of America in Short Hills, N.J., have been recommending the contract's approval in an effort to make begin buyout proceedings in September.

But Wheeling officials held up approving a contract until they could set a spending limit, clarify travel expenses and clarify whether Airport Corp. officials would remain as the managers after the airport was purchased.

If hired, Airport Corp. officials would help Pal-Waukee commissioners determine a "pre-acquisition" appraisal of airport inventory and how much should be offered for it when they present their proposal to airport owner George Priester.

"WE'RE STILL waiting for land surveys and appraisals (on airport property) to come in and those are what is holding up the buyout just as well as a manager's contract," Trustee William A. Rogers, chairman of the Pal-Waukee Municipal Airport commission, said.

"And even when all that is resolved, we will still have to talk with the Priesters. I don't think we'll be ready until early next year."

The delay in buying the airport will not affect funding for the purchase of the airport.

Under the contract, Airport Corp. personnel would be paid on an hourly basis, ranging from $12.50 for clerical workers to $90 for the principal manager. Corporation employees would be reimbursed for meals, lodging and travel expenses at a cost not to exceed $20,000.

The week ahead 8-4-86

Village house hunting at Milwaukee Avenue site

The Wheeling village board tonight will consider buying a house on North Milwaukee Avenue in anticipation of future downtown redevelopment.

The board meets at 8 p.m. at village hall, 255 W. Dundee Road.

Village officials have been negotiating with resident Edward C. Schultz, who is willing to sell his house at 116 N. Milwaukee Ave. for $110,000.

Village officials in April set aside $5,000 in earnest money to buy the house because it is situated in the crossroad redevelopment corridor. Final purchase of the property hinges on whether Vantage Companies Inc. of Arlington Heights presents an agreeable plan to redevelop the northwest corner of Milwaukee Avenue and Dundee Road.

Preliminary plans show that Vantage is considering a retail center there, with the existing Sportmart Plaza as the anchor.

The remaining businesses at the insection will have to reach a settlement with Vantage, or be condemned by the village, which would then

Wheeling Lib. August 7

Wheeling buys more property for downtown redevelopment project

The Village of Wheeling now owns three parcels of property in the Crossroads redevelopment area, following purchase approval by village trustees Monday night.

Trustees approved spending $110,000 for property containing a house at 116 N. Milwaukee Ave. The sale has not closed yet, but plans are to tear down the house owned and lived in by Edward Schultz, said Bob Fialkowski, community development director.

The property is part of an area stretching out northwest from Dundee Road and Milwaukee Avenue. The village plans to redevelop that area stretching from Dundee Road up Milwaukee to Strong Avenue into a retail center with about 90,000 to 95,000 being new construction.

The entire Crossroads area is comprised of both sides of Milwaukee from Strong on the north to Manchester Drive on the south. Both sides of Dundee Road from the Des Plaines River to First Street are also included.

Wheeling spent $195,000 for property at the north end of the redevelopment area in order to get a right-of-way to a nursing home. The other piece of property owned by the village is a small parcel near Dunkin' Donuts where the fire station once stood.

Money used to purchase the property was taken from the Crossroads redevelopment implementation fund. The fund was created because the Crossroads has also been made a tax increment financing district. The tax increment financing program calls for extra tax revenues generated by new development to be used by Wheeling to repay the village's investment in land acquisition and public improvements.

The village may know in two weeks if any additional tax revenues from the area has gone into the fund, Fialkowski said. "It's not going to be much, if anything," he said.

In the meantime, the village has loaned money to the Crossroads fund for purchases such as property, he said.

8-7 Life Wheeling

Lawsuit settled over zoning

WHEELING — A lawsuit brought against the village by the owner of a building located on Milwaukee Avenue south of Dundee Road has ended in a settlement.

The settlement, entered into July 23, maintains the B-3 zoning of the property, but allows an exception to the zoning that will permit the building to be leased to a tir3 tire company.

The suit was brought against the village last month by Michael Gendusa after the Village Board denied his request to rezone the site to B-4 from B-3. The board turned down the request after research indicated that a proposed covenant on the property prohibiting such B-4 uses as a tavern, would not be enforceable.

Gendusa wanted the property rezoned B-4 in order to lease the entire building to the Duxler Tire Co. B-3 zoning generally permits retail and commercial type uses while B-4 zoning allows varied uses that include such things as used car lots and auto dealerships.

In the suit, Gendusa charged that his building is a single general use structure viable only for use in automobile or related sales or service.

The suit contended that it would not be feasible to renovate the structure for B-3 use and therefore, by refusing to rezone, the village acted to confiscate the property without due process of law.

Village Attorney Jim Rhodes said that the settlement, agreed to by Judge Joseph Wosik, lets the village continue the B-3 zoning while at the same time allowing the building to be used for automobile service as it has been in the past.

Airport contract OK delayed

Life 8-14-86

WHEELING—The Village Board delayed ratification Monday of a Pal-Waukee management contract with Airport Corp. of America.

The Pal-Waukee Airport Commission has recommended that Wheeling and the city of Prospect Heights enter into a contract with Airport Corp., a New Jersey firm that it wants to help manage Pal-Waukee's transition from a private airport to a public facility.

Commission Chairman Bill Rogers said this is the last major contract that must be signed before the villages purchase the airport.

But the Wheeling Village Board decided to delay voting on the contract after its staff raised concerns about the document. In a report to the board, Village Attorney Jim Rhodes said the contract makes no provision for liability insurance.

He also said the board should note that the contract contains no cap on the amount of money that Airport Corp. can spend for the work it contracts to do.

Village Manager Tom Markus said the contract does not spell out such things as whether Airport Corp. can charge for the amount of time employees spend traveling here from New Jersey. If the company charges its regular hourly rates for such travel time, the could can be hefty, Markus said.

Rhodes pointed out that the $20,000 cap on expenses that the contract calls for will probably be spent.

Rogers predicted that the concerns about the contract will be cleared up quickly and that the village will approve the document next week.

He said the concerns can be met by clarifying language in the contract.

Before the contract can be signed, it must be approved by Wheeling and Prospect Heights.

In other business, the board discussed a Police Department request that it approve the hiring of four full-time and two part-time community-service officers.

Currently, the department has openings for four part-time and two full-time service officers. However, Police Chief Michael Haeger said the part-time employee turnover is extremely high.

In a report to the board, Haeger said Wheeling is one of the few departments to use part-time CSOs. As a result, his part-time employees can go to other police departments in the area to get full-time work, he said.

Community-service officers issue ordinance violations for such things as having weeds too high or placing real estate signs in the wrong place. They also issue parking citations and engage in public-education work.

The board will vote on the Police Department request Aug. 18.

Also Monday, the board approved a resolution to have the West Meadowbrook water main replaced by Ingram Construction Company at a cost of $329,248.

8-5-86

Wheeling action gets development rolling

by Joan Fleischer
Herald staff writer

The village of Wheeling took a first step Monday towards redeveloping its downtown area by paying $110,000 for a house on North Milwaukee Avenue.

Village trustees unanimously voted to buy the residence at 116 N. Milwaukee Ave. from owner Edward C. Schultz, using money from the village's Crossroads Redevelopment Fund.

VILLAGE MANAGER Thomas M. Markus said he was pleased the village was able to acquire the property and clear the way for downtown redevelopment.

"It's a time-consuming process," said Markus, "but sometime this fall we hope to pull together a plan and put it before village trustees."

The village expects to pay for the Milwaukee Avenue redevelopment program by using tax-increment financing, called TIF, which will allow the village to use a portion of taxes to fund the improvements. Under the plan, the property tax rate could be frozen at the 1985 level for up to 20 years for local taxing bodies — such as the schools, parks and library districts — so that increases each year will go to a special TIF fund.

Preliminary redevelopment plans show creation of a town square center at the northwest corner of Milwaukee Avenue and Dundee Road. An Arlington Heights firm, Vantage Companies Inc., was selected earlier this year to develop a retail center of at least 130,000 square feet to be anchored by the existing Sportmart Plaza.

FOR REMAINING businesses at the intersection, a settlement with Vantage would have to be reached before redevelopment of the land could occur. If Vantage and those properties fail to reach a sale price, it might be up to the village to condemn the properties and then resell it to Vantage.

Wheeling Life 8-7

Village, businessman call a truce

A Milwaukee Avenue businessman will be exempt from a zoning law as long as he meets village expectations, according to an agreement reached out of court.

Duxler Tire Company will be allowed to rent a building at Milwaukee Avenue and Center Avenue under commercial zoning, but the property owner must eliminate driveways onto Milwaukee Avenue, put landscaping in front of the business and screen the back, said village attorney Jim Rhodes.

Any sort of auto repair business will be allowed on the spot that is now being held in trust by the Main Bank of Wheeling.

The out-of-court agreement resulted from a lawsuit filed in July on behalf of Michael Gendusa Sr., who has owned the property for 30 years.

North Shore AMC Jeep Renault dealership was operating on the property until January. When the new tenant, Duxler Tire Company, was found, the change in property use meant the new tenant would have to comply with a zoning law that says only commercial property was allowed in that spot.

Pal-Waukee offer may be made in a month

8-7 Wheeling Life

Airport purchase nears

By MARIE LUTZ
Staff Writer

WHEELING — The Pal-Waukee Airport Commission will probably make an offer to purchase Pal-Waukee within 60 to 90 days, according to commission Chairman Bill Rogers.

Rogers comment comes as the commission is in the process of hiring Airport Corp. of America, a New Jersey firm that will help manage Pal-Waukee's transition from a private airport to a public facility.

"This is the last major contract that the commission has to sign before we think about acquiring the airport," Rogers said.

All other key personnel, including appraisers, engineers and lawyers, are already on board, Rogers said.

The commission unanimously voted to hire Airport Corp. July 30 after negotiations with its first choice, Lockheed Air Terminal Inc., broke down. Lockheed had insisted that the commission pay a penalty if the firm's services were terminated. The commission refused to go along with this demand and the contract with Airport Corp. doesn't contain such a clause.

The Airport Corp. contract also calls for a $20,000 cap on expenses, such as lodging, transportation and supplies, a limit that was not included in the proposed Lockheed contract.

Rogers said Airport Corp. recognizes the value of being the first manager of Pal-Waukee. For the commission's part, he said, "We feel we will work with well-trained, skillful people who will give us the information we are looking for. So it's a happy union."

The contract with Airport Corp. will run until the day after the airport is purchased. Rogers said he expects the Wheeling Village Board and the Prospect Heights City Council to ratify the contract next week. The two municipalities have entered into an agreement to jointly purchase Pal-Waukee and established the Pal-Waukee Commission.

Airport Corp. will gather some of the data the commission needs to decide how much to offer Priester Aviation for the airport. It will determine such things as how much rent can be charged for hangers, the number of planes that will use the facility and, in general, how much money the communities can expect the airport to make. Also important in determining the offer will be the result of the appraisals of Pal-Waukee and the appraisals of other land, around the airport that the commission expects to purchase.

Rogers said the airport purchase has turned out to be much more complex than commissioners first envisioned. "I don't believe there is an airport in the United States that has been purchased by two communities that have set up an intergovernmental agreement," he said.

Because the purchase of Pal-Waukee is so unusual, Rogers said, "we have had to go the route of making up the rules and regulations as we go along."

Wheeling hires certification help

Herald 8-7-86

by Joan Fleischer
Herald staff writer

The village of Wheeling has hired a full-time administrator to help ensure the village becomes one of the state's certified cities — a title coveted by many communities, but previously snubbed by Wheeling.

David Kowal, 25, of Kalamazoo, Mich., has been hired at an annual salary of $19,000 for the newly created spot of village administrative assistant.

Kowal's first job assignment will be to complete the lengthy application process for Wheeling to qualify for the special recognition of certified city, said Village Manager Thomas M. Markus.

Administered by the Illinois Department of Commerce and Community Affairs, the certification program requires those towns to bring all facets of operation — such as fire codes, sewer services, and hospital and school services — up to specified standards. Communities see the title as a way to spur economic growth by attracting new businesses and developers, who are referred to the towns by the state.

"**WE NEVER** questioned the value of being a certified city, just our priorities," Village President Sheila H. Schultz said. "Last year, there were so many other pressing matters. Things have settled and maybe we can look at it again."

Markus discouraged village trustees from competing to make Wheeling one of the state's certified cities in June 1985 when other Northwest suburbs — including Bartlett, Buffalo Grove, Des Plaines, Schaumburg and several downstate communities — were vying for it. At the time, Markus said it would demand too much staff time for little reward.

But after the village's long-time personnel director/administrative assistant, Bheula K. Peterson, retired in June, Markus said he looked at new ways to fill the vacancy.

"The village staff has been stretched pretty thin. The board thought it was an excellent idea to create a spot and ease some of the pressure," Schultz said.

"We looked at over 50 applications before we selected Dave," Markus said. "We were looking for someone fresh out of college. I felt he showed the ambition and intellect to handle the job. His primary responsibility will be to support the administrative staff and complete the certified cities requirements."

Kowal graduated from Western Michigan University with an undergraduate degree in business administration and finance and went on to receive a master's degree in public administration in 1985 from the same university. He served an internship under the city manager of Kalamazoo and previously worked as a loan officer for a savings and loan association.

Wheeling police to get tough on library parking

Wheeling Life 8-7

By SHERYL HISLOP

Wheeling trustees Monday night passed an ordinance they hope will alleviate parking problems at the Indian Trails Public Library.

The library, located on Dundee Road near Horizon Park, has had recent problems with park users parking in the library lot. The ordinance requires Wheeling police to monitor the lot and issue citations for violations of traffic ordinances.

Ken Swanson, Indian Trails library administrator, said the main problem is that people are parking in the staff lot. He added some people park on the grass and in the fire lane, which creates "a potentially dangerous situation."

And many people who park in the library lot are there to watch a ballgame at Horizon, not to use the library.

SWANSON SAID THERE are signs forbidding parking in the fire lane, but people usually ignore them and park on either side of the sign.

People also have been known to park in front of the garage door. This presents a problem for the Outreach van, which brings books to people around the area. Several evenings it has returned to the library and been unable to enter the garage, Swanson said.

At their meeting Monday, trustess agreed to have police inspect the lot and determine what other signs and markings are needed to ensure safe and efficient passage of vehicles. Swanson said this will hopefully end the problem.

"People have been taking advantage of the situation," said Village Manager Tom Markus. They know they cannot be ticketed without proper signs posted forbidding parking in these areas, he said.

HE SAID, HOWEVER, it would be difficult to keep people that use the park out of the library lot.

The problem is an intense use of parking for a short amount of time, according to Markus. On Saturdays and certain weeknights when baseball games are scheduled, there is an overabundance of cars in the lot. Sunday, another busy baseball day, the library is closed. Eighty per cent of the time, though, the lot is empty, he said.

Village President Sheila Schultz said the library does appreciate the fact that some people who stop for a game also stop at the library.

Several years ago, a portion of the property that the park now exists on, was sold. A house was built on the land and the money from the land sale was used to build the park.

This was a mistake, Markus said, because the land is needed for parking. The only place additional parking could be added in the park, is either on a field or the basketball court.

To fully alleviate the problem, the library lot will probably have to be expanded in the future, Markus said.

Lake-Cook Road: Searching for solutions to a commuter's nightmare

Mayors blame each other for traffic troubles

Whose fault is it that Lake-Cook Road resembles a four-lane parking lot during rush hour? The mayor of Deerfield is pointing the finger at Wheeling and Buffalo Grove, while officials here are blaming existing developments to the east. Part Two of our special report on Lake-Cook Road looks at both side of the story.

By CARL GILMORE

Traffic on Lake-Cook Road and Raupp Boulevard is backed up during a recent afternoon rush hour. *(Staff photo by Rich Bajjalich)*

Who's to blame for traffic problems on Lake-Cook Road?

It depends on whom you ask.

Deerfield Mayor Bernard Forrest says new developments planned for Wheeling and Buffalo Grove will increase problems for Deerfield on Lake-Cook Road because those villages have density levels "far above" those in his town.

He also claims that most of the traffic on Lake-Cook doesn't come from Deerfield, but from communities west of Milwaukee Avenue, including Buffalo Grove and Wheeling.

BUT WHEELING VILLAGE President Sheila Schultz notes that until recently both Wheeling and Buffalo Grove have held off on allowing development on Lake-Cook, while Deerfield and Northbrook have gone full steam ahead with allowing construction of large office buildings.

"Those are massive traffic producers in those buildings," she said.

An estimated 22,000 cars pass through the intersection of Milwaukee Avenue and Lake-Cook Road each day, and many of those commuters live in or pass through Wheeling, studies show. "The numbers are staggering and they're going to get higher," she said.

Buffalo Grove Village President Verna Clayton said traffic problems today can't be caused by developments on Buffalo Grove's side of Lake-Cook Road because many haven't gone up yet.

"IT'S NOT JUST (our traffic) because our developments aren't built yet," Clayton said. "There is no question that improvements need to be made. We look to improve the traffic, not make it worse."

Clayton said future development on the Buffalo Grove's part of Lake-Cook Road will improve conditions on the highway — not make them worse.

That's because the village, Cook County and developers plan several road and intersection improvements once the Buffalo Grove office projects — such as Levy Chase industrial park and the Riverwalk development on the east side of Milwaukee Avenue — are completed.

But until then, Buffalo Grove should not be the brunt of the blame for traffic backups plaguing the villages along the thoroughfare, Clayton said.

"WE KNOW THE traffic on Lake-Cook is horrendous, we have to improve it," she said. "We will look at the road and try to improve it. But we can't bury our head in the sand and not build any new developments."

Forrest singled out Trammell Crow's Riverwalk development in Buffalo Grove, center of a lawsuit between Buffalo Grove and Riverwoods, as a potential source of more traffic troubles on Lake-Cook Road because the two 12-story office buildings in the development have a density rating of about .75.

Density in Deerfield has a rating of .5 or below, Forrest said, which means a development's floor space is only one-half the square footage of the land it sits on.

"Deerfield contributes only 15 percent of the traffic along Lake-Cook," he said. "Most of the traffic comes from the west."

BUFFALO GROVE Village Manager Bill Balling said the village has tried to facilitate improvements on Lake-Cook Road more than any other surrounding village connected to the road.

"There is no question that there are intermittent problems on Lake-Cook Road," Balling said. "But there are intermittent problems on every road. It is a little unfair to criticize those yet to start development."

Balling said all the village is trying to do is improve and expand its own infrastructure through "rational, orderly, economic development." It is not trying to create problems for Lake-Cook Road, he said.

The ideal improvements for the road would be to expand it to six lanes at Milwaukee Avenue, with grade separations, in the next three to seven years, Balling said.

WHEELING IS ALSO working toward finding solutions for traffic problems on Lake-Cook Road, Schultz said. The village is part of the Lake-Cook corridor being studied by private corporations and Chambers of Commerce through a private/public partnership formed by the Northwest Municipal Conference. The study began two years ago and measures traffic congestion on Lake-Cook Road west of Milwaukee Avenue.

"We've found an overall east to west movement of traffic," said Tom Dabareiner, project coordinator of the study.

Dabareiner isn't sure when the study will be completed, but he said he's optimistic about the future of the Lake-Cook corridor. "The nice thing about that is there is still room there to work with," he said. "If they heed the warnings and act now, they have the opportunity to avoid potential traffic problems."

Other officials say they, too, can see the silver lining to the Lake-Cook problems.

SCHULTZ, WHO IS president of the Northwest Municipal Conference, said traffic congestion can be somewhat thwarted by options such as flexible hours for employees who work along Lake-Cook Road.

She discounted the notion that all development be halted on the road, however.

Northbrook Village President Richard Falcone agrees development should not be stopped because it produces good results along with traffic, Falcone said.

"Besides tax money, developments bring highly educated people, the kind who sit on village boards or run the Little League," he added. "If these people traveled to the city to get to work, they wouldn't have time to help the community."

FALCONE SAID A major problem when dealing with Lake-Cook is the tendency to blame Northbrook for allowing too much development. Although Northbrook Court was the first major development along the well-used street, Deerfield has approved more development than Northbrook, he said.

Northbrook Court and condominiums line the southern side of Lake-Cook, but the only other major development in Northbrook along the corridor is a three-story office building at Sanders Rd. (Saunders in Lake County).

Northbrook may have been the arena where Lake-Cook development first began, but trustees today are reluctant to

(Continued on page 42)

8-14-86

(Continued from page 17)

allow more building.

"We recently spent $150,000 on litigation to fight a development at Lake-Cook and the Tri-State, but we lost," Falcone said. "If the developer really wants to build, he will have to spend several million dollars to hook up to our water and sewage lines, or else have wells and septic tanks (if they do not connect to village sewer and water lines)".

"Deerfield contribut
traffic along Lake-Co
comes from the wes

FALCONE ACKNOWLEDGED problems involved with allowing more development, and added that residents along the corridor are inconvenienced.

New executives working in the area are willing to pay extra for a home located within minutes of their job. Property values have risen since development along Lake-Cook began, he said.

Deerfield Mayor Forrest sees no reason to halt development along Lake-Cook because the village has kept the development density low. Deerfield may be home to the most development along the Lake-Cook corridor, but development density is .5 or below, he said.

"There will be a bunch of solutions," he said. "Whatever solutions are reached will be done in pieces. The tollway ramps are what we're after."

FORREST OFFERS TWO suggestions for solving the corridor's problems. The first is the current extension of Pfingsten Road to Kates Road to route traffic coming off Pfingsten away from Lake-Cook. The second is a proposed tollway interchange at Pfingsten in Northbrook. Northbrook and Deerfield both support such an interchange, but Forrest complained that a major problem is the Illinois Tollway Authority, which has ignored the cries of concerned communities.

Warehouse SALE

Carpet Outlet

Warehouse SALE

6.95 TO 16.95

Completely Installed with Pad

All Name Brands

Lowest Prices Anywhere!
(Everyone says it — we mean it!)
For this special sale, enjoy additional savings on our already low, low outlet prices! All warehouse stock is included in this sale.

90 days FREE financing

CARPET OUTLET, INC.

Hours. M-F 10-8
Sat. 10-5, Sun. 11-5

1288 E. Dundee Rd.
(Just West of Rt. 53)
PALATINE

358-3838

CHRIS WOCKENFUSS DID IT!

"I LOST 80¾ POUNDS! with NUTRI/SYSTEM."

"I lost 80¾ pounds with NUTRI/SYSTEM®. Last year I bought a $200 gown for my sister's wedding and I looked like a pink elephant in it. Now, I can wear my 13 year old daughter's clothes!"

How do we do it? We offer delicious, nutritionally-balanced meals like Turkey Tetrazzini, Beef Stroganoff and Chicken Polynesian.

And we have trained **NUTRI/SYSTEM** counselors who help you learn how to avoid snacking between meals. And how stress affects your eating habits.

NUTRI/SYSTEM is a complete weight loss program—that works.

It can work for you, too.

Celebrating 15 years of quality weight loss care.

© Nutri/System Inc. 1986

nutri/system® weight loss centers

Pay for half the weight you want to lose!*

***Program costs will be based on 1/2 your desired weight loss.**

Present this coupon at any participating Nutri/System Weight Loss Center and pay for a program for 1/2 your desired weight loss.* This offer cannot be combined with any other. Offer valid only with the purchase of a new program. One discount per person.

Valid only at participating centers.

COOK COUNTY
CHICAGO/ 1165 N. CLARK ST **312-943-8220**
CHICAGO/ MICHIGAN AVE. **312-565-1313**
ARLINGTON HEIGHTS **312-364-1330**
DOLTON **312-841-8992**
NORTHBROOK **312-498-9870**
OAKLAWN **312-430-5760**
ORLAND PARK **312-460-9666**
RIVER GROVE **312-456-0416**
SKOKIE **312-674-9620**
DUPAGE COUNTY
* OAKBROOK **312-920-8303**

*Open Saturday 9-1

Offer Expires 8/16/86

This special offer is for NUTRI/SYSTEM services only and does not include the cost of exclusive NUTRI/SYSTEM foods, potassium supplement or cost of physical examination where applicable. As people vary, so does an individual's weight loss.

nutri/system® weight loss centers
Over 700 Centers in North America

Crime—

(Continued from page 5)

new officers before the end of the year, and Haeger said crime statistics at the end of 1986 will show whether new officers make a difference.

ONE STATISTIC THAT hasn't shown much change is the number of drunken driving arrests. There were 112 DUI arrests in the first half of 1986 and 101 during the same period last year.

Lack of manpower has been the reason given by Haeger for an on-again, off-again special DUI patrol that is suppose to place a high priority on arresting drunken drivers.

The patrol got off to a healthy start last fall with 35 arrests in September and 39 arrests in October, but the number of arrests dwindled after an officer was killed in the line of duty in November.

The program was reinstated for a short period this summer, but officers working for others on vacation have put the special patrol on hold again. Haeger said he expects the patrol to get back on track after the summer.

AN INCREASE IN population could have also affected the crime rate, he said. A special census this year showed that Wheeling's population has increased by 3,000 since 1980.

Crimes such as burglaries, theft of vehicles, battery, deception and sex offenses are down over last year. Those decreases may be due to recent arrests of some repeat offenders, he said.

Plus, Wheeling is now able to better determine where to have patrols concentrate their efforts due to a new computer system that sorts and categorizes crime occurrences.

For instance, a disorderly conduct complaint was fed into the computer and it came up with 76 other incidents of disorderly conduct reported in the same area, Haeger said. As a result, more patrols were assigned to the area and fewer incidents were reported, he said.

ONE TYPE OF crime that still statistically plagues Wheeling police is burglary from motor vehicles, mostly radar detector thefts.

Reports of car break-ins during the first six months of this year are nearly double over the the same time frame a year ago. There were 147 burglaries from vehicles in the first half of 1986 compared to 77 in 1985.

The village was hit hard in January and February with burglaries to vehicles, Haeger said. Wheeling is known for its Milwaukee Avenue restaurants and most burglaries occurred while vehicles were parked in restaurant parking lots.

However, Haeger said the department tried fighting back this year by sending signs to all restaurants in town and posting a sign at the police station that reminds drivers to keep their radar detectors where they are not easily seen.

Some restaurants put the signs on their doors so patrons can spot them as they enter the building. Haeger said. Signs were torn [illegible] a new shipment of [illegible] red and there will be a ne[illegible] said.

B'NAI B'RITH'S

NEW MAJOR MEDICAL INSURANCE

The "More For Your Money" Plan That Gives You And Your Family:

More Control:

- You Choose The Doctor
- You Choose The Hospital
- You Choose The Deductible
- You're Covered Wherever You Go—When you travel or move, your protection goes with you.

Available to B'nai B'rith members under age 65 and their families. We enroll new members.

B'nai B'rith Group Insurance

Underwritten by MSNY

More Protection:

- *Up To $1,000,000 Lifetime Benefit*
- Dental Option
- Ambulatory Surgical Benefits
- Second Surgical Opinion Benefits

For details contact:
Call: Jay H. Samuel 236-7427
Or Mail To:
Jay H. Samuel & Associates
2 N. LaSalle, Suite 1100
Chicago IL. 60602

YES, I'm interested in B'nai B'rith's "More For Your Money" Major Medical Plan. Please contact me personally or by mail.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____

HOME PHONE _____ AGE _____

114th Year - 297 — Paddock Pu

Herald 8-6

Wheeling ties sewer bills to water use

by Joan Fleischer
Herald staff writer

Wheeling homeowners and businesses will be charged not only for how much water flows through their faucets, but also for how much water goes down the drain, beginning Jan. 1.

The new fees for sewer services will based on water usage rather than the flat fee now included as part of quarterly water bills.

No meter will measure exactly how much water is going down village sanitary sewers, village officials said. Instead, a complicated formula based on how much overall water is being used in the household has been devised, said Robert Fialkowski, director of community development.

The average household uses about 7,000 gallons of water a month.

CURRENTLY, ALL single-family residences in Wheeling are charged a monthly flat fee of $2.50 for village sewer service and the fee is routinely included in the water bill sent out three times a year.

But Wheeling village trustees unanimously approved a new sewer service charge that changes the $2.50 flat rate to separate sewer fees based on water usage. The charge will be 36 cents per 1,000 gallons and applies to all users. Business now have sliding scales with rates decreasing with more usage.

"It's a fairer system to base charges on usage, not flat fees," said Village Manager Thomas M. Markus. "I think it's advantageous to separate water and sewer costs."

For families using less than 21,000 gallons of water per quarter, village officials predict it could mean an overall savings. For families using more water and for commercial users, the new changes mean higher bills.

"ALL WATER goes down the drain," Fialkowski said. "Everybody will pay their own fair share."

Village officials also are considering adding other service charges in capital improvement fees incurred

(Continued on Page 5)

In Brief

Life - 8-14-86

Day-care center to be considered

Next Monday the Village Board will consider a special use request to construct a day-care center off the northwest corner of Hintz and Schoenbeck roads.

The owner of the 2.45-acre property, which is currently located in unincorporated Cook County, is also asking to have the site subdivided into three lots, annexed, and rezoned to R-2, single-family.

According to Bob Fialkowski, director of community development, plans are to tear down the single-family home now located on one of the lots and replace it with a day-care center. Single-family homes can then be constructed on each of the other two lots, Fialkowski said.

$7 million for Pal-Waukee

Life 8-14-86

The Federal Aviation Administration has approved another grant that will help Wheeling and Prospect Heights buy Pal-Waukee Airport.

The FAA approved the $7 million grant Monday, according to Cong. John Porter (R-10th).

The money will be used for a noise compatibility plan and study, to remove obstructions; to construct additional lighting; to acquire land for the airport; to install fencing and to improve drainage.

August 6, 1986 Section 1—5

THE DAILY HERALD

Wheeling Life 8-7

Sewer bill to be based on usage

By MARIE LUTZ
Staff Writer

WHEELING—Beginning in October, sewer bills will be based on use instead of a flat fee.

The revised fee system will first appear on January bills.

Bob Fialkowski, director of community development, told the Village Board Monday that the new charge will be 36 cents per 1,000 gallons of water used.

Currently residents pay a flat rate—$7.50 quarterly for single-family houses.

The sewer charge will continue to be included on the water bill that is sent out every three months.

Fialkowski said most residents will probably see little difference in the amount they pay for sewer use. The average single-family house uses about 21,000 to 25,000 gallons of water every three months, Fialkowski said. Those who use 21,000 gallons will still pay about $7.50 quarterly for sewer use, he said.

However, commercial customers will probably see an increase in their sewer bills, he said

Village Manager Tom Markus called the new billing procedure a fair system because it is based on use.

The billing change is only one of several that are being made by the village in an effort to comply with Illinois Environmental Protection Agency regulations being imposed as a condition of Wheeling's acceptance of a Build Illinois grant to improve its sewer system.

The major change involves rewriting the water and sewer ordinance to separate water and sewer functions for accounting purposes, according to village staff.

Wheeling will receive $3,328,000 or 70 percent of the sewer work cost (which ever is less) from the state. The rest of the cost will be paid for by the village, but will not necessitate a rate increase, according to Robert Gray, director of operations and maintenance.

Two major projects are being undertaken sanitary sewer rehabilitation and the addition of a new sewer between Dundee and Hintz roads.

The Village Board Monday chose George Kennedy Construction Co. to complete the two projects for a cost of about $4.6 million.

In a memo to the board, Gray said Kennedy's history on surface restoration has not been totally satisfactory "At times it has apparently been difficult to encourage Kennedy to complete the restoration in a timely fashion," Gray said However, he added that Kennedy is a responsible bidder who should be able to satisfactorily complete the projects.

Markus recommended that the board select Kennedy, saying that the firm had done a good job for the Northwest Water Commission. It would be difficult to refuse a bid that is so much lower than the second lowest bid, Markus said. The difference between Kennedy's bid and the second lowest was about $490,000. The sewer rehabilitation project is aimed at eliminating the infiltration of ground water into the sewer pipes and bringing the village into compliance with Metropolitan Sanitary District standards. Excess ground water reduces the sewer capacity and overloads treatment plants, according to Gray. Fixing the pipes should eliminate sewer backup in basements, which occurs in some parts of the village, Gray said.

The new sewer between Dundee and Hintz will relieve overloaded sewers on Dundee Road, Gray said.

Village ends flat fee billing for sewer use

(Continued from Page 1)

by the village for sewer repair projects.

The new billing, village officials said, is required by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, which is helping to fund Wheeling's overhaul of the sewer system.

At the same time trustees approved new sewer charges, they awarded a $4.6 million contract to a Wadsworth construction firm to launch a massive sewer repair program this fall throughout the older sections of the village.

"Some of these sewers date back to 1927 and not much has been done to them since then," said Robert D. Gray, village public works director. "There are a lot of structural deficiencies. It really isn't that large a part of our system, but the improvements should reduce the infiltration and inflow problems."

TRUSTEE WILLIAM A. Rogers said he hoped stopping the infiltration problem — reducing an excess of storm water flooding the system — would not make the village's flooding problem worse.

The areas targeted for the project include older sections of the village, such as Dunhurst, Old Towns, Meadowbrook, Hollywood Ridge and Poplar Grove subdivisions.

Gil

by Vicki S
Herald correspo

Prospect
Gilligan is
managem
of Pal-Wa
cap is not

Despite
in hiring
endanger
aid slate
cials sa
part of t

In Ju
a contract negotiated with
Air Terminal Inc. of California unless

as master chef at the 420-room hotel.

Or John Lever, who hails from London and serves as director of food and beverage services at the Hilton. Then there's Ester Hana, pianist, singer and songwriter who was born in the Phillipines and now performs evenings at the Hilton's nightclub, "The Ritz."

"We call it a mini-United Nations," said Marilyn Perlman, a representative of the hotel, which is near completion of an $11 million renovation that hotel president David Falor maintains will convert the building "into an entirely new hotel."

Lever can reel off a handful of management-level employees at the hotel who hail from places well outside America's Heartland. The list includes a Greek banquet manager, Steve Meggos; a Canadian vice president of operations, Guy Carriere; resident manager Joseph Nguyen, a Vietnamese native; rd James concerts

dence.

"THEY BRING with them tion of service that goes back turies," said Falor, adding tha time most American kids are ing junior high school, Europe dren are starting their apprent in their chosen profession.

"As much as the advances i ice are being made in this co he added, "young people still have the training available to that people in Europe do. We years behind that in America."

Executive Chef Szerenyi an Chef Klaus Mandel are examp the tradition that Falor was se Szerenyi began working in a r rant at the age of 14, studied top European chefs and work the executive chef in restau throughout Europe and the U.S fore joining the Hilton. He is 36.

Mandel's mother, father grandfather were acclaimed che

Village OKs changes in sewer rates

By SHERYL HISLOP

Wheeling trustees Monday night approved changes in their sewer rates that could spell increases for some village residents and businesses.

The village board approved an ordinance that revises the method of figuring the quarterly sewer bills and increases sewer and water connection charges.

Residents now pay a flat rate of $2.50 per month for sewer service as part of the quarterly water bill. Beginning January 1, residents will receive two separate bills for water and sewer service, and sewer rates will be based on usage.

Instead of a flat fee, residents will be charged sewer fee of 36 cents per 1,000 gallons of water used. Water rates will remain at $1.90 per 1,000 gallons used.

WATER AND SEWER connection rates will also be increasing. Currently most single-family home hook-up rates for sewer use begin at $250. Water connection begins at $350.

As of Jan. 1, sewer connections will begin at $450 for single-family homes, and water connections will start at $700, depending on meter size.

According to Bob Fialkowski, director of community development, the average household using less than 21,000 gallons of water per quarter will pay about the same under the new rate structure as it now does. Households using more water will pay more

Fialkowski said the new system will most likely result in increased costs for commercial use since previously non-residential costs were based on water usage on a sliding scale.

AS A RECIPIENT of a "Build Illinois" grant, which will provide funds for sewer rehabilitation, Wheeling is now required to meet the Illinois Environmental Agency (IEPA) standards.

To comply with those standards, the village has had to separateits water and sewer departments, which had been combined. Along with that change came the separate water and sewer rate structure.

The increased connection charges are intended to offset the cost of sewer inspections, as well as ongoing maintenance and capital improvement to the water and sewer system, according to Fialkowski.

Fialkowski said the rates were last changed in 1977. Since then, expenditures for the water department have increased from $1.1 million to $2.9 million — a 168 percent jump.

FIALOWSKI NOTED WHEELING'S water connection fees for a single family home range from 36 percent to of those in surrounding communities. Sewer connection charges range from 23 percent to 39 percent of what other area towns charge, he said.

Now that there is a separate fund for both the water and sewer operations,

(Continued on page 40)

Thursday, August 7, 1986

Veteran cop suspended for sexual harassment

By C.L. WALLER

Pressing his clasped hands against his lips, Wheeling police officer Mike Rompala sat speechless after a hearing that left him without a badge for four months.

The 17-year veteran with the Wheeling department was charged June 10 with sexually harassing female employees in the department.

Filed by Wheeling Police Chief Michael Haeger, the charges claim Rompala broke department regulations on five different occasions, once in 1984, once in 1985 and three times this year.

Effective Tuesday, the officer was suspended without pay for 92 working days. His annual salary is $31,575.

PLANS WERE FOR Rompala to come before the Wheeling Fire and Police Commission Monday night for a disciplinary hearing so commissioners could hear testimony from witnesses about the charges.

However, the hearing turned into two hours of waiting for about 30 people, including firefighters, police officers, friends of the officer and radio dispatchers, who came to see what would happen to Rompala.

Closed-door sessions between attorneys for Rompala and Haeger and a closed session of the fire and police commission ultimately produced an agreement between the parties and no witnesses testified in the hearing.

Following the closed sessions, Rompala openly admitted to four of five charges, three of which cited "physical contact of an insulting or provoking nature" with women in the department. 8-14-86

THE FIRST CHARGE was filed in connection with an incident in the fall of 1984 in which Rompala allegedly put his arm around a female employee and "did then and there run his thumb along her breast."

The second charge was filed in connection with an alleged Oct. 12, 1985 incident in which Rompala "did place his hand upon the breast and did grab the breast" of another female employee.

A third charge Rompala admitted to said he straddled the leg of a third employee and "began moving his pelvis back and forth."

A charge involving the same woman was withdrawn and Rompala denie that charge.

THE OFFICER ALSO admitted to lying in his answers about some of the incidents when questioned by police administrators on April 23.

As part of the agreement, Rompala also agreed to seek psychological counseling in Libertyville at his own expense.

Fire and Police Commission Chairman Mary Ellen Westrich said the officer wanting counseling was an important part of the agreement. "He will no doubt benefit from that," she said.

Had a long hearing been held, it could have been detrimental to Wheeling officers if they had to choose sides, Westrich said. In the end, she said, "It truly was a meeting of the minds between attorneys."

"My initial feeling was all the parties involved were served well," Westrich said.

Wheeling Life August 7, 1986

(Continued from page 5)

Fialowski said the village can make a yearly review of costs, and certain fees can be adjusted on a regular basis.

"It's important to keep the user fee close to reality," Village Manager Tom Markus said. He warned against relying on community growth and connection charges. If growth and construction levels off in the future, the user fee could jump drastically, he said.

The extra funds will not be used to pay for the construction of the sanitary sewer system rehabilitation and the Wheeling Road relief sewer. The "Build Illinois" grant will pay for 70 per cent of the project.

VILLAGE TRUSTEES approved a bid of $4.58 million from Kennedy Construction Co. of Wadsworth, Ill. for the sewer project. Kennedy was the lowest of four bidders; the second lowest bid was $418,486.35 more.

The relief sewer will intercept existing sewage in the Wheeling Road area and reroute it to another site, thus relieving some of the present overload. The rehabilitation will repair many existing sites.

There was some disagreement over Kennedy's reputation and reliability in handling this kind of work.

Markus said he initially had apprehensions about doing business with Kennedy in the past. Kennedy recently finished a project for the Northwest Water Commission, of which Wheeling is a member. Markus said when the Kennedy bid came in for that project, he was the lone "no" vote against accepting the bid. But Kennedy turned out to be very reliable, Markus said.

"I WAS PLEASANTLY surprised with the work they had done on the water supply. It was not just a good job but an excellent job," he said.

"The bottom line is when you're talking about a $400,000 difference, I have difficulty ruling them out," Markus said.

Robert Gray, director of operations and maintenance for the village, said the project poses some real concerns. In the Wheeling Road area there are poor soil conditions because of major peat deposits. The project will also involve the relocation of several power lines.

Gray assured the trustees two engineers will monitor the project and that continual testing will take place.

TRUSTEE WILLIAM ROGERS said the board will not tolerate unscheduled delays in the project.

Village questions airport co... act

by Evelyn Dorman

Herald staff writer

Wheeling village officials won't approve a manager's contract for the Pal-Waukee Municipal Airport Commission until they can clarify travel expenses and find out whether the manager would remain after the village and Prospect Heights buy the airport.

Airport Corp. of America in Short Hills, N.J., recently negotiated with commissioners to help them determine a "pre-acquisition" appraisal of the Pal-Waukee Airport inventory and how much commissioners should offer for it when they present their proposal to airport owner George Priester by September or October.

The final agreement, however, must be approved by officials in Wheeling and Prospect Heights, which are jointly buying the private airport at Hintz and Wolf roads.

Wheeling trustees this week deferred making a decision on the contract because of questions they had about how travel expenses would be reimbursed and whether the manager's contract should be limited to the pre-aquisition phase.

Under the contract, Airport Corp. personnel would be paid on an hourly basis, ranging from $12.50 for clerical stafff to $90 for the principal manager. Corporation employees would be reimbursed for meals, lodging and travel expenses at a cost not to exceed $20,000.

WHEELING OFFICIALS said the contract failed to define whether travel expenses would be paid on an hourly basis and whether a cap would be placed on total expenses during the initial pre-buyout phase. They also questioned a clause that said corporation officials would assume management of the airport after both towns bought the airport.

"It's our opinion that this could run into some substantial money," Wheeling Village Manager Thomas M. Markus said. "I think it has to be explained and understood before we sign the contract."

Trustees said they would hope to have those questions answered by attorneys for the airport commission so the village board could approve the contract when it meets Monday.

"I think you want to define the types of services that get reimbursed," Markus said. "We need to look at it from the point of protecting the village."

Wheeling trustee and airport commission Chairman William A. Rogers said the delay in signing the contract might del... the buyout, although the commissi... i... still having problems with land surveys and appraisals. Prospect Heights officials currently are reviewing the contract.

"EVERY WEEK we get closer," Rogers said.

The buyout of the airport is expected to cost $36 million, with the federal government agreeing to pay 90 percent of the cost. The state would contribute 5 percent and Prospect Heights and Wheeling each would pay 2½ percent, or $900,000. Prospect Heights and Wheeling already have settled contracts for legal, negotiating, engineering and relocation services in preparation for the buyout.

FAA gives tentative OK to airport funds

by Evelyn Dorman

Herald staff writer

The Federal Aviation Administration tentatively approved $7 million in funding for the transition of Pal-Waukee Airport to a public airport once Wheeling and Prospect Heights purchase it.

The funding will help pay for a $217,000 year-long noise study being conducted to pinpoint airport noise and provide information on how to reduce noise surrounding the airport at Hintz and Wolf roads.

Also included in the grant is money to pay for removing obstructions, such as trees and buildings, from the airport; constructing lighting and paved and turfed areas for airplane storage and parking; acquiring land for development and airplane approaches; installing fencing; and improving drainage to alleviate possible flooding.

Pal-Waukee Municipal Airport Commission members, made up of representatives from Wheeling and Prospect Heights, have not yet approved the grant, Commissioner Ronald Sowatzke of Prospect Heights said.

COMMISSIONERS HAD previously questioned the way the grant for the federal funds was worded, because it did not include specific allocations for relocating and buying out residents whose homes may be in the area slated for airport expansions and for demolishing buildings. However, Sowatzke said he is awaiting clarification from state officials on whether those items would be spelled out further.

FAA officials involved in the Pal-Waukee Airport grant were unavailable for comment. Stan Dickson, acting chief for the Illinois section of the administration, said he did not know when the final grant would be approved.

The proposed buyout is expected to cost $36 million.

Love of people sparks fire inspector to serve

by Sherry Boemmel 8-18-86

Herald correspondent

Ed Majkowski is most easily recognized in the early weeks of the summer when he is likely to be in his watermelon costume promoting the St. Joseph the Worker Familyfest.

But he is more often seen in his uniform as the Wheeling Fire Department fire inspector.

Majkowski and his wife Blanche, who wear matching Styrofoam watermelon-slice heads, were in the Fourth of July parade this year with three smaller watermelon-heads and one baby in training — just seed-printed clothing so far. The younger ones were th Majkowskis' four grandchildren.

That sho... de ride highlighted three imp... eas of Majkowski's personal life: his family, his church and his interest in the arts.

"I have a happy home life, a very happy home life," he said. "When I was raising my kids, I didn't spend a lot of time wit' them. I had a lot of odd jobs. It's b... r now, but in those days firemen had very low pay."

HE WAS able to move his family to Wheeling in 1955 with the help of a G.I. loan and no money down for his house in Dunhurst.

The Majkowskis have a long history of service to St. Joe's. They were some of the original members of the ...

extraordinary ministers and distribute bread and wine at masses. He also serves as a lector, reading epistles.

The Majkowskis also organize and manage the skill games for Familyfest, a responsibility that has expanded to almost a six-month job.

IN PROMOTING the church festival in his watermelon costume, Majkowski also shows his interest in the arts. In past years, he enjoyed working with the Knights of Columbus on theatrical productions. Not only did he enjoy singing and dancing, but he also worked on set and costume design. He designed and made the watermelon heads with modifications for the children's so they could see out better than the adults.

When he retired from the Evanston fire company in 1980 after 32 years, Majkowski went right into the Wheeling Fire Department. Though he had done some inspecting during his years in Evanston, he had always worked closely with the other firefighters, first as a firefighter and later as a captain and shift commander. He has more of an office job now as fire inspector. There are other changes as well.

He used to miss working with the firefighters and going out on fires, a job he enjoyed very much.

"I don't think I miss it now, but I ...

Herald photo by Rich Chapman

WHEN HE'S NOT dressing up in a watermelon costume to promote the St. Joseph the Worker Familyfest, Wheeling Fire Inspector Ed Majkowski is hard at work with the village fire department.

Videotapes of both series will be ...

cation at Roosevelt University.

Gary Wolf, dean of continuing edu-

among others, and program host is

Prize winner and editorialist,

Travis and Jack Fuller, Pulitzer

Petrakis, Stella Pevsner, Dempsey

terviewed included Harry Mark

the Chicagoland area. Authors in-

and other cable systems throughout

blenet, American Cable Systems

authors are being shown on Ca-

acclaim, and the interviews with

a state grant, has received critical

12 cable programs, also funded by

Authors on cable

The Library Cable Network has been awarded a second state grant to produce a second series of 12 half hour cable television programs featuring Illinois authors, Kenneth G. Swanson, administrative librarian of the Indian Trails Public Library District, announced. Library Cable Network (LCN) includes the Schaumburg, Indian Trails, Arlington Heights and Skokie public libraries.

...

located at 355 S. Schoenbeck Road, Wheeling. Call 459-4100.

Suburbs mull alternatives to garbage landfill

by Laura Janota
and Jim Baumann
Herald staff writers

While plans for a high-tech landfill west of Bartlett appear to be evaporating, steam may be picking up to try new alternatives for solving the region's garbage disposal crunch.

There are calls for the Northwest Municipal Conference to try and persuade Cook County, Elgin or South Elgin to accept a landfill near Bartlett and Route 25 now that a Bartlett planning committee has refused to annex it.

There are others, however, who believe such a fight would be all for naught. The neighbors don't want it, so why not look for a new site? Or why not get out of the study for garbage burial space altogether?

Those issues and options are likely to be taken up in September by a committee of the Northwest Municipal Conference, said William F. Abolt, coordinator of the conference's long-standing and still unsuccessful project.

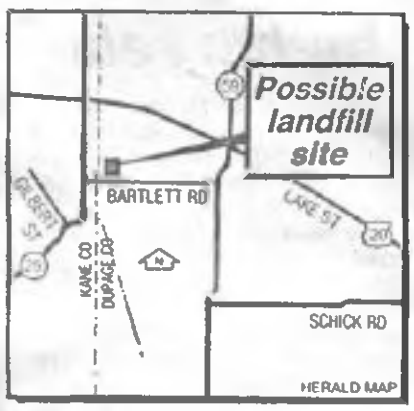
"WE'RE GOING to have to lay it out internally first. We're going to have to go through the options. Then the conference is going to have to decide," Abolt said.

Most of the nearly 30 north and Northwest suburbs that have backed a balefill for the abandoned Chicago Gravel Co. pit know that the problem of diminishing garbage space will not go away.

"You can't forget about it. What are you going to do with hundreds of tons of garbage every day? The farther out you have to go to bury it, the more expensive it's going to get," Elk Grove Village President Charles Zettek said.

"We have to keep pursuing it until we succeed," he added.

FOR HOFFMAN Estates Village President Betty J. Gloyd, the time has come to once again begin pushing



plans for a energy-recovery garbage incinerator.

A long-time advocate of burning garbage to bury ash and unburnable by-products, Gloyd says the incinerator may be among the only viable options left, especially if the conference wants to make use of the 225-acre balefill site.

The conference has an extended land purchase option until May 1987 on the site. Gloyd says that site would be perfect burial grounds for incinerator by-products that don't contain poisonous methane gas and won' leach.

"I hope it's pretty obvious to people that it's not going to succeed," said Gloyd of the conference's hopes of using the site near Bartlett.

"I DON'T believe there will be a garbage dump located there. I think we should work together on this. What I want to do is talk about setting up resource recovery plans."

Gloyd has no specific site in mind for the incinerator, and she's unsure of what the exact cost might be. But she does want a chance to approach the Northwest Municipal Conference again with her idea.

Conference officials already have studied the matter of building and operating a garbage incinerator. They found it could cost $35 a ton to use a burn facility. Hoffman Estates, for instance, produces about 100 tons of garbage a day.

A conference study shows the region would best be served by getting the landfill first, collecting surcharges from the dumping there and building a special fund that would help pay for a costly incinerator in the 1990s.

GLOYD SAYS leaders should consider attracting the private sector to help fund and possibly operate an incinerator.

At this point, she's managed to convince at least one other Northwest suburban community leader that the time is now to move forth.

"The sooner you get into it, the less expensive it's going to be," said Streamwood Village President Jack T. Fehlandt of the incinerator plan.

Streamwood officials, who have voiced strong disapproval to the balefill, are now considering footing the bill for a $50,000 to $75,000 feasibility study on a possible burn facility, he said..

AND FEHLANDT said the abandoned gravel pit site could make a good site for the incinerator by-products. "It's a hell of a lot safer than what's being proposed," he said.

But there are those who question the feasibility of the idea.

"The chronology is difficult," said Sheila H. Schultz, president of the Northwest Municipal Conference. "To have by-products you need an incinerator and the reason we don't have incineration is because of the cost.

"There's also the question about pollution from incineration that's still up in the air," Schultz added.

Hanover Park Village President Sonya A. Crawshaw, who is active in DuPage County waste management, also said a burn facility is not a quick-fix solution.

Picking out the site, building the facility and getting it operational could take five to seven years, she said.

Still, Schultz said she'll allow a discussion on incineration at the Northwest Municipal Conference if a proposal is brought forth.

Zettek, one of the most outspoken regional landfill proponents, says he'd consider it. "It's a question of do you want the Ford or do you want the Cadillac. Of course I'd take the Cadillac."

"But if you can't afford the Cadillac you have to take the Ford," he said.

avenue to incr[illegible] h th[illegible] grants.

"I don't think this program creates anything new that we haven't done," Markus said. For instance, the village h[illegible] taken advantage of every developme[illegible] enhancing project up to this point, he said.

The state projects that it will take four to six months to complete the project, but Kowal told village trustees that Wheeling has already completed some major of the requirements.

Included in the study for certification is a look at the business and commercial climate, the industrial area and agriculture offerings.

Projects such as the Crossroads redevelopment project occurring at Milwaukee Avenue and Dundee Road will help speed up the completion of the application, Kowal said.

"It will really give us a chance to flaunt what we've accomplished here," Kowal said.

Every three years the village will have to re-certify, he said.

Buffalo Grove, Des Plaines and Schaumburg have already been named certified cities.

tial veto.

Village adds 7.5 acres to even out its borders

Herald 8-20-86

by Evelyn Dorman
Herald staff writer

The village of Wheeling has grown another 7.5 acres with the annexation of two parcels of land including one that will be the site of a proposed day-care center.

The village's boundaries will now extend along the northwest and northeast corners of Schoenbeck and Hintz roads.

One of the parcels is a 2½-acre tract known as the Perricone subdivision, at the northwest corner of Hintz and Schoenbeck roads. Chicago developer Anthony A. Bonavolonta of Schaffer-Bonavolonta Architects has told village trustees he wants to build a Kinder Care Learning Center on the land.

Village trustees, in addition to annexing the land, have granted Bonavolonta a special-use zoning permit to operate the day-care center there.

Part of the land would be subdivided into two single-family residential lots. Construction on the day-care center would begin in next spring and would open in three to four months, Bonavolonta said. Plans for the two single-family homes of about 18,000 square feet, are not yet final.

TRUSTEE ANTHONY Altieri opposed the move because he said the center would aggravate an already congested traffic problem at the intersection of Hintz and Schoenbeck.

"I'm concerned about traffic and frankly I had hoped the area would stay single family," Altieri said. "I think it opens the door to more commercial development."

Although some other trustees agreed traffic would be a problem at the intersection, they approved the annexation once Bonavolonta agreed to move the day-care center's entrance.

With the Perricone subdivision annexed to the village, trustees also agreed to forcibly annex about five acres of former farmland at the northeast corner of Hintz and Schoenbeck roads to straighten out village boundaries.

Village officials said there were no plans for the land, formerly the Schwindfarm even though once [illegible]s annexed, it would automatica[illegible]e zoned for residential purposes.

8-22-86

Village set to sign on 32nd firefighter for department

The village of Wheeling is set to hire a firefighter/paramedic from a pool of 25 applicants who took a rigorous exam last year that tested them on firefighting and safety skills last year.

Hiring a firefighter/paramedic will bring the total number of firefighters to 32, said Mary Ellen Westrich, fire and police commission chairman.

Village officials probably will hire someone from the top three scorers on the test, following psychological and polygraph tests, Fire Chief Bernhardt O. Koeppen said. The new employee is expected to be hired in November.

Hiring a firefighter/paramedic is needed because of increased demand by residents for medical services.

"There's no one leaving the fire department, it's just that the monies are there to authorize hiring another firefighter," Westrich said.

Wheeling firefighters currently are negotiating with village staff on pay raises, but have not yet settled a contract. Beginning sala[illegible] for a firefighter is $21,178.

Pal-Waukee official named

David A. Henry, a veteran of civil and military air traffic control, , has been selected by the Federal Aviation Administration's Great Lakes region as manager of the airport traffic control tower at Pal-Waukee Airport.

Henry attended high school at Karlstad, Minn., before entering the U.S. Air Force as an air traffic controller. He served at the air base tower at Mildenhall, United Kingdom and at Selfridge Air Force Base in Michigan before joining the FAA. Henry served for 12 years in the tower at Chicago O'Hare International Airport. In 1985 he joined the regional office Air Traffic division as an evaluation specialist.

8-28-86

committee of the Northwest Municipal Conference, said William F. Abolt, coordinator of the conference's long-standing and still unsuccessful project.

"WE'RE GOING to have to lay it out internally first. We're going to have to go through the options. Then the conference is going to have to decide," Abolt said.

Most of the nearly 30 north and Northwest suburbs that have backed a balefill for the abandoned Chicago Gravel Co. pit know that the problem of diminishing garbage space will not go away.

"You can't forget about it. What are you going to do with hundreds of tons of garbage every day? The farther out you have to go to bury it, the more expensive it's going to get," Elk Grove Village President Charles Zettek said.

"We have to keep pursuing it until we succeed," he added.

FOR HOFFMAN Estates Village President Betty J. Gloyd, the time has come to once again begin pushing

balefill site.

The conference has an extended land purchase option until May 1987 on the site. Gloyd says that site would be perfect burial grounds for incinerator by-products that don't contain poisonous methane gas and won't leach.

"I hope it's pretty obvious to people that it's not going to succeed," said Gloyd of the conference's hopes of using the site near Bartlett.

"I DON'T believe there will be a garbage dump located there. I think we should work together on this. What I want to do is talk about setting up resource recovery plans."

Gloyd has no specific site in mind for the incinerator, and she's unsure of what the exact cost might be. But she does want a chance to approach the Northwest Municipal Conference again with her idea.

Conference officials already have studied the matter of building and operating a garbage incinerator. They found it could cost $35 a ton to use a burn facility. Hoffman Estates, for

Officials want Wheeling to be a 'certified' city

Countryside 8-22-86

While the Village of Wheeling isn't expecting much by becoming an Illinois certified city, trustees Monday night approved participation in the program, sponsored by the Department of Commerce and Community Affairs.

David Kowal, the newly-hired administrative assistant with the village, began working two weeks ago on formulating information to submit to the program.

He told trustees that approving a resolution is the first step in participation. Self-assessment is the second step, followed by a visit from the certification team, formal certification and future action using the certification as a foundation.

Trustee William Rogers asked about the value of the certification and whether the status will help bring more residential or business developments into Wheeling. "The question is how valuable is it to get a diploma and plaque?" he asked.

Village Manager Tom Markus said Wheeling can use the application process as a self-assessment project more than an avenue to increasing growth through grants.

"I don't think this program creates anything new that we haven't done," Markus said. For instance, the village has taken advantage of every development enhancing project up to this point, he said.

The state projects that it will take four to six months to complete the project, but Kowal told village trustees that Wheeling has already completed some major of the requirements.

Included in the study for certification is a look at the business and commercial climate, the industrial area and agriculture offerings.

Projects such as the Crossroads redevelopment project occurring at Milwaukee Avenue and Dundee Road will help speed up the completion of the application, Kowal said.

"It will really give us a chance to flaunt what we've accomplished here," Kowal said.

Every three years the village will have to re-certify, he said.

Buffalo Grove, Des Plaines and Schaumburg have already been named certified cities.

Village adds 7.5 acres to even out its borders

Herald 8-20-86

by Evelyn Dorman
Herald staff writer

The village of Wheeling has grown another 7.5 acres with the annexation of two parcels of land including one that will be the site of a proposed day-care center.

The village's boundaries will now extend along the northwest and northeast corners of Schoenbeck and Hintz roads.

One of the parcels is a 2½-acre tract known as the Perricone subdivision, at the northwest corner of Hintz and Schoenbeck roads. Chicago developer Anthony A. Bonavolonta of Schaffer-Bonavolonta Architects has told village trustees he wants to build a Kinder Care Learning Center on the land.

Village trustees, in addition to annexing the land, have granted Bonavolonta a special-use zoning permit to operate the day-care center there.

Part of the land would be subdivided into two single-family residential lots. Construction on the day-care center would begin in next spring and would open in three to four months, Bonavolonta said. Plans for the two single-family homes of about 18,000 square feet, are not yet final.

TRUSTEE ANTHONY Altieri opposed the move because he said the center would aggravate an already congested traffic problem at the intersection of Hintz and Schoenbeck.

"I'm concerned about traffic and frankly I had hoped the area would stay single family," Altieri said. "I think it opens the door to more commercial development."

Although some other trustees agreed traffic would be a problem at the intersection, they approved the annexation once Bonavolonta agreed to move the day-care center's entrance.

With the Perricone subdivision annexed to the village, trustees also agreed to forcibly annex about five acres of former farmland at the northeast corner of Hintz and Schoenbeck roads to straighten out village boundaries.

Village officials said there were no plans for the land, formerly the Schwindfarm even though once [illegible] annexed, it would automatically [illegible] zoned for residential purposes.

Village set to sign on 32nd firefighter for department

8-22-86

The village of Wheeling is set to hire a firefighter/paramedic from a pool of 25 applicants who took a rigorous exam last year that tested them on firefighting and safety skills last year.

Hiring a firefighter/paramedic will bring the total number of firefighters to 32, said Mary Ellen Westrich, fire and police commission chairman.

Village officials probably will hire someone from the top three scorers on the test, following psychological and polygraph tests, Fire Chief Bernhardt O. Koeppen said. The new employee is expected to be hired in November.

Hiring a firefighter/paramedic is needed because of increased demand by residents for medical services.

"There's no one leaving the fire department, it's just that the monies are there to authorize hiring another firefighter," Westrich said.

Wheeling firefighters currently are negotiating with village staff on pay raises, but have not yet settled a contract. Beginning salary for a firefighter is $21,178.

Pal-Waukee official named

David A. Henry, a veteran of civil and military air traffic control, has been selected by the Federal Aviation Administration's Great Lakes region as manager of the airport traffic control tower at Pal-Waukee Airport.

Henry attended high school at Karlstad, Minn., before entering the U.S. Air Force as an air traffic controller. He served at the air base tower at Mildenhall, United Kingdom and at Selfridge Air Force Base in Michigan before joining the FAA. Henry served for 12 years in the tower at Chicago O'Hare International Airport. In 1985 he joined the regional office Air Traffic division as an evaluation specialist.

8-28-86

New female officers see selves as ordinary cops

By C.L. WALLER

No, they're not Cagney and Lacey.

They wear uniforms and badges like every other patrolman in the Wheeling Police Department and the crackling so unique to an officer's leather holster sounds no different on them than it does on any other member of the force.

They're just officers; they don't think of themselves as anything special.

But Terrie Delahanty and Liz Huntley will go down on record as Wheeling's first female officers.

DESPITE THE TOUCHES of makeup and petite frames, the women aren't on the department because they are female, but because they're as qualified as anyone to serve and protect Wheeling residents.

The "cream of the crop" is how Wheeling Police Chief Michael Haeger describes the two women officers as well as the two men who joined the department in the summer.

Both showed their qualifications at the police training academy in Springfield — Delahanty, 24, was at the top of her class academically and 27-year-old Huntley was near the top in physical durability.

The two don't allow their egos to do the talking for them about in discussing their achievements. In talking about her accomplishments at the academy, Huntley disappointingly adds she could have done better had she not sprained her ankle in training.

DELAHANTY WORKED on her academics before attending police training in Springfield by obtaining a criminal justice degree from Northern Illinois University.

After graduating from college, Delahanty landed a job in Skokie as a community service officer. She was there 15 months before deciding to become an officer, and the experience in Skokie came in handy.

"It was a job, and I thought it would give me an opportunity to see if I liked police work," she said.

Huntley, of Oak Park, said her interest in police work "was something that came up" and she thought she would give it a try. Her ability in physical endurance, however, was fed by her former job manager of a fitness center.

BOTH HAVE BEEN patrolling on their own for about two months now. And they say they've received some interesting comments when they've encountered people who aren't used to dealing with female officers.

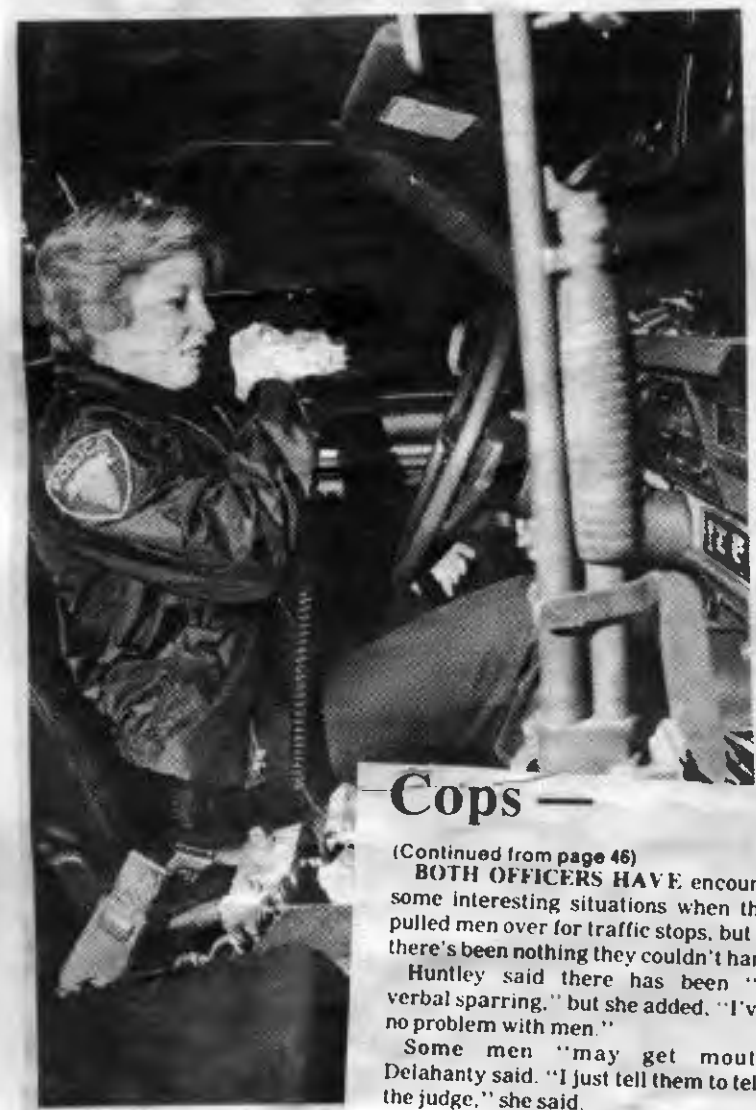
"You never get the same reaction twice," said Delahanty, who lives in Glenview.

"Occasionally, I've had some looks of surprise," Huntley said.

Five or 10 years ago, people may have been adverse to the idea of having women officers, Haeger said. But he added think they've been accepted pretty well.

(Continued on page 48)

They're not Cagney and Lacey—they're Terrie Delahanty and Liz Huntley, Wheeling's first female police officers. At left, Delahanty gets ready to head on patrol. Below, Huntley finishes up some paperwork, which is a necessary part of every officer's job. *(Staff photos by Bill Oakes)*



—Cops —

(Continued from page 46)

BOTH OFFICERS HAVE encountered some interesting situations when they've pulled men over for traffic stops, but so far there's been nothing they couldn't handle.

Huntley said there has been "some verbal sparring," but she added, "I've had no problem with men."

Some men "may get mouthy," Delahanty said. "I just tell them to tell it to the judge," she said.

Whether an offender is a man or woman, Delahanty said, "I think it depends on the person (officer) and how you handle yourself."

AFTER ONLY TWO months on their own on the beat, neither officer had many unusual stories to tell, but Huntley does remember one offender speeding through town. "I stopped him for speeding and gave him a warning. As I was walking away from the car, he said, 'Hey, you're pretty cute, you know.' " Huntley said she just smiled and proceeded back to her car.

Being a female officer can be beneficial to the rest of the department. For example, because they're the department's only two female officers, Delahanty and Huntley work different shifts. That way either officer can be called to the station when a woman is arrested.

And there are times on the street when being a woman can turn around a situation. "I've seen guys leap out of their car after being stopped, but they get themselves under control when they see me," Huntley said. "I've diffused some things that a man couldn't have diffused."

"I think they give us some increased abilities with situations on the street," Haeger said. The women tend to be good mediators and bring a new approach to police work, he said.

THE DANGER INVOLVED in police work is just part of the job for Huntley and Delahanty.

"It really doesn't worry me. I think we're both pretty capable," Huntley said.

"Im out there. I'm doing my job," Delahanty said.

Even though both women don't consider themselves special because they are officers, they're satisfied with their work and want to explore different aspects of their profession. They believe it's an important job.

"If everybody acted like a rational person, we'd be out of a job," Delahanty said.

Balefill plan dumped; other alternatives sought

By JIM NASH
Staff Writer

Life 8-21-86

Northwest (suburban) Municipal Conference leaders admit that the village of Bartlett's refusal to annex their proposed balefill is a setback.

The action does not mean, however, that the Conference's plans for a 225-acre balefill between west suburban Bartlett and Elgin are dead.

"You can view the decision obviously as a setback," said Conference President Sheila Schultz, but the balefill plan still stands on its own.

A special joint committee of Bartlett's plan commission and zoning board of appeals rejected earlier this month a petition by the Conference to have the site annexed to the village.

One member of the special committee said the Conference had not proved its balefill would not endanger "the health, welfare and safety" of Bartlett residents.

Bill Grams, executive director of the 36-member association, said he remai[illegible] [illegible]lent that his balefill will [illegible] a reality — somewhere.

Under the balefill plan, residential trash hauled in from Conference communities to one of two transfer stations, would be crushed into 3,000-pound bales. The bales then would be stacked and buried at a site in unincorporated Cook County.

Schultz, who is also the village president of Wheeling, defended the proposal as "money well spent."

"We're re-examining who should we go to now," Grams said. The denial "was not totally unexpected."

He could petition Elgin to annex the worked-out gravel mine. Or Grams could go straight to Cook County to see if officials there want jurisdictional control over the facility.

Other options being considered include taking trash from Conference communities to existing landfill sites further away. Grams said he will investigate new forms of disposal, such as incineration, in a more urgent fashion.

Current garbage disposal plans call for the eventual construction of an incinerator by the end of the next decade.

But before any of these alternatives are addressed in detail, the Conference must first decide whether it should simply abandon the idea of building a new landfill solution.

"We could close shop and go home," Grams said.

Right now, a team of Conference members and staff is searching for new options and their costs. Grams predicted the team's findings will be ready in October.

Schultz said she will wait for Gram's report before anticipating how the Conference as a whole will react.

"We must weigh the probability of success (for any new) plan," Schultz explained. But, she added, "The Conference members have always been very supportive" of landfill proposals.

This is the second solid waste disposal plan Conference members have proposed. In 1984, they sought to locate a landfill in a forest preserve near Elgin and were denied.

To date, Grams said, the Conference has spent between $150,000 and $170,000 in research, field testing and manpower on its project.

If Conference members decide to press on with their balefill, that amount will increase.

Although the bulk of the costs, he explained, are tied up in completed research and tests, new balefill presentations and hearings will involve more [illegible]ff, consultant and attorney time.

Apartment complex's renovation feted

by Evelyn Dorman
Herald staff writer

The Wildwood apartments in Wheeling, often associated with rowdy, overcrowded and dilapidated conditions, no longer exist.

What has risen in their place after a summerlong renovation are the new Arbor Court apartments.

At least, that's what Buffalo Grove developer Larry Floria would like residents to believe. And improvements to the former 90-unit complex at Wheeling Avenue and Dundee Road are evident, especially to nearby homeowners, who laud the changes.

Newly planted bushes and shrubs on a sculpted ridge replace the worn asphalt parking lot along Dundee Road. Floria is repaving the driveway, repairing broken windows, leaky sky lights and plumbing and adding new carpeting, appliances, light fixtures and awnings to about 20 of the 72 units that have been under going renovations since early May. Eighteen more buildings will be completed in September.

Floria said he has begun leasing apartments, even though the entire complex won't be finished until October. Rents will begin at $449 per month for one-bedroom units and range from $519 to $599 for two-bedroom apartments. Three-bedroom apartments will rent for $749.

"WE'RE TRYING to push to get everything done," Floria said. "We realize that we're not making them completely new, but the apartments have been renovated and are almost like new."

The planned $600,000 renovation is an attempt to upgrade the complex and rid it of overcrowding and maintenance problems that have plagued the buildings to five different owners in the 1970s.

Floria took on the challenge, saying he could solve those problems and make Wildwood "something the village could be proud of."

But doing so has meant the relocation of the estimated 700 residents, mostly Hispanic. Although Floria has said he expected some tenants to remain in the complex after its rehabilitation, most have relocated to other parts of Wheeling and neighboring communities.

In an effort to prevent a repeat of abuses, Floria is employing an on-site manager and is requiring leases from future tenants.

"I think we've put a lot of money in it. Now we have a decent clientele," he said. "We have some of those who used to live here stay, but none of the problem tenants are there anymore."

WHEELING RESIDENTS living near the apartments agree. For the first time in many years, they say, this summer has been devoid of the loud parties and vandalism that plagued Wildwood before.

"They're doing a beautiful job over there," said Clare Rudolph, who has lived in the area for 30 years. "It's much quieter. This man seems like he's trying. It was so trashy; our homes were being devalued. It got to be like it was a slum community over there."

Other residents also approved of the renovation work, but were reticent to talk for fear that former tenants would harass them.

"We will be happy if the place stays quiet. Before you were so scared to go out in your yard," said one resident who refused to give her name.

"I will not condemn them all. I feel sorry for some of them. But we were really suffering out here."

Herald 8-21-86

Like 8-21-86

Airport contract stalled by delays

WHEELING — Concerns about a proposed Pal-Waukee contract between the village and Airport Corp. of America have not yet been cleared up.

The Village Board Monday tabled to Sept. 2 a resolution approving the contract.

The Pal-Waukee Airport Commission has recommended that Wheeling and the city of Prospect Heights enter into a contract with Airport Corp., a New Jersey firm that it wants to help manage Pal-Waukee's transition from a private airport to a public facility.

The contract must be approved both by Wheeling and Prospect Heights, which have entered into an agreement to buy the airport.

But the Wheeling village staff has raised concerns about the document and Prospect Heights Mayor John Gilligan has objected to the contract's not having a cap on the amount that can be spent by Airport Corp.

Pal-Waukee Airport Commission Chairman Bill Rogers said the further delay in ratifying the contract has come about because the commission's attorney has been on vacation. He said he expects the concerns that have been raised to be resolved at meetings the commission has scheduled for Aug. 20 and 27.

Among the concerns raised by Wheeling Village Attorney Jim Rhodes is that the proposed contract makes no provision for liability insurance.

In other business, the Village Board agreed to let the Police Department hire two full-time community service officers and eliminate two part-time commun-

(Continued on page 3)

Airport contract delayed

Life 8-21-86

(Continued from page 1)

ity service officer positions. This will bring the number of community service officers within the department to four full-time and two part-time officers.

Switching the two part-time to two full-time positions was recommended by Village Manager Tom Markus who said there is a tremendously high turnover of part-time CSOs.

In a report to the board, Police Chief Michael Haeger said the average length of employment of the 13 part-time people employed as CSOs since the program was authorized in 1982 was 9.8 months. He said that since it took two to three months to train the officers, the Police Department was only getting an average of six months' service in which the CSOs were on the street [illegible]

(Continued on page 3)

Airport contract delayed

LIFE 8/21/86

(Continued from page 1)

ity service officer positions. This will bring the number of community service officers within the department to four full-time and two part-time officers.

Switching the two part-time to two full-time positions was recommended by Village Manager Tom Markus who said there is a tremendously high turnover of part-time CSOs.

In a report to the board, Police Chief Michael Haeger said the average length of employment of the 13 part-time people employed as CSOs since the program was authorized in 1982 was 9.8 months. He said that since it took two to three months to train the officers, the Police Department was only getting an average of six months' service in which the CSOs were on the street on their own.

Also Monday, the board voted to grant a special use request to develop a day care center on the northwest corner of Hintz and Schoenbeck roads.

The board also voted to annex the 2.45-acre property and approved a site plan that will divide the parcel into three lots. A Kinder Care Learning Center will be built on one of the lots and the other two lots will be zoned for single-family residences.

The day care center will consist of a 5,880 square-foot, single-story structure. Access to the property will be through a single driveway off Schoenbeck Road.

The day care center will be open from 6:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Village OKs firm to aid Palwaukee buy

by Wendy Winkelhake
Herald staff writer

Wheeling trustees Tuesday approved a contract with a New Jersey airport management firm, setting into action a plan by the village and the City of Prospect Heights to buy Palwaukee Airport.

Though Wheeling officials unanimously approved the contract with Airport Corporation of America to aid in a planned $36 million buy-out of the airport, located at Hintz and Wolf roads, negotiations for the purchase hinge on whether Prospect Heights officials also approve the contract.

Following a push by Mayor John F. Gilligan, Prospect Heights officials have delayed voting on the contract. Gilligan is leading opposition to the agreement, saying he cannot support it and will veto it if a spending cap is not included.

GILLIGAN HAS argued that without a spending limit there would be no control over the company or the manager except to cancel the contract. Gilligan has asked for a $220,000 spending cap.

The Prospect Heights City Council also was expected to discuss the contract Tuesday.

Wheeling officials, however, said they felt it was not possible to set a maximum spending limit with the contract.

"No one specifically knows the exact amount of work needed for other contracts involved and the various types of administrative work that will bring us to the acquisition of the airport. It's difficult to estimate the amount of that work," Village Attorney James A. Rhodes said.

TRUSTEE WILLIAM Rogers, who also serves on the Palwaukee Municipal Airport Commission, agreed a cap may push costs higher in the long run, he said.

"The commission felt st[illegible] setting a cap would give a ta[illegible] shoot for instead of letting us act as watchdogs," Rogers said.

Village President Sheila H. Schultz said she is hopeful Gilligan will back down from his position. "I think Mayor Gilligan will see the problem with the cap and with the wisdom of leaving it off," she said.

Under the agreement, the Airport Corporation of America is expected to help commission.

9-3-86 Herald

Village population up 13% since '80

by Wendy M. Winkelhake
Herald staff writer

More than 26,000 people now live in the village of Wheeling, representing a population increase of nearly 13 percent in six years, census figures show.

A special census conducted by the village and headed by the U.S. Bureau of the Census indicates that 26,276 people live within village boundaries. Unofficial results released in April predicted 26,268 people lived in Wheeling.

THE 1980 census pegged the village's population at 23,266. However, results from the census conducted last March show the village's population has grown by 12.9 percent.

The census was conducted to update population figures and provide better information for calculating motor-fuel tax revenues. Those revenues are based on a percentage per gallon sold and generate $16 to $17 per year per person.

Officials also have said the village could benefit from more state income tax revenue

Throughout the special census, Robert W. Fialkowski, director of community development, has predicted the village could pick up an additional $108,000 annually from state income tax and motor-fuel tax revenues.

Those funds most likely would help pay for the census, which cost the village about $40,000 even though the federal agency headed the project.

Before the census began, officials had predicted that the village's population had reached at least 25,000 residents, based on the number of new housing units constructed since the 1980 census.

FIALKOWSKI ALSO has predicted that the village will gain another 4,000 residents by the 1990s, possibly prompting another unofficial census before the federal government conducts the next national census.

Officials expect several new developments will help boost the village's population. Those developments include the Polo Run 260-unit single-family and multifamily subdivision, the Arlington Country Club 900-unit multifamily complex, and Woodland Creek, a 600-unit apartment complex.

9-4-86

Pal-Waukee buyout talks to begin by '87

by Wendy M. Winkelhake
Herald staff writer

Negotiations for the purchase of Pal-Waukee Airport by Wheeling and Prospect Heights should begin by the end of the year, airport commissioners predict.

Though pointing out the "finality of this is somewhat in question" because Prospect Heights Mayor John E. Gilligan still is threatening to veto an agreement with an airport management firm, Pal-Waukee Municipal Airport Commission member Charles T. VanderVennet said that is a "reasonable" time frame.

"It's not so simple as to go out and offer a dollar for your property," said VanderVennet, also a 1st Ward alderman in Prospect Heights. "I hope it's going to be by the end of the year."

Commission vice chairman Daniel Quiery agreed, saying VanderVennet's estimate on when negotiations will begin is an "accurate assessment."

PROSPECT HEIGHTS and Wheeling officials this week approved a contract with the Airport Corporation of America of Short Hills, N.J., which will aid commission members with a "pre-acquisition" inventory and determine how much money should be offered for the airport, located at Hintz and Wolf roads.

Approving the agreement ended a stalemate between the towns, which both had questions — such as whether corporation employees should be paid for travel time — about the agreement.

However, Gilligan said he will veto the agreement because it does not include a spending cap. He has pushed to include a $220,000 bottom-line cost.

Other officials have argued a cap is unnecessary because the commission will carefully monitor the management corporation's work.

To veto the contract, Gilligan must inform Prospect Heights aldermen prior to the city council's Sept. 15 meeting. The council could override Gilligan's veto, ultimately putting the city's stamp of approval on the contract.

9-6-87 Herald

Water to flow freely in village

By the middle of the month, Wheeling residents will be able to use water freely as the village lifts a summer watering restriction.

The water ban, imposed in June to comply with state limits on the amount of water drawn from Lake Michigan, will be lifted Sept. 15. Use of "non-essential" water, such as that used in washing autos and hosing lawns and shrubs, was restricted during the heavy-use months of June, July and August.

Although officials said water usage can double during the heavy-use time, there is no way to estimate the amount of water saved by imposing the restriction. Under the restriction, outdoor watering was restricted from noon to 8 p.m.

"That's impossible to estimate. It's not a matter of people not using water for essential things," said August P. Lockveer, village water superintendent. "It's not using water for non-essential things like washing cars."

Other communities in the Northwest Water Commission that are using lake water — Palatine, Buffalo Grove and Arlington Heights — also imposed water-use bans this summer.

While Wheeling usually has had a summertime water-use ban, it has been stricter in the past. Last year, outdoor watering was prohibited altogether through November.

WAKE UP TO . . .
THE DAILY HERALD

Sept 86

HERALD
9-15-86

Week ahead

Board will vote on code revisions

The Wheeling village board tonight will vote on revisions in the village's municipal code regarding public peace and safety.

The board will meet at 8 p.m. at village hall, 255 E. Dundee Road.

The code was enacted in 1955 and many of the provisions included are outdated by court decisions made over the years or by revisions to state laws. The 22-page document covers 15 different areas, including offenses against children, gambling, noise, deceptive practices and weapons.

In Brief

Plans afoot for street work

The Village Board has chosen Baxter & Woodman, Inc. to do preliminary engineering plans for streets that will be reconstructed in 1987.

Streets slated for major reconstruction next year are: Edgewood Drive from Milwaukee Avenue to the cul-de-sac; Foster Avenue from Camp McDonald Road for 2,000 feet north; Old Willow Road from Wolf Road to the railroad; Harmony Drive, from Wolf Road to Manchester; and Ferne Drive beginning and ending at Harmony.

Also, Chelsea Drive from Old McHenry to the north end; Tahoe Circle Drive from Buffalo Grove Road to Lakeview; Bow Trail from Tahoe Circle Drive to the west end; Delaware Trail from West Lodge Trail to the west end; Pueblo Trail from West Lodge Trail to Delaware; and Crow Trail from Chippewa to south end.

Sept 4, 1986

THE DAILY HERALD

Developers will recoup costs

by Wendy M. Winkelhake
Herald staff writer

Hoping to encourage more development, Wheeling officials will let developers get back some of the costs they incur for public improvements.

Under the new agreement, developers would be allowed to collect a portion of the money they spend on improvements, mainly public utilities such as extending sanitary and storm sewer lines to serve their developments.

The builder who makes the public improvements across other property lines can collect a fee from a developer who later builds and benefits from the improvements that already have been made.

Being able to get back some of the money originally invested in necessary improvements may be an incentive for developers to build in Wheeling, said Robert Fialkowski, director of community development.

"THERE'S SOME work involved, but it's an incentive. They're not shouldering the entire burden for extending the lines," Fialkowski said. "It could encourage development in areas that otherwise wouldn't be developed. We approved this to allow things to happen in the future."

Village Manager Thomas M. Markus called the agreement a "good economic development tool" and compared it to other development incentives the village has used, such as offering industrial bonds and tax breaks to businesses.

In July, village officials considered allowing two local businesses breaks that would drop the assessment on their industrial property from the current 40 percent to 16 percent for eight years and then to 30 percent for the following year.

The special status, introduced about two years ago by Cook County officials, is designed to keep businesses from moving to nearby Lake and DuPage counties, where assessments on industrial property are lower.

Markus also said the agreement will benefit the community because residents will be served by the public utilities, while those benefiting from the already-made improvements — the developers — will pay the costs.

Towns debate consultant fees for Pal-Waukee

Countryside 9-4-86

By IRA HERMAN and C.L. WALLER

Things are rapidly coming to an important juncture at Pal-Waukee Airport.

But Prospect Heights Mayor Jack Gilligan is trying to put the brakes on progress, claiming the parties involved need to clearly outline expenses.

The Wheeling Village Board Tuesday night unanimously voted to accept the Pal-Waukee Airport Commission's choice of a management consultant to further Wheeling and Prospect Heights' purchase of the airport from George Priester.

The Prospect Heights City Council also agreed Tuesday in a 5-2 vote to hire the consultant, Airport Corporation of America of Summit, N.J. But Gilligan said after the meeting that he plans to veto the council's action.

STUDIES INCLUDING AN inventory of the airport, an outline of how much money can be made and a five-year program outlining income and expense projections will be conducted by the management consultant, said Pal-Waukee Airport Commission Chairman William Rogers.

There has been considerable effort involved in working with the management consultant to make sure costs for its efforts efforts come in at no more than the amount originally budgeted.

Prospect Heights Mayor Jack Gilligan suggested that a $220,000 cap be placed on costs accrued by the management firm. "If we don't know the value of a product before we buy it, we shouldn't accept it," he said.

In most professional contracts there is a cap or estimate of costs, he said. Without a cap, the firm could target an expenditure much higher than the airport commission expects, Gilligan said. "If you can't value it now, how can you value it later," he said.

Wheeling Village Attorney Jim Rhodes told trustees that he tried to get John P.

(Continued on page 58)

Wheeling Countryside

(Continued from page 5)

Kennedy, president of the firm, to lock himself into a cap, but Kennedy said he couldn't do it.

But both communities disregarded Gilligan's suggestion and approved the contract with the New Jersey firm. Despite votes from both Wheeling and Prospect Heights, Gilligan is sticking by his suggestion and plans on vetoing his council's action. "I will veto it. I will disapprove," he said following the city council's meeting Tuesday night.

By the end of the week a letter outlining his written argument will be released, he said. Once Gilligan presents his veto before the city council, it will take two-thirds of the council to override the veto.

Rogers said the cap is unnecessary because it probably will not cost as much as $220,000. If the proposed consultant works all the personnel it has hired for this project 40 hours a week, the consultant would reach the $220,000 cap in eight months, he said. The airport commission estimated the hours worked would cost between $26,000 and $27,000 per month.

BUT ROGERS TOLD village trustees Tuesday night, "The commission doesn't feel it will take us that long to complete our studies. Maybe half that time."

By completing the project in an estimated four-month time period, the airport commission expects the cost to be about $125,000, he said.

Placing a cap on the management firm's fees would only complicate the progress being made, Rogers said. "If the projects are three-fourths of the way done and we've hit that cap the contractor has the officials, the airport commission can at any time give the management firm 30 days notice that the commission no longer needs its services.

ONE OF THE services Prospect Heights Alderman Warren Sunde would like completed is a study of relocating the intersection of Wolf and Hintz roads.

In a letter to the airport commission, Sunde said he is concerned that the shallowest glide slope used for planes approaching the main runway would cause planes to fly barely 50 feet over the roof of Holmes Junior High School in Wheeling.

Sunde also pointed out that the minimum Federal Aviation Administration clearance over the intersection is only 15 feet.

At their meeting last week, airport commission members discussed alternatives to the intersection problem such as current plans to relocate both roads, shortening the runway fron 5,000 feet to 4,650 feet, moving only one road, raising the north end of the runway by four feet or holding off on any action.

ROGERS SAID HE hopes "in the next month or so" negotiations on a purchase price for the airport will begin with Priester.

Meanwhile, an appraisal on the airport hasn't been completed because the firm doing the appraisal is still waiting for two reports on the value of the airport.

Pal-Waukee Airport Commission members complained at their Aug. 27 meeting about how long it was taking to complete the appraisal. Stephen Moore, attorney for the commission, said he would

The week ahead

Herald 9-1-86

Board to discuss airport buyout

The Wheeling Village Board Tuesday will discuss a management contract for the buyout of Pal-Waukee Airport, which the village and the city of Prospect Heights are planning to buy.

The board will meet at 8 p.m. at village hall, 225 E. Dundee Road.

Officials from both towns have delayed making any decisions on the proposed contract with Airport Corp. of America in Short Hills, N.J., mainly because it lacks a ceiling on total expenses. The delay in signing the contract will push back the buyout of the private airport and Hintz and Wolf roads until early next year, officials say.

Council overrides Gilligan's veto

By a 7-0 vote the Prospect Heights City Council Monday overrode Mayor John Gilligan's veto of a Pal-Waukee management contract with Airport Corp. of America.

That contract had been approved by the council by a 5-2 vote Sept. 4 and unanimously ratified the same night by the Wheeling Village Board.

Prospect Heights and Wheeling have entered into an agreement to purchase Pal-Waukee, and Airport Corp. is supposed to help manage the transition of the airport from a private to a public facility. Both communities had to approve the contract in order for it to be signed.

The contract is the last major document that had to be ratified before the municipalities can enter negotiations to purchase Pal-Waukee. Gilligan objected to a number of provisions of the contract, including the fact that it has no cap on the amount of time or money Airport Corp. can spend on the Pal-Waukee project.

Supporters of the contract said there are other controls besides a cap that will hold down costs.

Life 9-18-86

New census makes more cents to Wheeling

WHEELING — The special census conducted by the village of Wheeling shows that the village population has grown 13 percent since 1980.

The census found the new population to be 26,276, up by 3,010 People.

Each new persons will mean more money for the village, which gets $16 per person per year in federal motor fuel tax funds and $22 per person per year in income tax rebate money.

The village will thus receive an additional $114,380 in the next year, more th[illegible] making up the $40,000 cost o[illegible]nsus.

The n[illegible]ar census is scheduled for [illegible]t Bob Fialkowski, director [illegible] community development, said he expects another special census will be held before that date. Sept 1986

The great land grab

Battles rage over fate of coveted properties

By MARIE LUTZ
Staff Writer

Municipal board rooms are often the site of bloodless battles waged over parcels of prime land ripe for development.

Typically, owners of a choice

Analysis

piece of real estate seeking the "highest and best use" of their property (translation: the most profit) conflict with residents protecting the value of their homes and quality of their lives.

Also often jumping into the fray are neighboring villages fearful that property developed next door will create numerous traffic headaches without palliative property tax dollars that will go only to the community lucky enough to annex the land.

Across the country, conflicts occur daily. In this area, a drawn-out, bitter war ensued over Northbrook Court in the '70s and, more recently, battles were waged over the Arlington Country Club golf course, which is now being developed with homes in Wheeling.

One of the more enduring conflicts has been over a 56-acre parcel in unincorporated Cook County between Glenview and Northbrook. At least three proposals to develop the site have been made with the last plan having been rejected just last month.

Hundreds cheered in August when the Glenview Village Board killed a proposal to construct a 662,000-square-foot six-building office complex on property on the northern side of Willow Road between Interstate 294 and Landwehr Road.

Trustees said the project was too big. When Romanek Properties Inc. withdrew from the project rather than scale it down, Illinois Tool Works, owner of the 5[illegible]-acre site, was left without a developer. continuance to find another developer or develop the site itself.

Fighting the Romanek plan were an association of residents called the West Northfield Coalition, which has a mailing list of 1,500 homeowners. Also opposed was neighboring Northbrook and, surprisingly, some of the large corporations with headquarters west of the tollway not far from the ITW site.

Pitted against these forces were Romanek and ITW, which had not even considered building the homes surrounding residents would ideally like to see constructed on the property.

The reason housing is not being proposed for that parcel is clear: money. In testimony before the Glenview Plan Commission a real estate appraiser estimated that the ITW property is worth $13 million to $15 million dollars if it is developed commercially and only $3 million to $4 million if developed with

(Continued on page 5)

CAN offices and houses mix? Often proposals to construct homes near residences lead to clashes between developers seeking to maximize profits and residents wanting to minimize traffic congestion.

Village wants to recoup money from mortgages

9-11-86

It's been eight years since Wheeling issued $15 million in single-family mortgage revenue bonds and now officials are considering hiring financial advisors to see if there's a way to recoup money from the bond debt.

The federal government authorized, through the state tax code, the issuance of bonds for single-family mortgages. In 1978, Wheeling sold $15 million in bonds with proceeds from the sale going for residential mortgages in the village, said Wheeling Village Manager Tom Markus.

A report from Main Bank in Wheeling for the month ending Aug. 12 shows that 297 loans have been taken out since the program began with $10 million outstanding in principal.

Flatland, Hinners & Company of Northfield proposed a service agreement to trustees Monday night at a board workshop meeting. If trustees approve the agreement, the company would advise whether the village's bond structure could be altered.

A maximum fee of $1,200 would be paid to the company if trustees approve an analysis by the company. Once the analysis is complete and the company determines that a new bond program is needed, a fee of $18,750 would be charged for administering the program, according to the proposal.

Markus said several people with the mortgages has asked about refinanci[illegible] but even if the bond structure is al[illegible] those with mortgages would still b[illegible] 8.95 percent in interest.

The village, on the other hand, is looking at restructuring the bond to free up more money in reserve, therefore providing more money for village operations, he said.

9-10-86 Herald

Village to pay for refinancing study

by Wendy M. Winkelhake
Herald staff writer

Wheeling officials will spend more than $1,000 to study the possible refinancing of a debt incurred in 1978 as part of a program to aid residents buying their first house.

Village officials in 1978 issued $15 million in bonds to local banks and mortgage companies to help residents who met certain economic conditions, such as annual salary, and who were buying their first house. Those 30-year mortgages were made available to residents at the lower-than-market interest rate of 8.95 percent.

Village Manager Thomas M. Markus said the program has been "very popular" and that it has "generated a lot of mortgage money in the community." But, it's time for the village to look at different options with the outstanding debt, including refinancing the issue, he said.

TO DO that, the village has hired Flatland, Hinners and Co., a Northbrook firm specializing in public finance. The company will solicit proposals from various financial groups and then submit to the village a report on the different options available.

That service will cost the village $1,200. However, if any further work is done, such as aiding the possible refinancing, that bill could run as high as $18,000, Markus said.

The initial $1,200 fee will be money well spent, Markus said. "I think it's valuable to have an expert in our corner to evaluate proposals and explain them to us," he said.

Trustees backed the plan in a committee meeting but will take a formal vote on the proposal at next week's board meeting.

Wildwood renovation well underway, but one tenant refuses to leave

Countryside 9-11-86

By C.L. WALLER

Chips of paint, plaster and dust from construction lie outside the door leading to Morris Buckler's apartment.

Air freely flows through the foyer door frame that has been ripped out about five feet from Buckler's front apartment door. His building is one of six apartment buildings, formerly known as Wildwood Apartments, that have been under construction as part of a renovation project.

Landscaping in front of the complex along Dundee Road, a rebuilt parking lot and construction workers roaming about the property are all obvious signs that the apartment complex, now called Arbor Courts, is undergoing change.

But Buckler refuses to change, ignoring four eviction notices and refusing help from social service agencies.

BUCKLER CAME TO Wildwood three years ago when multiple owners were in charge of the complex that gained a reputation for having unsightly conditions, public drunkenness and building code violations.

Communicating with the 58-year-old man is not easy.

He has no telephone and refuses to answer his door, said Larry Floria, the new owner and developer of Arbor Courts.

Some rustling sounds and a small dog barking was all that resulted from several raps on Buckler's door during a reporter's visit to the apartment Tuesday evening.

"HE KNOWS HE has to move," Floria said.

Because of that knowledge, Buckler threatened to commit suicide rather than leave his apartment when he appeared in courts to answer the last eviction notice.

Don't call them the Wildwood Apartments anymore; the refurbished complex is now called Arbor Court.

Floria has requested that Wheeling police pay close attention to Buckler's apartment because of the threat, but in the meantime, Floria will try convincing the tenant to leave — both through verbal communications and by court action.

"He's going to force us, I think, to evict him," Floria said.

An eviction notice waits in Cook County Circuit Court now for Buckler, but Floria said it sometimes takes three to four weeks for the sheriff's office to process the papers.

WHILE BUCKLER HAS ignored eviction notices and paying rent for the past five months, Floria would still like to find some place for Buckler to go. He said he would appreciate any help from social service agencies.

Buckler's choices are limited, however, because he has six dogs and Floria said the man refuses to give up the pets.

Meanwhile, the developer said renovations are showing promise because 15 apartments have been rented so far.

Workers Scott Meyers and Paul Martin put a new entrance on one of the apartment buildings. *(Staff photos by Bill Oakes)*

Floria started renovations about five months ago in buildings on the east side of the property and work now underway on the west side of the property.

During the first week apartments began being rented, most of the people who came to look at the units were neighbors wanting to see any change, Floria said.

Eviction notices were served to some of the old Wildwood residents, forcing them to move, but some families who meet qualifications will be allowed to stay in the renovated apartments, Floria said.

But Buckler tends to be the real thorn in the developer's side. "I don't want to scare people away because of him," he said.

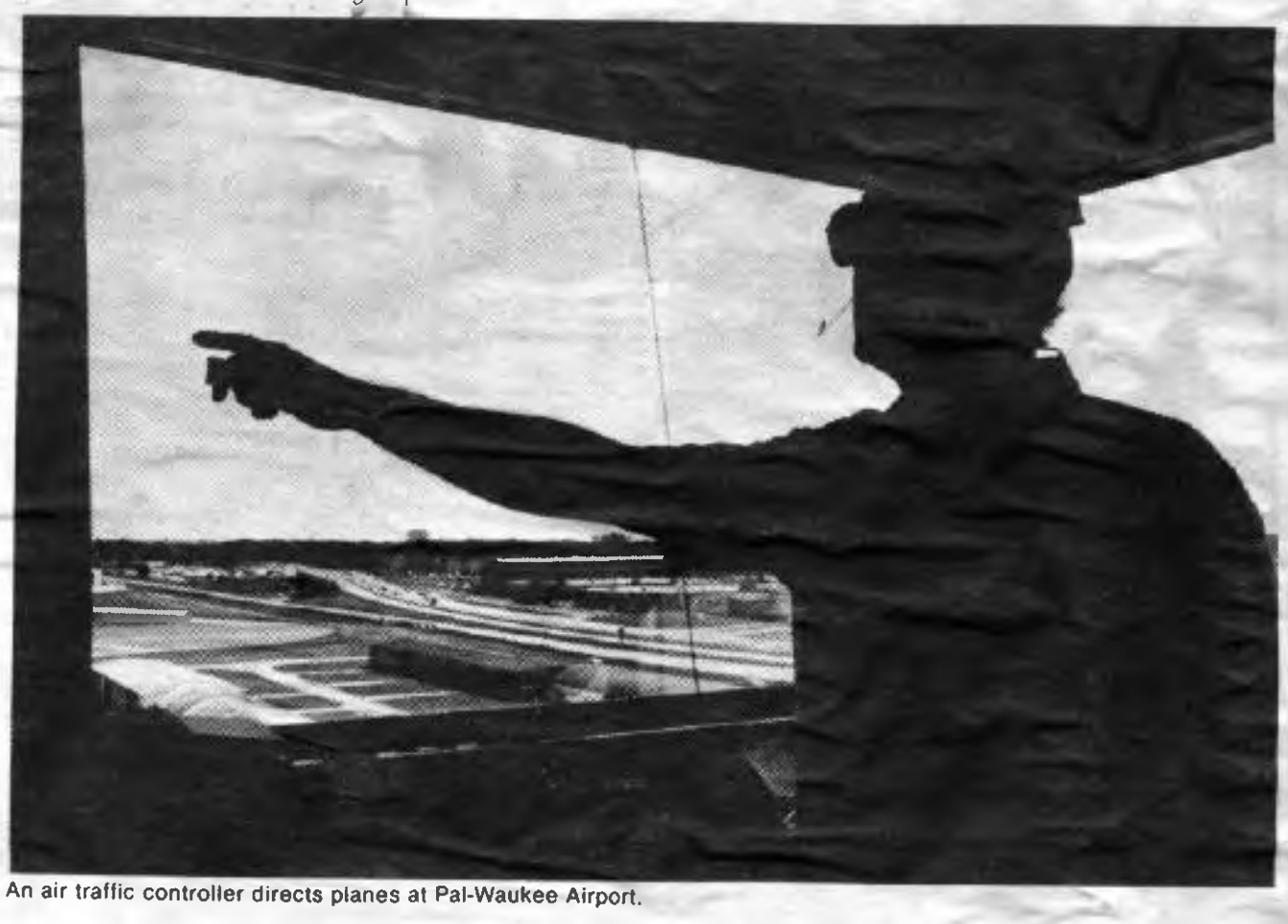
The Arbor Court apartments sport a new look inside and out. Neat-looking canopies are part of the remodeling job.

Airport commission headed in right direction

Countryside 9-11-87

As Wheeling and Prospect Heights prepare to take over ownership of Pal-Waukee Airport, William Rogers, chairman of the commission set up to oversee the acquisition, says the group is moving full steam ahead in its effort to make the transition between private and public ownership as smooth as possible.

By IRA BERMAN



An air traffic controller directs planes at Pal-Waukee Airport.

When Wheeling and Prospect Heights decided several years ago to purchase Pal-Waukee Airport, officials of the two towns decided to establish a commission to oversee the purchase rather than having the governing bodies of the two communities do it on their own.

And, according to commission chairman William Rogers, the municipalities made the right decision.

Rogers, who is also a Wheeling village trustee, says today — 1½ years after it was created — the commission has evolved into a "harmonious group" that's working hard to acquire the airport for the two municipalities.

The commission is made up of four members each from Wheeling and Prospect Heights. The possibility of tie votes was recognized, but it was decided to remain with an even number, letting the Wheeling Village Board and the Prospect Heights City Council decide the outcome of any disputes if the commission becomes deadlocked. To date, there have been no votes that have required tie-breaking action, Rogers said.

ANOTHER CONSIDERATION was to have at least two members of each of the governing bodies on the commission. Two Prospect Heights aldermen and three Wheeling trustees are now on the board.

Evidently the original choices for commission members were well made, Rogers said, because the original eight appointees are still on the commission.

There are a variety of occupations and backgrounds on the commission, as well. There are engineers, a purchasing agent, salesmen, a lawyer, and an insurance salesman. The normal term of service will be four years, but four of the original members will serve only two years to allow rotating elections to begin. Then, even if four new members are elected each time, there wil still be four experienced commissioners on the board

(Continued on page 25)

(Continued from page 23)

to keep matters rolling smoothly.

Members of the commission are paid a stipend of $75 per month. As the funds for these stipends will be derived from the operating revenues of the airport, and since the airport does not provide any operating revenue to the commission until the purchase is made, the two communities have advanced the commission $16,000 to date.

THESE FUNDS COVER the stipends, a limited amount of official travel (usually to Springfield), and such other expenses that the commission decides are proper.

Rogers emphasized this is a loan that will be repaid with interest once the acquisition is complete. In fact, he repeated several times during a recent interview that the airport can not be bought with any taxpayer money from either Wheeling or Prospect Heights. Taxpayers in both communities will not be saddled with a heavy fiscal burden should the acquisition run into financial difficulties, he said.

A management contract recently approved by Wheeling and Prospect Heights officials was the final contract to be approved Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) regulations require three independent appraisals to be made of the property: the first two are to be reviewed by a third firm, which has the opportunity and the responsibility to request clarification and further effort if it feels that data or items of information are missing or unclear.

The two firms perfoming the initial appraisal are Muriello, Meyer and Associates of Elk Grove Village, and Mid-America Appraisal and Research of Chicago. The appraisal review will be conducted by William A. McCann of Chicago. However, the initial appraisals have taken longer than anticipated and are not yet complete.

A NOISE STUDY has been submitted to the commission, and the report will be released during public meetings set for Sept. 17 and 18 at the Wheeling Village Hall.

An engineering contract, which includes such items as the adequacy of runway construction, the problems of water retention on the airport grounds, possible relocation of the creek, and removal of the noise-diverting mound along Wolf Road in the airport's northwest corner, has been awarded to Crawford, Murphy and Tilly of Springfield.

The management contractor is the Airport Corporation of America in New Jersey, which now manages several other small airports.

Perhaps the most important function of the management firm in is to determine whether the airport can be purchased with the estimated funding available and that the operating revenues to be derived from the airport (such as landing fees, rent from the fixed base operator) will be sufficient to allow proper maintenance and safety, Rogers said.

TO DO THIS, the firm is responsible for creating a data base in the form of an inventory of the airport. It must include information from the current owner, the results of other studies of the airport, analysis of the airport operations, and pertinent factors regarding the buildings and utilities and condition of all installations, and the effect of possible removal of obstructions to safe operation.

(Continued on page 50)

(Continued from page 25)

Maintenance costs of the buildings must be included, as well as the types and number of aircraft using the facilities, the status of any tenants on the airport, and runway movements. Any previous agreements with the present owners and their revenues would also be included.

One major facet of these determinations is the number of operations—take-offs and landings — that occur each year.

In 1974, there were 234,000 operations yearly, 293,000 in 1979, and 205,000 estimated for 1986. Totals are down 75,000 yearly from 1980. However, jet operations have increased from 30,000 to 60,000 annually between 1975 and 1986.

THE LOSS HAS been in small, single-engine private aircraft usage at the airport. As the cost of flying steadily increases, and the cost of insurance increases even faster, the private, propeller aircraft flyer finds it to be an expensive hobby.

Assuming that plans go forward as expected, and the airport changes hands, the management firm has 30 days to convince the commission that it is months late, and the management firm has yet to open official negotiations with the present owners.

THERE IS ALSO the continuing problem of requiring sign-off on any decision with four governmental bodies: Wheeling, Prospect Heights, the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT), and the FAA.

Village OKs law to recapture cost of improvements

Specific areas of Wheeling were not in mind when village trustees approved an ordinance that would reimburse the village or a property owner for public improvements.

However, properties near Milwaukee Avenue that were force annexed into Wheeling and property at Wolf Road and Milwaukee Avenue are among those that could be subject to public improvements — improvements that occupants or adjacent property owners would pay for.

The ordinance authorizes the recapture, or reimbursement of costs for water mains, sanitary sewers, storm sewers, detention basins and retention basins.

Once property is developed or the zoning is changed, it is subject to the ordinance, said Village Manager Tom Markus.

Water and sewer line installation will be the predominant areas where this ordinance can be used, he said.

The village may put up the money to pay for construction of public improvements at first, but once the property where the improvements are is developed, the owner will pay for the construction costs, Markus said.

Wheeling has been operating under a similar ordinance created by state statute, but because Wheeling has become a home rule community, it must look at providing its own legislation such as the recapture ordinance, said Village Attorney Jim Rhodes.

9-86

# of improvements

Specific areas of Wheeling were not in mind when village trustees approved an ordinance that would reimburse the village or a property owner for public improvements.

However, properties near Milwaukee Avenue that were force annexed into Wheeling and property at Wolf Road and Milwaukee Avenue are among those that could be subject to public improvements — improvements that occupants or adjacent property owners would pay for.

The ordinance authorizes the recapture, or reimbursement of costs for water mains, sanitary sewers, storm sewers, detention basins and retention basins.

Once property is developed or the zoning is changed, it is subject to the ordinance, said Village Manager Tom Markus.

Water and sewer line installation will be the predominant areas where this ordinance can be used, he said.

The village may put up the money to pay for construction of public improvements at first, but once the property where the improvements are is developed, the owner will pay for the construction costs, Markus said.

Wheeling has been operating under a similar ordinance created by state statute, but because Wheeling has become a home rule community, it must look at providing its own legislation such as the recapture ordinance, said Village Attorney Jim Rhodes.

9-86

until the purchase is made, the two communities have advanced the commission $16,000 to date.

THESE FUNDS COVER the stipends, a limited amount of official travel (usually to Springfield), and such other expenses that the commission decides are proper.

Rogers emphasized this is a loan that will be repaid with interest once the acquisition is complete. In fact, he repeated several times during a recent interview that the airport can not be bought with any taxpayer money from either Wheeling or Prospect Heights. Taxpayers in both communities will not be saddled with a heavy fiscal burden should the acquisition run into financial difficulties, he said.

A management contract recently approved by Wheeling and Prospect Heights officials was the final contract to be approved Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) regulations require three independent appraisals to be made of the property: the first two are to be reviewed by a third firm, which has the opportunity and the responsibility to request clarification and further effort if it feels that data or items of information are missing or unclear.

The two firms perfoming the initial appraisal are Muriello, Meyer and Associates of Elk Grove Village, and Mid-America Appraisal and Research of Chicago. The appraisal review will be

Sept. 17 and 18 at the Wheeling Village Hall.

An engineering contract, which includes such items as the adequacy of runway construction, the problems of water retention on the airport grounds, possible relocation of the creek, and removal of the noise-diverting mound along Wolf Road in the airport's northwest corner, has been awarded to Crawford, Murphy and Tilly of Springfield.

The management contractor is the Airport Corporation of America in New Jersey, which now manages several other small airports.

Perhaps the most important function of the management firm in is to determine whether the airport can be purchased with the estimated funding available and that the operating revenues to be derived from the airport (such as landing fees, rent from the fixed base operator) will be sufficient to allow proper maintenance and safety, Rogers said.

TO DO THIS, the firm is responsible for creating a data base in the form of an inventory of the airport. It must include information from the current owner, the results of other studies of the airport, analysis of the airport operations, and pertinent factors regarding the buildings and utilities and condition of all installations, and the effect of possible removal of obstructions to safe operation.

(Continued on page 50)

(Continued from page 25)

Maintenance costs of the buildings must be included, as well as the types and number of aircraft using the facilities, the status of any tenants on the airport, and runway movements. Any previous agreements with the present owners and their revenues would also be included.

One major facet of these determinations is the number of operations — take-offs and landings — that occur each year.

In 1974, there were 234,000 operations yearly, 293,000 in 1979, and 205,000 estimated for 1986. Totals are down 75,000 yearly from 1980. However, jet operations have increased from 30,000 to 60,000 annually between 1975 and 1986.

THE LOSS HAS been in small, single-engine private aircraft usage at the airport. As the cost of flying steadily increases, and the cost of insurance increases even faster, the private, propeller aircraft flyer finds it to be an expensive hobby.

Assuming that plans go forward as expected, and the airport changes hands, the management firm has 30 days to convince the commission that it is capable of managing the airport for the two communities for at least the next five years.

Regarding the cap on expenses that appears to be worrying Mayor Jack Gilligan of Prospect Heights, Rogers said the commission can exercise better control over Aircraft Corporation without the cap.

With regard to the schedule, it was originally hoped to get all the appraisals and the management firm's efforts completed within 15 months after establishment of the commission. That effort is currently between two and three

months late, and the management firm has yet to open official negotiations with the present owners.

THERE IS ALSO the continuing problem of requiring sign-off on any decision with four governmental bodies: Wheeling, Prospect Heights, the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT), and the FAA

William Rogers

The original and still current funding estimate was in the order of $34 million, based on values in the 1980-1981 time frame. To date, the FAA has advanced about $15 million, which the commission is holding against acquisition and development costs. A third grant, which turned out to be faulty, has been resubmitted and will be held with the other two when received.

The federal government would be

supplying 50 percent of the total funding required to purchase the airport and perform the required improvements. IDOT will provide another 5 percent, and the two communities will each contribute 2½ percent.

"No village or city taxpayers' money is to be used for acquisition, operation, or maintenance of the airport," Rogers said.

SINCE THE MONEY will come from airport revenues, IDOT has agreed to finance the communities' share for the first year, on a repayable loan basis, and will accept repayment once revenues begin flowing in.

If the village and city need financing, which is a possibility, only municipal revenue bonds could be used to raise funds. These bonds will be based on the airport usage and revenue production, but with the newness of the operation, there might not be sufficient history of successful operation to issue bonds that would be treated as investment grade.

If the bonds are rated as speculative, the interest rates that the bonds would bear would be higher, and with current tax law changes, they might not even be tax-free. These are some of the problems currently facing the commission.

Rogers indicated that this type of purchase is rare in the United States, and it may be the first time that a joint municipal commission has purchased an airport from a private operator.

ALL REVENUES FROM airport use (landing fees, rentals, etc.) will be placed in a common pool for the commission and its management firm to use for the airport. However, the local portion of the sales tax collected by the businesses on the airport property would remain within the communities in which the

made.

In other words, most of the local sales tax collected on the airport would belong to Prospect Heights. This will create an unusual situation, for the Village of Wheeling has total responsibility for all firefighting efforts on the entire airport, even though the busiest part of the airport is in Prospect Heights, Rogers said.

Rogers pointed out that because of the unusual acquisition circumstances, considerable attention in aviation circles is being focused on the arrangement. He feels that the commission's overall goal, in addition to operating a safe airport, is to enable Wheeling, Prospect Heights, and Pal-Waukee Airport "to live together in harmony."

# of improvements

Specific areas of Wheeling were not in mind when village trustees approved an ordinance that would reimburse the village or a property owner for public improvements.

However, properties near Milwaukee Avenue that were force annexed into Wheeling and property at Wolf Road and Milwaukee Avenue are among those that could be subject to public improvements — improvements that occupants or adjacent property owners would pay for.

The ordinance authorizes the recapture, or reimbursement of costs for water mains, sanitary sewers, storm sewers, detention basins and retention basins.

Once property is developed or the zoning is changed, it is subject to the ordinance, said Village Manager Tom Markus.

Water and sewer line installation will be the predominant areas where this ordinance can be used, he said.

The village may put up the money to pay for construction of public improvements at first, but once the property where the improvements are is developed, the owner will pay for the construction costs, Markus said.

Wheeling has been operating under a similar ordinance created by state statute, but because Wheeling has become a home rule community, it must look at providing its own legislation such as the recapture ordinance, said Village Attorney Jim Rhodes.

9-86

until the purchase is made, the two communities have advanced the commission $16,000 to date.

THESE FUNDS COVER the stipends, a limited amount of official travel (usually to Springfield), and such other expenses that the commission decides are proper.

Rogers emphasized this is a loan that will be repaid with interest once the acquisition is complete. In fact, he repeated several times during a recent interview that the airport can not be bought with any taxpayer money from either Wheeling or Prospect Heights. Taxpayers in both communities will not be saddled with a heavy fiscal burden should the acquisition run into financial difficulties, he said.

A management contract recently approved by Wheeling and Prospect Heights officials was the final contract to be approved Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) regulations require three independent appraisals to be made of the property: the first two are to be reviewed by a third firm, which has the opportunity and the responsibility to request clarification and further effort if it feels that data or items of information are missing or unclear.

The two firms perfoming the initial appraisal are Muriello, Meyer and Associates of Elk Grove Village, and Mid-America Appraisal and Research of Chicago. The appraisal review will be

Sept. 17 and 18 at the Wheeling Village Hall.

An engineering contract, which includes such items as the adequacy of runway construction, the problems of water retention on the airport grounds, possible relocation of the creek, and removal of the noise-diverting mound along Wolf Road in the airport's northwest corner, has been awarded to Crawford, Murphy and Tilly of Springfield.

The management contractor is the Airport Corporation of America in New Jersey, which now manages several other small airports.

Perhaps the most important function of the management firm in is to determine whether the airport can be purchased with the estimated funding available and that the operating revenues to be derived from the airport (such as landing fees, rent from the fixed base operator) will be sufficient to allow proper maintenance and safety, Rogers said.

TO DO THIS, the firm is responsible for creating a data base in the form of an inventory of the airport. It must include information from the current owner, the results of other studies of the airport, analysis of the airport operations, and pertinent factors regarding the buildings and utilities and condition of all installations, and the effect of possible removal of obstructions to safe operation.

(Continued on page 50)

(Continued from page 25)

Maintenance costs of the buildings must be included, as well as the types and number of aircraft using the facilities, the status of any tenants on the airport, and runway movements. Any previous agreements with the present owners and their revenues would also be included.

One major facet of these determinations is the number of operations — take-offs and landings — that occur each year.

In 1974, there were 234,000 operations yearly, 293,000 in 1979, and 205,000 estimated for 1986. Totals are down 75,000 yearly from 1980. However, jet operations have increased from 30,000 to 60,000 annually between 1975 and 1986.

THE LOSS HAS been in small, single-engine private aircraft usage at the airport. As the cost of flying steadily increases, and the cost of insurance increases even faster, the private, propeller aircraft flyer finds it to be an expensive hobby.

Assuming that plans go forward as expected, and the airport changes hands, the management firm has 30 days to convince the commission that it is capable of managing the airport for the two communities for at least the next five years.

Regarding the cap on expenses that appears to be worrying Mayor Jack Gilligan of Prospect Heights, Rogers said the commission can exercise better control over Aircraft Corporation without the cap.

With regard to the schedule, it was originally hoped to get all the appraisals and the management firm's efforts completed within 15 months after establishment of the commission. That effort is currently between two and three

supplying 90 percent of the total funding required to purchase the airport and perform the required improvements. IDOT will provide another 5 percent, and the two communities will each contribute 2½ percent.

"No village or city taxpayers' money is to be used for acquisition, operation, or maintenance of the airport," Rogers said.

SINCE THE MONEY will come from airport revenues, IDOT has agreed to finance the communities' share for the first year, on a repayable loan basis, and will accept repayment once revenues begin flowing in.

If the village and city need financing, which is a possibility, only municipal revenue bonds could be used to raise funds. These bonds will be based on the airport usage and revenue production, but with the newness of the operation, there might not be sufficient history of successful operation to issue bonds that would be treated as investment grade.

If the bonds are rated as speculative, the interest rates that the bonds would bear would be higher, and with current tax law changes, they might not even be tax-free. These are some of the problems currently facing the commission.

Rogers indicated that this type of purchase is rare in the United States, and it may be the first time that a joint municipal commission has purchased an airport from a private operator.

ALL REVENUES FROM airport use (landing fees, rentals, etc.) will be placed in a common pool for the commission and its management firm to use for the airport. However, the local portion of the sales tax collected by the businesses on the airport property would remain within the communities in which the

months late, and the management firm has yet to open official negotiations with the present owners.

THERE IS ALSO the continuing problem of requiring sign-off on any decision with four governmental bodies: Wheeling, Prospect Heights, the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT), and the FAA.

William Rogers

The original and still current funding estimate was in the order of $34 million, based on values in the 1980-1981 time frame. To date, the FAA has advanced about $15 million, which the commission is holding against acquisition and development costs. A third grant, which turned out to be faulty, has been resubmitted and will be held with the other two when received.

The federal government would be made.

In other words, most of the local sales tax collected on the airport would belong to Prospect Heights. This will create an unusual situation, for the Village of Wheeling has total responsibility for all firefighting efforts on the entire airport, even though the busiest part of the airport is in Prospect Heights, Rogers said.

Rogers pointed out that because of the unusual acquisition circumstances, considerable attention in aviation circles is being focused on the arrangement. He feels that the commission's overall goal, in addition to operating a safe airport, is to enable Wheeling, Prospect Heights, and Pal-Waukee Airport "to live together in harmony."

Mayor nixes airport buyout chief

by Dan Rozek

Herald staff writer

Prospect Heights Mayor John E. Gilligan vetoed — as expected — the proposed hiring of a manager to oversee the buyout of Pal-Waukee Airport by the city and Wheeling.

While Gilligan is asking for more time to fix what he called "serious" flaws in the proposed management contract, an alderman said he expects the city council to try to override Gilligan's veto.

"My understanding is the council will take action," said 1st Ward Alderman Charles T. VanderVennet, a supporter of the proposed contract. "I think we have the votes to override it. We want to get the contract signed and in effect."

BUT GILLIGAN warned that the proposed contract to hire New Jersey-based Airport Corp. of America, if not modified, could lead to "financial disaster" for the two towns buying the private airport.

The major reason Gilligan cited for vetoing the proposed contract is there is no spending limit in it. The contract calls for paying the company on an hourly basis to manage the estimated $36 million buyout, but includes no bottom-line figure.

"I think we're leaving ourselves totally unprotected, when we could be protected," he said of the proposed contract. "We can't have an open cash register."

The Pal-Waukee Municipal Airport Commission has recommended Airport Corp. with no spending limit in the contract.

Meetings set on noise study

Two public meetings to review work done so far on the Pal-Waukee Airport noise study will be held this month.

A working meeting of the Planning Advisory Committee is scheduled for 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 17 at the Wheeling Village Hall, 225 West Dundee Road.

On Sept. 18, a public information meeting will be held from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the Wheeling Village Hall. Residents may drop in at any time and browse through exhibits and talk with the consultants and airport officials.

The consultants, Coffman Associates of Kansas City, Mo., will review three working papers at these meetings: an assessment of existing conditions at the airport and in the surrounding area; a review of aviation forecasts for the airport; and an analysis of existing and forecasted aviation noise at the airport.

The purpose of the study is to analyze the impact of existing aircraft noise at Pal-Waukee Airport and to develop a plan for reducing noise impacts.

9-11-86 Wheeling Herald

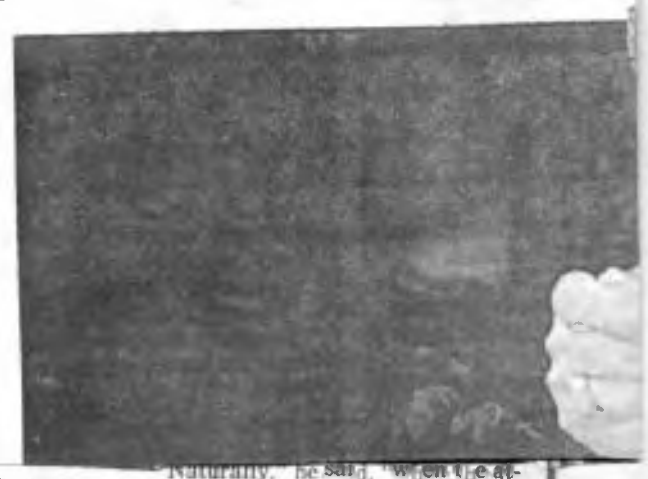
EELING

Pa

by Ellen M
and Liz Ru

Herald staff writers

A proposed
regional inspe
tem for taxi c
been endors
Heights comm
be discussed s
west suburbs.



Partly in reaction to a Daily Herald investigation last year disclosing a rash of safety and license violations by cab companies operating in the area, police departments from seven

"Naturally," he said, "when the attention is focused as it was in the media, things move a little faster."

Participating with Arlington Heights in developing the regional system are Elk Grove Village, Mount

Book on Wheeling will soon be history

by Wendy M. Winkelhake

Herald staff writer

A book detailing the history of Wheeling should be completed sometime this fall, ending several years of work by the village's historical society.

Bob McIntyre, who with his wife, Barbara, is editing the publication, said 146 of the 200-plus pages that will be included in the book are completed. Although no deadline has been set, McIntyre expects the history book to be completed in the next few months.

"The projected completion date keeps getting pushed back as we find more information," McIntyre said. "I'm sure when it does come out, we'll find we have missed something as more information is uncovered."

So far, the history of the village through 1955 has been prepared for publication and volunteers are wrapping up final chapters that go through present day, McIntyre said. The village was founded in 1894.

The book, which will be called *Wheeling Through The Years*, will be unique because it is an "oral history," meaning text will be direct narratives from the people interviewed, McIntyre said. Old newspapers and county and village records were used to fill in the "holes" in the stories, he said.

"This is not a history history. It's an oral history in the words of the people. The whole body is the words of the people," McIntyre said.

Plans for the cover of the book involve using a photograph of six or eight bike riders perched atop high-wheel bikes and parked in front the Old Chicago House, McIntyre said.

The photo was taken many decades ago to commemorate bike races between Chicago and Wheeling held at the turn-of-the-century. The Old Chicago House was on Milwaukee Avenue, south of Dundee Road and near the present site of the Billy and Company restaurant.

9-15-86 Herald

COUPON

City OKs firm to run airport buyout

by Vicki Speer
Herald correspondent

Prospect Heights aldermen have approved hiring a New Jersey firm to manage the buyout of Pal-Waukee Airport, ending months of delays over the hiring of a manager.

Overriding a veto by Mayor John E. Gilligan, aldermen agreed to hire the Airport Corporation of America to manage the purchase of the airport by the city and Wheeling.

Wheeling trustees approved hiring the New Jersey-based firm earlier this month. The action by Prospect Heights clears the way for the towns to begin acquiring the airport, aldermen said.

The joint purchase of the private airport at Wolf and Hintz roads was delayed several months by Gilligan's objections to a proposed management contract, some aldermen charged.

"The ball is in your court, Mr. Mayor, for slowing this contract down," 1st Ward Alderman Charles T. VanderVennet said. "It is time to have this document signed so we can get the work done."

FOURTH WARD Alderman Christina J. Carlson also said the city needed to approve the contract and proceed with the acquisition. Officials need the information the contractor will compile to complete the estimated $36 million buyout, she said.

But Gilligan — who vetoed the contract after his proposal to add a spending limit to it was not included — said the delays were caused by attempts to reach a better contract.

"The contract is legal — whether it is responsible is something else again," he said. "I'm looking out for the public and you guys aren't."

Gilligan said the lack of a spending cap could leave the two towns open to serious financial losses.

He also has questioned some cost figures provided by ACA, saying the company had offered lower figures when it was being considered as a subcontractor for the buyout preparations.

MEMBERS OF the Pal-Waukee Municipal Airport Commission, appointed to oversee the airport's acquisition and operation, did not include a cap because they feared it could inflate the company's price. The commission recommended approving the contract without a spending limit.

VanderVennet said a spending cap was something negotiated traded for other more desirable terms, including a 30-day termination clause and a delayed payment plan. The towns will pay ACA on an hourly basis to manage the buyout, but no bottom line cost was set.

Other points the mayor raised had been taken up in formal negotiations, VanderVennet said, calling Gilligan's interest in the contract "Johnny-come-lately."

"Your Johnny-come-lately interest in this, as far as formal letters and directives, is just that," VanderVennet said.

Aldermen voted 7-0, with 2nd Ward Alderman Warren Sunde absent, to override the mayor's veto, despite Gilligan's warning he won't give his approval or signature to anything regarding the contract.

EDITORIALS

"Our aim: To fear God, tell the truth and make money."
H C PADDOCK 1852 1935

Keep pushing for taxi rules

After more than four years, a plan to establish regional licensing and inspection for taxi cabs and livery cars is gathering speed.

In December 1981 the Northwest Municipal Conference, which represents 27 communities, received a $5,000 grant to study regional licensing of cab companies. A special conference subcommittee prepared a model ordinance but the idea lost momentum and was not adopted.

Then in February 1985, prompted by a two month investigation of safety and license violations of cab companies in the Northwest suburbs by The Daily Herald, police representatives in seven area communities renewed the call for inspection and regulation of taxi cabs.

The proposed ordinance to create a regional inspection and licensing system for taxis and livery cars was endorsed this week by an Arlington Heights committee and is expected to be discussed soon in Elk Grove Village, Mount Prospect, Palatine, Rolling Meadows, Schaumburg and Wheeling.

The police departments have devised a uniform inspection process for vehicles and a comprehensive background check for drivers. Currently, the inspections and regulations differ from town to town. Some companies that operate in more than one village might have to have their cabs inspected up to 20 times a year.

The ordinance requires inspections every four months, or three times a year, rather than six-month inspections that are now required. A private mechanic, under contract to the villages, would conduct the inspections.

Arlington Heights Police Chief Rodney Kath said the system will lighten the inspection burden for municipalities and cab companies. It also will extend inspection and licensing requirements from only taxis to include all public passenger vehicles, such as limousines.

"Getting all the towns together and assessing existing ordinances allowed us to see more issues and get into greater detail," Kath said.

Sometimes the wheels of progress move slowly. In the case of the seven towns that are considering this taxi cab ordinance, those wheels are moving — not standing still.

Wheeling hires deputy police chief

31-year-old selected following a nationwide search

It took all summer, but Wheeling has found a new deputy police chief.

Gary O'Rourke, 31, was chosen from 78 candidates in a nationwide search that concluded last month with a two-day assessment.

O'Rourke, a lieutenant in the Schiller Park Police Department, begins his duties as deputy chief of support services on Oct. 14. O'Rourke replaces former Deputy Chief Jim Roche, who left Wheeling in May to become police chief in St. Charles.

"WE'RE LOOKING FOWARD to his arrival," said Wheeling Police Chief Michael Haeger, who added O'Rourke finished first in all categories of the assessment process.

An officer with administrative and communication skills was what the Wheeling police department was looking for in a new deputy chief, Haeger said.

Candidates from California to New York were reviewed in the search and it was nice to find someone familiar with the Illinois and Cook County systems of operation, he said.

As deputy chief of support services, O'Rourke will be working with records, communications, community service officers and the Police Information Management System (PIMS).

HAEGER SAID O'ROURKE'S strong background in computers will be particularly helpful with PIMS.

O'Rourke said he looks forward to working with a larger police department. Schiller Park has about 28 sworn officers while Wheeling has about twice that number.

"I look at it as an opportunity to go to a larger, growing police department and a larger, growing community," O'Rourke said.

He said he has been doing basically the same type of work in Schiller Park since he became lieutenant assigned as the services division commander.

O'ROURKE BEGAN HIS police career in Schiller Park as a patrolman in May, 1978. In August of that year he was named detective and juvenile officer. In 1980, O'Rourke served as a sergeant in the patrol division and as assistant watchman as well as commander.

From 1981 to 1985, he was administrative aide to the police chief in Schiller Park and since that time he has been in his present position.

O'Rourke graduated in 1981 from the University of Illinois at Chicago with a bachelor's degree in administration of justice.

He lives in Schiller Park with his wife, Nancy, and two children, Matthew and Katherine.

Soo Line rail service plan may be aid to BG, Wheeling commuters

Countryside

By TODD SLOANE

A consultant's study states that a new commuter rail line from Mundelein to Chicago would have strong ridership, but would cost the Regional Transportation Authority some $41.5 million at a time when the RTA is struggling to adequately maintain its present system.

The study was prompted by suburban officials, who believe that riders from Mundelein, Vernon Hills, Buffalo Grove, Wheeling, Des Plaines and other northwest suburban communities have to drive too far to use commuter rail lines operated by the Milwaukee Road and the Chicago & North Western Transportation Co.

A study prepared for the Metra commuter rail board, an RTA service board, by Washington-based R.L. Banks and Associates, a national transit consultant, contains some surprising figures on possible use of the Soo Line Railroad's freight line as a third north-suburban commuter rail line.

Preliminary results of the study were to be presented Wednesday to the Metra board, which has not decided whether to recommend whether a new transit line should be started by 1990. The $151,000 study was commissioned to see whether riders could be attracted to the Metra system by creation of a new rail line serving the northwest suburbs.

THE STUDY SHOWS that 3,600 riders would use the Soo Line during work days. The plan for the new line calls for five trains each in the morning and evening rush hours, Monday through Friday. Of the 3,600 riders, 60 percent would come from persons who now use either the Milwaukee Road or the C&NW lines. Forty percent would be new RTA users.

If the ridership figures were to pan out, some 92 percent of the estimated $3.2 million annual operating expenses could be recouped from rider fares, which is considered a very high ratio, according to Gary Foyle, a Metra transit planner.

The new system would involve $41.5 million in expenditures for new locomotives, new bi-level cars much like those on the other north suburban commuter rail lines, new signals, platforms and maintenance facilities. The $41.5 million is in 1990 dollars, taking into account inflation.

"I think the decision on whether to proceed with new service on the Soo Line, given the positive figures on ridership, will hinge on the new capital costs, given the present financial situation of the RTA with regards to capital expenses," said Foyle.

Edward Murnane, RTA spokesman, said that, while capital costs would not be the sole reason for nixing the Soo Line plan, such costs nevertheless would be "a major concern.

"WE WANT TO keep the current RTA system together, that has to be the priority. That's not to say new investments may not be made. If the return is sufficient, I would see a great deal of enthusiasm for that," he said.

But Murnane said the diversion of riders from other lines would make the development of a new line "questionable."

The RTA is preparing a long-range "strategic plan," which would guide agency planning through the year 2010. Preliminary RTA figures show that the agency is already running $142 million per year behind the amount of capital spending it should have just to maintain its present service. The RTA also estimates it is $2.25 billion behind in capital spending from past years.

The Soo Line commuter system would start near the existing Soo Line rail yards in Mundelein. A new rail station would be built between Park St. and Maple Av. in Mundelein.

Other stations could be built in Vernon Hills at the intersection of the Soo Line with U.S. Rt. 45; in Prairie View on Main St. north of Ill. 22; in Buffalo Grove near Busch Rd. and the Soo Line; in Wheeling at Boehmer Rd. and the Soo Line; in Mount Prospect near the intersection of Euclid Av. and Wolf Rd., and in Des Plaines at Central Rd. and the Soo Line.

THE NEW SERVICE would use the Soo Line until it connects with the C&NW northwest line in Des Plaines. From there, it would travel express to downtown Chicago.

This option would cut out service further south along the Soo Line to Schiller Park and Franklin Park, which was considered by the consultant but rejected because it involved too much capital expense to link the Soo Line to the Milwaukee Road west line.

Metra officials will not decide on whether to try to find funding for the Soo Line service for several weeks or even months, according to Foyle, because the board will not receive detailed information on ridership and costs for at least a few weeks.

Airport study — traffic to increase, noise to decrease

By MARIE LUTZ
Staff Writer

9-25-86

Quieter airplanes will result in less of a problem with Pal-Waukee Airport noise in coming years despite a projected increase in the number of jets using the airport, according to a study now under way.

The consultants doing the noise study, Coffman and Associates, presented their findings at two public meetings held in Wheeling last week. The consultants are ending Phase I of the two-part study, which is scheduled to be completed next year.

The study is sponsored by the village of Wheeling and city of Prospect Heights with financial assistance from the Illinois Division of Aeronautics and the Federal Aviation Administration. Prospect Heights and Wheeling are in the process of purchasing the airport and converting it into a public facility.

According to the study, the number of aircraft based at Pal-Waukee is expected to increase from 419 in 1986 to 473 in 1991 and to 609 in 2006.

The airport will become busier

Airport study

(Continued from page 1)

because of the economic growth of the area and because the facility is in a good location, according to Mark Johnson of Coffman Associates.

The number of jets, the noisiest of the planes, will increase the most, Johnson said, while single-engine piston planes, the quietest, will decrease.

The study, however, indicates that the total area that will be assailed with unacceptable noise levels will shrink. Johnson said it is up to the community to determine what is acceptable.

"The area will get quieter because the aircraft are getting quieter," said John Woodward of Coffman Associates. "The older aircraft are much louder than the newer aircraft."

Superintendents garner top pay

By GINA BILOTTO 9-25-86
Staff Writer

The pay of north and northwest suburban school superintendents tops the salaries of other governmental administrators, including that of village managers, police and fire chiefs.

According to an informal survey conducted by Lerner-LIFE Newspapers, superintendents by far make the most amount of money in salaries and benefits.

For example, Glenbrook High School Supt. Jean McGrew makes $82,124 not including benefits, one of the highest salaries in the area. And like most superintendents, he also participates in the Teacher Retirement System and tax-deferred annuities, which costs the school district about $12,000 annually for McGrew alone.

In contrast, the highest-paid village manager is Deerfield's Robert Franz, who makes $71,000 annually. Like most administrators in school, safety and municipal posts, he also has access to a car for business use in addition to retirement and health benefits.

Asked if he could make more money in the private sector, Franz responded, "Anybody can speculate, if you're not sure how to compare the position to any other in management. I can't say summarily that I would be making more. It depends on where I am and what skills I bring to the job."

Not far behind are Glenview's Paul McCarthy, with $67,000, Bob

(Continued on page 7)

Area's top 10 administrative salary list

1. Dist. 28 Supt.	94,600
2. Dist. 113 Supt.	$86,500
3. Dist. 225 Supt.	$82,124
4. Dist. 214 Supt.	$80,000
5. Dist. 109 Supt.	$79,380
6. Dist. 21 Supt.	$76,000
7. Deerfield Manager	$71,000
8. Glenview Manager	$67,000
9. Northbrook Manager	$65,775
10. Deerfield Police Chief	$57,000

Salaries serve public servants

(Continued from page 1)

Weidaw of Northbrook, $65,775, and Wheeling's Tom Markus, who makes $57,000. Their salaries were raised between 3 and 11 percent last year.

Markus said that in his position, which he was held for 6 ½ years, he would be making more money in private industry. He directs a $16 million annual budget and a staff of 162.

Police and fire chiefs in those communities have an annual salary in the $50,000 range. Deerfield Police Chief Richard Brandt is the highest paid, making $57,000, which includes an 8 percent merit pay increase.

"I feel when you're in the public service, you're in a different position. In private industry, the orientation is strictly profit-motivated," Brandt said. "Public service is doing something for the public good."

As the top chief of Wheeling High School Dist. 214, the second-largest school district in the state, Supt. Stephen Berry makes $80,000, not including benefits. He also gets a $4,000 annual car allowance and has 8 percent of his salary puts into the Teacher Retirement System.

The salary of James Warren, superintendent of Township High School District, which has 3,561 students, makes a total of $86,500 including his TRS contribution.

And the salaries of elementary superintendents mirror the salaries of their high school counterparts. Northbrook Elementary Supt. Homer Harvey makes $94,600 with no Teacher Retirement System or annuities. Supt. John Barger of Wheeling Elementary makes $76,000 plus retirement contributions. The 1985-86 salary for Deerfield Elementary Supt. Charles Caruso was $79,380. Information on whether Caruso's salary included retirement contributions was not available.

Village board to take meetings to residents

9-25-86

by Wendy M. Winkelhake
Herald staff writer

The Wheeling village board is starting a roving meetings schedule to become better acquainted with the community and to make residents feel more comfortable in bringing concerns to officials.

The roving schedule, used occasionally in the past, will take board meetings out of village hall and to various spots in the community, such as town house and apartment complexes, neighborhood sites and possibly schools.

The first of the meetings will be held at the Pavilion Senior Center Oct. 27.

TAKING THE meetings to the residents instead of asking them to come to village hall could help village trustees become aware of concerns that otherwise might not come to their attention, Trustee Elizabeth L. Hartman said.

"We felt we might get better attendance and that people might feel more relaxed presenting their problems in their own neighborhood," Hartman said.

Trustee James R. Whittington said he is looking forward to the community meetings.

"I think it will be a very good opportunity for the village to meet people and for people to exchange ideas with the village board," Whittington said. "The village of Wheeling is a diverse town and it would be good to hear specific concerns about particular areas and also share village plans with those particular areas. I'm really looking forward to it."

Whittington has a unique insight into the roving meetings scheduled because he is employed as director of student activities with Northwest Suburban High School District 214. The school board also goes into the community, holding its meetings at various high schools throughout the school year.

Wheeling officials most recently tried the roving meetings schedule two years ago. Hartman said the board generally was pleased with that schedule. "Some meetings have been very good, some have not," she said.

Funding NIPC

Herald 9-23-86

The Northeastern Illinois Planning Commission and those Northwest suburbs that have been fighting to curb jet noise at O'Hare Airport find themselves on opposite sides regarding guidelines for the noise abatement study that is supposed to be made in connection with airport expansion.

NIPC members voted 19 to 1 last week to approve the guidelines, while suburban members of the O'Hare Advisory Commission voted against them, in part because the study would include a map showing those areas hardest hit by jet noise.

The suburban representatives argue that including the map would make it impossible for people living within the noise zones to go to court later seeking compensation. Those noise zones include parts of Arlington Heights, Des Plaines, Elk Grove Village, Rolling Meadows and Schaumburg.

NIPC commissioners, on the other hand, defend their vote as a first step toward reaching some compromise between Chicago and the suburbs so the noise study can go ahead.

A legislator who has been supportive of suburban efforts to have more say in controlling O'Hare's future growth, Rep. Bob Kustra, R-Glenview, suggests that in response to the lack of support by NIPC, the suburbs affected quit funding the planning agency. In fact, Des Plaines and Park Ridge did that some time ago after deciding NIPC wasn't sympathetic enough to their concerns.

We believe withdrawing funding would be shortsighted. It probably won't change the minds of the NIPC board members, particularly the Chicago Democrats on the board, and the suburbs would be denying themselves other help that the planning agency can give.

Each suburb contributing to NIPC should make the decision on future funding on the basis of what benefits it derives from NIPC rather than on just a single issue.

COUNTRYSIDE 9-25-87

Wheeling industries to expand here instead of moving to Lake County

By C.L. WALLER

Two more businesses in Wheeling are apparently on their way to staying in town and expanding with the help of a tax break over the next 12 years.

Indeck Power Equipment Co. and Elenco Electronics, Inc. appeared before the village board Monday night during a public hearing about a property tax exemption.

Representatives from both companies said that without the exemption, they would most likely move their business where property taxes are lower — in Lake County.

Property tax exemptions for industry were created in a 1984 Cook County ordinance that amended real estate classifications.

THE COMPANIES ARE requesting from village trustees a class 6B exemption. Under that incentive, owners of newly-constructed or substantially rehabilitated industries can apply to the Cook County tax assessor's office and the village for a property tax reduction.

Both companies have filed applications with the county assessor's office and trustees will probably vote on approval at their Oct. 6 meeting.

Cook County recently decided that industries will be assessed at 38 percent of their market value and commercial businesses will be assessed at 36 percent of their market value.

However, the special exemption carries that further with property assessed at 16 percent for eight years followed by 30 percent the next four years and then back to the full assessment.

"It's really a reduction to bring them (Cook County) more in line with surrounding counties," said John Forsythe, vice president with Indeck Power Equipment.

INDECK POWER EQUIPMENT has been in Wheeling for 11 years. With a location at 1075 Noel Ave., the company now wants to move from its 39,000-square-foot building and build a 69,000-square-foot building on 1111 S. Willis Ave., Forsythe said.

The 6B exemption would save Indeck about $80,000 a year in property taxes, he said.

Moving down one block to a warehouse on Willis would also be more convenient for the company because the it now must load equipment and take it down the street to load it on a train, he said.

Elenco plans on constructing a 25,000-square-foot building on West Carpenter, including 2,500 square feet of office space.

THE COMPANY, WHICH manufactures educational testing equipment, is in the process of putting together a site plan for the new building, said Art Seymour, president of the company.

Seymour told trustees that his company would save about $300,000 annually in property tax payments with the 6B exemption.

He said moving to Lake County would be tempting without the exemption because in Lake County it costs 50 to 60 cents per square feet in property taxes while it Cook County it is about $1

Nevertheless, the company would like to stay in Wheeling because it is closer to its employees, he said. Plus, he said the company mails a lot of testing equipment to youths and not changing the company's address would be more convenient.

COUNTRYSIDE 9-25-87

Improvements planned for Milwaukee Avenue

Bu[illegible]ork is years down the road

Instead of dodging potholes and swerving to avoid cars turning left, drivers on Milwaukee Avenue could have a smooth trip through Wheeling in a couple of years.

An engineering study got under way earlier this year that encompasses Milwaukee Avenue, between Palatine Road and Lake-Cook Road, said Ken Macander, project and environmental studies manager for the Illinois Department of Transportation.

He said the study is tentatively planned for completion in early 1988. He added it would at least be two years before any improvements would be made.

Wheeling has patiently waited for improvements on Milwaukee Avenue for some time. Traveling north, obvious differences are seen as the pavement widens and runs smoothly into Lake County.

Macander said it have been about two years since improvements were made to Milwaukee, or Route 21, in Lake County. Every two years a study group goes out to look at pavement and decides whether any rehabilitation is needed, Macander said

Right now, studies are being made on the road and its structure, and the number of accidents that occur on Milwaukee Avenue, he said.

Wheeling Village Manager Tom Markus believes having development along Milwaukee Avenue in Wheeling is what delayed any progress on the road.

"It was convenient to leave us out," he said.

While a major portion of the road improvements were made in undeveloped areas of Lake County, there are considerations such as space, right-of-ways and driveways to deal with farther south on Milwaukee, he said.

Macander stressed that improvements through Wheeling would o[illegible]e rehabilitation. "This is not [illegible]r [illegible]acity project," he said.

Besides, there is only $950,000 available for renovating that portion of the street. Of that amount, 75 percent is federal funding and 25 percent is state funds, Macander said. "It does not appear the amount of dollars assigned to it would complete that stretch," Macander said.

The street is not going to increase from four lanes to six lanes, but certain spots could be widened providing aspects such as a fifth lane for turns, Macander said.

Illinois officers run to raise money for police memorial

by Wendy M. Winkelhake
Herald staff writer

A 270-mile run by police officers today and Friday will raise money money for the state's first permanent memorial to officers killed in the line of duty.

Since 1855, more than 550 Illinois police officers have been killed in the line of duty.

Two teams of six police officers will run through the state and meet in downtown Springfield Friday, running together to the marathon's finish line at 5th and Capitol streets, where a memorial ceremony will be held.

The Chicago team left Wrigley Field at 9 a.m. Wednesday and will travel along Illinois Route 1 to U.S. Route 24, then continue along U.S. Route 45, then on to Illinois Route 54.

A team left downstate Collinsville at 9 a.m. today and will travel north on Illinois Route 157 to Route 159, then to Route 140 and on to Route 4.

THE PERMANENT memorial to those lost in the line of duty will give other officers something real to remember their peers by, said Wheeling Police Chief Michael F. Haeger, who serves as chairman of the Illinois Police Officers Memorial Committee.

Michael Haeger

Each year a ceremony is held in Springfield to honor slain officers, but there is nothing lasting, said Haeger, who last year saw Wheeling Patrolman Kenneth R. Dawson gunned down while investigating a call.

Dawson, a 41-year-old patrolman, was shot and killed Nov. 5 after he confronted two men prowling through the Cedar Run subdivision at Route 83 and Lake-Cook Road. In May, the village dedicated an outdoor patio area behind Wheeling Village Hall at 255 E. Dundee Road to his memory.

Though the Illinois Police Officers Memorial Committee each year holds a memorial service in Springfield, it's not enough, Haeger says.

"There is nothing permanent we can grab onto. You don't think about it (officers being slain in the line of duty) until it hits close to home," Haeger says.

THE MEMORIAL hopefully will bring the dangers of police work home to the community, said U.S. Special Eric Pingolt, who compares the planned memorial to the black wall in Washington, D.C., that lists names of men killed in combat during the Vietnam war.

"It's obviously an important event and something worth doing," Pingolt says. "You're talking about people who have died in the line of duty for the community. I don't know that people were as aware of Vietnam veterans and their backgrounds as they are now."

The run is being sponsored by Budweiser Beer and E.L. Schafer and Sons Inc. of Springfield. Citizens wishing to make donations to the memorial fund should send them to the U.S. Secret Service, c/o Peace Officer Memorial Fund Run, 1 W. Old Capital Plaza. Suite 414, Springfield, IL 62701.

Tax breaks to bring 65 jobs to town

by Vicki Speer 9-24-87
Herald correspondent

Two local companies induced by a tax break to stay in Wheeling say planned expansions will add a total of about 40 temporary and 25 permanent jobs to the village.

Wheeling officials are expected to approve a tax-exempt status for Elenco Electronics Inc. and Indeck Power Equipment Co.

The tax-exempt status lowers the assessment on industrial property from 40 to 16 percent for eight years. The tax assessment would increase to 30 percent the following year, and revert to the standard rate after that.

Cook County introduced the special status to keep manufacturing businesses from moving to nearby Lake and DuPage counties, where tax assessments are lower.

Both firms plan to build facilities in Wheeling because of that incentive and say the village would see benefits almost immediately.

CONSTRUCTION WORKERS will be hired to build new quarters for both businesses, company representatives said, and anticipated expansion will lead to the hiring of more full-time employees.

Elenco Electronics Inc., which will be building at 110-190 W. Carpenter Ave., estimated in its application for the tax break that it will employ 25 people in the construction of its building, landscaping, sewers and utilities.

Indeck Power Equipment Co., which is putting up a warehouse at 1111 S. Willis Ave., expects to employ 15 to 20 people in the building's construction.

In addition, Indeck plans to hire nine to 12 permanent employees within two years. Representatives of Elenco Electronics Inc. said that firm expects to hire 14 more full-time employees within a year.

VILLAGE OFFICIALS say the revenues lost by the tax break are justified by the new construction and employment opportunities.

"Obviously, you lose some taxes," Trustee William A. Rogers said.

Officials are expected to approve the special status for both companies at the Oct. 6 village board meeting.

Noise levels will drop at Pal-Waukee: Study

The first part of a long-awaited study on noise at Pal-Waukee Airport was released last week and the consultants who prepared the document say noise levels will actually decrease around the airport over the next 20 years.

9-25-86

COUNTRY'S

By IRA M. BERMAN

Even though air traffic at Pal-Waukee Airport will nearly double in the next 20 years, noise levels around the airport will actually decrease during that time.

That's the word from a consultant hired to study the noise levels at Pal-Waukee.

Three representatives of Coffman Associates, of Kansas City, Missouri, professional airport consultants, made that conclusion at last week's meeting of the Pal-Waukee Airport Commission's Planning Advisory Committee (PAC).

The first part of the $217,000 study, funded by a grant from the Federal Aviation Administration, was presented to the 25-member advisory committee at its Sept. 17 meeting.

THE COMMITTEE includes neighborhood representatives from Wheeling, Prospect Heights, Northbrook, Glenview and Mount Prospect, along with the FAA at the airport district office, plan commission members from Wheeling and Prospect Heights, and representatives from the Northeaster Illinois Planning Commission and the Chicago Area Transportation Study.

Study results will be presented to the FAA in case changes need to be made in the area surrounding the airport.

The consultants were in town to present the first three parts of a federal noise compatibility study on Pal-Waukee. They also answered questions to airport noise from the committee and the public.

The presentation was introduced by Max Wolf, program manager for Coffman, and the specifics were discussed by Wolf and John Woodward and Mark Johnson, also of Coffman.

WOODWARD TOLD THE committee the standard unit for measurement of aircraft noise is the Ldn, or an integrated level for day and night operations. One factor stands out in the derivation of this term: night operation, between 10 p.m. and 7 a.m., is penalty weighted in the calculations so that it counts as a much louder noise than it actually is. In fact, one takeoff in the "night" hours has the same weighting as ten takeoffs in the "day" hours.

Some of the factors included in arriving at an Ldn were mentioned. Ten operations are equal to 10 Ldn; 100 operations are equal to 10 more Ldn; and 1,000 operations equal another 10 Ldn. Every time the number of operations increased by a factor of 10 times, 10 more Ldn are added to the noise figure.

Woodward also explained the Ldn figure is weighted more heavily toward higher pitched noise, or that noise typically made by a siren, a baby yelling, or a straight jet taking off from the airport.

(Continued on page 26)

Political Advertisement

Pal-Waukee—

(Continued from page 14)

The consultant is concentrating primarily on the location and the future movement of the "65Ldn" noise boundary at present. This is an area currently bounded approximately by Lake-Cook Road, Elmhurst Road, the Tri-State Tollway and Sanders Road, and Kingston Foundry Road. This area encompases about 16 square miles, in which 41,000 people live in 17,000 housing units. The largest single use of land in this area is the Forest Preserve, with more than 25 percent of the land.

THE QUESTION OF jet noise, which is the primary component of airport noise, is being answered by the utilization of fan jet engines, as opposed to straight jet engines. The former are quieter, provide greater thrust, and are more economical to operate than are the latter.

The consultant predicts noise levels at Pal-Waukee will eventually be reduced because within 20 years because all jet engines will be fan jets, not straight jet engines. This quieter engine will bring the noise level down and actually shrink the "65Ldn" boundary even though total operations at Pal-Waukee will be considerably increased.

The consultants also presented projections showing that the number of operations at Pal-Waukee will double in the next 20 years.

Although there was a drop in aircraft operations at Pal-Waukee between 1980 and 1986, further drops are not foreseen. A rule of thumb used by the consultant is that there are 600 operations per year for every airplane based at the airport, and that by 2006 there will be 609 aircraft based at Pal-Waukee and approximately 365,000 operations yearly — an average of 1,000 landings and take-offs per day. Current figures are slightly more than half this number.

WOLF TOLD THE committee that his firm is now in the process of preparing noise exposure maps of the area surrounding Pal-Waukee. These maps are overlays on area plats, showing specific noise levels in continuous lines around the airport area, and specifically the areas extending beyond the ends of the runways.

One of the many uses of these maps, Wolf said, is that it "defines the noise levels in these areas and protects against future lawsuits against the airport by area residents."

Johnson gave the committee a description of the existing facilities at Pal-Waukee, pointing out that lack of adequate taxiways quite often limits operations on the longest runway. Narrowness of the runways is also a problem, and three of the five current runways would be widened to accommodate the anticipated traffic.

A complete system of parallel taxiways would be proposed. Land removed from the current tie-down areas for these taxiways would be replaced by developing additional aircraft storage areas at the field's northeast sector, north of the 94th Aero Squadron restraurant. All these moves are designed to cut down the amount of noise generated while the aircraft are still on the ground.

WOLF TOOK THE podium again to discuss future plans. At the next meeting, tentatively scheduled for November, the next two parts of the noise study will be released. One part will discuss total community noise; the other will address the utilization of the balance of undeveloped land in Wheeling and Prospect Heights.

Several technical meetings are also planned after these two areas are completed, in which people involved in the aviation side of the airport (pilots, owners, businesses that depend upon air service) will discuss the possible effects of physical changes in the airport and the flight patterns, as well as restrictions that may be applied after the airport takeover. These technical conferences may be scheduled in December.

Countryside 10-9-86

Wheeling Twp. a disaster: Reagan

Residents who were tired of fighting the severe flooding along Milwaukee Avenue last week were invited to take a free chili break at Don Roth's Restaurant. The restaurant was sandbagged during the flood to prevent the building from getting damaged. *(Staff photo by Rich Bajjalieh)*

By TODD SLOANE

Low interest loans, direct government grants, temporary shelter and unemployment compensation were made available to Wheeling Township residents Tuesday afternoon by President Ronald Reagan.

Wheeling, Northfield and Maine townships and Lake County were declared natural disaster areas by the President, who signed an order directing the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to speed disaster relief to those whose property was damaged or who lost their jobs due to the massive flooding last week.

"President Reagan declares a major disaster exists in Illinois as a result of flooding that has killed four people and damaged some 4,000 dwellings. Gov. James Thompson has requested aid triggered by the President's action," said a spokesman for FEMA.

Also targeted for assistance were all of McHenry County and Leydon, Lyons, Norwood Park, Proviso, River Forest and Riverside townships in Cook County. The president will review further data to see whether additional townships or counties, such as DuPage, Will and Kane counties, ought to be included in the disaster area designation, according to Robert Blair, a FEMA spokesman in Washington.

THE LOCAL FEMA office was still looking for centers at which persons affected by the flooding could apply for relief, and said the locations would be announced through the media by Friday.

FEMA officials advised those with damage to determine from insurance agents if any portion of their losses might be covered by their insurance, since federal assistance does not duplicate benefits from insurance.

"A list of uninsured damage should be compiled, and if possible, photographs can be used to document losses," Blair said.

The President's action, which came at about 2 p.m. Tuesday, followed by two days the application made by Gov. Thompson. Area congressmen, including U.S. Rep. John Porter (R-10th), of Winnetka, and U.S. Sen. Alan Dixon (D-Ill.), either sent letters to the White House or called with support for the application.

"(THE DECLARATION) was expected, due to the severity of the flooding and the number of people who were forced from their homes," said a local FEMA official.

The President's declaration makes available loans from the Small Business Administration for homeowners, renters and businesses damaged by the flood. The loans for housing repairs or for replacement of personal property will be for 4 or 8 percent, depending on whether the borrower can obtain private credit. The rate for those who can get other credit will be 8 percent, for those who cannot, 4 percent.

Persons who would be ineligible to repay loans due to a lack of income or other causes may be eligible for SBA grants of up to $5,000 for disaster-related expenses, FEMA officials said.

(Continued on page 67)

Countryside 10-9-86

Disaster—

(Continued from page 5)

Temporary accommodations may be provided by FEMA for homes damaged, destroyed or otherwise rendered uninhabitable by the damage.

PHIL ZAFEROPULOS, OF FEMA's regional office in Chicago, was designated as the disaster coordinator for the federal disaster aid.

Zaferopulos said Tuesday, "We will be working to insure that the disaster relief is made available as soon as is possible. We are looking for the loan application centers right now. In the meantime, my advice is for people to survey their damage and work with their insurance agents to see how much of their damage is covered by their private policies, and to see what kind of other credit they can obtain."

The temporary housing program provides a grant for two to three months rental assistance. In addition, there is another program under which individuals and families can get grants for "minimum repairs" for structural damage to their homes to make them habitable in the short run, Zaferopulos said.

William Fucik, a FEMA spokesman, said that, due to the problem in locating temporary housing, the agency's advice is for persons to secure the rental housing and then apply for the housing grant through FEMA.

2 firms want tax break to relocate to Wheeling

By MARK MALEY

Two companies wanting to relocate to Wheeling are asking the village for a property tax break to lure them to town.

Representatives from Quintel, Inc. and Spectra Tool, two businesses that want to move to the Palwaukee Business Center, asked Wheeling trustees Tuesday night to approve applications for property tax exemptions that would save both companies hundreds of thousands of dollars.

The companies have applied for 6B exemptions, a tax break used to keep industries in Cook County instead of fleeing to the collar counties, where commercial property is assessed at a lower rate.

Cook County typically assesses businesses at 40 percent of their market value. The 6B exemption, however, provides a 60 percent property tax reduction for the first eight years by assessing at just 16 percent of the fair market value. That's followed by a 25 percent reduction for the next four years by assessing property at 30 percent of its value. The tax break ends after 12 years.

QUINTEL, A MAJOR assembler and distributor of watches, wants to relocate to Wheeling from Chicago, where the company has been since 1938. The company wants to move to Wheeling to be closer to its suppliers and because the owners live in the area.

But without the 6B exemption, which would save the company $216,000 in property taxes over the 12-year span, Quintel won't move to Wheeling, said Robert DiLeonardi, an attorney for the Palwaukee Business Center.

Quintel is planning to build a 30,000-square-foot building in the 64-acre center, which is located at Hintz Road and Chadick Drive, just west of Pal-Waukee Airport.

Over the next 12 years, even with the exemption, the new business would generate nearly $500,000 in property tax revenue for Wheeling-area taxing bodies, DiLeonardi said. The business would also bring 40 permanent jobs to Wheeling, he said.

"These are taxes coming into Wheeling that otherwise would not be there," he said. "Without the 6B exemption this business would not relocate to Wheeling.

"TAXES ARE JUST about double in Cook County than in the collar counties," DiLeonardi added. "One of the reasons that 6B is attractive to the Palwaukee Business Center is that it permits closer parity to other counties. As a result, the Palwaukee Business Center will attract larger companies such as Quintel. Without 6B that kind of company will go in droves to other counties, as many already have."

Spectra Tool, which manufactures metal molds that are used to produce plastic products, wants to relocate from Elk Grove Village to a 38,000-square-foot building in the center.

The firm would use about 40 percent of the building now and would lease the rest to other businesses on a short-term basis. Within three to seven years the company expects to need the entire building for its operations.

Spectra, which has 45 employees, would save more than $300,000 in property taxes over the next 12 years if the 6B exemption is approved. Even with the exemption, Spectra will generate nearly $700,000 in property taxes for Wheeling-area taxing bodies, DiLeonardi said.

Trustees took no action on the requests Tuesday, but are expected to vote on the exemptions at their regular meeting Monday.

Wheeling trustees have already granted 6B exemptions to several other businesses, including Sprectrum Manufacturing, also in the Palwaukee Business Center, Indeck Power, on Willis Avenue, and Lenco Electronics on Hintz Road.

10-16-86

Countryside 10-9-86

Des Plaines River flooding spares Wheeling

By MARK MALEY

Wheeling officials and residents are thanking their lucky stars that the severe flooding that ravaged parts of Lake and Cook counties last week passed by the village leaving just a minimal amount of damage.

The flood waters that ravaged homes along the Des Plaines River crested early this week and while residents in communities such as Gurnee, Prospect Heights and Des Plaines began a major clean-up effort this week, the scene was relatively quiet in Wheeling.

"It's an almost an amazement that we weren't under water," said Village President Sheila Schultz.

Wheeling, which has had its share of flooding problems in the past, had

CHEVY CHASE GOLF COURSE IS UNDER WATER — PAGE 12

somehow escaped from serious damage this time around.

"WE HAD A lot of close calls," said Bob Issleb, superintendent of streets and sewers for the village. "We should have flooded more, but we didn't. We came out pretty good."

Overall, about 50 homes in the village sustained some damage, according to village officials. Hardest hit was the Fox Point Mobile Home Park, an area recently annexed into the village that's located on Milwaukee Avenue south of Dundee Road.

A spokesman for the North Cook County office of the American Red Cross said assessment teams found 43 damaged mobile homes in Fox Point. Eighteen of the homes were severely damaged, the spokesman said, which means families are unable to live in the residences until major repairs are made.

Village officials said almost all of the 43 families evacuated their homes because Fox Point was without electricity most of last week.

Wheeling High School students help Prospect Heights residents sandbag around their homes last week after being transported to the neighboring town by shuttle buses. *(Staff photo by Kathy Tray)*

THE RED CROSS has an emergency assistance center set up at the Maryville Academy gymnasium, 1150 N. River Road, Des Plaines. All flood victims are encouraged to come to the center for whatever assistance may be needed, including food, clothing, medical supplies and clean-up kits.

In addition to Fox Point, flooding was also reported at several Milwaukee Avenue businesses. The 94th Aero Squadron restaurant has been closed for two weeks and remained shuttered Tuesday.

The Main Bank, located at Milwaukee Avenue and Dundee Road, had up to two feet of water in its parking lot at the height of the flooding, but sustained no damage, Issleb said.

Don Roth's Restaurant and an office building at 401 Milwaukee Avenue were sandbagged last week, a move which prevented water from damaging both buildings, Issleb said.

PAL-WAUKEE AIRPORT, which was forced to close last week due to the severe flooding, reopened four of its five runways Sunday. The fifth runway opened Monday morning and operations were back to normal, said John Ostrowski, director of airport services. The flooding caused only minor damage to the airport, he said.

The village gave away a total of 3,500 sandbags to village residents and businesses, Issleb said. In addition to the Milwaukee Avenue businesses, sandbags were given to residents living on Edgewood Drive near Milwaukee and

(Continued on page 6)

Flooding—

Countryside 10-9-86

(Continued from page 5)

Meadow Lane near Wolf Road, and to families living in the Shadow Bend subdivisionon Milwaukee Avenue.

The sandbags stopped water from entering homes on Edgewood Drive and in Shadow Bend, but about five residences on Meadow Lane were flooded, Issleb said. Flooding was also reported in the Lakeside Villa subdivision and parts of Lakeside Drive, Wheeling Road and Milwaukee Avenue were closed last week.

Public works crews began working around the clock when the flooding first hit Sept. 28. Issleb said public works employees were working day and night through most of last week, operating pumps, keeping streets open and handing out sandbags. By the beginning of this week, the water began receding and workers spent the first half of this week helping to clean up the flooded areas.

"WE'RE JUST CLEANING up right now," Issleb said Monday. "We're getting our sand back and putting our equipment back in order."

Issleb said the public works department was lending some of its equipment and manpower to Prospect Heights, which was worse off than Wheeling. Students from Wheeling High School were also bussed to Propsect Heights last week to help residents sandbag around their homes.

The village also stands ready to assist residents in applying for aid now that President Reagan has declared Wheeling Township a federal disaster area (See separate story)

Correction

A story in last week's newspaper incorrectly reported that sandbagging in the Shadow Bend subdivision in Wheeling was done to protect homes from flooding. The sandbagging was done by homeowners to protect Commonwealth Edison transformers in the subdivision. At no time were homes in Shadow Bend threatened. We regret the error. 10-16-86

Companies' tax-exempt status OK'd

Oct 1986

by Vicki Speer
Herald correspondent

Wheeling officials, hoping to add to employment and the tax base, approved a tax-exempt status for two local companies to induce them to stay in the village.

Cook County must approve the tax break before it will go into effect.

The tax assessment on Elenco Electronics Inc. and Indeck Power Equipment Co. would decrease from 40 to 16 percent for eight years under the special status. The assessment would increase to 30 percent the following year, then revert to the standard rate.

Both companies plan to expand in Wheeling because of the tax incentive — introduced to keep manufacturing firms from moving to Lake and DuPage counties, where tax assessments are lower — and say construction of their new facilities will create a total of about 40 temporary jobs in the village.

Representatives of Elenco Electronics Inc. said its expansion would also lead to the hiring of 14 more full-time employees within a year, and Indeck Power Equipment Co. representatives said that firm expects to hire nine to 12 full-time employees within two years.

Officials say the overall effect of the special status would be to add to the village's tax base. Although the village would lose some tax revenue initially, the firms would eventually pay taxes at the standard rate and increase revenue, village President Sheila H. Schultz said.

THE NUMBER of companies that can receive the tax break has a "built-in limitation," Schultz said. Only manufacturing firms can apply for the special status and those pay an application fee.

In deciding whether to approve an application, the village evaluates how a firm might add to employment, how much revenue it might provide, and the type of business it is. Those that don't have adverse effects on traffic or the environment and that seem likely to stay profitable are most desirable, Schultz said.

Cook County requires that a company applying for tax-exempt status have its new facilities under construction before the county gives approval, Assistant Village Manager Robert W. Fialkowski said.

"It's a risk that the property owner or the businessman takes," he said.

Elenco Electronics Inc. does not have permits necessary for construction of its planned facility at 110-190 W. Carpenter Ave., Fialkowski said. Indeck Power Equipment Co. has permits for the warehouse it plans to put up at 1111 S. Willis Ave.

A Mack truck makes its way through high waters on Milwaukee Avenue Friday afternoon.

The worst is over

Although nearly 50 Wheeling homes were damaged to some extent during last week's flooding, the situation here was nowhere near as bad as it was in the neighboring towns of Prospect Heights and Des Plaines. Nevertheless, high waters along the Des Plaines River did make life difficult for many Wheeling residents and commuters during the flood period, particularly those who live, work and travel along Milwaukee Avenue. By the beginning of this week the area had started to dry up a bit and village officials reported everything was just about back to normal.

Staff photos by Rich Bajjalieh

The part of Wheeling that was hardest hit by last week's flooding was the Fox Point Mobile Home Park. The photo on the top right shows resident John Gustin standing in water in front of his mobile home on Sept. 30 during the height of the flooding. The photo at the bottom right shows the same street as it looked Monday morning

Brick by brick

10-2-86

Edward Stevenson, a bricklayer from Prospect Heights, lays brick on the front of the Dominick's Finer Foods store at Dundee and McHenry roads Thursday. The brick work is part of a facelift now underway at the shopping center. *(Staff photo by Kathy Tray)*

Waters runneth over river banks

(Continued from page 1)

the rains stopped.

Nonetheless village officials said Tuesday that the situation could have been worse.

"If this were four or five years ago I would say a substantial area would have been under water by now," said Haeger.

Village President Sheila Schultz said measures that have been taken in the past several years have helped to keep Buffalo Creek, which crosses under Dundee Road east of Village Hall and goes south along Heritage Park, from overflowing. The creek has been a major source of flooding in the village in the past.

Cleaning of the creek, water retention basins built in two new industrial parks, and the completion of Phase I of the Buffalo Grove reservoir are among the measures that have helped keep the creek from overflowing so far, Schultz said.

Bob Fialkowski, director of community development, said Tuesday that because of Buffalo Creek overflow, the village has had much worse flooding problems in previous years. But, he added, the worry this time is not only the creek, but also the Des Plaines River, which he said is higher than in anybody's memory.

Fialkowski said the Des Plaines is so high that it is flowing into Buffalo creek. The normal pattern is for the creek to drain into the river.

Fialkowski said the banks of the portion of the Des Plaines that goes through Wheeling are higher than in some other areas, which is why Wheeling has not been as badly flooded by the river so far as some other areas.

But, he said, "We are very nervous.

"It's a very unusual situation here. Everybody around us is being flooded and we are not." While hoping for the best, village officials were pumping some streets, such as Wolf Road, to keep them dry.

But the continuing rain posed a severe threat as the National Weather Service Tuesday predicted a chance of showers and thunderstorms through Saturday.

10-2-86

PAL-WAUKEE AIRPORT WAS flooded early this week grounding most planes. Ninety-eight percent of the airport traffic was halted because of the unprecedented rain. (Photo by Tim Boyle)

River keeps on rising

10-2-86

Continuing rain prompts worries of flooding

By MARIE LUTZ
Staff Writer

Severe flooding devastated areas surrounding Wheeling this week while village officials nervously watched the rising waters of the Des Plaines River and the Buffalo Creek threaten low-lying sections of Wheeling itself.

As of Tuesday afternoon only one part of the village had been evacuated, the Fox Point Trailer Park located on Milwaukee Avenue, but other areas were in danger.

Police Chief Michael Haeger said some office buildings along Milwaukee Avenue were in jeopardy and the Main Bank on Dundee Road and Milwaukee Avenue had a significant amount of water behind it.

The police were preparing to distribute sandbags to the Milwaukee offices to fend off the rising water.

The police were also monitoring the Meadowbrook subdivision and were worried about the Lakeside Villa apartments on the west side of town because the retention basin there was overflowing. Some streets surrounding Lakeside had a substantial amount of water on them.

Meanwhile 98 percent of the airport traffic had stopped at Pal-Waukee, according to John Ostrowski, director of airport services. The severe flooding problems started Monday morning, Ostrowski said, adding that he did not expect to see any improvement in the situation until

(Continued on page 3)

TRAVELING WAS NOT much fun for most people this week as streets flooded and roads closed. But at least one resident, Jerry O'Kearns, tries to enjoy himself as he cycles along flooded Milwaukee Avenue south of Hintz Road. (Photo by Tim Boyle)

In Brief

Census gives village portrait

A special census recently undertaken by the village shows that 95.5 percent of Wheeling's 26,276 residents are white, 1.1 percent black, 3 percent Asian and the remainder "other."

The census found that 48 percent of the population is male and 52 percent female.

The median age of residents is 30.2 years, with 620 residents at least 75 years of age and 2,228 under 4.

The biggest age group in Wheeling is 25 to 34 years with 7,315 residents.

The special census found 11,022 dwelling units in Wheeling. Thirty percent are single-family detached and 70 percent are rental units or such things as condos and townhouses.

About 62 percent of Wheeling residents own their homes and the rest rent.

The village conducted the special census in order to see if the population had grown since the last regular census in 1980 because the village receives money in motor fuel tax funds and income tax rebate money for each person in Wheeling.

Trustees going to community

The Village Board will hold several board meetings at community locations this fall.

The board will conduct workshop meetings, which it holds on the weeks between its twice monthly regular board meetings, at the community locations.

The senior center will be the location of the first meeting to be held in a neighborhood instead of at Village Hall. That meeting will take place at the end of October.

Village President Sheila Schultz said holding meetings in neighborhoods "exposes some people to board meetings who would probably never come to one otherwise."

FOCUS ON BUSINESS

Machinery firm builds office at Wheeling center

Kitamura Machinery of U.S.A., Inc. has begun construction on a 9,800-square-foot manufacturing, office and warehouse facility in Palwaukee Business Center at 78 E. Century in Wheeling.

The facility includes 5-ton and 15-ton cranes. The facility also features a Japanese-style canopy and glass office-warehouse building. Completion is scheduled for this fall.

Kitamura Machinery, which is currently located in Rolling Meadows, is involved in maufacturing machine tools and equipment.

Total cost of the building is in excess of $500,000.

Kitamura Machinery of U.S.A. has started construction of a 9,800-square-foot manufacturing, office and warehouse facility in the Palwaukee Business Center.

10-23-86

Income the key in Pal-Waukee purchase: Expert

By IRA M. BERMAN

The head of a consulting firm that's helping Wheeling and Prospect Heights purchase Pal-Waukee Airport says the two municipalities need to take a long, hard look at what kind of income the airport will generate before they go foward with the acquisition.

John Kennedy, president of the Airport Corporation of America (ACA), told the Pal-Waukee Airport Commission the most important consideration in the decision to purchase the airport is income. The firm is in the process of preparing a study on whether the airport would be a good purchase for the minicipalities.

Kennedy said there are three primary sources of revenue the municipalities can expect to receive from Pal-Waukee: space rental, landing fees and fuel fees.

Space rental fees are received from the rental of hangars, open tie-downs and other locations where rental income may be derived, Kennedy said.

THE SECOND SOURCE of income, what he termed a "fuel-flowage fee," provides a certain amount of money per gallon of fuel pumped at Pal-Waukee. He mentioned that there were instances where the oil company pays the airport owner directly, which appears to be the simplest and most efficient way of collecting this fee.

The third source is landing fees. Landing fees are less popular in the West and Middle West than in the East, but such fees are now becoming more popular in this area, especially when users realize that funds are needed for continued safe operation.

Also, any surplus income (such as that derived from landing fees) is a good sign to the FAA when applications for additional grants are made.

Those personnel who are responsible for field observation and for fire/crash/-rescue operations, on duty 24 hours a day, can also perform such "mundane" chores as processing the bills on the third shift for the landing fees, he said.

KENNEDY MENTIONED several times in his presentation that the commission should consider sending out requests for proposals for a second fixed base operator.

He said Pal-Waukee was well known in the airport business and there should be no problem attracting responses from good prospective operators. If a copy of the proposed lease is included, all the information would be "up front."

In other action at the Sept. 14 commission meeting, members received official notification that they had received a Federal Aviation Agency grant of more than $7 million to help finance acquisition costs.

10-9-86

Oct 1986

WHEELING

Work on new bus facility to start soon

by Madeleine Doubek
Herald staff writer

Construction of a bus maintenance and storage facility in Wheeling's Palwaukee Industrial Park should begin soon with approval of the plans from village officials.

Septran Bus Co. officials plan to construct a building and parking lot on the east side of Foster Avenue north of Camp McDonald Road in the park, and construction should begin as soon as possible, Village Planner Richard Greenwood said.

The maximum number of buses to be stored at the facility during the school year has been limited to 100. The Septran firm will use the building and lot to store, repair, maintain and service buses used to transport students to school.

Parking also will be provided for employees, and two driveways are planned to provide two-way traffic circulation. In addition, a two-pump gasoline island will be installed in the bus storage area at the rear of the lot.

Some concerns about potential traffic problems were alleviated when Septran representatives told the village's community development staff that traffic flow "would also have a reverse-flow nature being that the buses will be leaving the area at times when worker traffic will be entering the area."

Greenwood noted that the development staff also worked with the bus company to assure proper screening and visual appeal to other tenants in the industrial park.

View of the bus storage area will be blocked by the 165-foot width of the building and an 8-foot-high brick wall. In addition, a webbed, 8-foot-tall fence will be installed along the north and south property lines.

The employee parking lot and bus exit area will be landscaped to help screen the area.

Week ahead

Donation for landfill to be discussed

Wheeling officials will discuss a request from the Northwest Municipal Conference for a $7,800 contribution to help defray costs of a proposed landfill near Bartlett.

The village board will hold a workshop committee meeting 8 p.m. today at the Senior Center Pavilion, 199 First St.

This is the first of the board's "roving" meetings to be held at various locations in neighborhoods throughout the village.

Representatives from the conference will explain details of a proposed 225-acre balefill, a high-tech landfill in which garbage is compressed and stacked in sections.

Oct 1986

Suit makes mortgage plan less interesting

by C.L. Waller
Herald staff writer

A 3-year-old lawsuit filed by the village of Wheeling over a controversial plan to use pension funds to provide low-cost home mortgages to police officers has been delayed so long that current interest rates no longer make the plan attractive.

The program approved by the Wheeling Police Pension Fund would have made available about $550,000 in low-interest mortgages for current and retired police officers.

Under the plan, money for the mortgages would be drawn from pension fund investments and deposited with the Combined Counties Police Association, sponsors of the program. The police association would pay 6.5 percent interest to the pension fund, write the mortgages for 9.5 percent and keep the difference for its "administrative costs."

BUT COURT delays for more than a year have made the program "substantially less feasible" for the police association to pursue the program because of the drop in interest rates, said Wheeling Village Attorney James Rhodes.

"It was very attractive to the credit union to get this money and reinvest it at 11 percent. But now, the figures don't work," he said.

Rhodes said he thinks the CCPA is not pushing the issue of getting into court with the lawsuit because of the change in the economy.

However, Michael J. Dolesh, attorney for the Police Pension Board trustees, said the court schedule, not the economy, is delaying progress on the lawsuit. He said the lawsuit is awaiting trial before Cook County Circuit Court Judge Harold Siegan.

SIEGAN HAS ruled twice already that the proposed mortgage program for police officers does not violate constitutional rights, as Rhodes had charged in his pretrial motions.

The remaining question is whether the low-cost loan program is a prudent investment of pension funds, as required by state laws.

The village has argued that the program would cost taxpayers more than $2 million while funds that could be drawing higher interest rates are tied up through the life of the mortgage loans. The pension fund is financed through contributions from officers at a fixed amount, interest and village tax levies.

"You're playing futures games with dollars needed for pension benefits," Rhodes said.

The village has spent more than $100,000 on the lawsuit so far, Rhodes said.

EDITORIALS

"Our aim: To fear God, tell the truth and make money" — H. C. PADDOCK 1852-1935

Changing bar hours overdue

If village trustees have their way, Arlington Heights may follow Mount Prospect's example and impose earlier closing hours for taverns.

Mount Prospect Village President Carolyn H. Krause spearheaded the hours change because she said reducing the hours when taverns, restaurants and stores can sell alcohol would curtail alcohol-related incidents, including tavern fights and drunken driving cases.

Tavern owners fought the proposal saying that reduced hours would hurt their businesses without reducing alcohol-related problems.

After considering these objections, however, in February trustees approved the ordinance that halted liquor sales an hour earlier each night.

Arlington Heights trustees have proposed calling in all outstanding 4 a.m. liquor licenses. There are four establishments in the village that have late licenses, three of which already have agreed to relinquish their 4 a.m. permits.

Other liquor licenses issued by the village allow taverns to be open until 2 a.m. or 3 a.m.

However, owners of Armando Q's Ristorante want to keep their permit, which was the result of a lifetime court order issued after a legal battle over annexation to the village of what was then Tony D. Ristorante.

Going to court is not the preference of the Arlington Heights trustees, but they think if they must take that route, they could present a strong case and beat the standing order at Armando's.

Only the future will show whether the trustees were correct in their assessment of this issue.

If it comes to it, a fight might be worthwhile to the trustees, who have for many years wanted to get rid of the late-night taverns in town.

Although it has been difficult to measure the effect of the hours change since there is little concrete evidence, Mount Prospect Police Chief Ronald Pavlock says there appear to be fewer alcohol-related calls and problems at night in the village.

Pavlock says that most persons who frequent taverns during the early morning hours are extending their drinking, and the result might be drunkenness.

Closing bars an hour or two earlier each night might not dramatically cut the number of drunken drivers out on village streets, but it's logical to believe that the two are correlated.

The idea is not popular with at least one tavern owner in Arlington Heights — for obvious reasons: Changing the ordinance would hurt his business by cutting the number of hours he would be allow to serve liquor in his establishment.

In the long run, however, if they comply with the idea and support keeping drunken drivers off village streets, the owners could improve the image of their taverns in the community.

There seems to be no good reason to keep bars open until 4 a.m. Arlington Heights should proceed with this long overdue proposal.

Oct 1986

Village rethinks tax-exempt status for manufacturer

by C. L. Waller
Herald staff writer

Wheeling village officials want to take a second look at a manufacturer's request for a property tax break if it moves to Wheeling because the firm would occupy less than half of a building and lease the remaining space.

Spectra Tool of Elk Grove Village, which makes molds for plastic items such as the clip that attaches the telephone cord to the receiver, is asking for the special tax-exempt status as an incentive to move to Palwaukee Business Center in Wheeling.

But some trustees are worried that the firms Spectra would rent to would not be manufacturers, which is the prime criteria for receiving the tax break.

Trustee Nicholas R. Fanella said Septra would not immediately occupy the planned building, and would lease space it didn't need until the company expanded in three to seven years.

"I do have a problem with this," Fanella said. "This isn't what I thought 6B (the tax exemption) meant."

Under the tax break, the village reduces a business's property taxes by 60 percent for eight years and 25 percent for four years after that. The village offers the tax incentive to manufacturers to entice them to locate in Wheeling and to prevent existing industries from moving to Lake or DuPage counties, where property taxes are lower than in Cook County.

COMPANIES MUST first apply for the tax break with the Cook County Assessor's office and then the village. Once the village gives approval, county approval usually follows. Village trustees already have granted tax breaks to three industries that want to expand their businesses.

Trustee James R. Whittington said he shared Fanella's concern that Spectra could lease any one of six portions of the building to a company that was not involved in manufacturing.

"The risk is something that can slip through the bureaucracy and the burden is on the village to monitor the user of the property," Village Manager Thomas Markus said.

"It ought not to make a difference to the county if the building is occupied or not occupied as long as it is manufacturing," said Robert DiLeonardi, attorney for Palwaukee Business Center.

DiLeonardi said he could present to the village financial backgrounds of each company leasing a part of the Spectra building.

Village officials will discuss with Spectra creating a covenant that would require subsequent tenants of Spectra's building to come before the village board for review.

Wheeling granted sewer repair funds

by Joan Fleischer
Herald staff writer

Lt. Gov. George H. Ryan will meet today with Wheeling village officials to award a $3.3 million grant for massive sewer repairs.

The Build Illinois grant will help finance a two-year project aimed at repairing leaking 30-year-old sewer lines in the village and reducing excess storm water from flooding the system.

The lieutenant governor also will make a stop in Mount Prospect to visit an area that was hard hit by flooding, said Kay Schultz, a press aide to Ryan. Ryan, a Republican, is in a three-way race to keep his state office in the Nov. 4 election.

"Build Illinois is an important program that the lieutenant governor headed up and it has been a big thrust of his term," Schultz said. "Wheeling's projects were on a priority one status for the EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) funds. With the flooding problems right now, it shows the importance of projects like this."

The village of Wheeling in August awarded a $4.6 million contract to George W. Kennedy Construction Co. of Wadsworth for the massive sanitary sewer rehabilitation project.

Construction work is scheduled to begin in late fall in the older sections of Wheeling, specifically around the Dunhurst, Old Town, Meadowbrooks, Hollywood Ridge and Poplar Grove areas.

"It's nice when state officials come to the local communities. We didn't initiate his visit, but it should be a nice ceremonial presentation," Assistant Village Manager Robert Fialkowski said of the grant.

Oct 1986

Restaurant OK'd despite shortfall in parking

Wheeling trustees are allowing a developer to build a restaurant on Lake-Cook Road even though his parking plan for the building is 15 spaces short of what village zoning ordinances require.

The village board last week granted the Lexington Development Corp. a zoning variance that allows the developer to build a Hungry Fox restaurant at Lexington Drive and Lake-Cook Road in the Lexington Commons shopping center.

The board action came after the village's Zoning Board of Appeals recommended the variance be denied.

Although the zoning board voted against the variance, the village board overturned that decision after Lexington scaled down the size of the restaurant — and the number of parking spaces required by law.

PLANS PRESENTED to the zoning board in August called for a 156-seat restaurant, which by village ordinance would have required 70 parking spaces. The developer's plans, however, included just 48 parking spaces on restaurant property. Although that total was 22 spaces short of the required amount, the developer proposed sharing parking spots with the shopping center. However, the plan was turned down by the zoning board.

After being rejected by the board, Lexington reduced the size of the restaurant to 135 seats, which requires 63 parking spaces instead of 70. Although the revised plan was still 15 short of what is required by law, trustees agreed the restaurant could share some of the shopping center parking spaces.

"The staff felt this is an appropriate number of seats," said Bob Fialkowski, director of community development. "There may be some problems, especially if the restaurant is very successful."

Fialkowski admitted that if the restaurant is particularly busy some of its customers may take up parking spots intended for shoppers at Lexington Commons. But, he said, the shopping center would probably take care of any such problems if they develop and it's unlikely the village would have to get involved.

"WE'RE COUNTING ON self-policing," he said. "If a tenant's customers can't park, he'll hear about it."

While trustees unanimously approved the parking variance, there was some concern over why the revised plan wasn't taken back to the zoning board for reconsideration.

"I think it's inappropriate that we are seeing one plan and the ZBA has seen another," said Trustee Joseph Ratajczak. "Maybe the seating wasn't the only concern."

But Fialkowski and the attorney representing Lexington said there isn't enough time to go back to the zoning board. The developer hopes to start construction before the winter weather sets in. The restaurant is scheduled to open early next year.

"We feel that if the ZBA had another stab at this in its revised form it would approve," Fialkowski said.

The Hungry Fox will be a moderately-priced, family, sit-down restaurant that will serve liquor.

10-16-86

Developer unveils retail center plans

By MARK MALEY

After months of waiting, Wheeling trustees Tuesday got their first look at plans for a proposed $9 million retail center at Milwaukee Avenue and Dundee Road.

The Dallas-based Vantage Companies unveiled plans for the 121,000-square-foot Village Square shopping mall at the village board's committee-of-the-whole meeting Tuesday night.

But the developer and village officials say the project is a long way from becoming a reality.

The retail center is part of Wheeling's Crossroads redevelopment project, a ambitious plan to revitalize an area around the Milwaukee Avenue/Dundee Road intersection.

A KEY PART of the renovation effort is the creation of a special tax increment financing (TIF) district. The TIF plan calls for extra tax revenues generated by the new development to be used by Wheeling to pay for land acquisition and public improvements.

The village is expected to purchase all the small parcels of property that make up the 13.5-acre site earmarked for the retail center and will pay for the land with money out of village's TIF fund. The village will then sell or lease the property to Vantage, which will build the retail center on the site.

Vantage was selected by the village board in February to come up with a plan for the retail center, which is an integral part of the overall Crossroads redevelopment plan. Vantage, which was selected over five other developers, has spent more than six months working on plans for the center.

At Tuesday's meeting, representatives from the company, which has developed nearly 3 million square feet of commercial property in the Chicago area in the last four years, detailed plans for mall which would utilize the existing Sportmart store on Dundee Road as one of the anchor stores.

VANTAGE IS ALSO negotiating with Frank's Nursery and Crafts in hopes the company will be the second anchor with a 30,000-square-foot store. A third anchor would occupy a 10,000-square-foot store.

The three anchors would be surrounded by 30 smaller stores that would range in size from 1,125 to 3,150 square feet. Vantage hopes to start construction next April and expects to open for business in April, 1988.

Plans also include heavy landscaping around the center, particularly on the west side of the property, which is adjacent to a condominium complex. The center would have one major entrance on Dundee Road and one on Milwaukee Avenue, and would requring widening Milwaukee Avenue to five lanes from Shadow Bend Road to Dundee Road.

The center would have brick facing and a metal roof with timber canopies.

Thursday, October 16, 1986

Oct. 1987

Strickland brothers may stand trial next spring in Wheeling cop murder

It may be February or March before two East Chicago Heights men charged with murdering a Wheeling police officer are tried for the charges, the Cook County State's Attorney's office says.

The Strickland brothers, Larry, 26, and T[illegible]e, 21, are being held in Cook County Jail without bond. They were charged Nov. 5, 1985 with felony murder, attempted murder, aggravated kidnapping, armed robbery, attempted residential burglary and armed violence.

They are scheduled to make a court appearance Nov. 6, but a spokesperson for the state's attorney's office said a trial for the Stricklands won't be held until early next year.

The brothers have pleaded not guilty to charges which were filed in connection with the Nov. 5 killing of Wheeling police officer Kenneth R. Dawson, 41, of rural Lake Zurich and the alleged kidnapping of Buffalo Grove resident Donald Hamberg, his 9-year-old grandson and 15-year-old nephew.

DAWSON WAS ANSWERING a report of suspicious persons in the Cedar Run Subdivision near Route 83 when he confronted the two men, there was a scuffle and Dawson was shot in the abdomen.

The two men then sped away from the area, firing shots at officers called to back up Dawson, police reported. Hamberg, his grandson and nephew were kidnapped as the three left Hamberg's home in Buffalo Grove. The men abandoned their car near Buffalo Grove and Aptakisic roads and ordered Hamberg to drive them to Chicago in his vehicle, taking the boys with them, police said.

Hamberg, in turn, got a Chicago police officer's attention when he cut in front of the squad car and the officer had him stop the car. The two men fled on foot, but were captured shortly thereafter.

Dawson was the first Wheeling police officer to be killed in the line of duty. He had been a patrolman in Wheeling for nearly 16 years.

Hintz Rd. work OK'd

Wheeling commuters should get a break from traffic congestion on Hintz Road as the Cook County Board has approved a $5.8 million project to widen the road.

The project, approved by the board this month, calls for widening the existing two-lane road to four lanes and installing curbs, gutters, traffic signals, drainage facilities on Hintz Road from Wheeling Road to Milwaukee Avenue, said Cook County Commissioner Carl Hansen.

The board approved a $3 million appropriation for the section of road from Wheeling Road to Wolf Road, which is in Wheeling, and a $2.8 million appropriation for the section from Wolf Road to Milwaukee Avenue, which is in Wheeling and unincorporated Wheeling Township, Hansen said.

Funding will be provided through the county's Motor Fuel Tax fund and the county will complete the acquisition of right-of-way property next year. Construction is expected to begin in spring of 1988, Hansen said.

Wheeling Village Manager Tom Markus said the improvements should go a long way toward improving traffic congestion in the area.

A lot of new office and industrial developments are being built on property just off of Hintz Road, he said. Widening the road will help employees at those businesses get to and from work.

"That is where the biggest amount of our industrial growth is occurring," he said. "Traffic in the morning and evening rush hour is a mess. This should ease the congestion."

In addition to easing existing congestion, Markus said widening Hintz should also help spur more development in that area because companies look closely at how accessible the site is before they relocate.

Thursday, October 23, 1986

Oct 1986

Suburbs won't dump landfill

by Diane Dungey
Herald staff writer

Faced with the refusal of a Bartlett planning committee to annex property for a landfill, Northwest suburban officials say they favor asking Cook County to allow them to operate the controversial high-tech dump at the same location.

Twenty-eight towns that are members of the Northwest Municipal Conference will be asked within the next month to contribute $10,000 each toward the $4.02-million bill to present the plan to the Cook County board and, if it is approved, buy the land and design the landfill.

The members then will be asked to give final approval in November to take the plan to the Cook County Zoning Board of Appeals. That option, recommended by a Northwest Municipal Conference committee, has been given preliminary approval by 17 conference members.

Bartlett officials said they will continue to fight the landfill, which they rejected because of opposition from residents and concerns about truck traffic and the possibility of underground water supplies being contaminated.

"We would fight that location if it did go to Cook County. I think there would be considerable litigation," Bartlett Village President Glen Koehler said.

Cook County Board President George Dunne has not indicated to village officials his position on project, Koehler said.

Consultants have portrayed the 225-acre former gravel pit near Route 25 and Bartlett Road as unsuitable for any use other than a landfill, and said it could be developed for parks or an equestrian center after the landfill is full.

But Koehler said preserving the property in its current condition for open land, hunting and fishing is "very appropriate."

The Northwest Municipal Conference estimates bringing the plan before the county Zoning Board of Appeals would cost $280,000, and member towns will be asked to pledge $10,000 to begin the process. Paying for litigation, forming an agency to administer the landfill, buying the land and designing the landfill would cost an added $3.74 million.

So far, member towns each have paid $5,500. Completing the landfill would cost an estimated $30 million.

Abandoning plans for the landfill at this point would cost an estimated $61,600.

Job duties shuffled at village hall

Robert Fialkowski, who formerly served as Wheeling's director of community development, was recently named the village's finance director.

Fialkowski, 34, will be paid $47,000 per year and will succeed former finance director Gregory J. Peters, who left the village to accept a post with Des Plaines.

In addition to his work as finance director, Fialkowski will continue to serve as assistant village manager. Village Manager Tom Markus said Fialkowski was the most qualified of the applicants who applied for the post from areas around the country.

Fialkowski, who holds a masters degree in business administration, began his duties with the village in November, 1980 as administrative assistant to the village manager. He was promoted to assistant village manager in May, 1981 and was named director of community development in April, 1984.

Michael Klitzke, village engineer, will serve as acting director of community development until a replacement for Fialkowski is found.

WHEELING COUNTRYSIDE

Thursday, October 30, 1986

Wheeling settles suit with Stavros

Wheeling trustees Monday approved the settlement of a lawsuit in which the village was seeking more than $1 million damages from a man convicted in 1974 of extortion and tax evasion.

John Burke, a Chicago attorney representing Wheeling in the case, said the village settled a case against James Stavros, a former Wheeling Township Democratic committeeman, for $22,500.

Stavros served four years in prison for extorting more than $90,000 from three developers in exchange for building and zoning favors.

He was convicted in 1974 for extortion and tax evasion, and was released on parole in 1976. In 1980, an Illinois Appellate Court agreed to allow Wheeling to recover the payoffs Stavros had collected, Burke said.

Several other people were named in the damage suit filed by the village including former building director William Bieber and former Wheeling trustee William Hart. Bieber served one year in prison for extortion, perjury and tax evasion, and Hart pleaded guilty to conspiracy to commit extortion and served one year of probation.

Burke said the village had been seeking $1 million in damages and $400,000 in bribes allegedly collected by Stavros, but the suit had been going on a long time, and the village decided to agree to a settlement.

10-23-86

Wheeling Countryside 5

Cable hearing is scheduled

The Northwest Municipal Cable Council will hold a public hearing to evaluate Cablenet at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 19, at the Mount Prospect Senior Center, 50 S. Emerson, Mount Prospect.

The hearing is open to residents in Arlington Heights, Bartlett, Wheeling, Des Plaines, Hanover Park, Mount Prospect, Park Ridge, Prospect Heights, and Schaumburg. Its purpose will be to listen to comments, concerns and opinions of residents regarding Cablenet's performance.

The hearing is one aspect of a five-year performance evaluation the council is making of Cablenet as called for in the cable franchises.

LIFE 10-30-86

Oct. 1986

Flood Victims Will Benefit From Reduced Assessments

Cook County Assessor Thomas C. Hynes has said Cook County properties which have been severely damaged by the recent floods may qualify for reduced property assessments.

"We sympathize with the people of Cook County who have suffered heavy damage to their homes and businesses," said Hynes. We are ready to assist them now at our offices. In addition, we are arranging special information and service sessions in those areas hit by floods." He said the locations of the sessions would be announced in the near future.

In a recent interview with the Journal, State Sen. Bob Kustra (R-28) explained that the proclamation of Des Plaines and other affected towns as state disaster areas opened the doors for the reduced tax assessment.

The low-interest rebuilding loans will not be available until federal disaster areas are named by President Ronald Reagan. He was expected to name several Illinois communities as disaster areas Monday morning, said Kustra.

At the state level, however, properties are eligible for assessment reductions if the damage was substantial enough to affect the market value of the property. The type of damage that would affect the overall value would include, for example, structural damage to the foundation or walls, the flooring in the living area, or central heating and air conditioning units.

Assessment relief is not available for damage to personal property such as carpeting or furniture (these items are not taxed in Illinois, according to Hynes) or for normal weather damage such as basement seepage, roof leaks or loss of gutters.

Information and complaint forms and guidelines are available by calling Hynes' Taxpayer Assistance Dept. at 443-7550 or at any of his offices: in downtown Chicago at 118 N. Clark (Room 301); in Skokie at 5600 Old Orchard Rd. (Room 149); and in Maywood at 1500 Maybrook Square (Room 204).

Private organizations are also pitching in to help flood victims. The business consulting firm of Ernst & Whinney, located in Chicago, will assist flood victims

(Continued on page 4)

The week ahead Oct 1987

Village to approve tax breaks?

The Wheeling village board tonight is expected to approve requests for tax breaks sought by two local companies that have promised to bring a combined total of 40 temporary and 25 permanent jobs to the village.

The board meets at 8 p.m. at village hall, 255 E. Dundee Road.

Elenco Electronics Inc. and Indeck Power Equipment Co. have requested a special tax-exempt status offered by Cook County as an inducement to keep businesses from moving to Lake and DuPage counties, where tax assessments are lower. The status lowers the assessment on industrial property from 40 percent to 16 percent for eight years. The assessment would increase to 30 percent the following year, and revert to the standard rate after that.

Developer to unveil plan for retail center

by C.L. Waller
Herald staff writer

An Arlington Heights developer chosen to redevelop a portion of Wheeling's business district will unveil his proposal for a retail center Tuesday.

The village hired Vantage Companies in March to come up with a plan to give a new look to the commercial area northwest of Milwaukee Avenue and Dundee Road.

The plans likely will center around the existing Sportmart at 240 E. Dundee Road as the main anchor store and include another smaller anchor store, said Village President Sheila Schultz. The general theme of the 130,000-square-foot center will center around "soft goods" or clothing stores, she said.

ONE OF the reasons Vantage was chosen for the project was because it has retail contacts outside the area, Schultz said. Vantage was the developer of the Hawthorn Hills Fashion Square, which contains a MainStreet stores at Milwaukee Avenue and Route 60 in Vernon Hills.

The property Vantage is concentrating on in Wheeling is part of the village's Crossroads Redevelopment district, which stretches from Manchester Drive north to Strong Street on both sides of Milwaukee Avenue, east along Dundee Road to the Des Plaines River, and west to First Street.

Wheeling trustees will discuss Vantage's redevelopment proposal at a workshop meeting set for 8 p.m. Tuesday at village hall, 255 W. Dundee Road.

Village Manager Thomas M. Markus said once village trustees approve the plan, a formal agreement will be drawn up with Vantage and then they can proceed with the purchase of properties northwest of Milwaukee Avenue and Dundee Road that it needs for the project.

The village already owns some of the properties in the area targeted for redevelopment. Vantage will attempt to negotiate with the owners of the remaining businesses at the Milwaukee Avenue and Dundee road intersection to buy their land. If Vantage and those properties fail to reach a sale price, the village than might condemn the properties and then resell them to Vantage.

Oct 1987

Village to ponder annex of 12 acres

by Steve Gorecki
Herald staff writer

Wheeling village officials on Monday will consider annexing about 12 acres of land southeast of Lake-Cook and Portwine roads for a proposed office development.

The land, commonly known as Grant Champion Stables, is owned by a land trust that wants to build one-story office buildings there. The developers are seeking annexation before they present actual plans for a zoning request, although preliminary site plans indicate three buildings would be built.

The area targeted for annexation is bounded on the north by Lake-Cook Road and surrounded by the Cook County Forest Preserve east of Portwine Road.

THE VILLAGE also must annex a 200-foot section of Portwine Road south of Lake-Cook Road to make the 12-acre site contiguous to the forest preserve west of Portwine Road, which is adjacent to Wheeling's northeastern-most boundaries.

The board meets at 8 p.m. in the council chambers, 255 W. Dundee Road, Wheeling.

If the board approves the annexation, the land automatically would be zoned for houses. A request to rezone the land for use for offices would likely come about 1½ months later, said Robert Fialkowski, assistant village manager.

The owners of the land want to develop it "consistent with the surroundings," said Thomas Burney, their attorney. He said the office buildings would be consistent with others along Lake-Cook Road.

Oct. 1986

Fialkowski appointed finance director

WHEELING — Robert Fialkowski, the village's assistant village manager and its director of community development, has been appointed Wheeling finance director.

The appointment came after a nationwide search for qualified candidates.

Fialkowski will continue to be the assistant village manager in addition to finance director. Michael Klitzke, village engineer, will assume the duties of acting director of community development until a new director is appointed.

Fialkowski, 34, joined the village of Wheeling in 1980 as administrative assistant to the village manager. In 1981 he was promoted to assistant village manager and in 1984 made director of community development.

Fialkowski holds a master's degree in business administration. He lives in Elmhurst with his wife, Gwen, and their two children, Laura and Michael.

Fialkowski replaces Greg Peters, who left the village last summer to become comptroller of Des Plaines.

FIALKOWSKI

Life 10-30-86

Oct 1987

Do-it-yourself radon kits on sale

(Continued from page 1)

with great accuracy, he added.

Gajewski said Nodar has been examined by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency twice and found to be accurate to within 2 percent of IEPA test results.

Crouch suggested homeowners detecting radon in basements, where the gas is most likely to well up, should contact state officials who can perform more accurate and more detailed testing. Levels of radon differ depending on the time of day and the time of year.

For example, a house closed up for winter might trap more of the gas than an open, aired home in the summer.

Crouch said there are often tests on the market, called track etch tests, which can give scientists a better understanding of how pervasive radon is over the course of several months or even a year.

The track etch test consists of a piece of plastic that absorbs alpha particles. When the particles hit the plastic, they leave a tiny trail. Lab technicians use slight magnification to count the scratches.

High levels of radon require homeowners to seal any points where the gas is leaking into a structure. Gajewski said Health Physics can advise those people finding the gas.

Sometimes, he said, the answer is to reroute air circulation throughout homes to avoid pulling gas into building areas used more often.

Oct. 1987

Ekco fined $3,000 for breaking clean-air laws

By C.L. WALLER

Ekco Products Inc. of Wheeling has agreed to pay a $3,000 fine to the Illinois Environmental Protection trust fund for violating state air-quality standards.

The company, which manufactures disposable aluminum products, was charged with emitting an unacceptably high level of volatile organic material into the air and operating a machine without the proper state permit.

An agreement between attorneys for Ekco and the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) was announced Monday during a public hearing by the Illinois Pollution Control Board.

The IEPA filed charges against the company at 777 S. Wheeling Road about a year ago saying that pollutants came from solvent-based paint or coating used to print patterns or paint foil containers.

PAINT SOLVENTS enter the atmosphere by volatilizing or vaporizing. The IEPA said Ekco exceeded the legal limit of 2.6 pounds of volatile organic material per gallon of coating.

When the machine was operating at the plant, there was also no permit issued by the IEPA providing for the operation of the machine, said Nancy Rich, an assistant at the Illinois Attorney General's office, which was handling the case.

Large companies that emit pollutants are required to have a permit from the IEPA in order to operate.

Ekco originally received permission from the IEPA to use a printer-coater. When the company asked the IEPA for a continuing variance for the machine at the end of last year, it was not issued and the machine was shut down, said Cliff Bowers, director of communications for Ekco's parent company, the Packaging Corporation of America.

THE COMPANY GAVE up manufacturing material like that used to cover TV dinners, said John Olsen, attorney for the company.

Because the company shut down the machine in January it showed it was "making a good faith effort," Rich said.

That effort, in turn, helped shrink the fine, she said.

But Olsen disagreed.

"I THOUGHT THE amount of the fine was excessive," the attorney said.

He did admit, however, that the fine could have been worse. "The EPA was asking for a ridiculous amount (at first)," Olsen said. IEPA attorneys first suggested a $10,000 fine and when the company asked about a similar situation where a legal precedent was set, a case involving a company dumping toxic material into a stream was presented, he said. "That was a totally different situation," Olsen said.

The $3,000 fine is apparently a minimum amount used in similar situations, he said.

The company's attorney said he had no choice about the fine. "They basically gave me a $3,000 figure, take it or leave it," he said.

Packaging Corporation of America has owned Ekco since 1984 when it purchased the facility from American Home Products. Packaging Corporation of America has other plants in Clayton, N.J. and Commerce, Calif.

This time, flood passes village by

by Maribeth Vander Weele
Herald staff writer

A town long assailed by flooding woes remained relatively untouched Wednesday by the volatile and land grabbing Des Plaines River.

Wheeling, historically familiar with flooded roadways and drenched homes, was still free of most water hazards Wednesday. The exception is the Fox Point Mobile Homes Community where the Des Plaines River melts into its backyard.

But other areas are comparatively trouble free, Assistant Village Manager Robert Fialkowski said. The reason is the flooding source, the Des Plaines River, not the Buffalo Grove-Wheeling Drainage Ditch, which runs through town from the northwest and traditionally causes most flooding problems there.

"IT'S A different type of flooding than has occurred in the past," Fialkowski said.

The streets in Tahoe and Lakeside Villas subdivisions are overflowed. On Jackson Avenue in unincorporated Wheeling Township, water blocks the street and reaches to the homes. And the Des Plaines River still edges up to Milwaukee Avenue businesses and to sandbagged homes on Edgewood Drive, north of the Shadowbend subdivision off Milwaukee Avenue.

But the traditionally flooded Meadowbrook subdivision? Dry, Fialkowski said. Wickes Furniture and village hall, built on a flood plain? Still dry.

Fialkowski partly credits roughly $75,000 in flood work the village has performed during the past three years.

It ranged from clearing the creek of debris to installing flap gates in the Meadowbrook subdivision so the creek cannot back up into the streets. The gate automatically shuts when the pressure builds and threatens the subdivision west of Wolf Road and south of Dundee Road.

"As long as the creek keeps flowing," Fialkowski said, "it's taking the water away from town."

Those improvements have not helped residents of 43 mobile homes in the Fox Point community, 573 S. Milwaukee Ave.

"We annexed property along the river just three months ago," Fialkowski said. "That's all flooded."

RESIDENTS THERE may have a tougher time than some recovering from this fall's disaster, suggested Dennis Patterson, a Lake Geneva, Wis., resident who owns a mobile home in the community to care for his parents in a nearby suburb. Now he plans to buy a town home.

"This is low income," Patterson said, peering out a screened window overlooking nearly a foot of water.

Oct 1987 Herald

Oct 1987

Flood waters pose a lot safety hazards, officials

By LINDA LIPP

The flood waters that inundated much of the North Shore area this week brought along a host of potential health and safety hazards.

The Lake County Health Dept. Tuesday recommended that flood area residents who depend on wells for their water supply should seek an alternate source of water or boil or sanitize the water with chlorine bleach to remove any possible contamination.

The floods have caused sanitary sewer overflows and the wells in the flooded portions of the county may have been contaminated by sewage-laden flood waters flowing into the well. The contamination is not necessarily visible to the eye, and the water may appear to be normal, but actually be contaminated.

IN FACT, SHOULD THE well water appear cloudy or filled with sediment, it should not be used at all, according to Bob Watkins, assistant district superintendent for the Lake County Health Dept. Bottled water should be used instead.

To purify the well water and destroy bacteria, the water should be boiled vigorously for at least 20 minutes. For those who are without power to boil water, chlorine bleach can be added at the rate of 3-5 drops per gallon. The water should be mixed and left to set for at least a half hour to allow the bleach to work.

Water cleaned with chlorine bleach may still smell like chlorine, but will be safe to drink.

Watkins also warned parents to keep their children from playing in the flood waters. In addition to the threat of contamination from bacteria in the water, the flood waters may carry debris and sharp objects that could hurt a child. In some areas, the flood water is deep enough and the current strong enough that a child could drown, he added.

AFTER THE FLOOD waters have receded, the wells can be decontaminated, also with the use of chlorine bleach, according to A. Braniezky, an engineer with the Cook County Department of Health.

The well cap should be removed and a mixture of chlorine bleach, one gallon of bleach to 5-10 gallons of water, should be poured down the well. Then, using a garden hose, the water should be turned on and poured down the well. Water faucets inside the house should be allowed to run until the smell of chlorine can be detected.

This will recirculate the water throughout the house's water system, disinfecting the pipes.

The water should then be turned off and the bleach should be allowed to remain in the system "at least overnight," to give the bleach time to work, Braniezky said.

THEN, THE WATER faucets should be turned back on and the water allowed to run until the smell of chlorine is gone. To be safe, a water sample could then be taken to the county health department, for testing.

The Lake County Health Dept. was considering this week the establishment of special regional centers, where residents could bring their water for testing. The

Oct 1986

Retail center gets trustees' backing

by C. L. Wallner
Herald staff writer

Wheeling village trustees Tuesday night gave an informal go-ahead for plans to develop an $8.9 million retail center.

Preliminary plans are to construct a 130,000-square-foot commercial center containing 35 stores northwest of Milwaukee Avenue and Dundee Road.

Vantage Companies of Arlington Heights presented drawings to trustees showing Sportmart, now located at 240 East Dundee Road, as the south anchor of the center. Vantage representatives said they are currently negotiating with Frank's Nursery and Crafts for taking the north anchor position.

The general theme of the center is "soft-goods" or clothing stores.

However, Steven Pagnotta of Vantage's retail development division, said because Wheeling is known for its restaurants, building an eatery in the center would not be out of the question.

"The material we've been given tonight is very much what we wanted to see at this point," said Sheila Schultz, Wheeling village president.

CONSTRUCTION OF the center will take about 12 months to complete, said James Troutman, division controller for Vantage.

Projected sales and real estate taxes are expected to increase by $11 million over a 10-year period because of the retail center, Troutman added.

By mid-November the village hopes to have a formal agreement drawn up with Vantage, said Village Manager Thomas M. Markus. Once the agreement between the village and Vantage is reached, the village can proceed with the purchase of land in the area northwest of Milwaukee Avenue and Dundee Road.

The property Vantage is concentrating on in Wheeling is part of the village's Crossroads Redevelopment District, which stretches from Manchester Drive north to Strong Street on both sides of Milwaukee Avenue, east along Dundee Road to the Des Plaines River.

Wheeling

Seeks to attract more business with lower taxes

By JUDITH-RAE ROSS
Correspondent

Attracting more business is high on Wheeling's agenda. "We've implemented a county program for reducing property taxes for businesses that meets the county's criteria," said Wheeling Village Manager Tom Markus

The new business that qualifies pays a lower property tax rate. Normally, businesses pay a 40 percent property tax rate, Markus explained. Under this program, the new business pays at a 16 percent rate for the first eight years. After that it pays at a 30 percent rate for the next four years. After that it pays the normal rate. By that time the company has been in existence for 12 years, Markus said.

So far, the program has been successful. Spectrum Electronics, a producer of high precision parts, has relocated in Wheeling. Spectrum also manufactures parts for the aerospace program. "There is a lot of potential in this area," Markus said.

Wheeling, with a population of 26,270, continues to woo industry. The area welcomes manufacturing as well as offices. Markus says that 50 percent of Wheeling is industrial park. In addition, the suburb has good highways, is near O'Hare airport, and lies on the Soo Line railway. Electric and gas power is plentiful.

Yet Wheeling could use more office space. Markus would like to see more office construction.

But he is quick to point out that Wheeling is a nice place for families. The industrial park system keeps residential areas and industries separate. The suburb is a good place for families to live. Families come from diverse

(Continued on page 38)

IMPROVED SHOPPING ADDS to the attraction of residents to Wheeling. Riverside Plaza is one example of some of the newer developments.

Lower taxes attracts business

(Continued from page 36)

ethnic and racial backgrounds, and there is housing stock available for all price ranges. Wheeling is not totally landlocked, the suburb is trying to redevelop certain areas.

"The shopping district along Milwaukee Avenue needs some redeveloping," Markus said. A tax increment district is being used to redevelop the street.

"The village acquires land on Milwaukee and demolishes (the present structure)," Markus explained. "The land is leveled and sent out to bid. Once the bid is awarded, there is a contract between the village and developer and the project is completed."

The new project has raised the property tax for the land, Markus continued. The village keeps the difference between the new and old rate, the increment, to pay itself back for monies paid out to acquire and level the land. Once the village pays itself back, the increment is divided among the other taxing entities in the area. Everyone profits.

It is hoped that increment taxing will allow for the redevelopment of the shopping district. So far, the project shows promise. If a shopping area stagnates, it won't attract new stores or families.

Markus added that the mix of nationalities and ages in Wheeling's population is a plus. But as with many suburbs, services have to be provided for all ages. By attracting new business, Wheeling hopes to provide a good place to live for both people and corporations within village limits.

Tuesday, October 28, 1986 Section 1—5 THE DAILY HERALD

Fialkowski named finance director

by Joan Fleischer
Herald staff writer

Wheeling Director of Community Development Robert Fialkowski will take over duties as village finance director, replacing Gregory J. Peters, who became the city comptroller for Des Plaines.

Fialkowski, who spearheaded business and residential growth in the village, will retain his second-in-command post as assistant village manager, Village Manager Thomas M. Markus said.

Markus said he selected Fialkowski from a field of 50 applicants following a nationwide search for a new director.

Robert Fialkowski

"I think highly of Bob and he has my trust," Markus said. "He has good experience in the village and in finance. He's familiar with our operations. This is a good opportunity for him to see another phase of village management."

Fialkowski, 34, has worked for the village since November 1980 and was formerly an engineer with the Illinois Department of Transportation and deputy director of the Northwest Municipal Conference.

As Markus' assistant, Fialkowski coordinated major capital improvement projects for the village, including installation of cable television, the Lake Michigan water pipeline and a four-year street and sewer improvement plan.

In April 1984, he was appointed to his current position and was instrumental in planning for the village's senior citizens center, a major overhaul of the village's water and sewer systems, and an upcoming tax increment financing project.

"Those are real village accomplishments," Fialkowski said. "We've had a lot of exciting work in the past few years. I was real happy in community development."

Fialkowski, who has been acting treasurer since Aug. 1, said Markus encouraged him to take the finance director post in the best interest of the village.

Fialkowski will receive a 3 percent raise, giving him a new annual salary of $47,000. Village Engineer Michael Klitzke will serve as acting director of community development.

Oct. 1987

Road work, insurance costs hike '86 tax levies

By C.L. WALLER

Rebuilding Portwine Road, liability insurance payments and boosting an elementary school district are reasons why Wheeling residents will be paying more in taxes in 1987.

Levies for Wheeling Township, Wheeling Park District, the village of Wheeling and District 21 – four of the major taxing bodies – have filed this year's tax requests for money that will be collected next year between March and September.

District 214 is also a large tax entity, but it has not filed a levy request yet. School districts have until Dec. 15 to file levies with the Cook County clerk's office.

About $24 million in tax support is being requested by the four taxing districts, up slightly from levy requests in 1985.

Here is a rundown of what Wheeling-area taxing bodies are requesting and how the levies will affect your tax bill next year.

Wheeling Township

Of the four districts, the most change in levy requests is with Wheeling Township.

It's been five years since the township has asked property taxpayers for road and bridge support, but that changes when the tax bills come in next year.

The township has been living off of money from equipment sales and reductions in costs, but the surpluses have run out, said John Ayres, highway commissioner.

Making the commissioner's job part-time, selling township road equipment and paying villages in the township – Wheeling, Buffalo Grove, Mount Prospect, Prospect Heights, Arlington Heights and parts of Des Plaines – to care for township roads were methods used to cut costs and save taxpayer money for the past few years.

Ayres has requested a $99,000 levy, $50,000 of which will go to the township to help pay for the rebuilding of Portwine Road which stretches for about a mile between Dundee Road and Lake-Cook Road.

The rest of the levy will be distributed, based on population, to communities in the township, Ayres said.

Portwine has been patched, but it needs a whole new base and the Cook County Highway Department estimated that the cost of renovating the road would cost $100,000, Ayres said. Half of the costs will come from the rest of the money left in the bank and the other half will come from the new levy, he said.

While the levy may sound like a lot, a person in Wheeling with a $75,000 home will pay 50 to 75 cents per $100 assessed valuation of property, Ayres said.

Overall, township taxes will cost about $2 more for the town and general assistance funds.

Village of Wheeling

Wheeling is asking for $4.58 million in 1986, 2.85 percent more than last year's levy of $4.45 million.

However, a projected increase in the village's assessed valuation may mean Wheeling's property tax rate will drop from $1.412 to $1.408 per $100 assessed valuation.

If that projection holds true, a resident in Wheeling with a home valued at $75,000 will see his tax bill drop from $255.57 to $254.84.

The increased levy is due primarily to the hiring of seven employees in the village, which hasn't occurred in several years.

At the same time part of the levy is reduced some because Wheeling consolidated several outstanding bond issues. The largest amount of money being levied for in Wheeling is in the bond and interest fund, estimated at $2.7 million.

Wheeling Park District

Liability insurance payments is the reasoning behind a 19 percent increase in the park district levy.

Park officials have requested a $1.2 million levy, but they say a resident in the park district should only see a 6 percent increase in his tax bill. That means a resident with a $75,000 home may pay $5 more in 1987.

With the levy, park district officials are gearing up for increased payments to the Park District Risk Management Association. The association is comprised of park districts that formed a pool to keep liability insurance premiums low.

Since 1984, Wheeling Park District payments have increased from $26,799 annually to $79,042 this year.

Park officials propose a levy of $321,945 for the tort immunity (insurance) fund in 1986, double what it was the year before. They say the increased levy for tort immunity is a way to prepared to higher costs.

School District 21

Of the four taxing districts, only District 21 has a levy that has gone down from 1985. Set at $16.7 million, the levy is down 6 percent from the 1985 levy of $17.6 million.

While school officials believe there is little chance the equalized assessed value of property in District 21 will increase, taxpayers will not be making up the difference.

The education fund, largest of any school district's funds, is at it's maximum property tax rate – $1.80 per $100 assessed valuation.

District 21 has practically the same tax rate as it had 10 years ago and it is expected to remain stable.

Wheeling residents with a $75,000 home paid about $445 to District 21 this year while Buffalo Grove residents with a $90,000 home paid about $551.

Even though property assessments are not going up and the tax rates are not increase, District 21 is able to maintain programs because working cash fund bonds were sold to offset the deficit in the education fund for the next three to four years while school officials plan a long-range solution.

In Brief

Shopping center wins approval

The Village Board Monday, approved Vantage Companies' preliminary plan of redevelopment for the northwest corner of Dundee Road and Milwaukee Avenue.

The center will include the Sportmart, which is now on the site and possibly a Frank's Nursery and Crafts. In addition there will be a 10,000-square-foot store and about 30 smaller stores. All the establishments will be joined in a rough U-shape that will extend along Milwaukee Avenue to just south of the senior citizen housing.

The shopping center will be financed by Vantage with the help of the village, which will buy the property for the center and then sell it to Vantage at a lower price than it paid. Among other things, the village will also pay for public improvements.

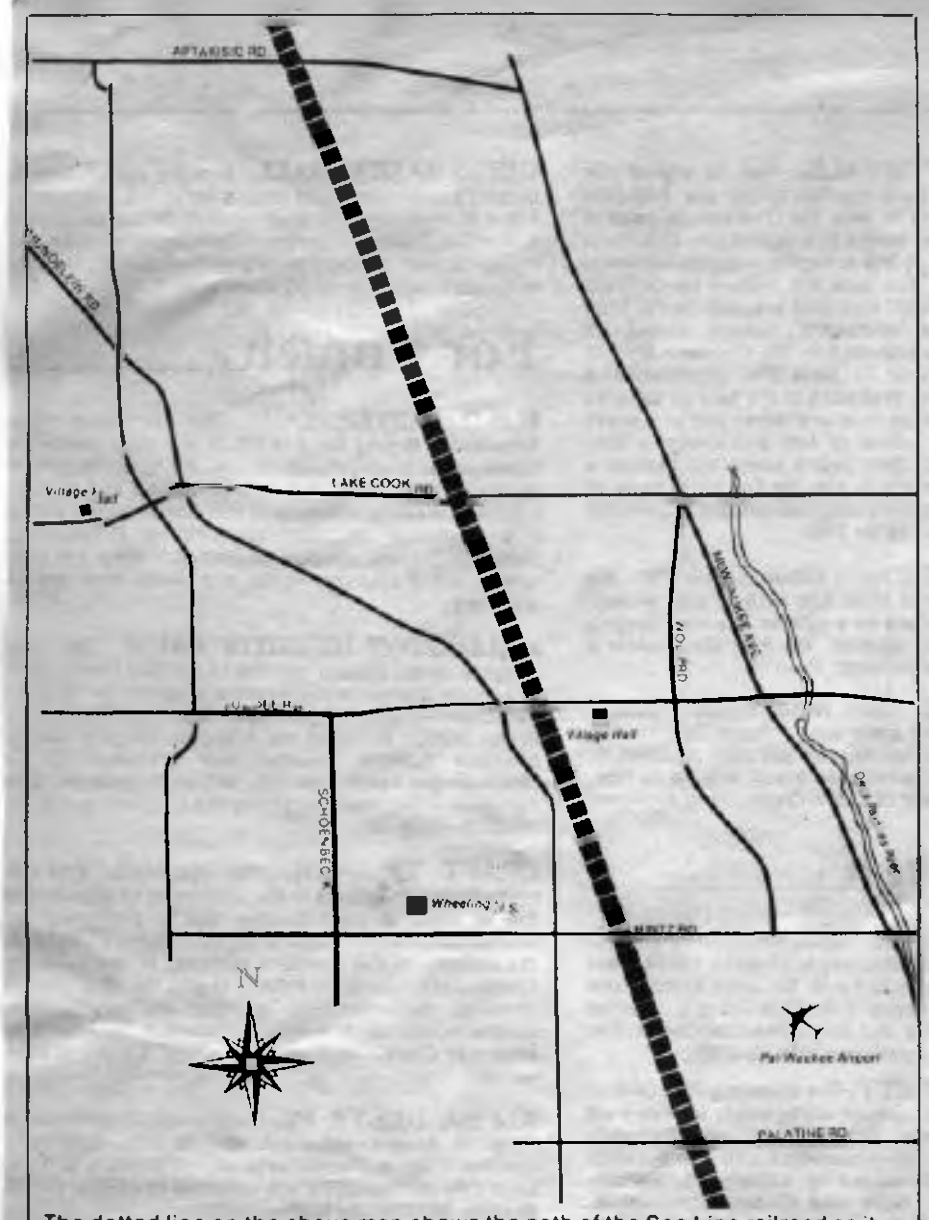
Village costs will be paid for through tax increment financing.

Board OKs restaurant

The Village Board Monday approved plans for the Casa Lupita Restaurant which will be built on the northwest corner of Milwaukee Avenue and Manchester.

The village staff recommended approval of the rezoning from R-3 to B-3 and approval of the site plan, saying the restaurant use [illegible] with the village's

Countryside 10-16-86



The dotted line on the above map shows the path of the Soo Line railroad as it runs through Buffalo Grove and Wheeling.

Commuter rail service

It's been talked about for years, but establishing commuter service on the now freight-only Soo Line railroad could become a reality by the end of the decade. A consultant who prepared a study on the feasibility of the project detailed the plan at a meeting in Buffalo Grove last week.

By JULIE WESSEL

Commuter rail service could be available as early as 1990 for several suburbs along the Soo Line railroad if the Regional Transportation Authority is willing to pay up to $50 million to get it.

Members of the rail committee of the NORTRAN board were presented with a feasibility study last week that showed three plans to provide commuter rail service to residents in the Soo line corridor between Antioch and downtown Chicago.

Communities that would be served by the service include Buffalo Grove, Wheeling, Mundelein, Vernon Hills, Prairie View, Lake Villa, Grayslake, Mount Prospect and the northern part of Des Plaines.

Robert Banks of R.L. Banks and Associates, Inc., of Washington, D.C., the consultants who prepared the study, presented the committee with "the most cost-effective way" to provide service to communities along the Soo-Line divided into three different alternatives.

BANKS DETAILED THE plans at a NORTRAN committee meeting last Thursday in Buffalo Grove.

The first altenative provides a two-prong service. One would switch current Soo Line service ending at Fox Lake to Antioch, and extend that service to the Milwaukee Road Line at Grayslake and onto downtown Union Station. The second service would connect current Soo Line service from Mundelein to the Chicago & and North Western's northwest line at Des Plaines, which continues downtown.

The second alternative is similar to the first except that service would continue beyond the Northwestern's northwest line to intersect the Milwaukee Road west line running to Union Station, Banks said.

The third plan would provide a railbus on the Soo Line between Antioch and Mundelein, and would switch to bi-level trains from Mundelein to Des Plaines where it would connect to the Northwestern line.

THE FIRST PLAN is expected to cost the RTA up to $45.2 million, the second plan up to $48.9 million, and the third plan up to $48.8 million, Banks said. The cost includes locomotives and equipment, stations, rail connections, crossing signals and yard and shop facilities.

According to the study, 4,140 passengers would be using Soo Line service from the 10 communities along its route in 1990, and 4,771 passengers would be commuting on the system by 2005.

The RTA expects to generate between $4.8 and $4.9 million annually in passenger revenue depending on which of the three plans is implemented. Ninety percent of the revenue would come from fares and 10 percent from parking fees, Banks said.

The study provides for rail stations to be built in 13 locations, including:

• **WHEELING — ON BOEHMER** Road

Countryside 10-16-86

on Soo Line by 1990?

south of Dundee Road;
• Buffalo Grove — On Busch Road;
• Mundelein — Between Park Street and Maple Avenue;
• Vernon Hills — On U.S. Highway 45 in Vernon Hills;
• Prairie View — On Main Street north Route 22.

BANKS SAID THE sites were determined after reviewing a traffic analysis done by the Chicago Area Transportation study and population studies done by Northeastern Illinois Planning Commission.

"The big concern of Metra is where passengers are going to come from," Banks said. "We used the best information there is...but there's an element of guesswork in it. (The information) should be taken with some reservations."

Gary Foyle, a transit planner for the Metra commuter rail board, an RTA service board, said 1990 would be the earliest the RTA would be able to establish commuter service on the Soo Line. He said Soo Line officials were involved in the study along with Metra and RTA officials, and so far there have been no negative comments about the plan.

Metra officials are planning to pay for the construction of the proposed stations, plus build the platforms and pave the parking lot at each one. Each municipality would then be expected to pick up the cost of maintaining its parking facility in exchange for the parking revenue derived from the lot.

BANKS SAID THE railbus idea included in the third plan would be unique to the Chicago-area. Because the buses are smaller than regular rail cars, they would be able to hold fewer people but be less expensive in the long run.

The biggest drawback of using the railbus idea would be the high short-term costs of building new facilities to maintain the buses, because the cars would have to be imported from England and could not be maintained by the RTA's current equipment and facilities, he said.

Metra, Soo Line and NORTRAN officials are now considering the information in the study and how the new communter rail plan canbe funded.

RTA officials said in late summer that the RTA was $2.5 billion behind in capital development replacement costs, and it was looking to make some cuts in its spending and possibly its service.

NORTRAN and Metra officials are expected to decide later this year whether or not they will be able to fund the project.

Service would go long way toward easing traffic congestion: Markus

Commuter service on the Soo Line railroad would benefit not only Wheeling but also much of the north and northwest suburban area.

That's the word from Wheeling Village Manager Tom Markus, who said the village "very much supports" plans to implement passenger service on what is now a freight-only line.

"From a regional standpoint, we feel it'll greatly benefit the traffic situation," Markus said. "Instead of people driving to Chicago or other suburbs, they'd be able to take the train down."

Most Wheeling residents who work in Chicago either commute by car and take Dundee or Lake-Cook roads to the Edens Expressway or board the Chicago & North Western line in Northbrook or Arlington Heights, Markus said. Regardless of how they're getting to work, those commuters are clogging the roads, he said.

Markus contends if there was a railroad station in Wheeling — which part of the plan for commuter service on the Soo Line — more people would use mass transportation, which would ease congestion on the major thoroughfares.

"Having rail service more accessible will increase ridership," he added. "It could be a real plus in attracting riders to mass transportation and that would help our transportation problems here and regionally."

Although the RTA would require Wheeling to maintain a train station that's being planned for Boehmer Road near Dundee Road, Markus said he sees "no problem" in taking care of a station.

Thursday, October 16, 1986

Countryside

Comparing our schools 8

Looking at levies 13

Ekco fined $3,000 18

On the cover

Mike Butrowski wades throu the street in front of his hom at Fox Point Mobile Home Park. The area was one of th hardest hit by this week's flooding in Wheeling. In-dep coverage on the flooding is pages 5, 20, 24 and 28.

Staff photo by Jim Robin

10-2-86

Fox Point homeowners take flooding in stride

Scenes like this one at the intersection of Milwauke Avenue and Hintz Road were commonplace this week, especially along Milwaukee. *(Staff photo by Bill Oakes)*

By C.L. WALLER

"Look at the rain."

That's about all Wheeling Police Chief Michael Haeger could say as he surveyed the village Monday afternoon in a downpour that's become commonplace for Wheeling residents this week.

The Wheeling Police Department is certified to be the emergency services and disaster agency for the village and that certification is being tested as Wheeling was hit by heavy rains and flooding that began Friday.

"We're all set to go. It's just a matter of watching for the water to back up," Haeger said.

AND WATER BACKING up has made all the difference to residents here, whether they are counting their blessings in a relatively flood-free Meadowbrook Subdivision or wading hip-deep in the Fox Point Mobile Home Park.

What makes the flooding or near-flooding conditions unique is that water is backing up the Des Plaines River because it has nowhere to go to the south.

Those near the river have been watching warily as each drop of rain falls, adding to the already moving current that brings with it floodwaters from Lake County and Wisconsin.

> "I always said they should put a swimming pool in this place."
>
> *—Flood victim*

But the river isn't the whole story.

THE WHEELING DRAINAGE Ditc which passes through Heritage Pa Meadowbrook Subdivision and P Waukee Airport is nearing or already of its banks, holding up its reputatio being the first spot to flood in the villag

On Tuesday, residents with prop butting up along the drainage ditch aware the water was rising, but weren't worried.

At the same time the water was ris residents were optimistic because could look around them at the destru flooding has caused to the north and while they have been kept in a rela secure pocket.

Two residents with property next

(Continued on p

How do your schools rate?

We asked that question of 32 high schools in the three-county circulation area of Pioneer Press newspapers. The answers tell us a lot about educational quality and a community's willingness to pay for it.

From test scores and teacher evaluations to tax rates and books in the library, you'll find our story a real education on your community's education system. We found, for example, that class size does not necessarily mean higher test scores for students, but the bigger the school the broader the range of classes available.

The four-page special report begins on page 8.

# of health, warn

Five of the severe floc *photo by Jim*

logistics of setting up the testing centers and providing bottles to contain the water samples had not been worked out, however, Watkins said.

Flooded basements also present the hazard of electrical shock — especially if standing water has reached the level of the electrical outlets, warned Glencoe public works spokesman, Jerry Peterson. "When the water is that high, you really shouldn't be down there," unless the power to the house has been cut off completely, he said.

Commonwealth Edison spokesman Sam Badger agreed. "Use your head. It's the same thing as if you were standing in the bathtub," he said. Electrical appliances should not be used in wet areas and contact with electrical switches should be avoided, he added.

IN MOST CASES, there is nothing that can be done about flooded basements until the water in the sewer systems recedes. When that happens, the water should drain out itself within half an hour, Peterson said. If it doesn't, it may mean that the sewer line is blocked or clogged and the public works department may be needed to clear the line.

Special methods are needed to clean and disinfect a basement that has been flooded by a sanitary sewer backup, Braniezky said. The walls and floor area should be scrubbed with a strong solution of water and Lysol or a similar disinfectant. Wet furniture should also be cleaned with the solution and, if possible, set out to dry.

As a protective measure, rubber gloves should be worn by the person doing the cleaning.

High Fashion B
at discount store pr
Plus- FREE MEASURI
FREE ESTIMATE
FREE INSTALLA
FREE BLIND CL
Verticals
Pleated Shades & Sh
622-69
Shop at home and
KAIHARA BROT

Fox

(Continued fr
drainage ditc
the cause of t

"THIS W
different pat
has lived ne
years and a
used.

She said
occurred

N

I

Fox Point—

(Continued from page 23)

in his floor on Friday night.

Olsen packed up to stay with his mother.

Thelma Gouras is one of the lucky residents at Fox Point. With a three-foot foundation supporting her mobile home, she has not had flooding in her home.

STANDING ON THE landing outside her front door Tuesday and scanning the the water surrounding her trailer, she was able to joke about the predicament.

"I always said they should put a swimming pool in this place," she said.

Like most of the other residents, Gouras had been without electricity since Saturday. However, her neighbor, Bob Madigan, helped out by stringing an extension cord across from his home to supply power to Gouras' refrigerator.

Fox Point has been a home for 27 years to Mike Butrowski, but he said if the water that surrounds his home rises another eight inches, he is leaving. Butrowski said he has already packed all his belongings in case the water continues to rise.

AS FOR HIS two pet cats, Butrowski said, "They're going to have to fend for themselves."

Taking risks is what the flooding is all about at Pal-Waukee Airport.

The first words that crossed the airwaves from the Pal-Waukee control tower to pilots trying to land at the airport this week was that landing will be conducted at their own risk.

Pal-Waukee's first runway closed at 11 a.m. Friday and flooding continued getting worse all week with about a third of the 300-acre site under water on Tuesday, leaving about just one of five runways in operation.

"NOBODY'S EVER SEEN anything like this," said John Ostrowski, director of airport services.

After 23 years at Pal-Waukee, Ostrowski was able to drive along the grounds and point out each runway strip Tuesday afternoon, but to a newcomer it just looks like a lot of water.

"Most of this came up before we got the real hard rain," Ostrowski said.

"I had people calling me to see if we wanted to rent pumps and I said, 'Where am I going to pump it?' " he said.

With anywhere from 18 inches to four feet of water on runways, the second busiest airport in the state has shrunk to about 64 movements per day rather than 500 to 600 movements. Planes are now going to O'Hare, Waukegan or DuPage County airports, Ostrowski said.

"Most of the corporate jets left Monday," he said. Unlike residential worries, once the water has left Pal-Waukee, there will be no permanent damage. However, with corporate jets leaving Pal-waukee, there will be recorded business losses in field sales, Os ski said.

10-2-86

Fox Point homeowners take flooding in stride

Scenes like this one at the intersection of Milwauke Avenue and Hintz Road were commonplace this week, especially along Milwaukee. *(Staff photo by Bill Oakes)*

By C.L. WALLER

"Look at the rain."

That's about all Wheeling Police Chief Michael Haeger could say as he surveyed the village Monday afternoon in a downpour that's become commonplace for Wheeling residents this week.

The Wheeling Police Department is certified to be the emergency services and disaster agency for the village and that certification is being tested as Wheeling was hit by heavy rains and flooding that began Friday.

"We're all set to go. It's just a matter of watching for the water to back up," Haeger said.

AND WATER BACKING up has made all the difference to residents here, whether they are counting their blessings in a relatively flood-free Meadowbrook Subdivision or wading hip-deep in the Fox Point Mobile Home Park.

What makes the flooding or near-flooding conditions unique is that water is backing up the Des Plaines River because it has nowhere to go to the south.

Those near the river have been watching warily as each drop of rain falls, adding to the already moving current that brings with it floodwaters from Lake County and Wisconsin.

> **"I always said they should put a swimming pool in this place."**
>
> *—Flood victim*

But the river isn't the whole story.

THE WHEELING DRAINAGE Dit which passes through Heritage Pa Meadowbrook Subdivision and P Waukee Airport is nearing or already of its banks, holding up its reputatio being the first spot to flood in the villag

On Tuesday, residents with prop butting up along the drainage ditch aware the water was rising, but weren't worried.

At the same time the water was ri residents were optimistic because could look around them at the destru flooding has caused to the north and while they have been kept in a rela secure pocket.

Two residents with property next

(Continued on p

How do your schools rate?

We asked that question of 32 high schools in the three-county circulation area of Pioneer Press newspapers. The answers tell us a lot about educational quality and a community's willingness to pay for it.

From test scores and teacher evaluations to tax rates and books in the library, you'll find our story a real education on your community's education system. We found, for example, that class size does not necessarily mean higher test scores for students, but the bigger the school the broader the range of classes available.

The four-page special report begins on page 8.

Five of the six runways at Pal-Waukee Airport were closed early this week because of the severe flooding at the facility. About one-third of the 300-acre airport was under water. *(Staff photo by Jim Robinson)*

risk.
runway closed at 11
ıg continued getting
bout a third of the
'ater on Tuesday,
of five runways in

SEEN anything
owski, director of

aukee, Ostrowski
the grounds and
strip Tuesday
mer it just looks

fore we got the
said.
ne to see if we
I said, 'Where
e said.
inches to four
/s, the second
has shrunk to
ay rather than
lanes are now
an or DuPage
said.
ate jets left
ke residential
has left Pal-
ıo permanent
corporate jets
'ill be recorded
les. Os ski

Fox Point—

(Continued from page 5)

drainage ditch had similar thoughts about the cause of the flooding.

"THIS WHOLE THING is taking a different pattern," said one woman who has lived near the drainage ditch for 27 years and asked that her name not be used.

She said all the construction that has occurred north of Wheeling in communities like Buffalo Grove is causing more water to flow into the river because construction has now allowed water to go anywhere.

"Everything that happens upstream affects us," she said.

At the same time, she said Wheeling was the first village to get involved in flood control and in looking around it seems to be working, she said.

"IT'S AN ACT of man, not an act of God now," said Michael Weiner. The Weiners have been through five or six floods with their home near the drainage ditch.

The worst was in 1982 and after that the family bought flood insurance. That insurance has helped provide some security for the family. "We're not worried this time," Weiner said.

"When the backyard fills with water we will start putting stuff up," he said.

Maybe a prolonged residency and flood insurance provides the needed security in wet times like this.

BUT PEOPLE LIKE Frank Madonia may be having one of the most insecure experiences as a home owner.

Madonia moved to the Fox Point Mobile Home Park, located in unincorporated Wheeling on Milwaukee Avenue south of Dundee Road, about 10 days ago after

10-2-86

Flood!

Governor declares Wheeling a disaster area

By C.L. WALLER

Flooding in the Wheeling area is contributing to what may be the most costly disaster in Illinois' history, according to a spokesman from the Illinois Emergency Services and Disaster Agency (ESDA)

Wheeling Township was declared a state disaster area on Tuesday after Lake County was labeled a disaster area last week.

"We're looking at $25 to $30 million and possible topping $40 million (in damages)," said Gregg Durham, assistant to the director of the Illinois ESDA.

Durham said this will probably be the most costly disaster in the state because of the density of the area and the cost of homes and property in this part of the state.

THE GOVERNOR'S DECLARATION of a state disaster area is a prerequisite needed before the President Reagan declares an area a national disaster area, said Durham.

Once a federal disaster is declared, property can be reassessed in the area for tax purposes, Durham said. "I think we stand an excellent chance of getting a federal disaster area," he said.

While a small disaster fund has been opened for the cost of sandbags and use of Illinois Department of Transportation vehicles in the area, nothing else can be done until the water recedes, Durham said.

ESDA has asked federal teams to go into the area assess damages, but those assessments are only preliminary because the water has not gone down, he said.

John Gustin, who moved into the Fox Point Mobile Home Park five months ago, surveys the damage around his home. *(Staff photo by Jim Robinson)*

FLOODING BEGAN OVER the weekend in Wheeling with unincorporated properties along the Des Plaines River on the east side of the village getting the first brunt of flooding.

A spokesman for the National Weather Service said the northwest suburbs can expect continued precipitation through Sunday.

Fox Point Mobile Home Park is completely flooded and 43 units are reported damaged there. There have been no evacuations in the village, but the Meadowbrook subdivision near Wolf Road is being watched closely because it has flooded first in the past.

AS FOR BUSINESSES in the village, Pal-Waukee Airport moved about 30 planes this week to higher ground as a third of the 300-acre site went under water. Some spots at the airport are four feet deep while runways have about 18 inches of floodwater on them.

Half a runway was all that was left

(Continued on page 67)

Flood—

(Continued from page 5)

Tuesday out of five at the airport. 94th Aero Squadron Restaurant along Milwaukee Avenue and adjacent to the airport was closed at 5 p.m. Friday because the parking lot started to flood. The restaurant was completely surrounded by water during the weekend.

Traffic congestion during rush hours has increased on Dundee and Lake-Cook roads along with Wolf Road because of the Milwaukee Avenue closing earlier this week.

School District 21 has continued holding classes this week despite the flooding. Supt. John Barger said buses are running at least an hour late in some areas and there are a lot of absent students.

HOLMES JUNIOR HIGH School Principal Avi Poster said 100 of 670 students were missing from school Monday. Youths from Wheeling and Prospect Heights attend the school and some students stayed home to help their parents fill or haul sandbags, Poster said.

One parent called to say her children were staying home from school to help some elderly neighbors move items from their home. The principal said he did not object to that because youths are still learning about caring in that situation. "They will learn more from that than coming to school," Poster said.

Wheeling isn't necessarily an island in the storm, but officials there believe they have done the best they could to prepare for possible flooding.

"We're holding our own here," said Bob Issleb, superintendent of streets and sewers for the village.

PUBLIC WORKS CREWS have been monitoring the first-to-flood areas around the clock since Sunday. East Jeffrey Avenue and Meadowbrook Lane, both in the Meadowbrook subdivision are the critical areas in Wheeling, but the village has been preventing flooding of those streets with ongoing pumping, Issleb said.

Plus, every year the village works at cleaning debris and trees from the Wheeling Drainage Ditch that runs through the Meadowbrook subdivision and it is apparently helping, he said.

"Our water is still flowing and as long as it does that it's all right," said Bob Fialkowski, director of community development for Wheeling.

Village officials are having a difficult time predicting what flooding might happen next, though. During the last big flood in 1982, the Wheeling Drainage Ditch flooded, not the Des Plaines River, Fialkowski said. "That's the type of flooding we've had in the past and we can predict that," he said.

But the waters coming in to the area this time are caused by water backing up in the Des Plaines River with no place to go to the south, Fialkowski said.

Lakeside Circle in the Lakeside Villa subdivision was closed Tuesday because of three to four inches on the roadway, he said. While the water wasn't very deep, the street was blocked off because people can drive around the water, Issleb said.

Since Milwaukee Avenue had been closed this week because of flooding from the Des Plaines River, traffic is becoming more congested on Wolf Road and the village has been regularly pumping two to four inches off Wolf, he said.

Wheeling firefighters handed out leaflets Tuesday night to residents in flood-prone areas of the village telling them where they could get assistance, if the water begins getting close to their homes.

SANDBAGS ARE AVAILABLE from the village free of charge, but the village must first inspect the area before sandbags are handed out, Issleb said. He said about six residents were turned down Tuesday night because the water wasn't close to their homes.

So far the only sandbagging that has been done is on the east side of Milwaukee Avenue, he said. Two homes on Edgewood Drive have been sandbagged and sandbags were placed in the rear of Don Roth's Restaurant, he said.

Residents in the Shadowbend subdivision are still distant from the rising waters of the Des Plaines River, but Issleb said sandbags were placed around electrical boxes that are near the ground.

Residents seek insurance info

As the flood waters rise in Wheeling, home and car owners are trying to keep themselves from being swept away by the cost of repairing flood damage.

So many Wheeling residents are trying to find out what kind of insurance they can get for cars and homes damaged by the high water.

Tony Delisi, of Delisi Insurance, 212 S Milwaukee Ave., said he has received several calls from his customers and others asking for flood information and quotes about flood insurance for both homes and cars.

"I've received a lot of calls," Delisi said. "But we haven't had any claims so far. We've also had calls from other services and businesses about assessing flood damage."

Delisi said his company first takes an inventory of the interior of a customer's home and checks all the damage, and then tries to find out an insurance rate, which takes about a week.

He said the process takes so long because flood insurance has to be applied for through the federal government, so rates aren't available immediately.

Flood insurance is a separate insurance policy and is not covered under a regular homeowner's insurance policy, he said.

Many Wheeling residents are also looking into insurance claims for automobiles which have been damaged by water while parked on flooding streets.

"Flooding is covered on a regular (auto insurance) comprehensive policy," Delisi said.

NORTHWEST WHEELING

Saturday, October 4, 1986 Section 1—5

THE DAILY HERALD

Parks referendum in petitioners' hands

by Ginny Lee
and Liz Russell
Herald staff writers

A proposal by Wheeling park Commissioner James W. Gallagher that the district put a referendum on the April 1987 ballot asking voters whether to expand the board by two members was dropped by the rest of the board.

Although the board wouldn't go long with Gallagher's idea, he said e expects residents to collect enough gnatures on a petition to put a binding referendum on the ballot.

Park officials should save voters the time, money and effort necessary to garner petitions, he said.

"The resolution has died, but I would anticipate a petition drive," Gallagher said. "It's my feeling that some people in the community will petition successfully."

The proposal to expand the park board was first suggested by the district's citizens advisory committee, which asked the park board to use its power to increase the board membership from five to seven and to shorten the length of terms of six to four years.

While the board agreed to shorten the terms, they voted 3-1 last month against adding members to the board, sparking talk of a citizens' drive to put a referendum on the ballot by obtaining enough voter signatures on a petition.

Comissioner Julia D. Robberson said she needed more time to consider Gallagher's proposal.

"I HAVEN'T really given it a heck of a lot of thought," Robberson said. "I haven't made up my mind. I can see advantages and I can see disadvantages in it."

Robberson also said in a poll she conducted of districts that have increased their boards from five to seven members, most would like to go back to a five-member board. Robberson declined to name the park districts she polled.

Board President Anthony Abruscato had expressed opposition to the idea and said that other districts have found it cumbersome to have so many members. The board would be forced to increase the size of the board if voters passed a binding referendum calling for the increase.

Gallagher says it would be much easier for the board to put the referendum on the ballot and then let the voters decide wheth e board should be expanded.

He did not have detail ut how many signatures would uired or when they would hav sub- submitted to get the ques on the April 1987 election ballot.

Gallagher had suggest t the two additional board s voted in during the Nov election, rather than hav appoint two commissione

While Gallagher says know if it's possible to ho election of two park seats in ber 1987, he said, "I think it be cleaner" to elect rather than nt.

New shape sought for creek bank

by Wendy M. Winkelhake
Herald staff writer

Developers of a $60 million housing evelopment in Wheeling are asking he Illinois Department of Transporation for permission to reshape the channel of a creek running through the complex.

Lexington Development Co., which is converting the 131-acre Arlington Golf Club into a condominium, apartment and town house complex, has asked IDOT's Division of Water Resources for permits to reshape approximately 1,200 feet of banking along Buffalo Creek.

That work would involve cutting back slopes to avoid steep drops into the creek and prevent erosion problems, said Karen Kabbas, a division engineer working on Lexington's request for construction permits.

Work would be done to create a gradual slope to the creek, which also would allow for easier upkeep by landscaping crews, Kabbas said.

Kabbas said she expects Lexington's application for construction permits to be approved. Reshaping creek banks is common among developers looking to leave areas natural but reduce possible safety hazards, she said.

LEXINGTON DEVELOPMENT has asked for permission to do the work to make the area more aesthetically pleasing for residents, Lexington representative Annie Coolidge said. Two lakes also are located on the site and many large trees have been left near the buildings, she said.

Construction at the site, northeast of Buffalo Grove and Dundee roads in Wheeling, began about a year ago and the entire project is not expected to be completed for another two years, Coolidge said.

In all, 114 buildings will be constructed at the site. A total of 974 units, including apartments, condominiums and town houses, will be offered at the development. Some rental units already are occupied.

The project was originally presented to village officials in 1983 and won final approval in December 1984. During the time the were under consideration by village officials, hundreds of residents protested the development because they said it was too dense.

Following those protests, Lexington Development eventually dropped the density to 7.75 units per acre, down from the originally proposed 10 units per acre.

Park officials won't allow center to build driveway

by Dan Rozek
and Liz Russell
Herald staff writers

Wheeling Park District officials said they will not allow a beleaguered Prospect Heights day-care center to build a driveway across park district land.

Without the driveway, the Sunnie Kiddies Day Care Center, 1001 Oak St., may have to close.

Park officials do not want the driveway to go through the four-acre parcel because they are not sure yet what will be developed on the site, Acting Park Director John Muno said.

Officials do not want to restrict their options by allowing a driveway across some of the land, which lies just east of the center, he said.

"At this time, we're not interested in allowing the driveway," Muno said. "We don't know what plans we may have for the park."

The day-care center is operating from the former John Muir School, but has yet to win a required city permit that would allow it to stay open permanently.

MANY NEIGHBORS oppose the request for a permit, saying the facility does not belong in a residential area and should not be open now because no permit has been granted.

They also said traffic to and from the center, where about 270 children are enrolled, causes congestion on the residential streets that lead to the building.

City zoning officials agreed the traffic caused congestion on the side streets, particularly since all traffic into the center must use Drake or race to get to the facility.

Zoning officials gave Lomba o three months to develop a se d driveway into the site, saying with t a second driveway, they probably would not grant a permit to the facility. The only way to open another driveway, however, would be to cut across the park district land.

A second driveway also would have to traverse another parcel owned by the Prospect Heights Park District. Park officials from that district have not yet considered that proposal.

Lombardo could not be reached for comment and other day-care center officials declined to comment.

Another zoning hearing is set for later this year to determine the fate of the center.

Knee-deep in trouble

Many Wheeling-area residents have spent most of this week trying to cope with the flooding that result the heavy rainfall we've been experiencing. The flooding was most severe along Milwaukee Avenue and the high water backed up traffic, virtually shut down Pal-Waukee Airport and forced dozens of residents of a mobile home park to find safe refuge out of the area. Things were so bad that by Tuesday night Gov. James Thompson had declared Wheeling Township a disaster area, making area homeowners and businessmen who suffered flood damage eligible for low-interest loans.

Cars slowly make their way through a flooded Milwaukee Avenue Monday afternoon. *(Jerrold Howard photo)*

Thelma Gouras and Bob Madigan, residents in the Fox Point Mobile Home Park, survey the flood damage from Gouras' porch. *(Staff photo by Jim Robinson)*

Above, 5-year-old Ryan Corcoran pedals through the rising water Tuesday on East Jeffrey Street in the Meadowbrook subdivision. Below, air controller Bill Tracey, airport services director John Astrowski and air controller Karl Langer discuss the weather and visibility at the control tower at Pal-Waukee Airport, which was forced to close five of six runways Tuesday. *(Staff photos by Jim Robinson)*

On the cover

While a few parts of Wheeling, like Meadow Lane on the northeast edge of town, were hit hard by last week's flooding, most of the village escaped the high waters. Our coverage of the flooding that hit Wheeling is on pages 5,12,13 and 53.

Staff photo by Geoff Scheerer

Wheeling and dealing in Wheeling

8-10-86

Post-World War II village still growing

SUBURBAN FOCUS

By Brenda Warner Rotzoll

Twenty years ago a woman called the Chicago Daily News to complain bitterly because it identified her neighborhood as being in Wheeling.

She lived in unincorporated Cook County, she told an editor, and she and her

How floods affected Wheeling and other suburbs; Pages 4, 5.

neighbors considered nearby Wheeling residents as living "on the other side of the tracks."

The tracks still are there—backbone of a key industrial suburb—but Wheeling has become such a desirable place to live that nearly 90 percent of its residential land has been developed.

What started as a post-World War II blue-collar community has become at least half white-collar, with the proportion steadily changing, village officials said. Population has jumped from 916 in 1950 to 13,243 in 1970. Today, an estimated 26,647 people live in Wheeling.

"Developments in town are selling out as fast as they can build them," said Paul Boetsch of Boetsch Realty, a local real estate firm.

Its location near some of the nation's

Turn to Page 3

SUN-TIMES/Gene Pesek

Landscaped homes like this one are selling as fast as developers can build them in suburban Wheeling.

Wheeling and dealing in Wheeling

Continued from Page 1

most heavily traveled transportation arteries is the key to Wheeling's success. It stretches west from the Des Plaines River and Milwaukee Avenue, is close to the junction of Interstates 294 and 94, and is just seven miles north of O'Hare Airport and Interstate 90.

"There isn't as much traffic as there would be to go through from

Related story on Page 7.

an inner suburb to the city," said Terri Elzer of Boetsch Realty.

Many newcomers are young office workers, managers, or in industry, Boetsch and village officials said.

"Blue-collar workers are heading west and north. We're getting priced

wood said half of Wheeling's eight square miles of land is zoned residential; the rest is industrial-commercial.

"We're probably 80 percent to 90 percent built out" for housing, but half the industrial land still is available for development, Greenwood said.

Wheeling boasts 40 restaurants, among them Le Francais, often called the nation's best French restaurant. Chef-owner Jean Banchet said sheer chance led him to locate in Wheeling 10 years ago, because he needed an affordable small restaurant in the suburbs.

The original building burned eight years ago and was replaced with a small but elegant brick structure a few blocks up Milwaukee Avenue from Pal-Waukee Airport, the na-

Dundee and Elmhurst roads.

Boetsch, whose family were farmers, recalled buying his first house in Wheeling in 1958 for $17,000.

"That house would sell today at $85,000. The one we bought for $32,000 in 1966 would sell at about $145,000 right now," he said.

Richard J. Brown, president of Cambridge Homes, went into business for himself 25 years ago and built his first project in Wheeling.

"In those exciting days the homes were selling in the range of $16,990 to $22,990. Today they're reselling for close to $100,000," he said.

Base prices for new construction today ranges from about $72,000 for the smallest condominium unit to $154,000 for a four-bedroom

Where to go for housing

Hundreds of new single-family homes and cluster condominiums are under construction in Wheeling.

Here are the major subdivisions that still have housing for sale:

- **The Arlington Club.** Lexington Homes is building 544 cluster condos. Units have one to three bedrooms, one to 2½ baths and 950 to 1,748 square feet of living area. Base prices range from $78,990 to $168,590. On Cobbler Lane off Buffalo Grove Road, just north of Dundee Road.
- **Eastchester Estates.** Scarsdale Development Ltd. is building 66 semi-custom three- and four-bedroom homes in colonial and ranch styles. The homes, many with open foyer and vaulted ceilings, range in size from 1,715 to 2,435 square feet. Base prices: $129,000 to $155,000. On Eastchester Road just north of Hintz Road and east of Elmhurst Road.
- **Kingsport Commons.** Meister-Neiberg is building 105 two-story condominiums in 25 buildings. Units have two or three bedrooms, 1½ or two baths and 1,180 to 1,444 square feet of space. Base prices are $84,700 to $94,900. On Denoyer Trail and McHenry Road, three blocks north of Dundee Road.
- **Pole Run.** Pulte Homes Corp. is building cluster condos and single-family

These are BIG homes with BIG rooms and floor plans designed for entertaining

In this lovely setting, Primus is building the highest quality single family homes in Fernwood Lakes

excavation work," said Gronow, director of sales and marketing for the Kennedy Group.

Builders said many families planning to buy new homes in the suburbs are concerned about potential flooding.

Brown said he doesn't believe any new residential subdivisions are built in floodplains (i.e., flood zones defined on the basis of risk, which establishes premium insurance rates and mandates for new construction).

"If there are any, some may have portions of the community in a floodplain, which are usually designated as a park, nature preserve, lake or other types of water reten-

"Most of the communities are engineered to prevent flooding. At one of our subdivisions [Pembrook in Gurnee] we have three retention basins to control any runoff water. These basins were full after the

"One of the obvious things to look for is whether the subdivision is near a body of water, such as a river or lake, or near a floodplain.

Roger Gatewood, president of Westfield Development Corp., advises concerned home buyers and owners to talk with their village engineer and ask if there has been any problems in the past.

flood," has a 1 percent probability of being equalled or exceeded in any given year.

Wheeling industry gets condo-mania

By Brenda Warner Rotzoll

Industry is going condo in Wheeling.

"We've got three high-tech developments for industrial condos going real strong now," said Paul Boetsch, owner of Boetsch Realty.

The condo complexes provide space for smaller industries and businesses that service major industrial firms in and around the northwest suburb.

"There are a lot of large industrial buildings in the Wheeling area," Boetsch said.

He said examples of companies buying or leasing smaller condo offices or office-factory buildings are printing companies; heating and air-conditioning shops; insurance agencies; a window glass company; an overhead garage door firm; a mailing service, and small machine shops.

"Prices start at $72,500 for a finished office and warehouse with 1,250 square feet. These are real popular. We can sell them or lease them. Primarily they've been selling," Boetsch said.

He said area residents have been buying the condo industrial buildings so that they can conduct business near their homes, rather than commute to Chicago.

Industrial zones run roughly north to south through the middle of the village, following the Soo Line railroad tracks and spurs. Interstates 294, 94 and 90 all are within a few minutes' drive, O'Hare Airport is seven miles south, and a piggyback freight-loading facility is 15 miles away.

The 1986 Illinois Manufacturers Directory lists 195 manufacturing firms in Wheeling, said publisher Howard S. Dubin.

The largest company is Ekco Products, the kitchenwares giant. Ekco's Wheeling plant employs 800 people. In the same field, E-Z-Por Corp., which employs 300, produces bakeware, cookware and tableware.

Other major employers are in such fields as printing, machine parts, hospital supplies, electrical parts, and paints and chemical coatings.

Wheeling has nearly 200 commercial establishments with gross sales in excess of $210 million.

There are nine strip shopping centers. Village manager Tom Markus said Wheeling plans to buy land on the northwest corner of Milwaukee Avenue and Dundee Road to develop a larger retail center.

Wheeling is a short drive from four major shopping malls: Golf Mill, Randhurst, Hawthorne and Northbrook Court.

10-86

Will Wheeling pitch in for

Oct. 1

by Joan Fleischer

Herald staff writer

The village of Wheeling could become the first community to say "yes" to a proposed "state-of-the-art" 225-acre balefill near Bartlett aimed at easing garbage woes in the Northwest suburbs.

Village trustees tentatively agreed to politically and financially support the proposed high-tech garbage dump. A formal vote is planned at Monday's board meeting at 8 p.m. at village hall, 255 W. Dundee Road.

Trustees and village staff members met with Northwest Municipal Conference representatives this week to discuss the proposed solution to ward off a potential suburban garbage crisis. Proponents say the balefill is needed before all area landfills are closed and communities face expensive hauling fees to take garbage to landfills farther away.

Village Manger Thomas M. Markus is recommending Wheeling be among the first to give $7,800 to back the conference's efforts to win approval from the Cook County Zoning Board o
posed balefil
"It is stat
most viable
said.
CONFERE
seeking to co
29 local me
mount an a
get the po
balefill off t
would be ea
consultant fee
"It seems
may take pl

·LOAN·
CASH OVER THE PHON
FAST CLOSINGS
■ No application fees.
■ No income or job verif
■ No prepayment penal
1-800-
7 DA
Preferred
"You de

Stavros must pay $22,500

By MARIE LUTZ
Staff Writer

Wheeling was reminded of an era it might prefer to forget last week when the village reached a settlement in a suit against James Stavros who was convicted in the middle '70s of extorting money from developers.

John M. Burke, the attorney who represented Wheeling in the case, said Stavros agreed to pay $22,500 to settle the suit, which had originally asked for $93,000, the amount of money Burke said Stavros admitted taking from builders.

Stavros, who is a former Wheeling Township Democratic committeeman, had been indicted about 1974 along with Wheeling's former building director William Bieber and former trustee William Hart.

In a separate move that was unusual at the time, the village in 1976 filed a suit against Stavros, Bieber, Hart, and five builders the village charged paid money to get favors.

This case was one of the first of its kind, Burke said. Of course it was illegal to solicit bribes, he said, but municipalities had only rarely attempted to recover damages in a civil suit.

About 1978, a First Circuit Court judge dismissed Wheeling's suit but that ruling was reversed on appeal and the case was sent back to the Circuit Court.

Over the years, the suits against the defendants were settled and some of them paid the village money, Burke said. The Stavros case was the last to be resolved.

Village President Sheila Schultz said the suit was an appropriate one.

"There was harm done to the village, and there was a responsibility," she said. "The persons responsible needed to accept that responsibility and that has been done."

Burke described Stavros' crime as telling potential developers that if they wanted to build in Wheeling they would have to give him money. He was able to convince them he had power, Burke said, adding, "things seemed to work when you paid Jimmy Stavros."

Following the indictments of Stavros and the others a reform slate was elected to the Village Board in 1975.

Today, Schultz said, the village has established an open government and the reform aspect of the current ruling party has disappeared in favor of working together to achieve common goals.

Schultz said the length of time the Stavros case had dragged on was a prime reason the village agreed to settle.

Oct. 1986

Two companies ask Village Board for tax exemption

Oct 1986

Two more companies have applied for 6B tax exemptions, which would reduce their property taxes to 16 percent for eight years and then to 30 percent for an additional four years.

The companies, Quintel Inc. and Spectra Tool, both want to relocate in the Pal-Waukee Business Center.

Quintel, a Chicago firm that assembles watches, plans to occupy a 30,000-square-foot building.

Spectra, an Elk Grove Village Company, would occupy part of a 38,000-square-foot building and lease out the rest.

At a public hearing Oct. 14, some trustees objected to Spectra leasing space to companies which would get 6B exemptions without Village Board approval. But Spectra agreed to present potential tenants to the board.

Both companies indicated that without the reduced taxes 6B would give them, they would not relocate in Wheeling. The Village Board will vote on the requests at a later date.

Best bookmarker will win

The Indian Trails Library is accepting originally designed - for its bookmark contest, at 355 S. Schoenbeck Road.

The bookmarkers will be given to children during National Children's Book Week, Nov. 16 through 22.

Prizes will be awarded in two categories: and fourth-graders and up.

Pick up entry sized paper and instructions at the library. Entries must be submitted by Sunday, Nov. 2.

For information, call 459-4100.

Eatery OK a step forward: village

by Cheryl terHorst
and Freida Gad
Herald staff writer

Herald staff writers Approval of an upscale Mexican restaurant in a Milwaukee Avenue redevelopment area is bringing Wheeling one step closer to revamping the downtown corridor, officials say.

Construction should begin on the Casa Lupita restaurant in early November. The village board unanimously approved rezoning for the property at the northwest corner of Milwaukee Avenue and Manchester Drive.

"We're trying to upgrade the existing commercial property and attract new high-quality commercial development to the corridor," Community Development Director Robert W. Fialkowski said, adding that the restaurant fits right into the plans.

"It's a brand new building, nice decorations, a significant enough size and substantial value," he said. "It's not a fast-food restaurant."

THE 2.5-ACRE parcel was zoned for residences but remained vacant. Village officials agreed to rezone it for commercial development, saying it is better suited for business.

A new office building recently was constructed across the street from the Casa Lupita site, which is next to the Wheeling Nursery. Another Mexican restaurant across the street, Restaurant Mexico and before that La Cucaracha, went out of business recently and the building is vacant.

Casa Lupita will be a full-service

(Continued on Page 5)

10-68

Wheeling approves restaurant

(Continued from Page 1)

restaurant with seating for 200 and a bar, said Rosemary Kakas of Casa Lupita Restaurants Inc. "It's sort of an upscale Chi-Chi's," she said. An open patio facing Milwaukee Avenue will be an added feature.

A Casa Lupita in Naperville is doing very well, as part of the 25-restaurant chain, she said. The restaurants, a subsidiary of Ponderosa Inc., are spread throughout the Midwest and in Florida and the state of Washington.

KAKAS SAID construction will begin as soon as the company can get a building permit. Company officials hope to open the restaurant in the spring of 1987.

Restaurant officials were granted a liquor license, but with a warning.

"It's the board's policy with the police department to monitor underage alcohol purchases," Village Manager Thomas M. Markus said. "You should know that right up front. Some franchises have not fared very well."

The Ohio-based company will invest $2 million in the restaurant and officials anticipate hiring 135 to 150 employees.

The restaurant is in a special taxing district enveloping the downtown redevelopment area. Once the restaurant is built, the village will collect the difference between taxes paid on the land before it was built and the taxes after it is completed, which will be much higher because the property will be assessed at a higher rate.

The village is using the money to redevelop the downtown area, which includes plans to redo sidewalks and some roads and to upgrade landscaping. Currently, some of the money is being used for a Sportmart shopping center project on the northwest corner of Milwaukee Avenue and Dundee Road, Fialkowski said.

Oct 1986

Cable access beams local productions

(Continued from page 1)

cers who use six different studios. There is a waiting list to get into the free Cablenet training programs, said Paul Morris, Cablenet's community access coordinator.

Peggy Busch, cable coordinator for the Northwest Municipal Conference, said the Conference itself tries to produce at least two new programs a month. The access channels are being used, she said.

But do many people watch these local channels? It doesn't matter, Busch said.

don't care how many people are watching because it's not commercially supported," Busch said. "The cable industry is 'narrowcasting,' it's not broadcasting. People can show their little kids' soccer team tryouts if they want."

Currently, some community access channels have little more than canned music and printed material of upcoming events.

Few communities are televising village board meetings. In the Chicago-area communities that have Cablenet franchises, only Streamwood televises meetings of its village board, Morris said.

Lower cable company profits may hinder their ability to expand community access.

Tom Hall, executive director of Glenview and Northbrook's North Shore Cable Commission, said that across the country, public access is suffering because of cutbacks in quality of equipment and the number of people allocated to help put on community programs. There have even been reductions in the number of assigned public access channels, Hall said.

Oct 1986

Wheeling appears ready to support landfill plan

By BOB KEHOE
and KARL LEIF BATES

Wheeling officials appear ready to kick in $7,800 as their initial contribution to begin work on obtaining a new landfill site and waste disposal system to serve the area.

The contribution would be a down payment on the estimated $35 million it will take for Wheeling and 35 other Northwest Municipal Conference (NWMC) member communities to acquire and develop a 225-acre abandoned gravel pit in Hanover Township in unincorporated Cook County.

Wheeling's $7,800 contribution and an additional $270,000 from other NWMC communities would be used to make a landfill presentation before the Cook County Zoning Board. Total costs to each NWMC community to go through with land acquisition and other zoning board steps is estimated at $110,000.

Although the Wheeling Village Board won't vote on the funding until Monday, Sheila Schultz, village president and NWMC president, said she is optimistic the plan will be approved not only by her board but other NWMC municipalities as well.

BUT MORE THAN needing only financial support for the plan, NWMC leaders told Wheeling officials Monday night they are counting on political backing and stepped up lobbying efforts from member communities to help beat back the certain tide of opposition that inevitably surfaces any time a landfill operation is proposed.

"Without the political support (including lobbying Cook County boad candidates to make them aware of the waste disposal problem in NWMC communities) there is no need to write the check," William Abolt, NWMC landfill project coordinator, told the Wheeling board at a committee-of-the-whole meeting Monday.

Abolt hammered home that point after spending more than an hour detailing how the proposed balefill system would operate in a more efficient manner than present landfill operations that serve NWMC members.

The balefill system calls for setting up two centrally-located dumping centers at which garbage from member communities would be brought and then compressed into one-ton square-shaped bales.

ONCE COMPRESSED, THE squares would be loaded onto flatbed trucks and transported to the landfill site where they would be stacked in 10-acre sections and then covered up.

Aside from the economic advantages of the balefill system, which requires far less equipment to operate, Abolt said it would be environmentally far superior to present systems in which trash is hauled by member disposal company trucks to landfill sites where the refuse is then compacted.

The present system typically results in garbage blowing around the site, rodent and odor problems, Abolt said, adding those problems would be eliminated under the balefill plan.

The empty gravel pit would be lined with clay and outfitted with collection pipes to prevent water runoff from contaminating ground water supplies and reaching the buried garbage, he said.

AS AN ADDED protection, each dumping site would be limited to about 10 acres, rather than the 100-acre sites typically used today, Abolt said. Thus, if a problem did arise in the future, it would be much easier to correct and minimize any damage, he said.

The balefill system, while generally regarded as a major improvement over present disposal systems being used by the NWMC, is not the only alternative. Some NWMC members, including Palatine Village President Frank R Munch, think incineration is the way to go.

Incineration may eventually be the best disposal solution, but at present it is too costly and would take too long to implement, according to Abolt.

Incineration costs can run two to three times that of a landfill, would take five years to bring on line, and also has raised concerns over dioxins and other emissions the system can generate, according to the NWMC report.

FINDING A LONG-TERM disposal solution is imperative for the NWMC, which reports that two landfill sites in north and northwest Cook County have already closed, with the last one in the area — the Techny landfill site near Northbrook — set to close within 18 months.

When Techny closes there will be only one Cook County landfill north of Roosevelt Road, that being in Hillside.

But while all NWMC members agree there is a disposal problem, there are differing assessments on whether the conference can overcome opposition that is bound to mount over any plan that is put forth.

In fact, opposition to the present NWMC plan has already been reported in the Elgin and South Elgin areas near the proposed site.

SCHULTZ, FOR ONE, though, is confident this plan will move forward.

"Nowhere has the quality of this plan been questioned. This is really a good faith effort to solve the problem. I'm more impressed with the plan as this goes along," Schultz said.

Another key component to this landfill plan is that once the landfill is closed NWMC officials can convert the site to an alternative use. Three proposed uses include a regional equestrian horse center, a wildlife center, and a golf course.

Cable hearing is scheduled

The Northwest Municipal Cable Council will hold a public hearing to evaluate Cablenet at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 19, at the Mount Prospect Senior Center, 50 S. Emerson, Mount Prospect.

The hearing is open to residents in Arlington Heights, Bartlett, Wheeling, Des Plaines, Hanover Park, Mount Prospect, Park Ridge, Prospect Heights, and Schaumburg. Its purpose will be to listen to comments, concerns and opinions of residents regarding Cablenet's performance.

The hearing is one aspect of a five-year performance evaluation the council is making of Cablenet as called for in the cable franchises.

LIFE 10-30-86

Wheeling and dealing in Wheeling

Post-World War II village still growing

SUBURBAN FOCUS

By Brenda Warner Rotzoll

Twenty years ago a woman called the Chicago Daily News to complain bitterly because it identified her neighborhood as being in Wheeling.

She lived in unincorporated Cook County, she told an editor, and she and her

How floods affected Wheeling and other suburbs; Pages 4, 5.

neighbors considered nearby Wheeling residents as living "on the other side of the tracks."

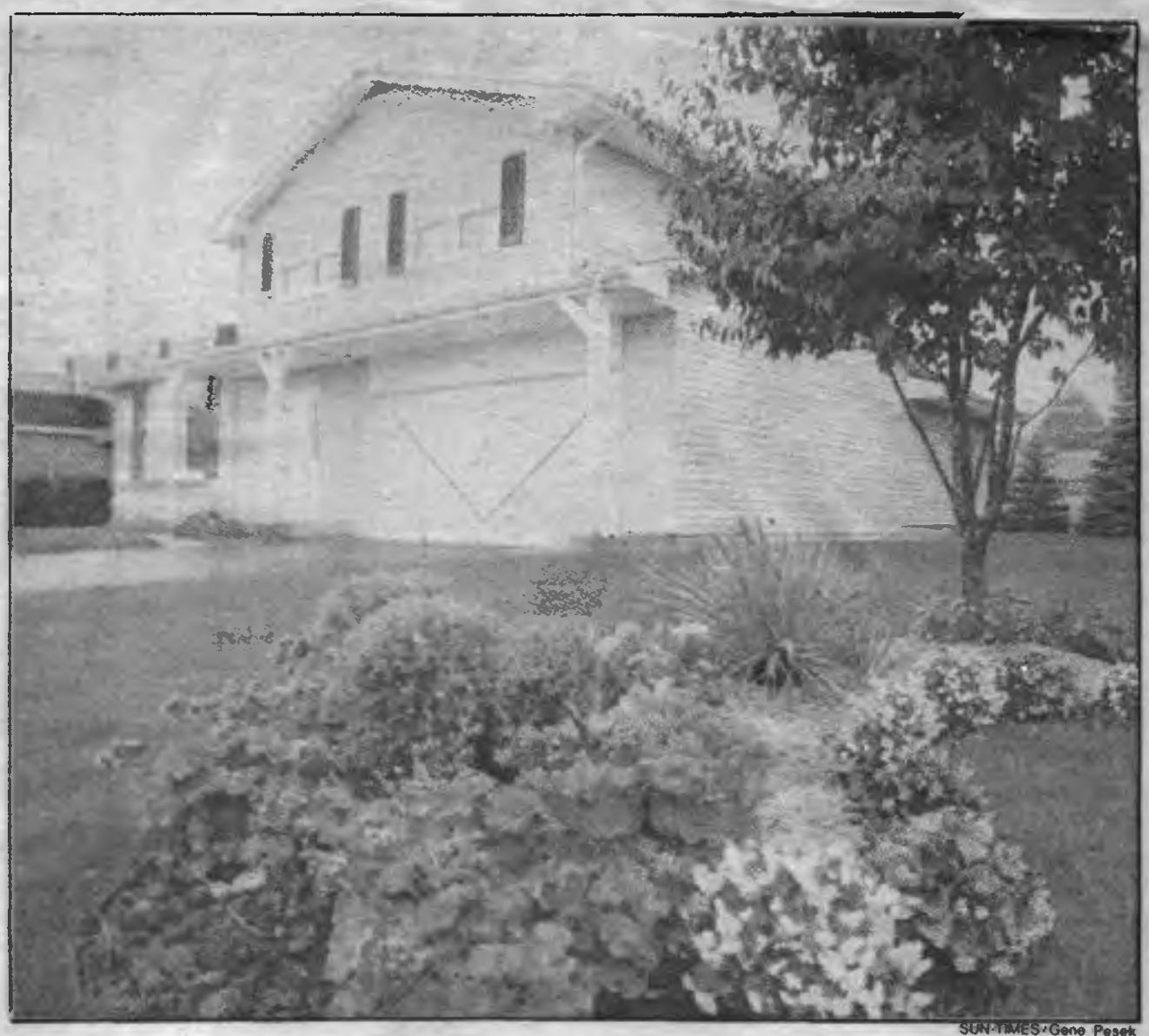
The tracks still are there—backbone of a key industrial suburb—but Wheeling has become such a desirable place to live that nearly 90 percent of its residential land has been developed.

What started as a post-World War II blue-collar community has become at least half white-collar, with the proportion steadily changing, village officials said. Population has jumped from 916 in 1950 to 13,243 in 1970. Today, an estimated 26,647 people live in Wheeling.

"Developments in town are selling out as fast as they can build them," said Paul Boetsch of Boetsch Realty, a local real estate firm.

Its location near some of the nation's

Turn to Page 3



SUN-TIMES/Gene Pesek

Landscaped homes like this one are selling as fast as developers can build them in suburban Wheeling.

Wheeling and dealing in Wheeling

Continued from Page 1

most heavily traveled transportation arteries is the key to Wheeling's success. It stretches west from the Des Plaines River and Milwaukee Avenue, is close to the junction of Interstates 294 and 94, and is just seven miles north of O'Hare Airport and Interstate 90.

"There isn't as much traffic as there would be to go through from

Related story on Page 7.

an inner suburb to the city," said Terri Elzer of Boetsch Realty.

Many newcomers are young office workers, managers, or in high-tech industry, Boetsch and village officials said.

"Blue-collar workers are heading west and north. We're getting priced out of their range," Boetsch said.

"I think our image is we are a fairly diversified community in terms of housing stock and land usage. We're tending to be more progressive in promoting quality development," said village manager Tom Markus.

Wheeling had huge industrial growth in the 1970s and now is attempting to switch its emphasis to commercial building, Markus said.

Village Planner Richard Greenwood said half of Wheeling's eight square miles of land is zoned residential; the rest is industrial-commercial.

"We're probably 80 percent to 90 percent built out" for housing, but half the industrial land still is available for development, Greenwood said.

Wheeling boasts 40 restaurants, among them Le Francais, often called the nation's best French restaurant. Chef-owner Jean Banchet said sheer chance led him to locate in Wheeling 10 years ago, because he needed an affordable small restaurant in the suburbs.

The original building burned eight years ago and was replaced with a small but elegant brick structure a few blocks up Milwaukee Avenue from Pal-Waukee Airport, the nation's busiest private airport.

"I didn't even think when I bought the place people would fly in to eat dinner at my place," Banchet said.

Wheeling was a rest stop for stage travelers from Milwaukee to Chicago during the 19th century, but otherwise was farm country.

It joined the post-World War II building boom about 1955, when developer Red Herzog built the first major subdivision in the village at Dundee and Elmhurst roads.

Boetsch, whose family were farmers, recalled buying his first house in Wheeling in 1958 for $17,000.

"That house would sell today at $85,000. The one we bought for $32,000 in 1966 would sell at about $145,000 right now," he said.

Richard J. Brown, president of Cambridge Homes, went into business for himself 25 years ago and built his first project in Wheeling.

"In those exciting days the homes were selling in the range of $16,990 to $22,990. Today they're reselling for close to $100,000," he said.

Base prices for new construction today ranges from about $72,000 for the smallest condominium unit to $154,000 for a four-bedroom, single-family house.

Fancy apartment complexes also are springing up. At Woodland Creek, near the junction of Wheeling and Palatine Roads, renters can enjoy a lake, woods, indoor and outdoor pools and various sports facilities.

The development has 450 units completed and another 270 under construction. Rents range from $770 for a one-bedroom apartment with small kitchen and bath, to $1,100 for two bedrooms, two baths and den, plus balcony, fireplace and view.

During the first eight months of 1986, the village issued construction permits for 115 houses and 668 multifamily units.

Wheeling has 11 parks. One of the largest, Heritage Park, is in the middle of town.

John Muno, acting superintendent of the district, said Wheeling has 245 acres of parkland, with a village museum, golf course and clubhouse.

There are three outdoor basketball courts, six baseball diamonds, two football fields, two ice skating rinks, three designated picnic areas, seven playgrounds, five recreation buildings, eight soccer fields, an indoor swimming pool, and six lighted tennis courts.

SUN-TIMES/Gene Pesek

Low-rise condos at Kimball Hill's Ridgefield Lane, one of several developments in Wheeling, are almost sold out.

Where to go for housing

Hundreds of new single-family homes and cluster condominiums are under construction in Wheeling.

Here are the major subdivisions that still have housing for sale:

- **The Arlington Club.** Lexington Homes is building 544 cluster condos. Units have one to three bedrooms, one to 2½ baths and 950 to 1,748 square feet of living area. Base prices range from $78,990 to $168,590. On Cobbler Lane off Buffalo Grove Road, just north of Dundee Road.
- **Eastchester Estates.** Scarsdale Development Ltd. is building 66 semi-custom three- and four-bedroom homes in colonial and ranch styles. The homes, many with open foyer and vaulted ceilings, range in size from 1,715 to 2,435 square feet. Base prices: $129,000 to $155,000. On Eastchester Road just north of Hintz Road and east of Elmhurst Road.
- **Kingsport Commons.** Meister-Neiberg is building 105 two-story condominiums in 25 buildings. Units have two or three bedrooms, 1½ or two baths and 1,180 to 1,444 square feet of space. Base prices are $84,700 to $94,900. On Denoyer Trail and McHenry Road, three blocks north of Dundee Road.
- **Polo Run.** Pulte Homes Corp. is building cluster condos and single-family houses. The 132 condo units have one bedroom and a den or two bedrooms, and 852 to 1,276 square feet. Base prices: $70,990 to $84,990. There will be 130 single-family homes with two or three bedrooms, 1½ to 2½ baths, and 1,334 to 1,682 square feet of space. Base prices: $114,990 to $124,990. On Pleasant Run off Wheeling Road, just north of Palatine Road.
- **Ridgefield Lane.** Only two of 68 units remain for sale this week in a cluster condominium development by Kimball Hill. A two-bedroom, one-bath ranch model with 950 square feet is base priced at $78,300. A two-bedroom, 2½-bath model with 1,287 square feet is base priced at $96,144. On Weeping Willow off Wheeling Road, just south of Hintz Road.

Brenda Warner Rotzoll

SUN-TIMES/Jack Jordan

Wheeling was a rest stop for stage travelers from Milwaukee to Chicago during the 19th century.

Wheeling industry gets condo-mania

By Brenda Warner Rotzoll

Industry is going condo in Wheeling.

"We've got three high-tech developments for industrial condos going real strong now," said Paul Boetsch, owner of Boetsch Realty.

The condo complexes provide space for smaller industries and businesses that service major industrial firms in and around the northwest suburb.

"There are a lot of large industrial buildings in the Wheeling area," Boetsch said.

He said examples of companies buying or leasing smaller condo offices or office-factory buildings are printing companies; heating and air-conditioning shops; insurance agencies; a window glass company; an overhead garage door firm; a mailing service, and small machine shops.

"Prices start at $72,500 for a finished office and warehouse with 1,250 square feet. These are real popular. We can sell them or lease them. Primarily they've been selling," Boetsch said.

He said area residents have been buying the condo industrial buildings so that they can conduct business near their homes, rather than commute to Chicago.

Industrial zones run roughly north to south through the middle of the village, following the Soo Line railroad tracks and spurs. Interstates 294, 94 and 90 all are within a few minutes' drive. O'Hare Airport is seven miles south, and a piggyback freight-loading facility is 15 miles away.

The 1986 Illinois Manufacturers Directory lists 195 manufacturing firms in Wheeling, said publisher Howard S. Dubin.

The largest company is Ekco Products, the kitchenwares giant. Ekco's Wheeling plant employs 800 people. In the same field, E-Z-Por Corp., which employs 300, produces bakeware, cookware and tableware.

Other major employers are in such fields as printing, machine parts, hospital supplies, electrical parts, and paints and chemical coatings.

Wheeling has nearly 200 commercial establishments with gross sales in excess of $210 million.

There are nine strip shopping centers. Village manager Tom Markus said Wheeling plans to buy land on the northwest corner of Milwaukee Avenue and Dundee Road to develop a larger retail center.

Wheeling is a short drive from four major shopping malls: Golf Mill, Randhurst, Hawthorne and Northbrook Court.

10-86

Oct. 1986

Will Wheeling pitch in for Bartlett balefill?

by Joan Fleischer
Herald staff writer

The village of Wheeling could become the first community to say "yes" to a proposed "state-of-the-art" 225-acre balefill near Bartlett aimed at easing garbage woes in the Northwest suburbs.

Village trustees tentatively agreed to politically and financially support the proposed high-tech garbage dump. A formal vote is planned at Monday's board meeting at 8 p.m. at village hall, 255 W. Dundee Road.

Trustees and village staff members met with Northwest Municipal Conference representatives this week to discuss the proposed solution to ward off a potential suburban garbage crisis. Proponents say the balefill is needed before all area landfills are closed and communities face expensive hauling fees to take garbage to landfills farther away.

Village Manger Thomas M. Markus is recommending Wheeling be among the first to give $7,800 to back the conference's efforts to win approval from the Cook County Zoning Board of Appeals for the proposed balefill.

"It is staff's opinion that this is most viable and best plan," Markus said.

CONFERENCE OFFICIALS are seeking to collect $226,200 from the 29 local member communities to mount an aggressive campaign to get the potentially controversial balefill off the ground. The money would be earmarked for legal and consultant fees.

"It seems likely that legal action may take place," said Bill Abolt, project coordinator for the conference. "This is a plan to move garbage quickly off the streets in a strikingly neater, more controlled, environmentally sound and efficient manner. It is unique to the state, and possibly the country."

One of the existing landfills Wheeling uses, the Techny facility in Northfield, is expected to close in the next 18 months. The other one it uses, the Mallard Lake landfill in Bloomingdale, is proposing a 31 percent rate hike.

Stavros must pay $22,500

By MARIE LUTZ
Staff Writer

Wheeling was reminded of an era it might prefer to forget last week when the village reached a settlement in a suit against James Stavros who was convicted in the middle '70s of extorting money from developers.

John M. Burke, the attorney who represented Wheeling in the case, said Stavros agreed to pay $22,500 to settle the suit, which had originally asked for $93,000, the amount of money Burke said Stavros admitted taking from builders.

Stavros, who is a former Wheeling Township Democratic committeeman, had been indicted about 1974 along with Wheeling's former building director William Bieber and former trustee William Hart.

In a separate move that was unusual at the time, the village in 1976 filed a suit against Stavros, Bieber, Hart, and five builders the village charged paid money to get favors.

This case was one of the first of its kind, Burke said. Of course it was illegal to solicit bribes, he said, but municipalities had only rarely attempted to recover damages in a civil suit.

About 1978, a First Circuit Court judge dismissed Wheeling's suit but that ruling was reversed on appeal and the case was sent back to the Circuit Court.

Over the years, the suits against the defendants were settled and some of them paid the village money, Burke said. The Stavros case was the last to be resolved.

Village President Sheila Schultz said the suit was an appropriate one.

"There was harm done to the village, and there was a responsibility," she said. "The persons responsible needed to accept that responsibility and that has been done."

Burke described Stavros' crime as telling potential developers that if they wanted to build in Wheeling they would have to give him money. He was able to convince them he had power, Burke said, adding, "things seemed to work when you paid Jimmy Stavros."

Following the indictments of Stavros and the others a reform slate was elected to the Village Board in 1975.

Today, Schultz said, the village has established an open government and the reform aspect of the current ruling party has disappeared in favor of working together to achieve common goals.

Schultz said the length of time the Stavros case had dragged on was a prime reason the village agreed to settle.

Oct. 1986

Two companies ask Village Board for tax exemption

Oct 1986

Two more companies have applied for 6B tax exemptions, which would reduce their property taxes to 16 percent for eight years and then to 30 percent for an additional four years.

The companies, Quintel Inc. and Spectra Tool, both want to relocate in the Pal-Waukee Business Center.

Quintel, a Chicago firm that assembles watches, plans to occupy a 30,000-square-foot building.

Spectra, an Elk Grove Village Company, would occupy part of a 38,000-square-foot building and lease out the rest.

At a public hearing Oct. 14, some trustees objected to Spectra leasing space to companies which would get 6B exemptions without Village Board approval. But Spectra agreed to present potential tenants to the board.

Both companies indicated that without the reduced taxes 6B would give them, they would not relocate in Wheeling. The Village Board will vote on the requests at a later date.

Best bookmarker will win

The Indian Trails Library is accepting originally designed - for its bookmark contest, at 355 S. Schoenbeck Road.

The bookmarkers will be given to children during National Children's Book Week, Nov. 16 through 22.

Prizes will be awarded in two categories: and fourth-graders and up.

Pick up entry sized paper and instructions at the library. Entries must be submitted by Sunday, Nov. 2.

For information, call 459-4100.

Eatery OK a step forward: village

by Cheryl terHorst
and Freida Gad
Herald staff writer

Herald staff writers Approval of an upscale Mexican restaurant in a Milwaukee Avenue redevelopment area is bringing Wheeling one step closer to revamping the downtown corridor, officials say.

Construction should begin on the Casa Lupita restaurant in early November. The village board unanimously approved rezoning for the property at the northwest corner of Milwaukee Avenue and Manchester Drive.

"We're trying to upgrade the existing commercial property and attract new high-quality commercial development to the corridor," Community Development Director Robert W. Fialkowski said, adding that the restaurant fits right into the plans.

"It's a brand new building, nice decorations, a significant enough size and substantial value," he said. "It's not a fast-food restaurant."

THE 2.5-ACRE parcel was zoned for residences but remained vacant. Village officials agreed to rezone it for commercial development, saying it is better suited for business.

A new office building recently was constructed across the street from the Casa Lupita site, which is next to the Wheeling Nursery. Another Mexican restaurant across the street, Restaurant Mexico and before that La Cucaracha, went out of business recently and the building is vacant.

Casa Lupita will be a full-service

(Continued on Page 5)

10-68

Wheeling approves restaurant

(Continued from Page 1)

restaurant with seating for 200 and a bar, said Rosemary Kakas of Casa Lupita Restaurants Inc. "It's sort of an upscale Chi-Chi's," she said. An open patio facing Milwaukee Avenue will be an added feature.

A Casa Lupita in Naperville is doing very well, as part of the 25-restaurant chain, she said. The restaurants, a subsidiary of Ponderosa Inc., are spread throughout the Midwest and in Florida and the state of Washington.

KAKAS SAID construction will begin as soon as the company can get a building permit. Company officials hope to open the restaurant in the spring of 1987.

Restaurant officials were granted a liquor license, but with a warning.

"It's the board's policy with the police department to monitor underage alcohol purchases," Village Manager Thomas M. Markus said. "You should know that right up front. Some franchises have not fared very well."

The Ohio-based company will invest $2 million in the restaurant and officials anticipate hiring 135 to 150 employees.

The restaurant is in a special taxing district enveloping the downtown redevelopment area. Once the restaurant is built, the village will collect the difference between taxes paid on the land before it was built and the taxes after it is completed, which will be much higher because the property will be assessed at a higher rate.

The village is using the money to redevelop the downtown area, which includes plans to redo sidewalks and some roads and to upgrade landscaping. Currently, some of the money is being used for a Sportmart shopping center project on the northwest corner of Milwaukee Avenue and Dundee Road, Fialkowski said.

Oct 1986

Cable access beams local productions

(Continued from page 1)

cers who use six different studios. There is a waiting list to get into the free Cablenet training programs, said Paul Morris, Cablenet's community access coordinator.

Peggy Busch, cable coordinator for the Northwest Municipal Conference, said the Conference itself tries to produce at least two new programs a month. The access channels are being used, she said.

But do many people watch these local channels? It doesn't matter, Busch said.

don't care how many people are watching because it's not commercially supported," Busch said. "The cable industry is 'narrowcasting,' it's not broadcasting. People can show their little kids' soccer team tryouts if they want."

Currently, some community access channels have little more than canned music and printed material of upcoming events.

Few communities are televising village board meetings. In the Chicago-area communities that have Cablenet franchises, only Streamwood televises meetings of its village board, Morris said.

Lower cable company profits may hinder their ability to expand community access.

Tom Hall, executive director of Glenview and Northbrook's North Shore Cable Commission, said that across the country, public access is suffering because of cutbacks in quality of equipment and the number of people allocated to help put on community programs. There have even been reductions in the number of assigned public access channels, Hall said.

Oct 1986

Wheeling appears ready to support landfill plan

By BOB KEHOE
and KARL LEIF BATES

Wheeling officials appear ready to kick in $7,800 as their initial contribution to begin work on obtaining a new landfill site and waste disposal system to serve the area.

The contribution would be a down payment on the estimated $35 million it will take for Wheeling and 35 other Northwest Municipal Conference (NWMC) member communities to acquire and develop a 225-acre abandoned gravel pit in Hanover Township in unincorporated Cook County.

Wheeling's $7,800 contribution and an additional $270,000 from other NWMC communities would be used to make a landfill presentation before the Cook County Zoning Board. Total costs to each NWMC community to go through with land acquisition and other zoning board steps is estimated at $110,000.

Although the Wheeling Village Board won't vote on the funding until Monday, Sheila Schultz, village president and NWMC president, said she is optimistic the plan will be approved not only by her board but other NWMC municipalities as well.

BUT MORE THAN needing only financial support for the plan, NWMC leaders told Wheeling officials Monday night they are counting on political backing and stepped up lobbying efforts from member communities to help beat back the certain tide of opposition that inevitably surfaces any time a landfill operation is proposed.

"Without the political support (including lobbying Cook County boad candidates to make them aware of the waste disposal problem in NWMC communities) there is no need to write the check," William Abolt, NWMC landfill project coordinator, told the Wheeling board at a committee-of-the-whole meeting Monday.

Abolt hammered home that point after spending more than an hour detailing how the proposed balefill system would operate in a more efficient manner than present landfill operations that serve NWMC members.

The balefill system calls for setting up two centrally-located dumping centers at which garbage from member communities would be brought and then compressed into one-ton square-shaped bales.

ONCE COMPRESSED, THE squares would be loaded onto flatbed trucks and transported to the landfill site where they would be stacked in 10-acre sections and then covered up.

Aside from the economic advantages of the balefill system, which requires far less equipment to operate, Abolt said it would be environmentally far superior to present systems in which trash is hauled by member disposal company trucks to landfill sites where the refuse is then compacted.

The present system typically results in garbage blowing around the site, rodent and odor problems, Abolt said, adding those problems would be eliminated under the balefill plan.

The empty gravel pit would be lined with clay and outfitted with collection pipes to prevent water runoff from contaminating ground water supplies and reaching the buried garbage, he said.

AS AN ADDED protection, each dumping site would be limited to about 10 acres, rather than the 100-acre sites typically used today, Abolt said. Thus, if a problem did arise in the future, it would be much easier to correct and minimize any damage, he said.

The balefill system, while generally regarded as a major improvement over present disposal systems being used by the NWMC, is not the only alternative. Some NWMC members, including Palatine Village President Frank R. Munch, think incineration is the way to go.

Incineration may eventually be the best disposal solution, but at present it is too costly and would take too long to implement, according to Abolt.

Incineration costs can run two to three times that of a landfill, would take five years to bring on line, and also has raised concerns over dioxins and other emissions the system can generate, according to the NWMC report.

FINDING A LONG-TERM disposal solution is imperative for the NWMC, which reports that two landfill sites in north and northwest Cook County have already closed, with the last one in the area — the Techny landfill site near Northbrook — set to close within 18 months.

When Techny closes there will be only one Cook County landfill north of Roosevelt Road, that being in Hillside.

But while all NWMC members agree there is a disposal problem, there are differing assessments on whether the conference can overcome opposition that is bound to mount over any plan that is put forth.

In fact, opposition to the present NWMC plan has already been reported in the Elgin and South Elgin areas near the proposed site.

SCHULTZ, FOR ONE, though, is confident this plan will move forward.

"Nowhere has the quality of this plan been questioned. This is really a good faith effort to solve the problem. I'm more impressed with the plan as this goes along," Schultz said.

Another key component to this landfill plan is that once the landfill is closed NWMC officials can convert the site to an alternative use. Three proposed uses include a regional equestrian horse center, a wildlife center, and a golf course.

Cable hearing is scheduled

The Northwest Municipal Cable Council will hold a public hearing to evaluate Cablenet at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 19, at the Mount Prospect Senior Center, 50 S. Emerson, Mount Prospect.

The hearing is open to residents in Arlington Heights, Bartlett, Wheeling, Des Plaines, Hanover Park, Mount Prospect, Park Ridge, Prospect Heights, and Schaumburg. Its purpose will be to listen to comments, concerns and opinions of residents regarding Cablenet's performance.

The hearing is one aspect of a five-year performance evaluation the council is making of Cablenet as called for in the cable franchises.

LIFE 10-30-86

Major sewer projects should end backups

By BOB KEHOE

Ongoing work in Wheeling's $5 million sanitary sewer repair program will continue to interrupt local traffic along portions of Wheeling Road and other streets, but village officials say the project will avert potentially more severe headaches in the future.

Bob Grey, director of operations and maintenance for the village, outlined the 18-month repair program for village trustees at a board meeting Monday and said once it is completed some areas will no longer experience backups in their shower drains and other drains that feed into the sanitary sewer system.

The program, which was slowed in recent years due to cuts in federal funding, is now proceeding at full speed thanks to a $3.33 million grant the village recently received as part of the "Build Illinois" program.

The village will kick in the remaining $1.6 million it will take to complete the work, with money coming out of the village's sewer fund being used to finance the work.

THE MOST SIGNIFICANT portion of sewer work being done, on Wheeling Road between Dundee Road and Hintz Road, is set to be completed around October, 1987. Other remaining work in some older areas of the village — including the Hollywood Ridge, Orchard Lakes, Old Town, Dunhurst and Meadowbrook east and west areas — should be finished in the next 18 to 24 months, according to Grey.

Repair efforts are aimed at eliminating leaks in sewer lines and cutting away tree roots that are cutting into sewer lines. In all, some seven miles of the village's 71 miles of sewer line will be repaired.

During the work on Wheeling Road, the road will only be open to local traffic. Village officials are hoping to reopen one lane of traffic each way to through traffic in December through the spring.

While the repair project will be evident to those who live in the affected areas and those who travel through them, the improvements made may not be noticeable to all residents in the future.

"Some residents won't notice anything, but that may mean the village prevented a potential massive problem (such as a road collapse due to a deteriorated sewer line)," Grey said.

RESIDENTS WHO TRAVEL on Schoenbeck Road also are noticing ongoing construction, but village officials say it has nothing to do with the sewer construction program. Grey said Cook County officials are doing street resurfacing on Schoenbeck Road between Dundee Road and Rand Road. Village officials would have given residents more notice that the work was to begin, he said, but county officials only recently announced the repaving project to the village.

11-13-86

Seniors, young guests cross generation bridge

Intergenerational talents were combined at the Pavilion Senior Center potluck luncheon, attended by Wheeling Seniors and 28 young guests from Shirley Suderman's fourth grade class at Walt Whitman School.

Three dozen seniors and the children enjoyed home-cooked casseroles, salads, and desserts, and then entertained each other with an "Amateur Hour" show. Jason Blair led off the program by telling jokes. Tiffanie Reyes danced to a lively tune. Amanda Gonzalez demonstrated "how to draw" a mouse and handed out pictures to all in attendanee. Mike Graf and Billy Plebanski played the violin. Jennifer Klor, Marshal Leveritt, Rachel Sanchez and Kristin LaCastro presented a "hobo" skit.

Dawn Poppenga, Lauren Skrabala and Elizabeth Chai put on a puppet show. Lisa Sachman performed a piano solo and ended with a duet "Heart and Soul" with senior Joseph Ochs.

Senior Betty Barrie showed the students Valentines that her fourth grade Walt Whitman school teacher received from students 50 years ago. The delicately cut-out Valentines, a "work of art," are on display at the Wheeling Historical Society.

Winnie Vasquez told an amusing "Mississippi" joke. Willie Franta performed "Dolly" in costume to the music of Joseph Ochs. And, the Pavilion-Aires Choral group director and pianist, Ivy Dale, led the chorus in greeting the children with her original "Pavilion-Aires" song. The amateur hour ended with a sing-along led by Ivy Dale.

NEXT MONDAY is Veterans Day. Phillip Carpenter Amvets Post No. 66 will hold services at 11 a.m. at Chamber Park, 251 N. Wolf Road, Wheeling. The next regular Amvet meeting will also be held at 8 p.m. on Monday at the Post Home, 700 Old McHenry Road, Wheeling. For more information, call the post at 537-0440.

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED for the Thrift-Resale Shop on Dundee Road in Wheeling. Training would be provided by Addolorata Villa; persons needed for one day per week shifts. The Thrift-Resale Shop sells clothing and household items to generate funds for the non-profit home for the aged. To volunteer, or for more information, call 537-6241.

CONGRATULATIONS to the newly elected freshman class officers at Wheeling High School. They are: President, Mike Johnson; Vice President, Meghan Gura; Secretary, Nanciann Gatta; and Treasurer, Andrew Young.

Additional student council representatives are: Tracey Anderson, Seong Choi, Michele Drewes, Jackie Germanier, Lisa Helt, Suzanne Kisielica, Mark Masaracchia, Peter Matalas, Amy McRaven, Brian Nash, Amy Vail and Carol Wonak.

THE WHEELING PARK DISTRICT reminds you that Fall Session II classes will start in the middle of November. A large variety of classes will be offered including swimming, dance, art, baton, photography, dog obedience, karate, as well as special timely trips and special events.

For registration information, or to obtain a class schedule and brochure, contact Heritage Park offices at 537-2222.

Nov 1986

EDITORIALS

"Our aim: To fear God, tell the truth and make money"
H. C. PADDOCK 1852-1935

Getting the lead out of the water

Caution: Your tap water might be dangerous to your health.

In a recent report the Federal Environmental Protection Agency says that nearly 40 million Americans drink water that contains more lead than the agency's guidelines suggest for maximum exposure to the substance.

Lead can cause learning disabilities in children and neurological and blood pressure ailments in adults. In high concentrations, lead can be toxic. And one of its primary routes into the human body is through drinking water.

Lead joints in copper pipes is one source of lead in home tap water. Lead pipes that connect homes to mucinipal water mains, usually in older communities, is another of lead in tap water.

The EPA banned the use of lead in plumbing repairs and in the installation of new public and private water systems after Congress passed the Safe Drinking Water Act in 1985.

Whether lead is leached from the pipes through which it travels depends on the water's acidity, softness or alkalinity.

Although lead in drinking water can pose a health risk, there are a variety of steps homeowners can take to mitigate that risk.

For instance, homeowners may find out from their local water authority whether the water in their municipality is corrosive. They also may ask the water department to test their tap water for lead content.

Tracing lead content in water is not a simple task because the amount of the substance in water varies from community to community and from house to house.

Consequently, ensuring the quality and the safety of the water they drink now and in the future has become the consumer's responsibility.

WHEELING COUNTRYSIDE Nov. 6-1986

EDITORIALS

Eastward ho!

The village of Wheeling made a historic move this week when it annexed a 12-acre parcel on Lake-Cook Road near Portwine Road. The annexation, which was approved by the village board Monday, marks the first time Wheeling has extended its boundaries east of Des Plaines River.

In fact, the property, which is now a vacant stable, is closer to the boundaries of Northbrook and Riverwoods than it is to Wheeling.

Village officials say the annexation doesn't indicate a desire on their part to annex more land east of the river. Instead, they say the developer came to Wheeling after he was given the runaround by Northbrook officials as he eyed the possibility of annexing to that village.

The developer's decision to come to Wheeling after getting nowhere with Northbrook and the village board's quick approval of the annexation with little discussion leads us to wonder whether Wheeling officials are going to give careful consideration to the developer's plans for the site or just approve whatever he brings back to the board.

It's no secret that Wheeling officials are aggressively working to get developers to build in the village. They've already approved several property tax breaks to get industries to relocate here and have set up a tax increment financing district to encourage retail development downtown.

We're concerned that officials may be so anxious to get this 150,000-square-foot office project into the village they'll approve the developer's plans without the same scrutiny they'd normally use.

Because this project isn't even close to the rest of Wheeling, it would be easy for village officials to approve the project without looking at traffic, parking and landscaping issues as closely as they would if the site was nearer to a Wheeling residential area. If the village board OKs a bad project, it's unlikely the decision would draw any protests from residents because of where the property's located.

But if Wheeling gives the go-ahead to this plan without thoroughly addressing all aspects of the project — particularly traffic — the entire area could be hurt by that decision.

We're not objecting to Wheeling's right to expand its boundaries to the east, we're merely urging the board and plan commission to study this project in the same manner they would if it was planned for their backyard.

County board studies billboard rule changes

11-86

By KARL LEIF BATES

A pending amendment to Cook County rules governing outdoor advertising could give suburban county board members a powerful weapon with which to block billboards that are deemed too big or too obnoxious.

The proposal, which was spearheaded by Cook County Board Commissioners Carl Hansen of Mt. Prospect and Richard Siebel of Northbrook, seeks to restrict where and how billboards can be placed and add an extra administrative hurdle to the approval of nonstandard signs. Both commissioners said the proposal, on which public hearings were held this month, is "very close" to approval.

Representatives of the sign companies are most upset about a provision that would require new and existing signs to come up for re-approval every seven years. Hansen argues that in seven years the area around a sign could change quite a bit, making a sign that was once inoffensively away from homes a nearby nuisance. Under the new rules, the county could force such a sign to be taken down.

A COMPROMISE BEING worked out in meetings of the county's Zoning and Building Committee would allow existing signs to go 10 years before having to come up for such a re-approval, but then place them on a seven-year cycle like all the other signs in the county. A sign that is denied re-approval would have to be torn down.

Among the factors the approval and re-approval process would consider are maximum square foot and height requirements and the sign's distance from housing and roads. Billboards would be kept at least 500 feet from single-family and multi-family housing and at least 300 feet from roads and other signs. The signs would also be kept more than 500 feet away from parks larger than five acres. No sign could be larger than 450 square feet or taller than 40 feet from the ground in residential areas. Signs in industrial areas would be restricted to 750 square feet.

These new size limits are larger than those currently in use, but would be much more difficult to exceed, Siebel explained. Any variation in size or placement greater than 10 percent of the allowed amount would require formal approval as a zoning amendment, entailing zoning board hearings and a vote of the county board. If, during this process, a neighboring village objects to the variation, a three-quarters majority of the county board would be required to allow the variance, Siebel explained. Hansen said that provision virtually guarantees that the suburban commissioners on the board could block any such variation if they chose to.

A spokesman for one of the outdoor advertisers, Tom Walsh of Foster & Kleiser, argued that the re-approval process will create a needless tangle of bureaucracy. He said the county has always been free to condemn signs it no longer wanted. Natural attrition should also work to reduce signs in congested areas, Walsh said.

SIEBEL DISAGREED, HOWEVER. He said condemnation is really only feasible where a sign has been neglected and is in disrepair, not simply where it has become a nuisance because of its placement. Besides which, the county would be stuck paying for demolition in many cases if it did use condemnation to control signs, Siebel added. The re-approval process should not create too much more bureaucracy because it would rely on existing inspectors and simple paperwork.

11-27-86

A Pulitzer-Lerner Community Newspaper

• LIFE NEWSPAPERS, WEEK OF NOVEMBER 6, 1986

Village grabs office proposal

WHEELING — The Village Board Monday agreed to annex a 12-acre parcel located just south of Lake-Cook Roain unincorporated Cook County between Portwine and Sanders Road.

The developers plan to construct no more than four office buildings on the property, which is now used for stables.

The site is connected to Wheeling through a forest preserve which adjoins both the annexed property and the village.

Other surrounding communities include Northbrook, Deerfield and Riverwoods.

The developers offered to defend the village in the event there is a court challenge to the annexation or to the B-3 zoning the developers want for the site.

Jerry Schain, representing the owner of the property, said one reason the developers decided to annex to Wheeling rather than other municipalities is because the village's staff was clear as to what would be allowed on the property. Other communities were less decisive, Schain indicated, saying it could take two to three years to get the proposed project off the ground in some other villages.

In other business, the Village Board by a 4-3 vote denied variations for three lots in the Edgebrook Business Center located east of Northgate Parkway and north of the Wheeling drainage ditch.

The developers had asked to change the requirement that buildings be located 100 feet from their property line to 40 feet. They also wanted the 25-foot no-parking buffer zone reduced to 15 feet.

The Zoning Board of Appeals recommended approval of the variations by a 4-1 vote, but the village staff recommended denial, saying the village should minimize conflict between residential and industrial uses.

School District 21, whose Hawthorne School is on the eastern edge of the property, opposed granting the variations. The school site is zoned residential. Occupants of two homes bordering the lots, however, said they had no objections to the variations.

Dennis Egidi, partner in the Edgebrook Development, said a builder wants to construct a 13,000-square-foot structure on the property but cannot unless the setbacks are changed. He said he thought the village had approved the variations when it approved the Edgebrook subdivision a year ago. He insisted the lots can not be developed without the variations.

But Village Manager Tom Markus pointed to the objection of School District 21 and said that even though the homeowners did not object, houses can be sold to people who would object.

In breaking the 3-3 tie vote to deny the variation, Village President Sheila Schultz indictated sympathy with Egidi's plight, but said she had heard too many complaints from residents who back up to industrial developments to vote for the variations.

Also Monday, the board granted 6B property tax exemptions to Spectra Tool and Quintel, which both plan to relocate in the Pal-Waukee Business Center.

The tax exemptions will reduce the companies property taxes to 16 percent for eight years and to 30 percent for an additional four years if the tax breaks are approved by Cook County.

Before the approval of the tax exemption for Spectra, Markus told trustees that the village had come to an agreement with the company, which intends to occupy only 40 percent of the building it will move into, at least at first, and lease the rest.

Markus said the staff would examine each occupant to make sure it is a manufacturing concern, one of the requirements to ge5t get a 6B tax break.

In addition, Markus recommended that the board amend the 6B resolution to require that companies requesting the tax break occupy at least 75 percent of the building they move into.

The board unanimously approved the amendment.

SOMEONE TO BE THANKFUL FOR

This lady cares for Wheeling

by C.L. Waller
Herald staff writer

Gertrude Trunda became a community volunteer, she says, because of people's attitudes.

"A lot of people knock Wheeling," she says, "but they don't realize people here would do anything for the community."

And she is one of the people here who would.

Trunda, 63, remembers one of her first volunteer positions in Wheeling was at the high school library, but over the years her efforts have graduated to administering communion to people who cannot make it to church and creating a weight control class for seniors citizens.

SHE HAS her own philosophy about volunteering: "I think it needs to be done. If it needs to be done, somebody has to do it."

Volunteering is simply a way of fitting into the village, she said.

"I always liked it because I always knew the people were friendly," she says. "The thing that hurts you sometimes is people complaining about how there's nothing here. They don't realize it took a lot of individuals to break their backs to bring things here."

Trunda's weight control class began when she discussed the frustration of an exercise class with other ladies who had taken the class. "We would exercise and then our weight would go up when we got tired of the class," she said.

A WEIGHT control class is a different method for seniors to use. "We meet on Wednesdays, we weigh ourselves in and then we talk about any problems we have with keeping weight off. It's not for us to lose weight in a hurry, but to learn how to eat nutritiously," Trunda said.

She said she has also started bringing confidence-building cassette tapes for the membership to listen to. The class began about eight weeks ago and Trunda said she is pleased with the 11 people who regularly show up.

During the week, Trunda is there for the class at the Pavilion Senior Center, 199 N. First St., but the weekends don't pass without her helping hand. Every two weeks she visits a couple from St. Joseph the Worker Church, who are unable to attend mass, and administers communion to them.

Administering communion to those who are homebound is part of the ministry of care program at the church, but communion is only part of the service. Trunda said she visits with the people and really gets to know them.

SHE GOT to know the Wheeling couple so well that she discovered they are nearly related. The couple used to live in the same neighborhood as Trunda's grandparents and after asking a few questions Trunda found out their daughter-in-law is her cousin.

"I always used to tell my kids, 'watch it, because no matter where you go someone will know you or someone you know," Trunda said.

But it's not just starting the weight control program that has made Trunda a favorite at the Pavilion. "She's the type of person who does a lot of little things, but never is recognized for them, said Barbara Hansen, senior citizen coordinator for the Pavilion. Running errands, making orange juice and inviting speakers to the Pavilion are all things that she does because she wants to, Hansen said.

Trying to trim back on some of her activities because of weak knees, Trunda said, "It's hard now because I like to be where the action is."

While there are a lot of people in Wheeling who should be thankful for the big and small things Trunda has done, she is thankful for being able to make a contribution.

Eyes filled with tears, she said, "I'm thankful for my family and my friends and to be able to do all the things you thought you'd never be able to do."

Gertrude Trunda

Age: 63

Address: 702 Linda Terrace, Wheeling

How long a resident? More than 30 years

Profession: Retired

Civic activities: former member of Wheeling Senior Commission, American Legion Wave Post 988, White Caps organization.

What's good about Wheeling? "A lot of people knock Wheeling, but they don't realize people here would do anything for the community."

What's she thankful for? "I'm thankful for my family and my friends and to be able to do all the things you thought you'd never be able to do."

Herald photo by Scott Sanders

AS AN "extraordinary minister," Gertrude Trunda of Wheeling must pick up the communion she is going to administer each week to homebound parishioners of St. Joseph the Worker Church. Trunda is also involved in helping out at the Pavilion Senior Center.

11-13-87 Herald

Fire officials hope to keep wreaths red

by C.L. Waller
Herald staff writer

The wreaths hanging outside Wheeling fire stations this year will be for more than decoration; hopefully, they will remind residents of the dangers of holiday decorations.

For the fourth year, the Wheeling Fire Prevention Bureau is sponsoring the Keep the Wreaths Red program. Wreaths with red lights are placed outside the fire stations — at 255 W. Dundee Road and at Hintz and Wheeling roads — to make residents aware of how many fires attributed to holiday decorations occur during the Christmas season.

Wreaths will be hung the week after Thanksgiving.

"If there is a fire that occurs in Wheeling and the cause has something to do with holiday decorations, a red light is replaced with a white light in the wreath," said Edwin J. Majkowski, Wheeling fire inspector.

He said several communities in the area have the wreath program each year, but in Wheeling a red light has never had to be replaced for the past four years because there have been no holiday fires. "It (program) may make people conscious (of danger)," Majkowski said.

The major cause of fires at Christmastime is still the Christmas tree, he said. "People still buy live trees. But the problem is, it dries out if you put them up too soon," Majkowski said.

Even with artificial trees and safer lights, holiday fires are likely to occur due to old lights or frayed wires, he said. Burning fireplaces also create an opportunity for holiday fires when people throw wrappings into the fire, Majkowski said.

The fire department also suggests that lighted candles not be placed near combustible material and that any electrical toys or tree decorations be approved by Underwriters' Laboratories. Plus, Majkowski said, keep the fire department's telephone number near the phone.

Along with the wreath program, the Wheeling Fire Department will be handing out pamphlets on fire safety at Lollipop Lane in Chamber Park, in schools and at the Jaycees' Christmas tree sale, he said.

Palwaukee noise no problem: consultants

by C.L. Waller
Herald staff writer

Noise coming from Palwaukee Airport doesn't appear to be a major problem, airport consultants said Wednesday night.

Representatives from Koffman Associates of Kansas City reported their findings to a meeting of the Palwaukee Planning Advisory Committee. The villages of Wheeling and Prospect Heights ordered the study in preparation for the eventual buyout of the airport. Monitoring of various areas around the airport, begun in May, was recently completed.

"To an extent, all the community noise is blending in with the airport noise," said Mark R. Johnson, a senior consultant with Koffman.

Consultants not only looked at noise coming from aircraft at Palwaukee but also noises that occur every day, such as traffic and children playing. The primary sources of traffic noise are Euclid Avenue, Palatine Road, Dundee Road, Wolf Road, Milwaukee Avenue and Des Plaines/River Road, consultants said.

IN ADDITION to noise coming from areas outside the airport, consultants also presented projections that show fewer people will be affected because aircraft will be quieter in the next five to 20 years.

For example, the population around the airport experiencing "marginal" noise levels now stands at 7,800. In five years that population will drop to 7,500 and in 20 years the population affected will be 3,700.

Consultants did offer suggestions for airport officials should they want to make changes to reduce noise even further, including widening a 4,000-foot runway and allowing more small planes to use that runway, which would diminish noise now occurring on the main runway.

Airport commission chairman William Rogers said, "A lot of people have a misconception about the amount of noise. Most noise is on the airport and in some fringe areas. We're suffering as much from the roadway noise."

Koffman Associates and airport officials will meet with Federal Aviation Administration experts in December.

Nov 1986

Airport buy on schedule

11-8

Sale expected by Jan. 1

By MARIE LUTZ
Staff Writer

WHEELING — The Prospect Heights City Council and Wheeling Village Board at separate meetings Monday approved an application for a $10.4 million federal grant for the Pal-Waukee Airport purchase.

The municipal boards also approved an agreement to have the firm of Crawford, Murphy and Tilly study the Wolf/Hintz roads intersection to see if it should be moved.

The $10.4 million grant is the last of four the municipalities were originally committed to receive when they agreed several years ago to jointly purchase Pal-Waukee and convert it into a public airport.

The $10.4 million will be supplemented by a total of $577,850 from the two communities and $577,850 from the state. After the money is received, grants for the airport purchase (including the state and local shares) will have totaled $34,279,770.

Robert Barcus, chief engineer with the Illinois Department of Transportation, said that almost everything necessary to purchase the airport has been done and he hoped the sale could be arranged by Jan. 1.

The Pal-Waukee Airport Commission still has to recommend to the municipalities what to offer Priester Aviation for the airport, Barcus said. The state and federal governments also have to recommend how much money to offer and to decide how much more money they will commit toward the purchase, Barcus said.

Barcus said a portion of each grant the municipalities have received has been put aside for the purchase. The rest of the money has been used to pay for such things as appraisals and engineer-

(Continued on page 3)

ELING

HERALD 11-7-86

Buildings to line Lake-Cook annex

Two or three new office buildings will be built along Lake-Cook Road in Wheeling next year on property village officials annexed this week.

The village board annexed 12 acres of land in unincorporated Cook County commonly known as the Grand Champion Stables and a 200-foot section of Portwine Road for the proposed office development.

Actual plans for the office buildings have not been drawn up yet, although preliminary site plans call for one- to two-story office and research buildings. The property is owned by a land trust.

The land, southeast of Lake-Cook and Portwine roads, is surrounded on three sides by the Cook County Forest Preserve. The village had to annex the section of Portwine Road to make the 12-acre site contiguous to the forest preserve west of Portwine Road, which is adjacent to Wheeling's northeastern-most boundaries.

Portwine Road is now maintained by Wheeling Township, but now the Wheeling's annexed portion makes the village responsible for that portion's maintenance.

With the annexation, the property automatically is zoned for houses. However, the property owners are expected to request rezoning in about 90 days.

Pal-Waukee purchase approaching take-off

(Continued from page 1)

ing work.

The purchase of the airport could take place long before the communities decide whether to move either Hintz or Wolf roads.

The question of whether the intersection should be moved has been a sensitive one to Wheeling, which would be most affected.

"Those two roads are very important in the transportation of goods and people in the view of our municipality, and we are going to take a good hard look (at whether to move them)," said Robert Fialkowski, assistant village manager.

The study will help determine if the roads actually can be moved, and if the cost of moving them would be worth the benefits, Fialkowski said.

Fialkowski said the reason for possibly moving the roads is to increase the "clear zone" around Pal-Waukee's 5,200-foot runway. Public airports must have greater clear zones approaching their runways than private facilities.

The clear zone is an area free of all obstacles, including automobiles.

If the roads are not moved, only 4,600 feet of the runway could be used by planes landing from the northwest once the airport becomes public, Fialkowski said.

Pal-Waukee Airport is a general aviation facility used by corporate and private pilots. The village of Wheeling and city of Prospect Heights have entered into an agreement to purchase the airport from Priester Aviation. In order to help with the purchase, the two communities formed the Pal-Waukee Airport Commission, which makes recommendations to the municipalities.

EDITORIALS

"Our aim: To fear God, tell the truth and make money."
H. C. PADDOCK 1852-1935

Trustees need a pay increase

Trustees and aldermen throughout the Northwest suburbs are habitually overworked and underpaid.

In most towns when salary is computed with number of hours worked, the pay averages less than a dollar an hour.

Obviously, people don't seek these jobs for the financial remuneration they receive.

Most citizens seek elective office in their villages or cities because they believe that it is their civic duty to serve. Without their dedication and expertise local governments would function far less smoothly.

We agree with Mount Prospect Trustee George R. Van Geem that after six years it's time to increase salaries for the village's trustees.

Although the village never will be able to afford to fully compensate its trustees for the work they do, a raise would be proof that their work is valued and appreciated.

Van Geem's suggestion to link pay increases to inflation with a proposed 27 percent increase, or $400, is logical and acceptable.

Although the proposal failed in a 3-3 vote this week, Van Geem says he will try to convince one more trustee to support the pay increase. If approved, the raise would not go into effect until after the election in April 1987.

Currently, the village's trustees earn a yearly stipend of $1,500 — one of the lowest in the Northwest suburbs. Van Geem's proposal would boost trustees' salaries to $1,900 a year.

Among communities in the Northwest suburbs, annual salaries range from $2,700 in Bartlett and Rolling Meadows to $360 in Barrington. At $1,500, Mount Prospect's trustees are paid about $200 a year less than the average trustee in this area.

It is unlikely that higher pay would elicit the response that Van Geem hopes for — spur more people to become candidates for local office.

But it can't hurt, and more candidates are needed at this grassroots level of government service.

When asked whether they would run for local office, most people say "no."

The few who do become candidates and are elected are involved in local politics because they want to be of service to their community, despite its inadequate compensation.

Giving these officials a small raise, as is being suggested in **Mount Prospect, is a small price to pay.**

HERALD 11-24-86

Board to discuss land purchase

Ordinances authorizing the purchase of two parcels in the Crossroads Redevelopment area will be among items discussed at a special meeting of Wheeling village trustees on Monday.

Village officials said they could move ahead with purchasing property in the Crossroads area after trustees approved a $4.4 million loan for redevelopment of the area that lies on both sides of Milwaukee Avenue between Manchester Drive and Strong Street and on Dundee Road between the Des Plaines River and First Street.

The village is concentrating its efforts on property northwest of Dundee Road and Milwaukee Avenue where an $8.9 million retail center is planned.

Wheeling owns four parcels of property in the Crossroads area and demolition of a house the village recently bought at 116 N. Milwaukee Ave., is scheduled for Monday.

The special meeting will be at 7:30 p.m. in Wheeling village hall, 255 W. Dundee Road. A meeting, including a closed session, between Wheeling trustees, Prospect Heights city councilmen and Pal-Waukee Airport Commission will be held at 8 p.m.

EDITORIALS

"Our aim: To fear God, tell the truth and make money."
H. C. PADDOCK 1852-1935

Can machines fix toll woes?

Anyone who uses an Illinois toll road regularly — Route 90 for instance — knows that the machines in which you throw your quarters and dimes don't always work. Sometimes the "thank you" light gets stuck on red, other times, it's green for everyone who goes through whether they pay or not.

So, we didn't need a report from the state auditor general to tell us that these machines malfunction.

However, what the report did say about a problem that has plagued Illinois toll roads for years is that malfunctioning and unrepaired equipment prevents an accurate count of revenue collected on area tollways.

Equipment malfunctions inhibit controls to detect cash shortages and revenue loss. While the Illinois Tollway Authority collected $164 million in tolls last year, it does not know much money it may have lost.

The report, based on the Illinois Tollway Authority's 1985 records, also said that repairing the broken equipment would not be cost effective.

The installation of new counting equipment in June 1985 trimmed the number of discrepencies but the report said counting differences still were "significant."

Based on this information, the report concluded that the way to get accurate counts of vehicles and revenue would be to install new high-tech equipment.

The tollway authority probably would incorporate this proposal into its long-range planning for upgrading the state's toll road system.

The idea appears worth consideration. However, the tollway authority must present a concrete proposal including the costs involved before the merits of such a plan can be be assessed.

Laurels & darts

Laurels to Pace, the suburban bus service of the Regional Trasnportation Authority, for initiating a program featuring new handicapped-accessible buses in Lake County. The bus stairs convert into a flat platform that lowers to pavement, which enables passengers in wheel chairs to board the bus. The hydraulic-lift equipped buses will be used on four routes, including Route 573 that serves the College of Lake County. Pace ordered 20 of the buses and will begin using them throughout its northern route system shortly after the first of the year. The buses cost $10,000 more than conventional models, but the price is well worth it for the **service provided.**

Federal funding in doubt for transportation projects

By JIM NASH
Staff Writer

Suburban officials are wondering whether many of next season's planned road and transportation projects will get off the ground at all.

Roughly half of Illinois' $875 million Department of Transportation budget depends on federal funding that was not approved during the last Congressional session.

Unable to agree on several transportation issues, the Senate adjourned in October without authorizing about $6.3 billion in project funds. The money is raised by a nine-cent-per-gallon gasoline tax which continues to be collected.

Now state and local officials across the nation are wondering if senators can settle their differences in time for the next construction season.

Five north and northwest suburban projects expected to begin this spring have been thrown in doubt:

•Road work on McCormack Boulevard from Greenbay Road to Devon Avenue in Lincolnwood, Skokie and Evanston.

•Dempster Street repairs from the Chicago River to Central Avenue in Morton Grove.

•Repairs to Central Road at Dearlove Road near Glenview.

•Reconstruction work to the Skokie Swift commuter station and parking lot on Dempster in Skokie.

•Improvements to the Dundee/Landwehr roads intersection in Northbrook.

The five projects total $12.2 million.

"We're not in a panic now," said Bill Baltutis of the Chicago Area Transportation Study. CATS is a regional transportation group involved with long-range planning for metropolitan Chicago.

No projects now underway are threatened, Baltutis said, and Congress can streamline procedures to speed new funding along when it reconvenes in January.

But that does not lessen the potential harm resulting from a long delay in allotting highway monies.

"It's a problem in theory," Baltutis said, "but you turn the next page and it's a problem in fact."

A similar situation occurred in 1982, Baltutis said, when Congress could not reach an agreement on transportation funding issues.

Before adjourning, however, they passed a continuing resolution. That measure gave states exactly the construction funds they had received in 1981.

This time, Congress passed no such legislation.

"I guess they're gambling that the communities won't get squeezed out of this," he said.

Bill Grams, executive director of the Northwest (suburban) Municipal Conference, said, "We don't

(Continued on page 5)

11-13-86

Federal funding in doubt for transportation projects

(Continued from page 1)

want to see a loss of a construction season."

Grams said it is important to "at least keep the system moving" even if that means working through a shortened season.

It's possible, Baltutis explained, that Congress could reconvene in mid-January and pass funding legislation, but any resolutions would have to be formally introduced and pass through various committees before winning acceptance.

"It's a timing problem," he said. "We anticipate a resolution passing. The question is when. Mid-April is the absolute deadline."

If Congress does not act by then, Baltutis said, Illinois crews could miss part or even all of the warm-weather work season.

Without guaranteed funding for projects, it would be risky to bid out large projects. That risk, however, might become more commonplace.

Grams said a debate on Capitol Hill is raging over Congress' role in state transportation.

There are those, Grams said, that believe that role must be weakened. The debate played a part in the present situation, he added.

And as unlikely as it might seem, the Nov. 4 elections could complicate matters further.

Democrats now control the Senate. It is likely that they will spend the early part of 1987 reorganizing committees.

"That's an institutional problem that needs to be worked out," Baltutis said.

Baltutis added that he doubts Congress will wait until next year to pass highway funds, although he admitted it was a possibility.

Illinois has about $100 million in unspent highway funds to work with until new funds arrive.

That is small compared to other states that are not as "efficient" at spending federal highway funds, Baltutis said. He cited California, with about $600 million in unspent highway funds, as one example.

"I guess Illinois' efficiency is bad luck right now," he said.

11-13-86

Sunnie Kiddies wins Round 1; fight isn't over

By BOB KEHOE

Supporters of the Sunnie Kiddies Day Care Center — which serves 300 area families — have won the first round in their bid to help keep the center open.

Ellene Lombardo, the center's director, said she was elated by the sudden turn in events last Thursday that led the Prospect Heights Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) to vote 4-1 to recommend that the city council grant a special use permit that could keep the center in operation.

But Lombardo cautioned the stiffest fight is yet ahead — getting the Prospect Heights City Council to go along with the ZBA recommendations.

"We're in for the fight of our lives and I don't know how we'll win, but we will win," Lombardo said the morning after more than 70 parents turned out on her behalf and apparently helped change the minds of some ZBA members.

LOMBARDO, WHO AS recently as the week ago thought there was little chance city officials would have a change of heart and allow the school to remain open without adding another access drive, listened quietly as ZBA members began listing their objections to granting the permit before the petitioner's attorney even spoke.

Two hours of testimony later, however, it was obvious that arguments presented by Lombardo, her attorneys, and a contingent of Wheeling and Prospect Heights parents who support the school helped change some ZBA members' minds.

Lombardo and her supporters now have until Dec. 15, when the Prospect Heights City Council will begin the hearing process over again before deciding the center's ultimate fate, to change the minds of some city aldermen who have already raised objections to the center operating on the former Muir School site.

The aldermens' objections mirror those of ZBA members who complained of increased traffic in the area, with some questioning whether the not-for-profit day care center isn't a business rather than a school.

CONTROVERSY OVER THE center's special use permit request to continue operating in the school near Route 83 and Hintz Road has centered around complaints from residents in the nearby Drake subdivision that traffic has increased dramatically since the center began operating there earlier this year.

ZBA officials had urged Lombardo to try and get permission from Wheeling village and park district officials to build an access drive with an outlet through park district property and onto Wheeling residential streets, but those efforts were unsuccessful.

That lack of support from Wheeling officials led some Prospect Heights residents to ask ZBA members why their city should have to shoulder the full burden of traffic from the center. Of the 300 families served by Sunnie Kiddies, 200 live in Wheeling.

A small group of Drake subdivision homeowners at the ZBA hearing complained about traffic from Sunnie Kiddies and charged that the center is not a school but a business.

THOSE ARGUMENTS, HOWEVER,

(Continued on page 12)

11-86

Sunnie Kiddies—

(Continued from page 5)

weren't enough to sway ZBA members, who also had to weigh a number of other critical factors like what impact denying the special use permit request might have on local taxpayers and Prospect Heights School District 23, which has contracted to sell the building to Lombardo.

Jane Adelman, District 23 school board president, told the ZBA that denying Lombardo's request would not only keep the property off the tax rolls but would likely end any hopes of finding another buyer for the building.

The only other viable option for the district, which closed the building due to declining enrollment in 1981, would be to raze the building and sell the 9.7-acre site as vacant land, she said.

That option, the district's business manager testified, would net the district less than half of the $525,000 purchase price Lombardo has paid — assuming the district could find someone to build homes on the site which would have to be zoned for half-acre lots.

DISTRICT 23 OFFICIALS said they would use funds from the Muir School sale to defray some costs of adding an addition to Anne Sullivan School to accommodate future enrollment growth.

Homeowners who argued that it might make more sense for the district to keep Muir School and reopen it later were misinformed, according to District 23 officials, who said that option could cost the district as much as $1.2 million over 10 years.

Support for the school district's position and for the day care center was turned in by a number of District 23 parents who circulated petitions and obtained 284 signatures from Prospect Heights residents who supported the school sale and Sunnie Kiddies' special use request.

Testimony on District 23 finances and

EDITORIALS

11-86

Sunnie still shines

Sometimes justice does prevail.

That was the case at a Prospect Heights Zoning Board of Appeals meeting last week, where members voted to recommend that the city council grant a special use permit that would allow the Sunnie Kiddies Day Care Center to keep its doors open.

The zoning board's vote came as a total surprise because Prospect Heights officials were dead set against issuing the special use permit from the start. And numerous Prospect Heights residents showed up at last week's zoning board meeting to urge members to close down the center, which serves some 300 Wheeling-area families.

It would have been easy for board members to bow to pressure from those residents and vote against issuing the special use permit to Sunnie Kiddies. After all, two-thirds of the families served by the center live in Wheeling, and Wheeling park and village officials did nothing to help the center with this problem although they could have.

But after listening to two hours of testimony from Sunnie Kiddies officials, parents and others, the zoning board agreed to issue a recommendation that will allow the center to stay open.

Prospect Heights officials deserve a lot of credit for listening with an open mind to all the reasons for allowing this quality day care center to remain in operation. We hope the zoning board's recommendation is backed by the city council when it reviews the issue next month.

Giving thanks

Of all the holidays, Thanksgiving is probably one of the more quiet celebrations.

Yes, there is the hustle and bustle involved in the preparation of the turkey dinner, but compared to other holidays, the hubbub is subdued.

For example, Memorial Day signals the beginning of summer and Labor Day the end. The 4th of July is pyrotechnic displays bursting in a mid-summer sky to the accompaniment of a John Phillips Sousa march.

The Christmas holidays provide us with good cheer and parties. Only Easter, because of what that day symbolizes, could be put in the same classification as Thanksgiving.

For most of us, Thanksgiving will be spent with family. We will count our blessings, pass the platter and then settle in for a long day of recounting past celebrations while keeping at least one eye and ear tuned into the football game.

Thanksgiving is a tradition, a common link in our society. And it is something we can share with the less fortunate, for whom Thanksgiving is just another day.

11-27-86

11-86

Sunnie Kiddies—

(Continued from page 5)

weren't enough to sway ZBA members, who also had to weigh a number of other critical factors like what impact denying the special use permit request might have on local taxpayers and Prospect Heights School District 23, which has contracted to sell the building to Lombardo.

Jane Adelman, District 23 school board president, told the ZBA that denying Lombardo's request would not only keep the property off the tax rolls but would likely end any hopes of finding another buyer for the building.

The only other viable option for the district, which closed the building due to declining enrollment in 1981, would be to raze the building and sell the 9.7-acre site as vacant land, she said.

That option, the district's business manager testified, would net the district less than half of the $525,000 purchase price Lombardo has paid — assuming the district could find someone to build homes on the site which would have to be zoned for half-acre lots.

DISTRICT 23 OFFICIALS said they would use funds from the Muir School sale to defray some costs of adding an addition to Anne Sullivan School to accommodate future enrollment growth.

Homeowners who argued that it might make more sense for the district to keep Muir School and reopen it later were misinformed, according to District 23 officials, who said that option could cost the district as much as $1.2 million over 10 years.

Support for the school district's position and for the day care center was turned in by a number of District 23 parents who circulated petitions and obtained 284 signatures from Prospect Heights residents who supported the school sale and Sunnie Kiddies' special use request.

Testimony on District 23 finances and how the school sale may ease the burden on Prospect Heights taxpayers apparently went a long way in helping ZBA members make up their minds.

ZBA MEMBER PAUL Kolaski, who said that the best possible use for the Muir School site would be single-family homes, said he had to be realistic in figuring the district might not be able to find a home developer to buy the site.

With that in mind, Kolaski said, a quality day care center such as Sunnie Kiddies that would pump some money into the local school district and put the land back on the tax rolls wasn't such a bad option.

"I can't ignore the school district's problem. What happens to it happens to us," Kolaski said.

ZBA member Paul Richartz also considered the school district before voting to recommend approval of the special use permit.

"I DON'T think (the day care center) is a detrimental use. There are some areas of concern...safety is definitely an area, but we do have to consider all citizens of Prospect Heights," Richartz said.

George Slawik, the lone ZBA member to dissent in the voting, cited zoning map considerations and safety considerations in rejecting the center's request.

Even though she was successful in changing some minds on the ZBA, Lombardo is concerned she will face even greater resistance from the Prospect Heights City Council. One alderman on the council, she said, lives in the Drake subdivision and is certain to do some strong lobbying against the center.

2 towns to fight stable annexation

Two of Wheeling's neighbors, Northbrook and Riverwoods, angry about recent annexations to Wheeling of two parcels of property along Lake-Cook Road, are ready to fight.

The two towns will join forces, trying to prevent Wheeling either from annexing more land east of the 12-acre Grand Champion Stables or to thwart developer Joseph Judah's attempt to build on the site.

"It's a drive to east," said Northbrook Village President Richard Falcone of Wheeling's action last week to annex a 7.39-acre parcel, east of Grand Champion.

That move follows the Nov. 3 annexation of the 12-acre horse stable property owned by Judah.

THE MOST RECENT action was an involuntary annexation, meaning it was not done at the request of the property owners, and according to Wheeling officials, will give them flexibility in controlling traffic patterns once the stable property is developed.

Sheila Schultz, Wheeling village president, reiterated the village's position Monday saying that control of the property is a "valid" argument.

Schultz said that she has talked personally with Falcone and understands his objections, but she said Wheeling officials also have to protect their village's interests.

"Our reasons for annexing are valid and we plan to scrutinize the) development of this property as close as we have any development in our community," Schultz said.

JUDAH HAS ANNOUNCED plans for 150,000 square feet of office space on the Grand Champion Stables, although he has not yet submitted formal development drawings to Wheeling officials.

The property annexed last week includes one single-family home and one mobile home, both to the east of Grand Champion. The owner of the property, Jack Thompson, has sold an option on his land, which is about five acres of the 7.39 annexed, to Judah.

Last week Riverwoods voted to join Northbrook in a lawsuit aimed at thwarting the developer's attempt to build on the site.

Northbrook trustees have yet to decide what legal action will be taken, but something will be done, Falcone said.

One option would have Northbrook contest the law under which Wheeling was able to jump the forest preserves to annex non-contiguous property. The law was passed in the last session of the General Assembly and has not been tested yet.

Another option would be to allow the residents of the area to carry the fight and join in with them, as the village did when a resident coalition successfully fought development on Willow Road and the Tri-State Tollway.

"I'd really like to test the statute," Falcone said. "It is appalling that Wheeling can take a piece of property so far from Wheeling.

In a 3-2 vote, Riverwoods trustees gave their approval to pay one-half the costs of a suit, with a $5,000 cap, to prevent the annexation to neighboring Wheeling or the development of the building.

Wheeling Disposal sold to Waste Management

WHEELING — Wheeling Disposal, which serves all the single-family homes in the village along with some multi-family homes and commercial establishments, has been sold to Waste Management, the largest disposal company in the world.

The sale took place Oct. 1 after Wheeling Disposal owners approached Waste Management, said Clarence Berger, the new general manager of the Wheeling firm. Wheeling Disposal is the largest of the garbage companies serving the village.

Berger, who also manages Buffalo Grove Disposal, another division of Waste Management, said there will be no changes in the quality of service Wheeling Disposal has been providing to village residents.

Berger said operations of Buffalo Grove Disposal will be consolidated in November at the Wheeling Disposal site, 350 Sumac. The Buffalo Grove facility will be sold, he said, adding that there is enough space at the Wheeling plant to accommodate the added trucks and personnel.

The consolidation is a money-saving move in an industry that is generally facing increased costs. Berger said the disposal firm has had to absorb a 200-300 percent increase in insurance rates along with steep hikes in the cost of dumping garbage in area landfills.

Waste Management has more than 20,000 employees world-wide. It has operations in countries in Europe and South America and last year had revenues of more than $1 billion.

The firm is involved in all aspects of waste disposal and runs landfills and incineration facilities in addition to disposal companies.

In the Chicago area, Waste Management owns disposal firms in communities that include Elk Grove, Wauconda, Elgin, Schaumberg and Hoffman Estates.

LERNER LIFE 11-6-86

Retail center OK tops month's voting

Approving plans for a retail center at Milwaukee Avenue and Dundee Road highlighted action taken by Wheeling village trustees during October.

Vantage Companies of Arlington Heights presented plans for an $8.9 million retail center to replace the vacant lots or existing businesses and residences located on the west side of Milwaukee Avenue between Dundee Road and property just south of Wheeling Towers.

Vantage plans to construct a 130,000-square-foot commercial center containing 35 stores. The existing Sportmart store, located at 240 E. Dundee Road, is planned as the south anchor for the center.

CLOTHING STORES primarily will be located in the center, but the developer said building space for a restaurant also is possible. Projected sales and real estate taxes are expected to increase by $11 over a 10-year period with the development, Vantage representatives said.

WHEELING VILLAGE BOARD VOTE SUMMARY

Selected decisions from the village board meetings of Oct. 6 and 20.

	Altieri	Fanella	Whittington	Hartman	Ratajczak	Rogers
To approve 12-year property tax breaks to two manufacturing firms that want to move their operations to Wheeling. (Passed 4-0. Village President Sheila Schultz voted yes because of a lack of quorum of trustees.)	ABSENT	ABSENT	ABSENT	YES	YES	YES
To approve a development plan for the Village Square Project in the Crossroads redevelopment project. (Passed 4-0)	YES	YES	ABSENT	YES	YES	ABSENT
To approve rezoning property at Milwaukee Avenue and Manchester Drive from residential to commercial to allow the proposed Casa Lupita restaurant. (Passed 4-0)	YES	YES	ABSENT	YES	YES	ABSENT

In other action during October, property tax breaks for Elenco Electronics Inc. and Indeck Power Equipment Co. were approved.

The tax-exempt status reduces a business's property taxes by 60 percent for eight years and 25 percent for four years after that.

Cook County introduced the tax breaks to entice manufacturers to stay or locate in Cook County rather than move to nearby Lake and DuPage counties, where tax assessments are lower.

ELENCO ELECTRONICS will be building at 110-190 W. Carpenter Ave., and Indeck Power Equipment will be constructing a warehouse at 1111 S. Willis Ave.

Wheeling trustees also agreed to rezone residential property to commercial at Milwaukee Avenue and Manchester Drive.

Casa Lupita Restaurants Inc. was seeking the zoning change so it would construct a restaurant, including carry-out facilities, at the intersection. The building will fit in to the restaurant row along Milwaukee Avenue as well as help Wheeling's efforts to increase its commercial tax base.

"I learned that you really can't judge people by their nationality. That's not fair."

— Tami Selander
BGHS student

STILL, SHIRLEY QUESTIONS why the BGHS pep assembly incident ever occurred, even though he doesn't want to harp on it.

"That was way off base...But I'm sure that anyone who participated in it is probably sorry they did," Shirley said.

(Continued on page 13)

...s comes from ... own experiences in watching the police as well as the neighborhood.

FULLER SAID HE has a police scanner in his home and has monitored calls in recent months, particularly calls involving Cedar Run. The response time to the subdivision, he said, has averaged within 45 seconds to one minute.

"That shows a very positive attitude that they're taking toward their job and we as residents should help them as much as we can," Fuller said.

Sharing that kind of information with residents is helping to change attitudes, according to Fuller, who said that in recent weeks and months he has noticed people are more willing than ever to get involved to help the police.

Kimsey said the police department wants to get more Neighborhood Watch programs going in the future to continue to build on the relationships that get started in places like Cedar Run.

"WE DIDN'T have that much activity in Cedar Run in terms of crime. We had some thefts and vandalism, but (no major problems). Starting the Neighborhood Watch program is a very positive move. Having that kind of observation from residents will be beneficial and will help improve harmony in the village," Kimsey said.

To help participants in the program to learn what to look for, Wheeling police hold training sessions with residents. In the training process police talk about situations where residents should become suspi-

Village buys more land in redeve

by C.L.Waller
Herald staff writer

Wheeling officials have agreed to purchase two more parcels of property in the Crossroads Redevelopment area.

Village trustees approved ordinances to purchase a parcel at 40 N. Milwaukee Ave. owned by Eleanor Spinuzza and another at 34 N. Milwaukee Ave. owned by Ivan J. Lindquist.

The village will pay $275,000 for the Spinuzza property, which consists of three vacant lots, Village Attorney James A. Rhodes said.

Wheeling will pay $147,000 for the Lindquist property, which is one lot with a white brick building housing Lindquist's accounting firm, State Farm Insurance and Robert Holt Realtor.

The Crossroads project is aimed at redesigning Wheeling's downtown area and attracting shoppers. The targeted area stretches from Manchester Drive north to Strong Street on both sides of Milwaukee Avenue and on both sides of Dundee Road from the Des Plaines River west to First Street.

PROPERTY PURCHASES northwest of Milwaukee Avenue and Dundee Road are picking up because of a $4.4 million bond sale recently approved by the village.

The money from the bond enables village officials to make firm offers on property where an $8.9 million retai ally will be develope

The purchases of t Lindquist propertie the number of par owns in the Crossroa on one recently p northwest of the int molished earlier thi

Despite oppositic property to the v said he didn't want t

Panel OKs Park Avenue cul-de-sac

by Edward Felker
Herald correspondent

The Wheeling Plan Commission approved construction of a cul-de-sac at the north end of Park Avenue, after considering options to extend the street through some vacant property to a street south of Highland Avenue.

Park Avenue residents last month had voiced stiff opposition to construction that would extend Park from Mors Avenue to Highland Avenue. The north end of Park now comes to a dead end at a vacant piece of property and then continues on the other side of the land.

Proposed development of homes on the vacant property is what brought the question of street extension before the plan commission. The board voted 4 to 2 in favor of a cul-de-sac rather than a street extension.

PROPERTY OWNER Michael Andalina of Niles told the commission he had no objections to a cul-de-sac being built. He said he plans to sell one lot on either side of Park Avenue and the cul-de-sac could serve one home on each lot.

Construction of the cul-de-sac extension would be paid for by the developer, Village Engineer Michael J. Klitzke said.

Plan commission member Terry Steilen, who voted against the cul-de-sac, said "The concerns of residents are valid but progress is progress. A cul-de-sac would be difficult and inconvenient."

Perry E. Wilson, 280 S. Park Ave., responded to the commission's concerns that the dead-end street is one of the last to get snowplowed and a hindrance for emergency vehicles.

"The residents of the street have, for 30 years, put up with the dead-end being plowed last and the few extra minutes for emergency service," Wilson said. "I don't see any problem and neither do the other residents. I bought (my house) because of a dead-end street."

Wilson said he was in favor of a cul-de-sac over the proposed options of making Park a through street with two-way traffic or with one-way northbound traffic only. Final approval of the plan is up to the village board.

Village wins honors for work with senior citizens

Wheeling's efforts to help its senior citizens will be recognized Monday by the Cook County State's Attorney's office.

Village President Sheila H. Schultz, Senior Citizen Commission Chairwoman Marion Krogdahl and senior citizen coordinator Barbara Hansen will be at the Cook County courthouse in Skokie to receive the award.

Senior citizens in Wheeling nominated the village for the award, said Eileen Carey of the state's attorney's office.

Wheeling has developed an area for seniors, located near Milwaukee Avenue and Strong Street, with a subsidized high-rise apartment complex, a senior center called the Pavilion at 199 N. First St., and Holy Family Ambulatory Care Center, 201 E. Strong Ave.

"The whole senior campus is probably the focal point of the village's effort," Schultz said.

The care center was constructed first, but money from the village and federal grants financed the apartments and the Pavilion, she said. Creating the campus area is to emphasize the idea of self-sufficiency among seniors, she added.

"We're very proud of the award and the efforts of the seniors as well as senior organizers," Schultz said.

HERALD 11-22-86

Thanks from seniors

The Wheeling Senior Citizen Commission thanks all area businesses, industries and merchants that generously contributed door prizes and monetary donations to the fourth annual Wheeling Bike-A-Thon.

Area organizations, the Wheeling Chamber of Commerce, Wheeling Jaycees and Lions, the Wheeling Rotary Club, as well as School District 21 and School District 214 also supported the Bike-A-Thon in a variety of ways. The local press provided excellent coverage of this intergenerational activity that attracted cyclists ranging in age from 9 to 79.

Our appreciation also is extended to the Wheeling Wheelmen Bicycle Club members who rode the 10 mile course, worked the registration desk and sag stops, and marked the route. An area cycle shop provided free bicycle tune-ups and cyclists were served juice and cookies donated by local merchants. Many seniors also contributed to the success of this event under the leadership of Chairpersons Phyllis Harmon and Jack Spellman.

Through the cooperation of many volunteers, groups and the business community, the Bike-A-Thon was a very successful fund-raising event that will help programs and services for 55+ persons at Pavilion — the Wheeling Senior Citizen Center. It is heartwarming to be a part of such fine teamwork by so many community members.

Barbara Hansen
Senior Citizen Coordinator
Village of Wheeling
Senior Citizen Center

Writer applauded

I wish to applaud Jean Godsey of Palatine for urging joggers to wear reflective clothing while they are running. It is also important for joggers (and bicyclists) to carry identification. If there is a medical emergency, swift identification ensures prompt notification to the victim's family, our best resource when medical history information is required.

Leo C. McCann
Chief of Police
Village of Buffalo Grove

HERALD 11-2-86

11-20-86
WHEELING
HERALD
7 Sections—25 Cents
1ST PAGE

Loan set for work downtown

by C.L.Waller
Herald staff writer

The village of Wheeling will borrow $4.4 million from Harris Trust and Savings Bank of Chicago at an annual interest rate of 8.6 percent to help finance a downtown redevelopment project.

The 20-year loan will amount to a total of about $10 million by the time the village repays it, said Dan Wiersma of Flatland, Hinners and Co. of Northfield, the village's financial adviser.

Village officials said they don't anticipate having to increase taxes to repay the debt, but instead are counting on the increased assessed valuation of the upgraded property to generate enough revenues.

Harris Bank offered the lowest interest rate of four bids submitted.

The village expects to receive the loan by Dec. 15 and will begin buying property northwest of Milwaukee Avenue and Dundee Road as part of the Crossroads redevelopment area, which stretches from Manchester Drive north to Strong Street on both sides of Milwaukee Avenue and on both sides of Dundee Road from the Des Plaines River west to First Street.

"Now, with money in hand, we will be able to make firm offers," said Village Manager Thomas M. Markus.

SOME OF the money will go to pay engineering and architectural work done so far for the project, demolition of unwanted structures in the project area and reimbursement to the village for providing a $220,000 incentive to the developer renovating the former Wildwood apartments.

The Crossroads project is being financed through tax increment financing, a method in which the district's property taxes are frozen for up to 23 years. What would have been an increase in property taxes is instead channeled to a special fund for redevelopment.

Village officials are counting on enough funds being built up in the tax increment financing fund by 1988 to pay interest on the bonds. However, if they fall short they will have to to go to the taxpayers for money.

There is "a high degree of certainty" that the village will not have to levy a tax for the special fund, said Robert W. Fialkowski, assistant village manager and finance director.

Wiersma said Wheeling's bond sale marks the first general obligation bond issue in the state that was competitively bid on for tax-increment financing and that is taxable for bond holders. Under new tax laws, the interest earned from municipal bonds is taxed as income, just like bonds in the corporate market.

Herald photo by Sig Bokalders

Barn burner

Firefighters pump water on smouldering hay in a fire that destroyed a barn and 12,000 bales of hay Thursday at a stable in Wheeling. Story on Page 5.

FRONT PAGE
HERALD 11-7-86

Blaze destroys shed, hay at Wheeling horse barn

by C.L.Waller
Herald staff writer

A fire at the Wedgewood Riding Center in Wheeling that burned for nearly 12 hours Thursday destroyed a shed and about 12,000 bales of hay, fire officials said.

None of the approximately 80 horses boarded at the stables at 699 N. Milwaukee Ave. were injured in the fire that caused an estimted $25,000 in damages, said Wheeling Fire Capt. Ralph E. Perricone.

The fire started shortly before midnight Wednesday in a 60-by-40-foot metal shed housing hay and continued to burn until nearly noon Thursday, said Wheeling Fire Chief Bernhardt O. Koeppen.

The cause of the fire and where it started in the shed are unknown.

"We have no idea and we probably will never know," Perricone said, explaining that almost nothing was left for fire officials to examine as evidence.

BECAUSE THE hay shed was about 80 feet east of the horse barn, none of the horses were in danger, he said.

"We had very little wind, and what wind we had was blowing smoke away from the stables," Perricone said.

The fire burned for so long because hay is difficult to extinguish, Koeppen said.

"It's a 10-cent fire and it takes thousands and thousands of gallons of water to put out," he said.

Traffic along Milwaukee Avenue was closed between Strong Avenue and Wolf Road from about 2 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Thursday. Police detoured traffic onto Wolf Road.

HERALD 11-7-86

HERALD 11-24-86

Fence post

letters to the editor

Letters must be signed and include address and telephone number; none will be published anonymously. Letters are subject to editing; a maximum length of 300 words is recommended. Send mail to the Fence post, P.O. Box 280, Arlington Heights, Ill. 60006.

Questions answered

In a letter in the Daily Herald Nov. 6, a reader asked why Plan Commissioner Paul Eisterhold had not been interviewed before his recent reappointment.

I was correctly quoted as having said Aug. 25, 1985, that "Every interview of a commission member being appointed or reappointed in the four years that I have been president has been well publicized and open to the public."

By village code, appointments are made by the president and approved by the board. I initiated the interview process so trustees could meet and exchange views with applicants before being asked to approve appointments. All interviews are publicized and open to the public, as required by law.

The reader also "wondered whether any of the other commissioners reappointed over the last several weeks had public interviews." Between December 1985 and September 1986, five new applicants were interviewed and appointed to vacancies on the senior citizen, plan, appearance and ethics commissions.

Five others, including Mr. Eisterhold, asked to be reappointed when their terms expired. Because the schedules of village board members and those who serve on other boards are so busy, setting appointments was difficult. Also, there were no alternate applicants for any of the positions so the village board decided to make the appointments without additional interviews.

I regret that this departure from the preferred procedure caused any concern. I am confident that all members will continue to be independent and constructive in their service to Wheeling.

Sheila H. Schultz
Village President
Wheeling

A better way?

Recently the Wheeling Police ticketed cars that were standing in the "Do Not Block Driveway" lane outside the village fire department. I was not one of the ticketed persons. I do not question the motive. However, I question whether sporadic ticketing is effective.

Also, with such a wide span of driveway and its proximity to a stop light, is there not a better way to warn motorists of this regulation? Why not paint diagonal stripes on this area? With the manyvehicles that pass through this area, drivers who are not familiar with our village would find the warning lines helpful. Stripes also would give drivers familiar with the area better visual warning. They certainly would serve more advance notice for a two-lane road than the signs posted there.

For comparison, the striped area on River Road, by the Des Plaines Fire Department deters drivers from blocking the drive more effectively than the signs on Dundee Road.

James A. Lumb
Wheeling

EDITORIALS

"Our aim: To fear God, tell the truth and make money"
H. C. PADDOCK 1852-1935

Time to change billboard law

Eighteen months ago Cook County Commissioners Carl Hansen of Mount Prospect and Richard Siebel of Northbrook proposed changes in the county's zoning ordinance as it applies to outdoor billboard signs. The changes would make it much harder to put up those huge signs that have been proliferating along major roads in the Northwest suburbs, some of them smack in residential neighborhoods.

Among other things the new rules would lengthen the distance between signs and also between the signs and nearby homes. The rules also would limit the size of signs and restrict their height.

Probably most important, the county commissioners would have the final say on granting a variance of more than 10 percent in any particular sign. The zoning board of appeals now has that authority.

The changes have the support of the Northwest Municipal Conference as well as several commissioners besides Hansen and Siebel.

It took a year for the proposed changes to win approval by the county zoning appeals board. They are now before the county board's zoning and building committee. But meantime, numerous new signs have gone up in unincorporated areas, apparently as billboard companies anticipate they may not be able to erect such huge signs in the future.

Along Northwest Highway between the villages of Palatine and Barrington, for example, nearly a dozen billboards advertising everything from liquor and cigarettes to automobiles and gasoline appeared in just the last few months. Not only are they unsightly, but in some instances their mere size distracts drivers.

Employees and neighbors of Buehler YMCA in Palatine were so angry they circulated a petition of protest that they sent to the county board.

Recently two new billboards, still bare of any advertising, were put up at Dundee and Quentin roads across from the Deer Park Forest Preserve in what is essentially a rural-like residential area.

It is time to put a stop to this marring of the suburban landscape. When the zoning committee of the whole meets next week, its members can do that by giving their approval to the proposed changes in the county's sign law, so the county board can act on them.

If the present board does not move now to approve the changes, there will be further delay because eight board members are retiring Dec 1, and incoming members will have to be educated to the need.

Clouds over kid care

By all accounts, the Sunnie Kiddies Day Care Center is one of the better facilities in the Wheeling area. The center, which serves nearly 300 families, has won kudos from parents and local officials for running a top-notch program.

But Sunnie Kiddies, which recently was forced out of its Wheeling location and moved to neighboring Prospect Heights, may have to shut its doors for good because of a zoning dispute with that city.

And that would be a catastrophe for the 300 families that are served by the center.

The center, which now occupies the Muir School building on the Wheeling/Prospect Heights border, may not get approval from Prospect Heights to stay open because there's only one driveway on the school property. Prospect Heights is requiring a second driveway because residents living near the school say it generates too traffic generated around their neighborhood.

While government officials from Wheeling and Prospect Heights could do something to rectify the alleged traffic problems caused by the school they have backed off of the issue with comments like "It's not our problem."

And as they maintain this posture, officials from both municipalities acknowledge that this is one of the finest day care programs offered in the area. Little mention is made, however, of what will become of the 200 Wheeling families and the 100 other families from other nearby suburbs that rely on the center so parents can continue providing essential income.

Indeed the children and parents who need this program have been given far less consideration than some of the residents who live near the center and complain about excessive traffic — the same people who lived in these homes when the building was used for a public school.

It's not right to lay the blame for this situation on any one governmental body, or even on the center's director for not thoroughly checking out with Prospect Heights officials whether the center could continue operating without adding an access drive to the site.

No, there is plenty of blame to go around. The problem seems to be getting public officials to realize that it is imperative that some workable solution be found to allow the center to continue to operate and provide a vital service to the residents of our community.

But instead of trying to find a solution, or even considering trying to find a solution, officials are avoiding it with arguments designed to shift the focus to another body. Their actions are most unfortunate because they don't do anyone any good.

It would be a shame if Sunnie Kiddies, which has already been kicked out of a Wheeling school, would once again be without a home because local officials continue to pass the buck on the issue.

New parks chief

His name is Karop Bavougian and he's the new head of the Wheeling Park District.

And our initial impression of the man is that he's a solid professional with a lot of experience and some good ideas for getting the park district back on track.

For the last seven months, since former park manager Dave Phillips resigned without notice, the district has been in dire need of a leader, someone to take charge by giving direction to staff and providing guidance to the park board. Bavougian, who has six year experience as the chief of the Glen Ellyn Park District, appears to fit that bill perfectly.

The man has his share of challenges ahead of him. In the coming months, Bavougian will have to work on improving the relationship between the park board and the Wheeling Historical Society, the board's citizens' advisory committee and district employees. And he'll have to find a way to implement the numerous recommendations made by the citizens' committee to improve Wheeling's park facilities.

We wish him luck in meeting those challenges and setting the direction for the district. And we urge the park board, staff and the community to work with Bavougian as he prepares to tackle the district's problems.

EDITORIALS

"Our aim: To fear God, tell the truth and make money."
H. C. PADDOCK 1852-1935

Unite to garner best utility deal

What John Dickinson wrote almost 220 years ago, "United we stand, divided we fall," became a watchword for the American Revolution.

His admonition continues to be relevant today, especially for the Northwest suburbs.

For instance, communities now negotiate their franchise agreements individually with Commonwealth Edison. The giant utility usually offers a municipality free electric service for its buildings in exchange for the right to provide electric service to residents of the community.

But officials in Rolling Meadows say area towns ought to negotiate their franchise agreements collectively with ComEd; the precedent is set — suburbs already do so for their telephone service with Illinois Bell.

If area communities band together, rather than negotiate alone with the utility, they might be able to bargain for more advantageous franchise agreements.

Rolling Meadows' contract with ComEd does not expire until 1991, but the utility recently asked the city whether it could start now on the renewal process. It presented the city with its standard offer of 50 years of free electric service for municipal buildings.

But 2nd Ward Alderman Thomas Menzel says he thinks the city ought to receive a percentage of the revenue ComEd gets from city residents. He also would cut the length of the agreement in half — to 25 years.

ComEd District Superintendent William Darling said the company would listen to the suburbs collectively, but he would not indicate what, if any, impact such negotiations might have on franchise agreements in the future.

Streamwood Village Manager Ed Emond admits there is strength in numbers and that the Northwest suburbs probably would get a better result if they negotiated with the utility in consort. The Northwest Municipal Conference would be the logical forum through which communities could bargain with ComEd.

Menzel may have been motivated by finding an agreement with ComEd that would be beneficial for Rolling Meadows and its residents, but he also recognized the regional ramifications of dealing with the utility.

The Northwest suburbs should share Menzel's foresight and realize that by uniting they have a better chance of getting more from ComEd than the standard offer the utility now dictates to individual communities.

EDITORIALS

"Our aim: To fear God, tell the truth and make money."
H. C. PADDOCK 1852-1935

Lake water is worth the cost

Lake Michigan water won't be gushing in central Lake County tomorrow, but the water might be flowing as early as 1990 because an agency now has the power to raise the money to pay for the project.

By voting to become a Joint Action Water Agency, the group that worked for five years laying the groundwork for this lake water project, now may levy taxes and issue bonds.

The agency needs $58 million to pay for constructing a pumping station in Lake Bluff and a treatment plant east of Libertyville that will supply lake water to Libertyville, Vernon Hills, Gurnee, Wildwood, Grayslake, Lake Bluff and Knollwood/Rondout.

Historically, bringing water inland from Lake Michigan has been a nearly Herculean task for communities that have banded together and chosen this route as a way to resolve their water quality/shortage problems.

The project is particularly imperative for Libertyville, which must close its deep wells within two years because the water contains too much radium.

DuPage County still is working to get Lake Michigan water to its thirsty communities.

A plan approved earlier this year by the DuPage Water Commission, calls for the commission to borrow up to $200 million. Work is supposed to start in 1987 and be completed by 1992.

The central Lake County water agency is projecting that it will cost a typical homeowner more than $200 a year — through a combination of higher property taxes and water bill fees.

Bringing Lake Michigan water to central Lake County will be expensive.

However, the filtered water the pipeline will bring will be safer and more abundant than the water residents of these communities now have — which makes the project worth the price.

Wheeling issues bonds for downtown project

By BOB KEHOE

Some $4.35 million in general obligation bonds were issued by Wheeling officials Monday to help continue with property acquisitions and other items in the ongoing redevelopment near Milwaukee Avenue and Dundee Road.

The bonds, which will be paid back solely from property tax revenue gains in the redevelopment area, were sold to a group of financial firms headed by Harris Trust and Savings Bank with an interest rate of 8.62 percent — a rate far below what might have been offered prior to recent tax law changes.

The village will receive the $4.35 million from the bond sale sometime in mid-December and will begin paying off the debt in June, 1987, according to Dan Wiersma, vice president of Flatland & Hinners, the firm which handled the bond sale for the village.

Wiersma said the debt is scheduled to be paid off in 1997, but may be repaid earlier if property values in the Crossroads redevelopment area rise faster than the conservative projections made by the village.

STRESSING THAT THE redevelopment project will "stand on its own" and not require additional tax dollars from homeowners and other village taxpayers, Tom Markus, village manager, said he is hopeful the bonds will be paid off early.

As for what will be done with the money from the bond sale, Markus said it will primarily be used for land acquisitions but will also include things like paying legal fees, consultants fees, architectural and engineering fees, as well as fees for demolition of buildings and construction of public improvements.

Most of the money will be spent for property acquisition at the northwest corner of Milwaukee Avenue and Dundee Road for development of the Village Square Shopping Center.

In addition, some of the money will also be used for reimbursing the village for expenses already incurred in the conversion of Wildwood Apartments to Arbor Court Apartments.

IN A WRITTEN statement to the board, Markus stated "The funds provided as a result of this bond issue in my opinion will create the seed money for the total redevelopment of Milwaukee Avenue into a substantial commercial office corridor which will provide property and sales tax benefits to this community for many years to come."

The money to accomplish the goal of revitalizing the Milwaukee Avenue corridor came at a bargain interest rate, according to Wiersma, who said a total of 29 financial institutions were in on the bidding.

Work in the Milwaukee Avenue-Dundee Road area will be perhaps the most ambitious part of the first-phase redevelopment effort. The entire downtown redevelopment is scheduled for six phases.

First-phase work is estimated to cost some $5.8 million. Using the Sportmart store at 240 E. Dundee Road as an anchor, plans call for development of a retail center to replace the residences and businesses that stand north along Milwaukee Avenue.

PHASE TWO WORK includes redevelopment south of Center Avenue and improvements along the south bank of the Des Plaines River. Second-phase work is estimated to take about three years to complete.

While those 29 firms worked together in groups to submit only four bids, Wiersma said the spread in interest rates varied from the low 8.62 percent the village accepted to a high of 9.04 percent — a variance of more than $256,000 over the life of the payback period.

Recent revisions to the tax laws and a steady upswing in the bond market were the reasons Wiersma cited for the village's ability to land such a low interest rate.

Wiersma also added that the fact this was the first time financial institutions were bidding on taxable general obligation bonds for a tax increment finance district also may have helped spur greater interest.

Concurring with village officials that the debt payback won't require any tax dollars from village residents, Wiersma said the redevelopment effort has been handled wisely and will allow local school districts, the park district and other taxing bodies to reap greater benefits in the years ahead.

11-20-86

11-86

Seizing the opportunity

Wheeling snaps up two remote parcels

by C.L. Waller
Herald staff writer

Wheeling's recent annexation of two parcels of land in unincorporated Cook County seemed natural to village officials. After all, one of the bordering towns would annex the property sooner or later, so why shouldn't Wheeling take the opportunity?

The property along Lake-Cook Road that the village forcibly annexed consists of one parcel of 12 acres, commonly known as the Grand Champion Stables, and a parcel of 7.4 acres adjacent to it containing a house and a barn.

Village Manager Thomas M. Markus said officials saw no reason not to put the parcels in Wheeling, even though their locations between Portwine and Saunders roads around the Cook County Forest Preserve make them somewhat remote to the rest of Wheeling's western edge.

Not only would Wheeling have control over what is developed there, Markus said, but a commercial development planned for the stables property would help diversify Wheeling's tax base.

But the villages of Riverwoods, located across from the stables property, and Northbrook, immediately east of the 7.4 acres, have been taken aback by Wheeling's annexations.

Whether it's a fear of more development along Lake-Cook Road or Wheeling's reputation of previous administrations approving high-density developments, the neighbors are worried.

INCREASED TRAFFIC on Lake-Cook Road, a drop in the water table for Riverwoods residents and remoteness of the properties from the rest of Wheeling concerns village presidents in Riverwoods and Northbrook.

"You know you can control what's in your own borders."
— *Wheeling Village President Sheila H. Schultz*

"I think we might have an interesting lawsuit," said Riverwoods Village President Charles M. Smith.

Riverwoods officials gave its village attorney permission Tuesday night to pursue an investigation into filing a lawsuit, in conjunction with the village of Northbrook, against Wheeling.

Riverwoods, a community with a minimum of one-acre developments, no sewer system and well water for each resident, is particularly concerned with further development near its south border along Lake-Cook Road.

"We don't want people coming in and developing commercially," Smith said.

Not only would there be more traffic, he said, but well water going to Riverwoods residents could decrease with a new well dug across the road for Wheeling's proposed office buildings.

"Wheeling may have gone as far as they can go," said Northbrook Village President Richard T. Falcone. "It (annexation) may conform legally, but it violates the good spirit between villages."

RIVERWOODS IS interested in maintaining its country-like atmosphere, and the idea of an office development on the stables property just doesn't fit in with Riverwoods developments, Smith said.

"We have more squirrels than we have people and about as many raccoons," he said.

And even though Riverwoods has an office complex called Commerce Clearinghouse located across Lake-Cook Road from the stables property, Smith is calling for an end to future development along Lake-Cook Road.

"I'm saying let's stop all development until we decide who's paying for it," he said. "There should be a moratorium on traffic on Lake-Cook Road from the Edens Expressway to Buffalo Grove."

Wheeling Village President Sheila H Schultz said she understands Riverwoods' concerns. "They do have such a unique character and for the village to stand up for that is understandable," she said.

At the same time, Schultz believes she has Wheeling's best interest in mind by wanting to annex the property. "You know you can control what's in your own borders," she said.

Falcone said, "I can understand what Wheeling is doing. I can understand it, but I don't have to like it."

NORTHBROOK'S PARTICULAR concern is Wheeling's plan to annex and leave as is the 7.4 acres east of the stables property and adjacent to Northbrook.

"I expect some flak may fly if Wheeling keeps coming east. It's dangerous to annex property without a plan," Falcone said.

The seven acres would be too close to a future residential development planned at the southwest corner of Milwaukee Avenue and Saunders Road, Falcone said. Called Frenchman's Cove, plans call for 30 condominiums to be constructed there, he said. "They (Wheeling) are now precariously close," he said.

Falcone said he also is concerned about the quality of police and fire protection to those annexed areas. He said the parcels, located east of the Des Plaines River and a section of the Cook County Forest Preserve, are rather far from Wheeling.

"I don't think they can look the village presidents of Northbrook and Riverwoods in the eye and say they can provide fire and police protection to that area," Falcone said.

Wheeling's village manager doesn't believe that will be difficult, because he said the Wheeling Fire Protection District is already serving that area.

Schultz said Wheeling is not so different from Riverwoods and Northbrook in that the village shares the same concerns. "I can assure them we will do it properly," she said.

While Northbrook wants to be cautious with its neighbors, Falcone said he is confident in Schultz's leadership. "She's a pretty fine lady and I have to let her move first," he said.

Nov 1986

Village, parks plan safe, fun times for Halloween

Children in the village of Wheeling will be allowed to trick-or-treat between 3:30 and 6:30 p.m. Friday.

Village officials set those hours as a safety measure to prevent children from going door-to-door during nighttime hours.

Meanwhile, the Wheeling Park District is hosting a series of fun Halloween activities for little tricksters.

A carnival for preschoolers will be held from 4 to 7 p.m. today at the Chevy Chase Club House, 1000 N. Milwaukee Ave. A costume contest for preschoolers also will go on from 5 to 6 p.m. today at Chevy Chase. A costume contest for children in grades kindergarten to six will be held from 4 to 5 p.m. today at Heritage Park, 222 S. Wolf Road.

A Halloween spook trail will be set up from 6 to 9 p.m. Friday at Childerly Park, 506 McHenry Road. Park officials ask that all children under the age 12 be accompanied by an adult.

Free X-ray examinations of treats will be offered from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. Friday at Holy Family Hospital, Golf and River roads in Des Plaines, or at the Holy Family Ambulatory Care Center at Strong and Milwaukee avenues in Wheeling.

In case of suspected poisoning, parents should call Holy Family's Poison Control Center at 297-1800 extension 1017.

HERALD 10-30-86

11-30-86

3 injured during fire

Wheeling Fire Department investigators Tuesday were still searching for clues to what caused a fire early Saturday morning in a third floor apartment at 640 Piper Lane that left three persons injured.

Fire investigators said Tuesday they are hoping Sang Lee, 32, who suffered severe burns in the blaze, can give them some idea of what caused the fire, which broke out around 12:11 a.m..

As of Tuesday morning Lee was listed in serious condition at the Cook County Hospital burn unit where he is being treated for burns to his feet, hands, leg, face and neck.

Ralph Perricone, Wheeling Fire Department captain, said investigators suspect a space heater found near a bedroom in the apartment may have played a role in the fire, but they were unable to determine whether the heater was being used that night.

Also injured in the fire were Lee's 25-year-old wife, Bok, and his 1-year-old son, Timothy. The mother and child suffered minor injuries in the fire and were taken to Holy Family Hospital in Des Plaines where they were later released. Perricone said fire department officials have been unsuccessful in locating Mrs. Lee to see if she can give them insight into how the fire may have started.

Perricone said firefighters arrived on the scene to fight the fire shortly after midnight on Saturday. After they were convinced the fire was extinguished, firefighters left the scene around 2:20 a.m., Perricone said.

Later that morning, however, firefighters were called back to the scene to put out another fire that apparently was caused on the third floor by an ember from the Lee fire.

Village annexes second site on Lake-Cook Rd.

11-20-86 COUNTRYSIDE

By BOB KEHOE

In a move aimed at possibly combining development of the recently-annexed 12-acre Grand Champion Stables property with land to the east, the Wheeling Village Board Monday annexed a 7.39-acre parcel on Lake-Cook Road.

The involuntary annexation, meaning it was not done at the request of the property owners, should give village officials more flexibility in controlling traffic patterns in the area once the stable property is developed.

Current plans are for developer Joseph Judah to build 150,000 square feet of office space on the Grand Champion Stables property, located on the south side of t he sou. Judah, however, has yet to submit formal development plans to village officials.

The stable property, annexed Nov. 3, is on the south side of Lake-Cook Road to the east of Portwine Road and west of Sanders Road.

TOM MARKUS, VILLAGE manager, said Monday's annexation, in addition to helping local officials better control the number of curb cuts on Lake-Cook Road and thereby influence traffic patterns, will also allow the village to more fully utilize the sanitary sewer extension which is proposed to be extended to the stables property.

The property annexed Monday includes one single-family home and one mobile home, both of which are to the east of the Grand Champion Stables property.

Jack Thompson, who owns about five acres of the property annexed, attended Monday's village board meeting and raised no serious objections to the move by the village.

Thompson did say, however, that he doesn't want local officials to begin enforcing all kinds of local rules and regulations on how he lives.

THOMPSON, WHO OWNS a number of horses and has grown accustomed to living in an unincorporated area, said he doesn't plan to retain ownership of the property much longer and added that he has already sold an option on his land to Juda.

Markus assured Thompson village officials won't interfere with his lifestyle and said the village merely took the step to annex the property before another village did.

Had another municipality ended up annexing the property, Markus said Wheeling officials would have lost ability to control traffic in and out of any development that might have occurred on the site.

Thursday, November 20, 1986

Fence post

letters to the editor

Letters must be signed and include address and telephone number; none will be published anonymously. Letters are subject to editing; a maximum length of 300 words is recommended. Send mail to the Fence post, P.O. Box 280, Arlington Heights, Ill. 60006.

Appointment deserved

I was pleased to read in the Oct. 28 issue of the Daily Herald that Paul Eisterhold had been reappointed ot the Wheeling Plan Commission. He has been an excellent commissioner and chairman and deserved to be reappointed.

But I wonder why he wasn't publicly interviewed prior to his reappointment — a public interview similar to the one I had to go through in July 1985. That was prior to the October 1985 private notification from the village president to me that I would not be reappointed. I also wonder whether any of the other commissioners reappointed over the last several weeks had public interviews.

Of course the president and village board may do as they please but I remember a Guest view in the Herald Aug. 12, 1985, in which Sheila Schultz stated, "Every interview of a commission member being appointed or reappointed in the four years that I have been village president has been well publicized and open to the public." The Guest view also said that in the past interviews were rarely conducted, but she chose to do so when she was elected.

I was criticized at a meeting between the village board and the plan commission for attending board meetings and speaking at those meetings and was told that commission members should not express opinions at board meetings. With respect to Mr. Eisterhold he occasionally attend board meetings and spoke just as I did — we attended several of the same meetings.

Christine S. Dolgopol
Wheeling

HERALD 11-6-86

HERALD 11-7-86

Fence post

letters to the editor

Letters must be signed and include address and telephone number; none will be published anonymously. Letters are subject to editing; a maximum length of 300 words is recommended. Send mail to the Fence post, P.O. Box 280, Arlington Heights, Ill. 60006.

Road questions

I want to ask city, county and/or state officials:

- Why is a "right turn on red" is allowed at the intersections of Hintz and Glenn (Wheeling) and Hintz and Buffalo Grove Road (Buffalo Grove)? Have you ever noticed the number of people who abuse the privilege?
- I do not understand, why two major north/south roads (Schoenbeck and Wheeling) were closed simultaneously this fall? This forced most of the traffic onto Elmhurst Road (Route 83), which virtually has turned into a parking lot.
- I do not understand, why the side streets are being torn up for the sewer project, less than a year after being repaved?
- I do not understand, why the streets have not been cleaned of the mud, sand, etc. from the sewer project? I called the public works department Oct. 27, and asked whether it would be possible to have a street cleaner clean up the mud from the street and curbs. I was politely told that there is a normal schedule for this project. Considering the sewer repairs are not normal maintenance, I thought the schedule for street cleaning should be changed to accommodate this difference. My name and telephone number were taken, but no one followed up on my question. I inquired about the cleaning the mud combined with the fallen leaves makes the streets very slippery.

I was thinking of the "safety' of our regular residential speeders and the welfare of the children who play in the area.

Mark Lind
Wheeling

11-13-86

Eisenhammer named to head Dist. 214 Board

WHEELING — High School District School Board Member Stan Eisenhammer has been elected School Board president, taking over from Sandra Byrnes.

John Holub was elected secretary.

Byrnes, who served as president for one year, declined to run for the position again, saying the presidency should be rotated.

Eisenhammer said rotating the presidency on a yearly basis has been a District 214 tradition.

Under Byrnes leadership, Eisenhammer said, the School Board attacked a lot of pressing problems, including choosing a new superintendent and re-establishing community confidence. Now, he said, he hopes the board can talk about the needs of the students and implement the district's long-term goals.

He said he wants to focus on

(Continued on page 3)

EISENHAMMER

Eisenhammer named to head board

(Continued from page 1)

outcomes based education and work on continuing to improve staff morale and establishing good long-term employee relations.

Saying a board president is the first among equals, Eisenhammer added that he sees his role as "ensuring that the board runs in a manner to make well-reasoned decisions."

Eisenhammer, 37, was elected to the School Board in November 1985. An attorney who specializes in public sector labor law and school law, he works for Gottlieb and Schwartz.

Eisenhammer lives in Arlington Heights with his wife and two children.

11-86

Local day care center in danger of closing

By BOB KEHOE
and JULIE WESSEL

The operator of one of the largest day care programs serving area residents should find out Nov. 20 whether Prospect Heights officials will reverse field and perhaps allow her to remain in business without adding an access drive to the center.

Eilene Lombardo, director of the Sunnie Kiddies Foundation Day Care Center, said Monday she is not expecting a favorable recommendation from the Prospect Heights Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) on her request for a special use permit to allow the center to continue operating.

Lombardo said she expects the hearing to be a mere formality before her request is rejected because she has been unable to get permission from either the Village of Wheeling or the Wheeling Park District to let her build another access drive on land owned by the two municipal bodies.

Although the Prospect Heights city council will have final say on the special use permit request, Lombardo said city officials have assured her that without another access drive to alleviate traffic congestion at the center's only entrance they will not allow her to continue serving the approximately 300 youngsters and their families who use the center.

"IT'S ALMOST like something is going on here that we don't know about," Lombardo said, after the Wheeling Village Board and the Wheeling Park District board both formally refused to get involved in the issue last week.

Making another plea for village officials to grant permission to allow her to build another access drive to the center remains a possibility, Lombardo said Tuesday, but she wasn't sure it would do any good.

Should Prospect Heights officials reject her special use permit request, Lombardo's only options may be court action or closing the center.

Closing the center, which is located in the former Muir School just over the southwest border of Wheeling near the Route 83/Hintz Road intersection, is a last resort, according to Lombardo, who adds that she will fight on to keep the center open.

Keeping the facility open is a key concern to the approximately 200 Wheeling families that use the center, some of whom showed up at a Wheeling Park District hearing last Thursday. The center's supporters, however, were met with resistance from several Prospect Heights homeowners who live near the center.

"I'M IN opposition to these people running a business in a residential area," said Dale Von Oeyen, 14 E. Drake Terrace, Prospect Heights. "(The traffic) is constant. How can they run a buiness in a residential neighborhood?"

Von Oeyen said he and his neighbors have done several traffic studies in that area, showing that at some peak times, more than 40 cars stop at the school at one time.

He said a survey done in mid-September showed 15 cars stopping at the school between 6:30 and 7 a.m.; 37 cars stopping between 7 and 7:30 a.m.; 34 cars between 7:30 and 8 a.m.; 35 cars between 8 and 8:30 a.m.; and 49 cars between 8:30 and 9 a.m.

Von Oeyen said when the facility was a pubic school there was less traffic because the children were bused. But with no set time for parents to pick up or drop off their children, coupled with the number of individual cars coming and going all day, the traffic on surrounding streets is constantly a problem.

Another Prospect Heights resident, Ken Meridith, said because 90 percent of the families using the school live in Wheeling, the village and park district should share some of the burden of traffic.

"ONE THING we try to guard against is

(Continued on page

Sunnie Kiddies parents angry over likely closing of center

By BOB KEHOE

Wheeling parents with children enrolled in the Sunnie Kiddies Day Care Center are fighting mad at the possibility the school could be forced to close if an extra access drive to the site isn't added.

"I'd find it ludicrous if (the center) were forced to close over this issue. I'd write the governor," said Wheeling resident Phillip Benson, who enrolled two of his children in the program about 1½ years ago.

What particularly angers Benson is that the relatively few homeowners who live around the Sunnie Kiddies center in Prospect Heights seem to be trying to control the local road network that parents use to get their children to the center each day.

"It just doesn't make sense how a dozen families can obstruct the 250 families that (rely on this program)," Benson said. "For the life of me I can't figure out what their problem is."

BENSON'S CONTENTION THAT the traffic generated by the center does not have much impact on the surrounding neighborhood was shared by other Wheeling residents with children enrolled in Sunnie Kiddies.

Their opinions, however, aren't likely to carry much weight with the Prospect Heights Plan Commission, which is all but certain to recommend tonight that city officials not allow the center to remain operating without an extra access drive to the school.

If Prospect Heights officials were to order the center to close, a prospect the center's director Eilene Lombardo thinks is looking increasingly likely, it could leave about 200 Wheeling families searching for a solution to their day care needs.

"I'd probably quit my job," said Loretta Geddling of Wheeling, when asked what she'd do if the center were forced to close.

Geddling, who has had her daughter in the program for three years, said she has called public officials to express her anger at the way this issue has been handled, but the calls did not bring the results she hoped.

(Continued on page 12)

Day care—

(Continued from page 5)

not bringing into residential neighborhoods traffic that is not appropriate for those neighborhoods," said Wheeling Village Planner Richard Greenwood. "We recommend against any form of connection with neighborhood streets. We don't think it would be appropriate."

Greenwood said if Wheeling decided to provide a second access to the facility, there would be nothing to stop Prospect Heights from closing off its access drive and forcing all traffic from the center onto Wheeling streets.

Lombardo and parents who drop their children off at the center deny there is any serious traffic problem. They say that since parents drop children off at the center at different times traffic flows smoothly.

The heaviest traffic period of the day, Lombardo said, is usually from 5 to 6 p.m., adding that there is still no backup at that time. Lombardo also takes exception to the attitude of some Prospect Heights residents who live near the center and complain about excess traffic.

"We're talking about streets that aren't

WHEELING LIFE

Thursday, Nov. 13, 1986

Making good a pledge

ONE OF THOSE who pledged money for the number of miles ridden on the Wheeling Bike-a-Thon was Village President Sheila Schultz, who presents her check to Phyllis Harmon, founder of the Wheeling Wheelmen. Looking on are Jack Spellman and Mary Fisher, the oldest rider on the Bike-a-Thon, which was held Oct. 5 to raise money for the senior center. (Photo by Alan Sue)

Trustees, newcomer form slate

by C.L. Waller
Herald staff writer

Two Wheeling trustees and a newcomer have formed a slate called the Wheeling Upward Party to run for three seats in the April election.

The slate will include Trustee Anthony Altieri, first elected in 1983, Trustee James R. Whittington, who was appointed last year, and Clifford E. Bird.

Trustee Nicholas R. Fanella, who is completing his first term on the board, said he will not seek re-election because he is too busy with his job as president of MFC Mortgage Corp. in Buffalo Grove.

Anthony Altieri
Incumbent trustee

James Whittington
Appointed last year

THE NEW slate has no platform, but the three said their goal is to be aware of the community needs, show concern for the economic conditions of the village and to provide independent leadership to Wheeling residents.

Altieri, 48, has lived in Wheeling for 23 years and served on the plan commission for nine years before being elected to the village board. He said he is seeking re-election because he wants to continue to use the knowledge he has gained on village projects such as buying Pal-Waukee Airport and redeveloping the Crossroads area.

Altieri said he asked Bird to join the slate because Bird had attended village board meetings and represented residents of Whippletree Village, a mobile home park, when the village was considering enlarging mobile home lots, which would have forced out some of the 400 residents there by 1992.

Bird, 64, has lived in Whippletree Village since 1981 and is serving until the end of this year as president of the homeowners association.

SEVERAL RESIDENTS last summer asked Bird to run for trustee after the ordinance debate, he said. "They thought I was instrumental in stopping amortization," Bird said.

However, Bird said he would not focus exclusively on issues affecting Whippletree residents. "Taking on a job like this, you have to change attitudes and look at the village as a whole."

Whittington, 38, said he wants to remain on the board because "good things are happening in Wheeling and I want to be a part of it. It's been a learning process. You just don't jump in this thing and jump out."

Whittington's responsibility as director of student activities with Northwest Suburban High School District 214 often calls for his attendance at school board meetings, but he said his job will not conflict with his role as trustee.

Only in the past two months have village board meetings conflicted with school board meetings, he said. "If there's any possible way that issues with the school board can be handled by someone else, they are," he said.

Whittington served two years on the plan commission before being appointed as trustee. 12-17-86

Wheeling OKs Pal-Waukee purchase

12-86

by C. L.Waller
Herald staff writer

Wheeling trustees and Prospect Heights officials approved Tuesday night paying $22 million to purchase Pal-Waukee Airport.

Officials from Wheeling and Prospect Heights, along with the Pal-Waukee Airport Commission and representatives from the Federal Aviation Administration, met in closed session earlier Tuesday night at the Wheeling village hall to discuss the airport.

Following the closed session, Pal-Waukee Airport commissioners recommended purchase of the airport.

Elected officials from both communities then went to their respective council chambers to approve the purchase agreement. The communities will own the airport as of Dec. 31.

Prior to the Prospect Heights city council meeting, alderman and city officials were confident about approval for the purchase agreement.

"I see absolutely no need to reject their (the commission's) recommendation," Third Ward Alderman Edward Rotchford said. "The commission has done a good job, and I'm for it."

The $22 million, which will come primarily from federal grant money, will be used to buy the 267 acres located at Milwaukee Avenue, Wolf, Hintz and Palatine roads, plus two hangars. Wheeling trustees also approved applying for another FAA grant, which would provide $1.5 million to purchase the nine other hangars not included in the purchase agreement.

"It's like being an overnight success after several years. I think there's a real good sense of satisfaction to get to this point," said Sheila H. Schultz, Wheeling village president.

Both towns were expected to approve the purchase agreement Dec. 4, but a snag developed between the FAA and the communities over when hangars at the airport would need to be demolished according to FAA safety regulations.

LIFE 12-11-86

Village position rejected

Firefighters win labor decision

BY MARIE LUTZ
Staff Writer

WHEELING — Rejecting Wheeling administration arguments, The Illinois Labor Relations Board has ruled that six lieutenants can be included in the Wheeling Firefighters Association.

The village has not yet decided whether to appeal the ruling in court, said Village Manager Tom Markus.

The firefighters in January had requested that the lieutenants be allowed to join their union, but village officials denied the request, saying lieutenants are supervisors.

Under the state's public labor relations law, supervisors are generally excluded from joining a union with the rank and file although they can form a separate unit if management agrees.

Bart Burns, president of the Firefighters Association, which includes paramedics, said lieutenants should be included in the firefighters union because the firefighters and lieutenants work as a team. All the lieutenants wanted to be part of the union, he said.

"We eat together here, we sleep together, and spend our leisure time together; we enter hazardous environments together and we do all this as a team. We have comraderie because of our team work together and we wanted to remain as a team. We didn't want artificial barriers set up between us and the lieutenants."

He added, "It's not just rhetoric. It's really part of our working well together."

Sue Musick, village personnel officer, said village officials believed lieutenants were supervisors under the state's definition of the word.

"They direct the work of the firefighters; they evaluate them. If an employee has to be disciplined, then they carry out the discipline or recommend it to their superiors."

In addition, Musick said, lieutenants do reports not required as part of the duties of firefighters.

"We were quite surprised (by the decision)," Musick said. "We thought we had a very strong case."

Musick said the Labor Relations Board seemed to give most weight to the work done by firefighters at a fire. The board seemed to believe that the firefighters work as a team when they are at a fire scene, she said, adding that village officials disagree because lieutenants also direct what the team will do.

Burns said the board ruled that

Please turn to page 3

Fire officials join union

Continued from page 1

lieutenants were not supervisors because they determined "that their principal work is not substantially different from that of the firefighters."

LIFE 12-11-86

Under the law the preponderance of an employee's duties must be supervisory in order for him or her to be considered a supervisor.

The firefighters made the request to add lieutenants to their union after the Illinois Public Labor Relations Act was amended, effective January 1986, to include fire and police personnel.

The act gives public employees collective bargaining rights they may not have had previously. Before January, if the village had rejected the lieutenants' request to join the union, the firefighters would have had no place to appeal the decision.

According to a representative of the Labor Relations Board, the board directed that the Wheeling firefighters, paramedics and lieutenants hold an election to determine whether they should be represented by the Wheeling Firefighters Association. The ruling was made Nov. 26.

Currently all 31 firefighters and paramedics belong to the association.

12-86

Board OKs lieutenants for union

by C.L. Waller
Herald staff writer

In a precedent-setting ruling, the Illinois Labor Relations Board says lieutenants should be included in the Wheeling Firefighters Association.

"The board found they are really part of the firefighting team," said Jackie Zimmermann, attorney for the labor relations board. "From the board's point of view, they have to bargain for those officers as well as rank and file employees."

The ruling follows an amendment passed last January to the Illinois Public Labor Relations Act that created collective bargaining for police officers and firefighters.

The amendment excludes supervisors, or in Wheeling's case, lieutenants, but the Wheeling association asked the village to recognize six lieutenants as part of the association.

WHEN THE VILLAGE refused, the association proceeded to plead its case before the labor relations board, said Bart J. Burns, president of the association.

"The nature of firefighting is different than any other job," Burns said. "We eat together, sleep together and go into dangerous situations together. We work as a team and we want to continue that camaraderie.

"If an adversarial relationship developed between management and rank-and-file employees, it would have a negative effect on the team."

Wheeling Village Manager Thomas M. Markus said the village is waiting to hear official word from the labor relations board before deciding whether to appeal the decision.

BUT HE ADDED that lieutenants "are management employees and as management employees, they don't belong in a bargaining unit."

Sometimes management has recommend disciplinary act against employees, and incl lieutenants in the firefighters ation could only complicate said.

Zimmerman said she e appeal to be filed.

Legal fees totalling $12,000 were paid by the to prove its point durin with the labor relations b said.

LIFE 12-11-86

Pal-Waukee purchase OK'd

BY MARIE LUTZ
Staff Writer

After almost two years of study, Wheeling and Prospect Heights have agreed to purchase Pal-Waukee Airport for at least $22 million.

Bill Rogers, chairman of the Pal-Waukee Commission that unanimously recommended the purchase, said the owners of the airport have tentatively agreed to the deal and the municipalities should own Pal-Waukee by Dec. 31.

The commission made its recommendation shortly before the communities, in separate actions Tuesday, voted for the purchase.

In an attempt to close the deal before the end of the year, the municipalities and the Airport Commission engaged in a frenzy of activity in the last couple of weeks, holding numerous executive sessions to discuss the purchase and work out details with the Federal Aviation Administration and the Illinois Department of Transportation. The FAA will pay 90 percent of the purchase price with the state and the two communities putting in the rest.

The municipalities' share will be paid with profits from the airport.

Wheeling and Prospect Heights were under intense pressure to finalize the sale before Jan. 1 so the airport owners could take advantage of the tax breaks that will be sharply curtailed in 1987 under the newly revised federal tax law.

Working out details of the sale became more complicated when the communities changed their tentative plans to initially buy only the airport land.

The plans were altered after the

Please turn to page 3

Airport sale OK'd

Continued from page 1

management firm hired to help with the purchase found that the main profit from the airport comes from rental of the hangars, Rogers said.

As a result of that finding, the communities became interested in buying the entire airport at one time, instead of in sections over a period of years, and in buying the hangars.

"The hangars are where your steady income is," Rogers said.

When the FAA agreed to help with the purchase of the hangars as well as the land the communities were able to negotiate to buy the entire complex.

Because of the haste in making the deal, supplemental appraisals of a number of airport buildings will be needed. The communities have agreed to pay up to $1.5 million more for additional hangars. Only two of the hangars are included in the $22 million purchase price.

Rogers said that the remaining items to be worked out concerning the purchase agreement are relatively minor and will not stop the sale from being completed by the end of the year.

The commission was shown that the airport will earn money so the municipalities will be able to fulfill the promise made to citizens that no local tax money will go into improving or operating Pal-Waukee, Rogers said.

LIFE 12-11-86

Mayors get promise of better sheriff patrols

12-18-86

By TODD SLOANE

Better patrols for unincorporated suburban areas and a coordinated system for handling disasters such as the recent flooding along the Des Plaines River were promised suburban mayors last week by James O'Grady, the new county sheriff.

O'Grady appeared before the Northwest Municipal Conference, a group of 30 north and northwest suburban communities, just nine days after being sworn in as sheriff and the day after a breakout from Cook County jail.

O'GRADY REPEATED CAMPAIGN promises to increase the suburban patrols, but offered few specifics.

Suburban officials have complained for years that response time for police calls has been slow or that sheriff's police have failed to respond at all.

Several township officials at the meeting told O'Grady that regular sheriff's police patrols are rare. Vernon Lawberstein, Schaumburg Township supervisor, told O'Grady that residents of unincorporated areas "would like the protection of regular police patrols, but the (sheriff's) police are invisible."

O'Grady said, "A visible, regular police patrol is a good deterrent to crime. We have to make sure the beats we have are filled on all three watches."

O'GRADY SAID A preliminary review showed that beats are not manned 20 percent of the time.

O'Grady said his top deputies would be reviewing the available personnel to make sure beats are regularly patrolled.

The lack of a disaster plan for Cook County during the September flooding made a bad problem much worse, O'Grady said.

Former sheriff Richard Elrod had come up with a disaster plan that essentially left authority for handling local disasters up to local municipalities. Each municipality was to have an officer to coordinate response to disasters in the unincorporated areas.

"I WAS not overwhelmed by (the plan)," O'Grady said. "We need to have a chief administrator for a coordinated disaster plan. We can't just delegate this authority to the municipalities, because so many of these problems go across the (municipal) boundaries," he said.

But O'Grady said he did not have the details of such a plan worked out yet.

In just a week and a half in the office, O'Grady had already fired or received the resignations of 60 sheriff's employes, including almost all department heads. "More will be leaving soon," a grim-faced O'Grady told reporters.

Among those who had departed were Sam Nolan, the undersheriff, as well as the deputy chief of court services, the chief of custodial services at county jail and the director of internal investigations. Also fired last week were all 49 "special deputies," employes who came under fire during the campaign for having been appointed for political reasons.

ANOTHER 900 PART-time deputies are "under review," and O'Grady said some also will be fired.

The jail employes were fired after the escape Dec. 9 of a man who had just been convicted of attempted murder. The man, James Williams, 22, of Chicago, had been left alone in a holding area at the criminal courts complex in Chicago.

Pal-Waukee agreement seen

12-86

by Carolyn Waller

Herald staff writer

A snag between the Federal Aviation Administration and Wheeling and Prospect Heights over when income-producing buildings at Pal-Waukee Airport would be demolished stopped the two towns from buying the airport this week.

But FAA officials said they expect the differences to be resolved by Tuesday, which still would enable the towns to finalize the airport buyout by the end of the year and take advantage of tax breaks.

Officials from both towns had expected to sign an agreement Thursday night to purchase the airport for an unspecified price from owner George Priester, but an apparent disagreement between the FAA and the towns stalled it until Tuesday, when they will meet again at 6 p.m. at Wheeling Village Hall, 255 W. Dundee Road.

WILLIAM ROGERS, a Wheeling trustee and chairman of the Pal-Waukee Municipal Airport Commission, said an agreement will be signed then "if we can get certain, more than verbal, assurances on regulation and funding promises."

The assurances the commission is seeking from the FAA involve a written outline of which buildings on the 267-acre site at Milwaukee Avenue and Wolf, Hintz and Palatine roads would be demolished first and how long they would comply with safety regulations set by the FAA, Rogers said.

For example, he said, two hangars are targeted to be torn down, but the towns also want to keep them there as long as possible because they bring in revenue from customers who house their planes in them.

"They (FAA) have safety regulations and we are concerned with safety and making it economically feasible," Rogers said.

The FAA has agreed to fund up to 90 percent of the costs of purchasing the buildings at Pal-Waukee.

John Guidotti, FAA manager, said Friday he sees no problem in giving the towns the assurances they want.

"I would expect next Tuesday they (Wheeling and Prospect Heights) would make their decision and give approval," he said.

So far, the FAA has given the towns $30 million in grants to purchase the airport and improve the property.

Pal-Waukee buyout grounded for now

12-86

Saying they needed more assurances from state funding agencies, officials from Wheeling and Prospect Heights stalled on making a decision on the Pal-Waukee Airport buyout.

"A mutual feeling was felt by both communities that information needed to be tied down. We wanted concrete assurances that they (Federal Aviation Administration and the Illinois Department of Transportation) only stated informally," said Wheeling trustee, Elizabeth Hartman.

Representatives from the FAA and IDOT met in closed session for three hours Thursday night with officials from Wheeling and Prospect Heights.

In Prospect Heights, aldermen were waiting to ratify an agreement when City Administrator Robert R. Kiley called to say there were "too many impassable issues" and "a snag with the FAA," said Ald. Wayne Gangler, 3rd.

ALD. WARREN Sunde, 2nd, said a short delay would not jeopardize federal funding for the airport.

Wheeling trustees would not be specific about the problems that delayed a decision Thursday night. They said the meeting would continue next Tuesday at 6 p.m. at Wheeling Village Hall, 255 W. Dundee Road.

Officials from the two communities will then meet separately to decide on the buyout.

The airport commission has been concerned about completing the purchase before the end of this year because of the affect tax law changes would have on a purchase price next year.

WHEEELING OFFICIALS said they must make their decision next Tuesday. "I think we've used up every little cushion we had," said Wheeling trustee Anthony Altieri.

Airport commission chairman William Rogers said the purchase is still in jeopardy. "If we don't get what we need and want we could turn down this whole thing," Rogers said.

It has been seven years since Wheeling and Prospect Heights began considering the purchase of the nation's busiest private airstrip to assure that it remains open.

George Priester has owned the airport at Milwaukee Avenue and Wolf, Hintz and Palatine roads since 1953. He and his son, Charles, who is president of the airport company, put the business up for sale more than 10 years ago.

The cost is to be shared by Wheeling, Prospect Heights and the state.

Agreement near on Pal-Waukee purchase

By BOB KEHOE

The purchase of Pal-Waukee Airport by Wheeling and Prospect Heights appears clear and ready for take off.

Wheeling and Prospect Heights officials announced Tuesday that they expect to close on the $23.5 million airport purchase from Priester Aviation Services by year's end.

The deal, which still has to be formally voted on by officials of both municipalities, was unanimously recommended by the Pal-Waukee Municipal Airport Commission (PMAC).

If the purchase goes through, it would give the municipalities greater control over airport operations and allow local officials much tighter control over noise and safety.

UNDER THE PROPOSED agreement the municipalities would pay $22 million for the airport itself while paying another $1.5 million for surrounding hangars and buildings.

Wheeling village officials lauded the purchase plan as one that would be beneficial to local residents while not taking any money out of local taxpayers' pockets.

Tom Markus, Wheeling village manager, said 90 percent of the purchase price will be funded through federal sources, with 5 percent coming from the state and the two municipalities splitting the remaining 5 percent of the tab.

Wheeling and Prospect Heights, however, will not pay anything under the first year of the deal to provide officials with enough time to get revenues from the airport flowing. Revenues the municipalities will collect from things like hangar and building space leasing will be used to pay back the their share of the purchase.

WILLIAM ROGERS, PMAC chairman and Wheeling village trustee, credited years of hard work from local, state and federal officials for bringing the proposed deal together and said this plan is far superior to another deal previously considered to buy only the airport land.

"We feel the plan put forth is far superior to the one we had," Rogers said. "There are still some overhanging issues, but I don't see any major difficulties (that would prevent the deal from going through)."

Most of the work remaining to complete the deal involves formally obtaining federal grants and acquiring other smaller land parcels surrounding the airport, according to Markus, who added that local officials are also negotiating leases with the Priester organization to have Priester officials maintain airport operations until the municipalities can get a new staff in place.

"The important thing in this is the improvements to the airport," Markus said, "especially in the areas of safety and economy."

Even though the municipalities will gain control of the airport, the question remains what makes local officials qualified to run such a venture?

Markus said local officials will retain experts to do the day-to-day operations while taking an active role in such key issues as airport noise.

AS FOR THE viability of the operation, Rogers said consultants reports to the municipalities show the airport should make a modest profit each year. He said those profits would be funneled back into the airport operation.

12-11-86

Thursday, December 11, 1986

Funds available to fix up homes

Residents who own homes that do not meet the present zoning codes may be eligible to receive a portion of Wheeling's $85,000 community development bloc grant funds that were recently doled out by the federal government.

Richard Greenwood, village planner, said Wheeling is using the money to make low-interest loans available to low-income families to help bring their dwellings up to code.

Greenwood said residents should pick up an application at Village Hall, 255 W. Dundee Road. If interested, residents can also have a home inspection done by village staff to help spot problem areas that may need attention.

Once the application is submitted and reviewed, the loans are granted according to eligibility standards set by local and federal authorities. Loans are generally held to under $20,000, according to Greenwood.

The village has been taking part in the community development bloc grant program since 1980.

12-11-86

Dec. 1986

Redevelopment tops Wheeling agenda

A big push toward proceeding with the Crossroads Redevelopment project in Wheeling topped action in November by village trustees, who approved a $4.4 million bond issue.

The loan will help finance the Crossroads area, which extends from Manchester Drive north to Strong Street on both sides of Milwaukee Avenue and on both sides of Dundee Road from the Des Plaines River west to First Street.

The bond sale will be used primarily to purchase property northwest of Milwaukee Avenue and Dundee Road, where an $8.9 million retail center is planned.

CROSSROADS IS being financed through tax increment financing, which means the $4.4 million loan should be repaid through a special tax increment financing fund, not by taxpayers.

Along with approving the loan for purchasing property, trustees approved an early payment of $80,000 to Buffalo Grove developer Larry Floria of Continental Properties.

Floria is renovating the former Wildwood apartments, now known as Arbor Court Apartments, near Dundee Road and Wheeling Avenue. The agreement between him and the village called for loaning him a total of $220,000 from a tax increment financing fund if he agreed to operate and maintain the apartment complex for five years. Half of the loan was paid to him before the renovation and the other half was to be paid to him after renovation, but Floria said he needed the early payment because of unexpected costs.

Two other key decisions made last month by trustees were the annexation of two properties along Lake-Cook Road.

JOSEPH JUDA, owner of 12 acres at Portwine and Lake-Cook roads, asked that the property be annexed to Wheeling for development of an office complex.

WHEELING VILLAGE BOARD VOTE SUMMARY

Selected decisions from the village board meetings of Nov. 3 and 17 and a special board meeting Nov. 24.

	Altieri	Fanella	Whittington	Hartman	Ratajczak	Rogers
To approve a $4.4 million loan, through the sale of general obligation bonds, for improvements in the Crossroads Redevelopment area. (Passed 6-0)	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
To amend an agreement with Continental Properties providing an early release of $80,000 for redevelopment of the former Wildwood apartments, now called Arbor Court Apartments. (Passed 6-0)	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
To approve a voluntary annexation of 12 acres, commonly known as the Grand Champion Stables property, at Portwine and Lake-Cook roads. (Passed 6-0)	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
To approve the involuntary annexation of 7.39 acres of property immediately east of the Grand Champion Stables property. (Passed 5-0)	YES	YES	ABSENT	YES	YES	YES

Wheeling proceeded to annex another 7.39 acres, immediately east of the 12 acres, bringing Wheeling's east border up against Northbrook, south of Lake-Cook Road.

Northbrook and Riverwoods are near the parcels and officials from those two villages are concerned that Wheeling will not be attentive to development on the two parcels. The property, located east of the Des Plaines River, is separated from the rest of Wheeling by the forest preserve and officials from Northbrook and Riverwoods are keeping a close watch on the plans Wheeling makes for developments on those parcels.

Dec. 1986

Klitzke is community development director

by C.L.Waller
Herald staff writer

After serving two months as Wheeling's acting director of community development, Michael J. Klitzke has been appointed director.

Klitzke, 37, who has worked as Wheeling's senior engineer since May 1979, was chosen for the community development director's job from among 50 applicants, said Village Manager Thomas M. Markus.

He will be paid $46,000 annually, up from the $40,274 he was paid this year.

"I'm looking forward to it. I've seen a lot of changes since I came here in 1979," Klitzke said.

THE VILLAGE conducted a nationwide search for a new director after the former director, Robert W. Fialkowski, took over the duties of finance director and assistant village manager. Before Fialkowski was hired, Klitzke served as acting community development director for several months.

Advertisements for a director were placed in publications for municipalities and national planning journals, Markus said. About five people were interviewed for the position.

After looking at Klitzke's tenure with the village and the types of projects he has worked on for the village, Markus said Klitzke appeared to be the best choice.

Klitzke can "continue the department in its current direction," Markus said. For example, he said, Klitzke's engineering background will be helpful in a project to construct a diversionary channel to the Des Plaines River. Plans are for the channel to carry flood waters from the Buffalo Creek-Wheeling drainage ditch northeast to the Des Plaines River.

In the next year, Klitzke said, he hopes to begin the process of surveying property donated to the village for construction of the channel. He said he also looks forward to working on other developments in the village, such as the Arlington Club, Polo Run and downtown redevelopment projects.

"We've got a lot of things going on right now," he said.

THE DAILY HERALD

12-86

Pal-Waukee purchase is completed

by Dan Rozek
and C.L. Waller
Herald staff writers

Prospect Heights and Wheeling, after finalizing the last agreements needed to purchase Pal-Waukee Airport, officially closed on the $22 million airport buyout Friday.

The last contracts signed included leases to more than 17 buildings that previous owner George Priester will continue to use for three or four more years. An agreement that requires Priester to provide routine airport maintenance for the same period of time also was signed.

With one Wheeling official still voicing concern over finding enough money to run the airport, other officials nevertheless said they were pleased to close out more than two years of negotiations.

"This concludes many, many years of efforts to acquire the airport," Prospect Heights Mayor John E. Gilligan said. "We had ups and downs along the way, but Pal-Waukee is an extremely important asset to this community and we should never let it go. This is a high point for me to see this happen."

THE LEASE agreements will allow Priester to use or lease 11 main hangars for four years and several smaller hangars on a month-to-month basis.

Priester also will lease The Hangar restaurant for three years and rent the Milwaukee Garage and several other maintenance buildings for 3½ years.

Those rentals will bring the two towns an estimated $550,000 a year — nearly half of the $1.2 million in revenues they expect the airport to generate in 1987.

The towns also expect to generate $240,000 annually by charging a 6-cent tax on each gallon of gas pumped at the airport.

Trustee Nicholas R. Fanella said it is critical for both towns to pass laws creating the gasoline tax, supposedly the second-largest revenue source from the airport.

However, Pal-Waukee Municipal Airport board member Daniel Quiery said a special ordinance probably is not necessary and the fuel fee can be collected without it.

The towns also have signed an agreement with Priester that will require him to provide basic maintenance services next year at the airport, such as snowplowing and grass cutting.

"We have no (maintenance) equipment," Quiery said. "We want him (Priester) to continue doing it like he's always done."

Eventually, the towns plan to get their own equipment and take over maintenance, he said. About $300,000 is budgeted in 1987 for grounds, building and vehicle maintenance at the airport.

A private formal ceremony marking the airport purchase is scheduled for Tuesday at Allgauer's Hotel in Prospect Heights.

Firefighters' vote nears official OK

by C.L. Waller 12-29-86
Herald staff writer

The Illinois Labor Relations Board this week will make official a unanimous vote by Wheeling firefighters to allow lieutenants into the union's collective bargaining agreement.

The firefighters' association voted 37 to 0 last week to give collective bargaining status to the force's six lieutenants, said union president Bart Burns.

Firefighters and firefighter-paramedics are already included in the contract.

In a precedent-setting decision last month, the labor relations board ruled that lieutenants are part of a firefighting team and deserve equal representation in labor negotiations with the rank-and-file employees.

The village has this week to file objections about the way the election was handled. If there are no objections, the labor relations board certifies the vote, said Jacalyn J. Zimmerman, attorney for the board.

FOLLOWING CERTIFICATION, the union will formally ask the village to recognize lieutenants in the bargaining process, she said. Village officials have not yet indicated if they will go along with the vote, or continue to fight the inclusion of lieutenants in the contract.

"Hopefully we can put everything behind us and sit down with the lieutenants and come up with an agreement," Burns said.

Firefighters have been working without a contract since May. Negotiations with the village opened in June.

The six lieutenants already pay dues to the firefighters union, but have not been recognized in contract talks because the village considers them supervisors.

THE ASSOCIATION had previously asked the village to recognize the lieutenants in the bargaining unit, and the refusal sparked the case before the Labor Relations Board.

The board's ruling was based on a 1985 amendment to the Illinois Labor Relations Act that gave collective bargaining rights to police officers and firefighters. The amendment did not specifically mention supervisors.

Crime vigilance

Police in Wheeling hope more residents will elect to have neighborhood watch programs in their communities.

Neighborhood watch isn't new — many cities and villages in the Northwest suburbs have had the program for several years — but it's new to Wheeling.

In several area towns the watchful eyes of neighbors are credited with lowering the crime rates, especially for vandalism and burglary.

Hanover Park is one community where the police chief has credited a crime decline, in part, to the work of the watch groups.

But it hasn't been easy for the Wheeling police to get the programs started. Part of the problem stems from the attitude many residents have that "it (crime) won't happen to them," says Crime Prevention Officer Kathryn M. Tracy.

Police help set up the program, which includes distributing brochures about home safety and security and telling neighbors how to spot suspicious activity. The police also emphasize that if they see something irregular, residents should not go outside to investigate.

Once the program is established, it becomes the residents' responsiblity to continue it.

Statistics show that neighborhood watch programs curtail crime, but there's another benefit, too. Because people are encouraged to get to know their neighbors and look out for them, community cohesiveness is enhanced.

Three neighborhoods in Wheeling have joined the watch program — Shadow Bend, Cedar Run and Harmony Village. The police department would welcome more participants. All that's needed is a few people who want to improve the safety of their community.

12-11-86

Laurels only

12-11-86

Laurels to Oakton Community College teachers for settling their contract with the college short of a strike. Union leaders and college officials ironed out differences at the 11th hour, averting what would have been the first teacher walkout in OCC's history.

Laurels to Wheeling trustees and Prospect Heights councilmen for finally approving the purchase agreement under which the two suburbs will buy Pal-Waukee Airport. By so doing before Jan. 1 they avoided the likelihood that the airport price would have gone up.

Laurels to South Barrington Trustee William R. Rose for long and faithful service to the village. Rose led the fight to incorporate 27 years ago and retain the openness that has made South Barrington so desirable as a home site. He also bucked the late Chicago Mayor Richard J. Daley in keeping an atom-smasher from being built in South Barrington. Rose is retiring after 27 years on the board, having rarely missed a meeting in all that time.

Laurels to Elgin Area Unit District 46 administrators for being such shrewd shoppers. The district will save $175,000 this year by purchasing natural gas for heating school buildings from a wholesaler instead of from Northern Illinois Gas. It will still have to pay a fee for using NI-Gas pipelines, but "a penny saved is a penny earned" for school districts the same as for anyone else.

Dec 1986

Police seek answers to more graffiti problems

Graffiti appears to be a growing problem in Wheeling, but police officials say there isn't much else they can do stop the problem.

Wheeling Police Sgt. Jack Kimsey said the department has taken steps to try and stop the problem, but police often have difficulty in combating crimes like graffiti because it's hard to catch offenders in the act.

Although the department hasn't had much recent success in catching the offenders, Kimsey said efforts to beef up night patrols in strategic areas like along Dundee Road and around local schools is continuing.

Kimsey said the amount of graffiti appears to be increasing this fall, but he is reluctant to attribute the problem to a possible increase in the number of vandals who are venting their feelings with spray cans.

"In the past it's been our experience that it's been one person (responsible for the crimes)," Kimsey said.

While some of the graffiti that has turned up on local buildings and overpasses includes Chicago street gang symbols, Kimsey said that is hardly enough evidence to indicate that gangs may be forming here.

Rather, he said, the work is indicative of a "copy cat" graffiti artist who copies the symbols he has seen. Typically, the offender will hit a number of locations on a given night, according to Kimsey.

That apparently was the case on Nov. 8 when three businesses and the overpass on Dundee Road near Elmhurst Road were hit. An officer on patrol found the calling cards shortly after midnight on Nov. 8, perhaps within minutes of the time the offense occurred.

Graffiti outbreaks also occurred on Oct. 23 when Eugene Field School was hit, on Oct. 21 when some buildings in the East Dennis Road area were hit, and on Oct. 2 when the Chicago street gang initials of the Latin Kings were spray painted on Tarkington School.

Timing is the key to catching offenders, Kimsey said. And while police can't always catch offenders by themselves, he said they must rely on help from witnesses and parents.

Those who see anything suspicious or who may notice their children in possession of spray paint cans should call the police department, he said.

Police hope more neighborhoods stand watch

by C.L. Waller
Herald staff writer

Wheeling police are struggling to get residents interested in a neighborhood watch program, but they say it's not easy.

"The problem is crime feeds on apathy. They don't think it can happen to them," said Crime Prevention Officer Kathryn M. Tracy.

A neighborhood watch program is not new to most communities, but to Wheeling it is, Tracy said. In Wheeling, police wait for residents to ask about the program rather than police telling a neighborhood it will participate in the program, she said.

Police help set up the program, but residents are responsible for continuing the effort, Tracy said.

Initially, police meet with residents of a neighborhood to explain the program, which includes distributing brochures on security and home safety and outlining what a neighbor should be watching for that might be suspicious.

Block captain applications also are distributed to residents at the meeting. Block captains act as liaisons between residents in the neighborhood and the police. They meet for one training session, and then the neighborhood is on its own until residents see or hear something suspicious happening, Tracy said.

"IF THEY see something unusual as they watch out their windows, they should call us. We stress they not go outside to investigate suspicious activity," she said.

People in a neighborhood watch program are supposed to get to know their neighbors and their neighbors' schedules, so they can be an extra pair of eyes for police, Tracy said.

"A lot of people think there's a cop on every corner, but there's not and police officers cannot see everything. True, their tax dollars are paying for everything we do, but we can't do everything," she said.

Shadow Bend, Cedar Run and Harmony Village subdivisions are getting neighborhood watch programs under way, but the police department welcomes more, Tracy said. Getting the program off the ground requires somebody in the neighborhood motivating their neighbors, she said.

Herald photo by Scott Sanders

Wreath of hope

The annual Christmas wreath being hung at the Wheeling Fire Department station on Dundee Road by firefighter Tom Allen, as fire inspector Ed Majkowski watches, is more than a decoration. Its purpose is to make residents aware of fire safety during the holidays. The wreath now contains red lights, but a white bulb will replace a red bulb with each occurrence of a holiday fire.

Village will help fund home repairs of needy

Dec 1986

by C.L. Waller

Herald staff writer

For the fifth consecutive year, the village of Wheeling will help fund repairs of houses whose owners cannot afford to do the needed work.

Wheeling was notified recently by the Cook County Board of Commissioners that an $85,000 community development block grant is available to the village for single-family housing rehabilitation.

The village applied in April for the grant, which is sponsored by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. County officials will distribute the funds.

Communities receive grants based on the number of low-income households and the community's use of previous grants, said Village Planner Richard D. Greenwood.

"THE OBJECTIVE is to provide good, sound housing for people who can't afford good housing," Greenwood said.

The village has received between $50,000 and $100,000 each year under the grant program, and plenty of homeowners apply each year for assistance, he said. Those who do apply must meet specific low-income standards. In addition, improvements are limited to bringing a house up to village building standards, Greenwood said.

"The objective is to make a house sound for at least 20 years," he said.

Replacing windows, fixing plumbing, installing furnaces, repairing roofs and rewiring electrical systems are some of the more common repairs done at houses, he said.

"We have found some potentially life-threatening problems," Greenwood said.

Village staff members complete all the paperwork and make inspections for about four houses each year. "We're the banker, the construction supervisor and it takes a lot of time to do," Greenwood said.

Village building inspectors first look over the property in question and then record the problems, which then are reviewed. The village works with a consultant, who writes specifications for improvements, and the homeowner chooses from a list of contractors who he wants to do the work, Greenwood said.

The same house cannot be repaired more than once using the community development funds, he added.

Probably the largest frustration about the program is the amount of time it takes to make the improvements, he said. Four to nine months is the usual length of time for completing a home repair project.

Roadwork to further hamper O'Hare

by Pete Nenni Dec 1986

Herald staff writer

Traffic congestion caused by a road widening project in the O'Hare Airport terminal area is expected to worsen beginning next week when crews accelerate the work and close a portion of a second lane of traffic in front of Terminal 2.

With the outside lane of the lower arrival roadway already closed through the terminal area, shutting down a portion of a second lane means that only two lanes of traffic will be open for private vehicles and one for liveries, further restricting traffic flow through the airport.

Chicago aviation officials said police and airport security will issue tickets or tow vehicles that stop to pick up passengers or luggage along the portion of the road that is closed in front of Terminal 2.

They urged travelers to take public or commercial transportation to the airport, or to park in airport parking lots to avoid driving through the congested terminal area, especially during the upcoming Christmas holiday.

"WE EXPECT an increase in traffic volume during Christmas and the more people you bring in when you have construction, the more problems you're going to have," said John McCarthy, director of ground transportation at O'Hare.

The outside lane of the lower level roadway in front of O'Hare's terminals was closed last month when work began on the $25 million project, and the move has added to the congestion normally seen on the lower level road.

Beginning Monday, about one-third of a second lane in front of Terminal 2 will be shut down, which, according to McCarthy will "directly and severely impact traffic flow through the terminal area."

Earlier this year, officials overseeing the massive O'Hare expansion project said roadway work would be suspended during holiday travel periods, but McCarthy said Friday that construction will continue during Christmas with minimum work stoppages.

Wheeling's a great news town in 1986

With the end of the year looming around the corner, I'd like to take a quick look at some of the Wheeling residents featured in this column that made 1986 an interesting year.

Do you remember Willie Franta? She's pretty famous. She won the Super Senior 1986 award given out by the Wheeling Senior Citizen's Commission.

And remember that little girl Leslie Portnoy? She wrote an essay on "What the Statue of Liberty Means to Me," and won a contest with it, sponsored by the Wheeling Amvets.

I met Gayle and Bill Cosper this year — that traveling couple who are in business together and spend more time on the road than in their own home, I think.

Celeste Carneal was a radio contest winner who was planning a trip to the Peruvian Amazon with the cash prize she received — $1,000 for identifying the title of a song that Larry Lujack was playing on beer bottles. What a year she's had.

Yes, '86 was a year for winners. Remember the Super Bowl? Didn't the Chicago Bears play some part in that? I remember the Bear's fan, Jim Jenkins, who had caught a chin strap thrown by Gary Fencik. I wonder how he's feeling about the football season this year.

Sports can get you in trouble sometimes, too. Dave Krok was the 14-year-old Wheeling resident whose golf ball went through a school window this year. Maybe not so unusual in the world of kids and balls, but his actions thereafter, in identifying himself and paying for the damages, were a welcome story.

This was the year that the Wheeling Park District celebrated its 25th anniversary, and also just recently welcomed a new park superintendent to its fold.

And we heard about some classes — from "Overcoming Computer Anxiety" taught by Rick Hoppel to interested adults, to the "Project Business" class taught to eighth-graders at Holmes Junior High by Mike Lerner, vice president at UST Inc. in Wheeling. Someday your kids will tell their kids about the days before mandatory computer classes.

This year we met William Hooper, who writes and performs action songs for children at preschools, park district functions and birthday parties. And we got a different kind of artistic view when we heard about the fabulous maintenance-free Japanese garden recently put in by the Dzierzynski's in Wheeling.

Michael Wallot, 18, of Wheeling, told us what it's like to get up on stage, and his experiences with the Original Zoo Players, and Bob Russell related the ups and downs of learning the fine art of public speaking, and the help he's gotten from the Wheeling Toastmaster's Club.

Our fair village of Wheeling itself made the charts, literally, with the production of its own poster, and also made the "big news" circuit when a tent collapsed at St. Joe's Fourth of July Family Festival last summer.

Dec. 1986

Wheeling bristles at 'silent partner' role

by C.L. Waller 12-20-86

Herald staff writer

President Reagan is among guests Prospect Heights Mayor John Gilligan has invited to a cocktail party Dec. 30 to celebrate the purchase of Pal-Waukee Airport by Prospect Heights and Wheeling — but Wheeling officials knew nothing about the ceremony until they received their invitations.

Wheeling officials said they were taken aback by the invitation, not only because they didn't know about the ceremony, but also because the invitation was on Prospect Heights stationary, signed only by Gilligan.

"We certainly feel there should be this type of affair, but the timing and method in which it was done left us as a silent partner," said Wheeling Trustee William Rogers, who is chairman of the Pal-Waukee Municipal Airport Commission.

Gilligan said he mailed more than 100 invitations to local, state and federal officials to a cocktail party set for 5:30 p.m. Dec. 30 at Allgauer's Hotel and Fireside Restaurant in Prospect Heights.

REAGAN IS not expected to attend, Gilligan said, but the invitation was extended because the president also was invited to the towns' signing of the intergovernmental agreement a year and a half ago to buy the airport.

Gilligan said Prospect Heights will pay $5,000 to $7,000 for the party and be reimbursed by March with money collected from a new hotel tax.

Prospect Heights 1st Ward Alderman Charles VanderVennet and 4th Ward Alderman Christina Carlson, who serve on the airport commission, said they had approved sending out the letter because they assumed Wheeling was aware of the effort.

"It was very disconcerting the way it was done, and I think we have to consider the source," VanderVennet said.

Gilligan said his method was faster and not meant as an insult to Wheeling officials. "When you're talking about 20 to [illegible] people, talking to all the people [illegible] date is impractical," he sa[illegible]

Newcomer enters village trustee race

Dec 1986

by C. L.Waller

Herald staff writer

A newcomer who says he will run as an independent is the fourth candidate planning to seek one of three seats on the Wheeling village board in the April 7 election.

Stephen T. White, 36, said he will file as an independent candidate in the race.

Trustees James R. Whittington and Anthony Altieri and newcomer Clifford E. Bird already have said they are running as the Wheeling Upward Party for the three seats.

WHITE, A construction supervisor, said this is his first try at public office. He said he is running because the village trustees do not keep residents informed of their opinions about issues in the village.

"The issues that are brought up, board members' positions are not made public," White said.

He cited the purchase of Pal-Waukee Airport and the annexation of property along Lake-Cook Road as examples of issues that were not fully discussed by trustees in public.

"My experiences with village government is the village manager comes in and tells them (trustees) how he feels and they vote that way. And that's OK," he said. However, he said, trustees should tell residents why they voted the way they did.

HE SAID Wheeling is operating more like a business now and he would like to see Wheeling move toward being more service-oriented. "They (village) are going to fight the lawsuits and you know who is going to pay for it," he said.

White said he currently is supervising a $46 million retirement community project in Carol Stream that will take 2½ to 3 years to complete. He said his experience in managing the 100 people involved in the Carol Stream project, making decisions involving money, and scheduling would make him a good trustee.

"I would like to impart some of that knowledge to the village," White said.

White, who grew up in Glenview, has lived in Wheeling for eight years. He has a graduate degree in biopsychology.

Firemen to vote on allowing officers to bargain

by C.L. Waller

Herald staff writer

Wheeling firefighters next week are expected to vote to allow lieutenants to become part of the union's collective bargaining group.

The fire department's six lieutenants already pay dues to the firefighters union, but they are not recognized when it comes to contract talks on salary or benefits because they are supervisors, said union President Bart Burns.

The association previously had asked the village to recognize the lieutenants as part of the Wheeling Firefighters Association bargaining unit, but officials refused and the association took its case to the Illinois Labor Relations Board.

LAST MONTH, the labor relations board set a precedent for firefighter associations by ruling that lieutenants are part of a firefighting team and deserve equal representation in labor negotiations with the rank-and-file employees.

The board's ruling followed an amendment to the Illinois Labor Relations Act in October 1985 that created collective bargaining for police officers and firefighters, who had fought for 20 years to win legal status. But the amendment excluded supervisors.

Passing a law allowing public employees to organize and bargain "really tied the municipalities' hands," said Wheeling Village President Sheila Schultz.

Wheeling staff members do the negotiating with village employees, and Schultz said she agrees with the staff's firm position that lieutenants are in supervisory roles and, therefore, have no place in the firefighters' bargaining unit. Allowing them to be a part of the bargaining only "muddies their position," she said.

Burns said he is confident that the 37 members in the association will vote Tuesday to include the lieutenants in the bargaining unit.

"Up to this point, we've had 100 percent support from the membership and the lieutenants," Burns said.

Burns said the association wants lieutenants to be part of the bargaining unit because the lieutenants work beside the firefighters as a team.

THE ELECTION will be held in the fire station from 6:30 to 8 a.m. Tuesday.

Following the election, the results will be presented to the village, he said. If the village then refuses to bargain with the lieutenants, the association could sue the village.

12-19-86

12-18-86

New party unveiled

Village race taking shape

WHEELING — Two of three Village Board trustees whose terms of office expire in April will run for election.

Jim Whittington, who was appointed to the board in September 1985, and Anthony Altieri, who has been a trustee since 1983, will seek to retain their seats. But Trustee Nicholas Fanella said that because of job pressures he will not run again.

Whittington and Altieri, along with Clifford E. Bird, will seek election as part of the Upward Party Ticket, which the three have formed.

Whittington and Altieri said they asked Bird to be their running mate because of his interest in the village and his excellent representation of the Whippletree Mobile Home Park, where Bird lives.

Bird, 64, is married with five children. He is a retired manager of production specifications for Motorola who is currently employed by the First National Bank of Wheeling.

President of the Whippletree Homeowners Association, Bird successfully fought last summer to have the village change an ordinance that would have required Whippletree and other residents to move their homes back from the street within a few years. Doing that would have wiped out half the mobile homes in the park, Bird said.

Bird is a member of the Park District's Capital Needs Re-assessment Citizen Advisory Committee, AMVETS Post 66; the Knights of Columbus and the Regina Council 4837. He has lived at 159 Hansom Drive since 1981.

Whittington, 38, is married with three children. He is director of student activities for High School District 214 and was a teacher at Wheeling High School from 1970 to 1984.

Whittington has a bachelor's degree in history and political science and a doctorate in education and school administration. He has served on the Wheeling Plan Commission, the Wheeling Youth Commission and the Wheeling Township Mental Health Committee. Past president of the Wheeling Rotary Club, he is currently a member of the Wheeling Township Chemical People Task Force.

Whittington has lived at 954 Twilight Lane since 1978.

ALTIERI

FANELLA

Please turn to page 3

Village election

Continued from page 1

Altieri, 48, who is married and has seven children, works in the corporate plastics research department of Signode Corp. in Glenview.

He is a member of the Pal-Waukee Municipal Airport Commission, curator of the Wheeling Historical Society, and board member of the American Cancer Society. Altieri was chairman of the Wheeling Plan Commission for seven of the nine years he served on that body. He has lived at 36 Laurel Trail for 23 years.

Fanella, who has been a trustee for almost four years, said that when he originally was elected to the board he was employed in Chicago. But in January 1984, he said, he became president of a mortgage company, which made an increased demand on his time.

"I don't think the village has suffered because of it, but I personally have suffered," Fanella said, explaining why he will not run again.

Fanella, who is a member of the Pal-Waukee Airport Commission, said he would like to remain on that body.

The election in April is open to registered voters who are residents of the village. Those interested in running for the board must submit petitions between Jan. 19 and Jan. 26.

Klitzke is community development director

by C.L.Waller

Herald staff writer

After serving two months as Wheeling's acting director of community development, Michael J. Klitzke has been appointed director.

Klitzke, 37, who has worked as Wheeling's senior engineer since May 1979, was chosen for the community development director's job from among 50 applicants, said Village Manager Thomas M. Markus.

He will be paid $46,000 annually, up from the $40,274 he was paid this year.

"I'm looking forward to it. I've seen a lot of changes since I came here in 1979," Klitzke said.

THE VILLAGE conducted a nationwide search for a new director after the former director, Robert W. Fialkowski, took over the duties of finance director and assistant village manager. Before Fialkowski was hired, Klitzke served as acting community development director for several months.

Advertisements for a director were placed in publications for municipalities and national planning journals, Markus said. About five people were interviewed for the position.

After looking at Klitzke's tenure with the village and the types of projects he has worked on for the village, Markus said Klitzke appeared to be the best choice.

Klitzke can "continue the department in its current direction," Markus said. For example, he said, Klitzke's engineering background will be helpful in a project to construct a diversionary channel to the Des Plaines River. Plans are for the channel to carry flood waters from the Buffalo Creek-Wheeling drainage ditch northeast to the Des Plaines River.

In the next year, Klitzke said, he hopes to begin the process of surveying property donated to the village for construction of the channel. He said he also looks forward to working on other developments in the village, such as the Arlington Club, Polo Run and downtown redevelopment projects.

"We've got a lot of things going on right now," he said.

12-22-86

Air controller helps icon work 'miracle'

by Theresa Norton 12-31-86
Herald staff writer

For 45 tense minutes, air traffic controller Roger Anderson guided the pilot of a small crippled plane as it blindly circled in clouds over the Northwest suburbs and twice stalled, dropping 2,000 feet at one point.

"On several occasions, we were very close to tragedy," recalled Anderson, a 44-year-old O'Hare Airport controller from Hoffman Estates. "The airframe was icing and the pilot indicated a stall. We certainly didn't want that. That's disaster. You're history then."

With Anderson acting as "co-pilot" through a radar screen and radio, Wayne Allen Giles of West Bloomfield, Mich., used his five years of flying experience to steady the meandering plane, which lost its instruments four minutes after taking off from Pal-Waukee Airport on Monday.

He later landed at Pal-Waukee, overshooting the runway and crashing into a guard rail along Milwaukee Avenue. For the four on board, the most serious injury was a bumped knee.

AVIATION OFFICIALS Tuesday credited Anderson with saving four lives, and possibly more since the plane stalled twice over heavily populated areas. Passenger Edna Mitchell called the landing "a miracle" made possible by her visit earlier Monday afternoon to the "weeping" Virgin Mary icon at a Chicago church.

Herald photo by Jon Kirn

Air traffic controller Roger Anderson points out the path of a crippled plane he guided to safety.

Mitchell had taken her mentally handicapped son, James, 17, to St. Nicholas Albanian Orthodox Church in hopes the "weeping icon" would help him. A friend, Corrine Phillips, 50, of Detroit, accompanied them. They had landed at Pal-Waukee at noon after an uneventful flight from Pontiac, Mich., in the rented plane.

They took off from Pal-Waukee at 3:42 p.m., though Giles was wary of weather conditions and was flying a plane without de-icing equipment, Mitchell said.

"**WE NEVER** should have left the ground," Mitchell said. "The pilot said we could take off but we might have to come right back."

The National Transportation Safety Board is investigating whether Giles was aware of icing conditions. It is illegal to fly a plane without a de-icer if the pilot is warned of possible icing, said Sue Troka, NTSB investigative assistant. Attempts to reach Giles for comment Tuesday were unsuccessful.

With no instruments and flying in thick clouds, Giles "might as well have closed his eyes to fly the plane," Anderson said. "In

(Continued on Page 3)

Ice-covered plane was 'very close to tragedy'

(Continued from Page 1)

those clouds, he couldn't see out."

Ice coating the single-engine plane dragged it down as Giles tried to ascend with a sputtering engine.

Anderson constantly instructed the pilot to make "a gentle right turn" as the plane listed to the left and flew in circles over Wheeling, Mount Prospect and Prospect Heights. When the plane wandered near O'Hare, several jetliners were re-routed to other runways, he said.

ANDERSON UNSUCCESSFULLY tried to guide the plane over the clouds so Giles could fly to an airport with better weather. Then, he tried to steer the plane to O'Hare or Glenview Naval Air Station where visibility was somewhat clearer.

But, coincidentally, the plane ended up over Pal-Waukee Airport.

"The airport is directly to your right," Anderson told Giles, according to tapes supplied by the Federal Aviation Administration. "They can see you; can you see them?"

Giles responded: "I got it in sight now."

ANDERSON: "YOU take over and land, and I'll see you later."

The two did not meet or converse afterward, but at one point during the harrowing flight, Giles thanked Anderson for his help. After landing, Giles said the controller "did an excellent job."

At a press conference Tuesday, Anderson gave credit to the pilot and other controllers who assisted.

"This pilot is the one who really responded with cool and calm," Anderson said.

An aerial view of the flooding in Libertyville.

State's worst flood disaster ever swamps area

After nine days of rain in Lake County, the Des Plaines River overflowed Sept. 26 into homes and streets in Libertyville, Mundelein and Gurnee. Hundreds of families evacuated homes surrounded by waist-deep water.

The swollen river's crest continued south, spreading into Mount Prospect, Des Plaines, Prospect Heights and Wheeling. Emergency shelters opened in schools. Homeowners worked around the clock to build sandbag walls in an attempt to hold back the four-foot deep waters. Motorboats and canoes were the only modes of transportation. Gov. James Thompson visited, saying it was the worst residential flooding he had ever seen. Five people died in flood-related incidents.

A week later, the waters started to recede. A few days after that, the sun finally broke through and cleanup began in earnest. President Reagan declared the flooded areas a national disaster. As the year closed, the damage toll was set at $75 million — and could hit $100 million.

"This," said Illinois disaster official Gregg Durham, "is the worst flood disaster we've ever had in Illinois."

Mount Prospect residents ferry clothes out of their homes.

The *Countryside* looks back at '86

As 1986 draws to a close, the Wheeling Countryside takes a look at some of the top stories of the year.

January

• The Wheeling Village Board passes an ordinance prohibiting anyone under 18 from purchasing or possessing tobacco.
• School District 214 approves $4 million in life-safety improvements, including $1 million worth of projects at Wheeling High School.
• Wheeling police officials ask the park district to rename a village park in honor of slain officer Kenneth Dawson.
• A Wheeling man is indicted on fraud charges as a result of the Illinois Attorney General's office's "Operation Two-Timer" investigation.

February

• School District 21 turns down a proposal for an all-day kindergarten program because of a lack of space and money.
• High School District 214 appoints Steve Berry as superintendent after buying out the contract of former superintendent Lou Christensen for $150,000.
• Wheeling police report that crime in the village in 1985 was up by 5.5 percent over the previous year.
• Village officials detail plans for a $4.6 million project to upgrade Wheeling's sanitary sewer system.

March

• School District 21 officials decide not to conduct a property tax referendum to ease the district's financial woes. Instead, the district will issue bonds to help get them through the substantial budget deficits anticipated over the next few years.
• Wheeling trustees hire Vantage Companies, Inc. to develop a new retail center in the Crossroads area of the village, a 13-acre site on Milwaukee Avenue and Dundee Road.
• The Wheeling High School debate team wins the state championship.
• The two incumbent Wheeling Township committeemen, Republican Connie Peters and Democrat Eugenia Chapman, win handily in local elections.
• Wheeling officials consider giving Spectrum Manufacturing Inc. a property tax break to keep the firm from fleeing to Lake County.

April

• After 14 years on the job, Wheeling Park District Manager Dave Phillips resigns abruptly without notice.
• More than 1,000 junior high students from Wheeling and Buffalo Grove take part in an anti-drug rally and march.
• Wheeling Park District employees meet with the park board in closed session to complain about not getting promised pay raises.
• School District 21 officials begin negotiations with a Buffalo Grove man who wants to purchase the closed Sandburg School and use it as a day care center.
• The Wheeling Park District gets a $228,000 grant from the state to develop a six-acre park near Dundee Road.
• The Wheeling Township 1986-87 budget is 6 percent higher than the previous year because of more spending on youth and

(Continued on page 11)

1986—

(Continued from page 11)

• After a nationwide search, Gary O'Rourke is hired as Wheeling's new deputy police chief.
• High School District 214 Supt. Steve Berry gets a 10 percent pay raise after just seven months on the job.

October

• Wheeling Township is declared a disaster area after severe flooding strikes along the Des Plaines River.
• After a six-month search, Wheeling park commissioners hire Karop Bavougian as the new park district manager. Bavougian replaces former manger Dave Phillips, who resigned without notice after 14 years on the job.

• Classes are disrupted at Holmes Junior High School after the school receives a bomb threat.
• The Wheeling Historical Society and Wheeling Park District talk about ending the affiliation between the two groups.
• Officials from Vantage Companies unveil plans for a $9 million retail center at Milwaukee Avenue and Dundee Road that's part of a downtown redevelopment plan.

• A consultant hired by the Regional Transportation Authority tells Wheeling officials that commuter service on the Soo Line railroad line may be a reality by 1990.
• Wheeling schools fare above average in the new state-mandated education report cards.

• The owner of the Sunnie Kiddies Day Care Center asks the Wheeling Park District and Village Board to allow her to put in a driveway to the center that would enable her to keep the facility open. Park and village officials deny the request.

Wheeling High School's Dana Miroballi led the cross-country team to a second place finish in the state tournament and the track team the state championship in 1986.

November

• Wheeling extends its borders to the east by annexing a 12-acre site on Lake-Cook Road near Northbrook. The annexation and plans for a 150,000-square-foot office complex on the site angers officials of neighboring Riverwoods.
• Wheeling High School's girls cross country team, led by Dana Miroballi, wins its fourth state championship since 1979.
• The Wheeling Village Board issues $4.3 million in general obligation bonds to acquire property near Milwaukee Avenue and Dundee Road as part of the village's downtown redevelopment plans.
• Three people are injured in an apartment fire on Piper Lane.
• Sunnie Kiddies Day Care Center wins the first round in its effort to stay open when the Prospect Heights Zoning Board of Appeals recommends that the city council grant the facility a special use permit.
• High School District 214 proposes a $66 million property tax levy, up 10 percent over the previous year.

Wheeling Township was declared a disaster area in September because of the severe flooding.

December

• Three students at Wheeling High School find a way to break into the school's computer system and alter grades in a chemistry class.

• High School District 214 considers a proposal to include grades in physical education classes as part of a student's overall grade point average. The school board later decides to put the proposal on hold for now.

• Wheeling police, working with other departments, charge a Chicago woman in connection with an alleged con game in the northwest suburbs.
• Wheeling and Prospect Heights officials reach agreement with Priester Aviation on the purchase of Pal-Waukee Airport.

Steven Fentons had a bit too much watermelon during July's Familyfest.

Wheeling moves forward on airport

Continued from page 1

collect from the area for a maximum of 23 years. Increases in taxes, due to the increase in the assessed valuation, will go to pay off the bonds.

Part of the TIF district also includes Arbor Court Apartments, formerly known as Wildwood, which is being renovated and upgraded, again with the village's financial help.

The purchase of Pal-Waukee, which has been years in the making, appeared to be near at hand as the village and city of Prospect Heights voted to jointly buy the facility for a minimum of $22 million.

Village officials predicted that the purchase would be made by Dec. 31 so Priester Aviation, owner of the airport, could take advantage of tax breaks that will be sharply curtailed in 1987 under revised federal income tax laws.

This was also the year when the village could see the beneficial effects of flood control measures it has been taking. Floodwaters that devastated surrounding areas this fall, largely left Wheeling untouched. It was a triumph of no small proportions.

There was also good news in 1986 for School District 214. The School Board in February appointed Stephen Berry its new superintendent and made a settlement with former superintendent D. Louis Christensen.

Berry, who had been named acting superintendent after the School Board removed Christensen from office, has won praise for his performance from teachers and School Board alike.

The highlight of District 21's year was the announcement of the impending retirement next June of Supt. John Barger and the selection of the district's Business Manager Bud DesCarpentrie to replace him.

The Park District had a tumultuous year that included the sudden resignation of Supt. Dave Phillips. Phillips resigned suddenly at a Sunday Board meeting in April that was closed to the public. His resignation has never been explained.

The Park Board also faced problems with its Capital Needs Reassessment Citizens Advisory Committee when the chairman, Ed Main, and secretary, Linda Noe, resigned in May. Both Main and Noe criticized the way the Park District was functioning. There was more trouble later in the year when Park Commissioner Donald Lark introduced a resolution to dissolve the Park District's 11-year affiliation with the Wheeling Historical Society.

Lark cited the numerous disagreements between the society and district as the reason for his action; which, however, he has not pursued.

On the positive side, the Park District's Reassessment Committee under a new chairman amicably finished its report and made recommendations on which park facilities should be improved.

And in October, the Park Board moved forward by selecting a new superintendent, Karop Bavougian, former superintendent of the Hazel Crest Park District.

Wheeling moves forward on airport, TIF, schools

WHEELING — The village had a generally upbeat year in 1986 as it moved ahead with plans to renovate the Milwaukee Avenue corridor and rushed to complete purchase of Pal-Waukee Airport.

Year in Review

The Village Board chose Vantage Companies earlier in the year to develop a new shopping center on the northwest corner of Dundee Road and Milwaukee Avenue. Plans call for the shopping center to be anchored by the existing Sportmart store and another major establishment.

The center will also include about 30 smaller stores and a third larger one that will be about 10,000 square-feet in size.

Vantage is receiving financial help from the village because the shopping center is a major portion of the village's tax increment financing district. To pay for the village's portion of the redevelopment, the village has issued bonds that will be paid off through TIF, which involves freezing the amount of property taxes taxing bodies will

Please turn to page 3

12-23-86

Social agency may sue over unpaid bill

(Continued from Page 1)

one of his subcontractors, I'll tell you."

Flores said the social service agency does not have financial room to just let $6,500 go. "I can be tolerant to a certain degree, but this is absurd," he said.

For the agency's housing director, Jane Tischler, who did most of the work for Floria, the unpaid bill is puzzling.

"If he would send us a check, it will be a nice Christmas for the agency," she said. "My heart goes with him because he is a good man. I saw him as a landlord. I cannot believe that he is not going to comply."

The village is scheduled to discuss giving Floria the final $30,000 early next month, but Village Manager Thomas Markus said the village will want to make sure that the bill to Northwest Community Services is paid before issuing the last installment.

Floria said he hopes to be done by mid-January. Currently, about 58 of 78 units are complete and about 45 are occupied with new tenants, he said.

Agency threatens to sue developer

by Ginny Lee 12-22-86

Herald staff writer

As a last resort, Northwest Community Services officials say they may file a lawsuit against a Buffalo Grove developer to collect $6,500 owed the agency for helping relocate residents forced out by renovations at a former low-income apartment complex in Wheeling.

But Steve Daday, an attorney on the agency's board of directors, said he hopes to convince Larry Floria of Continential Properties Inc. to resolve the problem outside of court.

Nearly four months after the Arlington Heights-based agency was supposed to be paid in full for counseling, referring and relocating mostly Hispanic families from the former Wildwood apartment complex, Floria still owes $6,500 of the $10,000 contract amount, officials say.

"I think it's a reasonable bill and I think it's something that's unconscionable to not have paid it," Daday said.

The agency's board has turned the matter over to Daday, who has offered his services free to try to find a solution.

Floria has nearly completed $2.6 million in improvements to the complex, which had become run-down and partially damaged from a fire. The name of the complex on Dundee Road near Wheeling Avenue has been changed to Arbor Court Apartments.

"Our problem has been that the extent of work that we anticipated has far out-extended," Floria said. "We're running way over budget... It's just prioritizing where we're going to put the money."

Citing unexpected costs because of vandalism and damaged apartments, Floria convinced Wheeling officials in November to issue him an $80,000 village loan early. After the final $30,000 payment, Floria will have received a total of $220,000 in village loans through a tax-incentive program.

Asked if the $6,500 would make a difference in a multimillion-dollar project, Floria said, "It doesn't sound like $6,500 is very much when you look at the amount of money that's being spent. It's the amount it would take to rehab the interior of one of these apartments. My priority has been getting the apartments complete."

But Northwest Community Services officials say they are frustrated by the situation.

"He's just been giving us a lot of rhetoric," said the Rev. Finees Flores, chairman of the agency's board. "He would not do that with

(Continued on Page 5)

12-18-85

Cedar Run residents to keep eye out for crime

By BOB KEHOE

Off McHenry Road south of Lake-Cook Road sits one of Wheeling's many multi-family housing developments.

Wind your way down the side streets of the 408-unit Cedar Run development and you will quickly see that there is the kind of concern among residents here that one typically finds in single-family home subdivisions.

Spotless streets weave through the brightly-lit homes that are decked out with holiday lights. If there is a pride in appearance within this community, there is equal attention paid to maintaining the character that brought the more than 1,200 residents here.

The concern is for safety and preventing crime, and these days Cedar Run residents are taking more than just a seasonal interest in the topic.

Art Fuller came to Wheeling from Chicago several years ago with the notion he would find more security for his family beyond the city limits.

Like a lot of transplanted city dwellers, he found the open spaces he was seeking for his daughter to play in and a generally safer, more crime-free environment than he experienced in the city.

Fuller, however, became concerned in the ensuing years about some of the crimes that were occuring near his home in the Cedar Run condominium complex off McHenry Road, including a number of burglaries and two rapes.

The shooting death a year ago last November of Wheeling police officer Ken Dawson in the subdivision, though not a reflection of typical crime in the area, hammered home to Fuller the realization that no area can totally escape crime.

THESE INCIDENTS DIDN'T so much sour him on living in the suburbs as it did convince him of the need for residents to work together if they are to help control their neighborhoods.

Now, he and some of his neighbors are taking steps to improve the safety of their area by setting up Wheeling's village's first Neighborhood Watch program.

The idea behind the program, which was spearheaded by Fuller and Wheeling police Sgt. Jack Kimsey, is to get residents to actively serve as the eyes and ears of their local police and to phone in any reports they have of suspicious incidents going on in their neighborhood.

Although the program has worked with varying degrees of success in other communities, some Cedar Run residents backed off of taking part in the program out of fear they would be serving as snitches or vigilantes rather than as concerned citizens.

BUT AFTER MONTHS of going door to door to convince residents of the true spirit of the program, Fuller and Wheeling police now have the kind of support they need to make the Neighborhood Watch work.

"I was concerned for Cedar Run," Fuller said in explaining his reasons for continuing to pursue the program until it was implemented. "I just saw things happening and I wanted to show my concern for my children and for other children."

That attitude helped Fuller and fellow organizer Bob Manson land the support needed to get the program off the drawing board and into operation.

To date they have received the commitment from at least one resident on each of the approximately 40 courts in the 408-unit multi-family subdivision to serve as block captains and funnel all reportings to Wheeling police.

MANSON, A FORMER Chicago and Buffalo Grove police officer, is optimistic that active participation by Cedar Run residents will not only help deter crime in the area but will help residents to better

(Continued on page 11)

Cedar Run residents like Sharlene Snellman will be paying extra attention to anything unusual in their neighborhood as part of Wheeling's first Neighborhood Watch program. (Staff photo by Rich Bajjalieh)

Cedar Run—

(Continued from page 5)

appreciate the role of their local police.

"The program itself works very successfully if people will just get involved in it," Manson said.

Getting involved, Manson said, can be as simple as taking notice of a neighbor's schedule and communicating with that person about vacations and other times when a friend should keep an eye on his home for him.

If residents take that step, Fuller said, perhaps it will help improve peoples' understanding of what the police department is all about.

"THERE ARE some people in Cedar Run who are kind of down and out about the police department. If they could feel, as the police department has felt with us, that the police are interested in getting this started then people can feel at ease with the police department and call them," Fuller said.

The motivation for residents to get involved, he said, should be more than just because of concern for their property.

"As taxpayers we are paying them to come out and (investigate calls), and they're more than willing to come out if they know there is a problem," Fuller said.

That Fuller and Manson may have [illegible] local police

cious and to call police as soon as they spot something out of the ordinary.

In the process of setting up the program, the department also runs criminal history checks on block captains, Kimsey said.

The thoroughness of the program, while it requires a lot of work, gives both the police and people like Manson and Fuller confidence that it will work the way it was intended.

Neither Fuller and Manson or Kimsey are willing to take much of the credit for getting the program rolling, but all three are hoping that residents in a multi-family housing development can be every bit as effective in fighting crime as those who live in more expensive dwellings in other suburbs.

Dec. 1986

Day-care center gets board's OK

The Wheeling village board will grant a special-use permit to allow the Young Men's Jewish Council to open a day-care facility in June or July.

Village trustees this week concurred with the plan commission by approving operation of a day-care facility in a residential area. The day care will be held in the basement of Congregation Beth Am, 850 Jenkins Court.

Young Men's Jewish Council is leasing the space from Congregation Beth Am, which moved into the former Indian Trails Library building a little more than a year ago.

The council plans to offer day care from 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday for 40 to 50 children, said Elaine Finnegan, the council's director of professional services.

She said the group will be hiring seven to 10 people to work at the day-care center, depending on the number of children enrolled. The facility is open to both synagogue members and non-members in Wheeling and Buffalo Grove.

EDITORIALS

2-12-87

Village should drop union ruling appeal

Wheeling village officials have decided to file an appeal seeking to overturn an Illinois Labor Relations Board ruling that allows six Fire Department lieutenants to belong to the Wheeling Firefighters Association Union.

Village officials argue that the lieutenants are supervisors who do not belong in a union with the rank and file. They say the lieutenants will have a hard time fulfilling their supervisory duties, which the village says include making work assignments, and evaluating and disciplining firefighters.

Explaining the village point of view, Personnel Director Sue Musick said it's difficult for someone in a union to supervise someone else in the same union. She called having the lieutenants in the same bargaining unit as other firefighters and paramedics "a conflict of interest."

But village officials are ignoring one salient fact. The lieutenants and other firefighters have a very close working relationship. The firefighters eat together, sleep in the same room, take risks together and some even spend their leisure time together. They see themselves as a team.

If it is difficult for people who have such an intense relationship to supervise each other the way village officials believe they should. That difficulty will exist no matter who belongs to the Firefighters Association.

After the ILRB decision, the firefighters and lieutenants voted 37-0 to be jointly represented by the Firefighters Association, which previously had excluded the lieutenants. But the village, in order to maintain the right to appeal the ILRB ruling, has refused to bargain with the union. This is sapping the morale of the men, who are working without a contract. In addition, firefighters have not had a raise since May 1985.

The village obviously feels threatened by the precedent-setting ILRB ruling, one of the first made on the issue of who is a public safety supervisor since the state's amended public labor relations law became effective about one year ago.

But we don't feel officials don't have all that much to feel threatened about. What is more threatening is to hurt the morale and effectiveness of the Fire Department by a long, drawn-out battle, which the village will lose even if it wins.

The lieutenants should remain in the union and the village should drop its appeal.

Village to monitor fuel consumption

2-12-87

WHEELING — The village is going to seek bids for fuel monitoring equipment that officials say will enable them to keep better tabs on use of village gas in village vehicles.

The new equipment would be used when drivers of village cars, such as police officers, fill up their gas tanks.

The monitoring equipment, for which $15,500 has been budgeted, would permit better inventory control, greater accountability, time savings, and a more effective preventive maintenance program, Village Manager Tom Markus told the Village Board Monday at a workshop meeting.

In a memo, Bob Gray, director of operations and maintenance, said that the current equipment, in place since 1978, is obsolete and has been from the time it was installed. The equipment suffers numerous mechanical problems, does not permit officials to calculate gas mileage on all vehicles, and requires employees to spend an inordinate amount of time manually preparing fuel consumption reports.

New fuel distribution monitoring control equipment would involve the use of two cards that would be used when drivers fill up their gas tanks at village pumps.

The precoded cards would allow the village to automatically determine mileage on any one vehicle or on all vehicles. Cars driven a certain number of miles would be tagged for preventive maintenance treatment.

The new equipment would also improve security measures to prevent unauthorized use of village gasoline, Gray said, although Markus said security is not a problem.

"As a result of vast technological improvements made in fuel monitoring equipment, a new system would greatly improve the efficiency of the fuel monitoring operation as well as provide valuable data needed for scheduling vehicle maintenance activities," Gray said.

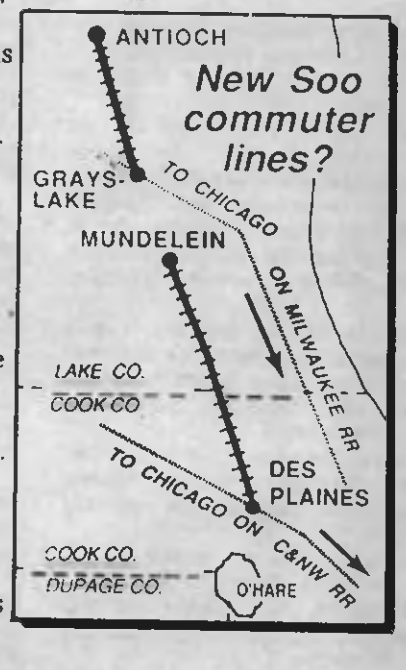
Push begins for Soo Line trains

Members of a North Suburban Mass Transit District (Nortran) rail committee are trying to get local officials in several area suburbs to climb aboard their push for commuter trains on Soo Line tracks between Antioch and Des Plaines.

Nortran will make its pitch to Metra, the commuter rail arm of the Regional Transportation Authority, in April and wants suburban support.

2-10-87

It is easy to understand why municipal officials in suburbs like Wheeling, Buffalo Grove, Mundelein, Libertyville, Prairie View and Vernon Hills would like the commuter service they now lack. Residents must drive to other suburbs to take a train.



Rail travel would be much easier, and certainly more appealing, if suburban riders could catch a train right in their own community. And easily accessible train service is a strong selling point for keeping and attracting home owners, business and industry.

Even Arlington Heights, already served by commuter trains of the Chicago and North Western Ry., can see benefit for north end residents living closer to the Soo Line than the North Western's downtown Arlington station.

Commuter trains also are seen as alleviating increased traffic congestion in northern Cook and southern Lake counties.

Whether Metra officials will approve the idea is another matter. A feasibility study completed last fall showed that it would take a capital investment of $36 million dollars to get service activated by 1990 on two proposed routes. One would run between Antioch and Grayslake, linking up with the Milwaukee Road; the other between Mundelein and Des Plaines, connecting with the North Western.

The study also showed that the system would generate 3,000 riders by the first year, but that 60 percent of them would be people now riding on existing Metra lines.

If there is to be commuter rail service on the Soo Line, it must produce sufficient ridership to pay for itself without taking away business from other routes. Local officials will have to do their share in selling their constituents on supporting it.

PROSPECT HEIGHTS

Airport case won't fly

The Illinois Supreme Court has refused to hear a lawsuit brought against Wheeling by Prospect Heights, meaning that Wheeling's annexation of nearly half of Pal-Waukee Airport is legal. The lawsuit, filed 6½ years ago, charged that Wheeling's annexation of the north portion of the airport was invalid.

2-11-87

Airport annexation upheld

2-12-87

BY MARIE LUTZ
Staff Writer

WHEELING — The Illinois Supreme Court has refused to review lower court decisions upholding Wheeling's annexation of the northern portion of Pal-Waukee Airport.

This means Wheeling's annexation of the land is final, say Wheeling officials.

Wheeling annexed the site about five years ago, but the validity of the move was challenged by the city of Prospect Heights, which, later, also annexed the property. If Prospect Heights' annexation had gone through, the entire airport would have been within that municipality's boundaries.

The annexation issue was important to Wheeling officials, who say that because the two towns are now joint owners of Pal-Waukee, a portion of the airport should reside in each community.

Prospect Heights and Wheeling purchased the airport in December. The annexation issue was not connected to the purchase.

After the Wheeling annexation, around 1982 or 1983, the matter went to cirucit court, where Prospect Heights argued that one small parcel of the disputed property, belonging to Motel Land Corp., had not been properly annexed.

Prospect Heights contended that George Priester, an owner of the airport and his secretary, who was also an officer of Motel Land Corp., had improperly signed documents allowing the Motel Land site to be annexed, said Jim Rhodes, Wheeling village attorney.

Prospect Heights argued that be-

Please turn to page 3

Airport annexation upheld

2-12-87

Continued from page 1

cause the Motel Land property was improperly annexed, the entire annexation was void, Rhodes said.

Wheeling countered that the annexation had been properly handled, and the circuit court agreed that, basically, Wheeling had complied with state statutes, said Donald Kreger, attorney for Prospect Heights.

About six months ago, the Illinois Appellate Court affirmed the trial court decision, Kreger said. The municipalities were notified of the Supreme Court decision on Monday.

Wheeling Village President Sheila Schultz said she made a plea in a letter to Prospect Heights about a year ago to drop all suits. She said she thought this should be done because the municipalities were going to jointly own Pal-Waukee. But, Schultz said, she never received a reply.

Owning the northern portion of the airport will provide Wheeling with tax revenue. The annexation may also make it easier for the village to annex other areas north of Pal-Waukee.

By the same token, Wheeling's successful annexation virtually cuts off Prospect Heights from annexing land to the north, said Village Manager Tom Markus.

Pal-Waukee Airport is a general aviation facility used by corporate and private pilots.

Wheeling and Prospect Heights bought the airport for about $22 million. The communities wanted to own the facility because of its importance to the local economy and to exercise more control over it.

2-9-87

WHEELING VILLAGE BOARD VOTE SUMMARY

Selected decisions from the village board meetings of Jan. 5 and 19.	Altieri	Fanella	Whittington	Hartman	Ratajczak	Rogers
To approve a relocation plan for businesses and residences on the fringes of Pal-Waukee Airport. (Passed 6-0)	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
To make Park Avenue a cul-de-sac instead of a through street. (Passed 6-0)	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
To allow the Main Bank at 350 E Dundee Road to divide its lot into two separate lots, one that contains the bank and a vacant lot next door. (Passed 6-0)	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES

Pal-Waukee relocations top board's Jan. agenda

During January, Wheeling trustees approved a relocation plan for businesses and residences on the fringe of Pal-Waukee Airport.

Under the plan, about 100 acres of property will be purchased by Prospect Heights and Wheeling to comply with federal safety standards, but the purchases hinge on the availability of more federal grant money.

Wheeling and Prospect Heights bought Pal-Waukee Airport with grant money and most recently applied for a $6.3 million grant to assist in purchasing land outside the airport. Grant money will be used to move businesses into other locations.

The plan calls for displacement of 16 businesses and 12 residences. People who need to move will be given at least 12 to 18 months to relocate, according to the plan.

Also in January Wheeling officials approved construction of a cul-de-sac at the south end of Park Avenue, rather than making Park Avenue a through street.

Residents who live in the area were opposed to the original plan of opening Park Avenue, saying it would increase traffic. They argued before the Wheeling Plan Commission, which recommended that trustees compromise and approve completion of Walnut Avenue while keeping Park a dead-end street.

In other action, trustees approved a variation that subdivides the Main Bank property into two lots for construction of an office building.

The new building will be northeast of the bank building at 350 E. Dundee Road, but it is not known when it will be constructed or who will use it.

Village eyes fuel monitoring system

2-11-87

Wheeling officials have agreed to advertise for bids on a new fuel monitoring system for village vehicles.

Trustees approved an allocation of $15,500 for the system in the 1986-87 budget, but asked that the purchase be re-evaluated prior to advertising for bids.

Director of Operations and Maintenance Robert D. Gray said he hopes to have the new monitoring system under construction by spring.

Village employees now use a key to open the fuel pump, which services about 90 village vehicles. The present system was bought in late 1978 or early 1979 and was probably the best equipment at that time, Gray said.

However, the keys and the tumblers in the pump that make the key work wear out, plus more than one car uses a key. "Everybody's on the honor system," he said.

With the new system, there will be two cards used to activate the pump and a computer will record how many gallons of gas are being put in a particular vehicle for a particular department.

Officials said they know how many gallons of gasoline are being used now, but not which car is using it or whether departments are being billed for the right amount of gasoline used.

Village Manager Thomas M. Markus said records are now kept manually and a camera monitored in the police station is focused on the pump. However he said, "You have to make a lot of assumptions because again, you have more than one car using a key."

Markus said the major problem is the mechanical parts are malfunctioning more than they are working.

Airport annex is 'legal'

2-11-87

By C. L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer

The Illinois Supreme Court has refused to hear a lawsuit brought against Wheeling by Prospect Heights, meaning that Wheeling's annexation of nearly half of Pal-Waukee Airport is legal.

In the lawsuit that started six and a half years ago, Prospect Heights charged that Wheeling's annexation of the north portion of the airport was invalid.

Since then, both towns worked together to purchase Pal-Waukee Airport, which was completed in December.

Prospect Heights attorney Donald Kreger said the city has the option of asking the supreme court to reconsider its refusal.

An appellate court ruled in September that the annexation was legal, but Prospect Heights officials pushed the case toward the supreme court.

"I'm happy that it came to a final resolution. It smooths the path toward intergovernmental cooperation," Wheeling Village President Sheila Schultz said.

Wheeling began annexation proceedings for 109 acres of the airport in May 1980 at the request of former airport owner George Priester. The rest of the airport was already within Prospect Heights.

The proceedings hit a snag soon after, when homeowners near the property and Prospect Heights officials asked that the 109 acres instead be annexed to Prospect Heights.

Prospect Heights officials then challenged the annexation petition based on a technicality. They said that the petition did not specify that Preister, his wife Vita and Esther Noffke were representatives of the Motel Land Corp., owners of less than an acre of the property in question.

Prospect Heights claimed that if the legal description of the 109 acres was inaccurate, it made the annexation invalid.

With the supreme court ruling, homeowners who initiated efforts to be annexed to Prospect Heights are now in unincorporated Wheeling Township.

Appeal aims to keep suspect's confession

2-7-87

By Diane Dungey
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Prosecutors will ask an appellate court to overturn a circuit judge's ruling that the confession of a man charged with murdering a Wheeling police officer should not be used against him in trial.

The appeal of the ruling on the confession will delay for at least several months the trial of two men charged with murdering Wheeling police officer Kenneth R. Dawson in November 1985. Jury selection was scheduled to begin Friday.

Larry Strickland and his brother, Tyrone, are charged with shooting Dawson, 41, after he and other officers were called to investigate a prowler near Cleo Court in the Cedar Run subdivision. The two allegedly kidnapped three members of a Buffalo Grove family and commandeered their car in a getaway attempt.

Both suspects confessed in statements to police, but Judge Fred G. Suria ruled Thursday that Larry Strickland's confession cannot be admitted in trial because police withheld medical care from the injured man until after he confessed.

Strickland apparently was shot in the finger during the gun battle

"They sat there looking at him injured from 10 at night until 6 in the morning. There was a real injury there," said Public Defender James L. Rhodes, who is not related to Wheeling Village Attorney James A. Rhodes.

Land buy OK'd for retail center

2-5-87

BY MARIE LUTZ
Staff Writer

WHEELING — Village acquisition of property on the northwest corner of Milwaukee Avenue and Dundee Road is going slower than expected.

The village is helping with the planned construction of a shopping center on that corner, with the Sportmart expected to be a major anchor of the redevelopment.

The center is being developed by Vantage Companies, which will get Tax Increment Financing aid from the village to help pay for the project.

So far the village has purchased eight parcels on the site and is seeking to buy 10 more, including part of the Sportmart store. Village Manager Tom Markus said the village intends to sell the parcels to Vantage at a lower price than it paid for them.

On Monday, officials asked for and received Village Board approval to acquire, through condemnation if necessary, the remaining parcels.

Village Attorney James Rhodes said that originally the village intended to seek board approval to buy each parcel individually. But, he said, it should speed up negotiations if the Village Board gives authority now to buy all the remaining sites.

Markus said the village would make offers for the property based on appraisals. The owners can get their own appraisals and use them in negotiating a price. The board would have to approve any condemnation proceedings and would also have to approve each purchase before it is finalized.

If property is condemned the village would initiate proceedings in court and the owner would have 30 days to answer.

The matter would then go to trial after which the court would most likely award the owner a price for his property.

Rhodes said the delay in buying the remaining parcels in some cases has come about because the village has not been able to contact the owner. In other cases, he said, a price cannot be agreed upon.

Rhodes said the village wants to buy part of the Sportmart property in order to attach it to the rest of the shopping center.

Despite the delay, Rhodes said the village expects construction to start this year. He said it should take about six months to build the project, known as Village Square.

The center will consist of single-story stores joined together in a rough U-shape that will extend along Milwuakee Avenue to just south of the senior citizen housing.

The village role in building the center will consist not only of buying the parcels but also paying for public improvements, such as sewer work and necessary street widening. The village will also pay for demolition of buildings on the site.

Wheeling refutes victory claim

2-12-87

WHEELING — Northbrook has claimed an initial victory in a battle with Wheeling over 19 acres of property on Lake-Cook Road, but Wheeling's attorney characterizes Northbrook's claim as "inaccurate."

Northbrook Village Attorney Steve Elrod said that on Feb. 3 Cook County Circuit Court Judge Albert Green ruled that it is up to Wheeling to prove its decision to annex the site is valid.

"Northbrook has prevailed in phase one (of its fight to win annexation of the property)," Elrod said.

But Wheeling Village Attorney Jim Rhodes indicated that the court decision was routine and not a victory at all.

All Northbrook did was meet the statutory requirements that allows it to file a complaint, Rhodes said. Once Northbrook files, the statutes say that Wheeling must establish that its annexation was properly handled, he said.

"So for Mr. Elrod to suggest that they won round one is a little funny," Rhodes said.

The property being fought over is located just off Lake-Cook between Portwine and Sanders roads. The Grand Champion Stables is located on the site, which is separated from Wheeling by a county forest preserve and Portwine Road.

Wheeling annexed the property along with Portwine, a township road, late last year. Northbrook followed with its own annexation on Jan. 27.

State law allows communities to annex property to which they are connected by a forest preserve. But Northbrook Village President Dick Falcone has questioned whether the real intent of the legislation is to let a municipality jump a forest preserve and road.

Rhodes, however, said that the law allows towns to jump roads to annex property. There are only a few exceptions, such as tollways, Rhodes said.

Rhodes said that recently Wheeling annexed property on the southeast corner of Lake-Cook Road and Milwaukee Avenue, crossing Milwaukee in order to accomplish the annexation. He said jumping county or state roads in order to annex is commonplace.

Rhodes said an answer to Northbrook's court complaint is due in March.

Gas tax hike eyed to boost r

By MATTHEW ROSENBERG
Staff Writer

Two major suburban municipal associations are calling on the Illinois General Assembly to authorize a regional increase in the state gas tax to pay for road improvements.

The Northwest Municipal Conference and the DuPage Mayors and Managers Conference met last week to finalize a joint legislative agenda, highlighting issues they want addressed in Springfield this spring.

The fuel tax hike proposal for Cook, DuPage, Lake, Will, Kane and McHenry counties was one of several "wish list" items formulated by the two groups as part of an effort to ease "fiscal stress" on municipalities and local taxpayers.

"Money is the commodity that local governments never seem to have enough of. We all face increased costs of personnel, infrastructures that are crumbling and losses of federal funding," Streamwood Village President Jack Fehlandt said to the joint gathering at the Schaumburg Marriott.

Like most federal grants to states, road funds are shrinking, but traffic congestion continues to worsen.

The proposed gas tax hike from 13 cents a gallon to 15 cents in Cook and the five collar counties would produce another $40 to $45 million annually for road widenings and signalizations in those counties, said Northwest Municipal Conference Executive Director William Grams.

The funds would help alleviate congestion and some of the frustration and lost productivity that result from it, said Grams.

The two associations and their member to
mit the pro
dums in the
Legislatu
priate, sai
feels the p
proval at t
mation cam
ize the direc

Another t
groups hope

NWMC seeks employee ridesharing in

By MATTHEW ROSENBERG
Staff Writer

State subsidies for employee van pools and development of other legislative initiatives to boost ridesharing and cut traffic congestion could be considered by the Illinois legislature this year at the urging of the Northwest Municipal Conference and the DuPage Mayors and Managers Conference.

Both groups are calling on the Illinois General Assembly to address growing traffic congestion through ridesharing initiatives:
funds via a regional gas tax h
might submit to voter approval
creation of transportation man
better facilitate transporation pla

While more funds and plannin
gress in easing traffic conges
northwest and western suburbs
and van pooling gain far broade

In y

Up and down, dow
and emotionally, "over
burden. But, it's a bur

The Saint Franci
offers a comprehensive
healthy weight. We are
you fads. What we do i
nutritional counseling,
in one unified program.

We'll help you tip

The Weight C

saint fran
of evanst

355 Ridge Ave
Evanston, Illinc

492-22

Gas tax

Continued from page 1

Both groups were to present the joint legislative agenda and their own separate concerns to lawmakers at breakfast meetings before the end of the month.

Legislative sources say it's likely few bills will be passed in Springfield before the Chicago mayoral election April 7.

Communities belonging to one or both of the municipal groups include Bensenville, Bloomingdale, Elk Grove Village, Glenview, Hanover Park, Hoffman Estates, Itasca, Morton Grove, Niles, Northbrook,, Roselle, Schaumburg, Skokie, Wheeling and Wood Dale.
the two associations also calls for state laws to cut the costs to local taxpayers of mandated pension payment increases for police and firemen; legislative intitiatives to encourage more car and van pooling to cut traffic congestion; and replacing state control of billboard size limitations with local control.

"There is strength in numbers. We should all go out as individual municipalities to work for these goals. We can make good use of our strength. We represent a lot of people," Wheeling Village President Sheila Shultz told members of the groups at the meeting.

Ridersharing

Continued from page 1

"Ridesharing just has not become effective because people don't want to give up their independence. We need legislation encouraging more people to use fewer vehicles," said Hanover Park Village President Sonya Crawshaw at a joint meeting of the two groups last week.

Northwest Municipal Conference Executive Director William Grams said such initiatives could include state subsidies for employee van pools. He added van pools don't have to be limited to employees of the same company but could be set up for employees who work in the same building.

Grams said that while many employees are reluctant to sacrifice their mobility by joining a car or vanpool, they could be persuaded to travel to and from work in groups at least two or three days a week and save errands and after-work engagements for the days they drive solo.

Other incentives developed by transporation experts include limiting office parking spaces, allowing businesses to charge parking fees for employees who drive to work alone, or making solo drivers park in auxiliary lots farther away from their office building, said Lynn Montei, executive director of the DuPage Mayors and Managers Conference.

The need for more employee ridesharing initiatives is underscored by the limited success of Pace suburban bus service, which has suffered from scarce ridership on many routes.

Murder confession ruled out

By DIANE DUNGEY
Daily Herald Staff Writer

A confession by one of two brothers charged with murdering Wheeling police officer Kenneth R. Dawson of Kildeer was ruled out as evidence Thursday because police withheld medical care from the wounded suspect until after he confessed.

Larry Strickland, charged along with his brother Tyrone in the November 1985 slaying, had been shot in the finger when the two exchanged gunfire with Wheeling police officers who had been called to investigate a prowler near Cleo Court in the Cedar Run subdivision.

Judge Fred Suria of Cook County Circuit Court ruled that because Larry Strickland was not treated for the wound before questioning, his incriminating statement could not be presented in court.

However, Public Defender Andrea Lyon conceded the ruling probably will not greatly affect the outcome of the trial because of the amount of physical evidence in the case.

Evidence collected by investigators and likely to be introduced in the trial includes two guns carried by the Stricklands at the time of their arrest, empty shells found at the scene of the shooting and debris left at the Cleo Court scene and linked to the Stricklands' auto, Wheeling Deputy Police Chief Michael Hermes said.

Jury selection is expected to begin today in the trial for the two.

"It surely brings it all back," Hermes said.

The Stricklands are charged with shooting Dawson, 41, then abandoning their car in Buffalo Grove and commandeering an auto driven by Donald Hamburg and occupied by his nephew, David Duvall, and stepgrandson, Daniel Johnson.

The Stricklands were arrested south of Chicago's Loop when Hamburg purposely began driving erratically.

MONDAY

- The Wheeling Village Board will meet for a workshop at 8 p.m. followed by a special board meeting. A fuel monitoring system will be discussed by trustees during the workshop and included in the special board meeting will be discussions of purchasing six squad cars and hiring a village prosecutor.
- The Northwest Suburban High School District 214 Board will meet at 8 p.m. at the Slichenmyer Administration Center, 799 W. Kensington Road, Mount Prospect.

2-8-87

PUBLIC SPEAKING

- "We have a multimillion-dollar operation with no one at the helm." — Prospect Heights Alderman Charles VanderVennet, reflecting that an on-sight manager has yet to be hired to oversee the Pal-Waukee Municipal Airport since it was purchased by Wheeling and Prospect Heights in December.

NUMBERS

Lake-Cook offices win village approval

WHEELING — The Village Board approved ordinances Tuesday that will allow construction of four offices on a 12-acre Lake-Cook Road site — assuming the village wins the lawsuit that Northbrook has brought to halt Wheeling's annexation of the parcel. Wheeling is connected to the site by a forest preserve, but Northbrook residences back up against the property.

Ignoring the suit, the board rezoned the parcel, located on the south side of Lake-Cook Road east of Milwaukee Avenue from R-1, single-family, to B-5, offices.

The board also approved the site plan and granted a zoning variation that will allow four buildings on the lot.

As a condition of the approval, the developers are required to pay a share of the cost of a traffic signal and lane modifications, if they should become necessary.

Village Manager Tom Markus told the board that as long as there are no court injunctions it could approve the development.

At the meeting, representatives of Joseph Judah, owner of the property, argued that the trend of development on Lake-Cook is offices. There has not been one single-family home built along Lake-Cook, from Birchwood to Milwaukee Avenue, in the past 30 years, said Terrence O'Brien, real estate consultant.

He said the developers want to construct 15-foot-high single-story offices, rather than multi-story offices, because there are single-family houses behind the site.

Attacking Northbrook, O'Brien cited a number of instances in which that village had gone to court to prevent certain projects along Lake-Cook. Calling the court cases "the Lake-Cook zoning wars,," O'Brien mentioned several lawsuits that Northbrook had lost.

Northbrook is now challenging Wheeling's annexation of the property the Wheeling Village Board considered Tuesday along with a seven-acre adjacent parcel.

Wheeling annexed those sites and Portwine Road (which goes through the forest preserve) last year. Northbrook followed with its own annexation on Jan. 27.

State law allows communities to annex property to which they are connected by a forest preserve. But Northbrook has questioned whether the real intent of the legislation is to let a municipality jump a forest preserve and a road (Portwine).

In other business, Village President Sheila Schultz said she intends to form a bi-partisan committee to plan activities and programs celebrating this year's 200th anniversary of the Constitution. Schultz also proclaimed Sept. 17 as United States Constitution Day.

Schultz took those steps after the staff assured the board that there is community support for such a committee.

Feb 1987

Feb 1987

Office project to get started despite suit

Despite pending litigation against Wheeling over its annexation of property along Lake-Cook Road, the village plans to begin construction on an office development there within four to six weeks, an attorney for the developer said.

Wheeling trustees have approved construction of four office buildings on the 12-acre parcel, commonly known as the Grand Champion Stables, located at Portwine and Lake-Cook roads.

Neighboring Northbrook is suing Wheeling for annexing the property, claiming the annexation was illegal because the land does not directly adjoin Wheeling.

Northbrook claims that Portwine Road, which runs through the Potawatomi Woods, breaks the continuity and therefore the land is not annexable by Wheeling.

Wheeling annexed a 200-foot section of Portwine Road along with the 12 acres, and village officials claim the road annexation was legal according to state law.

"Until we're told differently, we have legally annexed the property and we will proceed with the development," community development director Michael Klitzke said.

Property owner Joseph Judah has had problems obtaining construction financing because of controversy over the project, said Judah's attorney, Thomas Burney.

Burney said studies show that building the office development would not have an adverse affect on the value of surrounding properties.

Constructing new buildings is improving the area and causing no more traffic than the polo matches or horse shows that were held at the stables, he said.

Both Northbrook, which lies adjacent to Wheeling's easternmost boundary along Lake-Cook Road, and Riverwoods, which has property across from the stables, have said they dislike development of the property commercially.

Feb 1987

EDITORIALS

One too many

Wheeling officials are considering a proposal that would require all bartenders in the village have a license before they're allowed to dispense drinks.

Not only would bartenders have to pay a fee for the licenses, but they'd also be required to undergo training that would show them how to tell if a customer had had too much and take classes that would educate them on the legal liabilities that come with serving alcohol.

The proposed licensing law, patterned after a similar ordinance in Schaumburg, is designed to help combat the drinking and driving problem and reduce the number other alcohol-related incidents.

At first glance, the idea of licensing bartenders seems like a good one. But the law, if approved, could be difficult, if not impossible, to enforce.

For starters, there are more than 70 working bartenders in Wheeling, many of whom are part-time. Police Chief Michael Haeger says officers are busy enough as it is without having to go around various bars to check if bartenders are licensed.

And then there's the question of whether waiters and waitresses should also be licensed, because in most establishments, they serve alcohol, too. Wheeling bar owners have also told Haeger that there's a lot of turnover among bartenders and he says it would be difficult to keep track of who's licensed and who isn't.

Instead of having police check the various watering holes in town to see whether the person behind the counter is licensed or not, we'd rather see the officers beef up their patrols on the major roads in Wheeling looking for drunken drivers.

Training those who serve liquor on who to do their job responsibly is a good idea, however. But instead of requiring bartenders to be licensed, we'd prefer to see the village work with the liquor establishments in town on a voluntary basis to help them and encourage them to implement alcohol awareness programs for employees.

History society seeks funds to restore barn

By C.L. Waller
and Liz Russell
Daily Herald staff writers

The Wheeling Historical Society is hopeful that Wheeling park officials will give the group enough money to turn a barn into a carriage house, a barn that otherwise would have been demolished as part of the village's downtown redevelopment project.

The barn would be moved to Chamber of Commerce Park, 251 N Wolf Rd, near the museum and the Church Community Center.

Historical Society member Robert L. McIntyre said within a week he plans to get permission from the Village of Wheeling to use the barn behind Doetsch and Associates, 268 E. Dundee Road.

The barn is currently used for storage by an antique dealer, but with its three sets of double doors it would be idea to store and display carriages, McIntyre said.

Horse-drawn carriages have been donated to the historical society for display, but park commissioners and society members have been haggling over construction of a carriage house for two years.

The park district is the controlling body over the historical society.

Commissioner Julia Robberson and park board President Anthony Abruscato said the park board will consider the addition of a carriage house to the Chamber of Commerce Park property at 251 N. Wolf Road.

Robberson said the park board could not make a commitment to the project until preliminary cost figures were submitted by an architect.

The barn is located on a piece of property that is being redeveloped into a shopping center and would be torn down by the village if the society didn't take it, McIntyre said.

Obtaining the building depends on the sale or condemnation of the property, he said.

Estimated costs of moving and refurbishing the barn is unknown, although McIntyre said two years ago he estimated the costs at $7,000.

Feb 1987

Feb. 1987

Village eyes licenses, training for bartenders

By BOB KEHOE

Bartenders working in Wheeling may one day have to attend a course on the dangers of serving drunk patrons and obtain a license to serve alcohol in the village.

Wheeling trustees are considering these and other steps to reduce the number of alcohol-related incidents in the village and to increase awareness among bartenders and bar owners of their responsibilities for over-serving patrons and allowing them to drive home.

Consideration of a licensing program was spurred by action Schaumburg officials took last year requiring all bartenders to obtain a server's license and attend a 12-hour program offered through Harper College in Palatine dealing with alcohol-related issues.

Village officials were non-committal on adopting an ordinance similar to Schaumburg's, but said anything that would help promote responsible drinking deserves consideration.

"I THINK this is potentially a good idea if we do it in increments," Village President Sheila Schultz said after the board discussion at a committee-of-the-whole meeting Monday night.

Schultz said she and Wheeling Police Chief Michael Haeger heard about the steps Schaumburg was taking and decided some of that village's concepts might work well in Wheeling.

Although Schultz said she thinks adopting an ordinance similar to Schaumburg's would be a good step, she said it's important that the village get feedback from bar owners before gradually implementing a program.

For now, the village will continue studying the issue while police review and gain a better understanding of how Schaumburg's ordinance is working.

AFTER OUTLINING SCHAUMBURG'S ordinance and examining the logistics of setting up a similar system here, Wheeling Police Chief Michael Haeger told the board that licensing the village's approximately 70 bartenders would be a major undertaking.

Haeger said the village would have to consider the administrative time commitments in the licensing process as well as deciding whether waiters, waitresses and bar owners should also be licensed.

Concerns about the inconvenience such an ordinance would pose for those who must be licensed and who would pay the licensing fees were also raised by some restaurant and bar owners interviewed, according to Haeger.

The advantages to enacting a licensing ordinance, he said, would be that the village could regulate who can dispense alcohol; could require server training in recognizing the signs of an intoxicated patron and what to do when a situation arises; and would provide some protection for the bar owner and the drinker.

HAEGER SAID HE couldn't make a recommendation on adopting a licensing ordinance since Schaumburg — the only known municipality in the area with such a law — is still evaluating its program.

Under the Schaumburg ordinance, bartenders must attend the Harper program and pay a small fee for a license, which they must keep with them at all times while on duty.

The three goals of Schaumburg's ordinance, Haeger said, are to reduce the number of alcohol-related incidents in the village; to reduce the number of people driving under the influence of alcohol on Schaumburg's roads; and to encourage responsible dispensing of alcohol.

While some bartenders might argue they already know their responsibilities and that they know when not to serve a patron who has had one too many, Haeger said those who take part in the Harper program are proving otherwise.

"THEY FOUND the average bartender would serve a drunk person," Haeger said, adding that most bartenders didn't know they could be subject to a Class B misdemeanor if convicted of serving alcohol to an intoxicated patron.

According to Haeger, the 12-hour Harper course, which is run over several sessions, covers such issues as bartender and owner liability in serving an intoxicated motorist, the Dram Shop Act dealing with the bar owner's liability, driving under the influence statistics, and how to spot an intoxicated patron.

One problem Schaumburg officials seem to be experiencing, Haeger said, is that there is "erratic" participation in the course among some bartenders who don't attend all of the sessions.

Concerns about how the village would monitor bartenders, the village's time and expense commitment, and uncertainties about what requirements should be included in an ordinance led trustees to delay a decision on developing an ordinance now.

"IT SEEMS to be a good idea, but I wonder about the practicality and the legality of it. I think we need more information," said Trustee William Rogers.

Trustee James Whittington said he thinks the proposal has "some merit" and that the village should consider training for bartenders, but he also has concerns for restaurant and bar owners.

"I don't want it to be a nuisance for restaurant owners, but if it will help adults make more responsible decisions on drinking I'm for it," Whittington said.

Feb 1987

Wheeling will mark Constitution's 200th

By B.R. DONEY
Daily Herald correspondent

The village of Wheeling will celebrate the 200th anniversary of the signing of the United States Constitution this summer, with events leading up a big celebration on Sept. 17, the actual signing day.

At least 10 local organizations have agreed to participate, said David R. Kowal, Wheeling administrative assistant and chairman of the bicentennial committee.

The newly-formed Wheeling Bicentennial Committee has big plans.

Among the events, the committee will try to get Wheeling named an official Bicentennial community, an honor bestowed by the National Commission on the Bicentennial of the United States Constitution.

"This is a long process," Kowal said, "and it could take up to a month and a half."

The main task will be getting as much support for the group as possible.

Earlier this month, Kowal sent out 22 letters seeking support from some of Wheeling's local organizations. Ten groups responded favorably.

They are the Wheeling Historical Society, the Indian Trails Public Library District, Wheeling High School, the Wheeling Jaycees, Wheeling Township Elementary District 21, the Wheeling Rotary Club, Amvets Post 66, Naval Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps, the Wheeling Masonic Lodge and the Wheeling Area Chamber of Commerce.

Each organization will supply at least one representative to the committee who will help plan the celebration.

Suggested ideas include involvement in this summer's Familyfest and taking part in Wheeling's Fourth of July parade.

Other events will take place in September, the actual anniversary of the Constitution's signing.

"We have a lot of plans," Kowal said, "but nothing is carved in stone. To pull this off, we are going to need some good support. I've tried to get as broad a base as possible. Success of this group, and its plans, depends on all the facets of our community getting involved."

COMMUNITY BRIEFS Feb 1987

Village's sign code will be reviewed

Members of Wheeling's sign code board of appeals, representatives of the appearance commission and a member of the plan commission will be meeting to review the village's sign code regulations beginning March 24. The code, which regulates aspects such as positioning and sizes of signs, is reviewed periodically by village officials and the group plans on meeting the fourth Tuesday of each month until they complete their task. Once the review is complete, recommendations for change will be directed to village trustees

WHS senior honored in print contest

Andrea Kunschke, Wheeling High School senior, received honorable mention in the sixth annual Print Contest sponsored by Dick Blick Corporation of Galesburg Ill. Entries totalling 3,266 competed for 46 prizes given in this linoleum blockprint contest.

Karen Fang-Wen Chang, a senior of Arlington Heights, received honorable mention in the 1986 Small Time/Two Bits high school art show at Western Illinois University in Macomb. More than 100 high schools with 1,500 entries competed.

Prairie School slates annual fun fair

Organizers are getting set for the Annual Prairie School Fun Fair featuring games, a visit from a clown and lots more fun. The fair will be held from noon to 4 p.m. on March 22 at the school, 1530 Brandywyn Court in Buffalo Grove. Sponsored by the school's parent-teachers organization, the event also will include free balloons and a silent auction. Hot dog lunches and other items will be sold. Tickets from the games will be 25 cents each. The games will be geared for children through fifth-grade age, although individuals of all ages are welcome to come and enjoy the fair. All children will receive at least one prize.

Sewer work to cost less than expected

A portion of sewer repair work along Wheeling Road in Wheeling will cost $11,499 less than trustees expected.

Contract costs were reduced because contractors found it was unnecessary to restore a parkway or curb and guttering on the east side of Wheeling Road, village officials said. The sanitary sewer work is part of a $5 million project under way throughout the village.

Originally, the sewer replacement line was to be located on the east side of the roadway, leaving the street open to traffic. But discovering a gas main in that location forced workers to move the new sewer line west and to close Wheeling road to through traffic.

Besides Wheeling Road, sewer work is also being done in Dunhurst, Old Town, Meadowbrook, Hollywood Ridge and Poplar Grove subdivisions.

2-6-87

Gas tax hike eyed to boost road funds

2-5-87

By MATTHEW ROSENBERG
Staff Writer

Two major suburban municipal associations are calling on the Illinois General Assembly to authorize a regional increase in the state gas tax to pay for road improvements.

The Northwest Municipal Conference and the DuPage Mayors and Managers Conference met last week to finalize a joint legislative agenda, highlighting issues they want addressed in Springfield this spring.

The fuel tax hike proposal for Cook, DuPage, Lake, Will, Kane and McHenry counties was one of several "wish list" items formulated by the two groups as part of an effort to ease "fiscal stress" on municipalities and local taxpayers.

"Money is the commodity that local governments never seem to have enough of. We all face increased costs of personnel, infrastructures that are crumbling and losses of federal funding," Streamwood Village President Jack Fehlandt said to the joint gathering at the Schaumburg Marriott.

Like most federal grants to states, road funds are shrinking, but traffic congestion continues to worsen.

The proposed gas tax hike from 13 cents a gallon to 15 cents in Cook and the five collar counties would produce another $40 to $45 million annually for road widenings and signalizations in those counties, said Northwest Municipal Conference Executive Director William Grams.

The funds would help alleviate congestion and some of the frustration and lost productivity that result from it, said Grams.

The two associations and their member towns are willing to submit the proposal to voter referendums in the affected counties if the Legislature deems that appropriate, said Grams. He added he feels the proposal would win approval at the polls because information campaigns would emphasize the direct benefit to motorists.

Another tax measure that both groups hope state legislators will consider would increase from one-twelfth to one-tenth the share of state income tax revenues distributed to municipalities, producing another $50 to $60 million a year for Illinois towns. The local share is set aside and allocated to Illinois towns on a per-capita basis.

Grams said one possible drawback to this proposal is the added drain it places on an already tight state budget. An alternative that would produce about $50 to $60 million a year in new state money which could be funneled to towns, is the levying of the 6 percent state sales tax on purchases by Illinois consumers using shop-at-home television channels.

Federal action would be required to allow the tax on the shop-at-home channels, which are operate by out-of-state companies, Grar said.

The joint legislative agend

Continued from pa

NWMC seeks employee ridesharing incentives

By MATTHEW ROSENBERG
Staff Writer

State subsidies for employee van pools and development of other legislative initiatives to boost ridesharing and cut traffic congestion could be considered by the Illinois legislature this year at the urging of the Northwest Municipal Conference and the DuPage Mayors and Managers Conference.

Both groups are calling on the Illinois General Assembly to address growing traffic congestion through ridesharing initiatives, increased state road funds via a regional gas tax hike that lawmakers might submit to voter approval in referendums, and creation of transportation management districts to better facilitate transporation planning and funding.

While more funds and planning are important, progress in easing traffic congestion in the growing northwest and western suburbs is unlikely until car and van pooling gain far broader public acceptance.

Continued from page 4

Gas tax

Continued from page 1

Both groups were to present the joint legislative agenda and their own separate concerns to lawmakers at breakfast meetings before the end of the month.

Legislative sources say it's likely few bills will be passed in Springfield before the Chicago mayoral election April 7.

Communities belonging to one or both of the municipal groups include Bensenville, Bloomingdale, Elk Grove Village, Glenview, Hanover Park, Hoffman Estates, Itasca, Morton Grove, Niles, Northbrook,, Roselle, Schaumburg, Skokie, Wheeling and Wood Dale.

the two associations also calls for state laws to cut the costs to local taxpayers of mandated pension payment increases for police and firemen; legislative intitiatives to encourage more car and van pooling to cut traffic congestion; and replacing state control of billboard size limitations with local control.

"There is strength in numbers. We should all go out as individual municipalities to work for these goals. We can make good use of our strength. We represent a lot of people," Wheeling Village President Sheila Shultz told members of the groups at the meeting.

Ridersharing

Continued from page 1

"Ridesharing just has not become effective because people don't want to give up their independence. We need legislation encouraging more people to use fewer vehicles," said Hanover Park Village President Sonya Crawshaw at a joint meeting of the two groups last week.

Northwest Municipal Conference Executive Director William Grams said such initiatives could include state subsidies for employee van pools. He added van pools don't have to be limited to employees of the same company but could be set up for employees who work in the same building.

Grams said that while many employees are reluctant to sacrifice their mobility by joining a car or vanpool, they could be persuaded to travel to and from work in groups at least two or three days a week and save errands and after-work engagements for the days they drive solo.

Other incentives developed by transporation experts include limiting office parking spaces, allowing businesses to charge parking fees for employees who drive to work alone, or making solo drivers park in auxiliary lots farther away from their office building, said Lynn Montei, executive director of the DuPage Mayors and Managers Conference.

The need for more employee ridesharing initiatives is underscored by the limited success of Pace suburban bus service, which has suffered from scarce ridership on many routes.

Murder confession ruled out

2-6-87

BY DIANE DUNGEY
Daily Herald Staff Writer

A confession by one of two brothers charged with murdering Wheeling police officer Kenneth R. Dawson of Kildeer was ruled out as evidence Thursday because police withheld medical care from the wounded suspect until after he confessed.

Larry Strickland, charged along with his brother Tyrone in the November 1985 slaying, had been shot in the finger when the two exchanged gunfire with Wheeling police officers who had been called to investigate a prowler near Cleo Court in the Cedar Run subdivision.

Judge Fred Suria of Cook County Circuit Court ruled that because Larry Strickland was not treated for the wound before questioning, his incriminating statement could not be presented in court.

However, Public Defender Andrea Lyon conceded the ruling probably will not greatly affect the outcome of the trial because of the amount of physical evidence in the case.

Evidence collected by investigators and likely to be introduced in the trial includes two guns carried by the Stricklands at the time of their arrest, empty shells found at the scene of the shooting and debris left at the Cleo Court scene and linked to the Stricklands' auto, Wheeling Deputy Police Chief Michael Hermes said.

Jury selection is expected to begin today in the trial for the two.

"It surely brings it all back," Hermes said.

The Stricklands are charged with shooting Dawson, 41, then abandoning their car in Buffalo Grove and commandeering an auto driven by Donald Hamburg and occupied by his nephew, David Duvall, and stepgrandson, Daniel Johnson.

The Stricklands were arrested south of Chicago's Loop when Hamburg purposely began driving erratically.

MONDAY

- The Wheeling Village Board will meet for a workshop at 8 p.m. followed by a special board meeting. A fuel monitoring system will be discussed by trustees during the workshop and included in the special board meeting will be discussions of purchasing six squad cars and hiring a village prosecutor.
- The Northwest Suburban High School District 214 Board will meet at 8 p.m. at the Slichenmyer Administration Center, 799 W. Kensington Road, Mount Prospect.

2-8-87

PUBLIC SPEAKING

- "We have a multimillion-dollar operation with no one at the helm." — Prospect Heights Alderman Charles VanderVennet, reflecting that an on-sight manager has yet to be hired to oversee the Pal-Waukee Municipal Airport since it was purchased by Wheeling and Prospect Heights in December.

NUMBERS

Police chief offers course to bartenders

BY C.L. WALLER
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Wheeling Police Chief Michael Haeger wants Wheeling bartenders to be better able to identify intoxicated customers.

The chief will contact liquor license holders to see how much interest they have in an education program, but the village board is not convinced it should go as far as forcing local bartenders to be licensed.

Haeger said one option is to have the village give classes two or three times a year for people dispensing liquor.

Wheeling's interest in educating bartenders was spawned by a Schaumburg law that requires bartenders to carry a license and attend school in recognizing intoxicated customers.

Schaumburg and Harper College worked together to form a 12-hour program for licensing bartenders to reduce alcohol-related incidents and drunk driving charges, plus encourage responsible dispensing of alcohol by tavern employees.

Haeger said something as drastic as licensing bartenders is not necessarily needed for Wheeling's estimated 30 liquor license holders.

"The big why is to educate," he said. "Right now we regulate license holders but that doesn't mean the person is rightfully dispensing alcohol," he said.

Haeger said the issue of licensing bartenders raises other questions, such as whether to limit the program to bartenders, or also include waiters and waitresses who dispense alcohol.

Also, he asked, would providing a licensing program be financially feasible? In Schaumburg the cost for a bartender's license is $15, but that amount does not offset the costs of the program, Haeger said.

"It seems to be a good idea, but I'm wondering about the practicality of it," Wheeling Trustee William Rogers said.

Feb 1987

Wheeling approves rezoning of Lake-Cook Road stable property

Feb 1987

Wheeling officials Tuesday approved a site plan and rezoning for an office development on the Grand Champion Stables property on Lake-Cook Road despite a continuing legal dispute with Northbrook over who has jurisdiction over the land.

The village board's action cleared the way for development of about 130,000 square feet of office space on the site once Wheeling and Northbrook officials finish their court battle over which municipality the land belongs in.

The dispute arose after Northbrook last month challenged Wheeling's move to annex the 11-acre parcel that is slated to be home to four single-story office buildings.

After registering complaints with Wheeling officials, the Northbrook Village Board sought court action to challenge Wheeling's petition. The Northbrook board then went ahead with its plans to also annex the property.

It's now up to the courts to determine which municipality's annexation should stand.

At the heart of the issue are differences in how the two villages want to see the land developed. Wheeling argues that an office development would be the best use in keeping with surrounding property while Northbrook officials contend that single-family homes should be developed on the site.

Northbrook officials are basing their contention on the fact that single-family homes in Northbrook are directly to the south of the subject property and that Northbrook could better serve the property owner.

Thomas Burney, who represented the landowner, Joseph Judah, said that his client would rather the property end up in Wheeling.

PUBLIC SPEAKING

• "Isn't it a stretch to say we're in the area? I-90? That's more of a piece of pie than in a corridor. We really compete for (for high technology) and I don't see our place in this." — Wheeling Trustee Nicholas Fanella, questioning a request by the Golden Corridor Council for donations to help bring high-tech industries into an area from O'Hare International Airport to Elgin.

Feb 1987

Wheeling ordinance would turn up the heat

Wheeling trustees may force landlords to keep the heat in their buildings at 68 degrees, up from the 60-degree limit set in 1975.

The current standards call for 60 degrees at night and 72 degrees during the day. Sixty degrees is too cold, particularly for elderly tenants who rent and have no control over the thermostat, said Wheeling community development director Michael Klitzke.

Under the proposed ordinance, if the temperature in a residence stays below 68 degrees for two hours or longer the owner or manager will be in violation, Wheeling Sanitarian Dan Adams said.

Violators would be fined between $25 and $500 for the first offense and between $50 and $500 for the second offense. Third and successive violations will bring fines of $100 and $500. Each day a violation occurs will be designated as a separate offense.

Trustees may discuss the proposal again at the March 2 village board meeting, 8 p.m. at Wheeling Village Hall, 255 W. Dundee Road.

Klitzke said the village monitors heating violations through complaints.

There have not been many complaints this year, he said.

GUEST VIEW

Waste siting affects us all

At present, there are three operating municipal landfills in Lake County, two with life expectancies of five years or less at our current rate of waste generation.

Whatever our position on the ARF and Waste Management site applications and whatever the outcome of the present hearings, we are affected. The Resource Conservation and Recovery Act passed by Congress in 1976 was designed to establish controls over the hauling and disposal of solid and hazardous waste. To give local governments more say in siting regional pollution control facilities within their jurisdiction, Illinois established six criteria for denying or approving a site for a given facility. Only these specified criteria may be used in considering a site:

- The need to accommodate the waste needs of the service area;
- Design, location and operation, which will protect the public health, safety and welfare;
- Minimized incompatibility with the character of the surrounding area and minimized effect on the value of the surrounding property;
- Location outside the boundary of the 100-year floodplain, unless the site is adequately floodproofed;
- Minmized danger from fire or spills;
- Minimized traffic impacts.

Both the ARF and Waste Management site applications fall within the jurisdiction of the Lake County Board. Public hearings on each site application are presided over by a hearing officer and held before the Regional Pollution Control Hearing Committee, composed of seven elected Lake County Board members. Any member of the public present and registering on the first day of the hearing may cross-examine the witnesses. Any member of the public may testify.

The committee must examine and evaluate the evidence presented based upon the six criteria and make its recommendation to the county board. If the site meets these criteria, it should be approved. A denial of site approval must be based on the site's not qualifying under one or more of the criteria.

If the site application has been approved, the applicant then must seek permitting from the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency. If site application approval has been denied, the first level of appeal is the Pollution Control Board.

We believe that it is important to keep in mind the facts surrounding the solid waste management issue.

This information was provided by Sara S. Clark, natural resources chair for the Lake County League of Women Voters, and Sue Favret, natural resources chair for the Libertyville-Mundelein LWV.

Arrests made by Wheeling police last year were up by at least 9 percent, officials say.

2-6-87

Crime up in Wheeling last year

By C.L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Wheeling police made more arrests for serious crimes last year as a result of "routine" traffic stops, says the police chief because younger, more aggressive officers are on patrol.

But overall, the police had more crime to be worried about last year.

Auto theft, aggravated assault and battery, and burglary from auto increased 5 percent in 1986, according to recently-compiled statistics.

Auto thefts totaled 116, compared to 65 the previous year. Murder dropped from two to one and burglary from autos increased to 250 from 227 incidents in 1985.

Less serious crimes, such as possession of marijuana, motor vehicle offenses and disorderly conduct increased 32 percent. Offenses for possession of marijuana increased jumped to 52 from 22, disorderly conduct reports increased to 488 from 258 and motor vehicle offenses nearly doubled with 605 in 1986.

Wheeling Police Chief Michael Haeger credits his officers with increased vigilance while on the streets, which he said resulted in more crimes being reported.

The village added four officers to its rolls already in 1987 and four other new officers who replaced retirees. The force now has a total of 25 patrolmen and four sergeants.

"I would like to think the word is getting out that we are an aggressive department," Haeger said.

New officers started causing changes in the department last summer, but their full impact probably will not be measured for another six months, he added.

Haeger said the village has a lot of auto thefts because of the large number of apartment complexes and industrial areas where vehicles sit without any supervision.

Police consider battery and aggravated assault cases to be virtually unstoppable, the chief said.

The number of home burglaries decreased in 1986, dropping from 156 to 134, but auto burglaries increased 10 percent.

Still, Haeger said, burglaries to cars would probably have been higher if police hadn't started their restaurant sign warning program. Signs were posted at restaurants telling patrons with visible radar detectors to go back out and put them in the trunk or under the seat.

Haeger is pleased with the overall results.

"Arrests are up, tickets are up," he said.

Haeger credits aggressive officers, but said they are not over aggressive since citizen complaints about police activity has not increased.

Still, the chief said he wants to see more drunken driving arrests.

Wheeling Police Department 1986 Annual Report

	1985	1986	Change
Homicide	2	1	-50%
Rape	5	6	+20%
Robbery	8	10	+25%
Aggravated assault/battery	38	58	+52%
Burglary	156	13	-14%
Burglary from autos	227	250	+10%
Theft	503	496	-1%
Motor vehicle theft	65	116	+78%
Arson	7	8	+14%
Deception	195	153	-22%
Battery/assault	275	254	-8%
Vandalism	523	685	+31%
Deadly weapons	4	9	+25%
Sex offenses	22	9	-60%
Offenses involving children	150	122	-19%
Cannabis	22	52	+136%
Disorderly conduct	258	488	+89%
Fatal accident	5	3	-40%
Personal injury accident	282	282	0
Liquor control	***	4	—
Driving under the influence	254	229	-24%
Motor vehicle offenses	345	605	+75%
Resisting arrest	***	12	—
Traffic accidents	1,595	1,564	-2%
Others	156	176	+13%
Total incidents reported	18,923	18,682	-1%

*** Not recorded in 1985 under the former reporting system.

Airport managers propose 3-year contract

2-87

By C.L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer

The New Jersey-based firm that has been managing Pal-Waukee Airport since Prospect Heights and Wheeling bought it has offered a three-year contract to become the permanent managers.

Airport Corp. of America, with company President John P. Kennedy, were hired as interim managers until both towns came up with permanent manager. Commission Chairman William Rogers said the company has drawn up a contract for review by the commission and both communities.

He said the firm wants a three-year pact because it will take at least a year for the firm to familiarize itself with the daily operations of the airport, Rogers said.

Prospect Heights officials voted in favor of hiring a firm, rather than an individual, to manage the airport. A concensus of Wheeling officials showed they were also in favor of a firm.

"There's no doubt about it, it will probably cost us more," Rogers said.

He would not reveal how much money Airport Corp. of America wants to manage the airport.

The company helped Wheeling and Prospect Heights in the purchase of the 256-acre airport. Rogers said the company can assist in purchasing additional properties over the next four years.

At the end of four years, the airport is expected to include 345 acres, he said. Additional space is being purchased so the airport can make modifications and meet Federal Aviation Administration safety standards.

Safety improvements tentatively include moving the intersection at Hintz and Wolf roads and moving or enclosing an open drainage ditch because both the corner and ditch are too close to the main runway.

Cable deregulation

Competition spurs higher rates now, better service later?

BY MARIE LUTZ
Staff Writer

The fate of cable television rates now lies solely in the hands of cable magnates as the result of federal deregulation of the industry.

With village boards and city councils having been stripped of the ability to control rate increases, some cable subscribers will be faced with bills that are as much as 50 percent more than they have been paying. Others, however, will see no immediate rate hike and, experts say, there are forces that will keep cable rates from soaring through the roof.

Among those who will see the sharpest rate increases in the suburban area will be Niles and Lincolnwood residents, whose basic service rate will go from $9.95 per month to $14.95. Cablevision of Chicago, however, is expanding the basic package to include such don't-drop-the-cable inducements as pay-per-view and a shopping service.

In Skokie, rates for the Group W Cable's expanded basic service will go up 35 percent to $13.50 a month. Five new channels will be added, including SportsVision and the American Movie Channel.

Glenview, Northbrook and Wheeling residents will see no change in rates over the next few months at least, according to Cablenet Station Manager Jim Mitchell. But the cost of an expanded basic service went up from $6.95 a month to $12.50 a month last year with the acquiescence if not the blessing of the communities.

> ***"We lost some customers when we raised rates, but it was necessary to make the change."***
>
> ***Jim Mitchell***
> ***Cablenet Station Manager***

"We lost some customers when we raised rates, but it was necessary to make the change," Mitchell said.

Before the rate increase, Cablenet complained that it was losing $15 per customer per month and had experienced losses of more than $25 million from August 1982 through January 1985.

Deerfield, Highland Park and Highwood residents will see an increase in rates this next month, said Mark Daniel, general manager of Post-Newsweek Cable. Currently subscribers pay $5.78 for bare bones basic service and $11.50 for basic plus satellite service, including such channels as Cable News Network. Starting March 1, basic service will go up to $6.60, with basic plus costing $12.80. Daniel admits it's always a concern that there will be a loss of subscribers when rates go up, but, he said, "We don't plan a rate increase that our customers will feel is unwarranted."

With 57 percent of Deerfield television set owners subscribing to cable and with a 50 percent average penetration rate in the three communities it serves, Post-Newsweek is one of the more successful cable companies in the country. Nationally, the average penetration rate hovers around 40 percent.

Over the past two years, the federal government gradually removed the right of local communities to control cable rates, with total deregulation taking effect at the end of 1986.

Today, rates may be regulated by government authorities only in areas that are not served by at least three different broadcast stations, according to Federal Communications Commission spokeswoman Flora Stewart. The Chicago metropolitan area, which is served by three network affiliates as well as several independent stations, is considered to have "effective competition" for cable companies, Stewart said.

Stewart said that when she first heard about the deregulation she "thought it was a lot of malarkey." But after thinking about it, she feels that the prices will be determined by the market.

"If enough people refuse to pay for it, they'll have to lower their prices," she said.

Jesse Rotman, chairman of the Deerfield Cable Advisory Board, said, he is in favor of the deregulation, which may mean higher rates, but better service and, in the long run, more competition.

Although some officials believe that it is impractical for communities to be wired for more than one cable company, Rotman is one of those who feel otherwise.

Post-Newsweek, Rotman said, does not have a monopoly in Deerfield and another company could get a Deerfield franchise.

The biggest problem facing cable companies, however, is not other cable firms but videotape recorders.

"We found that over three-quarters of the homes we were wiring already had VCRs and that is a major source of competition," said Cablenet's Mitchell.

Post-Newsweek's Daniel, however, sees VCRs in another light. It's difficult to rent a tape, Daniel said, because it takes a considerable amount of trouble and travel time to go to the store or library to pick up the tape, then remember to bring it back.

Also, he said, once a viewer has seen the tape, he can't keep it no matter how much he likes the movie. But when people tape movies off Home Box Office or Showtime, it's theirs forever.

"Some of our customers have literally hundreds of tapes that they can keep," Daniel said. "We encourage VCR owners to take cable because it expands the usage of the VCR and the cable."

Feb 1987

Neighbor
Wheeling
SECTION 5

Candidate wants desk job for cop

BY C. L. WALLER
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Wheeling trustee candidate Roger Powers is calling for Wheeling police Officer William Stutzman to be given a desk job in light of two lawsuits against Stutzman that allege brutality.

Most of the other candidates, however, say that the police administration's review of Stutzman was appropriately handled, and they agreed with keeping the officer on his regular rounds.

The latest lawsuit alleges that Stutzman struck a former Wheeling resident in the face in February 1985, while trying to take the suspect in for questioning over a battery case.

An earlier lawsuit, still unresolved, names Stutzman and fellow officers Thomas Lorenz and John Stone and asks for $10 million in damages. The three officers are accused of beating an Arlington Heights family over a complaint about a bill.

Powers said the situation was mishandled.

"Until the person is determined to be guilty you remove him from being subject to another situation," Powers said. He said that taking Stutzman off the line wouldn't necessarily make him look guilty.

"If it were casually done, it doesn't show any guilt," he said.

Powers said that information about the internal review by the police chief was not sufficiently shared with the public.

"The more involved the police and fire commission gets and the trustees get, the better the decision that will be made," Powers said.

Candidate Steve White said he thinks trustees should provide more direction in similar situations, but he added that the officer should remain on his regular duty until allegations against him are proven.

Judy Abruscato said she would not comment on the cases specifically, but said: "I'm sure those in charge are doing the job well." Candidate Clifford Bird declined to comment.

Incumbent Trustee Jim Whittington said the village board continually asks questions about the police department.

"We as village officials don't go pulling police officers off the streets," he said. "We hired professionals to carry out those policies and that's what they are doing," he said.

Anthony Altieri Jr. agreed with Whittington and added that trustees being involved firsthand in personnel matters constitutes meddling.

2-87

Airport purchase taxis in for smooth landing

By BOB KEHOE

Wheeling and Prospect Heights officials got a belated Christmas present Friday when they closed on a $23.5 million purchase of Pal-Waukee Airport from Priester Aviation Services.

Now that the purchase is complete, officials are focusing attention on finding a permanent manager for the airport facility.

WHEELING VILLAGE PRESIDENT Sheila Schultz said she doesn't expect any major changes in the airport in the near future and said officials now are working on plans for the future.

Under the purchase agreement, the two municipalities paid $22 million for the airport itself while paying another $1.5 million for surrounding hangars and buildings.

Some 90 percent of the purchase price came from federal sources while another 5 percent came from the state, with the two municipalities splitting the remaining 5 percent of the deal.

Revenues raised from land and hangar rentals, concession fees, plane tie-down fees, fuel storage fees and other fees, will be used to offset future operating expenses and to buy capital equipment like snow plows that will be needed.

PROJECTIONS FROM THE Pal-Waukee Municipal Airport Committee (PMAC) show the airport should generate more than $6 million in revenue through 1991 while expenses are pegged at just over $4 million. After setting up a contingency fund and paying back some other anticipated expenditures, however, the municipalities should reap a profit of about $416,000.

Schultz said that money will be put back into the airport to finance necessary capital expenditures.

The airport buyout, which involved years of negotiations and planning, will give officials from both municipalities greater control over airport operations and much tighter control over noise and air traffic safety.

Wheeling Village Attorney James Rhodes said an airport noise study has been conducted for about four months and should be completed within the next two months. He said the study will target high noise areas and recommend possible actions to remedy the situation.

BASED ON SOME of the preliminary data that has come in from the testing, Rhodes said it is obvious that some areas once thought to be high noise areas proved not to be as noisy as residents might have thought.

Possible methods to correct areas where there is high noise, he said, include redirecting a number of flights, changing runway directions, and even the remote possibility of acquiring the land for inclusion in the airport.

Most of these possible changes would require Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) permission, Rhodes said.

Even though Priester Aviation Services sold its interest in the airport, the firm will still maintain offices and a residence on the airport site. Rhodes said Priester officials have signed leases for hangar space and other space on the property.

HE SAID PRIESTER officials will also help continue maintenance of the airport facility as the firm had in the past.

Rhodes said the municipalities generally have control over the airport operations while Priester officials will direct services on the site. As for the future, he said who will operate the airport will depend on whether a private manager or management firm is hired to run the site.

Future hangar fees and other fees at the airport will be decided by the two municipalities, Rhodes said. As it stands now, the municipalities would have to pass ordinances approving any fee changes, he said.

What role the PMAC will play in the future remains unclear. The committee now serves in an advisory capacity and makes recommendations on matters concerning the airport. Whether the committee, which played a big part in the airport purchase agreement, will get an expanded or decreased role in the future will remain up to the two municipalities.

Emergency landing raises questions of air control

The "miraculous" landing of a private plane that had lost control of its instruments at Pal-Waukee Airport Monday is raising questions about air traffic safety and whether enough attention is being paid to weather conditions before clearance is given for takeoffs and landings.

Air safety was a key concern of Wheeling Village President Sheila Schultz following the emergency landing Monday afternoon of a single-engine Piper Saratoga plane at Pal-Waukee Airport.

Federal Aviation Administration Public Affairs Officer Mort Edelstein said the plane, which was flown by a Michigan man with three passengers, had left Pal-Waukee around 3:42 p.m. bound for Michigan.

A short time later, however, the plane lost the use of its instruments, apparently due to icing problems, and radioed for help. That aid came from a 19-year FAA veteran and pilot who was working in the air traffic control tower at O'Hare Airport.

Edelstein said the controller did a "miraculous" job of talking the pilot, Wayne Giles of Bloomfield, Michigan, to the ground where the plane landed safely but proceeded to skid off the runway and into a guard rail on Milwaukee Avenue.

The plane's wing, which blocked a lane of traffic on Milwaukee Avenue, caused a severe traffic back-up.

Traffic back-ups are the least of Schultz's worries, however.

While she said she was relieved to learn no one was injured during the plane's landing she said it's time to take a closer look at air safety at the airport.

Schultz said she is concerned that perhaps enough attention isn't being paid to weather conditions prior to takeoffs and landings at Pal-Waukee, which the village recently purchased jointly with the city of Prospect Heights.

In assessing the situation, Schultz said she thinks there have been times when the control tower has "been pretty loose" with its operations in allowing planes to take off and land.

Edelstein said weather played no role in the emergency landing. He said visibility was about one mile at the time of the landing.

The problem, he said, had to do with some sort of electrical malfunctioning on the plane. He said the FAA is in the process of conducting an investigation to determine the exact cause of the malfunction.

ıursday, February 5, 1987 Daily Herald

Village to condemn land for Crossroads?

By C. L. WALLER
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Wheeling officials this week gave themselves authorization to condemn land if necessary to speed up the Crossroads redevelopment project.

Crossroads, Wheeling's downtown redevelopment project, extends from Manchester Drive north to Strong Street on both sides of Milwaukee Avenue and on both sides of Dundee Road from the Des Plaines River west to First Street.

But efforts are focused on the purchase of property northwest of Milwaukee Avenue and Dundee Road, where an $8.9 million retail center is planned. Wheeling officials have been frustrated in attempts to buy 10 parcels of land they say they need to begin the redevelopment.

The village already bought eight parcels of property in the area and have been negotiating since last fall to buy the remaining 10. However, officials said they still can't find some of the owners.

"We need to start negotiating more rapidly and if not, move toward condemnation," village attorney James Rhodes said.

Talks have been occurring with Dreiske's Florist, 88 N. Milwaukee Ave., Tie Tsin Restaurant, 144 N. Milwaukee Ave., Dunkin' Donuts, 294 E. Dundee Road and two vacant lots owned by Sportmart, Inc., 240 E. Dundee Road.

Trustees passed the condemnation ordinance to show property owners the village is serious about proceeding with negotiations, Village Manager Thomas M. Markus said.

The ordinance gives village officials the power to start condemnation proceedings. It does not mean that condemnation is imminent.

Rhodes said a variety of reasons have slowed negotiations. He declined to be specific.

The village is using a $4.4 million loan to buy the property. For 23 years, increases in property tax generated by the redeveloped area will be funneled off to repay the loan. Normally, increases in property tax are given to the local governing bodies: the village, schools, park district and library.

Auto center vetoed by village planners

by Liz Russell
Herald correspondent

Wheeling plan commissioners have denied a proposed auto maintenance center, saying the construction space would not allow for enough landscaping.

Mitchell M. Iseberg and Thomas Niemira are seeking permission to develop a Jiffy Lube Oil Change and Merlin Muffler Shop at 621 W. Dundee Road, where a Martin gasoline station now stands.

The team had worked with Village Planner Richard Greenwood for several months to create a presentation for the plan commission.

"I CAN'T buy it. Our recommendation is 15 to 20 percent open space and only 80 to 85 percent with buildings on it," Commissioner Theodore R. Johnson said. "Your plan is only about 5 per cent green area. You can't really landscape on 10 feet."

Other plan commissioners agreed, saying the plan was mostly concrete and didn't provide enough screening. The land also is adjacent to a Midas Muffler Shop.

"I can see a Jiffy Lube, but to have a Midas and stick a Merlin in its back door, I don't know about," Commissioner Otis Hedlund said.

The matter is complicated by a covenant agreement from a 1970 zoning of the property that prohibits auto repair work on the site. Greenwood said he would not recommend lifting the ban, but that Iseberg and Niemira were still free to go before the village board, which has final authority, with their request.

After denying the request, the commission said it would reconsider the plan if the developers decreased the size of the building to allow for more landscaping.

Wheeling, not state, must pay for traffic signal on McHenry Road

2-87

Lexington Commons residents who have had difficulty getting onto McHenry Road from Lexington Drive during peak traffic times will have to put up with the problem for at least a couple of months longer before any hope of relief is in sight.

An Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) spokesman said Tuesday that a traffic study requested by Wheeling would probably be conducted at the intersection sometime within the next six to eight weeks, but it will likely be up to village officials to pay for the signal if they want it installed.

IDOT's response came after Wheeling Police Chief Michael Haeger requested the agency to examine the feasibility of installing a traffic light at the intersection.

While IDOT conducts a traffic study to determine whether the signal is warranted, Haeger also wants the department to consider installing temporary signals to improve traffic flow.

Haeger's letter also states that since McHenry Road will soon undergo reconstruction, the lights may be able to be installed at that time.

Clifford Scherer, from the IDOT Bureau of Traffic, said local officials would have to pay the estimated $100,000 for the installation if IDOT concludes the signal would primarily benefit a residential subdivision — which in this case he said it seems it would.

Scherer said state funds are appropriated for traffic signals only when it is determined the improvements are necessitated by traffic conditions on state roads and is not the result of traffic flow changes brought on from a private subdivision.

In addition to installation costs, Scherer said the village would also have to pay an estimated $6,600 annually to cover electricity and maintenance costs for the signal.

Whether village officials would be willing to pay the entire cost of the installation isn't clear at this point. Village Finance Director Bob Fialkowski said Wednesday that IDOT usually pays a portion of the signal installation based on the number of state roads at the intersection.

In this case, he said, that would leave IDOT paying for 75 percent of the signal installation cost. If IDOT is not willing to pay that share, or any other portion of the cost, Fialkowski said he isn't sure if the village would pay for the signal.

Shelly Cove, Tahoe Village streets scheduled for resurfacing this year

Streets in a number of Wheeling's multi-family housing subdivisions will be resurfaced this year in accordance with the village's maintenance schedule.

Among the roads scheduled for resurfacing are Shelly Court in the Shelly Cove subdivision off McHenry Road at Route 83, and Harmony Drive and Fern Drive in the Harmony Village subdivision.

In the Tahoe Village area, Pueblo Trail, Delaware Trail, South Crow Trail and Bow Trail will be resurfaced.

Due to a recent water main break, village officials will have to repair the pavement on Lakeside Drive.

Bob Gray, Wheeling's director of operations and maintenance, said the village is in the process of applying for state funds to complete the work. Once the funds are secured, bids will be sent out and work should start sometime in May, he said.

In addition to these projects, Gray said a number of other projects may be done this year depending on funding from the county and the state.

Repairs to Wheeling Road, which is now down to two lanes in certain spots to accommodate sewer work that is going on, will be scheduled once the sewer project is completed. Gray said the work should begin as soon as there is no longer danger of freezing temperatures and that the road work should continue through September.

Other projects being considered by the state and Cook County include widening portions of Hintz Road and widening Elmhurst Road.

Strickland brothers cased continued; prosecutor appeals evidence ruling

A status hearing has been set for March 4 in the court case of Tyrone and Larry Strickland, the two East Chicago Heights brothers charged with murdering Wheeling police officer Kenneth R. Dawson in November, 1985.

The continuance will give Cook County State's Attorney officials a chance to appeal a circuit court judge's decision last week to exclude from the upcoming trial a confession to the murder from one of the brothers.

Jury selection for the upcoming trial started this week.

The Strickland brothers are charged with murdering Dawson on Nov. 5, 1985 in the Cedar Run subdivision and with kidnapping a Buffalo Grove man, his grandson, and a grandson's friend in an unsuccessful attempt to elude police.

Wheeling Police Chief Michael Haeger declined comment on the status of the case and on the judge's decision to exclude a suspect's confession to the crime from the trial on the grounds that the suspect had been denied medical attention prior to making the statement.

REMINDER

Thursday, February 12, 1987

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

2-3-87

Pal-Waukee panel mulls tower rules

Terry Schattell, a representative from Illinois Department of Transportaion, has discussed with Pal-Waukee commissioners an Airport Hazard Zone Protection plan that would prohibit the construction of tall towers near airport runways . Schattell said there now is no law that would prevent a developer to construct towers that interfere with runways and that the airport would likely have to eliminate using certain areas if one were built. The new plan would regulate construction in surrounding airport areas and limit the height of towers. "My feeling is we should be given more information on this. I don't know how it will affect the villages. I don't know what it means as far as protecting the airport." said Chairman William Rogers. The commission will inquire with the state further and discuss the plan at a later date.

Pal-Waukee land sales on hold

The Pal-Waukee Airport Commission has told residents waiting to sell parcels of land to the airport that the purchases are on hold for at least six months and that they are free of obligations to the commission. Rudy Kopler and William Peters have had appraisals done to sell property to the airport, but Pal-Waukee attorney Stephen Moore said that grant money is not available to complete the sale.

Valentine benefit dinner planned

Reservations are being taken now for a benefit dinner on Feb. 9 called "Valentines for Special People," sponsored by Billy and Company Restaurant, 124 S. Milwaukee Ave., Wheeling. This is the sixth consecutive year for the benefit with proceeds going to Glenkirk, a not-for-profit organization in Northbrook.

THE WEEK AHEAD

Trustees to OK changes in sewer work contract

2-1-87 HERALD

Wheeling trustees are expected Monday night to approve the first of change orders meaning an $11,499 reduction in contract costs for the village's sewer rehabilitation program.

Trustees will meet at 8 p.m. at village hall, 255 W. Dundee Road.

Changes to be reviewed by the village board occurred in the sanitary sewer work on Wheeling Road, which is part of a $5 million program occurring throughout the village.

These particular change orders caused a reduction in contract costs because there is no need to restore a parkway or curb and guttering on the east side of Wheeling Road, Wheeling's director of operations and maintenance Robert D. Gray said.

Originally, the sewer replacement line was to be located on the east side of the roadway, leaving the street open to traffic, but discovering a gas main in that location caused the new sewer line to move 12 feet west of its planned location, closing Wheeling Road to through traffic, Gray said.

The project sacrificed traffic movement, but reduced the need to spend more money, he said.

Even though the change orders reduced costs, Gray said, there could be changes that would increase costs as the project proceeds.

Road-closed signs have been standing at the end of Wheeling Road since October because of the sewer project.

The street was to be opened by Christmas, but workers hit a snag when they bumped into a Illinois Bell pipe containing wiring. Now the sewer line must be connected 30 feet west of its original spot.

George W. Kennedy Construction Co. of Wadsworth is doing the sewer work, which also includes older portions of Wheeling, specifically, Dunhurst, Old Town, Meadowbrook, Hollywood Ridge and Poplar Grove subdivisions.

Of the $5 million targeted for the project, $3.3 million is from the Build Illinois program. The other $1.6 million will come from village sewer fees.

The top meeting

Who: The Wheeling village board

Where: Wheeling village hall, 206 S. Hough St.

When: 8 p.m. Monday

2-12-87 COUNTRYSIDE

More lake water on tap for area

Two portions of the Des Plaines reservoir that help bring Lake Michigan water to the northwest suburbs were put into service last week, bringing to a close more than two years of unexpected repairs and leaving little else for the Northwest Water Commission to do except some cosmetic landscaping.

The two structures, called cells, each hold 5 million gallons of water in a reservoir that acts as a way station between Evanston and the communities which use the water, Arlington Heights, Buffalo Grove, Palatine and Wheeling. A September 1984 rupture delayed the delivery of the water by more than a year. The three undamaged cells in the 25 million gallon reservoir were put into operation in early 1986 and the water started flowing shortly thereafter.

The cells hold a reserve in case there are problems in Evanston or in the pipeline that brings the lake water west, according to NWWC Executive Director Stephen Sturgell. The commission's four member communities are currently consuming an average of 20 million gallons per day and may use as much as 30 million per day in the summer, Sturgell said. Each community also holds its own reserve, he added.

Lawsuits against the construction contractor and consulting engineer are still in the works, but as for making the system work, little remains to be done except for some sprucing up at the reservoir facility in Des Plaines, Sturgell said.

$325 water bill makes resident steaming mad

COUNTRYSIDE 2-26-87

By MARK MALEY

Miguel Enriquez doesn't have a swimming pool in the backyard of his Wheeling condominium. His faucets aren't leaking. And he's not watering his lawn 24 hours a day.

That's why Enriquez is sure the Village of Wheeling made a mistake in his latest last water bill — a bill that came to a whopping $390.98 for a three-month period, more than 10 times the amount of Enriquez's typical bill for water and sewer service for his Tahoe Village home.

Enriquez claims his was overbilled because the village put a new read-o-matic water meter on his home in August and failed to take a reading on it as soon as it was installed.

Village officials, however, are telling a slightly different story. They acknowledge there was a problem with Enriquez's read-o-matic water, which resulted in his being underbilled for nearly two years. The water department discovered the problem late last year, and his bill for that three-month period includes all the water he used the past two years but was never billed for.

AND THE VILLAGE is threatening to shut off water service on March 31 if Enriquez doesn't pay up.

Enriquez's troubles began in December, when he received his water and sewer bill for the period of Sept. 5 through Dec. 5. Enriquez was billed $328.70 for water service and $62.28 for sewer service, both figures based on 173,000 gallons of water used during the three-month period.

Enriquez, who's average bill during the past two years was less than $30, was astounded and wrote a letter to the billing department, asking it to look into the situation.

After reviewing his bill, the village deducted $52.20 from the statement, but sent him a final notice on Feb. 1, insisting that the remaining $325.67 be paid in full.

THE VILLAGE TOLD Enriquez he had the right to have a administrative hearing on his problem, and on Feb. 13 he met with David Kowal, an administrative assistant for the village, and Carol Tress, a billing department employee.

During the one-hour hearing, Enriquez says he tried to explain that his old read-o-matic water meter was removed during the summer while new siding was installed on his condominium unit. He told the two that when a new meter was installed in August, no one took a reading on it.

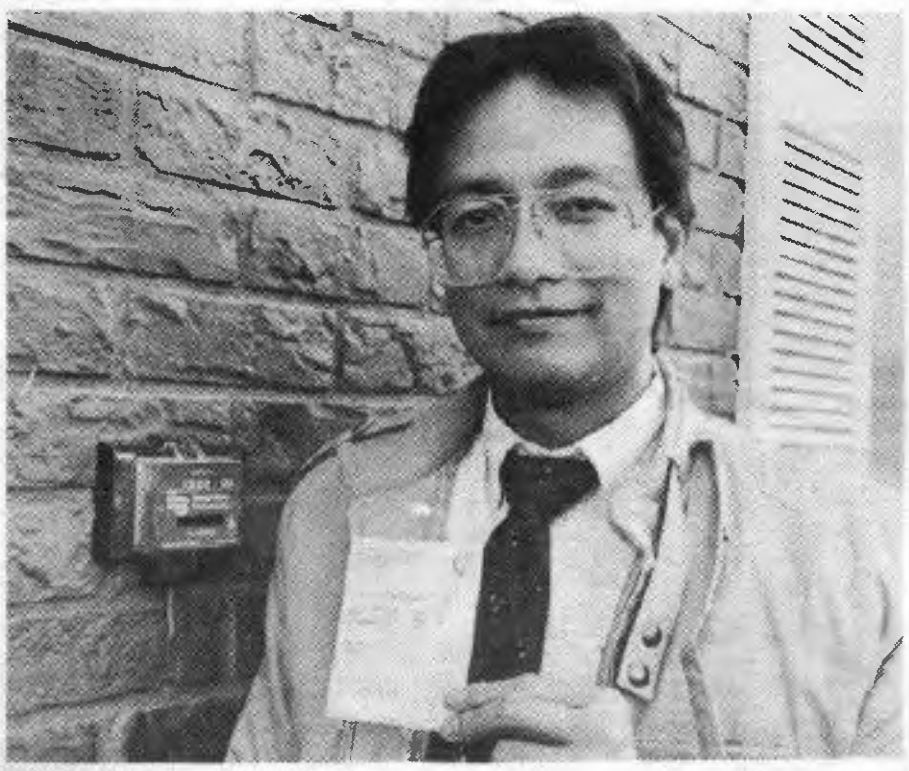
But his pleas got nowhere with the hearing board.

MONDAY NIGHT ENRIQUEZ appeared before the village board, which coincidentally held its meeting in Tahoe Village. But he had no luck there either.

Bob Fialkowski, the village's finance director, explained that the problem stemmed from a "drastic" slowdown of Enriquez' "read-o-matic" meter, which is located outside the house and which is powered by electrical pulses.

Fialkowski said the read-o-matic is read by meter men, but there are rare cases when the read-o-matic malfunctions. In those instances, he said, the village basis water charges on the reading on the inside meter on the water line in the house, which is more accurate because its readings are based directly on water flow in the home.

ONCE THE CORRECT reading was made, Enriquez was informed of the difference between the read-o-matic figures and the inside line readings and he was asked to pay the large difference, Fialkowski said.



Miguel Enriquez isn't happy about his $325 water bill. *(Staff photo by Kathy Tray)*

While village officials may think the dispute is over, Enriquez is pondering his next step. He can't afford to hire a lawyer, so Enriquez says he make take the village to small claims court to get the matter resolved. But the matter shouldn't of had to go this far, he says.

As angry as Enriquez is about his bill, he's also disappointed in the way he's been treated by the village. A Wheeling resident for eight years, he feels as though his concerns have been ignored by village officials.

"They've been trying to shut the door in my face all along," he said. "It's not right to treat people like they've been treating me."

Wheeling balking at 'Corridor'

By C. L. WALLER
Daily Herald Staff Writer 2-4-87

Wheeling village officials are skeptical about a request to contribute to a marketing campaign for the "Golden Corridor" along the Northwest Tollway because they say they're too far away from it.

The Golden Corridor, stretching from O'Hare International Airport to Elgin, is a region tapped as a high-technology area. Local towns are being asked by the Golden Corridor Council for donations to help it secure a $100,000 grant under Illinois' new "Corridors of Opportunity" program.

Officials have said they hope the program, being coordinated by Harper College in Palatine, will rival California's Silicon Valley.

But Wheeling trustees want to wait to decide whether to support the program until they have more information. They were initially skeptical about the benefit of making a donation.

"Isn't it a stretch to say we're in the area? I-90? That's more of a piece of pie than in a corridor," Trustee Nicholas Fanella said. "We really compete (for high technology) and I don't see our place in this."

Fanella wondered whether the marketing would be aimed within the state or extended to other parts of the country.

Village Manager Thomas M. Markus said he was not for or against the project. However, he said his personal opinion was that businesses locate in the Wheeling area because it is a good location. Traditionally, developers of industrial parks are the best marketers of the area, he said.

Communities that have already contributed funds to the Golden Corridor are Palatine, Schaumburg, Buffalo Grove, Arlington Heights, Hoffman Estates and Hanover Park.

The Golden Corridor Council is attempting to develop a marketing and promotional program to bring and keep high-tech industries in the Northwest suburban area. Promotion of the corridor is expected to include statewide marketing through brochures, video presentations and displays.

Feb 1987

Soo Line commuter rail not a sure thing: RTA

By TODD SLOANE

A member of the Regional Transportation Authority (RTA) board says supporters of a proposed new commuter rail service from Mundelein to Chicago may be raising false hopes of north suburban officials, because the service would cost too much and compete with other commuter lines.

But Jeffrey Ladd, the chairman of Metra, the commuter rail board of the RTA, said the new service, which would use the existing Soo Line freight tracks to provide new commuter service from Mundelein, Wheeling and Buffalo Grove to Chicago, is "the best new project we have looked at in terms of new service."

Kathleen Parker, a veteran RTA board member from Northbrook, who is on a planning committee looking at a plan for transit service over the next 30 years, said officials of the North Suburban Mass Transit District (Nortran) should be cautious about telling local officials that the service could be available by 1990.

Representatives from Nortran recently made presentations Wheeling and Buffalo Grove village officials about the proposed commuter service. Officials of both communities say they support the proposal.

"I am really shocked to see them going around to the village boards and talking like this is something that could really happen in the near future," Parker said. "This could cost, according to the estimates I have seen, some $36 million in new capital spending, at a time when we are looking at having to make some deep reductions in service."

THE RTA'S STRATEGIC planning committee has received a consultant's report which showed the region is far behind in capital spending due to the loss of federal transit subsidies over the past five years. If new savings and new revenue are not found, the consultant's report showed seven commuter rail lines might have to be abandoned, including the Milwaukee Road north line.

"This new service would be taking riders away from the Milwaukee Road, and if we are going to have to try and save the Milwaukee Road, we shouldn't be starting competing services. That's why we are coming up with this strategic plan, to avoid this kind of duplication of service," Parker said.

But Ladd said Nortran's approach to various communities along the Soo Line corridor is at the behest of Metra.

"We don't look at the Soo Line as being competitive with Milwaukee Road," he said. "This could bring in new riders, which is what we are trying to do."

STANLEY BRISTOL, A Nortran trustee from Northfield, added that the Soo Line would actually add ridership to the region and decrease congestion at Milwaukee Road north line stations, where riders are often turned away due to lack of parking spaces.

"Is it premature to start talking about this proposal? It may be, maybe there would never be a situation where the capital dollars we are talking about would be available. But unless we get all the information we need, we will never have innovative service alternatives," Bristol said.

A consultant's study showed that 3,600 new riders would be added to Metra ridership by a Soo Line service, with 1,800 riders coming from other lines and 1,800 being new riders.

2-12-87

Crossroads acquisition hits snag; village prepares for condemations

By BOB KEHOE

Little progress was reported this week in Wheeling's continuing efforts to negotiate the purchase of 10 land parcels in the Crossroads redevelopment area at Dundee Road and Milwaukee Avenue.

After meeting Tuesday night in executive session to discuss the slow-moving negotiations, Wheeling trustees told village staff to make a final attempt to complete the purchases before seeking board approval to begin condemnation proceedings against the eight landowners.

William Rogers, village trustee, said Wednesday morning that despite the board's efforts to negotiate fair settlements with the landowners it appears the talks may be nearing an impasse.

"Primarily we've got to get going because this is taking so long," Rogers said. "(The negotiations) are just causing too much of a delay."

CONCERNS ABOUT THE lack of progress in negotiations surfaced last week at a village board meeting when village officials said that continued delays in reaching a settlement might push back construction start-up on the planned 120,000-square foot Town Square shopping mall. The developer had planned to start construction of the mall this spring.

The construction is set to begin after property acquisition is complete and will take about one building season, according to village officials.

Since the Feb. 2 board meeting, negotiations with the landowners has continued, but with no settlements reached, according to Village Attorney James Rhodes.

Stating that there is no set timetable for completing the negotiations, Rhodes said in some cases there's a wide disparity between what landowners want for their property and what the village is willing to pay for it.

UNLESS SOME OF the counter-offer responses from those landowners change, Rhodes said it may be difficult to avoid condemnation proceedings.

In those cases, he said, the village will "let the court" decide what is a fair settlement.

To date, the village has acquired eight of the 18 parcels it needs in the redevelopment area, Rhodes said, adding that the village may be near a settlement on a couple of other parcels.

Among the parcels that still must be acquired are the Sportmart store on Dundee Road, the Wheeling Auto Repair property at the corner of Dundee Road and Milwaukee Avenue, the Tien Tsin Restaurant on Milwaukee Avenue, the Dunkin' Donuts shop on Dundee Road, and the Dreiske flower shop on Milwaukee Avenue.

Negotiations with the flower shop owner have been difficult, according to Rogers and Rhodes, because the owner wants to remain where he is and to keep the building he now operates in.

Rogers said offers of a new store in the shopping mall when it opens have failed to draw much interest from the landowner.

Thursday, February 12, 1987

Towns agree on the running of airport

2-4-87

By LIZ RUSSELL
and C.L. WALLER
Daily Herald staff writers

Wheeling's village manager and Prospect Heights' city administrator will make the day-to-day decisions on running Pal-Waukee Airport, officials in the two towns decided.

The Wheeling village board this week unanimously agreed to give Village Manager Thomas M. Markus responsibility to help manage the airport, saying he should run it like any other village department.

However, Prospect Heights officials consider the similar responsibility they gave this week to their city administrator, Robert T. Kiely, a temporary duty.

Prospect Heights Mayor John E. Gilligan and 4th Ward Alderman Thomas Merle said the authority given to Kiely is too general and could place too much responsibility on him.

Since the two towns purchased the airport in December, no on-site manager has been available to respond to emergency situations or to make daily operating decisions. The airport commission has an interim manager contract with John P. Kennedy of Airport Corp. of America of New Jersey, but Kennedy says he does not have the authority to handle emergency situations.

"We have a multimillion-dollar operation with no one at the helm," said 1st Ward Alderman Charles VanderVennet, also a Pal-Waukee Municipal Airport commissioner. "Who is the person the FAA and the pilots look to to answer questions? Something has to be put in place so there isn't a void."

The Prospect Heights ordinance gives Kiely authority until June 30, 1987, or until a permanent airport manager is hired.

VanderVennet said even though the commission is drawing up an airport manager job description and deciding whether an individual or a corporation should handle the duties, it will be several months before a manager is hired.

Kiely will be making management decisions on the recommendation of the Priester Aviation Organization, which holds a maintenance contract with the airport.

Kiely agreed to take on the responsibility as long as it would not overshadow his duties as city administrator. Because of recent mild weather, Kiely said, he does not anticipate having to handle problems such as shutting down runways.

"If it's only a matter of a phone call once a week, it should be OK," he said.

But Gilligan said he would like to see Kiely's power limited to emergency situations.

Prospect Heights City Attorney Donald Kreger suggested the council approve the ordinance and that the airport commission draw up with a six-month budget.

"The city administrator cannot spend money if something goes wrong at the airport," Kreger said. "There needs to be a discussion on who will have the authority to make appropriations."

Countryside 2-28-87

Village plans to put the heat on landlords with cool apartments

Wheeling officials are expected to turn the heat up on local landlords to keep their rental units a little warmer at night or face possible fines.

The village board next week is expected to approve an amendment to the village's minimum heating standards that would force landlords to maintain apartment temperatures of at least 68 degrees at all times, a switch from the present fluctuating temperature standards now in use.

Under the present ordinance, landlords are allowed to turn the heat down to 60 degrees between the hours of 10:30 p.m. and 6:30 a.m., at which time the temperature must be turned up to 70 degrees. The heat must again be raised to a minimum of 72 degrees at 8:30 a.m. under the present standards.

Michael Klitzke, director of community development, said the new standards will add definitions and clarifications as to what is expected of landlords in terms of providing heat.

Once the new standards are enacted, Klitzke said renters with complaints can call the village for action. The village, he said, will then send out inspectors to measure the temperature in the rental unit and help correct any problem with insufficient heat.

Where the temperature is under 68 degrees, Klitzke said the inspector will ask the landlord to raise the heat to the proper level. Those who do not comply will face possible fines ranging from $25 to $500.

Klitzke said the village receives a number of calls each year from residents complaining of cold apartments and that in most cases no fines are necessary to resolve the problem.

Wheeling to buy new dump truck

HERALD

Wheeling will be purchasing a new 2½ ton dump truck from a Waukegan company at a cost of $40,150. Trustees have authorized spending money from the 1986-87 budget for a truck to replace a 1976 model. The bid awarded was the second lowest, but officials said the low bidder did not meet

2-14-87

Village's sign code to be reviewed

Beginning March 24, members of Wheeling's sign code board of appeals, representatives of the appearance commission and a member of the plan commission will be meeting to review the village's sign code regulations.

Wheeling hit with suit by Northbrook

By C.L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Several months after Wheeling annexed two properties along Lake-Cook Road, the village of Northbrook has annexed the same land and filed a lawsuit challenging Wheeling's annexation.

The property consists of 12 acres known as the Grand Champion Stables and another 7 acres adjacent to the stables. Wheeling annexed both properties in November and the plan commission recently approved plans for four one-story office buildings there.

But neighboring Northbrook and Riverwoods, which is helping pay Northbrook's legal fees in the dispute, say the annexations are illegal because Wheeling's boundaries are not contiguous to the properties, which are just east of Portwine Road.

So Northbrook forcibly annexed the properties last week, saying they belonged in Northbrook.

"We want to see the property developed with the comprehensive land-use plan and that is residential," Northbrook Village President Richard Falcone said.

Northbrook's attorney, Steve Elrod, had asked the Cook County State's Attorney's office and the Illinois Attorney General's office to join the lawsuit — common practice in lawsuits that question the right of public officials to take a certain action — but both refused.

The attorney general's office said Northbrook had a good point, Elrod said, but the matter was of "local concern."

Elrod contends the annexation was illegal because Portwine Road, which runs through the Potawatomi Woods, interrupts Wheeling's contiguity to the forest preserve. State laws allow a town to annex property through a preserve, he said, but they do not allow it to annex through a street.

Annexation is legal

Herald - 2-15-87

The Illinois Supreme Court has refused to hear a lawsuit brought against Wheeling by Prospect Heights, meaning that Wheeling's annexation of nearly half of Pal-Waukee Airport is legal. The lawsuit, filed 6½ years ago, charged that Wheeling's annexation of the north portion of the airport was invalid. Since then, both towns worked together to purchase Pal-Waukee Airport, which was completed in December. "I'm happy that it came to a final resolution. It smooths the path toward intergovernmental cooperation," Wheeling Village President Sheila Schultz said. Wheeling began annexation proceedings for 109 acres of the airport in May 1980 at the request of former airport owner George Priester. The rest of the airport was already within Prospect Heights. The proceedings hit a snag soon after, when homeowners near the property and Prospect Heights officials asked that the 109 acres instead be annexed to Prospect Heights.

Firemen's union to file charge

By C.L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Wheeling firefighters will file an unfair labor practice charge by today against Wheeling because of the village's refusal to bargain collectively with the union, union attorney Dale Berry said.

Village officials say they will take the opportunity to test their side of the argument in court.

The village is refusing to bargain because the union is including the department's six lieutenants in its membership. Village officials contend that lieutenants are supervisors, not rank-and-file employees.

The charge will be filed with the Illinois Labor Relations Board, which already ruled in November that lieutenants can be members of the union.

Besides filing the complaint, Berry said he will demand in writing that the village resume bargaining with the 31 "blue shirts," or firefighters, while the lieutenant issue is being resolved.

Wheeling officials started talks with firefighters about nine months ago, but stopped when the union tried to get lieutenants included.

Wheeling Attorney Jim Baird said that if the village resumes talks, it will be waiving its right to protest the lieutenants' involvement in the union.

The charge reopens up the whole issue of whether lieutenants are supervisors or not, firefighters union president Bart Burns said.

"I realize it's their (Wheeling's) legal right to appeal, but it just seems endless," he said.

Susan Musick, Wheeling personnel officer, said the village has been waiting for the unfair labor practices charge so the issue can be tried in court.

Baird predicted that the courts will find inconclusive the Labor Board's test for determining whether lieutenants are supervisors or rank-and-file employees. The test determined that lieutenants are rank-and-file because they prepare to fight fires and help fight fires, but that test could be used for anyone in fire service, Baird argued.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Call village prior to starting work

Herald 1-31-87

The public works department in Wheeling is asking residents planning to make improvements to their driveways between the sidewalk and the curbing to call the village first to see if sanitary sewer work is planned for their neighborhood. Sewer work is being done in Dunhurst, Old Town, Meadowbrook, Hollywood Ridge and Poplar Grove subdivisions. If a homeowner's driveway apron, located between the sidewalk and curbing, is damaged while sewer work is being done, the contractor will replace it at his own cost, said Robert D. Gray, public works director.

EDITORIALS

Village should drop union ruling appeal

Life - 2-12-87

Wheeling village officials have decided to file an appeal seeking to overturn an Illinois Labor Relations Board ruling that allows six Fire Department lieutenants to belong to the Wheeling Firefighters Association Union.

Village officials argue that the lieutenants are supervisors who do not belong in a union with the rank and file. They say the lieutenants will have a hard time fulfilling their supervisory duties, which the village says include making work assignments, and evaluating and disciplining firefighters.

Explaining the village point of view, Personnel Director Sue Musick said it's difficult for someone in a union to supervise someone else in the same union. She called having the lieutenants in the same bargaining unit as other firefighters and paramedics "a conflict of interest."

But village officials are ignoring one salient fact. The lieutenants and other firefighters have a very close working relationship. The firefighters eat together, sleep in the same room, take risks together and some even spend their leisure time together. They see themselves as a team.

If it is difficult for people who have such an intense relationship to supervise each other the way village officials believe they should. That difficulty will exist no matter who belongs to the Firefighters Association.

After the ILRB decision, the firefighters and lieutenants voted 37-0 to be jointly represented by the Firefighters Association, which previously had excluded the lieutenants. But the village, in order to maintain the right to appeal the ILRB ruling, has refused to bargain with the union. This is sapping the morale of the men, who are working without a contract. In addition, firefighters have not had a raise since May 1985.

The village obviously feels threatened by the precedent-setting ILRB ruling, one of the first made on the issue of who is a public safety supervisor since the state's amended public labor relations law became effective about one year ago.

But we don't feel officials don't have all that much to feel threatened about. What is more threatening is to hurt the morale and effectiveness of the Fire Department by a long, drawn-out battle, which the village will lose even if it wins.

The lieutenants should remain in the union and the village should drop its appeal.

Village to monitor fuel consumption

Life - 2-12-87

WHEELING — The village is going to seek bids for fuel monitoring equipment that officials say will enable them to keep better tabs on use of village gas in village vehicles.

The new equipment would be used when drivers of village cars, such as police officers, fill up their gas tanks.

The monitoring equipment, for which $15,500 has been budgeted, would permit better inventory control, greater accountability, time savings, and a more effective preventive maintenance program, Village Manager Tom Markus told the Village Board Monday at a workshop meeting.

In a memo, Bob Gray, director of operations and maintenance, said that the current equipment, in place since 1978, is obsolete and has been from the time it was installed. The equipment suffers numerous mechanical problems, does not permit officials to calculate gas mileage on all vehicles, and requires employees to spend an inordinate amount of time manually preparing fuel consumption reports.

New fuel distribution monitoring control equipment would involve the use of two cards that would be used when drivers fill up their gas tanks at village pumps.

The precoded cards would allow the village to automatically determine mileage on any one vehicle or on all vehicles. Cars driven a certain number of miles would be tagged for preventive maintenance treatment.

The new equipment would also improve security measures to prevent unauthorized use of village gasoline, Gray said, although Markus said security is not a problem.

"As a result of vast technological improvements made in fuel monitoring equipment, a new system would greatly improve the efficiency of the fuel monitoring operation as well as provide valuable data needed for scheduling vehicle maintenance activities," Gray said.

Firemen union charge heads to labor board

An unfair labor practice charge filed by Wheeling firefighters against the village of Wheeling was expected to reach the Illinois Labor Relations Board early this week.

A spokeswoman for the attorney representing the firefighters union said the charge was mailed Friday.

The village is refusing to bargain collectively with members of the Wheeling Firefighters Association because the union is including the department's six lieutenants in its membership. The union's position was supported in November by a ruling by the Illinois Labor Relations Board.

Village officials contend that lieutenants are supervisors, not rank-and-file employees, and said they were waiting for the filing so they can challenge the labor board's ruling in court.

Wheeling officials started talks with union members about nine months ago, but negotiations stopped when the organization wanted to include lieutenants.

2-10-87

July 4th organizers vow more fun

BY C. L. WALLER
Daily Herald Staff Writer

2-15-87

With marching bands and flags waving, the Wheeling Fourth of July committee is looking forward to a bigger, more interesting celebration this year.

Committee members have been planning activities for the annual parade and fireworks since July 5 of last year and their efforts seem to be paying off, with 50 units scheduled for the parade so far and $2,400 contributed.

"Grand Old Flag" is the theme of this year's parade being organized by the Wheeling Jaycees and the committee.

Committee president Judy Abruscato said bands scheduled to march in this year's parade are from Wheeling High School, Cooper Junior High School in Buffalo Grove, Holmes Junior High School in Wheeling, a mariachi band from Chicago, St. Mary's School in Buffalo Grove and a band associated with St. Joseph the Worker School in Wheeling.

The committee will ask everyone along the parade route to wave a flag. The parade will begin lining up at 9 a.m. July 4 at Kmart and proceed at 10 a.m. east on Dundee Road. The line will then wind south on Wolf Road to Heritage Park.

Committee members are selling flags for 50 cents and they may also be purchased at a pancake breakfast fundraiser from 7:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. April 5 at the Chevy Chase Club House, 1000 N. Milwaukee Ave. Tickets to the breakfast will go on sale by March 15.

The fireworks committee will be interviewing fireworks companies in March. The show will be held at 9:15 or 9:30 p.m. on the Fourth, Abruscato said.

This year's fireworks will be a little different with WSEX-FM broadcasting special music during the fireworks. All those who attend the are asked to bring their portable radios and dial to the station so the music will carry from the Familyfest celebration at St. Joseph the Worker Church, 171 W. Dundee Road, to the fireworks at Heritage Park, 222 S. Wolf Road.

Wheeling refutes victory claim

LIFE 2-12-87

WHEELING — Northbrook has claimed an initial victory in a battle with Wheeling over 19 acres of property on Lake-Cook Road, but Wheeling's attorney characterizes Northbrook's claim as "inaccurate."

Northbrook Village Attorney Steve Elrod said that on Feb. 3 Cook County Circuit Court Judge Albert Green ruled that it is up to Wheeling to prove its decision to annex the site is valid.

"Northbrook has prevailed in phase one (of its fight to win annexation of the property)," Elrod said.

But Wheeling Village Attorney Jim Rhodes indicated that the court decision was routine and not a victory at all.

All Northbrook did was meet the statutory requirements that allows it to file a complaint, Rhodes said. Once Northbrook files, the statutes say that Wheeling must establish that its annexation was properly handled, he said.

"So for Mr. Elrod to suggest that they won round one is a little funny," Rhodes said.

The property being fought over is located just off Lake-Cook between Portwine and Sanders roads. The Grand Champion Stables is located on the site, which is separated from Wheeling by a county forest preserve and Portwine Road.

Wheeling annexed the property along with Portwine, a township road, late last year. Northbrook followed with its own annexation on Jan. 27.

State law allows communities to annex property to which they are connected by a forest preserve. But Northbrook Village President Dick Falcone has questioned whether the real intent of the legislation is to let a municipality jump a forest preserve and road.

Rhodes, however, said that the law allows towns to jump roads to annex property. There are only a few exceptions, such as tollways, Rhodes said.

Rhodes said that recently Wheeling annexed property on the southeast corner of Lake-Cook Road and Milwaukee Avenue, crossing Milwaukee in order to accomplish the annexation. He said jumping county or state roads in order to annex is commonplace.

Rhodes said an answer to Northbrook's court complaint is due in March.

Cop hit with 2nd brutality suit

BY C. L. WALLER
Daily Herald Staff Writer

2-14-87

A second police brutality lawsuit has been filed against a Wheeling patrolman, charging that the officer struck a battery suspect in February 1985.

It is one of three brutality suits pending against the Wheeling Police Department — all filed by the same lawyer.

The latest lawsuit, filed in Cook County Circuit court, alleges that Officer William Stutzman struck former Wheeling resident Jon Arbogast in the face Feb. 13, 1985, while taking Arbogast in for questioning about a reported battery.

Arbogast's attorney, Michael Norris, said Stutzman went to Arbogast's house and without provocation threw Arbogast on the ground and hit him an unknown number of times in the face and in the eye.

"He's not an angel," Norris said of Arbogast. "I don't care who you are, no one deserves this."

Wheeling Police Chief Michael Haeger said, however, that Arbogast resisted arrest and that Stutzman did not act improperly. Arbogast subsequently was charged with battery against Stutzman and with resisting arrest.

The battery charge was dismissed last September after Arbogast, 21, pleaded guilty to two unrelated charges — felony theft, and aggravated battery relating to an earlier incident with another Wheeling police officer, Ron Hines.

This is the third brutality lawsuit filed by Schaumburg attorney Norris against the Wheeling Police Department.

In one of the other cases, a $10 million suit was filed in 1985 against Stutzman and fellow officers Thomas Lorenz and John Stone.

In that case the officers were alleged to have beaten the Gerald Plambeck family of Arlington Heights over a complaint about a bill.

In the third suit, also filed in 1985, Barbara Pietrini of Wheeling claimed she was assaulted by Lorenz when she tried to leave the police station questioning room.

Purchase of 6 new squad cars OK'd

2-12-87 HERALD

Wheeling trustees have approved the purchase of six new squad cars for the police department, limiting the cost to $68,400.

Half of the department's cars are rotated annually.

The request to buy the cars was made because orders in joint purchases with the state must be placed before March 1, officials said.

Cars are generally less expensive when purchased jointly with the state, Wheeling officials explained. The police department requested that the cars have power locks and power windows.

The cars will be purchased from Jerry Biggers Chevrolet in Elgin in conjunction with the Illinois Department of Central Management Services.

Restructuring heats debate

2-17-87

BY VICKI SPEER
Daily Herald Staff Writer

The creation of a new supervisory position in the Streamwood fire department has ignited a political blaze that threatens to hamper upcoming negotiations between the village and its new firefighters' union.

Village officials say they last month created the deputy fire chief post to parallel the police department's organizational structure. The new deputy chiefs — of which the village plans to appoint three — also will give the department enough supervisors to oversee its standby fire station, officials say.

But members of the Streamwood Professional Firefighters Association Local 3022, an AFL-CIO union, do not see it that way.

The Illinois Labor Relations Board in a precedent-setting ruling in December, said lieutenants may be included in Streamwood and Wheeling firefighter bargaining units.

Wheeling officials responded by refusing to negotiate with firefighters, saying that including supervisors in the bargaining unit would undercut their ability to discipline rank-and-file employees.

Wheeling firefighters last week filed an unfair labor practice charge against the village because of its refusal to bargain collectively with the union. The case is expected to go before the appellate court for a decision.

Streamwood village officials, while arguing along the lines of Wheeling officials, have agreed to negotiate with the village's firefighter union.

But union officials say Streamwood, by appointing deputy chiefs who would not be part of the bargaining unit, is still trying to circumvent the state labor ruling. Of the 18 union members in the fire department, five of them are lieutenants, a fire department representative said.

And those lieutenants are the most likely to be appointed to the new position, removing them from the bargaining unit, union President and firefighter Lt. Tim Marrocco said.

Streamwood firefighter union President Tim Marrocco says the village is trying to skirt a state labor ruling.

Daily Herald Photo/Rich Chapman

"They're trying to circumvent (the ruling) by creating those positions," Marrocco said.

Village President Jack T. Fehlandt says the new posts are in large part to coordinate the organizational structures of the police — which has two deputy chiefs — and fire department. "I can only suggest you look at the parallel in the police department," Fehlandt said. "We're not doing something unique."

And creating the position allows the village to hire supervisors without necessarily having to take them from the union pool, Nick Cetwinski, the village's labor negotiating attorney, said.

"Those positions were created to provide direct-line supervisors over each shift," he said. "They do not impact or directly affect the bargaining unit."

But union officials also assert the village is trying to establish patronage positions by creating the deputy chief post. Deputy chiefs, unlike other firefighters, would get their posts through appointments and not merit testing — opening the way for political appointments, Marrocco charges.

"It's totally patronage, it's totally political in our mind," Marrocco said.

A proposal floated for a about a year to promote firefighters to a captain's rank through testing would have given the fire department a supervisor on every shift, he said. Promotions using established tests would keep it fair and be less expensive than creating deputy chiefs, he said.

But promoting union members to captains would, by taking those firefighters out of the union, be against state law, Cetwinski says. "If they want us to commit an unfair labor practice, then what the hell are we doing?" he said.

Legal wrangling over the creation of the posts will only delay negotiations, Cetwinski said.

A Pulitzer-Lerner Community Newspaper

A LIFE NEWSPAPER, Week of February 5, 1987

NORTRAN, village envision commuter line

WHEELING — NORTRAN, the mass transit district for the north suburban area, is seeking community support in hopes of creating pressure that will result in having commuter service added to the Soo line tracks.

In coming weeks, NORTRAN representatives will be going to area communities to make their case for the new commuter service.

Al Lang, Wheeling representative to NORTRAN, told the Wheeling Village Board Monday that a commuter Soo service would be a good value for the money. He said 92 percent of the cost of the commuter line would be paid for by revenues from fares. This is compared to 60 percent for other commuter railroads and 40 percent for bus service, Lang said.

He told the board that NORTRAN needs support to get Metra to agree to institute commuter service on the Soo line. Metra is the commuter rail division of the Regional Transportation Authority.

Adding commuter service to the Soo line has been a dream of some area communities for years. Support has come from municipalities, such as Wheeling, that would be provided with service, and from towns that want a new Soo line to ease congestion at their railroad stations.

R.L. Banks and Associates, consultants to Metra, last year said that the most cost-effective service would be to add two separate commuter segments to the Soo tracks. One segment would go from Mundelein into Des Plaines through communities that include Wheeling, with a connection at Des Plaines to the Chicago North Western Railroad going into Chicago.

The second segment would bring service tothe North Central part of Lake County by having trains go from Antioch to Grayslake where the tracks would join the Metra Milwaukee District north line.

At the workshop meeting of the Village Board Monday, Lang said NORTRAN would like to get a groundswell of support to encourage Metra and the Soo line into starting the new commuter service.

He said it could be done cheaply by using bus shelter-like structures as stations.

Village President Sheila Schultz said a commuter Soo line would be one of the most economical ways to move people around.

She said she believes that there is now a good liklihood that the new commuter line will one day become a reality.

Lang said the earliest such a line could start would probably be 1990.

2-16-87

Firemen will help with prevention

With the purchase of any smoke detector or fire extinguisher from the Wheeling Fire Department, a firefighter will come to your home and determine the best location for installation of either item, or both. A free home fire safety inspection also can be done at the time.

PUBLIC SPEAKING

• "The big why is to educate. Right now we regulate license holders but that doesn't mean the person is rightfully dispensing alcohol." — Wheeling Police Chief Michael Haeger, explaining he would like to see liquor license holders in the village take a course similar to one given in Schaumburg that would assist them in recognizing intoxicated customers.

2-27-87

Village looks to condemn properties

BY C.L. WALLER
Daily Herald staff writer 2-12-87

Four or five properties in Wheeling's Crossroads redevelopment area may soon face condemnation by the village.

Wheeling trustees have hired a Chicago law firm specializing in condemnation to help them get on with the proposed downtown redevelopment scheme. Assistant Village Manager Robert Fialkowski said the village would like to begin condemnation proceedings "as soon as possible."

Targeted for condemnation are four or five parcels of land northwest of Milwaukee Avenue and Dundee Road, that the village wants to buy to complete the land necessary for a $8.9 million retail center.

The village also is negotiating to buy another five parcels in the same area, but since talks are continuing those owners are not being threatened with condemnation, officials said.

Village attorney James Rhodes said four of the targeted property owners have refused to have "meaningful" discussions with the village. A fifth owner cannot be found, he said.

The village plan is to demolish all the buildings near Milwaukee Avenue between Dundee Road and Wheeling Towers, Rhodes said.

It was clear two years ago that Wheeling might have to resort to condemnation to develop this area, Village President Sheila Schultz said.

"There's been enough time given for things to work without it (condemnation)," she said. "It can't be delayed indefinitely."

One of the threatened property owners, Bernie Brueggemann, says he is holding out.

"They made me an offer, but I couldn't accept it," said Brueggemann, who owns Wheeling Auto Repair, 18 N. Milwaukee Ave.

He accused the village of "jumping the gun" into condemnation without negotiating.

Michael Norris, who represents the owners of Tien Tsin Restaurant, 144 N. Milwaukee Ave., said he has negotiated with the village attorney and plans on meeting with his client on Friday to discuss the next step.

"It's the little guy against the system again," he said.

Police brutality lawsuit filed against Wheeling

2-87

By BOB KEHOE

A former Wheeling man filed suit Feb. 11 in Cook County Circuit Court alleging that he was physically assaulted without provocation by a Wheeling police officer during his February, 1985 arrest.

The suit filed by Jon Arbogast against officer William Stutzman and the Village of Wheeling seeks unspecified damages exceeding $15,000 for pain and suffering, psychological trauma and other damage he allegedly suffered from the incident.

Charges that Wheeling police also violated Arbogast's constitutional rights under the Civil Rights Act for arresting him without probable cause are leveled in the suit.

Wheeling Police Chief Michael Haeger and Village Attorney James Rhodes denied that there was any wrongdoing or undue force used in Arbogast's Feb. 13, 1985 arrest in connection with a battery investigation. They added that Arbogast, a convicted felon, has a history of fighting with Wheeling police.

THE ARBOGAST SUIT brings to three the number of lawsuits pending against the Wheeling Police Department, two of which allege brutality, and all of which were filed on behalf of clients by Rolling Meadows-based attorney Michael T. Norris.

Norris conceded that Arbogast, who was convicted of felony theft and aggravated battery in a different Wheeling case in 1986, is "no angel," but said there is no excuse for the way his client was treated during the arrest.

The suit contends that at about 12:30 a.m. Feb. 13, 1985, Arbogast was at his home at 124 Laurel Court when officer Stutzman arrived to investigate a citizen complaint of battery in which Arbogast was allegedly involved.

Claiming that Arbogast offered no resistance upon being told he was under arrest, the suit states that Stutzman "physically assaulted (Arbogast) by striking him and causing him to fall to the ground."

THE SUIT FURTHER claims that once Arbogast was on the ground, Stutzman continued to strike and beat him about the head and face, causing injuries to the plaintiff.

As a result of the alleged beating, Arbogast was taken to Holy Family Hospital in Des Plaines for treatment. He was jailed on the charges until July, 1986 when the charges were dismissed, according to the suit.

Arbogast's complaint also contends that two sworn complaints filed by Stutzman following the arrest claiming that Arbogast committed a battery against him were "knowingly falsified by officer Stutzman with knowledge and approval by his superior officers."

While he would not comment on specific allegations in the Arbogast suit because he hadn't seen it yet, Haeger said an internal investigation initiated in 1985 at the officer's request showed there was no excessive use of force.

HAEGER SAID HIS numerous attempts to look further into the allegations by trying to talk with Norris and his clients

(Continued on page 11)

$23 million suit to go to trial soon

By BOB KEHOE

A $23 million civil suit filed in 1983 against the village of Wheeling, its police department and six other defendants in connection with the department's handling of a 1981 murder investigation should go to trial soon.

The suit filed on behalf of William Boyd, who was charged but never convicted of charges that he murdered and sexually assaulted 14-year-old Mary Kosinski in July, 1981, seeks $5 million from the village and $3 million from the other six defendants.

The six defendants include three Wheeling police officers; Ronald Nelson, then acting police chief; Clarence Trausch, a former Wheeling police officer and a trained hypnotist; and Jeffrey Zehe, then an assistant Cook County State's Attorney.

Michael T. Norris, the attorney representing Boyd, said the case is now on the trial call list in U.S. District Court and a trial date should be set in the near future.

WHEELING VILLAGE ATTORNEY James Rhodes said he, too, is unaware of a trial date in the case and added that the village has no intention of settling the matter out of court.

If village officials hold firm to their plans to litigate the case, it is sure to bring a replay of testimony from the bizarre murder.

As the case unfolded in 1981, Boyd, who was a neighbor of Kosinski's and who had been with her the night before, was charged with her strangu-

(Continued on page 11)

Brutality—

(Continued from page 5)

have been met with rebuffs.

Haeger decried the way Stutzman, whom he called one of the department's "more productive and effective" officers, is being "tried in the newspapers while other defendants are tried in court."

Stutzman could not be reached for comment.

Norris denied that he is trying to play the case up in the media and said he sees no reason for him to discuss a case with defendants he has filed suit against.

ALTHOUGH HE DISAGREES with Norris' clients allegations, Haeger said the department has vigorously pursued all of the accusations.

He said the Stutzman case, as with all cases involving the use of force by officers, resulted in a report being filed and an internal review by the department's administration.

Results of that investigation showed there was no undue use of force, he said. Rhodes said his subsequent review of the department's handling of the Arbogast case as well as the other cases Norris has filed have led him to conclude there is "no basis" to the allegations.

One of the other two pending suits was filed on behalf of Arlington Heights resident Gerald Plambeck and his family, who allege they were beaten by Wheeling police who came to their home to investigate why Plambeck refused to pay a bill for car work he had done at a Wheeling repair shop.

HAEGER SAID IN the Plambeck case, Stutzman and two other officers at the scene were attacked by the Plambeck family and that the family members had to be subdued.

The third and largest suit was filed against the department in 1983 and seeks $23 million in damages for the department's 1981 handling of a murder investigation that led to murder and attempted sexual assault charges being filed against Wheeling resident William Boyd, then 14 (See related story).

Despite the three pending cases alleging brutality against the department, Haeger said he thinks the number of cases where the department is required to use force is "abnormally low."

With the refusal of Norris or his clients to provide information that might lead to [illegible] into the matter, Haeger

(Continued from page 5)

lation murder following some 14 hours of interviewing by Wheeling police.

In the court proceedings, Norris argued that during the marathon interrogation session Boyd was hypnotized by Trausch and that the youth admitted to a murder he never committed.

PROSECUTORS LATER DROPPED the charges on March 1, 1983 after Judge Nicholas Pomaro tossed out Boyd's confession and arrest, citing violations of his constitutional rights and evidence that he was hypnotized when he confessed to the crime.

The state decided not to appeal the judge's ruling and on March 28, 1983 dropped all charges against Boyd.

The $5 million Boyd is seeking in actual and compensatory damages is for, among other things, psychological and emotional damage that Boyd has still not recovered from as a result of the arrest, according to Norris.

Kosinski's partially clad body was found July 19, 1981, in a shed behind the Body home.

Balloons away

Students at St. Joseph the Worker School in Wheeling send the balloons flying Friday morning as part of the celebration of National Catholic Schools Week. Students took part in an all-school dedication ceremony that also paid tribute to the space shuttle astronauts who lost their lives in the Challenger explosion last year. *(Staff photo by Kathy Tray)*

Fire Dept. negotiations at standstill

Wheeling to ask court to overturn labor board ruling

By BOB KEHOE

Wheeling officials will seek court action to overturn a ruling by the Illinois Labor Relations Board (ILRB) that allows six Wheeling Fire Department lieutenants to be included in the firefighters association bargaining unit.

Negotiations between Wheeling and the Wheeling Firefighters Association remain stalled pending action on the appeal, which will center on whether the lieutenants serve in a supervisory capacity over the department's 31 firefighters.

Village officials contend the lieutenants serve as supervisors and that it would be inappropriate for them to be in the same bargaining unit as those whose work they oversee.

The association's hierarchy argues that the lieutenants work "side by side" with them and that their abilities to perform certain activities like disciplining fellow workers would not be hampered if they were included in the unit.

COURT ACTION TO settle the dispute was imminent Monday after the firefighters filed an unfair labor practice charge against the village with the ILRB for failing to resume the negotiations that began nine months ago.

The association's action left the village with the option of negotiating with the unit — including the lieutenants — or taking legal action to overturn the ILRB ruling.

Susan Musick, the village's personnel officer, said Monday village officials will choose the latter.

Negotiations, which were plodding along initially, reached an impasse several months ago after the association voted to include the lieutenants in the bargaining unit.

JIM BAIRD, AN attorney representing the village, said that under state law village officials can't resume negotiations until they formally appeal the ILRB ruling. Doing so, he said, would mean waiving the right to oppose having the lieutenants included in the unit.

Musick said village officials maintain the lieutenants "are inappropriately placed in the bargaining unit" because they are supervisors who oversee certain departmental duties, evaluate, recommend discipline, and make work assignments for the department's 31 firefighters and paramedics.

Bart Burns, president of the Wheeling Firefighters Association, said the lieutenants may have higher rank than the association members, but when it comes to performing on the job, they work together "side by side."

"You have to understand how we work. We live together one-third of our lives. We depend on each other," Burns said. "Under the law we feel they have (the same bargaining rights) and we want to help them in this endeavor."

WHILE THE LIEUTENANTS do have responsibilities to oversee some aspects of the firefighters' work, Burns said their being included in the unit would not impact their ability to carry out duties like recommending disciplinary action — an action that is rarely needed, he said.

"It's ridiculous to think the lieutenants won't do their jobs because they are in this bargaining unit," Burns said. "Look to other departments where lieutenants are included in the bargaining unit. They don't fall apart."

In assessing the village's plans to let the court decide the issue, Burns said, "I suppose anyone can sue anyone and can go to the Supreme Court, but you have to ask, 'Is that practical? Is it worth it?' "

The bottom line to Burns is whether the lieutenants do the same kind of work as firefighters.

THE "PRIMARY ability" of both the lieutenants and the firefighters, he said, "is to protect lives and property, and it will remain that way."

Even after the issue over the lieutenants issue is resolved, Burns expects some tough negotiating ahead.

"We got very little movement when we were in negotiations...We met for 10 meetings over six or seven months and we didn't get anywhere," Burns said.

Village to spend $15,000 to keep tabs on gasoline

By BOB KEHOE

Wheeling officials have been supplying gasoline for village vehicles for years now, but over the last 12 months they've had some problems figuring out exactly which employees are using it.

To solve the problem and improve accountability, the village plans to spend up to $15,500 on a computerized system that will improve efficiency and provide data for scheduling vehicle maintenance.

Emphasizing that he doesn't think employees are using the gas for their personal vehicles, Director of Operations and Maintenance Bob Gray said Monday the problem has to do with accounting and matching up the gas used for village vehicles.

Under the present system, village employees and a number of High School District 214 workers are assigned keys to give them access to either diesel, regular or unleaded gas from the village gas pumps outside Village Hall.

THE WORKERS ARE then responsible for logging how much gas they pumped, what vehicle it was used for and when the gas was pumped.

Problems arose, however, because some employees aren't following the proper logging procedure. And a number of keys were broken and lost, which led workers to share keys so they would have access to the gasoline, Gray said.

After eight years of wear and tear with the present system, Gray said it is time for a better one.

The system being considered calls for issuing employees coded cards that would automatically register in a computer the time the gas was being pumped, the amount pumped, the vehicle's mileage and what vehicle it was pumped into.

THE COMPUTER WOULD then record the transactions each day and automatically transfer the data into the village's computer system, replacing the present system of manually preparing, distributing and logging each transaction.

Wheeling's move to update its fuel monitoring system comes just several months after Buffalo Grove officials approved funds for buying a similar system.

In Buffalo Grove's case, officials were unable to account for about 3,000 gallons of gas that was pumped the previous year. The loss cost the village an estimated $1,800.

Buffalo Grove Village Manager Bill Balling said at the time that officials were unable to confirm whether the missing gas was stolen, but he said the loss was enough to justify the expense of purchasing a new system to better monitor where the gas was going.

GRAY STRESSED THAT Wheeling was not so interested in using the new system for better security, but for better accountability. With the present system, he said, a television camera provides direct surveillance of the gas pump to the police department.

Aside from the mechanical improvements with the new system that is set to be installed later this year, Buffalo Grove officials anticipate the $9,000 system will pay for itself in labor costs savings in two to three years.

Airport annexation upheld

2-10-87

BY MARIE LUTZ
Staff Writer

WHEELING — The Illinois Supreme Court has refused to review lower court decisions upholding Wheeling's annexation of the northern portion of Pal-Waukee Airport.

This means Wheeling's annexation of the land is final, say Wheeling officials.

Wheeling annexed the site about five years ago, but the validity of the move was challenged by the city of Prospect Heights, which, later, also annexed the property. If Prospect Heights' annexation had gone through, the entire airport would have been within that municipality's boundaries.

The annexation issue was important to Wheeling officials, who say that because the two towns are now joint owners of Pal-Waukee, a portion of the airport should reside in each community.

Prospect Heights and Wheeling purchased the airport in December. The annexation issue was not connected to the purchase.

After the Wheeling annexation, around 1982 or 1983, the matter went to cirucit court, where Prospect Heights argued that one small parcel of the disputed property, belonging to Motel Land Corp., had not been properly annexed.

Prospect Heights contended that George Priester, an owner of the airport and his secretary, who was also an officer of Motel Land Corp., had improperly signed documents allowing the Motel Land site to be annexed, said Jim Rhodes, Wheeling village attorney.

Prospect Heights argued that be-

Please turn to page 3

WHEELING 2-4-87

Support the Corridor?

Wheeling village officials are skeptical about a request to contribute to a marketing campaign for the "Golden Corridor" along the Northwest Tollway because they say they're too far away from it. The Golden Corridor, stretching from O'Hare International Airport to Elgin, is a region tapped as a high-technology area. Local towns are being asked by the Golden Corridor Council for donations to help it secure a $100,000 grant under Illinois' new "Corridors of Opportunity" program. Officials have said they hope the program, being coordinated by Harper College in Palatine, will rival California's Silicon Valley. "Isn't it a stretch to say we're in the area? I-90? That's more of a piece of pie than in a corridor," Trustee Nicholas Fanella said. "We really compete (for high technology) and I don't see our place in this."

TODAY 2-17-87 HERALD

- The Wheeling Village Board will meet at 8 p.m. at the village hall, 255 W. Dundee Road. Participating in student government day, junior high school students from Holmes Junior High School and St. Joseph the Worker School will be seated with trustees, helping them make decisions.
- The Wheeling Fire and Police Commission will meet at 7 p.m. at the fire department conference room of the village hall. The commission will discuss rules and regulations governing fire and police.
- Young Single Parents will meet at 8:30 p.m. at the Wheeling/Northbrook Holiday Inn on Milwaukee Avenue.

Firemen offer smoke detector assistance

With the purchase of any smoke detector or fire extinguisher from the Wheeling Fire Department, a firefighter will come to your home and determine the best location for installation of either item, or both. A free home fire safety inspection also can be done at the time.

2-7-87

Out of 'Corridor?'

2-8-87

Wheeling village officials say they are skeptical about a request to contribute to a marketing campaign for the "Golden Corridor" along the Northwest Tollway because they say they're too far away from it. The Golden Corridor, stretching from O'Hare International Airport to Elgin, is a region tapped as a high-technology area. Local towns are being asked by the Golden Corridor Council for donations to help it secure a $100,000 grant under Illinois' new "Corridors of Opportunity" program. Officials have said they hope the program, being coordinated by Harper College in Palatine, will rival California's Silicon Valley. "Isn't it a stretch to say we're in the area? I-90? That's more of a piece of pie than in a corridor," Trustee Nicholas Fanella said.

exation upheld

Continued from page 1

cause the Motel Land property was improperly annexed, the entire annexation was void, Rhodes said.

Wheeling countered that the annexation had been properly handled, and the circuit court agreed that, basically, Wheeling had complied with state statutes, said Donald Kreger, attorney for Prospect Heights.

About six months ago, the Illinois Appellate Court affirmed the trial court decision, Kreger said. The municipalities were notified of the Supreme Court decision on Monday.

Wheeling Village President Sheila Schultz said she made a plea in a letter to Prospect Heights about a year ago to drop all suits. She said she thought this should be done because the municipalities were going to jointly own Pal-Waukee. But, Schultz said, she never received a reply.

Owning the northern portion of the airport will provide Wheeling with tax revenue. The annexation may also make it easier for the village to annex other areas north of Pal-Waukee.

By the same token, Wheeling's successful annexation virtually cuts off Prospect Heights from annexing land to the north, said Village Manager Tom Markus.

Pal-Waukee Airport is a general aviation facility used by corporate and private pilots.

Wheeling and Prospect Heights bought the airport for about $22 million. The communities wanted to own the facility because of its importance to the local economy and to exercise more control over it.

Tahoe residents want more police patrols

2-87

By BOB KEHOE

Tahoe Village residents Monday asked Wheeling officials for more help in stopping local teenage drinking parties.

Complaining that the Wheeling Police Department has not been tough enough on teen drinkers and those who organize teen drinking parties at the Tahoe Village clubhouse, residents asked Police Chief Michael Haeger to look into the matter.

Some of the approximately 25 residents in attendance at a village board committee-of-the-whole meeting held at the Tahoe Village clubhouse also said the department has been slow in responding to calls in the residential area.

Additional charges were also leveled that police have been lax in dealing with parking violators, that some no-parking signs in the subdivision are facing the wrong way, and that there has been inadequate patrolling of the subdivision.

HAEGER SAID VILLAGE officials will look into the signage and parking complaints and said the department has in fact beefed up patrols in the Tahoe Village area in recent months to try to prevent burglaries in the area.

He also urged residents with complaints about slow response time from officers to contact him personally with specific times and dates so he can get to the bottom of the matter.

But while residents voiced a variety of complaints, they were unanimous in their dissatisfaction with the number of teen drinking parties.

Several who spoke urged more cooperation between the police department and Tahoe Village residents and said they would encourage the department to arrest more teenage drinkers to send a warning to the community that underage drinking parties will not be tolerated.

HAEGER PLEDGED THE department's help in trying to attack the problem, but said arrests aren't always possible, particularly when trying to locate organizers of teen drinking parties.

To help make that task easier, Haeger suggested the Tahoe homeowners'association include information on its clubhouse rental form telling party organizers that all information will be supplied to the police department. He also suggested that the rental form warn any adults who help sponsor a party with underage drinkers that they will be subject to prosecution.

Village President Sheila Schultz said the village already has a party ordinance under which adults who supply underage drinkers with alcohol can be charged. The problem, she said, is that it's sometimes difficult to locate the parties.

That wasn't the case last Labor Day, according to some Tahoe residents who said that when they called police to break up a party with about 70 teenage drinkers at the clubhouse, officers responded and broke up the party without making arrests.

RESIDENTS SAID MORE harsh action, including arrests, might help prevent similar large parties from occurring.

Haeger said the complaints were the first he had heard about the incident and theorized that the officers may have been under riot conditions had they decided to start arresting those in attendance.

Large parties, he conceded, remain a problem for officers working the night shift when there are fewer back-ups available.

"At one time we considered limiting the size of parties and to require permits for large parties...but then you get into a constitutional issue," Haeger said.

HAEGER CONCLUDED BY encouraging those who run the Tahoe clubhouse to take steps to help prevent unchaperoned teen parties from occurring in the first place.

In addition, he urged more residents to call police when they see large teen drinking party in progress.

Resident faces battery charges

2-87

A Wheeling man last week was charged with battery to a police officer and four other charges stemming from a hit-and-run collision on Route 83.

Police charged Benecio Solorio, 39, of 853 McHenry Road, Wheeling, with driving under the influence of alcohol, resisting arrest, battery to a police officer and failure to give aid after he was later located and arrested by police in the 800 block of Colonial Drive. Police reports state Solorio rear-ended a vehicle driven by a Palatine woman, forcing her car into a vehicle driven by a Wisconsin man on Route 83 last Thursday. After the collision, Solorio drove away from the scene while the injured woman and the Wisconsin man gave chase, according to police.

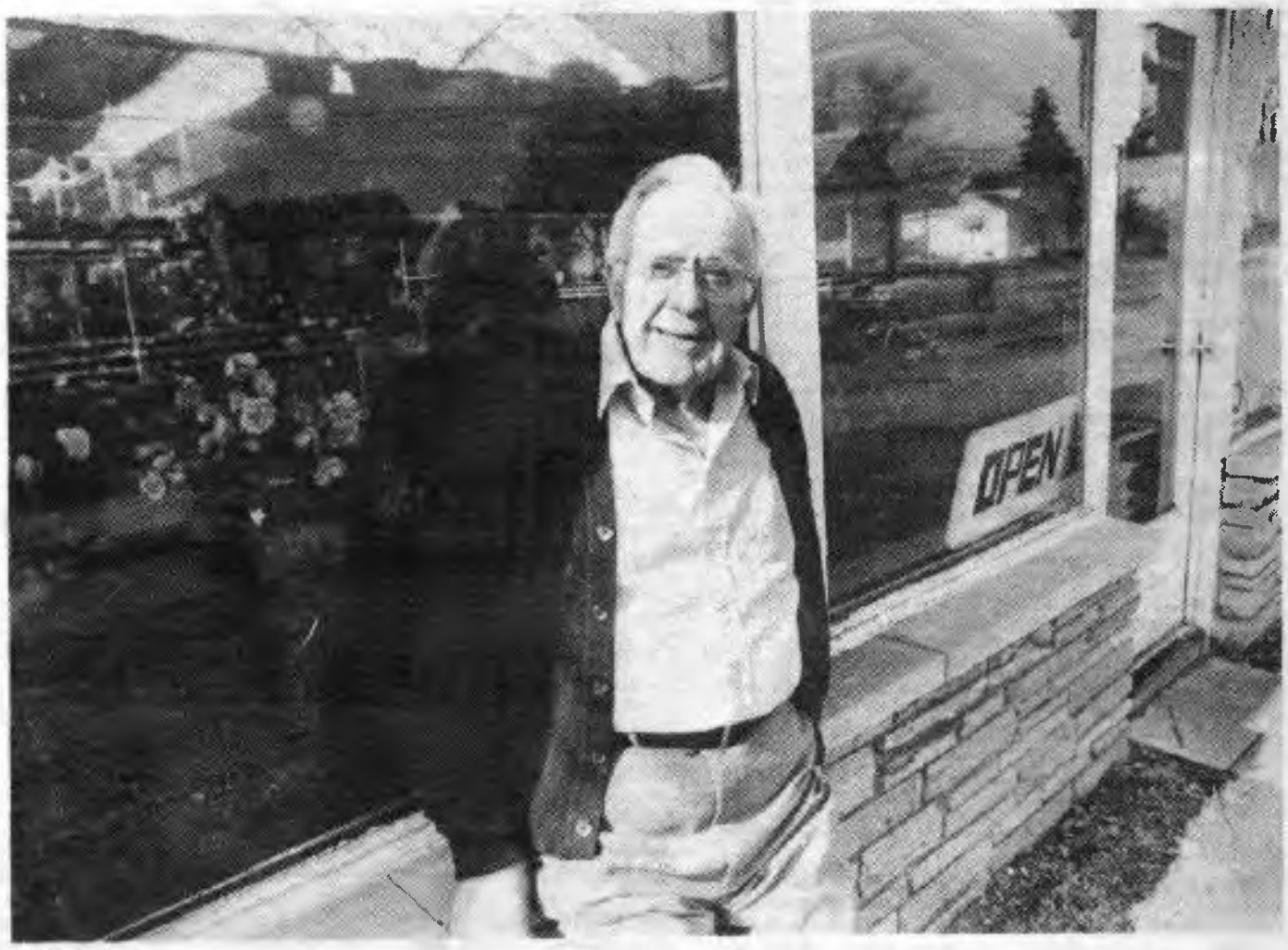
The two drivers followed Solorio to a home on McHenry Road when they asked him for some identification. When Solorio refused, the motorists called police. When police arrived at Solorio's residence they were told that he was not home. A short time later, police received a call that Solorio's vehicle had been spotted on Colonial Drive.

It was there they found Solorio and a number of other men drinking alcohol, police reports state. When police informed Solorio that he was under arrest he refused to move. In trying to get Solorio handcuffed to bring him to the police station for booking, police reports state officers "used minimum force."

Downtown plan may force florist out of business

After raising orchids in Wheeling for 33 years, Erwin Dreiske is in danger of losing his Milwaukee Avenue flower shop because the village needs to acquire the property for a new shopping mall that's part of its downtown redevelopment plan.

By BOB KEHOE



Erwin Dreiske's Milwaukee Avenue flower shop may be open for business now, but the Village of Wheeling may condemn the property to make way for a new shopping mall on the site. *(Staff photo by Bill Oakes)*

Erwin Dreiske successfully operated his flower shop and greenhouse at 88 N. Milwaukee Ave. for more than three decades now, but these days everything is not coming up roses.

Sales remain solid and his clients seem as satisfied as ever, yet Dreiske is fretting over the possibility he may have to fold the flower business his father opened 112 years ago to make way for so-called "progress."

Dreiske's dilemma is that his shop and greenhouse are planted squarely in what is scheduled to become the Town Square shopping mall — a planned mass of concrete and steel designed to wipe away some of the area's dilapidated structures and revitalize Wheeling's downtown business district.

Village officials have offered to buy his two-acre parcel, but at this point Dreiske hasn't heard anything he would construe as a reasonable offer.

"THEY SAID we could rent a store (in the mall once it's built), but I'd be crazy to do that. I'd be out of business," he said, adding that he needs the greenhouse to growing his orchids that draw customers from as far away as Wisconsin.

Village officials contend Dreiske may be able to keep his present location and the greenhouse, but that the village must gain ownership of the property to eventually complete the redevelopment of the Crossroads area at Dundee Road and Milwaukee Avenue.

The 84-year-old man with the green thumb is not so much opposed to the redevelopment plan as he is to how he says he is being treated by village officials he maintains are intent on displacing him from the white-washed haven he has called home for 33 years.

"It's worse than not fair," he said. "It's dirty. It's big business versus small business...They're very abrasive and arrogant with what they're doing."

MONTHS OF BRIEF back-and-forth talks with village officials about his property have changed nothing, according to Dreiske, and so the dispute

(Continued on page 11)

Florist—

(Continued from page 5)
goes on.

If nothing is worked out soon, though, Dreiske could be in danger of having his property condemned by the village and acquired through court proceedings — a prospect Dreiske doesn't even want to think about.

Village Manager Tom Markus said the possibility remains that something can be worked out that would allow Dreiske to stay put and denied that the village is trying to unfairly force him out of his store.

If that was the village's intention, Markus said, condemnation proceedings would have already been filed long ago.

WITH THAT SAID, however, Markus maintains the village must acquire Dreiske's property if it is to complete the multi-million dollar redevelopment plan on schedule.

"We've tried to be as straightforward as possible with this. The village board is concerned about Mr. Dreiske and wants him to stay, but at the same time the board realizes the need to redevelop Milwaukee Avenue," Markus said. "It's never a pleasant task to move or relocate someone and as much as the village doesn't want to hurt anyone sometimes it happens."

The hurt in this case is running deep with Dreiske, who is particularly dismayed that the village is using some of his tax dollars to fight him.

"It's absolutely crude," he said. "They've tried to harass me so much my wife's afraid I'm going to have a heart attack."

THAT THE VILLAGE has gone ahead and dug holes on his property for what he assumes is surveying purposes, Dreiske sees an intrusion into his life he never envisioned from local government.

But then the machinations of Wheeling government haven't always made sense to Dreiske, who said he was shaken down years ago for bribes by corrupt village officials who were later prosecuted and run out of office.

That incident may have soured Dreiske somewhat on village government, but he decided to stay to continue the only business he has ever loved.

The village was not the first nor the last, he figures, to express interest in the property he still has visions of expanding his operations on.

"ALL KINDS of florists have come in and tried to buy this place. One Chicago guy came in here offered me $350,000," Dreiske said, adding that he declined the offer. "He came back the next year and raised his offer to $450,000, but I said no. I wanted to run my business. What else would I do?"

During occasional vacations to his condominium in Florida, Dreiske said he thinks about what he might do if he got out of the growing business, but each time he does he said he can't see himself retiring.

"I've had that condo now for 19 years and every time I go there I see people younger than me and they're telling me to retire. But after a week there I'm ready to come back home and go to work," he said. "I'm crazy about this business and I have been all my life."

Dreiske said he got hooked on the business after working in his father's Chicago flower shop that was later relocated to Highland Park. After his father was forced to close the business during World War I due to inability to get coal to run the greenhouses, Dreiske said he decided he wanted to reopen the business.

AT THE AGE of 28 he did just that. He ran a store in Highland Park and later in Lake Forest, before coming to Wheeling about 33 years ago.

Raising orchids remains Dreiske's favorite pastime. He often takes the short walk from his home to the greenhouse on winter nights as many as six times to make sure the temperature is right.

And in his idle moments he occasionally thinks back to brighter days when he didn't have to worry about someone condemning his land, to when he made a go of a Milwaukee Avenue flower shop another operator couldn't.

"IT WAS a flower shop for 6½ years before I got it," Dreiske said proudly. "No one could do anything with it, but I did."

For now, Dreiske's main job is seeing if he can keep his roots.

Village won't give up control of Pal-waukee

By BOB KEHOE

Wheeling officials may delegate some authority that goes along with their joint ownership of Pal-Waukee Airport with Prospect Heights, but they won't surrender any of their control.

Wheeling trustees made that clear Monday in a brief discussion about future airport operations.

The trustees, while saying they appreciate the work done by the Pal-Waukee Municipal Airport Commission in setting up the airport purchase, said they won't give up any actual control of the airport to the commission or any other group in the future.

Wheeling and Prospect Heights officially acquired the airport last week, purchasing the facility from Priester Aviation Services for $23.5 million. Some 90 percent of the funding for the airport came from federal sources, 5 percent from the state and the two municipalities split the remaining 5 percent.

DISCUSSION ON THE control issue arose Monday at the urging of Trustee William Rogers, who also chairs the airport commission.

Rogers, in asking for clarification of the commission's role in the future, was told by trustees that the commission may remain active, but that it won't have control over the airport or the manager that is hired to run the facility.

The expression by the Wheeling Village Board should clarify the tasks ahead for the two municipalities as they meet to talk about substantive operational issues in the weeks and months ahead.

A meeting was held Wednesday night with the commission and several elected officials from the municipalities to discuss such issues as finance, management and personnel, engineering and legal.

IN DISCUSSING THE possibilities for a future role for the airport commission, Trustee Nicholas Fanella said he envisioned the commission as a body that might meet quarterly to examine the needs of the communities in operating the airport.

In the past, the commission had operated more as a regulating body and as an advisory board in dealing with the numerous complex issues associated with buying and operating the airport.

Village President Sheila Schultz said that despite what is sure to be a diminished role for the commission, it can still play a valuable role in the future.

Among the things the commission can and should do, she said, are examine what roadblocks exist to efficient operation of the facility and provide recommendations to Wheeling and Prospect Heights on how to best operate the airport.

VILLAGE MANAGER TOM Markus said the village board would do well to formally act on deciding the commission's role as soon as possible so that no problems arise.

"I'm open minded (about the commission's role)," Rogers said. "I'm not sure how it will be handled. I just want to know the best way of doing our job."

Aside from deciding the future role of the commission, Prospect Heights and Wheeling officials are faced with the crucial task of finding a manager who will handle the day-to-day operations of the airport and report back to the two communities for action.

Wheeling DUI arrests down by 7.5% in 1986

By BOB KEHOE

Happy hour imbibers could end up crying the blues this year if they make a habit of driving home through Wheeling.

A move to vary the schedule of the Wheeling Police Department's task force assigned to arrest drunken drivers is designed to step up observation of the happy-hour set, according to Chief Michael Haeger.

In addition, the police department plans to work with local bartenders on how to spot patrons who have had one too many and when not to serve these people.

Haeger, who was somewhat surprised by a decrease in driving under the influence arrests made by his department — from 254 in 1985 to 235 in 1986 — said he thinks there will be a rise in DUI arrests in 1987.

IN ANALYZING THE 1986 drunken driving statistics, Haeger said the shooting death of officer Kenneth Dawson in November of 1985 apparently impacted the efficiency of the department for at least the early part of 1986.

"Productivity was down a bit (following Dawson's death)," Haeger said, adding that he had yet to thoroughly analyze crime statistics for the first six months of the year and compare them with the same period during 1985.

One obvious factor was that the department shut the unit down for a period following Dawson's death.

Another factor that may have played a role in the 7.5 percent drop in DUI arrests is public awareness of the department's task force and the fact it primarily operated on Friday and Saturday nights.

A WARNING THAT was plastered on the Village Hall sign on Dundee Road alerting drivers that the unit would be out in force on New Year's Eve apparently helped sober the habits of some drivers. Police ended up netting only two drunken drivers that night on what is typically a much busier evening for police.

Whether it was the tougher drunken driving laws that went into effect in January, 1986 that helped reduce the number of drinking drivers or whether those who tip a few before driving decided not to do so during peak patrol times — namely Friday and Saturday nights — no one can be sure.

Haeger, however, suspects a number of factors are at work.

"There is an educational process taking place. People are seeing the negative signs about drunk driving everywhere they go. Maybe people are changing their patterns a bit," Haeger said.

WHILE HAEGER SAID he thinks some people may have given up drinking and driving altogether, he also thinks there are those who don't heed the law no matter what the penalties.

"I don't think the public orients themselves to penalties," he said. "I doubt that has much bearing."

What may have some bearing is publicity and word of mouth from drunken drivers who are snagged by police. That's one reason police will continue to focus on the high traffic areas like Dundee Road, Milwaukee Avenue and Palatine Road.

Haeger said drunken driving arrests are usually greatest in number on these roads, which drivers cruising through Wheeling en route to home or another bar frequently use.

THE THING THAT will change, promises Haeger, is the hours the DUI task force will be out and the days the unit will operate. After starting the unit in 1985 with funds provided by the village board to pay specially trained officers overtime for their work, the unit operated almost exclusively on Friday and Saturday nights, according to Haeger.

In the future, he said, the hours and nights the unit will work will vary so that officers can get a better handle on whether drunken drivers are changing their drinking and driving habits or whether they are merely changing their patterns.

Wheeling eyed as site for new postal facility

COUNTRYSIDE

By BOB KEHOE

Wheeling is one of three suburbs the U.S. Postal Service is eyeing for the building of a 651,000-square-foot mail service and distribution center.

Postal officials are in the process of trying to buy about 50 acres of land in either Wheeling, Northbrook, Arlington Heights or unincorporated Cook County to build the center, which would ease pressure on the North Suburban mail facility in River Grove.

Thomas Aggen, real estate specialist senior in the Postal Service's real estate division, said the new facility would not be designed as a retail center to serve the public on a walk-in basis, but would rather serve as a "mail factory" for processing and distributing mail.

Cost for land acquisition and construction for the facility is estimated at somewhere between $40 million and $50 million, according to Aggen, who added that it could take several years to complete construction.

"RIGHT NOW we're advertising to find sites," Aggen said. "Over the spring we will evaluate sites and make rankings (in terms of which ones) are the most suitable."

At this point it would seem unlikely that Wheeling will be the site chosen since there may not even be a 50-acre parcel in the village that is vacant with the appropriate zoning to permit building of a postal distribution center.

Village President Sheila Schultz said if there is such a vast parcel in the village at this time with the proper zoning, she is unaware of it.

In the notification sent to Wheeling officials, the Postal Service said it will take about one year to analyze sites.

THE TARGET AREA to find the roughly 2.2 million square feet of land it will take to build the facility is bounded on the north by Dundee Road, on the east by Shermer Road, on the south by Palatine Road, and on the west by Arlington Heights Road.

Aggen said unlike most other government purchases which require sealed bids, the Postal Service will advertise and "beat the bushes" in hopes that postal officials can find an appropriate parcel to house the new facility.

Aside from the Arlington Heights, Wheeling, and Northbrook areas, there is some vacant land in unincorporated Cook County land that is owned by the Cook County Forest Preserve that could be considered for the building.

If all goes well, Aggen said officials may find a site by spring. Construction of the facility could take three to 3½ years to complete, he said.

COUNTRYSIDE

Wheeling makes plans to mark bicentennial

1-8-87

Wheeling officials are trying to enlist support from community groups to help get the ball rolling on plans to celebrate the bicentennial of the U.S. Constitution.

The idea behind the effort is to get the village designated as a "Bicentennial Community" by a state committee and to hold various activities throughout 1987 — the 200th anniversary of the signing of the Constitution — to increase understanding of the document.

In order to be designated as a Bicentennial Community, the village must establish a bicentennial committee and have plans approved for a commemorative program that will educate residents about the meaning and significance of the Constitution.

Wheeling would also have to receive an official designation from the Federal Commission on the Bicentennial of the U.S. Constitution, according to David Kowal, administrative assistant with the village.

Kowal said local officials hope to get support from the schools, churches, senior citizens groups, civic groups and others to help come up with promotional ideas and programs to improve understanding of the Constitution.

"It's amazing how many people have never read or don't understand the Constitution," Kowal said in explaining the impetus behind the commemorative effort.

Kowal is in charge of setting up a planning group that would organize such events as a public reading of the Constitution, a public signing of the document by local residents, group discussions, town hall meetings, craft fairs, parades, debates and speeches.

Acting on behalf of the village, Kowal will soon be sending out flyers on the proposed celebration. If the interest level is high enough, a planning group will be set up, he said.

While many of the celebration activities would likely occur during the village's Family Days celebration over the Fourth of July holiday, Kowal said other activities would likely be slated throughout the year.

Village trustees who heard details of the effort at Monday's board meeting unanimously endorsed the concept.

Nortran seeks support for commuter rail plan

By BOB KEHOE COUNTRYSIDE 1-29-87

Nortran officials Monday came calling on Wheeling residents and village officials seeking support for plans to add commuter rail service along the Soo Line railroad.

But while officials from the North Suburban mass transit district got the commitment they were seeking from village officials, many residents who attended the village board meeting were skeptical about whether rail service could be added without further snarling local traffic and without dipping deep into local taxpayers pockets.

Despite the fears of some of the approximately 25 residents who attended the meeting, Al Lang, Wheeling's representative to Nortran, stressed that adding commuter service to the Soo Line would all but pay for itself while helping to ease traffic congestion.

Showing projections indicating that about 92 percent of Soo Line commuter service operation costs would be funded through service-generated revenues, Lang said the proposal would be far more economical to taxpayers than other public transportation modes.

LANG ESTIMATED THAT Metra, which operates the Regional Transportation Authority (RTA) commuter rail to downtownChicago, recovers only about 60 percent of its operational costs through fees and other sources, while the suburban bus system, PACE, recoups only about 40 percent of its operational costs through service-generated revenues.

He likewise shot down arguments that adding a commuter station in Wheeling would adversely impact residents or traffic.

Saying that the whole purpose of adding rail service was to get more cars off the local roadways, Lang said surveys of potential riders show that as many as 1,200 drivers per day might opt for taking the train to work rather than driving.

In addition, adding direct public transportation to downtown Chicago would have nothing but positive implications for local property owners, he said.

AND RATHER THAN the costs for adding the proposed service coming mainly from local taxpayers, Lang said much of the start-up money would come from state and federal sources while the village and/or local park district could pick up substantial revenues from parking fees generated from commuter parking lots.

In hopes of getting the long-discussed Soo Line commuter service added by 1990, Nortran officials say they will need the cooperation of communities that would be impacted by the move to add commuter service to what has been in recent decades strictly a freight line.

Under the proposal being considered, the RTA would have to approve purchasing trains, rail line use rights and other items that would allow for opening rail service to as far north as Antioch with service to downtown Chicago.

While current proposals call for a commuter station to be opened in Wheeling, nothing will be definite until the RTA commits to the project.

WHICH IS THE reason Lang wants community moral support, if not direct financial support, for the plan.

With start-up costs expected to be minimal in relation to expanding the local road network to improve traffic conditions, Lang and other Nortran officials think it would be a prime opportunity lost if commuter rail service isn't added to the Soo Line.

Wheeling Village President Sheila Schultz couldn't agree more.

"The Soo Line is already there. We don't have to put a lot of money in it to see if (this) works. This seems to be one of the most economical ways to move people around," Schultz said.

Six seeking three village board seats

By CAROLYN WALLER
Daily Herald Staff Writer 1-27-87

Six candidates will be running for three seats on the Wheeling village board in the April 7 municipal election.

Former Trustee Roger A. Powers, 42, and zoning board member Judy G. Abruscato, 52, each filed as independent candidates Monday, rounding out the list of trustee candidates that will appear on the ballot.

The two will be running against independent Stephen T. White, 36, and the Wheeling Upward Party slate of Anthony Altieri, 48, James R. Whittington, 38, and Clifford E. Bird, 64, who all had previously filed.

Altieri and Whittington are incumbents.

Powers, a trustee from 1977 to 1985, ran unsuccessfully for village president two years ago. He said he was concerned about gathering enough petition names last weekend because of the cold weather, but overcame that by calling people before going to their homes with petitions.

Abruscato, who ran for village clerk in 1981 with the Pro-Wheeling Party, said she had to consider the demands that work and other activities would make on her time before deciding to run.

Abruscato was appointed to the zoning board of appeals in December 1985. An assistant personal banking officer at the First National Bank of Wheeling, she also serves as president of Wheeling's Fourth of July Committee and the Lioness Club and is a member of the Association of Women Bankers.

She cited her involvement in the village as qualifications for being a trustee, noting that her terms as president of the Fourth of July committee and the Lioness Club expire in May.

Powers is director of the computer resource center for Regina Dominican High School in Wilmette. He said he believes a trustee with financial background is needed on the board. With degrees in economics and finance, Powers said he thinks he could do the job.

See WALL on Page 3

City may help center get second driveway

By DAN ROZEK
Daily Herald Staff Writer 1-29-87

The Sunnie Kiddies Day Care Center in Prospect Heights will stay open at least temporarily, but the future is cloudy unless the center can open a second driveway.

Prospect Heights officials will require the center to build another driveway to ease traffic congestion, before giving it final approval. Two earlier attempts to open a second driveway failed because neighboring property owners wouldn't allow the driveway to cross their property.

This time, however, city officials said they would work with the center to get the needed land, including possibly condemning land in neighboring Wheeling for it.

Wheeling Village Manager Thomas M. Markus said Wheeling would oppose any condemnation action.

Sunnie Kiddies Executive Director Eilene Lombardo said the center has no choice but to try to comply with the June 30 deadline for a second entrance.

The center, in the former John Muir School, needs special zoning from the city to remain open. Many neighbors oppose the center because they said it causes traffic problems in the area.

Prospect Heights aldermen agreed, but said the center also provides a valuable service and should stay open if it gets another driveway.

"I think the city could assist Sunnie Kiddies in getting that second access," said 3rd Ward Alderman Edward Rotchford.

Aldermen said they will discuss the second driveway with Wheeling officials and nearby property owners.

If discussions fail, aldermen hinted, they might try to condemn some land around the school to make room for the driveway.

Cook County clerk's computer aids local property tax abatement drive

COUNTRYSIDE 1-22-87

Cook County Clerk Stanley Kusper has given local taxing bodies even more time this year to consider reducing property tax levies, from which property tax bills are calculated.

Each year since 1983, Kusper has extended the deadline for local taxing bodies to file for abatements from the end of the calendar year to March 31. And each year, more local governments have filed for the abatements after the traditional deadline has passed.

This year, Kusper has extended the deadline for filing abatement requests to June 30. He said he was able to accomplish this because of advances in computer technology, which will now allow local units of government to forecast revenues better.

Kusper has said that the Dec. 31 filing deadline forces some local governments to engage in the practice of "balloon levying." Under this practice, a local government, wanting to ensure it has enough revenue to meet its spending needs, will submit an oversized levy, to make sure it hits the maximum possible taxing rate.

As of Dec. 31, 128 of the 700 units of local government in suburban Cook County had submitted tax abatements totaling $105.8 million, down approximately $5.5 million from the same period in 1985.

The average levy increase for most taxing districts was up in double digit figures, with elementary school districts, the largest number of taxing bodies, submitting an average levy increase of 13.12 percent. High school districts asked for 12 percent more funds, while cities and villages asked for an average 9 percent hike.

No area school district had filed for an abatement by Dec. 31, reflecting the importance of the property tax for those districts, Kusper said. Only 36 school districts in suburban Cook County did file for abatements by the first deadline, according to records.

Several municipalities and park districts filed for abatements.

Wheeling abated $3,575,420 of its original $8,225,756 levy request.

Among park districts, Buffalo Grove abated $96,101 of its original $795,161 levy request.

Wheeling Park District abated $459,681 of its $2,233,138 original levy request.

Audit reveals Nortran violation of bid policy

1-8-87 Countryside

By TODD SLOANE

The North Suburban Mass Transit District (Nortran) violated formal bidding procedures in spending $54,322 for a computer system and software over a seven-month period in 40 separate purchases, an audit of the agency found.

In addition, the agency also bought spare parts and machinery without going to bid. In all, the audit alleged Nortran employes had made 10 purchases in avoidance of the policy of soliciting informal bids for purchases over $200 and five purchases over $2,500, without following the policy of asking for formal bids.

The audit, described as routine by an official, was performed last September by a staff member of Pace, the suburban bus board of the Regional Transportation Authority. The report, which covered the 20 months ending June 30, 1986, was issued Monday.

Pace subsidizes Nortran operations with about $6.6 million annually. Nortran serves 25 north and northwest suburban communities.

"NORTRAN IS breaking down purchases in excess of $2,500 into like items of lesser amounts resembling avoidance of formal bids," wrote Pace auditor Susan Wick. "Nortran's pattern of procurement, when coupled with internal control weaknesses, may preclude that the lowest possible prices are actually being obtained."

While Pace had authorized purchase of a $16,000 computer system, Nortran wound up using operating expenses to cover the additional $38,000. Pace has refused to reimburse Nortran for the expenditure.

In addition to the computer material, the audit also criticized Nortran for failure to seek competitive bids for bus cleaning equipment, brake shoes, cushion repairs and electrical work. In each case, the total amount of the equipment was above the $2,500 limit, but again, Nortran officials made the purchases on separate purchase orders, the audit shows.

The audit comes on the heels of a triennial evaluation of the Pace system by the federal Urban Mass Transit Agency that criticized Nortran for failure to adequately maintain its fleet of 139 buses.

PACE CHAIRMAN FLORENCE Boone said the two reports taken together "raise serious questions" about the management of Nortran. However, she said Pace will work with Nortran to resolve its management problems.

Nortran general manager Timothy Doron said he did not believe Nortran had violated its own procurement practices, and said the federal report on its maintenance problems also included faults with Pace's own management.

The federal report said Nortran, alone among the transit carriers that make up Pace, was failing to keep up with Pace's preventive maintenance schedule, which resulted in some six- to seven-year-old buses in poor operating condition. They also criticized "generally dirty maintenance and storage facilities at Nortran."

The report also criticized Pace for failing to have an inventory of its physical assets and for failing to competitively bid out legal services. Both practices fail to comply with Urban Mass Transit Agency guidelines.

NORTRAN CHAIRMAN ROBERT Benton, of Deerfield, said Nortran has been pressing Pace for funding for additional maintenance workers and for additional service bays. Pace is involved in a battle with the City of Evanston over location of a new bus garage and service facility at a site at 2424 Oakton St. But Pace has not been forthcoming with the additional subsidy funding needed to adequately maintain its buses, Benton said.

Doron also criticized the timing of the Pace audit of its funds. "Isn't it unusual that the Pace audit was concurrent with the problems that occurred between Pace and Nortran last fall?"

Pace and Nortran were locked in a sometimes bitter struggle for authority over route planning for several months, a struggle that didn't end until December, when an agreement was reached over how to resolve future route disputes.

Doron said of the computer purchases that Nortran originally asked for and received authorization to purchase a $16,000 computer system to help run its operations. "As we became familiar with that system, we gradually expanded the system over time. We didn't want to purchase an entire computer network up front because why should you buy something when you don't know what your needs are? We didn't want to wind up not using whole parts of the system."

BENTON SAID THE additional orders after the initial purchase were done by informal bidding over the telephone.

2 incumbents, 4 newcomers vie for 3 seats on Wheeling Village Board

By BOB KEHOE

The race for the Wheeling Village Board suddenly got crowded late last week when three candidates filed to challenge the three-member Wheeling Upward Party slate.

The new filings prior to the Monday night deadline brought to six the number of candidates who will run for three open board seats in the April 7 election.

Independent challengers who filed are: Judy Abruscato, 52, an assistant manager in personal banking at the First National Bank of Wheeling; Steve White, 36, a project superintendent who oversees a Carol Stream retirement home; and Roger Powers, 42, a former Wheeling trustee who works as director of the computer resource center at Regina Dominican High School in Wilmette.

They will challenge incumbents Anthony Altieri and James Whittington and newcomer Clifford Bird, who is seeking his first term on the board. All three men are running under the Upward Party banner.

TRUSTEE NICHOLAS FANELLA, who is now on the board and has decided not to seek re-election.

Abruscato, the mother of Wheeling Park Board President Anthony Abruscato, said she wants to bring some added diversity to the board and provide some leadership on financial issues.

Emphasizing that she is not affiliated with any group or political slate and has no ax to grind, Abruscato said she would like to focus attention on village growth and development.

A 21-YEAR Wheeling resident, Abruscato said she wants to "continue to bring in good business (development) and to help our village maintain its good name."

White also wants to bring some added diversity to the board, but he said he would like to see the board increase communication with the residents.

Saying residents usually don't find out about issues until after village board action has been taken, White said he would like to see the village board move to inform residents about issues prior to board meetings.

As things now stand, he said, residents learn about key issues either through the newspaper or read about them in the village newsletter after board action has already been taken.

WHITE SAID HE would also like investigate ways local government could move to try and lower Commonwealth Edison's power rates to local residents. He said he would look into the possibility of Wheeling obtaining power from a Wisconsin-based utility in an effort to lower local consumer costs.

Elected as a trustee in 1977 and 1981, Powers has a more philosophical approach in seeking election. He wants to present an exchange of ideas.

"As long as there is debate, I don't care (who's elected)," White said. ""I don't think any board is healthy if everyone is from the same political party."

White, who was defeated in his bid to become village president in 1985, emphasized that he doesn't have any particular gripes with the present board, but that he thinks he can bring some expertise in finance to the board.

Trustees reach dead-end decision

Jan 1987 Life

WHEELING — Despite concerns that principles of good planning were being violated, the Village Board Monday approved a two-home subdivision that will maintain a residential street as a dead end.

The two homes will be built on either side of Park Avenue, north of Mors Avenue and west of Milwaukee Avenue.

The plan calls for Park to end in a cul-de-sac thus keeping the street a dead end between Mors and the new homes. Original plans called for continuing Park Avenue through to Highland.

However, residents on Park opposed the original plan, saying it would increase traffic, and the Plan Commission recommended keeping Park a dead end.

The village administration said continuing Park to Highland would result in a smoother and less confusing traffic flow, but also recommended that the Village Board approve the plan desired by residents.

Village Manager Tom Markus explained the residents' point of view to the Village Board Monday.

"You have a situation where decades have passed since those subdivisions (on Park) were developed and that's always been a dead

Please turn to page 3

EDITORIALS

1-8-87

A good deal for all

Pal-Waukee Airport near Wheeling has a new name: Pal-Waukee *Municipal* Airport. Adding one word to the name of the facility may not seem significant, but it is.

What it means is that after years of discussions and negotiations with state and federal officials, Wheeling and Prospect Heights have finally purchased Pal-Waukee from the George Priester family. The two municipalities will share control over airport, located on Milwaukee Avenue and Palatine Road.

The transition from a private airport to a public one is important because it means Wheeling and Prospect Heights will have much tighter control over noise and air traffic safety, both of which are vital concerns to residents.

The acquisition is also key from a regional transportation point of view because it ensures that Pal-Waukee will continue to operate as an airport. Pal-Waukee is a crucial part of the Chicago area's aviation system because it acts as a reliever airport for O'Hare Field. Small private airplanes and corporate jets can land at Pal-Waukee instead of O'Hare, which is a key to easing congestion at the world's busiest airport.

Had the property remained in the hands of the Priester family, Pal-Waukee would have been in danger of ultimately being sold to a developer for some use other than an airport. One need only look the old Chicagoland Airport in nearby Lincolnshire, which is now a 300-acre corporate center.

Finally, the Pal-Waukee acquisition is a model example of intergovernmental cooperation between state, federal and local governments. Wheeling and Prospect Heights will get the benefit of control of the airport without having to use local tax dollars to buy the facility. Almost all of the $23.5 million used to buy Pal-Waukee is from state and federal grants. The rest of the funds will come from landing and other fees.

Despite whatever other differences exist between Wheeling and Prospect Heights officials, the two towns were able to work together to pull off this major achievement. And the benefits of the Pal-Waukee acquisition are going to be felt for many years down the road.

Who will be Citizen of the Year?

LIFE 1-15-87

BY RUTH BOHAN
Staff Writer

And the winner is.

Soon enough the envelopes will be opened and their contents revealed. But at the moment, a panel of judges are reviewing the qualifications of the 1986 Life Newspapers Citizens of the Month and will choose a Citizen of the Year and runner-up within a few weeks.

At a spring luncheon, trophies will be awarded to the winners and runners-up in each of the Pulitzer-Lerner Community Newspapers six newspaper groups.

Candidates for the Citizen of the Year for 1986 from the far North group are:

February: **ROBERT RICHTER** of Northbrook, who won the annual Hall of Fame award from the Northbrook Park District for his "outstanding contributions as a swimming official and as a starter/referee for the Northbrook District's dual and conference swim meets," has been volunteering his time with the district ever since he and his family moved to Northbrook 13 years ago. In addition, he promotes swimming as a sport that teaches discipline.

March: **ALICE BLITSTEIN** of Northbrook has had her volunteer efforts on behalf of special education students acknowledged by two groups. The District 225 Board of Education honored her for her contributions to the high schools' special education programs and for helping establish the Special Education Parents Advisory Board.

April: **SANDY ALTIERI**, Wheeling, feels it is important to preserve the history of towns and villages. She has watched her village grow to a bustling community in the 23 years she has lived there and spent countless hours at the village's Historical Society museum preparing exhibits, conducting tours, engaging in research and editing the society's newsletter.

May: **GAY MEIER**, Glenview, whose daughter, Michelle, died of Cystic fibrosis at the age of 12, has honored the girl's memory by devoting her energies to raising money for the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation with a memorial run. During the first four years of the event, the Michelle Meier Memorial Run has raised more than $20,000 for the foundation. Her job has been to coordinate the local race, chart a course, recruit entrants and publicize the event.

June: **PAT TAYLOR**, Northbrook, director of the North Shore Senior Center in Winnetka, devotes not only her working hours to the needs of seniors but most of her spare time as well. She serves as president of the Illinois Chapter of the Older Women's League, is an advisor to the Northbrook Senior Housing Commission and was recently appointed to the Governor's Guardianship and Advocacy Commission for the State of Illinois. In 1981 she was elected delegate to the White House Conference on Aging.

July: **CECIL SACHER**, Northbrook, retired from teaching in 1976, only to find herself turning to what she knew best and volunteering to tutor students from the St. Gregory's Anglican Choir School in Chicago. In addition, Sacher serves as chairwomen of Am Shalom congregation's "We Care" committee which visits hospitalized or homebound congregation members, prepares meals for families in need and makes regular phone calls to congregants who live alone.

August: **PAT AND BILL MARSHALL**, Northbrook, are a husband and wife team enthusiastically sharing their love and knowledge of scuba diving with elementary and junior high students in Northbrook. Through the Volunteer Pool, they present a 45 minute slide show, answer the children's questions and demonstrate the equipment. Pat has also donated volunteer time to the Hospice of Highland Park and is a volunteer coach for the Northbrook Speed Skating Club. Bill is a former Little League coach.

September: **ERNEST KING**, Deerfield, does volunteer work in two very different areas: the art world and the children's world. As a crossing guard, the retired art director safely shepherds children across a busy intersection three times a day. He also does art work for the Deerfield Historical Society with projects ranging from designing a float for Deerfield Family Day to calligraphy to creating award-winning illustrations of the five buildings in the Historic Village.

October: **ENID WENIG**, Deerfield, spends at least 20 hours a week on volunteer work with the Jewish Federation, a commitment she never dreamed of when she first joined a discussion group for couples sponsored by the Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Chicago. She recently won a leadership award in recognition of her work with the Young Women's Board, for which she has served as vice president and president.

November: **MARIANN LITTEKEN**, Deerfield, founded a support group for the visually impaired, which she calls Lights. Although she is classified as legally blind, Litteken works continually to provide assistance and emotional support to those afflicted with visual problems. Litteken has also been writing stories about those with limited vision. One book currently is being reviewed by a publisher. Litteken is a former president of Deerfield Homemakers.

December: **MARY BELL GILLUM**, Glenview, is one of the stalwarts at the North Shore Senior Center, presenting programs on a variety of subjects, baking bran muffins to both eat and sell for the center's benefit, and providing the center with produce from her garden. She has also worked with the Youth Group at her church, escorting the young people around the Midwest to paint churches and cooking for them while they traveled.

Village climbs aboard commuter rail effort

BY CAROLYN WALLER
Daily Herald Staff Writer

1-28-8

Wheeling officials are promising support for efforts by the North Suburban Mass Transit District to turn the Soo Line back into a passenger rail system by 1990.

"This just seems so practical," Village President Sheila Schultz said. "I don't think it's any question they'll get a lot of support along the way."

Metra, the commuter rail arm of the Regional Transportation Authority, released a study last spring that said the freight-only Soo Line also could handle passenger traffic. Start-up costs are estimated at $8 million to $10 million.

Al Lang of Wheeling and Glenn Ahrenholz of Buffalo Grove, members of the transit district rail committee, said a new commuter line would ease road congestion through the 20 towns where the Soo Line track runs.

"If we can get 1,000 cars off the road every day that would help a lot," Lang said.

Wheeling Village Manager Thomas M. Markus said that areas without mass transit systems tend to lose their attractiveness.

Lang is asking trustees to appoint him to a committee with residents representing all 20 communities. The group will meet with Metra officials in April to push the idea along with Soo Line officials, Lang said.

Two separate proposals for the commuter line would bring it either from Antioch into the Milwaukee Road north line at Grayslake, or into the northwest line at Mundelein.

Officials estimate that 3,600 riders would board the commuter trains daily and that 1,200 would get on in Wheeling. The Metra report suggests stations be located in Wheeling, Buffalo Grove, Lake Villa, Prairie View, Vernon Hills, Mount Prospect, Mundelein, Grayslake and Antioch.

COUNTRYSIDE 1-22-87

Mild winter weather prompts flurry of construction activity in village

Winter's alleged arrival hasn't done much to dampen the enthusiasm of local builders who are busy putting up new housing and commercial developments in Wheeling.

A report from village staff to Wheeling trustees this week says the mild weather has allowed construction activities and inspections to remain at a high level.

Wheeling's community development department statistics on building permits issued for the last quarter of 1986 and other building activity seems to support that notion.

The report shows construction of single-family homes was about five times what it was for the same period in 1985, with some 122 new homes going up as opposed to 28 homes being built in the same quarter the year before.

Director of Community Development Michael Klitzke said the single-family home building figures don't necessarily indicate that a housing boom has taken place, but rather that many of the newer developments, such as Polo Run, began construction during this time period.

Multi-family housing building permits also show a healthy gain over the same time period in 1985, when there was virtually no development going on. New townhomes and duplexes being built in town accounted for some $5.1 million in construction — 79 housing units in 18 buildings.

Other multi-family dwellings, such as apartments, accounted for $4.8 million in development of 144 units, down from $12.5 million in similar construction the year before that resulted in 294 new rental units being added to the market.

Industrial and commerical development remained at similar levels to a year ago for the same quarter at $3.4 million (seven new buildings) and $447,000 (two new buildings) respectively.

Overall permit fees the village received for building during the quarter came to $711,092 compared to $350,157 in 1985.

Village staff estimates show the new building should bring village population to 27,391 after construction is completed.

Interim airport chief still in charge

1-30-87

By Liz Russell
Daily Herald Correspondent

A temporary manager will remain in charge at Pal-Waukee Airport while a final decision about running the airport remains up in the air.

But the temporary manager, John P. Kennedy, president of Aircraft Corp. of America, said he is not happy with the stopgap decision to extend his contract indefinitely.

Kennedy said more stable and knowledgeable management is needed at the airport, which has just been purchased by Prospect Heights and Wheeling.

"In all candor, saying you want a good manager and hiring him for only six months then telling him it's over, isn't really fair," Kennedy said.

Since the towns bought the airport in December, there has been no day-to-day operations manager with the authority to open and close runways and make other emergency decisions.

Kennedy, who was hired to manage the acquisition of the airport for the towns, has said repeatedly he does not have the authority or expertise to make emergency decisions there.

But the towns and the Pal-Waukee Municipal Airport Commission they appointed have not been able to decide how to run the airport at Milwaukee Avenue and Palatine Road. The towns and commission still are undecided on several issues, including whether a corporation or individual should be hired.

Because of the lack of a final agreement, commission attorney Stephen Moore suggested extending the ACA contract so Kennedy's firm can continue as temporary manager.

Moore said the final responsibility of the airport lies with the municipalities and is up to them to decide whether to hire an individual or corporation to manage the airport.

Kennedy said if ACA is hired as a management corporation, he will recruit a full-time manager who has a professional background in emergency airport procedures.

The commission will be waiting for a report from ACA describing its duties at the airport, while both towns try to determine what type of management is needed, Chairman William Rogers said.

The contract extension says ACA will continue the limited management until 30 days notice of termination is given by either party.

"We're playing with fire until we

countryside

Wheeling OKs Main Bank's expansion plans

1-8-87

Main Bank, 350 E. Dundee Road, may build between 40,000 and 45,000 square feet of office space next to its present facility after getting the go-ahead from village officials Monday night.

Under the subdivision and zoning variation granted by the village board, Main Bank, which is owned by the Cole-Taylor financial group, will be allowed to add a second building on what is now the easternmost parking area of the bank property.

Walter Metcalf, senior vice president with the bank, said the building is still in the planning stages and that a target date for construction of the facility has not been set yet.

While a definitive building plan has not yet been developed, Metcalf told village officials the new building will "blend in" with the three-story bank facility that now sits on the 6.9-acre parcel behind Don Roth's Restaurant and the Mobil gas station, near the intersection of Dundee Road and Milwaukee Avenue.

In spite of the added building space that is planned, Metcalf said there are no plans to add additional access to the property, which now has two access points.

Village trustees raised only one concern to the building plan, citing possible drainage problems. Metcalf, however, deflected those concerns by pointing out that the new building would be raised from the ground on stilts.

He added that the present bank facility has had only one problem with drainage, that being during the heavy rainfalls this past fall that caused flooding problems throughout the area.

In addition to adding an office building to its Wheeling holdings, Metcalf said the bank is also looking for additional sites in the area to open more banking facilities.

Jan. 1987

Bank to construct building

by C L. Waller
Herald staff writer

An office building that stands on stilts or mounds of earth and does not face a public street is planned for the northeast corner of the Main Bank parking lot at 350 E. Dundee Road in Wheeling.

Wheeling trustees this week approved the bank's request to subdivide the bank's 6.9 acres into two lots so the bank can build a second building on the property.

When construction of the building will begin and what type of business it will house have not been determined, said Walter Metcalf, senior vice-president of Main Bank.

Main Bank wanted to subdivide the lot because the parking area there is never used, Metcalf said. Access to the new building will be provided with two 20-foot easements down the existing paved lanes of the Main Bank parking areas.

Village Trustee Elizabeth L. Hartman said she was concerned how heavy rains would affect the new office building site because part of the parking lot was under water last fall.

Metcalf said that the flood last fall was unique. "Those are the types of things that happen once in a lifetime," he said.

Even though the property is part of a floodplain, the building should be protected because the ground floor will sit on stilts or on a mound of fill, said Michael J. Klitzke, the village's community development director.

Village won't bargain with firefighters

1-24-87

By C.L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Wheeling village officials are refusing to negotiate with firefighters, who have been without a contract for eight months, because the union wants lieutenants included in the agreement.

"We have taken the position we can't meet with them," Village Manager Thomas M. Markus said Friday.

Because the six fire department lieutenants are supervisors, they do not belong in the Wheeling Firefighters Association, "for the good of the administration and operation of the village," Markus said.

The union is threatening to take the dispute to court because the Illinois Labor Relations Board in November ruled that lieutenants are part of a firefighting team and deserve equal representation with rank-and-file employees in labor negotiations.

The board's ruling was based on a 1985 amendment to the Illinois Labor Relations Act that gave collective bargaining rights to police officers and firefighters.

Firefighter union President Bart Burns said he received a letter from the village Friday verifying its position. The union likely will meet within a week to decide its next move, he said.

"The one recourse we have is filing an unfair labor practice," Burns said. "We are really in a legal quagmire now."

If the union files an unfair labor practice charge against Wheeling, it would go before the labor relations board, which probably would reiterate its previous decision, said Jacalyn J. Zimmerman, attorney for the labor relations board. After that, the case likely would go to the appellate court for a decision, she said.

"The union really has no choice but file an unfair labor practice," she said.

Residents offered $18 radon test kit

The village of Wheeling's community development department is providing radon kits at cost for residents who want to test their homes for the presence of radon gas.

Radon is an invisible, odorless gas that occurs naturally as radioactive materials in ground decay. The gas enters houses through cracks in the foundation or basement and through other openings below the ground. It collects in areas where there is little fresh-air ventilation.

Radon has been linked to lung cancer in underground uranium miners and experts say high levels of the gas indoors increases the chances of lung cancer.

Homeowners should not panic about having radon in their homes, but they should take the responsibility of informing themselves, said Wheeling sanitarian Daniel T. Adams. Usually, low amounts of radon can be stopped by caulking or with pipe fittings, he said.

"If you get a high level with this testing, before you press the panic button, you need to obtain more test kits and place them throughout the house to get a level reading," Adams said.

Instructions and information about radon are included with the kits, which cost $18, he said.

Kits are usually placed in houses for one to three months, he said. A filter allows in only radon gas and if radon is present, the photographic film inside the kit will decay.

Now is the best time to test homes because they are closed and it is less likely that the radon will be diluted, Adams said.

Residents may inquire about the kits from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Monday, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays and until 7 p.m. on Wednesdays at the community development office.

Jan 1987

LIFE IN WHEELING

Village looks back on '86 successes

BY ANITA SANTORO

■ Hello Wheeling! It's good to be back after a two-week break. I hope your holidays contained just the right amounts of family, food and festivities. This week at my house we're busy packing away all of the holiday decorations. Now, if only I could pack away my newly acquired jolly round holiday figure as easily ...

SANTORO

Happy 1987! Wheeling's looking good this year, especially with the completion of the remodeled Lynn Plaza Shopping Center. All those responsible for the plaza's facelift are to be commended on doing a terrific job. Look out Michigan Avenue, Wheeling is stepping out in style!

■ Speaking of commendation, Wheeling's Village Board recently passed two resolutions commending Wheeling High School's **Kristin Stoudt**, 1986 State Swimming Champion, and commending the Wheeling High School girls cross country team, winners of the 1986 state championship title.

Kristin won two first-place awards in the 1986 state of Illinois Girls Swimming Championship. This is the first time two first-place awards have been won in back-to-back swimming events by any competitor.

Wheeling High School's girls cross country team won their fourth state championship in eight years this fall. In addition, Wheeling's **Dana Miroballi** won her third consecutive individual state championship. Other winning years for Wheeling's girls cross country team were 1979, 1983 and 1984.

The resolutions passed praise the young women, stating each "has brought outstanding success in the field of sports to its school and its community."

Congratulations, girls. Your achievements give us one more reason to be proud of Wheeling.

■ Come celebrate winter at WinterFest, co-sponsored by the Wheeling and River Trails park districts. Activities planned include horse drawn sleigh rides, broomball, snowman building, snow volleyball, softball and more. Hot chocolate, hot cider and chili will be served to chase the chills away. WinterFest will be held at Woodland Trails Park, 1600 E. Euclid Ave., Mount Prospect, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 17. All ages are welcome to this free event, but registration is required by Wednesday, Jan. 14. To register, phone Wheeling Park District at 537-2222.

■ The morning session of Indian Trails Library's Book Discussion Group will meet this Tuesday, Jan. 13, from 10 a.m. to noon in the library Board Room. The discussion will be led by **Rita Guttman**. Registration is required. Call the library at 459-4100 to register.

■ The Young People's Department at Indian Trails Public Library is sponsoring the "Read-With-Me Book Club" for preschool children and their parents, starting this month. Children will add penguins to their own ice floe each time they turn in a completed book form. Book forms may be picked up in the Young People's department at the library beginning Monday, Jan. 12, and should be turned in no later than Feb. 19. Children will receive a certificate for participating in the book club. A half-hour movie will be shown at 10 a.m., 1 and 7 p.m. on Feb. 20 for book club participants.

For more information, contact the Young People's Department of the Indian Trails Library, located at 355 S. Schoenbeck Road in Wheeling, or phone 459-4100.

■ The Wheeling Park District is hosting the Sixth Annual March of Dimes Men's 12-inch Sno-ball Tournament Saturday and Sunday, Jan. 17 and 18, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Horizon Park, 378 Schoenbeck Road, Wheeling. Fees are $125 per team. Proceeds of the tournament will be used by the March of Dimes to combat birth defects.

For additional information, please contact **Norb Gecewidz** at 259-0710.

Officials drop plan for street

by C. L. Waller
Herald staff writer

Residents along Park Avenue north of Mors Avenue in Wheeling will be able to keep their quiet, dead-end street, after village officials agreed to drop plans to extend it.

Instead, a cul-de-sac will be built to accommodate a developer who plans to build houses on vacant property between Park Avenue where it comes to a dead end and then continues on the other side.

Village planners originally recommended extending Park Avenue from Mors Avenue to Highland Avenue. Park Avenue now falls just short of Mors, and that is where the cul-de-sac will be placed.

DEVELOPER MICHAEL Andalina of Niles renewed the issue of extending Park Avenue with his plans to sell his lots, one on each side of Park Avenue. Andalina said he had no objections to a cul-de-sac if it could serve one house on each of his lots.

"All I want to do is be able to develop it," Andalina said.

Park Avenue residents had voiced stiff opposition to the plan commission, complaining that making their street a through street would increase traffic.

The plan commission voted 4-to-2 in favor of a cul-de-sac rather than a street extension. The village board this week agreed to follow the commission's recommendation.

"I believe if they (residents) thought this would not be approved, you would definitely hear from them," said Wheeling Village Manager Thomas M. Markus.

Perry Wilson, 280 S. Park Ave., told trustees he bought property on Park because it was a dead-end street. Children cross Park from Walt Whitman School, 133 S. Wille Ave., and opening up the street would cause more traffic and place the children in jeopardy, Wilson said.

There are now trees at the end of Park Avenue. Once the cul-de-sac is built, signs will be placed at the end of the street to warn drivers they cannot continue through, Community Development Director Michael J. Klitzke said.

Jan 1987

Roving meetings 'disappoint'

BY CAROLYN WALLER
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Efforts to interest Wheeling residents in the local government by taking board meetings into the community have been "disappointing," officials say, with few — if any — residents turning out.

Village trustees have been holding three to four roving committee workshop meetings a year in hopes of attracting an audience.

"We don't get very good attendance at most of our (regular board) meetings, and this is an opportunity for people to come out," Trustee Elizabeth L. Hartman said.

However, attendance still has been low.

"It is disappointing," Village President Scheila H. Schultz said. "We need to look at a better way to publicize."

She said the roving-meeting locations are chosen after letters are mailed to homeowner or neighborhood associations, asking if residents would be interested in having the board bring a meeting to their area.

"I don't think anyone has found a way to get more people interested," she said. "Our consolation is at least we tried."

However, Trustee Nicholas R. Fanella said he doesn't think roving meetings are necessary in Wheeling.

"With the size of the community, they are really not required," he said. "It was a good idea and we tried it, but it didn't work."

Hartman likes to think no-shows at the roving meetings are sending the board a positive message. "I take it somewhat as a compliment that the board is doing a good job," she said.

1-21-87

Local officials discuss what's ahead in 1987

By BOB KEHOE

If you've grown weary of looking back at 1986, perhaps it's time to take a look ahead at what's ahead locally in 1987.

While a lot of the checkout counter tabloids have already had their psychics make predictions for the new year, we've decided to ask some Wheeling-area officials to look into their crystal ball to give us their views of what they see as the major issues and goals of 1987.

Stanley Eisenhammer, president of the Township High School District 214 school board, is looking forward to a year in which the board can get back to focusing more closely on educational rather than financial issues.

Over the past year, Eisenhammer said it seemed as though the board was spending most of its time dealing with side issues such as which high school to close and hiring a new superintendent rather than on more basic issues such as how to better educate students.

"I THINK this year we will focus on what we are teaching, how we are teaching and why we are teaching what we are teaching," Eisenhammer said. "It's a question of getting back to the basics in education."

At the top of the priority list will be the often-talked-about Outcomes Based Education (OBE) program. While the name of the program alone may be enough to confuse students and parents alike, Eisenhammer had this explanation of how the efforts will be directed.

"We're going to be assessing outcomes. We're going to go into each program and define what we expect a student to learn," he said.

A more subtle shift in emphasis is expected in Wheeling Elementary District 21, where the biggest change in the coming year involves Supt. John Barger, who is set to retire at the end of June.

SAYING THAT HE doesn't expect the transition period to cause much commotion, Barger said the main issues for he and his successor, Associate Superintendent Bud DesCarpentrie, to deal with is probably upcoming contract negotiations with District 21 teachers.

Aside from the contract negotiations, Barger said much of the remaining work in 1987 will be on continuing to work on the foreign language program that was implemented this year.

Wheeling village officials expect many more significant changes than their counterparts in the schools.

Village President Sheila Schultz said continuing work on the Crossroads redevelopment area along Milwaukee Avenue and ensuring a smooth transition period in the village's joint ownership of Pal-Waukee Airport with Prospect Heights top the agenda.

SCHULTZ SAID RESIDENTS can expect numerous changes in the physical appearance of buildings in the redevelopment area over the next 12 months as officials continue to push for more improvements in the commercial areas along Dundee Road.

Changes may also be coming in local transportation as officials await word on whether the Soo Line will add commuter service to Wheeling. If the service is added, it would allow Wheeling residents to ride the train to downtown Chicago. Regional Transportation Authority officials are in the process of studying the issue before

(Continued on page 12)

Wheeling, Prospect Heights fete purchase of Pal-Waukee

by C. L. Waller
Herald staff writer

Wheeling and Prospect Heights officials celebrated their new ownership of Pal-Waukee Airport this week during a ceremony and cocktail party complete with a five-foot-long airplane ice sculpture.

Former airport owner George Priester turned over ceremonial keys to Wheeling Village President Sheila Schultz and Prospect Heights Mayor John Gilligan. The towns purchased the nation's largest private airport for $22 million.

Local officials and representatives from the state Federal Aviation Administration office and the Illinois Department of Transportation spoke about events leading up to the purchase and the satisfaction in buying the property.

Robert L. Donahue, assistant administrator for airports with the FAA in Washington, D.C., recalled efforts to turn Pal-Waukee into a municipal airport when he was the director of the division of aeronautics for the FAA in Illinois.

"I did not want to see strike three in the metropolitan Chicago area. I had seen what happened at Chicagoland (airport) and I had observed what happened with Sky Harbor (airport)," Donahue said. Both Chicagoland in Lincolnshire and Sky Harbor in Northbrook were closed and the property developed into office complexes.

Donahue said the buyout by Prospect Heights and Wheeling happened because of the attitudes of those involved in the Pal-Waukee project.

"If I were going to have one reflection for the communities, that is the airport is in good hands," said Charles Priester, president of George J. Priester Aviation Service Inc.

Pal-Waukee Airport covers 256 acres and has three runways. It serves as a reliever airport for O'Hare International and Midway airports.

In 1967, George Priester and his son, Charles, built an air traffic control tower at Pal-Waukee. The FAA mans the tower and directs traffic from 6 a.m. to 9 p.m., with O'Hare monitoring Pal-Waukee during the remaining hours.

Pal-Waukee is home base to aviation departments of more than 140 companies. In addition, more than 430 aircraft occupy hangar and tie-down space.

PLENTY O
around thi
transfer of
airport ow

EDITORIALS

"Our sign: To fear God, tell the truth and make mo
U.C. PAPE 1852-1985

Will trade wa emerge in '8

The European Economic Community is it will retaliate against President Reagan' authorization to impose new tariffs on a v of European imported goods.

Under Reagan's proposal, which might effect as early as the end of January, the U States would impose 200 percent tariffs or such as English gin, French brandy, chees inexpensive white wine — effectively pus these products out of American markets b of prohibitive prices.

In the past, retaliatory actions have not part of the administration's trade policy. instance, in 1985 the president did not gra American shoe industry the relief it sough imports.

We believe that, in general, trade restri are a bad idea; however, it appears that th president is using this belligerent action a lever to get the EEC to open up to more U goods.

by a crane Sunday after skidding off an icy country road.

The Ministry of Defense refused to comment on speculation the truck's cargo was nuclear weapons.

Soldiers, police and marines launched a big security operation to recover the truck, which fell on its side Saturday in a field near a Royal Navy armament depot at West Dean, 12 miles east of Salisbury in western England.

The area was sealed off and road- a 20-vehicle convoy past a small crowd at a roadblock who included about 25 protesters shouting, "Nuclear terrorists!"

THE MINISTRY refused to give any information about the truck, citing security. It said no one was hurt and no danger ever existed for the public.

Roger Freeman, a junior minister in the Ministry of Defense, said: "It's a long-established and I think very sensible practice that governments voy."

Two members of the opposition Labor Party said they would raise questions about the accident in the House of Commons today.

Observers for Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament, an anti-nuclear monitoring group, spotted four Mammoth Major trucks, which carry weapons containers, in the convoy before the accident, he said.

PEDEN SAID the convoy was spotted near the naval base at Ports- clear weapons is carried out.

Press Association, Britain's domestic news agency, quoted an unidentified expert on nuclear weapons as saying Dean Hill was used for storing nuclear depth charges to be used against submarines.

The agency quoted the expert as saying the convoy was probably transporting either nuclear depth bombs used by anti-submarine helicopters or nuclear bombs fitted to Sea Harrier jets.

Marcos is willing to go to court

HONOLULU (AP)

Snowmobiler drowns in lake

by Bob Smith
Herald staff writer

A 31-year-old Schaumburg man drowned early Sunday, despite the frantic rescue efforts of a friend, after his snowmobile plunged through

Wojtowicz said nearby residents heard his screams for help, pulled him from the water, and called authorities.

Deputy David Graves, Walworth County sheriff's police, said rescue

owner of AJR Industries, a machine shop in Elk Grove Village, where Madej had been employed for about 16 years.

The two men were riding their snowmobiles about 130 yards from shore when the accident occurred.

"There was open water on the

1986: *A year in review*

by C.L. Waller
Herald staff writer

People were looking for answers in Wheeling in 1986.

Residents of the Wildwood apartment complex wanted to know why they had to move and where they would end up, while students at Wheeling High School wondered who was actually qualified to be valedictorian.

Even more residents were asking about the resignation of David F. Phillips as manager of the Wheeling Park District. And his resignation caused continued scrutiny of the park district in 1986 by groups such as the Wheeling Historical Society and the board-appointed citizens advisory committee.

After 14 years with the park district, Phillips' mysterious departure had left an indelible mark, even though there is a new manager to fill his shoes.

Wheeling residents also were wondering when it would be their turn as Des Plaines River floodwaters rushed through neighboring Lake County and Prospect Heights. Wheeling had its share of water, but except for a mobile home park and a few houses, residents were spared much of the devastating damage the flooding caused nearby towns.

Several questions that were answered in 1986 leave long-lasting effects on the village. The purchase of Pal-Waukee Airport by Wheeling and Prospect Heights, the void left between the historical society and the park district and the disintegration of Wildwood are events that may have occurred in 1986, but they only started the motion of events to follow.

The biggest story of the year

Wheeling residents were holding their breath in the fall when the rains and then the floods came.

Historically, the village has been plagued by floods, particularly in the Meadowbrook subdivision, where the Wheeling Drainage Ditch flows through. But last fall was a different story because the water was coming from the Des Plaines River and the village had done preventive flood work over the past three years.

Residents living near the Wheeling Drainage Ditch remembered how the ditch overflowed in 1982 and they watched water continue flowing through the ditch, because as long as it was flowing, they knew not to worry about flooding.

But there were trouble spots, such as the Fox Point Mobile Homes Community, where back yards merged with the Des Plaines River, and Pal-Waukee Airport, which had to be closed because runways were under water.

The story that never happened

After talking for months about the possibility of a 25-cent tax hike for the Wheeling Park District to purchase a building and turn it into a community center, a citizens advisory committee changed gears and decided the park district should concentrate on maintaining the parks.

Members of the Capital Needs Reassessment Advisory Committee originally discussed a tax referendum for the park district to buy Hawthorne School in Wheeling and turn it into a community center, but they later backed down, saying residents would not approve it. Originally, some committee members believed Hawthorne was an ideal spot for a community center because of its size and its proximity to Northside Park.

Negotiations to buy the property began with Wheeling Township Elementary School District 21, but talks were cut short when the committee made its recommendation. Committee members said that a referendum might gain residents' approval in a couple of years if the park district shows it is putting current funds to good use.

Top business story of the year

More than two years after they began negotiating, Prospect Heights and Wheeling officials in December approved a $22 million buyout of Pal-Waukee Airport — the nation's busiest private airport.

Officials agreed to buy the airport from owner George Priester to ensure some local controls over how it was operated, although federal money funded most of the buyout.

State and federal officials had threatened to buy the airport, if the towns did not, in order to keep it open so its small-plane traffic would not have to be transferred to congested O'Hare Airport.

Local officials hope public ownership of the airport will lead to an economic boom in nearby commercial areas, with businesses moving in to take advantage of the airport.

The story that ended an era

A "personal decision" was the only reason given by David F. Phillips when he unexpectedly ended his 14-year career with the Wheeling Park District.

Phillips was being evaluated at the time of his resignation. There was speculation in the community that he was forced to resign, but no evidence came forward supporting that and his resignation remains a mystery.

Phillips saw real growth in the park district. He began his career with the park district in 1972, first as director of recreation. Six months later he became the second manager in the park district's history. That same year residents passed a tax referendum to buy Horizon Park, 378 Schoenbeck Road.

In 1977, residents approved another tax increase to purchase the Chevy Chase Country Club at 1000 N. Milwaukee Ave. A year later, the park district was awarded the National Gold Medal Award, recognizing it as an outstanding park and recreation agency.

Members of the community continued asking the park board why Phillips resigned and they never believed they had a satisfactory answer.

The most controversial story

Trouble brewed in late spring in Northwest Suburban High School District 214 when a number of parents and students criticized what they saw as inequities in the selection of class valedictorians.

The superintendent's council — comprising Superintendent Stephen D. Berry and the high school principals — had modified the valedictorian selection by allowing the No. 1-ranked student to also be recognized as valedictorian. The decision was spurred by complaints of parents of the top-

(Continued on Page 3)

Herald photo

THE FRESHEST face that emerged in Wheeling in 1986 was Karop T. Bavougian, the new park district director. He stepped in to fill the shoes of the former 14-year director, who resigned without giving a public reason. Bavougian says he hopes to bring some solidarity to the district, which is mired in several controversies.

The school board soon after decided there no longer would be valedictorian or salutatorian after June 1986. Instead, students will graduate highest honors, high honors or honors distinctions, based on grade-point average.

Most inspiring story

Moving to a new area is not always easy for children, but for Hispanic children who speak little English, it can be particularly scary.

Teachers at Walt Whitman school in Wheeling noticed the nervous chatter and uneasiness in students who lived at the former Wildwood apartment complex and decided to help.

Most predictable

Prospect Heights Elementary District 23 school officials have been warning parents and residents in recent years that expenses have been stripped down to bare essentials. The district's annual budget this school year calls for spending $111,797 more than it receives in revenue. The deficit budget is one of the last the district can afford without severely cutting back on all school programs.

With a 37 percent boost in enrollment projected in the next four years, it came as little surprise that District 23 officials finally announced they would indeed go before

The society joined the park district because it needed a place to meet. It had been meeting in the old village hall. All year, the groups have disagreed on issues. Fulfilling their wants in construction of a carriage facility at Chamber of Commerce Park, 251 N. Wolf Road, is an issue that carried over from 1985.

In addition, the two organizations have disagreed over whether the society should have keys to the chapel at Childerley Park, 506 McHenry Road. Society members provide tours of the chapel during summer and they said sometimes they had to wait until after opening time for a

manager walked into the park district to deal with a controversial park board and residents' memories of a man who was park manager for 14 years.

Bavougian was park district manager in Glen Ellyn for 13 years before he left because he was "burned out." He returned to the field as acting park district manager in Hazel Crest because he missed the work. But he left Hazel Crest because he saw Wheeling as an opportunity to work with a much larger park district.

He sees his role as someone who can solidify the park district.

SPORTS

Randy Steffy, bowling in 11:30 Ju
at Elk Grove, hit 259-203-237 Dec.
Burtnyk, bowling for Moulers
Airlines Mens at Striking, hit 215-
c. 10.
Doug Fields, bowling in Businessm
men at Beverly, hit 189-219-256 D
Brelle, bowling for Mount Prosp
Bank in 3 Man Major at Beverly,
-219.
Kobiella, bowling for Methode E
in 3 Man Major at Beverly, hit
Ambrose, bowling for Ambrose D
in High Ridge Men at Striking,
-211 Dec. 10.
Swan, bowling for Marshall Trio
Major at Beverly, hit 210-194-240.
Gunn, bowling in Businessm
men at Beverly, hit 199-192-246 D
Netrefa, bowling for Favorites
Airlines Mens at Striking, hit 221-
10.
Wlodarski, bowling for Countrys
St. Raymond Mens at Striking,
192 Dec. 16.
Hansen, bowling for Trapani C
in St. Raymond Mens at Striki
85-225 Dec. 16.
Sulander, bowling in Businessm
en at Beverly, hit 198-184-245 D
Sulander, bowling for Rolling Me
rathon in 3 Man Major at Beve
71-236.
Wanshe, bowling in Beverly C
verly, hit 162-287-176 Dec. 10.
Somers, bowling for Favorites
Airlines Mens at Striking, hit 202-2
210 Dec. 10.
619—Mike Waterman, bowling for "A" Team
United Airlines Mens at Striking, hit 216-2

Medley, 1:43.06, 1st, Girls 50 Backstroke, :46.94; Scott Doughty (Kilgore), 1st, Boys 50 Freestyle, :38.09.

The Daily Herald

Wheeling, Prospect Heights fete purchase of Pal-Waukee

by C. L. Waller
Herald staff writer

Wheeling and Prospect Heights officials celebrated their new ownership of Pal-Waukee Airport this week during a ceremony and cocktail party complete with a five-foot-long airplane ice sculpture.

Former airport owner George Priester turned over ceremonial keys to Wheeling Village President Sheila Schultz and Prospect Heights Mayor John Gilligan. The towns purchased the nation's largest private airport for $22 million.

Local officials and representatives from the state Federal Aviation Administration office and the Illinois Department of Transportation spoke about events leading up to the purchase and the satisfaction in buying the property.

Robert L. Donahue, assistant administrator for airports with the FAA in Washington, D.C., recalled efforts to turn Pal-Waukee into a municipal airport when he was the director of the division of aeronautics for the FAA in Illinois.

"I did not want to see strike three in the metropolitan Chicago area. I had seen what happened at Chicagoland (airport) and I had observed what happened with Sky Harbor (airport)," Donahue said. Both Chicagoland in Lincolnshire and Sky Harbor in Northbrook were closed and the property developed into office complexes.

Donahue said the buyout by Prospect Heights and Wheeling happened because of the attitudes of those involved in the Pal-Waukee project.

"If I were going to have one reflection for the communities, that is the airport is in good hands," said Charles Priester, president of George J. Priester Aviation Service Inc.

Pal-Waukee Airport covers 256 acres and has three runways. It serves as a reliever airport for O'Hare International and Midway airports.

In 1967, George Priester and his son, Charles, built an air traffic control tower at Pal-Waukee. The FAA mans the tower and directs traffic from 6 a.m. to 9 p.m., with O'Hare monitoring Pal-Waukee during the remaining hours.

Pal-Waukee is home base to aviation departments of more than 140 companies. In addition, more than 430 aircraft occupy hangar and tie-down space.

Herald photo by Vince Pierri

PLENTY OF SMILES and handshakes were passed around this week at a ceremony in honor of the transfer of Pal-Waukee Airport ownership. Former airport owner George Priester and Esther Nofke, administrative assistant at Pal-Waukee, (both left) present ceremonial keys to Wheeling Village President Sheila Schultz and Prospect Heights Mayor John Gilligan.

1987

(Continued from page 5)

making a final decision.

"All of the studies show it's feasible," Schultz said, adding that she supports the proposal. "The plan should be submitted to the village board in a workshop session sometime in the near future."

Garbage is also expected to be in the news this year in Wheeling as local officials continue to work with the Northwest Municipal Conference (NMWMC), of which Schultz is the president, to obtain a new landfill site to serve member communities in the northwest suburbs.

AS PART OF the landfill plan, NWMC officials are hoping to get residents in member communities to stop throwing out their aluminum and recycle it.

"Locally, I'd like to see us go to more of an educational process on recycling," she said.

Schultz said increased emphasis on education appears to be making a difference on the dent Wheeling police seem to be making in the war against drunk drivers.

By continuing to place heavy emphasis on getting drunk drivers off the road by funding the police department's special task force unit assigned to arrest drunk drivers, Schultz said she thinks Wheeling roads may be safer in the year ahead.

WHEELING PARK DISTRICT Manager Karop Bavougian is hoping the district can stretch its funds to cover keep all of its present programming safe for the coming year.

Bavougian said with a number of capital improvement projects slated for 1987 and plans to upgrade some park district facilities, maintaining present programs will be a task in itself.

One issue Bavougian and certain other members of the community hope won't be around at this time next year is talk of the park district cutting ties with the Wheeling Historical Society. While Bavougian wouldn't take a stance on whether the park district should break off relations with the historical society, he does hope to get the issue resolved in 1987.

Village President Sheila Schultz sees downtown redevelopment, recycling and tougher enforcement of drunken driving laws as some of Wheeling's top priorities in 1987.

Other issues Bavougian said he will focus on this year are the upcoming budget planning and dealing the numerous recommendations to improve the district that came from the Capital Needs Reassessment Committee.

Thursday, January 8, 1987

Trustees working on vehicle sticker law

1-22-87

BY ROBIN SMITH
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Palatine village trustees still are looking for a way to unify vehicle sticker ordinances in the Northwest suburbs to prevent residents from having to register in more than one community.

Although Village Manager Michael D. Kadlecik recommended keeping the village ordinance, otherwise "enforcement would be very difficult," trustees sent him back to find a better solution. He also is checking on state laws.

Last November, Palatine resident Richard E. Rabs told trustees his company car displayed a Schaumburg vehicle sticker because the car-leasing agency was located in that suburb. But under Palatine law, Rabs also had to buy a Palatine vehicle sticker because the car is kept in a local garage.

He has called the two stickers "double taxation" and questions the "equity, I don't feel it's right."

In checking with neighboring villages, Rabs said he was told Schaumburg police do not enforce the vehicle sticker law. He related the ordinance to a "blue law," outdated rules no longer enforced in current times.

Regulations for vehicle stickers in Wheeling, Arlington Heights and Mount Prospect followed the Palatine ordinance, Rabs said, but Hoffman Estates appeared to be more flexible. In research from the village, the Hoffman Estates law noted the community honors "the address of the leasing agent of company unless it is in unincorporated Cook County."

Kadlecik said the ordinances in these villages are basically the same.

But District 1 Trustee Thomas Coy questioned, "what I hear you saying is that we're doing the same thing everyone else is doing and I'm not so sure we're all doing the right thing." Coy is pushing for the topic to be presented to the Northwest Municipal Conference, a group of Northwest suburbs working on unifying community efforts.

Rabs said he is in favor of the Buffalo Grove sticker ordinance that states, "any vehicle registered by the state to a person, firm or corporation within the confines of the village shall have a village license therefore."

"If everyone adopted what they say," Rabs said, "what problems would we have."

District 6 Trustee Keith Harris said he didn't see the ordinance as a large problem, noting, "I don't see a whole Christmas tree of stickers on somebody's car." But he said he favored having residents register cars in the community "where the car lives, I don't care where the owner lives."

Chemical People unit sponsoring two events

1-22-87

Lisa Schab
Wheeling

The Wheeling Township Chemical People Task Force is sponsoring two events this month in an effort to help families understand serious teen problems and to showcase our community's own resources and programs.

A show entitled "The Chemical People II: Generation at Risk" will be broadcast on WTTW, Channel 11, at 7 p.m., next Wednesday, Jan. 28. This is a sequel to the 1983 "Chemical People" show which gave impetus to the formation of 8,000 community task forces such as outs across the country, with the purpose of combating school-age drug and alcohol abuse.

The Wheeling Township/Chemical People Task Force will then host a town meeting from 7:30 to 9 p.m. on the following night, Jan. 29, at St. James Auditorium, St. James School, 820 N. Arlington Heights Road, Arlington Heights. A panel of community resource persons will be featured at this meeting who will address the issues raised in the show, and respond to questions from the audience. Also present will be kids and parents who have personally experienced some of the problems seen in the broadcast. Informational material will also be available.

For more information, contact School District 21 at 537-8270.

Polo Run residents plan association to get improvements

10-87

Following a picket against the developer of their subdivision, residents of Polo Run in Wheeling are banding together to form a homeowners association in an effort to force improvements.

A group of seven residents, calling themselves the "core group," organized the picket against Pulte Home Builders of Hoffman Estates last weekend. They are complaining about frozen pipes, smoking fireplaces and drafty rooms in the chateau home models.

They said they think their efforts helped bring 61 homeowners to an organizational meeting, during which an attorney explained their rights as homeowners and as an association.

"I think the fact that 61 residents turned out showed the kind of determination the people have for this development," Polo Run resident Joann Addelman said. "We heightened the general awareness of the homeowners and what is likely to happen if we don't keep the pressure on Pulte."

The development, located at Route 83 and Palatine Road, has 132 multifamily units ranging in price from $70,990 to $84,990 and 120 houses ranging in price from $114,990 to $124,990.

Most of the concerns at the subdivision have been taken care of, but work on the chateaus did fall behind because the houses are being built so fast, Pulte's customer care coordinator Harriet Ford said.

Staff has been tripled to make repairs and Pulte, along with village representatives, met with 10 homeowners over the weekend to address concerns, Ford said. The group that lead the picketing were told about the meeting, but did not attend. "We gave them an opportunity and they didn't show up," Ford said.

She added that those who did attend were worried their property values would drop because of the picketing.

Meanwhile, an attorney at a homeowners' meeting this week told the group to have an engineering report done once the homeowners' association is formed, Addelman said, adding that the report is needed to ensure homeowners they got the quality they were promised. Homeowners have three years from the day the association is formed to require Pulte to make improvements, she said.

"We just want what was promised us. What we didn't know was that we would have to force them to do it," she said.

Addelman said the small group that organized the picket does not want to be officers in the association, but just wants to get the homes repaired.

Bar's owners won't give up land for signs

By C.L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer

The owners of a Wheeling bar may not be able to put new signs on their tavern because they refuse to donate property to widen Milwaukee Avenue.

Fred J. Sinroll and Nicholas Diaz, who own Smokey's Bar at 322 N. Milwaukee Ave., asked the Wheeling plan commission for permission to replace a sign on the east side of the building with two signs, one on the north and one on the south.

But the owners would not agree to give the village a 10-foot strip of land in front of the tavern in exchange for sign approval because the village does not want to pay for the property.

The plan commission is recommending that village officials deny permission, but Diaz said they may present their case for the new signs to the village board anyway.

Meanwhile, the owners believe the Illinois Department of Transportation will pay them for their property.

The department has control over improvements to Milwaukee Avenue, but plan commission Chairman Paul Eisterhold said the village is trying to obtain property to speed up the state's process.

"Getting all those bits of property along Milwaukee Avenue would take the state a long time," he said. When the state is ready to begin widening Milwaukee, the village will have property right of ways assembled, he said.

Diaz, however, questions why he should give up his property for free.

"We are not against them widening it, but why should we do it for nothing," Diaz said.

Any time property owners along Milwaukee Avenue request changes in their property, the village asks them to dedicate property to be used for widening Milwaukee Avenue, Eisterhold said.

The owners of Smokey's Bar are not the first businessmen asked to give up property.

1-28-87

Candidate counting on weather

By C.L. Waller
Daily Herald staff writer 1-23-87

Former Wheeling Trustee Roger A. Powers says he wants to run for trustee again — but his final decision depends on the weather.

Powers, a trustee from 1977 to 1985 who unsuccessfully ran for village president in 1985, said his physical disability would prevent him from taking nominating petitions door to door and he doesn't want to ask supporters to circulate them if the weather becomes bitterly cold the next few days.

The deadline for filing petitions is 5 p.m. Monday.

"If the weather breaks it will be no problem, because I can catch people at home watching the Superbowl (on Sunday)," Powers, 42, said.

Powers said he began thinking about running again for trustee in the April 7 election when Trustee Nicholas Fanella decided not to seek re-election. Powers said Fanella is the only board member who has a financial background, but he could offer the same expertise.

Powers has a bachelor's degree in economics and a master's degree in finance. He is director of the computer resource center for Regina Dominican High School in Wilmette.

Each trustee has his area of expertise, he said, but without Fanella the board needs someone who knows finance.

"To me it's important for someone up there to have a different point of view. I don't mean it as an adversarial thing, but as a way to offer different ideas," Powers said. "It doesn't mean the person who's doing it (financial director) is doing anything wrong."

Powers said he has no ax to grind with the current village administration, but there are issues such as alleviating traffic congestion on Dundee Road and providing a place for youth to gather that he would like to resolve.

Pal-Waukee operation scrutinized

How to operate Pal-Waukee Airport will be discussed tonight when Wheeling village trustees hold a workshop meeting.

The meeting will be at 8 p.m. in the village hall, 255 W. Dundee Road.

Wheeling and Prospect Heights completed the $23 million purchase of the airport last month and now both communities are discussing daily operations of the facility.

One aspect of the operation is the authority to be given to the airport commission. The eight-member governing commission, which consists of two elected officials and two appointees from each town, was formed in February 1985 to set policies while the two towns proceeded to buy the airport at Palatine and Milwaukee roads.

The two towns now must decide the commission's duties now that the purchase is complete.

Jan 1987

Phone wires slow work

1-23-87 HERALD

Construction crews that bumped into an Illinois Bell pipe containing wiring have created a delay in Wheeling's sewer rehabilitation project.

Village Public Works Director Robert D. Gray said it will be another month and a half before things are back to normal at Dundee and Wheeling roads. Road-closed signs have been standing at the end of Wheeling Road since October due to a $5 million sewer rehabilitation program throughout the village.

Contractors were working on making a connection under Dundee Road when the line struck a pipe for Illinois Bell. "They went 60 feet under the road and hit it square," Gray said. No damage was done, but now plans must be revised to make the sewer line juncture 30 feet west of the original spot, he said.

Gray said he was not pleased with the utility company because officials failed to tell sewer line designers about the phone line. "If we knew, we wouldn't have designed it to go there in the first place," he said.

Airport management details to be discussed

1-25-87 - HERALD

Recommendations to determine the pecking order in managing Pal-Waukee Airport will be discussed by airport commissioners Wednesday night.

Owners of the airport, Wheeling and Prospect Heights, appear to have differing views on operating the airport, but the commission, made up of elected officials and appointees from each town, agrees that a decision is needed soon about its operations.

Once a recommendation is formed by the airport commission, it will be presented to officials in both communities for final action.

Wheeling trustees say the airport manager should answer to the village managers of each town and the airport should function like another department. The commission would serve to make policy, study long-term projects and work with promotion or public relations projects, as Wheeling sees it.

However, some Prospect Heights officials disagree. They say the airport commission should be granted more authority while the administrators should get directly involved in running the airport.

Pal-Waukee now is being managed by John P. Kennedy and Airport Corporation of America, a New Jersey based firm. However, Kennedy is only acting as a temporary manager and knowing where to send mail and direct inquiries to has become confusing in the meantime.

The top meeting

Who: Pal-Waukee Airport Commission

Where: Pal-Waukee Airport board room, South Milwaukee Avenue.

When: 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday.

Protest expected for Lake-Cook office building

by C. L. Waller 1-1-87
Herald staff writer

The villages of Northbrook and Riverwoods are expected to protest an office complex proposed for Lake-Cook Road in Wheeling during a public hearing set for next week.

The plans for four one-story office buildings on 12 acres of land just east of Portwine Road will be reviewed when the Wheeling Plan Commission meets at 7:30 p.m. Jan. 8 in village hall, 255 W. Dundee Road.

Officials from Northbrook and Riverwoods oppose the plans because they say the office complex would increase traffic on the already-congested Lake-Cook Road and would cause a drop in the water table for Riverwoods residents.

They also are concerned that Wheeling officials might not insist on an attractive and practical development for the site, commonly known as the Grand Champion Stables, because the property is divided from the rest of Wheeling by the Potawatomi Woods forest preserve. Wheeling annexed the property in November.

WHEELING ALSO annexed another 7.4 acres adjacent to the 12 acres along Lake-Cook Road. The second annexation in November brought Wheeling's eastern village limits up to the western limits of Northbrook.

Wheeling officials said they wanted the properties so they could control development on them.

Northbrook Village President Richard T. Falcone and Riverwoods Village President Charles M. Smith said it is likely they will send representatives to the public hearing.

"We've sort of let it ride for the past month because we've been involved in creating a TIF (tax increment financing) district," Falcone said.

Meanwhile, Northbrook's village attorney is studying for both towns the possibility of filing a lawsuit against Wheeling to prevent the office development.

"We are supporting (Northbrook) not only psychologically, but also financially," Smith said.

Village opposes firefighters' union

BY MARIE LUTZ
Staff Writer

1-29-87

WHEELING — Village officials will appeal a precedent-setting Illinois Labor Relations Board ruling that said six Fire Department lieutenants could be included in the Wheeling Firefighters Association.

After that ruling, made Nov. 26, the firefighters voted 37-0 to be represented by the Firefighters Association rather than have no representation at all. The Labor Relations Board had called for the election, ordering that the lieutenants be included in the vote.

Previously elections had excluded the lieutenants and the Firefighters Association up to now had represented only firefighters and paramedics.

The village, however, has refused to recognize the legitimacy of the Firefighters Association now that it includes the lieutenants and is refusing to bargain with the union.

Sue Musick, village personnel officer, said that refusing to bargain is the only way the village can appeal the Labor Relations Board decision concerning the lieutenants.

The firefighters were expected this week to vote to file an unfair labor practice charge with the Illinois Labor Relations Board over the village's refusal to bargain. The board is expected to uphold the union, and the village will then go to court to try to overturn the decision.

Musick said the Labor Relations Board ruling concerning the lieutenants is precedent setting because it is one of the first made on the issue, since the state's new public employees labor relations law took effect.

"The big problem is it's very difficult for someone in a bargaining unit to supervise someone else in that union."
Sue Musick, village official

She said village officials strongly believe that the decision is wrong because the lieutenants are supervisors who do not belong in the same bargaining unit as the rank and file.

The lieutenants, she said, must be able to direct the department in the absence of the chief and the captain and must supervise work in general.

"The big problem is it's very difficult for someone in a bargaining unit to supervise someone else who's in that union," Musick said. "We believe it's a conflict of interest."

She said that if the lieutenants are in the same union as the other firefighters it could cause problems with such things as discipline, work assignments and job performance evaluations.

But Bart Burns, president of the Firefighters Association, said the lieutenants and firefighters work as

Please turn to page 3

Firefighters

Continued from page 1

a team even without being in the same union.

He said the firefighters and the lieutenants have comraderie because of their team work.

"We eat together here, we sleep together and spend our leisure time together; we enter hazardous environments together and we do all this as a team," Burns said.

He said the refusal of the village to recognize the lieutenants as part of the union has caused problems for the firefighters.

"Any time you go through a process like this it hurts morale and frustrates people," Burns said, adding, "But we're still committed to supporting the lieutenants to get their representation rights."

Burns said the dispute over the lieutenants has hindered the firefighters' attempts to negotiate a new contract with the village. The old contract expired last May and the firefighters have not received a pay increase since May 1985.

Musick said it could take roughly three months before the appeal process is completed.

The firefighters made the request to add lieutenants to their union after the Illinois Public Labor Relations Act was amended, effective January 1986, to include fire and police personnel.

The act gives public employees collective bargaining rights they may not have had previously. Before the act took effect, if the village had rejected the lieutenants' request to join the union, the firefighters would have had to accept the decision.

Schools vie for national recognition

1-28-87

BY ANDREA DOWNING PECK
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Ten Northwest suburban schools are among the 24 Illinois nominees in the National Secondary School Recognition Program, which annually honors schools across the country for academic excellence.

Adlai E. Stevenson High School in Prairie View, John Hersey High School in Arlington Heights, Lake Park High School in Roselle, Maine West High School in Des Plaines, Palatine High School and Fremd High School, both in Palatine, and Wheeling High School in Wheeling will move on to the next stage in the selection process.

So will Highland Junior High School in Libertyville and Oliver Wendell Holmes Junior High School in Wheeling and Daniel Wright Middle School in Lake Forest.

More than 60 schools submitted the 22-page application packet to the Illinois State Board of Education. State leaders in education reviewed the applications and selected the top 24 schools — a number equal to Illinois' representation in Congress — as the state's nominees for the U.S. Department of Education award.

The department of education next will decide which schools will receive on-site visits before the award winners are announced May 22. Last year, 12 of 24 Illinois schools nominated in the elementary school phase of the program received national recognition. In 1985, Hoffman Estates and Maine East in Park Ridge were among four Illinois high schools to win the excellence award.

Among the criteria used in the selection process are a school's academic goals, curriculum, parent and community support, reward and incentive programs for students and teachers, drug abuse programs and student achievement. This year, schools also will be judged on their teaching about democracy and the U.S. Constitution.

Though not every school will be dubbed an "Excellence in Education" winner, Lake Park High School Superintendent James M. Slezak said he is happy his school has advanced this far.

"I'm just pleased we are one of 16 high schools in Illinois that were cited for that recognition," he said.

Village asked to seek road improvement money

by C. L. Waller
Herald staff writer

Riverwoods village officials are suggesting Wheeling officials ask a developer to contribute to improvements to Lake-Cook Road as part of a development agreement.

Developer Joseph Judah is planning to construct four one-story office buildings along Lake-Cook Road just east of Portwine Road. The neighboring villages of Riverwoods and Northbrook are criticizing the plan because they say it would increase traffic on the already congested roadway.

Riverwoods Village President Charles M. Smith said his town plans to monitor traffic generated by the first phase of an office complex under construction on Lake-Cook Road in Riverwoods, across the street from Wheeling's proposed complex, and he would like to see Wheeling do the same.

Depending on traffic generated by that first phase, the developer would have to either make the complex smaller or contribute to improvements of Lake-Cook Road, Smith said.

THE CONTRIBUTION has not yet been determined, but Smith said it would be "whatever it takes to keep traffic moving."

However, Wheeling Village President Sheila Schultz said Judah's proposed 12-acre development is nowhere near the size of Riverwoods' 1.1-million-square-foot complex being built on 77 acres by Homart Development Co., a subsidiary of Sears, Roebuck & Co.

She rejected Smith's suggestion. "I think it's commendable. I don't think it's applicable," she said.

Riverwoods recently persuaded the Lake County Circuit Court to order Buffalo Grove to halt construction of two 12-story office towers northeast of Milwaukee Avenue and Lake-Cook Road. Riverwoods had complained the complex would increase traffic and disrupt the town's rural atmosphere. Developer Trammell Crow Co. of Itasca is appealing the decision.

Jan 1987 Herald

Plan commission OKs stable land rezoning...

1-15-87

By BOB KEHOE

Office development plans and a rezoning request for the Grand Champion stablesproperty on Lake-Cook Road are in the home stretch after the Wheeling Plan Commission last week unanimously approved the project.

The developer, Joseph Judah, now needs only village board approval before he can move forward with his plans to build about 132,000 square feet of office space on the 12-acre parcel.

Some legal questions remain about Wheeling's annexation of the property remain, however. (See related story on this page.)

Judah's plans to build four single-story office buildings on the stable property drew few questions from plan commissioners last Thursday, but Riverwoods Village President Charles Smith and a Northbrook planning department official and a Northbrook resident peppered Judah's development team with questions and complaints about the project.

CALLING IT NOTHING more than "seizing the opportunity to pick up some quick tax dollars," Smith ripped the Wheeling board's Nov. 3 decision to annex the stable property.

Smith said Riverwoods would gladly join Northbrook in a lawsuit, if necessary, to stop the annexation and office development. He likewise blasted the development for the impact it will have on Lake-Cook Road traffic and said Riverwoods would end up "bearing the brunt" of the damage.

Smith's objections were met with cries of the pot calling the kettle black in Wheeling, where officials are miffed at the anti-development stance from Riverwoods and Northbrook village officials — two communities that are home to numerous office developments.

Wheeling officials contend they were well within their right to annex the property and that rezoning the land for an office development would be in keeping with other Lake-Cook Road property to the east.

"I think we followed the state statutes in annexing the property," said Wheeling Village Manager Tom Markus, who added that the village wanted to annex the property to increase and diversify it's tax base.

EVEN IF WHEELING officials were within their rights to annex the stable property, Smith hinted it might be time to challenge in the courts a recently-enacted state law allowing annexations where forest preserve land separates the village from the annexed land in question.

Citing concerns about the impact on Lake-Cook Road traffic and arguing that the rezoning would contradict Riverwoods' master plan for the property, which was formerly in unincorporated Cook County, Smith said Riverwoods will "bear the brunt of (the development's) adverse impacts.

"The developer has offered no improvements other than that which will benefit him. They are increasing traffic problems and doing nothing (to improve the roadway)," he said.

Smith also berated the development team for not presenting a written traffic study and said the team was offering virtually nothing in the way of roadway improvements.

THE DEVELOPMENT TEAM'S attor-

(Continued on page 8)

Plan commission—

1-15-87

(Continued from page 5)

ney, Thomas Burney, disputed that claim by saying that deceleration and turn lanes would be installed at the developer's expense to provide access to the site.

The team's traffic engineer, William C. Grieve, principal with Metro Transportation Group, Inc., testified that development on the site would "have no adverse impact" on Lake-Cook Road traffic.

Smith was irked further in the proceedings when he learned that the developers were hoping to build their access drive parallel to the huge Homart office development to be built on the north side of Lake-Cook Road across the street.

The Homart plan, which calls for building up to 1.1 million square feet of office space, has been tentatively approved by Riverwoods with the understanding that Homart will pay for any roadway and signal improvement that may be needed to accommodate increased traffic flows.

Wheeling plan commissioners were content to let Homart officials pay for any signalization that might be needed at the intersection of the two proposed developments.

COUNTRY SIDE 1-22-87

Pal-Waukee purchase will force relocations

By BOB KEHOE

A maximum of 16 businesses with some 524 total employees and as many as 12 residences could be relocated as part of Wheeling's recent joint purchase of Pal-Waukee Airport with Prospect Heights.

The relocations will be necessary for village officials to meet Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) guidelines on safety and to accommodate to future airport growth.

Village trustees Monday night adopted a resolution approving the final relocation plan, which will be carried out with the assistance of the Vector Corporation, which is acting as a consultant to the municipalities.

Among the details that need to be ironed out after officials from the municipalities complete the necessary property acquisitions are setting compensation amounts for those who must move and setting deadlines for the moves.

A RELOCATION BUDGET of just over $500,000 will be available to business owners and residents who must move to cover things like moving expenses and compensation for the inconvenience of moving, but those funds, which come from the federal government, have not been turned over to village officials yet.

Village officials Monday stressed that the relocations may not take place for perhaps as long as a couple of years, but that didn't seem to be much comfort to several business owners who may be asked to relocate.

Doug Plymale, president of Brown & Kerr Inc., 1020 Plant Road, called the proposed relocation of his roofing company "terrible" and said no one has offered much information to him about the planned move.

"I haven't heard a thing from anyone. They sent someone out here to have the appraisals done, but (the appraisals) aren't back yet," Plymale said.

WHAT CONCERNS PLYMALE is not just the high costs of moving, but that he is likely to have a difficult time finding property to open a new business in a municipality that is willing to accept the kind of work he does.

"Finding a place to accept a roofing company is tough," Plymale said. "The costs would be outrageous to move our equipment."

The relocation report submitted by the Vector Corporation concurs with Plymale's assessment and states that the business "will not be welcomed in most suburban areas" and that Brown & Kerr's future home will have to be "in an area zoned for heavy industry."

Brown & Kerr has been in the same location outside Pal-Waukee Airport since 1973, he said.

ASIDE FROM RELOCATING businesses like Brown & Kerr, the issue of what will become of those firms' employees remains unclear. In Brown & Kerr's case, relocation could impact about 100 full-time employees.

Wheeling Village Manager Tom Markus insisted Monday that provisions in federal relocation guidelines will take into account relocation costs and other key costs such as moving and compensation for the inconvenience of moving.

Whether the business owner or operator can relocate in the immediate area remains to be seen, however.

One business owner who has been told he may have to relocate said he has also been told he may be able to stay put while the municipalities buy his property and then lease it back to him.

BRUCE EGELAND, OF Bruce Woodworking, 1275 S. Wolf Road, Prospect Heights, said he is confused by the events that have taken place since the two municipalities bought the airport.

"When I was laying the first brick to build this place 4½ years ago I heard something (regarding relocating) would happen, but I couldn't stop building," he said.

"Then about two years ago the Prospect Heights city planner told me I wouldn't be in (the relocation plan)," Egeland said.

Now that his business is included in the plan, Egeland isn't sure what's going to happen.

"I DID take the pains to go to an airport commission meeting, but they didn't seem to know much about airports," he said.

What miffs Egeland is the different signals he said he is getting from public officials regarding a possible relocation.

"They told me point blank at one point that they would buy me out and not demolish my building. The said they'd even rent it back to me," he said, adding that he assumed that meant officials perhaps needed the property for possible future needs.

The Vector report clearly states that some businesses may be allowed to remain on the airport site until a future date to be determine while some others will face more pressing moving deadlines.

WHILE HE HAS been looking for other property, Egeland said the prospects have been "dismal."

"I've been looking in the area, but (land prices are high). If I bought a lot now it'd

(Continued on page 50)

Pal-Waukee—

(Continued from page 8)

clean me out. It's just a crummy situation," he said.

Another proprietor who isn't thrilled with the prospects of moving is the owner of Vivian's Music & Dance Studio, 1008 S. Wolf Road. The owner, who would only identify herself as Vivian, said that she would like to stay where she is, but that her studio's future status is unclear.

"No one has said anything to us," she said about a possible relocation.

VIVIAN SAID THAT she knew as long as eight years ago — when the airport purchase was first discussed — that she might someday be asked to relocate, but that no one has formally approached her on the subject.

Other businesses on the relocation list include: Erv's Flowers, 16 E. Palatine Road; Circle Automotive, 136 S. Milwaukee Ave.; Dick's Auto Body; Universal Airmotive Ltd.; F.R.C. Tire Co.; Carl Enterprises; Busse Wholesale Produce.

WUP candidates are first to file

1-8-87

by C. L. Waller
Herald staff writer

Three members of the Wheeling Upward Party were the only candidates to file for village trustee seats in the April 7 election during the first day of filing Monday.

Running on the party ticket are trustees Anthony Altieri and James R. Whittington and newcomer Clifford E. Bird.

Three four-year seats are open in the election. Filing for candidates closes at 5 p.m. Jan. 26.

ALTIERI, 48, is seeking his second term on the village board; he was elected in 1983. Whittington, 38, was appointed to the board last year. Both have served on the village's plan commission.

Bird, 64, has served as president of the Whippletree Village Homeowners' Association and represented the mobile home park when the village was considering enlarging mobile home lots, which would have forced out some of the 400 residents there by 1992.

The three said the Wheeling Upward Party's goal is to serve the residents in a way that shows its concern for present and future economic conditions. Keeping aware of the community's needs and providing independent leadership to residents is also part of the party's goal, they said.

Wheeling zoning board member Judy G. Abruscato took out nominating petitions for village trustee earlier this month, but said she had not decided whether to enter the race. She said she would run as an independent if she did.

IN THE Wheeling Park District race, one candidate filed Monday for the single seat open on the board.

Incumbent James W. Gallagher, 36, is seeking his first four-year term on the board. Gallagher, 157 Mockingbird Lane, was elected for the first time in 1985 to fill a vacancy.

Up until this election, commissioners have been elected to six-year terms. But the board is phasing in a plan, proposed by Gallagher, to pare commissioners' terms to four years.

Two incumbents have filed for the Indian Trails Public Library district board. Harold J. Linn, 57, and Wynn E. Weiss, 38, both of Buffalo Grove, filed their petitions, each with 75 names.

Both are seeking six-year terms on the library board. Linn was appointed to the board last September to fill a vacancy and Weiss was elected in 1985 as a write-in candidate.

The library, 355 S. Schoenbeck Road in Wheeling, serves residents in parts of Wheeling, Buffalo Grove and Prospect Heights.

...while Northbrook takes steps to block Wheeling annexation

1-15-87

By BOB KEHOE
and DAN WASSMANN

A legal tug-of-war is shaping up between Northbrook and Wheeling over the Grand Champion stables property on Lake-Cook Road.

Northbrook trustees Tuesday decided to move ahead with plans to annex the 12-acre horse stable property and about seven acres of nearby residential lots.

Northbrook's action came despite the fact Wheeling has already annexed the stables property and the Wheeling Plan Commission last week approved plans for an office development on the site.

The matter could well wind up in court if both villages continue to dispute each other's plans to claim the land within their municipal boundaries.

AT THE HEART of the dispute are differences in how the two villages would like the to see the land developed. Wheeling officials want an office development on the site while Northbrook officials want residential housing built there.

Calling Wheeling's action an "alleged annexation," Northbrook Trustee Troy Miller recommended that the board vote at its Jan. 27 meeting to annex the stables land, which is located just west of Sanders Road.

Northbrook Village Attorney Steve Elrod called the Nov. 3 Wheeling annexation "illegal," and said Northbrook would not recognize Wheeling's action. Elrod said it was "island hopping" the way Wheeling jumped forest preserve property and annexed a small portion of Portwine Road to be in a position to annex the stables land.

"Northbrook has every right to annex it, and we plan to move full steam ahead with plans to annex it," Elrod said, adding later. "Their fatal problem is that they (Wheeling) are not separated solely from the stables property by forest preserve land."

WHEELING VILLAGE ATTORNEY James Rhodes said Northbrook officials were "grasping at straws and not properly reading state statutes" if they are basing their objections on grounds Wheeling's annexation was improper.

Rhodes said Elrod's argument about

(Continued on page 6)

Northbrook—

1-15-87

(Continued from page 5)

annexing property along Portwine Road was "ridiculous."

"They insist we can't jump a roadway (in an annexation). If that were true, the village of Wheeling would be one block big," he said.

Rhodes added that Northbrook officials were "stretching it" with their reasons for fighting the annexation and said the real "reason is they are attempting to slow the development of the property."

RHODES SAID HE didn't know what Northbrook's true motivation is in the matter since he has never seen anything in writing on the matter from them.

"We were totally above board with Northbrook on this. We told them our intentions (for the annexation) more than a year in advance," Rhodes said. "They didn't say anything. Now, after it comes to reality, we get these comments that they're shocked."

Elrod did not rule out the possibility of a lawsuit to protect Northbrook's right to control development of the land once trustees vote Jan. 27 to annex the parcel.

He said, "If the developer tries to put up a commercial structure, we will protest in whatever form and whatever forum we have to."

WHEELING TRUSTEES WILL have the ultimate say on the rezoning request when they consider the matter in February.

Northbrook's questioning of the annexation not only disturbs Wheeling officials, but the stable property owner's attorney as well.

Thomas Burney, developer Joseph Judah's attorney, offered no comment on Northbrook's latest action, but said it is consistent with that village's long history of opposing commercial development on its borders.

"I've quit trying to figure out the Northbrook Village Board," he said. "You just wonder whose interest (the trustees) are protecting."

Village to play key role in operation of airport

By BOB KEHOE 1-15-87 COUNTRYSIDE

The city and village managers for Wheeling and Prospect Heights could play a key role in administering the future affairs of Pal-Waukee Airport.

Wheeling trustees Monday agreed to allow the respective municipal managers to represent their municipalities in airport matters, and in particular, to hire an on-site manager for the facility.

In a related move, the board also decided to allow the Pal-Waukee Municipal Airport Commission (PMAC) to continue to serve in an advisory capacity and to issue recommendations on airport operations and future development of the site.

Among the key duties the commission would have is screening applicants for the job of airport manager to handle the day-to-day operations of the facility.

THE BOARD CONSENSUS should help clear up some of the confusion over just who would have what responsibilities in operating the facility, which was recently jointly purchased by Wheeling and Prospect Heights for $23 million.

In the past, the commission had served more as a regulating body and as an advisory board in dealing with the many complex issues associated with buying and operating the airport.

Final decision on the delegation of authority to the on-site manager, the village managers and the PMAC with regard to the airport is expected to come after Prospect Heights officials review the input from their Wheeling counterparts.

Once the boards formally act on the matter, they can focus attention on such crucial issues as acquiring more property surrounding the airport. Wheeling Village President Sheila Schultz said the municipalities need to acquire about 30 more parcels of land in order to meet Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) demands.

THE PROPERTY ACQUISITION was ordered, she said, to ensure that the municipalities gain the necessary easements to continue operating the airport and to ensure that the local governments have control of the property in case future changes are needed in runway patterns or other airport operations.

Schultz listed land acquisition as the primary issue facing the two municipalities. The process, she said, is made difficult because of the slow negotiating process with the numerous landowners.

Increasing the role of Village Manager Tom Markus in airport matters may not help speed the land acquisition process, but Schultz and the trustees seemed convinced that it might make for better communication and operation of the airport.

Schultz stressed that it will be vitally important for the municipalities to keep the lines of operation and powers of the PMAC, the village manager, and the airport manager — once he is hired — distinct to avoid confusion.

ONE THING APPEARS clear, however. The PMAC will continue to play a key role in advising the municipalities on operations and in communicating the needs and interests of the two communities to those who will run the day-to-day airport operations.

Trustee Nicholas Fanella said, "The plus side to this is that the commission won't be bogged down (unnecessarily). Now it can really work on things like (setting up) a five-year plan."

Bicentennial group needs volunteers

LIFE 1-15-87

WHEELING — The village wants to know if community groups are interested in forming a Bicentennial Committee to work on plans to commemorate the 200th anniversary of the United States Constitution.

The Constitution's official birthday will be Sept. 17, which will be marked by events including a national Pledge of Allegiance.

But the U.S. Commission on the Bicentennial of the United States Constitution would like to see extensive educational activities continue throughout the year. It is asking towns if they want to be designated Bicentennial communities that would form a broad-based committee to plan extensive programs.

Activities could include such things as a public reading of the Constitution, a public signing of the Constitution, discussion groups, town hall meetings, craft fairs, debates, parades and concerts.

Dave Kowal, Wheeling administrative assistant recently received approval from the Village Board to see if support exists to form a Bicentennial Committee that would plan such activities.

The Committee to Commemorate the United States Constitution in Illinois, which will act as a clearinghouse of information, resources and ideas, said groups that could be represented on such a committee might include senior citizen organizations, PTAs, school boards, teachers, Public Library officials, and the local Bar Association.

Kowal said he expected to know this month whether there is the support necessary to form the committee.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

HERALD 1-26-87

Quiery resigns from airport commission

Pal-Waukee Municipal Airport commissioner Daniel Quiery, of Prospect Heights, has resigned from the airport commission because he no longer has enough time to put into that work. Quiery said his current job responsibilities no longer leave him with a flexible enough schedule to include serving on the airport commission. He has been a member since the commission was established in 1984 by Prospect Heights and Wheeling to guide the towns in acquiring the airport. Prospect Heights Mayor John E. Gilligan commended Quiery's work and said he was sorry to see Quiery resign.

Chemical People Task Force to sponsor town meeting

1-22-87

The Wheeling Township Chemical People Task Force is sponsoring a town meeting Thursday, Jan. 29, to discuss various problems facing teens today, including drug and alcohol abuse, pregnancy, suicide and school dropouts.

The meeting, set for 7:30 to 9 p.m. at the auditorium of St. James School, 820 N. Arlington Heights Road, Arlington Heights, will take place one day after the airing of the television show "The Chemical People II: Generation at Risk." That show, a sequel to the 1983 "Chemical People" program, will be broadcast on WTTW Channel 11 at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 28.

Task Force President Kathy Kinney said the group encourages parents to watch the program with their families and then attend the town meeting the following evening to discuss the issues raised during the broadcast.

The meeting will feature a panel discussion led by moderator Harry Wells of Omni Youth Services. The panel will also include representatives from various area agencies that deal with teen-age problems.

Among the agencies expected to participate in the panel discussion are LINKS — North Shore Youth Health Service and an OUTREACH counselor from Rolling Meadows High School.

The panel is also expected to include the parents of a child who has committed suicide and a teen-ager who has recovered from a substance abuse problem.

The panel members will each give brief presentations, discussing how the issues raised in the television program affect local youths in the area.

Following the panel discussion, members of the audience will be encouraged to ask questions and share in a group discussion about the problems facing teen-agers today.

Kinney said it would be helpful if

Please turn to page 3

Chemical People

Continued from page 1

everyone planning to attend the town meeting first watch the "Chemical People" program; but those who aren't able to do so will still find the program worthwhile, she said.

The Jan. 28 television show and subsequent town meeting come two years after the task force sponsored three town meetings to follow up on the original "Chemical People" program, which aired in November 1983. The first "Chemical People" program gave the impetus to the formation of 8,000 community task forces around the country that were created to combat school-age drug and alcohol abuse.

Kinney said that while the first "Chemical People" show and town meetings dealt solely with drug and alcohol abuse, the second will focus on other issues affecting youths, including suicide, pregnancy and school dropouts.

"As we do more research and get more information, we find that drug and alcohol use are usually involved in some way in these other problems," Kinney said.

While the task force is aware that these other problems exist, she said the all-volunteer organization doesn't have the manpower or resources to address all those issues. Instead, by sponsoring the town meeting, Kinney said the task force can act as a "facilitator" to let residents know what kind of programs are already in place to help youths and parents deal with those problems.

"As one local task force, we can't work on all these issues," she said. "But a lot of programs already exist in the community and we have the responsibility to continue educating and informing people about what those programs are."

In order to heighten awareness of the "Chemical People" program and town meeting, the task force has asked the municipalities within Wheeling Township — Arlington Heights, Wheeling, Buffalo Grove, Mount Prospect and Prospect Heights — to proclaim the week of Jan. 26 as "Chemical People Week" in those communities. The village of Arlington Heights has already issued such a proclamation.

In addition to the "Chemical People" program and town meeting, "Chemical People Week" will also be highlighted by the regular meeting of the Wheeling Township Chemical People Task Force at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 27, in the School District 21 administration building, 999 W. Dundee Road, Wheeling.

At that meeting, representatives from local community agencies that deal with prevention and intervention of school-age drug and alcohol abuse will talk about their programs.

The Wheeling Township Chemical People Task Force is a non-profit group dedicated to promoting a community of alcohol- and drug-free youth by coordinating and developing abuse prevention programs.

For more information about the town meeting or the task force, call 398-4213.

1-15-87 Countryside

Attendance crucial

Nobody said holding a public office is easy.

A person elected to a village board or a school board is subjected to phone calls from friends, neighbors and reporters with complaints and questions just about any time of day. On top of those demands are the numerous meetings, receptions and other official gatherings elected officials are expected to attend.

The time commitment that's involved in serving on a public board has caused many qualified officials to resign or not seek re-election once their terms expired.

There have been many instances where a board member quits serving the public because the demands of what is often a thankless job interferes too much with his work or family life.

But that's no excuse for not attending board meetings on a regular basis.

In a our story this week on the 1986 attendance records of Wheeling and Buffalo Grove elected officials, we found that only six of 57 local elected officials showed up for all of their board meetings last year. And only about half of our officials had an attendance record higher than 90 percent.

A few boards, like the Buffalo Grove Park District, had a shamefully low attendance record. The average attendance rate of the five members of that board was just 75 percent. One board member showed up for just half the park board meetings last year.

We realize that there's a tremendous time commitment involved in holding a seat on a public board. On the other hand, no one forced these officials to volunteer to serve their communities. And the residents who voted these people into office have the right to expect their representatives on the school, village and park boards to fulfill the responsibilities and commitments that come with being elected.

Since the day-to-day operation of park districts, school districts and villages of Buffalo Grove and Wheeling are handled by full-time professional administrators, the most important aspect of the job held by part-time board members takes place at the regular meetings of those boards. It's at those meetings where public policies are debated, administrators are given direction from the board and residents come to air their complaints and get questions answered.

We believe officials who are unable to attend at least 90 percent of the regular meetings of his board probably aren't serving their constituency as effectively as they should be. Board meetings are a crucial part of their job and those who can't have problems showing up for those meetings — regardless of the reasons — should not have run for office in the first place.

Postal service looks for new plant

1-28-87

By Carolyn Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer

The U.S. Postal Service wants to build a new mail processing facility for 2.8 million residents in the north suburban area.

The postal service began advertising last month for a 50-acre site located in an area that includes Wheeling, Northbrook, Prospect Heights, Arlington Heights and Buffalo Grove. No results have come from the advertising, field director Robert E. Gay said.

Plans are to build a new facility and move in by 1991, but Gay said it will take some time to find a site that large.

The flood of mail from 108 Chicago area post offices with a 600 zip code has outgrown the present River Grove facility, Gay said. The service wants to split the work of processing 2.4 billion pieces of mail each year between the River Grove plant and the new plant, Gay said.

"We feel we can service the customers better (with a new facility)," he said.

The River Grove plant opened in 1970. He said the postal service won't know the cost of a new facility until plans are drawn.

"It would help everyone concerned, including the customer, because the smaller the operation, the more efficient it should be," Wheeling Postmaster Wayne VanHierseele said.

Towns tackle task of running airport

by Tim Kane
and Dan Rozek

1-17-87

Herald staff writers

Although Pal-Waukee Airport has been sold to Prospect Heights and Wheeling, questions remain about how the airport should be run.

Wheeling and Prospect Heights officials appear to have different ideas about operating the airport, but some decision is needed soon to end questions about who is running it.

As it stands now, officials — and airport patrons — are unsure who would do such tasks as close the runways if there was a safety hazard, such as inclement weather.

"People are asking, 'Who is running the airport?'" Prospect Heights Administrator Robert R. Kiely said. "If we send out negative vibes, in the future we won't have much business."

WHEELING TRUSTEE William Rogers, who chairs the airport commission jointly appointed by both towns to purchase Pal-Waukee, also said he has had inquiries about the management.

"I had a guy call me asking if he could build a heliport pad on our property, and I had another guy call me who said he wanted to build a hangar — it was embarassing, because I couldn't help them," he said.

Wheeling officials want the administrators of each town to take a more direct role in running the airport, which was purchased in December.

Rogers told Prospect Heights aldermen that the airport commission has too much responsibility, and too little time to complete its work.

ACTING ON behalf of the commission, Rogers suggested that the administrators from Prospect Heights and Wheeling assume more responsibility in handling daily operations.

That would free the airport commission to write policy and handle federal grants, he said.

The towns are considering hiring an outside manager to run the airport — a process that could take six months — and Rogers suggested that once the airport manager is hired, that person answer directly to the administrators from Prospect Heights and Wheeling.

"It is our feeling that the commission's responsibilities are too broad," Rogers said, "We feel we should be used more as a recommending body. We feel this would expedite matters at hand. As it stands now, we only meet once or twice a month."

WHEELING SUPPORTS that policy, saying it would be the best way to run the airport.

But some Prospect Heights aldermen disagreed, saying the airport commission should be granted more authority while the administrators should not get directly involved in running the airport.

"We hired a city manager to look after the city," 4th Ward Alderman Thomas P. Merle said. "Pal-Waukee should be a separate entity — after all, it is a business, a profit-making organization."

Prospect Heights officials also discussed forming a separate airport authority to oversee the airfield, but no formal decisions were made.

FIGURING OUT THE SUBURBS

Herald 1-31-87

A quick gauge of political interest

Municipal race	Seats	Running
Arlington Heights village board	3	6
Buffalo Grove village board	3	6
Des Plaines City Council	8	17
Elk Grove village board	3	3
Long Grove village board	3	5
Hoffman Estates village board	3	9
Inverness village board	3	5
Mount Prospect village board	3	5
Palatine village board	3	8
Prospect Heights City Council	4	8
Rolling Meadows City Council	4	6
Schaumburg village board	3	6
Wheeling village board	3	6
All races in those 13 suburbs (including park district and library board elections)	121	181
Contested races in those 13 suburbs		36
Uncontested races in those 13 suburbs		27
The hottest races		
Hoffman Estates village board	3	9
Palatine village board, District 2	1	4
Des Plaines alderman, wards 1, 2 & 3	1	3
Prospect Heights alderman, 4th Ward	1	3
The coldest contests		
Elk Grove Village Library board	5	3
Prospect Heights city treasurer	1	0
Vernon Area Library board	3	2

Ask tough questions

When Wheeling annexed the 12-acre Grand Champion Stables property near Northbrook in November, we were concerned that village officials would approve a developer's plans for an office center on the site without thorough consideration.

After all, the property, located on Lake-Cook Road near Portwine Road, is closer to Northbrook and Riverwoods than it is to Wheeling. And since the site is located about one mile east of the rest of Wheeling and is separated by forest preserve land, we questioned whether officials would review plans for the proposed 132,000-square-foot office complex as closely as they would if the project were in the heart of Wheeling.

After a recent Wheeling Plan Commission meeting, where members gave the site a quick nod of approval without serious discussion, we don't feel much better about the way officials are reviewing development plans than we did two months ago.

The commission recommended that the village board approve the rezoning needed to develop the office project without the careful scrutiny that a project like this deserves. Traffic from the development will no doubt add to the existing congestion problem on Lake-Cook Road, yet the traffic consultant for the developer didn't even have a written report to detail what how the project would impact the road system.

The commission, in fact, never even asked for a written report to support the traffic consultant's contentions until Riverwoods Village President Charles Smith demanded substantiation of his testimony.

The commission also glossed over the fact that because the development won't be located near the Wheeling police or fire stations, it may be difficult for emergency vehicles to get to office center quickly — especially during rush hours.

And the commission approved a site plan that won't have any traffic signals to regulate the flow of cars coming in and out of the development. Members also failed to raise any serious questions about density, parking or landscaping.

In short, the commission approved exactly what developer Joseph Judah brought before them, rather than giving serious consideration and thought to objections raised by residents who live near the property as well as Northbrook and Riverwoods officials.

When the property was annexed into Wheeling, village officials said they would scrutinize plans closely before approving the proposed office development. We hope that when the proposal comes before the village board for final approval trustees will ask tougher questions than plan commissioners did.

Go, Jaycees

You see them everywhere — marching in Fourth of July parades, manning the dunk tank at Wheeling's Familyfest, selling food at Buffalo Grove Days and helping out at blood drives in both communities.

And there's a lot of places where they aren't as visable, such as when they go door-to-door collecting food for area needy families or when they help retarded youngsters cross the finish line at the Special Olympics.

They're the Wheeling and Buffalo Grove Jaycees, and the dozens of members in both local chapters play a vital role in our community.

This being National Jaycee Week, we felt it was as good as time as any to salute the efforts of the organization that has given so much to Wheeling and Buffalo Grove over the years.

The Jaycees are just one example of the many volunteers in both villages who receive little recognition for the contributions they make to the community.

They deserve a pat on the back from all of us.

Wheeling Countryside

Jan 1987

Northbrook clashes with Wheeling over annexed land

1-15-87

By BOB KEHOE
and DAN WASSMANN

A legal tug-of-war is shaping up between Northbrook and Wheeling over the Grand Champion stables property on Lake-Cook Rd.

Northbrook trustees Tuesday decided to move ahead with plans to annex the 12-acre horse stable property and about seven acres of nearby residential lots.

Northbrook's action comes despite the fact Wheeling has already annexed the stable property and the Wheeling Plan Commission last week approved plans for an office development on the site.

The matter could well wind up in court if both villages continue to dispute each other's plans to claim the land within their municipal boundaries.

AT THE HEART of the dispute are differences in how the two villages would like the to see the land developed. Wheeling officials want an office development on the site while Northbrook officials want residential housing there.

Calling Wheeling's action an "alleged annexation," Northbrook Trustee Troy Miller recommended that the board vote at its Jan. 27 meeting to annex the stables land, located just west of Sanders Rd.

Northbrook Village Atty. Steve Elrod called the Nov. 3 Wheeling annexation "illegal," and said Northbrook would not recognize Wheeling's action. Elrod called the way Wheeling jumped forest preserve property and annexed a small portion of Portwine Rd. to be in a position to annex the stables land, "island hopping."

"Northbrook has every right to annex it, and we plan to move full steam ahead with plans to annex it," Elrod said. "Their fatal problem is that they (Wheeling) are not separated from the stables property solely by forest preserve land," he added later.

WHEELING VILLAGE ATTY. James Rhodes said Northbrook officials were "grasping at straws and not properly reading state statutes" if they are basing their objections on grounds that Wheeling's annexation was improper.

Rhodes called Elrod's argument about annexing property along Portwine Rd. as "ridiculous."

Rhodes added that Northbrook officials were "stretching it" with their reasons for fighting the annexation and said the real "reason is they are attempting to slow the development of the property."

"We were totally above board with

(Continued on page 20)

• Annexation *Continued from page 9*

1-15-87

Northbrook on this. We told them our intentions (for the annexation) more than a year in advance," Rhodes said. "They didn't say anything. Now, after it comes to reality, we get these comments that they're shocked."

Elrod did not rule out the possibility of a lawsuit to protect Northbrook's right to control development of the land once trustees vote Jan. 27 to annex the parcel.

He said, "If the developer tries to put up a commercial structure, we will protest in whatever form and in whatever forum we have to."

NORTHBROOK'S QUESTIONING OF the annexation not only disturbs Wheeling officials, but the stable property owner's attorney as well.

Thomas Burney, developer Joseph Judah's attorney, offered no comment on Northbrook's latest action, but said it is consistent with that village's long history of opposing commercial development on its borders.

"I've quit trying to figure out the Northbrook Village Board," he said. "You just wonder whose interest (the trustees) are protecting."

Burney said as far as he is concerned the Northbrook Village Board's action with regard to annexing the stable property is "null and void."

With regard to Northbrook officials' claims that Wheeling's annexation did not meet state statutes, Burney said he checked with the Cook County State's Attorney's office and found that there were no problems with the action.

On a related note, the Wheeling Plan Commission last week approved plans for an office development on the site.

Judah wants the land rezoned to allow construction of four single-story office buildings with about 130,000 square feet of space.

CALLING WHEELING'S ANNEXATION nothing more than "seizing the opportunity to pick up some quick tax dollars," Riverwoods President Charles Smith said Riverwoods would gladly join Northbrook in a lawsuit, if necessary, to stop the annexation and office development.

The objections from Wheeling's two neighbors were met with cries of the pot calling the kettle black in Wheeling, where officials are miffed at the anti-development stance from the two communities that are home to numerous office developments.

Citing concerns about the impact on Lake-Cook Rd. traffic and arguing that the rezoning would contradict Riverwoods' master plan for the property, which was formerly in unincorporated Cook County, Smith said Riverwoods will "bear the brunt of (the development's) adverse impacts.

"The developer has offered no improvements other than that which will benefit him. They are increasing traffic problems and doing nothing (to improve the roadway)," he said.

Smith was irked further when he learned that the developers were hoping to build their access drive parallel to the huge Homart office development to be built on the north side of Lake-Cook Rd. across the street.

The Homart plan, which calls for building up to 1.1 million square feet of office space, has been tentatively approved by Riverwoods with the understanding that Homart will pay for any roadway and signal improvement that may be needed to accommodate increased traffic flows.

Wheeling plan commissioners, who unanimously approved the stable property rezoning at last Thursday's meeting, were content to let Homart officials pay for any signalization that might be needed at the intersection of the two proposed developments.

Radon kits in demand in city

By ALEX RODRIGUEZ
Daily Herald Staff Writer

1-26-87

While response to the sale of radon kits has been weak in other communities, Rolling Meadows has sold 50 radon kits to residents since November and has ordered more to meet the demand.

"I really don't know what it is. When we ordered the first 25, those went real fast. Then we ordered another 25, and those went real fast," said city Health Inspector Connie Angelo. "I'm wondering when it's going to start trickling off."

Since the kits were made available in November, the city's health department has had more than 100 phone calls from residents asking about the kits, Angelo said. In Streamwood, village officials have received two phone calls from residents about the kits. Wheeling has sold five and has five people on their waiting list. The village of Palatine doesn't sell them, but has received calls from about 10 people asking about the kits.

"We haven't had people knocking down the doors to get information on it," said David Yahn, Palatine's director of environmental health.

The kits themselves are about the size of a quarter and cost $18. Residents using a kit are instructed to place it in the lowest "livable" room. Radon is a naturally occurring gas that can seep through cracks in a house's basement and crawlspace. High levels are known to cause lung cancer.

After about one to three months, residents are supposed to send the kit in to Terradex Corp., a testing lab in Glenwood.

Angelo said two residents who bought their own kits reported the presence of radon in their homes. One resident, who Angelo said would not give her name, reported a "pretty high" level. But Angelo added that the resident placed the kit in the crawlspace, which is not recommended, and also did not retest the house.

Village plans to take over utility system

Buffalo Grove officials Wednesday will present details of a plan to take over a utility system near the Chevy Chase Country Club to the about 90 homeowners and business owners who would be served by the village.

Public Works Director Gregory P. Boysen and Finance Director William H. Brimm will hold an informational meeting at 7:30 p.m. at the Chevy Chase Country Club, 1000 N. Milwaukee Ave., Wheeling.

Buffalo Grove plans to take over service to the Chevy Chase Estates area north of Lake-Cook Road so the Chevy Chase Utility Co., which state officials ordered closed in 1981 because of pollution, can be shut down.

Under the village's proposed service contract, the new customers would pay a one-time hookup fee of $177, plus about $47.60 a month if 10,000 gallons of water are used.

The monthly fee would cover proportionate costs of the village's loan payment for Lake Michigan water and property taxes used to support the village utility system, as well as usual water and sewer user fees.

The switch has been in the planning stage for a number of years, but sparked controversy when the village held a similar meeting in 19[illegible] with residents in the area.

However, Leo Vogler, president of the Chevy Chase homeowners association, said in October that members strongly urge the change but also are worried about the costs.

Disputed site wins zoning OK

1-15-87 LFE

Despite objections from the villages of Northbrook and Riverwoods, the Wheeling Plan Commission Thursday night recommended rezoning for offices a 12-acre parcel located east of Portwine Road on the south side of Lake-Cook Road.

If approved by the Village Board, classification of the land will change from R-1 single family, to B-5 office. Joseph Judah, developer, is seeking rezoning of the site.

Commission Chairman Paul Eisterhold made it clear that the purpose of the public hearing was to determine what the appropriate rezoning classification should be, not the annexation of the land. The Wheeling Village Board annexed the 12-acre site on Nov. 3.

Four one-story offices are proposed to be built on the property. Each office would be 32,300 square feet and the buildings won't exceed 15 feet in height.

Parking for the office site will be four spaces per 1,000 square feet.

A consultant to the Wheeling Plan Commission said that a 12-foot water main would be installed.

A preliminary survey of the traffic on Lake-Cook Road showed that the increase in traffic could be handled, according to the developers' consultants. Traffic lights in the area of the offices would not be installed, they said.

The developers' consultants said the offices would provide jobs for people in the community. Also, they said, the value of the land would increase 2½ times more than the value of the vacant property after the offices are built.

Northbrook and Riverwoods continue to oppose the annexation of the property to Wheeling.

Northbrook Village President Dick Falcone has charged that the parcel backs up against Northbrook residences, but is only connected to Wheeling through a forest preserve.

Falcone said this week that Northbrook has asked the Illinois State's Attorney to intervene in the issue of whether a community can annex property when its only connection is through a forest preserve.

He said whether Northbrook files a suit will depend on the response the village receives from the state's attorney's office.

Falcone said Northbrook opposes the proposed offices not only because they would be adjacent to Northbrook homes, but also because they would add to the traffic

Please turn to page 3

Fuller OKs zoning of land

Continued from page 1

congestion on Lake-Cook Road.

Riverwoods President Charles Smith opposes the project because of the added traffic. He has said that something like a nursing home might be more suitable for the land, which currently is the home of the Grand Champion Stables. A nursing home would not generate a lot of traffic during rush hours, Smith said.

Falcone has said that the property might be suited for a high quality single-user office building.

"Lake-Cook Road just can't take the traffic any more," he said.

Late comers enter fray

1-29-87

Powers, Abruscato in trustee's race

BY MARIE LUTZ
Staff Writer

WHEELING — There will be six candidates running for the three Village Board seats up for election April 7.

Entering the contest Tuesday, the last day for filing, were Judy Abruscato, 52, and former trustee Roger Powers, 42.

Steve White, 36, a project superintendent, had announced his candidacy earlier. Also running, as part of the Upward Party, are incumbents Jim Whittington and Anthony Altieri and Clifford E. Bird.

Abruscato, who has been active in the community, is president of the Wheeling Fourth of July Commission and president of the Wheeling Lioness Club. She is also a member of the Zoning Board of Appeals and is ex-secretary of the Wheeling Historical Society.

Abruscato, an officer of the First National Bank of Wheeling, said she decided to run because of her background in finances and her experience in community activities. She said her experience can be used to help Wheeling grow and continue to keep its good name.

Powers was trustee from 1977 to 1985, when he ran for village president and lost to Sheila Schultz.

The director of the computer resource center at Regina Dominican High School in Wilmette, Powers said he decided to run for trustee because no one on the Village

Please turn to page 3

No contest in parks election

WHEELING — There is only one candidate for the one Park Board seat up for election April 7.

With the filing deadline past, Park Commissioner James Galligher, 35, has emerged as the only candidate for the seat he has held for the last 11/2 years.

A software programmer for Amoco Corp., Gallagher has lived in Wheeling for 13 years. He is running on the theme "re-elect Coach Gallagher."

He currently coaches first and second grade and third and fourth grade basketball teams.

Village election

Continued from page 1

Board has the financial background he does.

"I'm running to make a contribution that is not being made (by anyone else on the board) simply because of the background of the people who are up there," Powers said. "It doesn't mean I am a better or worse person than they are."

White is a project superintendent for a $46 million construction project in Carol Stream. He said he decided to run in the hope of bringing a fresh outlook to the Village Board and because of a dissatisfaction with several things that are happening in the village.

White said his main complaint is that residents often do not know what the Village Board is doing until after action has been taken.

Whittington, who was appointed to the Village Board in September 1985, is director of student activities for High School District 214. He was a teacher at Wheeling High School from 1970 to 1984.

Altieri, 48, works in the corporate plastics research department of Signode Corp. in Glenview. He is a member of the Pal-Waukee Municipal Airport Commission, curator of the Wheeling Historical Society, and board member of the American Cancer Society.

Bird, 64, is a retired manager of production specifications for Motorolla who is currently employed by the First National Bank of Wheeling.

A Pulitzer-Lerner Community Newspaper

Audit by Pace prompts another NORTRAN conflict

Charges and countercharges continue to be exchanged by Pace and NORTRAN in a dispute that NORTRAN officials describe as a continuation of a power struggle and Pace officials characterize as based on a need for improvement on the part of the north suburban bus company.

Joe DiJohn, executive director of Pace, said "What we would like to see is an improvement (in NORTRAN operations) and, frankly, their responses were not one of cooperation indicating improvement. They were more defensive, saying, 'We can do what we please'."

But Bob Benton, chairman of the NORTRAN Board, said, "We have to cooperate more and the quicker we get off sniping at each other, the better we'll like it." NORTRAN is the mass transit district for the North Suburban area, including Deerfield, Northbrook, Glenview and Wheeling. Pace is the arm of the Regional Transportation Authority that oversees suburban bus operations. It has existed for three years while NORTRAN has a 15-year history in the north suburbs, predating the RTA.

The latest round of conflict between the two bodies began after a Pace audit that criticized a number of NORTRAN practices and a federal review that said NORTRAN does not adhere to Pace's preventive maintenance schedule.

The audit, which covered a two-year period and was released this month, charges that there were 10 more than Pace had authorized for a computer system. Pace had approved the purchases, Benton said.

The auditors also said there were several instances of internal control weaknesses involving signing and approval of purchase orders, vouchers and invoices. DiJohn said that the bidding irregularities combined with the control weaknesses could lead to problems.

Benton, however, said that NORTRAN'S own independent auditors characterized the company's internal controls as strong.

Benton said the Pace audit was at first completed and NORTRAN officials were told everything was fine. Then the auditors came back two weeks later and stayed for a month, he said.

Concerning the federal review, done every three years, Tim Doron, executive director of NORTRAN, said the problems described were serious. The federal officials said that in some cases NORTRAN did not comply with manufacturers' recommendations, resulting in six- to seven-year-old buses being in poor operating condition.

Doron, however, said, "We do not entirely control our own destiny, and without a complementary assistance program from Pace, our hands are tied.

But DiJohn said Pace has provided Nortran with all the manpower it has requested and the organization is properly staffed. He said space problems have contributed to NORTRAN's problems, but added that officials have not properly util-

Facelift in store for Cablenet

1-30-87

BY CAROLYN WALLER
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Cablenet Inc. wants to sink $10 million into improving its cable television system in an effort to boost subscriptions and recoup some of the $8 million in losses it suffered in 1986.

Less than 50 percent of the potential subscribers in Prospect Heights, Wheeling, Arlington Heights, Mount Prospect and Des Plaines have signed up, said Cablenet general manager Dennis Jones.

Jones called his firm's problems a "monstrosity," saying a large number of subscribers have dropped the service.

Cablenet wants to make improvements in reception, which would include reducing the number of amplifiers and cutting the number of channels in half. Cutting back on amplifiers will boost the signal, he said.

Also, new equipment that will be installed within six months will reduce "sparkles," faded pictures and humming, he said.

Northwest Municipal Cable Council's Wheeling representative said he thinks Cablenet's problems lie in customer relations.

"What I sense is customer frustration," said David Kowal. Subscribers call village hall saying Cablenet hasn't answered their complaints, he said.

The cable council is reviewing Cablenet's performance over the past five years. A preliminary report on the company's performance says that Cablenet has complied with most of the contract requirements, Kowal said.

Cutting the number of channels in half will improve the reception, Jones said, even though he admits subscribers may not like the idea.

"There's a feeling among folks that they're giving up more than they are receiving," Jones said. Cablenet has 120 channels.

Wheeling Road project hits snag, delay foreseen

1-22-87

WHEELING — Because of an unforeseen construction problem, Wheeling Road will probably remain closed to through traffic until the end of February.

The street was closed to all but local traffic last fall, between Dundee and Hintz roads, in order to construct a relief sewer.

But construction stopped recently when workers ran into an Illinois Bell telephone duct 15 feet under the ground, the same depth where the sewer is to go. Bob Gray, director of operations and maintenance, said no one was aware of the existence of the duct, not even the telephone company.

The obstacle may necessitate a redesign of the sewer, Gray said. He said he expects a one-month delay before Wheeling Road is open to through traffic with one lane in each direction.

The Wheeling Road relief sewer is being 70 percent funded by the state's Build Illinois program. The sewer will relieve overloaded sewers on Dundee Road.

Abruscato eyes village board race

Jan 1987 Herald

by C. L.Waller
Herald staff writer

Wheeling zoning board member Judy G. Abruscato has taken out nominating petitions for village trustee in the April 7 election.

Abruscato, 52, said she has not decided yet whether she actually will enter the race, but that she would run as an independent if she did.

Two incumbents and two newcomers already have said they intend to run for the three seats to be filled.

Abruscato ran for village clerk in 1981 with the Pro-Wheeling Party, but lost by less than 100 votes to Elizabeth Hartman of the Wheeling Upward Party.

Even though she was affiliated with a party that ran against the current village administration, Abruscato said she has no problems with what the village board is doing now.

"I have no ax to grind with the present administration," she said. "They do their homework and try to do their best.

"I feel that my input, if elected, will help the village be as good as it is today," she said. "I've always been proud of the fact that I live in the village."

A WHEELING resident for 20 years, Abruscato was appointed to the zoning board of appeals in December 1985. Her son, Anthony Abruscato, is president of the Wheeling Park District board.

She is an assistant personal banking officer at the First National Bank of Wheeling, and also serves as president of Wheeling's Fourth of July Committee and the Lioness Club and is a member of the Association of Women Bankers.

Abruscato said her involvement in the village, schools and service organizations qualifies her to be a trustee, but she also must decide whether she has the time to devote to the position. Her terms as president of the Fourth of July committee and the Lioness Club expire in May, she said.

Those who have announced their candidacy for the village board are trustees James R. Whittington and Anthony Altieri and independent Stephen T. White, who are running on the Wheeling Upward Party ticket, and newcomer Clifford E. Bird.

Candidates must file their nominating petitions between Jan. 19 and 26.

Make way for airport

1-22-8

Relocation plan OK'd

WHEELING — Now that Pal-Waukee Airport has been purchased by the village of Wheeling and city of Prospect Heights, the municipalities have finalized relocation plans for homes and businesses on the airport and surrounding it.

A relocation plan is required under the federal relocation act. Negotiations for businesses on the airport have been completed. However, it could take years before all the businesses and homes surrounding Pal-Waukee are required to move because the municipalities will not be able to purchase the properties until federal funds are made available.

Village Manager Tom Markus said the communities hope to obtain the federal money and complete the relocation in three to four years.

The reason for the eventual relocation is to increase safety. Public airports must follow more stringent safety rules than private ones and the clear zone around the airport will thus have to be enlarged. A clear zone is an area that is free of all obstacles.

On Monday, the Wheeling Village Board and Prospect Heights City Council at separate meetings approved a resolution for a final relocation plan. That plan had been changed from the previous one by the addition of items, such as hangars. This was necessary because the municipalities bought more property from Priester Aviation owner of the airport, than original-

Please turn to page 3

Battle lines drawn over annexed land

1-22-87

WHEELING — The villages of Wheeling and Northbrook are embroiled in a fight over who has the right to annex about 19 acres of property on Lake-Cook Road.

On Nov. 12, the Wheeling Village Board annexed a 12-acre site located just off Lake-Cook between Portwine and Sanders roads. The Grand Champion Stables is located on the property.

Two weeks later the board annexed a 7.4-acre parcel adjacent to the stables.

The actions brought out angry opposition from Riverwoods and Northbrook, and last week the Northbrook Village Board agreed to annex the two sites on Jan. 27.

"We do not recognize the validity of the Wheeling annexation," said Northbrook Village President Dick Falcone, who added that the issue will be resolved through the courts.

Wheeling Village Manager Tom Markus agreed that the dispute will wind up in court. He said Northbrook cannot annex the property because Wheeling has already done so, having followed state law in the process.

Under state legislation, a municipality can annex property that it is connected to through a forest preserve district.

But Falcone questioned whether the real intent of the legislation was to let a municipality jump a forest preserve and township road (Portwine) in order to annex land.

He said the road will be an important element in the argument Northbrook will make in court that Wheeling does not have the right to annex the Lake-Cook property.

While Northbrook's opposition centers on who should annex the site, Riverwoods seems most concerned about the added traffic an office development proposed for the property would bring. Riverwoods President Charles Smith said he would prefer to see something like

Please turn to page 3

Relocation plan OK'd

Continued from page 1

ly intended.

Many details of the relocation plan, which was formulated by Vector, consultants to the municipalities, have not been made public because they involve negotiations between property owners and the communities.

But, Markus indicated, every effort will be made to make relocation as painless as possible. He said that under the federal relocation act, owners must not only receive fair market value for their property but also payment for the inconvenience of moving.

This, in effect, means there will be a negotiated settlement between the property owners and the municipalities that will hopefully be agreeable to both parties, he said.

The settlement could involve payment for such things as refinancing costs, closing costs and moving expenses, Markus said.

There is also a social factor involved, and arable housing for those who must move.

About 10 homes will be affected, including a one-story single-family brick ranch, a five-room single-family home, and a mobile home that would probably not be admitted to a mobile home park because of its age and width.

Vector reported to the municipalities, however, that there appears to be adequate replacement housing for all homeowners.

Among the businesses to be moved are Erv's Flowers, Bruce Woodworking, Dick's Auto Body, Universal Airmotive Ltd., Vivian's Music and Dance Studio, Circle Automotive, and Carl Enterprises.

In its report, Vector indicates some of the difficulties involved in helping to relocate some of the businesses. For example, a large commercial roofing company will not be welcomed in most suburban areas, Vector reported.

"Tar fumes, sheet metal noises, trucks and employee autos make it necessary that the business be relocated in an area zoned for

Another business, which overhauls aircraft engines, must be located near the airport in order to stay close to its customers. Vector reported that "if the business must relocate some distance from the airport, a serious business hardship will occur."

The city of Prospect Heights and village of Wheeling jointly purchased Pal-Waukee for $22 million in December.

Annexation

Continued from page 1

a nursing home on the property rather than offices because a nursing home would not generate a great deal of traffic during rush hours.

In the meantime, developer Joseph Judah is proceeding with plans to develop the 12-acre parcel with four one-story office buildings. Each office would be 32,300 square feet and won't exceed 15 feet in height.

The Wheeling Plan Commission last week recommended that the Wheeling Village Board approve a zoning change for the parcel to B-5, office, from R-1, single-family.

Pulitzer-Lerner Community Newspaper

Candidate deadline ap

WHEELING — Residents interested in running for a seat on the Village or Park Board have until 5 p.m. next Monday to submit petitions.

As of last Tuesday, only the Upward Party had filed to run for the Village Board and only incumbent James Gallagher had filed for the Park Board. The election will be held April 7.

Three Village Board seats expire this spring. Incumbents Jim Whittington and Anthony Altieri are seeking re-election as part of the Upward Party, which also includes newcomer Clifford E. Bird. Incumbent Nicholas Fanella, whose seat is expiring, has said he will not run again.

Steve White, 541 Audrey Court, has also announced that he will run for trustee.

The only announced candidate for the Park Board is Gallagher.

In order to run for either the Park or Village Board, residents must file a statement of candidacy and an optional loyalty oath. They must also have a receipt showing that they have filed a statement of economic interests with the county clerk.

Village Board candidates who are running on a party ticket must submit a nominating petition with at least 142 Independents must have a petition with 142 to 227 signatures.

Park Board candidates must have a petition with at least 61 signatures. Candidates for trustee should file their application with the village clerk or deputy clerk at Village Hall, 255 W. Dundee Road.

Park Board ap
be filed with Supt
an or his repres
Park District's ac
ices, 1000 N. Milw

Whittington was
Village Board in S
fill an unexpired
been a trustee sin
retired manage

A Pulitzer-Lerner Community Newspaper

A LIFE NEWSPAPER, Week of January 22, 1987

Candidate deadline approaches

WHEELING — Residents interested in running for a seat on the Village or Park Board have until 5 p.m. next Monday to submit petitions.

As of last Tuesday, only the Upward Party had filed to run for the Village Board and only incumbent James Gallagher had filed for the Park Board. The election will be held April 7.

Three Village Board seats expire this spring. Incumbents Jim Whittington and Anthony Altieri are seeking re-election as part of the Upward Party, which also includes newcomer Clifford E. Bird. Incumbent Nicholas Fanella, whose seat is expiring, has said he will not run again.

Steve White, 541 Audrey Court, has also announced that he will run for trustee.

The only announced candidate for the Park Board is Gallagher.

In order to run for either the Park or Village Board, residents must file a statement of candidacy and an optional loyalty oath. They must also have a receipt showing that they have filed a statement of economic interests with the county clerk.

Village Board candidates who are running on a party ticket must submit a nominating petition with at least 142 Independents must have a petition with 142 to 227 signatures.

Park Board candidates must have a petition with at least 61 signatures. Candidates for trustee should file their application with the village clerk or deputy clerk at Village Hall, 255 W. Dundee Road.

Park Board applications should be filed with Supt. Karop Bavougian or his representative at the Park District's administrative offices, 1000 N. Milwaukee Ave.

Whittington was appointed to the Village Board in September 1985 to fill an unexpired term. Altieri has been a trustee since 1983. Bird is a retired manager of production specifications for Motorola who is currently employed by the First National Bank of Wheeling.

White, a project superintendent, has had no experience in local government.

Gallagher, a software programmer, has been on the Park Board for 1½ years, having been elected in 1985 to fill an incompleted term.

Plans 'trap' some businesses

Village buying property

by C.L. Waller
Herald staff writer

Businessmen along Milwaukee Avenue who once were a vital part of the Wheeling business community now feel frustrated, trapped and helpless.

It's not because business has been bad. In fact, the village is working to make it better — but without the existing businessmen.

In the past few months the village has been buying out landowners located northwest of Milwaukee Avenue and Dundee Road in an effort to replace the small businesses with an $8.9 million retail center.

Wheeling now owns five parcels, which are part of a tax increment financing district the village created to rejuvenate the downtown area. The village is using money from a specially created district fund to pay for the property.

Wheeling officials contend the retail center is needed to improve the business climate and aesthetics of Milwaukee Avenue.

THE INCENTIVE for landowners to sell their property is a fair market price. Otherwise, the village has the option of condemning and taking ownership of the property in the special district.

Once the village has purchased properties west of Milwaukee Avenue from Dundee Road north to the senior citizen apartment building, it will resell them in a package to the developer of the retail center.

For those with established businesses, leaving for the sake of a retail center is not easy.

"We told them we don't want to move," said Sue Wang who, along with her husband, operates Tien Tsin Restaurant, 144 N. Milwaukee Ave.

The Wangs moved from Chicago to Wheeling 11½ years ago because they were able to buy a larger parking area on three acres. "If we have to move, we will have to start all over again," Wang said.

The Wangs and Erwin Dreiske, who operates a floral shop at 88 N. Milwaukee Ave., hired Schaumburg attorney Michael Norris to negotiate with Wheeling for them.

Herald photo by Bob Chwedyk

AFTER 29 YEARS, Erwin Dreiske's floral shop at 88 N. Milwaukee Ave. in Wheeling and his home next door are targeted to be torn down sometime within the next year to make room for a retail center.

Dreiske has operated his shop at the same location and lived next door to the shop for about 29 years. Dreiske, who is in his 80s, did not want to discuss the property buyout, but Norris said the florist is under a lot of pressure.

"TO GET a visit from a government person saying, 'We're going to tear down your life'... Where is an 80-year-old man going to start a new business?" Norris said.

"There have been some meetings with the village attorney and there have been some proposals made, but it's up to Mr. Dreiske to decide what he would do," Norris said.

The options are to contest what the village is doing or ask a circuit court jury to determine what the property is worth, he said.

"If they are going to take you out and ruin your business, then you can still argue what the business is worth," Norris said.

Even Dreiske's neighbors are concerned about him. "They should leave him there because it will be a parking lot anyway. What's 15 or 16 fewer parking places?" said Paul Doetsch of Doetsch and Associates real estate, 268 E. Dundee Road.

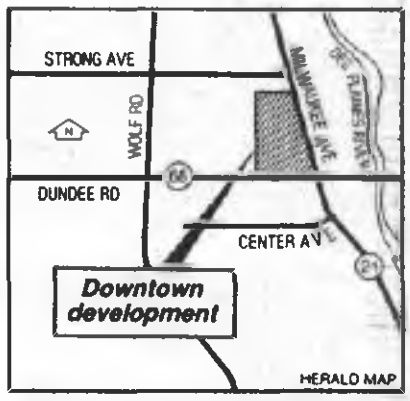
Doetsch is negotiating with the village for a price on his business, which has been based in a two-story house for six years. He said he was planning on sandblasting the building until he discovered the village was redeveloping the area.

"It's going to come about and I think it's good for the village," he said.

BUT FOR Bernie Brueggemann, owner of Wheeling Auto Repair, 18 N. Milwaukee Ave., 13 years at what he calls "the best location in Wheeling" has turned out to be unlucky.

"In one word, it's a nightmare," he said.

Brueggemann said he leased that



property at the northwest corner of the intersection for the past four years, but when the tenant discovered the village was redeveloping the area, he did not renew the lease. Leasing the Wheeling business was important because Brueggemann is also busy operating two auto businesses in Palatine.

Roll call: Wheeling officials get high attendance marks

Which elected officials have the best attendance record? Which ones have the worst? A Wheeling Countryside study of attendance at 1986 village, park district and school board meetings provides the answers.

By BOB KEHOE

If attendance at 1986 board meetings is any indication, Wheeling-area elected officials earned their titles as public servants.

Results of a *Wheeling Countryside* study of nine Wheeling and Buffalo Grove school, park district, and village boards shows that board members in Wheeling attended an average of between 85 and 100 percent of all regularly-scheduled and special board meetings.

Township High School District 214 and Elementary District 21 school board members were at the head of the class in attendance during 1986, according to the study.

District 214 board members had the top attendance rating at 94.4 percent, with District 21 finishing a close third with a 93.4 percent attendance rating.

THE RATINGS MEASURE the attendance records of members on a given board at regularly scheduled and special board meetings, and excluded attendance at informal workshop meetings and other 1986 meetings where no formal board action was taken.

Other attendance records for Wheeling area officials are as follows: Wheeling Park District, 87 percent (seventh overall); and the Wheeling Village Board with an 85.3 percent rating (eighth overall).

Buffalo Grove-area attendance ratings were as follows: Aptakisic-Tripp Elementary District 102, 93.9 percent (second overall); Stevenson High School District 125, 93.2 percent (fourth overall); Buffalo Grove Village Board, 91.1 percent (fifth overall); and the Buffalo Grove Park District 75.4 percent, (ninth overall).

Of the 57 board members included in the study, six had perfect attendance records, while nine, or 16 percent, attended between 95 and 99 percent of all action-item meetings. Another 20 board members, or 35 percent of those surveyed, attended between 90 and 94 percent of the meetings.

THE HIGH ATTENDANCE ratings confirmed the notion that many public officials interviewed by the *Wheeling Countryside* have contended all along — that elected officials work untold hours without pay and often without gratitude.

"I don't know that anyone fully appreciates the time commitment," said District 214 board member Joseph Klein, who attended all 33 of District 214's regular and special board meetings in 1986.

"People think it's two meetings a month, but it's not. As far as formal meetings go, we probably had between 44 and 48 meetings in 1986, not including functions like school dinners, committee meetings, school plays (etc.)," Klein said.

With the average District 214 board meeting running 3½ to four hours, the hours add up quickly. So why do it?

"**I LOVE** it. You have to love it to do it," Klein said.

Klein's attendance was indicative of the District 214 board's attendance as a whole. Six of the seven board members attended 94 percent of the meetings or better, with only one member, Stanley Eisenhammer, falling below that mark at 88 percent, or four meetings missed.

The lowest overall attendance rating for a Wheeling board was the village board, with a 85.3 percent rating. Elizabeth Hartman had the highest attendance at 91 percent, with the lowest rating going to board member Nicholas Fanella, who attended 80 percent of the regular and special meetings, and who said he had much higher attendance at other board meetings and special committee meetings on the Pal-Waukee Airport purchase by the village.

Wheeling trustees Tony Altieri and James Whittington attended 83 percent of the board meetings in 1986 and Trustee Joseph Ratajczak had an 86 percent attendance record.

Although two trustees were absent from Monday night's village board meeting, most Wheeling-area elected officials have outstanding attendance records. *(Michael Meinhardt photo)*

FANELLA SAID HE was "surprised" his attendance wasn't higher, considering his participation at other meetings. He said that while he tried to make all of the meetings, sometimes his schedule and work in the banking field didn't permit it.

"One of the things about running for office is attracting good people to serve, but attendant with that is getting people with busy schedules," Fanella said.

Wheeling Village President Sheila Schultz said attendance has never been a problem at board meetings.

"I look at the quality of attendance and whether board members are well informed at the meetings, and our board members are," Schultz said.

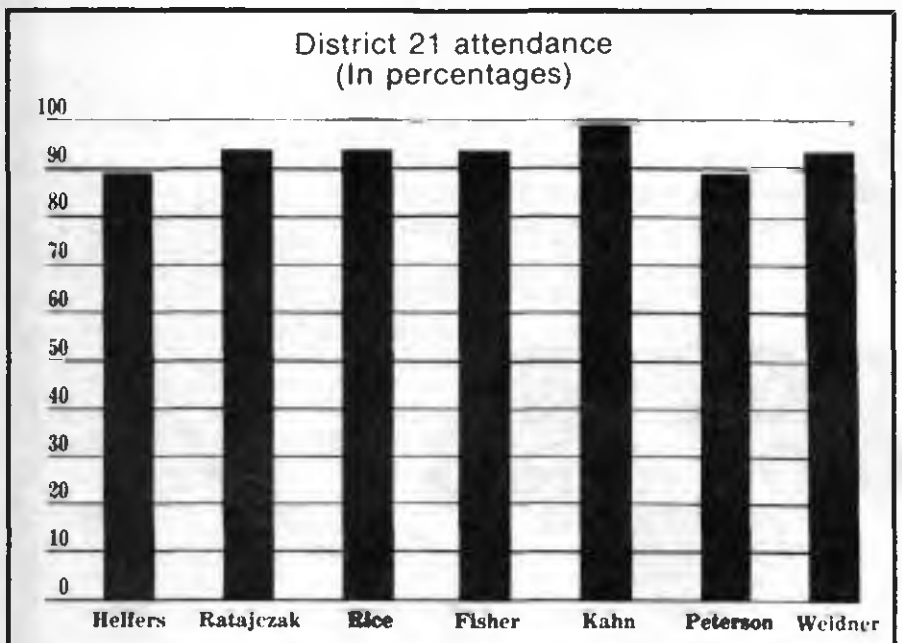
CUTTING BACK ON the number of board meetings — Wheeling topped all boards surveyed at 35 regular and special meetings — has been discussed, but officials decided against it, she said.

Schultz estimates that with committee meetings and workshops, village board members could have attended about 100 meetings during 1986.

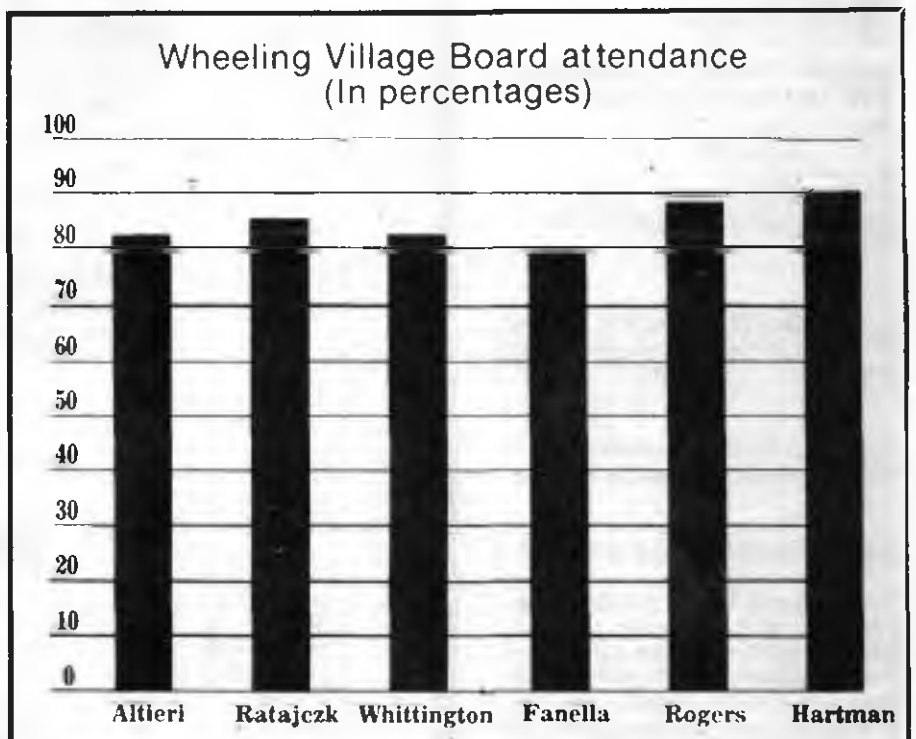
Elementary School District 21 had far fewer official regular meetings, 18 in all, which might explain in part why board attendance topped the 93 percent mark.

Board member Helene Kahn, who had

(Continued on page 13)

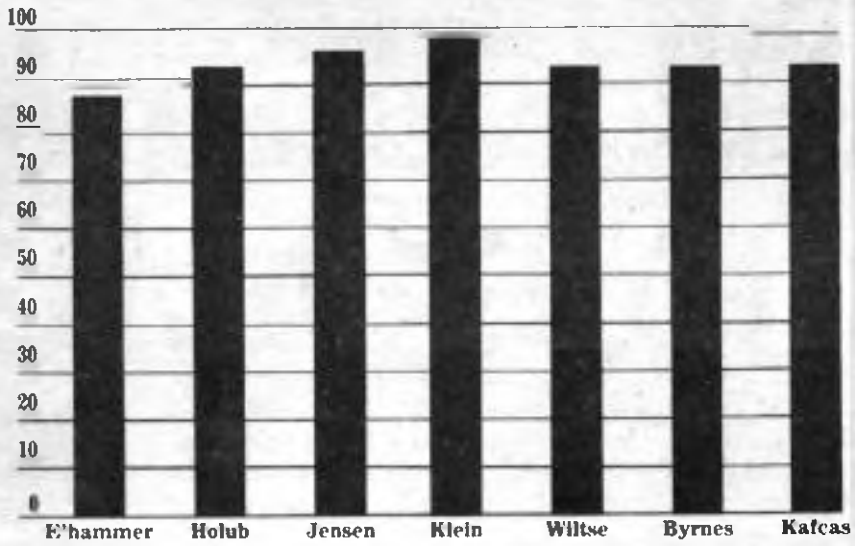


The above chart shows the percentage of regular and special board meetings attended by each Wheeling Elementary School District 21 board member in 1986.



The above chart shows the percentage of regular and special board meetings attended by each Wheeling trustee in 1986.

High School District 214 attendance
(In percentages)



The above chart shows the percentage of regular and special board meetings attended by each High School District 214 board member in 1986.

Attendance—

(Continued from page 12)

perfect attendance, said making every meeting was important to her.

"IF I miss a meeting I feel I'm really going to miss something," she said.

When she ran for the board, Kahn said she set goals, including trying to attend every meeting.

"My first year goal was to go talk to every principal in the district and go to the teachers lounge in every school (to get acquainted). My second year goal was to talk to all of the PTA's," she said.

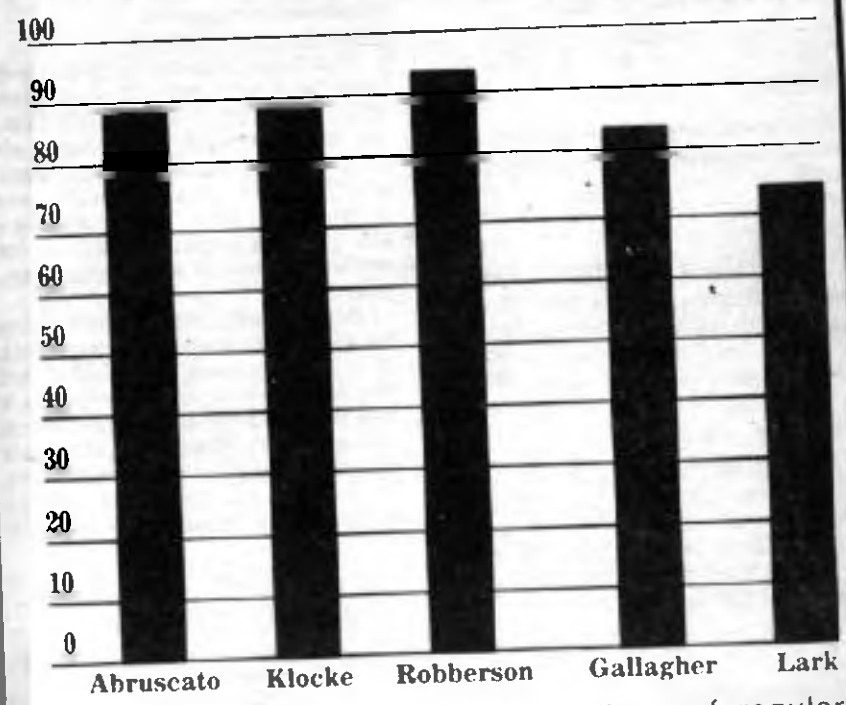
But if Kahn has put something into her board work, she said she has received something in return.

"I FIND being on the board is a tremendous commitment, but I enjoy it," she said. "I think people feel you're more human (if they see you in person). I want people to think I'm like they are. I don't want them to think I'm up on a pedestal," she said.

Aside from Kahn, four other board members — Lori Ratajczak, William Rice, Barbara Weidner, and Joy Fisher — missed only one meeting.

(Continued on page 18)

Wheeling Park District attendance
(In percentages)



The above chart shows the percentage of regular and special board meetings attended by each Wheeling Park District commissioner in 1986.

Attendance—

(Continued from page 13)

While none of the five Wheeling Park District commissioners made it to all 20 board meetings, board members, in general, had near-perfect records. Commissioner Julia Robberson missed only one meeting, while commissioner Ed Klocke and board president Anthony Abruscato missed only two meetings.

Commissioner Don Lark, who had a 75 percent attendance record, said his attendance would have been much higher had it not been for heart surgery during the year.

Yen 1987 Life

It's official!

A public airport is born

WHEELING — The village of Wheeling and city of Prospect Heights are now the proud owners of Pal-Waukee Airport.

The two municipalities managed to complete the purchase of the facility before the end of the year so Priester Aviation, owner of the airport, could take advantage of tax breaks that will no longer exist in 1987 under revised federal income tax laws. Community officials said that tax breaks for Priester meant a better purchase price for the municipalities.

The Pal-Waukee sale was finalized on Dec. 26 after two years of study. The purchase price was $22 million. That price does not include some hangars located along Wolf Road, according to Jim Rhodes, village attorney, who said that appraisals of those buildings were unavailable before the closing. Those appraisals are late because the municipalities only decided at the last minute to buy the hangars.

The agreement between Priester and the communities stipulates that the municipalities will pay up to $1.5 million for the hangars after grant money from the state and the Federal Aviation Administration is received.

With the purchase now a fact, the communities are looking at improvements that will have to be made at the airport in future months and years, said Bill Rogers, chairman of the Pal-Waukee Airport Commission.

Rogers said the municipalities must decide what safety improvements required by the FAA can be instituted immediately and which improvements may have to be put off for a while.

Part of the safety revisions will involve tearing down buildings, taking down treees, installing better lighting and putting in new taxiways, Rogers said.

Eventually all the improvements will be made, Rogers said, adding however, that they may take several years to complete depending on available profits from the airport. Officials have promised residents that no local tax money will be used on the airport. Village President Sheila Schultz said John Kennedy of Airport Corporation of America, which was hired to help with the purchase of the airport, will be responsible for overall management of the facility for now.

Kennedy will be involved with overall policy such as which hangars must be moved, Schultz said, while day to day operations of the airport will continue under Priester Aviation, which has signed lease agreements with the municipalities.

Priester will thus continue to do such things as sell fuel and repair planes, Schultz said.

Schultz said the purchase of the airport has resulted in a good working relationship among the FAA, state, village of Wheeling and city of Prospect Heights. This is important, Schultz said, because officials of all these bodies will have to continue working together now that the airport has been bought.

Schultz emphasized how important a facility Pal-Waukee is, saying that if it did not exist the planes that use it would have to use the already crowded O'Hare.

Pal-Waukee is also important to the local economy, Schultz said, because it attracts businesses to the area and helps keep them here.

Six vie for three village board seats

March 87

BY C.L. WALLER
Daily Herald Staff Writer

It's considered an "off-year" election, since the village presidency isn't up this time around.

But in Wheeling, six candidates have come out to joust for three positions on the village board.

Two incumbents, Anthony Altieri and James Whittington, have joined forces with political newcomer Clifford Bird to form the Upward Party. They are challenged by Judy Abruscato, who ran for the board in 1981 and lost, former Trustee Roger Powers and newcomer Stephen White. The latter three all are running as independents.

Each candidate wants to represent the village of 26,400 people for at least four years and regulate an annual budget of approximately $17 million.

The primary issue is the proposed redevelopment of the downtown area at Milwaukee Avenue and Dundee Road.

One of the first phases has caused a rift between the village and businessmen located northwest of the intersection. Some property owners do not want to sell their property to make room for an $8.9 million retail center and the village may have to condemn their property.

"I hate to see condemnation take place. I would like to see the business owners get a fair shake," Bird said. He said the retail center will be good for the village.

"Wheeling is one place in the Northwest suburbs that does not have an enlarged shopping center," he said.

Bird's incumbent running mates also want progress.

"We are looking for a fair settlement with the property owners," Whittington said.

He said the village has to measure property owners' interests against improvements that a new retail center will bring to the village for the next 30 to 40 years.

Altieri said the displacement of existing businesses is the drawback to the plan, but the board hopes to attract new businesses not available to Wheeling residents and to use property that otherwise would have remained undeveloped for a long time.

White, however, said the new retail center will not be successful even though it is being represented as a moneymaker.

"If it's not an enclosed mall people will go elsewhere," he said. "It may look nice, but I don't think retail businesses will support it."

Powers said too much emphasis has been placed on the benefits of business coming into the village and not enough concern has been paid to existing businesses and residents having to move.

He said a relocation plan should have been put into effect to assist property owners.

Areas usually targeted for redevelopment are more deteriorated than the property located northwest of Milwaukee Avenue and Dundee Road, Powers said. There is also no guarantee that once present businesses are gone, new businesses will want to come to a new retail center, he added.

Abruscato is in favor of the redevelopment, but does not favor a relocation plan for businessmen affected. She said businessmen would want to choose their own destiny and probably the wisest move for them would be to move into the very retail center that displaces them.

With well-traveled streets such as Milwaukee Avenue, Dundee Road, Lake-Cook Road and Route 83, Wheeling is subject to traffic congestion.

White says he wants to see more frontage roads constructed along busy streets, plus an overpass at Lake-Cook Road and Milwaukee Avenue. He said most residents in Wheeling are commuters and care about the roads.

"Locally, I don't think we can do much but put pressure on the county and the state," Bird said.

Abruscato said the village could make a push for carpooling or walking to work. As someone who walks five blocks to work "99 percent of the time," she said walking is healthy as well as a way to get cars off the streets.

Powers believes local officials could improve traffic on the major state-maintained roadways by doing their own studies and presenting their findings to the Illinois Department of Transportation.

The only way to control traffic is to control developments along those streets, Altieri said. Asking for road improvements such as deceleration lanes and turn lanes with new developments is one way the village can control traffic, he said.

Creating a frontage road along Dundee between Wickes Furniture and village hall would alleviate some traffic problems, Whittington said. With Lake-Cook Road, the village can consolidate curb cuts and align intersections across the street with Buffalo Grove, he added.

Easing traffic congestion along Milwaukee Avenue, however, is a longstanding problem because some of the buildings will be there for a long time, he said.

Judy G. Abruscato

Anthony Altieri

Clifford E. Bird

James Whittington

Stephen T. White

Roger A. Powers

THE RACE:
Wheeling village board

THE CANDIDATES: Three trustee seats

Judy G. Abruscato, 52, 125 W. Wayne Place, assistant personal loan banking officer. She ran unsuccessfully for village clerk in 1981 with the Pro-Wheeling Party

Anthony Altieri, 48, 36 Laurel Trail, a research technician in corporate plastics research. He is an incumbent running for his second term.

Clifford E. Bird, 64, 159 Hansom Road, a bank vault manager. He has no political experience.

James Whittington, 38, 954 Twilight Lane, student activities director for Northwest Suburban High School District 214. He is an incumbent, appointed to the village board in 1985

Stephen T. White, 36, 541 Audrey Court, a construction supervisor. He has no political experience.

Roger A. Powers, 42, 897 Rose Lane, director of computer resource center for Regina Dominican High School. He was a village trustee from 1977 to 1985, then ran unsuccessfully for village president.

A Pulitzer-Lerner Community Newspaper

• A LIFE NEWSPAPER, Week of April 2, 1987

Zoning hearing on balefill delayed

By BRENDA SCHORY
Staff Writer

The Northwest Municipal Conference's March 26 zoning hearing to site a balefill near Bartlett was so plagued with legal snafus that conference members urged the hearing be rescheduled to "do it right."

The conference's first hearing before the Cook County Zoning Board of Appeals for a landfill — called a balefill because the garbage is baled into cubes before being buried — was marred by a last-minute location change, disputes over the county's zoning law; an hour-and-a-half delay in the starting time; and legal challenges over whether the county properly notified villages within a mile and a half of the site.

Added to the legal fray at Streamwood High School's auditorium, were the cheers and jeers from some 500 balefill protestors.

"It was Murphy's Law put into real life," said Hanover Park Village President Sonya Crawshaw of the hearing. "It was unfortunate. When one thing went wrong, it all went downhill."

Schaumburg Village President Herbert Aigner said, "I was disappointed as to what transpired." Aigner and Crawshaw said it was the decision of the mayors to reschedule the hearing and "do it right."

Though Elk Grove Village Village President Charles Zettek also pushed for a postponement of the hearing, he said the delay was caused by balefill opponents' attorneys "nitpicking little nuances of the law."

Zettek said it was a shame the conference had to be "submissive to the skills of attorneys" who are trying to delay the siting process. Zettek said he wanted the hearing to start over fresh, with no "albatross" of whether it is a legal proceeding "to hang over us."

Legal arguments, independent of the merits of siting a 266-acre landfill in unincorporated Cook County on West Bartlett Road between Gifford Road and Route 25, included:

• Charges of improper filing of the petition to the county ZBA.

Bartlett Village Attorney Ed Mraz and Elgin City Attorney Daniel Blondin had a different version of the county zoning law than the one cited by conference attorney Thomas Burney.

ZBA Chairman Alex Seith said the discrepancy could be a printer's error, "and a printer's error does not make the law." Seith said if the conference proceeds, and its application is incomplete, the burden of risk was on the conference to file another petition.

• Charges of improper notice of both the date and place of the hearing.

Though ZBA Secretary Nicholas Philips said notices were sent to village, cities and townships within a mile and a half of the proposed site, most said they did not receive any notice.

Village Attorney for South Elgin Kenneth Miles gave the ZBA an affidavit from South Elgin's clerk swearing that no notice was received.

Attorneys also bickered extensively over the change in location from the Streamwood Municipal Meeting Hall on Cypress Drive to Streamwood High School on Schaumburg Road.

Though ZBA officials first convened the meeting at the meeting hall, closed the meeting and reconvened at the high school, attorneys argued that there wasn't enough notice.

ZBA officials said they marked notice of the change of place on a blackboard for latecomers. But, Gerald Brooks, attorney for private homeowners, said a blackboard notice was not enough.

"We have no idea, no way to tell if someone got there before the session was convened," Brooks said. He added, there also was no guarantee that anyone coming later was sure to see the blackboard.

"You were so confused," Brooks told Seith, "even you showed up an hour late."

Though conference attorneys steadfastly maintained that all notices and their petition were proper, they agreed to postpone the hearing.

The conference tentatively scheduled the next hearing for 3 p.m p.m. April 21, at Streamwood High School.

Schultz is backing 3 WUP candidates

By C. L. WALLER
Daily Herald Staff Writer

ELECTION '87

To none of the candidates' surprise, Wheeling Village President Sheila Schultz has thrown her support behind the re-election of incumbent trustees in the Wheeling Upward Party.

Incumbents James Whittington and Anthony Altieri and political newcomer Clifford Bird make up the party. Altieri is completing his first term on the village board and Whittington was appointed to fill a vacancy on the board in 1985. Bird, who is president of the Whippletree Village Homeowners' Association, has not sought public office before.

Unendorsed are the challengers, three independents seeking one of the three positions on the board. They are Judy Abruscato, who ran unsuccessfully for the village board in 1981, newcomer Steven White and Roger Powers, a trustee from 1977 to 1985 and who ran unsuccessfully for village president.

Whittington and Altieri have been part of many positive decisions for the village and Bird has an understanding of issues because of his interest in the village, Schultz said in her endorsement.

The challengers say it won't make much difference to them.

"This has been known in Wheeling as Sheila's ticket," Powers said of the Upward Party slate. He said Schultz has the right to endorse candidates and he is not surprised at the announcement.

"They've always been her cohorts and I hope that's public knowledge," White said. He said voters would know that electing the Upward party means Schultz and Village Manager Thomas Markus will be running the village and making decisions, White added.

In her endorsement statement, however, Schultz inadvertently referred to the ticket as the Wheeling United Party, which was the name of the party when she ran for village president in 1985.

March 1987

Construction continues on Hintz Road expansion

WHEELING — The Cook County Highway Department's reconstruction of Hintz Road began about two weeks ago and is not expected to be completed until July 1988.

Throughout the construction, one lane of traffic will be kept open in each direction. Work is being done between Wheeling and Elmhurst roads.

Plans are to convert the two-lane Hintz into four 12-foot traffic lanes with a 16-foot median. There will be left turn lanes on Hintz Road and on Wheeling Road. Traffic signals will be installed at the intersection of Hintz and Wheeling roads, and a pile-supported pavement structure will be built on Hintz between Seton Court and Wheeling Road adjacent to Ekco Lake.

While there will be no detours required during construction, congestion is expected to result.

Village officials emphasize that the project is not being undertaken by the village of Wheeling. Questions and concerns should be directed to Cook County's resident engineer, John Beissel, at 537-0589.

Let's share lake cost: Prospect Hts.

By DAN ROZEK
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Prospect Heights officials will ask Wheeling to contribute some of the $750,000 to $1 million the city plans will pay into the Lake Arlington flood control project.

Prospect Heights officials say their request is fair since Wheeling will share some of the project's benefits, namely reduced flooding in Wheeling along McDonald Creek.

"We feel the village of Wheeling is going to benefit from Lake Arlington and should participate in it," Prospect Heights Administrator Robert R. Kiely said.

Wheeling officials will meet with city officials April 13 to discuss the 54-acre artificial lake Arlington Heights plans to dig near Palatine and Schoenbeck roads.

Kiely said city officials don't know how much money to ask from Wheeling, but he said the village's benefits from the flood control project would be substantial.

A city commissioned study showed the lake would remove 44 acres of Prospect Heights land from the creek's flood plain, easing flooding there. That study also indicated 20 acres of land in Wheeling also would be removed from the floodplain.

Wheeling illage Manager Thomas M. Markus said he expected village officials to be "conservative" about kicking in money.

Flooding from McDonald Creek is not a major problem in Wheeling, Markus contends.

"I don't know that all our road and flood improvements don't indirectly benefit other towns," Markus added. "But we don't ask other towns for funding."

In return for Prospect Heights' contribution, Arlington Heights has agreed to make the lake deeper so it would hold waters that otherwise would sweep down the creek unchecked and flood parts of Prospect Heights and Wheeling.

The city's final cost will depend on the amount of excavation needed to make the lake large enough to benefit it, officials said.

'I thought, 'This is the end' '

A car stalled near a ruptured gas main in Wheeling exploded when the driver turned the ignition Friday, but miraculously, while the auto disintegrated, 33-year-old Greg Arason of Palatine escaped without injury. Said Arason, "I thought, 'This is the end.' " For details, see Page 4.

Daily Herald Photo/Vince Pierri

Daily Herald Saturday, March 28, 1987

Man escapes car just ahead of fire

BY ALEX RODRIGUEZ
Daily Herald Staff Writer

A Palatine man leaped from his car seconds before it burst into a ball of fire near a ruptured gas main in Wheeling Friday.

Thirty-three-year-old Greg Arason said he expected to die when he saw the front of his 1979 Buick LeSabre car explode, shooting flames as high as 40 feet.

"I thought of my 3-year-old daughter," he said, "and what she was going to say when I didn't come home tonight."

Traffic was snarled for five hours in the area of Hintz Road, three blocks east of Route 83.

The incident began shortly after noon when construction workers laying in storm sewers along Hintz Road ruptured a Northern Illinois Gas Co. gas main with a mechanical shovel.

Arason, a tool and die maker with Wand Tool Co. of Wheeling, was heading back to work when his car stalled across from the ruptured gas main. Wheeling Fire Capt. Ralph Perricone said the invisible cloud of natural gas deprived the car's engine of oxygen and caused Arason's car to stall.

Dan Neri, president of National Sewer and Water, Inc. of Wood Dale which was installing the storm sewer lines, said an employee warned Arason not to restart his car.

Arason, however, disputed that account. He said National workers were urging him to get his car started so that traffic could move through.

When Arason turned the ignition key, the car burst into flames. Arason said the fact he wasn't wearing seat belts saved him.

A number of cars were backed up behind Arason's car, but no one was hurt in the incident. Eyewitnesses said the huge flames ignited the asphalt pavement around Arason's car.

"It shook the whole building," said Steve Colby, who works at an office building about a block away from the scene. "I looked outside and saw flames over the top of the telephone pole and the car sitting inside the flames. It was unbelievable."

Northern Illinois Gas workers arrived at the scene to cap off the gas main at both sides of the blaze. The charred wreckage of Arason's car could be seen the middle of the blaze, which spread across half the street.

Firefighters were not able to put out the fire until about 2:15. Workers spent the rest of the afternoon repairing the pavement and the main break.

The storm sewer lines were being installed for the Cook County High Department, Neri said. He said markings on the sidewalk that indicate where the gas mains are located were inaccurate. But Northern Illinois Gas spokesman Lee Wade said the company had "no knowledge" that the markings were wrong.

Arason walked back to his job about an hour after the blaze started, but said he couldn't keep his mind on work. At his home Friday afternoon, Arason said he was just glad he wasn't hurt.

"I couldn't believe it happened," he said. "I thought, 'This is the end.' "

White is lone wolf

Continued from page 1

will cost local taxpayers nothing.

Altieri questioned statements made by some independent candidates concerning their financial expertise. Of all the candidates only Whittington has financial expertise, he said. Bird, 64, said he is basically satisfied with the way the village is being run. If elected, he said, he would like to see a commuter line on the Soo tracks and would want to look into ways to reduce traffic on Dundee and Lake-Cook roads.

A supporter of the TIF district shopping center, Bird said, "I think this is good for Wheeling from the economic standpoint. It's also a convenience for local shoppers."

Bird denies contentions by some candidates that the Village Board is not open enough. Information is available to anyone who wants to get it, he said.

Bird said being a trustee should be similar to his job as presient of the Whippletree Homeowners Association, only on a larger scale.

Roger Powers, 42, said he is the only candidate with a financial background. Powers has a master's in finance from Northwestern and a bachelor's in economics from the Wharton School of Finance.

Although Powers said he is generally satisfied with the adminiistration of the village he adds that he doesn't feel the village is open enough with information to the public. He also said a large number of decisions are now made by the village manager that he would like to have village board members involved in. Specifically Powers said he would like to have three trustees involved in such things as annexation discussions and major capital expenditures. Although the Village Board does approve the budget and bids, he said, he would like to see trustees more involved in the give and take process leading up to the administrative recommendations.

Powers said the TIF shopping center could be an excellent project but he would like to make sure at least some tenants are lined up before groundbreaking. He also said those to be displaced by the redevelopment should get more help in relocating.

As for Pal-Waukee, Powers points out that moves to acquire the airport were made when he was on the board. Powers was a trustee from 1977-1985.

Judy Abruscato, 52, said she would like to continue the direction the village is moving in and supports major decisions that have been made.

"I am serviced well by the village, not because I am Judy Abruscato. When you need something, you call. If you're interested in what's going on in the village someone will take the time to help you."

Abruscato said she has 20 years experience in finances and she points to her involvement in the community during the 20 years she has lived here.

March 87

Meet the candidates

ANTHONY ALTIERI

Altieri works in the corporate plastics research department of Signode Corp. in Glenview. He is a member of the Pal-Waukee Municipal Airport Commission, curator of the Wheeling Historical Society, and board member of the American Cancer Society. Altieri was chairman of the Wheeling Plan Commission for seven of the nine years he served on that body.

JIM WHITTINGTON

Whittington is director of student activities for High School District 214. He was a teacher at Wheeling High School from 1970 to 1984.

Whittington has a bachelor's degree in history and political science and a doctorate in education and school administration. He has served on the Wheeling Plan Commission, the Wheeling Youth Commission and the Wheeling Township Mental Health Committee. Past president of the Wheeling Rotary Club, he is currently a member of the Wheeling Township Chemical People Task Force.

CLIFFORD BIRD

Bird is president of the Whippletree Homeowners Association. He is also a member of the Park District's Capital Needs Re-Assessment Citizens Advisory Committee; AMVETS Post 66; the Knights of Columbus and the Regina Council 4837.

STEVE WHITE

White is a project superintendent for a $46 million construction project in Carol Stream. A resident of 541 Audrey Court, White has had no experience in local government.

ROGER POWERS

Powers was trustee from 1977 to 1985, when he ran for village president and lost to Sheila Schultz.

He has a bachelor of science degree in economics from the Wharton School of Finance and a master's in finance from Northwestern. He is director of the computer resource center at Regina Dominican High School in Wilmette.

JUDY ABRUSCATO

Abruscato is president of the Wheeling Fourth of July Commission and president of the Wheeling Lioness Club. She is also a member of the Zoning Board of Appeals and is ex-secretary of the Wheeling Historical Society.

Abruscato is an officer of the first National Bank of Wheeling.

Spring registration now open at Harper

Harper College is taking registration for spring session classes which begin the week of Jan. 12.

Students may enroll in various non-credit continuing education classes at the Palatine school — including business investment and management, video TV production, secretarial skills, foreign language, real estate, health, photography, dance and physical education.

Several new courses offered this year include Creative Imagination; Tai and Asian Cooking; Patents, Trademarks and Copyrights; Broadcasting and Commercial Art Drawing.

REGISTRATION FOR these classes, seminars and workshops may be completed in person between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday in the Continuing Education Admissions Office, Building C, Room 101 or between 4:30 and 9 p.m. Monday through Thursday and from 9 a.m. to noon Saturday in Building A, Room 213.

To register by phone, call 397-3000, extension 2410 between 8 a.m. and 9 p.m. Monday through Thursday; 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Friday and 9 a.m. to noon Saturday.

Persons who previously enrolled in credit courses at Harper and plan to attend the college as part-time students during the spring session may register by telephone now through Friday and Jan. 2 and 3.

Telephone registration is limited to those students who have taken college credit courses at Harper or who have filed an application for admission 48 hours in advance of telephoning. Students may enroll in no more than 9 credit hours during telephone registration.

Students who meet the requirements for telephone registration may enroll in spring classes by calling 397-1100 between 10 a.m. and 8 p.m. through Friday and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Jan. 2 and 3.

All persons registering by telephone should be prepared to give social security number, name, course and section numbers of desired classes.

2938.

PUBLIC SPEAKING

3-24

- "We're always willing to meet with people who want to meet with us, especially when they're our neighbors." — Wheeling Assistant Village Manager Robert Fialkowki, explaining that officials are willing to meet with representatives from Prospect Heights to discuss ways of easing traffic problems to keep a controversial daycare center open which is in Wheeling but borders on Prospect Heights.

ELECTION '87

- A comprehensive voter's guide for races in the Wheeling area is planned for March 26, but The Neighbor's formal election coverage also is being broken into several smaller reports to make the races easier to follow. In addition to ongoing political coverage, scheduled reports include: Wheeling village board today and March 25. Aptakisic-Tripp Elementary District 102 and Prospect Heights Elementary District 23 referendums on April 2. News space availability may force some late schedule changes.

3-87

NEWS FROM HERALD CITY

WHEELING

Schultz backs WUP

Wheeling Village President Sheila Schultz Thursday threw her support behind the re-election of incumbent trustees in the Wheeling Upward Party.

Incumbents James Whittington and Anthony Altieri and political newcomer Clifford Bird make up the party seeking three trustee seats. The three are being opposed by independents Judy Abruscato, who ran unsuccessfully for the village board in 1981, newcomer Steven White and Roger Powers, a trustee from 1977 to 1985 who also ran unsuccessfully for village president.

Annexation

(Continued from page 5)

taking legal steps to block any development on the property (See separate story this page)

WHILE WHEELING TRUSTEES appeared to welcome the latest addition to their village, Judah has had a stormy relationship with Northbrook officials.

Northbrook trustees in May, 1985 turned down Judah's request to build three one-story office buildings on the stable property. Judah at that time also had a proposal pending before the Cook County Board to build two, two-story office buildings totaling 224,000 square feet on a 19-acre site, which Northbrook also objected to.

But the biggest dispute between Northbrook and Judah involved the developer's plans for a site at the intersection of Lake-Cook and Sanders roads, just east of the stable property.

In the discussions about his plans for the southeast corner of that intersection and the developer's reluctance to reduce the height and/or density of the proposed office buildings, Judah sued Northbrook, seeking $1 million in damages.

THE SUIT SOUGHT compensatory damages for the time and revenues lost while Northbrook waged a prolonged, unsuccessful court fight to stop construction of the two-story office building at Sanders and Lake-Cook.

Judah agreed in May, [illegible] that suit in exchange for Northbrook's permission to build a third story on the Sanders Rd. office building. In making the deal to drop the suit, Northbrook agreed to annex the property and Judah agreed to add $100,000 in additional landscaping to screen the building several Northbrook trustees called "an eyesore."

But Wheeling officials say Judah's troubles with Northbrook should have little bearing on his dealings with Wheeling.

Wheeling Village President Sheila Schultz said the annexation agreement with Judah calls for the property to be disannexed if Wheeling and the developer can't agree on what's to be built on the site.

"THE ANNEXATION is just a preliminary step," she said. "I'm sure we'll find out if this will be a working relationship or not. If not, we or the developer can disannex."

Schultz added the village staff and plan commission has been "very careful" in scrutinizing developments proposed for the village and said they will be just as careful in reviewing this project.

When told of the annexation of the Grand Champion stables property, some Northbrook officials questioned whether the action was official, as no notification had come from Wheeling to Northbrook.

"We had heard that he'd talked about going to Wheeling," said assistant Village Mgr. John Novinson. No conversations with Judah had been held recently, he added.

Towns hire consultant for intersection move

As Wheeling and Prospect Heights prepare to take over ownership of Pal-Waukee Airport, the two municipalities have hired a firm to look at the feasibility of relocating the intersection of Hintz and Wolf roads. Moving the crossroads may be necessary to make room for lengthening a major runway at the airport.

Wheeling and Prospect Heights have hired a consultant to study the relocation of the intersecton of Hintz and Wolf roads in order to extend a major runway at Pal-Waukee Airport.

The two communities, which are in the process of buying Pal-Waukee, now a privately-owned airport, have signed an agreement with consultants Crawford, Murphy & Tilly, Inc. to conduct a design study and environmental assessment of the relocation of the intersection. The $110,000 study will be funded by a federal grant.

Officials are considering relocating the intersection to lengthen an existing runway used for jets from 4,620 feet to 5,000 feet. The Federal Aviation Administration requires the runway to be 5,000 feet long to facilitate jets, but because Pal-Waukee is now a private airport, it doesn't have to conform with FAA regulations.

However, once the facility is acquired by Wheeling and Prospect Heights it will have to meet all FAA specifications. For jet aircraft to continue to take off from the airport, the runway has to be lengthened and the intersection needs to be moved, said Tom Markus, Wheeling village manager.

THE INTERSECTION relocation will cost an estimated $35 million, 95 percent of which will come from federal and state sources.

The consultants will study what impact moving the intersection would have on the community and the airport, and will present a report to the two municipalities, Markus said. Officials from both towns will use the study to help find the proper location for the intersection. The noise study will also be used to determine what can be done to abate airplane noise in the area.

So far, no decisions have been made on whether to relocate the intersection.

There are some concerns that lengthening the runway may pose safety risks at Holmes Junior High School and the Foxboro apartments, where the planes would fly closer to the roofs than they do now.

"WE WANT TO find out what relocating the intersection does to flights over Wheeling," Markus said. "We have to look at the safety concerns. Once we do that we can evaluate the impact of the relocation."

Pal-Waukee Airport, located south of Wheeling at Milwaukee Avenue and Palatine Road, is owned by George Priester. Prospect Heights and Wheeling set up the Pal-Waukee Municipal Airport Commission to oversee the acquisition of the airport.

The commission in September hired a consultant, Airport Corporation of America, to assist in the purchase of Pal-Waukee and the transition from a private to public facility.

Food-drinks tax worth second look

3-2-87

Mount Prospect's Mayor Carolyn H. Krause is suggesting the village again consider imposing a 1 percent tax on restaurants, taverns and liquor stores to make up for revenues lost through the elimination of revenue sharing.

Trustees defeated such a tax in 1982, but now the village must find a way to replace what it no longer gets from the federal government — which amounted to about $300,000 over the past two years in revenue sharing funds, plus another $100,000 in block grants.

Trustee George R. Van Geem fears such a tax might discouraging residents from patronizing local restaurants and taverns. He would prefer raising the property tax.

The Mount Prospect Chamber of Commerce opposed the tax when it was proposed five years ago for the same reason as Van Geem gives. So we would expect they would not favor it now either.

But Mayor Krause is talking about only one penny on every dollar spent in these establishments. We doubt that many people would sacrifice the convenience of buying their liquor and dining out in their own community to save a few cents. What's more, this tax is easy to collect, it's not hidden and it would be paid by those most able to afford it.

We can only point to the experience of Hanover Park, which adopted a similar tax last year. Its tax of 3 percent — not 1 — is paid by bakeries, convenience stores selling microwaved sandwiches and other food-selling establishments as well as restaurants and bars. Owners of those businesses balked at first, but Hanover Park officials say they have cooperated with pleasantly surprising results. Revenue produced by the tax already has exceeded expectations by about a third. By the end of the first year, they figure it will amount to $600,000 instead of the anticipated $450,000.

Circumstances are different in Mount Prospect from what they were in 1982. We think it would be prudent for the trustees to take another look at a tax of this kind.

DANGER ZONE

Radon gas invades security of home

3-1-87

The facts on radon

What it is: An invisible, radioactive gas produced by the natural decay of uranium in the soil.

Why it's dangerous: Believed to be the major cause of lung cancer among non-smokers. It decays into radioactive particles which become trapped in the lungs when inhaled.

How it enters a home: Principally through the basement, but through any opening in a floor or wall which touches the soil, including sump pumps, utility pipes, joints and tiny cracks.

How to fix it: Ventilate crawl spaces and basements, seal cracks in floors and walls, cover drains and sump pump openings, etc. See "A Citizen's Guide to Radon" and "Radon Reduction Methods," available from the EPA Office of Public Affairs, 230 S. Dearborn St., Chicago 60654.

BY RENA WISH COHEN
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Not long ago, Buffalo Grove Health Director Tom Stachura received a call from a worried resident.

The woman had purchased a home in Pennsylvania in preparation for a cross-country move, and her real estate agent had insisted that the house be tested for radon, an invisible gas believed to be the leading cause of lung cancer among non-smokers. It turned out the home contained levels 20 times higher than the federal government considers safe.

"She wanted to know what they (contractors in Pennsylvania) were going to do to solve the problem and if it would work," Stachura said. Another resident moving to a radon-contaminated home in New Jersey had the same question.

Produced by the natural decay of uranium and radium in the ground, radon has been with us since the earth was young. It has been known for at least 25 years to cause lung cancer in uranium miners, and it was found as early as the 1960s in homes in Florida and Colorado built on soil once used for uranium and phosphate mining.

Until 1984, however, it was believed to be an isolated problem.

Bernie Molenda checks radon test kits in Arlington Heights.
Daily Herald Photo/Bob Chwedyk

Then a Pennsylvania engineer named Stanley Watras discovered stratospheric radon concentrations in his new home, and it turned out that many of Watras' neighbors were similarly afflicted.

Suddenly, authorities started worrying that millions of Americans might be breathing killer air simply by walking through their front doors.

Last May, that worry spread to Illinois. In a series of highly publicized reports, the Better Government Association and WMAQ-TV announced they had found excessive radon levels in one out of every four homes sampled in Chicago's suburbs. One Arlington Heights house was reported to have 35.9 picocuries of radon per liter of air — a fraction of the 2,800 picocuries found in Watras' home, but as great a threat to the occupants' health as smoking nearly two packs of cigarettes a day.

But after follow-up tests are completed, the number of homes found to be at risk here will be considerably smaller than the initial headlines suggested, offi-

See RADON *on Page 5*

RADON: Danger worries residents

Continued from Page 1

cials say.

That's because the one-in-four figure was based on measurements taken in basements for as little as one week. Further study is needed to assess the danger in upstairs living areas, which usually have far lower radon concentrations. And longer monitoring is required to compensate for seasonal variations.

If nationwide estimates by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency hold true, no more than 12 percent of the state's homes will prove to be radon danger zones.

Greg Crouch, chief of radioecology at the Illinois Department of Nuclear Safety, predicts the figure will be closer to 4 percent.

Still, radon is believed to be responsible for 5,000 to 20,000 of the 136,000 lung cancer deaths each year. And although there is disagreement over the health hazards of low-level radon exposure, household radon appears to be a greater radiation threat than virtually anything short of a ringside seat at Chernobyl.

"Anyone who worries about radiation in any way, shape or form should be worried sick about radon," said Bernard Cohen, a radon authority at the University of Pittsburgh.

Outside, where it mixes with miles of air, radon is relatively benign. But when it enters a confined space like a home, it packs a greater punch. And it is difficult to predict where it will strike next.

One home may be teeming with the equivalent of thousands of X-rays. Next door, there may be no problem. The reason is that no two houses offer the same opportunities for radon infiltration.

Radon pokes its way in through cracks, joints and tiny pores in floors and walls, and its ability to do that depends on variables ranging from the underlying soil to the building materials used. Energy-efficient homes that trap the radon inside are particularly vulnerable, but no house is immune.

"Problems can be found in tight, energy-efficient homes or in older, leaky, drafty homes," said Paul Vitalis, a health physicist with the EPA's Chicago office. "(Both) energy efficiency and energy inefficiency can contribute to the problem."

The only way to determine whether a house is "hot" is to test.

For $12 to $35, you can buy a ra-

State. Watras' home was perched in such a bull's-eye over the mineral-rich mass that workmen who radon-proofed the house could actually see a telltale bluish-black streak in a rock below the basement floor.

Illinois, in contrast, has few such geological quirks. Uranium levels in the bedrock here are nominal. The soil is rich in relatively impermeable clay that makes it difficult for radon to sneak through. And a high water table in many areas adds an extra barrier by saturating the soil and thus limiting the air spaces through which radon can travel, said Robert Gilkeson of the Illinois Geological Survey.

For those reasons, officials expect Illinois' radon rating to pale beside, say, Pennsylvania's.

Nevertheless, there is widespread concern here:

- The Illinois Department of Nuclear Safety is conducting a statewide survey to determine whether any areas of the state are in particular jeopardy. The survey will include 100 homes in Lake County, 175 in DuPage and 600 in Cook. Preliminary results are expected before summer.
- Hundreds of Arlington Heights residents have called village hall for radon information, and officials are considering spending as much as $60,000 on a consultant who would spearhead a testing program for the town.
- A number of area communities are making gas detectors available to residents at cost. Buffalo Grove has sold well over 100 of the devices; Rolling Meadows, roughly 70. Several dozen more have gone out through Hoffman Estates, Schaumburg and Wheeling.
- Northwest Community Hospital recently sponsored a "radon awareness day" that attracted 370 people. All of them purchased radon detectors, and the hospital has since received additional inquiries.

Despite the evident anxieties, there are those who say the radon threat may have been exaggerated. In particular, a number of scientists take issue with the EPA's dictum that concentrations in excess of 4 picocuries per liter of air are life-threatening, charging the federal agency set the danger threshold too low.

"Nobody argues that radon levels in excess of 100 picocuries are (not) extremely dangerous," said Richard Toohey, a radiation expert at Argonne National Laboratory. "But it's not at all clear that you need to do something (to fix your house) if your levels are 4 to 10 (picocuries)."

At 4 picocuries over a 70-year period — an exposure comparable to smoking four cigarettes a day or getting 200 chest X-rays a year — one to five people in every 100 will develop terminal lung cancer, according to EPA calculations. The American Cancer Society puts the lung cancer risk among moderate smokers at eight in 100.

The problem is that the EPA's estimates are based on the uranium miners' experience, and it is difficult to compare that to household risks. Miners, for example, are traditionally heavy smokers, and they are exposed to dust, organic solvents and other perils not present in the home. On the other hand, they are in the mines only eight hours a day, while the typical person spends more time at home.

"I wouldn't want to come across as saying the miner data aren't useful," said Dr. Niel Wald, radiation health department chairman at the University of Pittsburgh's Graduate School of Public Health. "But the validity of that for the general population is uncertain."

Finally, skeptics say, it is important for people to put the risk in perspective. Yes, they say, there may be a 1 to 5 percent lung-cancer risk at 4 picocuries, but we each face a 2 percent risk of dying every time we step into our cars.

"The risks associated with 1 to 4 picocuries per liter are normal risks we accept on a personal basis every day, and that should be considered in trying to understand the significance of the (radon) risk," said Anthony Nero, senior scientist at the Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory in California. "On the other hand, the risks of 10 or 20 picocuries per liter are higher. You're getting up toward the risks of smoking."

Which brings him to his final point.

"If you smoke," Nero says, "all these other things are irrelevant."

RADON: Danger worries residents

Continued from Page 1

cials say.

That's because the one-in-four figure was based on measurements taken in basements for as little as one week. Further study is needed to assess the danger in upstairs living areas, which usually have far lower radon concentrations. And longer monitoring is required to compensate for seasonal variations.

If nationwide estimates by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency hold true, no more than 12 percent of the state's homes will prove to be radon danger zones.

Greg Crouch, chief of radioecology at the Illinois Department of Nuclear Safety, predicts the figure will be closer to 4 percent.

Still, radon is believed to be responsible for 5,000 to 20,000 of the 136,000 lung cancer deaths each year. And although there is disagreement over the health hazards of low-level radon exposure, household radon appears to be a greater radiation threat than virtually anything short of a ringside seat at Chernobyl.

"Anyone who worries about radiation in any way, shape or form should be worried sick about radon," said Bernard Cohen, a radon authority at the University of Pittsburgh.

Outside, where it mixes with miles of air, radon is relatively benign. But when it enters a confined space like a home, it packs a greater punch. And it is difficult to predict where it will strike next.

One home may be teeming with the equivalent of thousands of X-rays. Next door, there may be no problem. The reason is that no two houses offer the same opportunities for radon infiltration.

Radon pokes its way in through cracks, joints and tiny pores in floors and walls, and its ability to do that depends on variables ranging from the underlying soil to the building materials used. Energy-efficient homes that trap the radon inside are particularly vulnerable, but no house is immune.

"Problems can be found in tight, energy-efficient homes or in older, leaky, drafty homes," said Paul Vitalis, a health physicist with the EPA's Chicago office. "(Both) energy efficiency and energy inefficiency can contribute to the problem."

The only way to determine whether a house is "hot" is to test.

For $12 to $35, you can buy a radon detector, leave it in place for anywhere from a week to a year — depending on the brand — and have the results analyzed by the manufacturer. Setting it up is as simple as installing a smoke alarm, which some of the models resemble.

In a few areas of the country, these tests have revealed alarming hot spots. In Stanley Watras' corner of Pennsylvania, for example, better than half the homes tested so far have registered unsafe radon levels.

The cause: an underground uranium formation called the Reading Prong that runs under some 500,000 homes from Reading, Penn., to northern New Jersey and New York State. Watras' home was perched in such a bull's-eye over the mineral-rich mass that workmen who radon-proofed the house could actually see a telltale bluish-black streak in a rock below the basement floor.

Illinois, in contrast, has few such geological quirks. Uranium levels in the bedrock here are nominal. The soil is rich in relatively impermeable clay that makes it difficult for radon to sneak through. And a high water table in many areas adds an extra barrier by saturating the soil and thus limiting the air spaces through which radon can travel, said Robert Gilkeson of the Illinois Geological Survey.

For those reasons, officials expect Illinois' radon rating to pale beside, say, Pennsylvania's.

Nevertheless, there is widespread concern here:

- The Illinois Department of Nuclear Safety is conducting a statewide survey to determine whether any areas of the state are in particular jeopardy. The survey will include 100 homes in Lake County, 175 in DuPage and 600 in Cook. Preliminary results are expected before summer.
- Hundreds of Arlington Heights residents have called village hall for radon information, and officials are considering spending as much as $60,000 on a consultant who would spearhead a testing program for the town.
- A number of area communities are making gas detectors available to residents at cost. Buffalo Grove has sold well over 100 of the devices; Rolling Meadows, roughly 70. Several dozen more have gone out through Hoffman Estates, Schaumburg and Wheeling.
- Northwest Community Hospital recently sponsored a "radon awareness day" that attracted 370 people. All of them purchased radon detectors, and the hospital has since received additional inquiries.

Despite the evident anxieties, there are those who say the radon threat may have been exaggerated. In particular, a number of scientists take issue with the EPA's dictum that concentrations in excess of 4 picocuries per liter of air are life-threatening, charging the federal agency set the danger threshold too low.

"Nobody argues that radon levels in excess of 100 picocuries are (not) extremely dangerous," said Richard Toohey, a radiation expert at Argonne National Laboratory. "But it's not at all clear that you need to do something (to fix your house) if your levels are 4 to 10 (picocuries)."

At 4 picocuries over a 70-year period — an exposure comparable to smoking four cigarettes a day or getting 200 chest X-rays a year — one to five people in every 100 will develop terminal lung cancer, according to EPA calculations. The American Cancer Society puts the lung cancer risk among moderate smokers at eight in 100.

The problem is that the EPA's estimates are based on the uranium miners' experience, and it is difficult to compare that to household risks. Miners, for example, are traditionally heavy smokers, and they are exposed to dust, organic solvents and other perils not present in the home. On the other hand, they are in the mines only eight hours a day, while the typical person spends more time at home.

"I wouldn't want to come across as saying the miner data aren't useful," said Dr. Niel Wald, radiation health department chairman at the University of Pittsburgh's Graduate School of Public Health. "But the validity of that for the general population is uncertain."

Finally, skeptics say, it is important for people to put the risk in perspective. Yes, they say, there may be a 1 to 5 percent lung-cancer risk at 4 picocuries, but we each face a 2 percent risk of dying every time we step into our cars.

"The risks associated with 1 to 4 picocuries per liter are normal risks we accept on a personal basis every day, and that should be considered in trying to understand the significance of the (radon) risk," said Anthony Nero, senior scientist at the Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory in California. "On the other hand, the risks of 10 or 20 picocuries per liter are higher. You're getting up toward the risks of smoking."

Which brings him to his final point.

"If you smoke," Nero says, "all these other things are irrelevant."

LAST WEEK IN THE AREA

Herald

Cablenet receives poor marks in recent cable service study

Cablenet Associates has failed to adequately respond to telephone complaints from subscribers and provides "mediocre" picture quality, a study of the cable television system concludes. The study released Wednesday at a meeting of the Northwest Municipal Cable Council, otherwise found Cablenet in compliance with the bulk of the requirements in the franchise agreement with 10 Northwest suburban towns. But the cable expert who conducted the study, University of Wisconsin professor Barry Orton, urged that the towns to set specific standards for the cable company to meet.

ELK GROVE VILLAGE

Herald 3-2-87

A balefill backer

Elk Grove Village has thrown its support behind a controversial plan devised by the Northwest Municipal Conference to construct a so-called garbage balefill in unincorporated Cook County. The village board has approved a resolution backing the conference's petition for the balefill, which is currently before the Cook County Zoning Board of Appeals. Under the conference's plan, the $35 million project would be located on a 475-acre site near Bartlett.

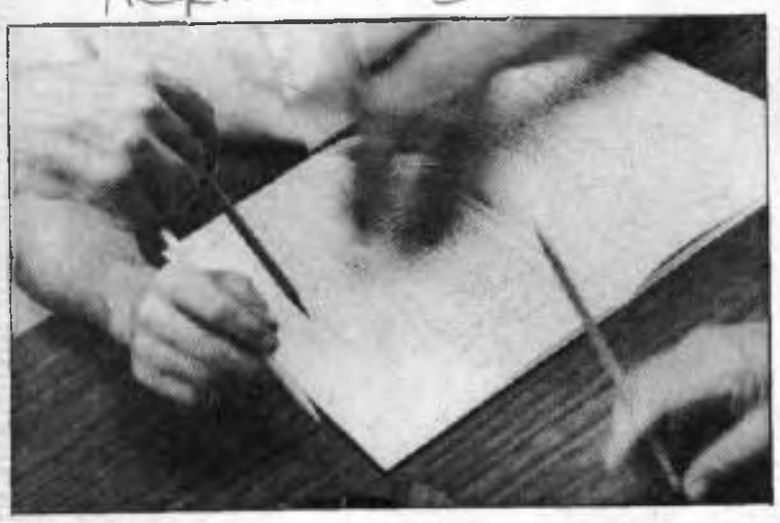
PUBLIC SPEAKING

Herald - 3-2-87

• "We're not looking for mass arrests. We just want the police department to watch the area so (the association) won't be held liable for drunk drivers. Insurance rates are high and we don't need a lawsuit." — Mike Kohen, a member of the Tahoe Village Homeowners Association, explaining why the association and the Wheeling police are forming a plan to curb underage drinking at the Tahoe clubhouse.

FIGURING OUT THE SUBURBS

Herald - 3-2-87



The job of running our suburbs

	Municipal employees	Residents per employee
Arlington Heights	367	187.1
Barrington	91	102.0
Buffalo Grove	139	188.3
Des Plaines	376	151.9
Elk Grove Village	275	104.9
Hanover Park	126	248.8
Hoffman Estates	272	248.8
Mount Prospect	252	209.5
Palatine	314	160.1
Prospect Heights	11	1,200.0
Rolling Meadows	181	111.4
Schaumburg	439	139.0
Wheeling	158	167.1

Comparisons are distorted to some degree by the different functions performed by municipalities from suburb to suburb. For instance, in Prospect Heights, police are not included because the city contracts with the sheriff's office for police protection. In a few communities, park programs are operated by the municipality. In most, they are overseen by a separate park district.

4-11-87

Park to get best name that money can buy?

BY C. L. WALLER
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Wheeling Park District commissioners have postponed renaming the Last Four Acre Park and may encourage businesses to donate money in return for having the park named after them.

Park Commissioner James Gallagher is suggesting that businesses pledge donations for park improvements, and the one offering the largest amount of money would have the park named for it.

Essentially, the name would be put up for bid and would stick to the park for at least 25 years, he said.

However, park board President Anthony Abruscato said, "It's nothing we should jump into. There's a lot more to look at."

Ridgefield subdivision residents have discussed fund raising, but resident Steve Heinz said he believes it is best to wait to see how far the $50,000 goes toward development.

"We're so eager to get the park and we can worry about the name later," he said.

The park board has agreed to earmark $50,000 in Build Illinois money for development of the Last Four Acre Park which was purchased for $113,326 by the park district in December 1985.

Last Four Acre Park, so called because it was the last four empty acres in the Polo Run subdivision, lies west of Wheeling Road between Hintz and Palatine roads.

Pulte Home Corp., the Hoffman Estates developer of Polo Run, donated $86,524 of the purchase price.

Saying he was opposed to having the park named after a business, park commissioner Don Lark said a plaque naming any businesses who donated toward the park could be installed on the site.

Commissioner Julia Robberson said the name should hinge on the amount donated. "If they give $50,000 to $100,000, they should have it (named)," she said. "If they give $5,000 they should have a plaque," she said.

FENCE POST 3-2-87

letters to the editor

Letters must be signed and include address and telephone number; none will be published anonymously. Letters are subject to editing; a maximum length of 300 words is recommended. Send letters to: Fence post, P.O. Box 280, Arlington Heights, IL 60006.

Dart the Herald

Recently the Daily Herald gave a dart to a citizen who suggested his village do away with its vehicle sticker tax.I think the dart should go to the Herald!

Politicians say village vehicle taxes are legal, fair and the money is needed.

We all know of instances where taxes were legal, but they certainly weren't right. The tax that led to the Boston Tea Party, for example.

It is said that vehicle taxes are fair because users pay. What makes it unfair is that not all users pay. A person who lives one inch outside the village will use exactly the same streets and won't have to pay.

We already pay a vehicle tax to the state. Village and county vehicle taxes are double taxation!

The Herald says the village needs the money. By raising the property tax $5 or $10 a year per property, the village would probably collect more than it gets in vehicle tax and they would eliminate the overhead of collecting vehicle tax. If I own a rental, I am going to pass all taxes along to my renter, so you can't say that renters won't pay!

Vehicle tax laws are not respected, they represent taxing the same thing twice, they are inconvenient and they clutter windshields.

I wonder if the Herald would have given a dart to those people who threw that tea overboard?

Harry Schoffstall
Cary

Collector's love of rare coins is easy to detect

BY SHERRY BOEMMEL
Daily Herald Correspondent

Skip Tubbs still is looking for a cache of gold, but in the meantime he is content using a metal detector to scour the Wheeling area for antique coins.

"I'm a coin collector," said the 34-year-old Wheeling resident. "My dream still centers around finding a gold piece. It makes no difference if it's a $5 gold piece or a $20 double eagle, I just want to find a gold piece.

"I've never owned one," he said. "I could buy one, but it wouldn't be the same as putting three miles on my feet."

While he's dreaming of gold, Tubbs spends his winters looking for interesting places to search with his detector. He scans old and current newspapers at the library and even checks a collection of old aerial photos compiled by the Wheeling Historical Society, which he uses to locate the former sites of buildings.

A member of the historical society, Tubbs donates his finds to the group.

"Researching is great," said Tubbs of this aspect of detecting. "It's like Captain Kidd's map."

He visits the forest preserves with a camera and son Ross, 5, his fellow detective and "digger man." The forest preserves are favorite hunting spots because the ground is undisturbed at old building sites, Tubbs said.

He's been known to scout for sites when the temperature drops to well below zero, like when he unsuccessfully hunted the site of Clyborn Park, an amusement park once located on the Des Plaines River. He got the tip from a long-time village resident.

"I've got the disease bad," Tubbs said. "I stuff my boots with newspaper and I've got so many layers of clothes on, I walk like a mummy."

He and Ross were out this year at what the elder Tubbs described as a promising site on Dundee Road, where a house and a vegetable stand once stood. Tubbs said an old walkway and a street where the stand

See COINS on Page 3

Skip Tubbs at a glance

Age: 34
Hometown Wheeling
Hobby: Using a metal detector, a collector of antique coins
Why: "I'm a coin collector. My dream still center around finding a gold piece. If makes no difference if it's a $5 gold piece or a $20 double eagle. I jus want to find a gold piece."

Coin collector Skip Tubbs and his son, Ross, search for old coins.
Daily Herald Photo/Jon Kim

COINS: his passion is seeking them

Herald

Continued from Page 1 3-5-81

was located were promising sites for coins.

In the warmer months, Tubbs sometimes practices his hobby at a nearby park, but it is the old sites that interest him most. He likes old coins and he enjoys imagining what was happening to the person who lost them — before he wonders if it's part of a cache.

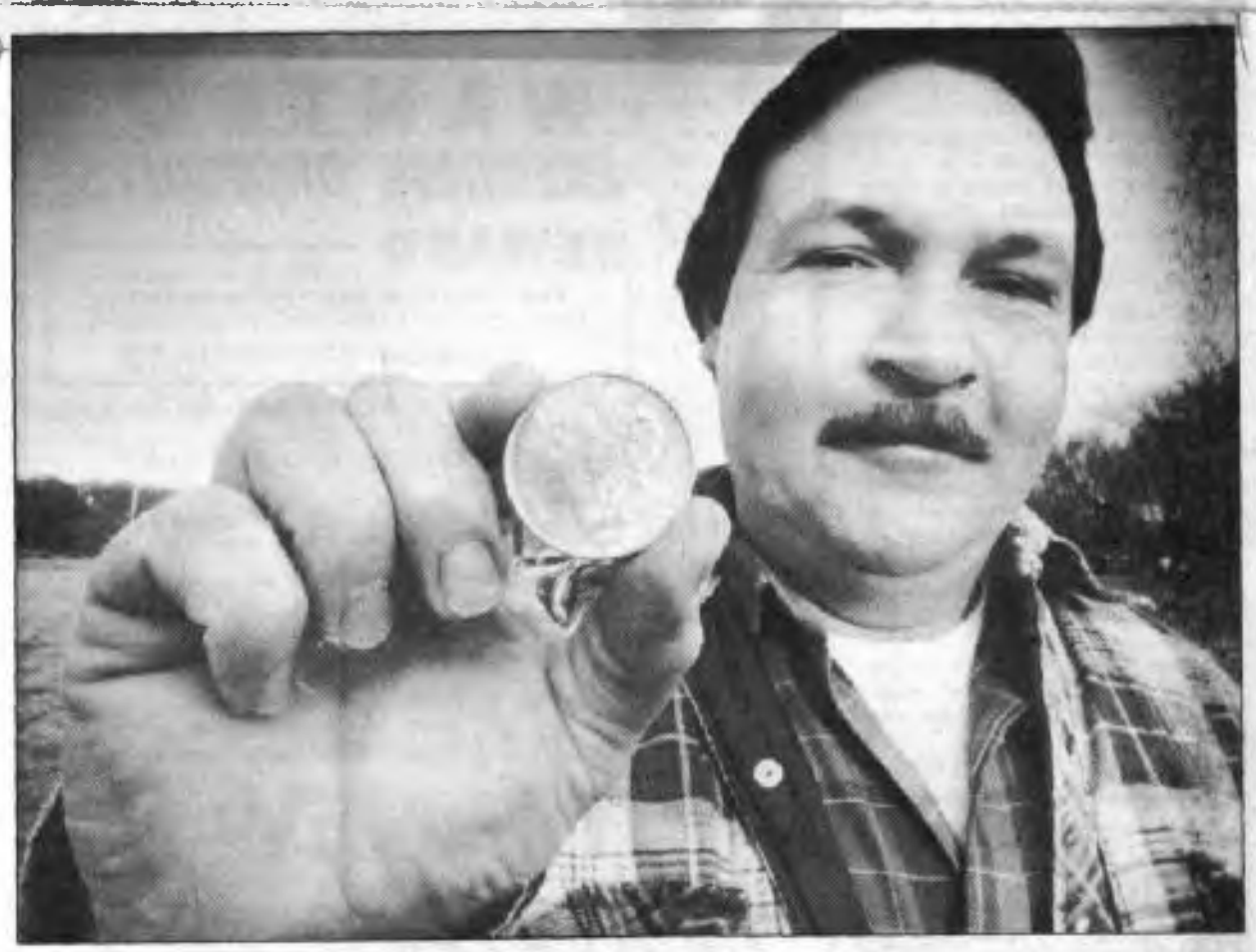
"The first thing I think of is the person who lost it," he said. "What was he doing when he lost it — sitting at a picnic, tossing it ?"

He is particularly moved by lost jewelry. He has found many rings — especially in flower gardens — watches and other jewelry. Though he has yet to find an owner, he saves the identifiable pieces and watches lost and found ads.

"I think how much they must have searched on their hands and knees and never did find them in the tall grass and weeds," Tubbs said. "Then someone like me with a detector comes along 80 years later and finds it."

Great finds do come along, however, including 1922 dog tags, political campaign tokens, old bottles and broken silver picture frames.

He sells some of the other things for scrap, but Tubbs keeps the coins. He found a lot at one home site that he worked for months.



Coin collector Skip Tubbs shows off one of his favorite finds, an 1887 silver dollar.
Daily Herald Photo/Jon Kim

"I have never found so many coins in one concentrated place," Tubbs said. "It was unbelievable. I hunted that site for three months without getting skunked any one day."

Two of the prizes in his collection are an 1865 three-cent piece found in the local forest preserve and a 1920 Standing Liberty quarter.

Though most of his detecting has been in the immediate area, Tubbs, who works for the Wheeling Public Works Department, is ready for some exotic adventure. He and a fellow "detective" would like to explore an Illinois ghost town and some old farm towns in Wisconsin and Michigan.

"Most people spend money to get money," Tubbs said of other coin collectors."To me it's too boring. It's more of a challenge to find it buried."

Village workers negotiate pay hikes

By C.L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer

3-4-87

Employees in Wheeling's operations and maintenance department have negotiated a new four-year contract with annual pay raises of 5 to 5½ percent.

The Wheeling Village Board and the Wheeling Operations and Maintenance Department Nonsupervisory Employees Association reached the agreement that affects 27 people.

The contract begins May 1, 1987 and ends April 30, 1991. The association approved the contract Friday after a month of negotiations.

For the first three years of the pact, custodians, mechanics, crew leaders, water operators and janitors will get 5 percent increases while maintenance operators will receive 5½ percent increases, Wheeling Personnel Director Susan Musick said.

The larger increase for maintenance operators was determined after conducting a survey of maintenance operators in surrounding communities and finding that Wheeling's maintenance operators were behind other groups, Musick said.

Association spokesperson Scott Lark could not be reached for comment.

In the last year of the contract, wages for all operations and maintenance employees will be reviewed and possibly renegotiated, she said. Raises the first three years will mean an an estimated annual increase in the village budget of $33,000, village Finance Director Robert Fialkowski said.

There are six salary steps for operations and maintenance workers and increases are based on merit rather than seniority, Musick said.

Salaries ranging from the first to the sixth step with the new contract are as follows: janitors, $14,500-$18,900; maintenance operators, $17,302-$26,460; custodians, $18,337-$28,046; and crew leaders, mechanics and water operators, $20,819-$31,842.

Operations and maintenance employees had a two-year contract that brought annual pay raises of 4 to 5 percent.

Musick said a four year agreement was reached because relations are good between both sides.

Schultz in Washington, D.C., for League of Cities meeting

Wheeling Village President Sheila Schultz was among area officials to travel to Washington, D.C., this week to attend the National League of Cities annual congressional conference.

Schultz, who also serves as president of the Northwest Municipal Conference, and about 15 other conference members traveled to the conference, which is designed to brief local officials on how action in Washington will affect cities, conference spokesman Bill Abolt said.

Transportation and welfare reform will be among topics of discussion as Schultz and others, including village presidents from Buffalo Grove and Hanover Park, mayors from Rolling Meadows and Arlington Heights and the Palatine village manager, meet with Sen. Paul Simon, Sen. Alan Dixon's legislative director and Congressman John Porter, Abolt said.

Wheeling sets blood drive at village hall

A Wheeling Community Blood Drive will be held from 2:30 to 7:30 p.m. March 11 in the council chambers at Wheeling Village Hall, 255 W. Dundee Road.

Life Source, the combined blood banking service of the Blood Center of Northern Illinois and the Mid-America Chapter of the Red Cross, projects a need for 170,000 units of blood in 1987.

Each person who attends the blood drive will receive a coupon for a free slice of pizza from Wa-Pa-Ghetti's Pizza in Wheeling.

Feelings mixed on bartender school

By C.L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer

3-3-87

"You learn more behind the bar than in any class," says Joanne Joesel, a bartender at Hein's Pub in Wheeling.

Bartenders in Wheeling have mixed feelings toward the idea they should take classes to help them identify intoxicated customers.

Police Chief Michael Haeger is currently surveying bars in the village as to bartenders' interest in attending classes. Wheeling trustees got interested in educating bartenders after Haeger explained how Schaumburg requires bartenders to attend school.

Joesel, for instance, has been waitressing and bartending for 10 years. She said spotting the drunk takes common sense. She looks for droopy eyes and smokers who can't locate a nearby ashtray.

Village officials became interested in educating bartenders after hearing about a Schaumburg law that requires bartenders to carry licenses and attend school in recognizing intoxicated customers.

But instead of licensing bartenders, Wheeling officials are considering offering mandatory classes.

"It could help some people," bartender Richard Hill said. Hill, who works at Don Roth's Restaurant, said classes would especially help a new bartender, but more experienced bartenders could learn as well.

Everyone reacts differently to alcohol and even the best bartender can miss something, Hill said, also a 10-year veteran behind the bar.

"I had a guy come in straight as an arrow and walk out and get himself killed," he said.

John Rayer, bar manager for the 94th Aero Squadron restaurant, said some sort of instruction would be helpful because everybody's tolerance for alcohol is different.

It is important for bartenders to protect themselves from being sued by customers who get in accidents after being served.

"I would want to know as much as possible if I were held liable," Rayer said.

"The bottom line is knowing people," said Billy and Company bartender Michael Krause.

A bartender can use common sense in serving customers and see when they have had too much to drink, he said, echoing Joesel.

"If they (bartenders) have been dealing with the public for two or three years and they don't recognize that ...they shouldn't be in the business," said Krause, a bartender for seven years.

"I don't like to send anybody out on the street when they've had too much to drink," he said.

Village OKs new heating regulations

By C.L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer

3-3-87

Wheeling landlords who control the heat in their apartment buildings will be required to maintain a minimum temperature of 68 degrees, the village board decided Monday.

Although few tenants have complained to the village about heating problems in their apartments this year because of the mild weather, officials said they wanted to update the 1975 standards, which set the minimum at 60 degrees when the temperature was 10 below zero.

"Instead of doing crisis planning, this is preventive maintenance," village sanitarian Dan Adams said.

Landlords would be found in violation of the new law if the temperature in their apartments dipped below 68 degrees for two or more hours.

However, for landlords' protection, the law also says that tenants who pay their heating bills cannot turn the thermostat below 50 degrees. That will prevent water pipes from freezing in the building, Community Development Director Michael Klitzke said.

Wheeling Trustee James Whittington said the new law seems to make sense and is workable.

Officials also said that only a few landlords in Wheeling would be affected by the change. "I can't think of anyone who will have to make major changes in their equipment," Adams said.

Cheryl Sharpe, manager of the Oaks of Northfield apartments, 352 Inland Drive, said the law wouldn't cause a problem because it's already too warm in the winter for a lot of their tenants.

Landlords or tenants who keep the thermostat too low face fines of between $25 and $500 for the first offense, between $50 and $500 for the second offense and between $100 and $500 for the third and additional violations. Each day a violation occurs will be a separate offense.

Herald 3-9-87

Laurels to officials of Nortran, the Des Plaines-based suburban bus system, for agreeing to set up a full preventive maintenance program for its buses. Pace, the bus division of the Regional Transit Authority, has agreed to give Nortran a couple of mechanics temporarily to help Nortran get going. Nortran has been soundly criticized by Pace and Northwest suburban community leaders for failing to keep its buses in good condition.

ELECTION '87/THE ISSUES

THE RACE

Wheeling Village Board*

3-25-87

THE ISSUE

Wheeling's annexation of property on Lake-Cook Road east of the Cook County Forest Preserve has raised the ire of Northbrook and Riverwoods. Was annexing that property the right thing to do?

** Six candidates are running for three posts.*

JUDY ABRUSCATO: It would seem to me that the need of annexation to build more commercial buildings is not really necessary item our village. If the courts, however, say we had the right to annex the property then the surrounding communities will need to accept that instead of taking legal action and incurring the use of tax dollars on both communities to prove a point.

ANTHONY ALTIERI JR.: Current development levels in the Lake-Cook corridor by neighboring communities have severely and adversely impacted Wheeling. As a result of this we suffer all of the problems which have been created and receive no benefits. The voluntary annexation of this property affords us a small measure of control. Wheeling currently services this area and it is less than a mile from our previous boundaries.

From a historic perspective, the original corporate limits of the village are nearer the site than were those of our neighbors. I can only wonder how far Wheeling's expansion would have been if the Cook County Forest Preserve District had not intervened. Finally, the state legislature has enacted laws which permit annexations through forest preserves and across public roads.

CLIFFORD E. BIRD: I do not understand why Northbrook and Riverwoods should get excited about Wheeling's annexation of the property on Lake-Cook Road since both communities had the opportunity to annex the property but failed to do anything about it. I'm not aware of any current plans for the property but it could be developed into office buildings. I have no objection to the annexation.

ROGER A. POWERS: First, it is far enough away from the main part of Wheeling that we had to utilize the preserves to keep legal in the annexation itself, and this is being contested by nearby villages. Secondly, both Riverwoods and Northbrook have voiced strong opposition to what Wheeling has done, and while I do not believe in allowing nearby communities to dictate to Wheeling, there are two factors that must be considered. Why did Northbrook and Riverwoods not want this land developed the way Wheeling might do it? How will Wheeling go about getting water, sewer, police and fire protection to the new part of town? Is it something that is legal but not practical?

As it stands now, based upon the information I have available to me, I would not have supported this annexation unless it were a way to future growth of the village and its closing would have made Wheeling a land locked community. Absent that, however, I do not consider the land was that important to Wheeling and I question the wisdom of the annexation.

STEVE WHITE: Wheeling should not have annexed the property east of the forest preserve on Lake-Cook road. Providing services to that remote location will in the long run be a net drain on the taxpayers.

Construction and the additional traffic will be more headaches for the commuter. Perhaps a frontage road entrance either to the Commerce Clearing House stoplight or to Sanders Road would minimize additional traffic impact.

JAMES WHITTINGTON: The village was asked to annex the property in question by the contract purchaser after he attempted to negotiate an annexation agreement with Northbrook. Failing to receive approval from Northbrook he requested to be annexed into Wheeling. Since his request was legal therefore we acted accordingly. Additionally, several other factors were examined before accepting this voluntary annexation request. Specifically, we understand that this property should not cause additional strain to our village service such as water and fire.

Beyond these issues all requests for development of this property will be reviewed by appropriate commissions before final approval is granted.

White opposes village growth

By C.L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer

3-17-87

ELECTION '87

Stephen White may appear to be a typical candidate striking out against the present administration, but he's not so typical when stacked up against the other five candidates in the Wheeling trustee election.

Voters will go to the polls April 7.

White, 36, claims the village stepped in where it did not belong by purchasing Pal-Waukee Airport with Prospect Heights, and then buying up property near Dundee Road and Milwaukee Avenue to redevelop the area.

He said those interests should be limited to private industry, not government.

"A lot of people want the government more involved. But I don't agree with that," he said.

White is vying for one of three four-year seats on the village board, along with Anthony Altieri, Clifford E. Bird and James R. Whittingon on the Wheeling Upward Party ticket, and Judy G. Abruscato and Roger A. Powers as independents.

A political newcomer, White is not sure how much support he has. But the youngest candidate does know he doesn't like the way the village is operating.

"I could do the same as everyone else and not say anything controversial," he says. "The best way to be a politician is to roll with the punches and not say anything controversial."

Further, he claims that the annexation and redevelopment of the Grand Champion Stables property along Lake-Cook Road will only cause increased traffic and cost taxpayers money by providing services to that area.

The trend of Wheeling's government toward expansion, is what White said he is fighting first and foremost.

WEDNESDAY

- A community blood drive will be held from 2:30 to 8 p.m. at the Wheeling Village Hall, 255 W. Dunde Road. LifeSource will conduct the drive and appointments to donate may be made by calling 459-2691.
- A potluck lunch will be served at noon at the Wheeling Pavilion Senior Center.

PUBLIC SPEAKING

- "We don't get a big benefit out of that, but it would help some." — Mark R. Johnson, consultant with Coffman Associates, a firm studying ways to reduce noise levels at Pal-Waukee Airport, explaining that one solution to the noise problem might be to have pilots turn their planes 30 degrees after leaving the northbound runway.

3-10-87 HERALD

3-5-87 HERALD

Historical exhibit

The Wheeling Historical Society announces that their new exhibit will open next week at the Wheeling Historical Museum. It sounds interesting. It might pique your curiousity. If you're familiar with the Historical Museum, you know that it's located in a rather small building at Chamber Park, 251 N. Wolf in Wheeling. Well, the press release specifically says, "our new exhibit, Pal-Waukee Airport."

(I've seen Pal-waukee Airport.. . they may not realize it yet, but they will soon enough. That airport simply is not going to fit into the Historical Museum.)

You can view the new exhibit during regular museum hours: from 1 to 5 p.m. Sundays, and from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays. For more information, call 537-5110.

Senior Center hours

The Wheeling Pavilion Senior Center will be opening its doors for some extended hours soon. Pavilion will be open from 6:30 to 9 p.m. Monday evenings beginning next Monday, March 9. The Center is located at 199 N. First Street in Wheeling. A variety of programs including movies and a Harper college course will be offered. For more information, call the Barb Hansen Senior Coordinator, at 459-2670.

"Never apologize for showing feeling. When you do so, you apologize for truth." —Benjamin Disraeli.

BARTLETT

Too close for comfort

A proposed landfill on the outskirts of Bartlett lies dangerously close to a main water supply of a neighboring community, critics of the landfill charged Thursday. The estimated $35 million balefill, so named because garbage is compressed into bales before it is buried, is targeted for 409 acres on West Bartlett Road near Route 25. Elgin Mayor Richard L. Verbic and other officials from nearby towns said they are concerned that South Elgin's main water supply stands about three-quarters of a mile south of the balefill site. "Landfills are not the kind of neighbors anyone welcomes," Verbic said. "The reason for that is not hard to find."

3-20-87 HERALD

HERALD

THE WEEK AHEAD

3-8-87

Zoning board will consider message sign

Allowing an electronic message sign in the village will be reviewed by members of the Wheeling Zoning Board of Appeals on Tuesday.

The board will meet at 7:30 p.m. in Wheeling Village Hall, 255 W. Dundee Road.

First National Bank of Wheeling has requested that a electronic message sign be placed near its facility at 125 McHenry Road, but electronic signs are prohibited by village code, building, zoning, housing administrator Thomas E. Fennell said.

The only exception for electric signs is time and temperature signs, he said.

Bank representatives claim that the sign is needed because the bank is in a hidden location, but at the first public hearing before the board, Fennell recommended that the sign not be approved because of the existing code.

Discussions about the sign were continued to this meeting so the bank could present a report supporting its side, Fennell said.

"Our feeling is if it's okay for First National, we should change the code," he said.

If the zoning board of appeals granted a variation to the bank to have the sign, there would be no precedent set because each variation request is considered an individual case, he said.

The zoning board of appeals is now reviewing sign rules and regulations in Wheeling and the request for an electronic message sign should be included in that discussion, Fennell said.

The top meeting

Who: The Wheeling zoning board of appeals

Where: Wheeling village hall, 255W. Dundee Road

When: 7:30 p.m. Tuesday

Hazardous Dundee Road intersection getting some relief

3-6-87

By C.L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Fast food lovers and truck drivers will have an easier time turning onto Dundee Road after Northgate Parkway and Boehmer Road are realigned where they cross Dundee Road.

The intersection has been called hazardous for semi-trailer truck drivers turning onto Dundee Road from Northgate and drivers leaving Burger King from Boehmer.

Community Development Director Michael Klitzke said connecting the two streets at a 62-degree angle and installing a traffic light will improve traffic flow. Northgate has become a major thoroughfare because it connects to Lake-Cook Road and it has more industrial traffic with developments north on the street, Klitzke said.

The Illinois Department of Transportation will advertise for construction bids in May and actual construction should take a year to complete, officials said.

Plans also include installing a new bridge on Northgate over the Wheeling drainage ditch, widening Northgate south of the bridge from two to four lanes and installing northbound and southbound left-turn lanes on Dundee Road.

Total construction costs are estimated at $1.3 million. Wheeling's share is $234,993, while the state will pay $160,126 and the Federal Highway Administration will pay $931,681.

FBI will screen liquor license applicants

By Joan Fleischer
and Jane Oppermann
Daily Herald staff writers

3-18-87

The Village of Wheeling will go the extra mile in checking out the background of people applying for liquor licenses, by sending fingerprints of all applicants to the FBI for clearance.

Village trustees gave unanimous approval to a recommendation by Village Manager Thomas M. Markus and Police Chief Michael F. Haeger that the village liquor control commissioners be granted authority to obtain criminal history background checks of all liquor license applicants.

Markus said the new requirement is not predicated by any particular incident.

"We've always done background checks of applicants and we've never had a problem of rejecting someone or taking a license away because they had committed a felony or crime of moral turpitude," the village manager said.

Under the new ordinance, liquor commissioners will be able to obtain Illinois Department of State Police and FBI information on any person applying for a liquor license in the village. The new law will not apply to current license holders.

Information from federal and state authorities will be sent directly to the police chief, who would then forward it to the liquor commission.

The only concern raised by village officials is to retain the confidentiality of applicants.

But Markus assured trustees the information would be confidential and it will be destroyed.

"We want to protect against information going one step further than necessary to secure liquor licenses," he said.

The village will pay an additional $24 for record checks obtained from fingerprint cards sent to the FBI and $10 for information from state police.

Village gives OK to home construction

By Joan Fleischer
and Jane Oppermann
Daily Herald staff writers

3-18-87

Wheeling village trustees have given the go-ahead for the construction of 15 houses on land at Hintz and Elmhurst roads.

Trustees demanded and got sidewalks from the developer.

The village board unanimously approved preliminary plans for the Drake's Landing subdivision, which borders Prospect Heights and lies just southeast of Wheeling High School.

Trustees agreed to reduce the minimum lot size from 20,000 square feet to 7,000 square feet.

Twelve houses will be built on two cul-de-sacs on the south side of Hintz Road and three homes will be located on Maple Lane.

The village of Wheeling's comprehensive plan designated the former unincorporated Cook County land for single-family residential development on the larger lot sizes. Originally, only seven houses were supposed to be built there.

Developer Raymond W. Drake of Lake Zurich, who developed the adjoining Glendrake subdivision in Prospect Heights, said the houses will blend in with the area's rural setting.

Drake objected to the village's ordinance requiring developers to construct sidewalks, curbs and gutters in all subdivisions.

"To spend money to put a sidewalk into a bunch of bushes doesn't make sense," said Drake's attorney, Dennis G. Taheny of Barrington.

But trustees argued that the safety of residents comes before aesthetics.

"Appearance is not my first concern, it's safety," said Village President Sheila H. Schultz. "I'm thinking of small children with bikes."

Trustee Anthony Altieri added: "It's not a question of what looks good and what doesn't. We do have standards and those standards haven't been met."

Village officials said safe pedestrian access was a major concern and to allow a new subdivision to eliminate sidewalks was wrong. The village is often asked to put sidewalks in older neighborhoods.

"I don't think people that buy those houses will appreciate the fact that there are no curbs and gutters," said Trustee William Rogers.

Trustee James R. Whittington was the only trustee backing the developer's proposal to not have sidewalks.

"I don't think people will use it," he said. "Who's going to walk to nowhere?"

HERALD

in Chamber of Commerce Park, 251 N. Wolf Road. A variety of photos and other memorabilia showing the airport's history will be on display from 2 to 5 p.m. Former airport owner George Priester and family, Priester Aviation administrative assistant Esther Noffke and a few of the Pal-Waukee Airport commissioners will be on hand.

Pal-Waukee preview exhibit slated

3-9-87

Aviation enthusiasts are invited to attend a preview Sunday of the Pal-Waukee Airport exhibit at the Wheeling Historical Museum

ON YOUR MIND

3-1-87

Voters mull visit to polls next month

Herald

Local municipal elections are coming up in April. Are you informed about your local candidates and do you intend to vote?

Marianne L. Fox, 56, Kenilworth Drive, Wheeling. Homemaker.

"Yes, I am informed and I do intend to vote. And I find that people in my circle of friends are informed also.

"I think the local government in Wheeling is doing a pretty good job— better than in the past, with the beautification of the village and the museum. I think voting in local elections can make a difference in giving you a voice to affect change."

Vincent Z. Follmer, 70, Buxton Court, Wheeling. Retired.

"I don't intend to vote because I'm just up here due to a death in the family and usually reside in Florida from January to the first of May. But I think it's a good idea for people to be informed and better acquainted with the candidates.

"As far as how local government affects my life, I am mostly interested in police and fire protection and local elections have nothing to do with that."

M. J. Foote, Valley Stream Drive, Wheeling. Homemaker.

"No, I don't intend to vote and I'm not informed at all about the candidates.

"I just been too bogged down with too many other things to get involved in local politics. I've divorced myself from what's going on right now and have no idea even who's running."

On Your Mind is a weekly feature of the Daily Herald. If you have something on your mind, or if you've got a question you'd like us to ask, contact us at P.O. Box 280, Arlington Heights, Ill. 60006, or phone 870-3635 from 9 a.m. to noon on Mondays.

— compiled by Mary Ford

Trustees to put heat on landlords

Wheeling trustees Monday will consider an ordinance forcing landlords to raise the temperature in their apartments.

Trustees will meet at 8 p.m. in village hall, 255 W. Dundee Road.

Wheeling Community Development Director Michael Klitzke said the current standards call for 60 degrees at night and 72 degrees during the day. But those standards were set during the energy crunch in 1975 and 60 degrees is too cold, particularly for elderly tenants, he said.

Under the proposed ordinance, if the temperature in a residence stays below 68 degrees for two hours or longer the owner or manager will be in violation.

Violators would be fined between $25 and $500 for the first offense and between $50 and $500 for the second offense. Third and successive violations will bring fines of $100 and $500. Each day a violation occurs will be considered a separate offense.

Currently, violators are fined between $5 and $500 for each offense. Each day a violation occurs after 10 days of receiving notice about the complaint is designated as a separate offense.

BLOOMINGDALE

Police want vests

3-12-87

Bloomingdale's Police Department is for the first time requesting the village buy its officers bullet-proof vests. Police Chief Gary Schira said several suburban shootings in recent months have "certainly heightened our awareness of the safety issue." Schira is asking for as much as $10,150 for vests for the department's 29 sworn officers, although the proposal is low on the list of police requests. "They would be nice to have but because of our current policy we don't think safety would be compromised without them," Schira said. A Mount Prospect policeman wearing a vest emerged unscathed from a gunshot to the chest in January. In late 1985, however, two officers from Prospect Heights and Wheeling were killed by bullets when they were not wearing vests.

Not all Pal-Waukee pilots like noise curbs

By C.L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer

3-16-87

Not all the jet pilots who use Pal-Waukee Airport are in favor of some of the noise-reduction suggestions made by airport consultants.

Representatives of Coffman Associates in Kansas City will ask jet pilots for their opinions about ways to curb noise in nearby residential areas.

Alternatives include encouraging air traffic controllers to steer more planes over the nearby industrial area on take-offs, telling pilots to cut back on engine thrust on takeoff and putting a curfew on planes leaving the airport.

"When somebody tells you they are going to reduce power takeoffs, they are crazy," pilot Randy Hutton said. He said planes are similar to cars. "You can accelerate up to 55 as fast as you want or as slow as you want." He said enforcing cutbacks on engine thrusts is impossible.

"To me altitude is safety," he said. Cutting back on the engine thrust means flying longer for takeoffs and spreading the noise around, whereas the sooner the plane gets higher, the less noise there is, said Brunswick Corp.'s aviation manager, who asked not to be identified.

Both Brunswick Corp. and FMC Corp. officials say their planes at Pal-Waukee are fairly new, and generally meet noise standards.

"We don't foresee any problems with the planes we fly," said Fred Stewart, chief pilot for FMC Corp. in Chicago. Changes at Pal-Waukee would not affect the way the company's pilots fly, he added.

Pilots for Brunswick Corp. in Skokie also said their plane at Pal-Waukee is new and meets noise standards.

After talking with pilots, the consulting firm will possibly present one or two plans for review by the Pal-Waukee Planning Advisory Committee and the Pal-Waukee Airport Commission and then draft a final plan for presentation in May, said Mark R. Johnson, consultant with Coffman Associates.

THE WEEK AHEAD

3-15-87

Insurance for Pal-Waukee to be discussed

Wheeling village trustees Monday will consider buying liability insurance for Pal-Waukee Airport.

The board meets 8 p.m. Monday in village hall, 255 W. Dundee Road.

The proposal before the board is to spend $52,549 for a year of liability insurance. It would protect the village, village officials and trustees from potential lawsuits arising from operations at the airport.

The general liability insurance package would also cover directors or officers at the airport, Village Manager Thomas M. Markus said.

Airport Corporation of America, the temporary managers of the airport, recommended paying the insurance over a period of time, but village staff is recommending that trustees pay the fee all at once to avoid interest payments, Markus said.

Trustees will also clarify the duties of Airport Corporation of America, whose contract as manager has been extended until June.

Neither Wheeling or Prospect Heights has acted on a proposal by the company which would make the company permanent managers of the airport under a proposed three-year contract.

Herald

ELECTION '87/THE ISSUES

3-20-87

THE RACE
Wheeling Village Board*

THE ISSUE
What are the issues?

** Six candidates are running for three posts.*

JUDY ABRUSCATO: I see the redevelopment and the coming of the Soo Line in the next year as large issues. I would like to see a voter awareness as it seems people still do not know what to do for elections. If we really made an issue out of what, how, when and where, we could get more people involved in voting, which is free to all.

ANTHONY ALTIERI JR.: 1) Palwaukee Municipal Airport environmental impact containment. 2) Effective flood control. 3) Easing of traffic congestion. 4) Solution to solid waste disposal problem. 5) Furtherance of the Crossroads redevelopment project (TIF District) 6) Striving to improve public transportation. 7) Continued open communications.

CLIFFORD E. BIRD: 1) Budget. The bottom line is to show expenditures to be 2 to 5 percent less than revenues and to have a reserve to cover unexpected emergencies. 2) Communications. Maintain present open lines of communications between citizens, elected officials and administration. 3) Traffic. To support public and private traffic studies for the Northwest municipal area to relieve congestion on Lake-Cook and Dundee roads.

ROGER A. POWERS: There are numerous situations which demand the attention of the village board but which are too numerous to mention, yet significantly similar in nature that they can be covered by two significant proposals. In the first place, Wheeling is being run by a village board made up of well-meaning individuals who do not wish to get significantly involved in the affairs of the village. They are all too willing to let the village manager, or any individuals the manager might designate, handle extremely important problems on their own without the benefit of input from the board.

This is not meant to demean the performance of the village manager, the village attorney or any of the professional staff currently employed by the Village of Wheeling. Instead it is to suggest that if a committee of three trustees were to handle certain large and important issues together with a village manager, the input of the residents of Wheeling might be weighted more heavily and, accordingly, more appropriate decisions might be made.

STEVE WHITE: 1) Taxes. The property tax rate for the Village of Wheeling has more than than doubled since 1980. The rate has increased annually despite an increased tax base from new development and annexations. It's time to abate taxes. Increase efficiency through privatization and elimination of duplicate services. 2) Traffic. The village should implement a plan to relieve congestion on major roadways in the village. The short term plan should include traffic signal synchronization. The long term plan should eliminate signals and put an overpass at the intersection of Lake Cook and Milwaukee. 3) Takeovers. Wheeling should not condemn viable retail property of one constituent to sell to another. 4) Trash. Conservation and recycling should be rewarded by lower rates for less trash. 5) Utilities. Market forces should govern electric rates. Wheeling should politic with the ICC and Governor toward that end.

JAMES WHITTINGTON: 1) The redevelopment of Milwaukee Avenue. 2) Increased traffic congestion on major routes throughout the village. 3) The development of public transportation services. 4) Completing the diversionary flood control channel through the village. 5) Participation in the development of a regional plan to manage solid waste.

Thursday, March 26, 1987

Tour of chamber office set

The Wheeling Area Chamber of Commerce and Industry has invited local business owners to tour its new office tonight during an after-hours gathering at 52 S. Milwaukee Ave.

Businessmen and women are invited from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. to tour the chamber's first office and Duxler Tire, which are both in the same building. The chamber moved into the office two weeks ago after five years at village hall.

Executive Director Jackie Pollack said the outgrew the free space at village hall, and the village needed the room for its own operation.

In the past two years, chamber membership has grown 68 percent from 147 members to 247, Pollack said.

Wheeling's chamber began as a loosely structured organization in 1928. It formalized about 10 years ago at the suggestion of Bob Hanson, now retired from Acco International in Wheeling.

Jane Kier was the first director, followed by Faye Moroz. Pollack has been director for six years. During her first year as director, Pollack said, she operated the chamber out of her kitchen.

The chamber is supported by membership dues. Officers are President Ed Main, Vice President Tom Kieger, Treasurer Ron Borden and Secretary Diane Baker.

WHEELING

Herald 3-31-87

Final land offers

Property owners in the Wheeling Crossroads redevelopment area have until Friday to respond to final offers made by the village for their land, but no one has jumped at the offers so far. The village is trying to buy property west of Milwaukee Avenue, between Dundee Road and Wheeling Towners, through tax increment financing. The property would then be sold to Vantage Companies of Arlington Heights to construct an $8.9 million retail center. Wheeling owns five parcels in the area and letters were sent to Doetsch and Associates Real Estate Inc., Dunkin' Donuts, Wheeling Auto Repair, Tien Tsin Restaurant and Dreiske's Florist a week ago making final offers on their properties.

Village Board race leads way to polls

WHEELING — Residents will go to the polls Tuesday to elect three trustees, four Library Board members and a Park District commissioner.

Only the Village Board race is contested.

Three of the candidates for trustee are running as part of the Wheeling Upward Party. They are incumbents Jim Whittington and Tony Altieri, and Cliff Bird. Bird is president of the Whippletree Homeowners Association and is also a

Election '87

member of the Park District's Capital Needs Re-Assessment Citizens Advisory Committee.

Also running for trustee are Steve White, a project superintendent with no experience in local government; Roger Powers, director of the computer resource center at Regina Dominican High School and a former trustee (from 1977-1985); and Judy Abruscato, an officer of the first National Bank of Wheeling who has been active in the community.

The trustee slots are for four-year terms. Nicholas Fanella is not seeking re-election to the board.

The only candidate for the one four-year Park Board seat up for election is incumbent James Gallagher.

A software programmer for Amoco Corp., Gallagher, has lived in Wheeling for 13 years. He was elected to the board in 1985 to fill an uncompleted term.

Two incumbents are seeking the two six-year Library Board seats up for election. They are Harold J. Linn and Wynne E. Weiss.

Incumbent Thomas Murray is seeking re-election to the one four-year Library Board seat up for election April 7.

Also running for the Library Board is newcomer Thomas J. Clyder, who is seeking the two-year seat being vacated by Ray Sereck.

Polls will be open Tuesday from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Onward with 'Upward' — Schultz

WHEELING — Village President Sheila Schultz has endorsed the three candidates running for trustee as part of the Wheeling Upward Party.

There are six candidates vying for three Village Board seats.

The Wheeling Upward Party consists of incumbents Tony Altieri and Jim Whittington along with newcomer Cliff Bird.

Schultz praised the experience of the two incumbents and the work they have done for the community.

She cited Bird for "his sincere interest in village government (which) was evidenced by his regular attendance at board meeings, initially as part of his responsibility as president of Whippletree Village."

Schultz said that "Wheeling has made remarkable progress in recent years, due to a responsive Village Board that clearly understands its role in meeting the challenges facing local government today. The diversity and independence of the board members have created a healthy atmosphere for discussion and informed decision making."

Other candidates for trustee are Steve White, a project superintendent; Roger Powers, director of the computer resource center at Regina Dominican High School; and Judy Abruscato, an officer of the first National Bank of Wheeling.

POWERS

ABRUSCATO

ALTIERI

WHITTINGTON

Trustees nix manpower requests

4-2-87 LIFE

WHEELING — At budget hearings held last month, Village Board members decided to hire three fewer employees than proposed by village staff.

In the 1987-88 budget, Village Manager Tom Markus suggested adding the equivalent of eight full-time employees.

Board members, however, refused to hire a road and bridge employee, a mechanic and a firefighter.

Concerning the firefighter, the board pointed out that a firefighter position that was supposed to be filled last year still remains open.

Village President Sheila Schultz said the board has the option to amend the budget at any time should there be a need to hire another employee in any department.

Proposed positions the board still plans to add are a police officer; a part-time secretary for the police department; a civilian supervisor for the police department; an assistant director of operations and maintenance; and an additional operator in the road and bridge department.

The budget also calls for increasing staff at the Senior Citizen Center. A part-time clerk/typist will be made full-time, and the hours of the part-time janitor will be increased.

The Senior Center is subsidized by the village and also supported through fees and fund-raising activities.

In the budget hearings, the board also decided to add $2,000 to the $9,800 proposed to be spent on the village newsletter. The additional money will be used to upgrade the newsletter by adding more photos and occasionally inserting sections, Markus said.

Schultz said details have yet to be decided, but the newsletter could also be made one double page longer. She praised the quality of the newsletter, but said the board would like to see some items expanded that are currently handled in a brief manner.

For example, she said, the village is very proud of the national award it recently received for the water tower. But the recognition received no newspaper coverage and only had a brief mention in the newsletter.

More photos, Schultz said, should make the newsletter more attractive and make people more likely to read it.

HERALD 3-19-87

1 named, 1 reappointed to Pal-Waukee commission

Prospect Heights Mayor John E. Gilligan has appointed one new commissioner and reappointed another to fill the city's four-member contingent on the Pal-Waukee Municipal Airport Commission.

The new member is Carey L. Chickerneo, of Prospect Heights. The eight-member commission oversees operation of the airport.

Gilligan said that after interviewing two other candidates he found Chickerneo the most qualified and most interested in the position.

Chickerneo, who is filling the four-year slot left open when commission member Daniel Quiery resigned in January, has worked as a sales and personnel manager.

He says those experiences will help him work at the airport, which Prospect Heights and Wheeling jointly bought last year.

First Ward Alderman Charles T. VanderVennet, whose term expired earlier this month, was reappointed to a four-year term. VanderVennet has been a commissioner for two years.

Aldermen approved the appointments without opposition.

The other four seats on the board are held by Wheeling residents and officials.

TODAY 3-21-87

- The Wheeling village board workshop on the 1987-88 budget will begin at 8 a.m. at the village hall, 255 W. Dundee Road.
- Andrew, a musical comedy juggler, will perform from 10:30 to 11 a.m. at the Indian Trails Public Library, 355 S. Schoenbeck Road. The program is for all ages, however, children under 6 must be accompanied by an adult. For information, call 459-4100.

SUNDAY

- The Wheeling Township Republicans are sponsoring a forum for village, library and park district candidates from 2 to 5 p.m. at the Chevy Chase Country Club,

State aid helps towns survive federal cuts

BY DAVE URBANEK
of our Springfield bureau

SPRINGFIELD — Twenty-one Northwest suburbs received a total of $5.4 million this week in "one-time only" sales tax revenues from the state as part of an effort to help local governments postpone budget decisions due to the loss of federal revenue-sharing funds.

Under a state law approved by the General Assembly last year, area municipalities were among 245 towns and counties that received an "extra" installment of their monthly local sales tax receipts this week — money collected locally but processed and distributed 12 times a year by the Department of Revenue.

"Basically, local governments will receive 13 sales tax checks this year instead of 12," said state Revenue Director Roger Sweet.

"It will help replace federal revenue sharing this year, there's no doubt about it," Bloomingdale Finance Director Patricia Just said of the extra tax check. "It will make the decisions on the upcoming budget easier for the village board to make."

Bloomingdale received $188,458 in its extra sales tax payment, more than the average $132,000 the village used to receive under federal revenue sharing.

Just said federal funds usually went to repair and construct roads, sewers and sidewalks, and that the village board might use the added sales tax money for the same purposes, though no decisions have been made yet. Bloomingdale's current budget is $7 million.

As the anticipated loss of federal revenue sharing funds became a reality over the last several years, many counties and municipalities have been forced to cut back on programs and services in order to make ends meet.

The state has been trying to develop avenues to help local governments while finding ways to help them become more self-sufficient. The extra sales tax check is one of those measures.

Lawmakers authorized the Department of Revenue to estimate the sales taxes returned monthly to each community and to issue — this year only — a 13th check in that amount to cities, towns and counties with annual sales tax receipts of $500,000 or more.

Sales tax 'bonus'

Arlington Heights	$620,910
Barrinton	175,416
Bloomingdale	188,458
Buffalo Grove	127,406
Des Plaines	534,590
Elk Grove Village	499,736
Hanover Park	105,531
Hoffman Estates	143,618
Lake Zurich	66,326
Libertyville	254,606
Mount Prospect	362,075
Mundelein	111,223
Palatine	175,692
Prospect Heights	43,397
Rolling Meadows	459,568
Roselle	77,145
Schaumburg	1,104,855
Streamwood	44,841
Vernon Hills	158,471
Wauconda	39,461
Wheeling	175,797

The extra tax checks totaled $50.2 million, and were paid for by interest earned on local sales taxes that the department has held for many years.

Some Northwest suburban communities anticipated the extra check, have already made decisions about life without federal revenue sharing and will use the money to shore up their budgets.

ELECTION '87/THE ISSUES

3-24-87

THE RACE
Wheeling Village Board*

THE ISSUE
Transportation officials may reinstate commuter service on the Soo Line railroad. Do you support the plan and how would you relieve traffic going to the new station on Dundee Road?

** Five candidates are running for three posts.*

JUDY ABRUSCATO: I support the coming of commuter service through Wheeling. In helping to relieve traffic down Dundee Road, I would do a market plan as follows: 1) Car pooling. 2) Walking to the train (walking is especially good for your heart). 3) Shuttle buses especially during rush hours, 6 to 8 a.m. and 5 to 7 p.m.

ANTHONY ALTIERI, JR.: I'm in support of this plan. The main thrust of this project is to relieve traffic congestion and not add to it. I will encourage establishing additional bus routes to the station. Car pooling will also be promoted and the stations location may also foster pedestrian traffic. All in all these measures should help ease traffic congestion.

CLIFFORD E. BIRD: I would support the development of the Soo Line as a commuter rail service. As for traffic going to the new station on Dundee Road, that would be a problem if the train station is located there. It could be located on the south end of the village. I don't think Soo Line officials have made that commitment yet. If it ends up on Dundee, then Dundee Road may have to be widened in that area and traffic lights installed.

ROGER A. POWERS: If the station can be located at or near an open area — perhaps the Wheeling Park District has some land available — or a business owns excess land which is scheduled for expansion in 10, 15 or 20 years, then this land could be utilized for a station at least at this time. Is the location of a commuter stop beneficial to Wheeling? I feel it is. Is it necessary that the station be located on Dundee Road? I do not think it has to be on Dundee Road. If possible, land that cannot be used for larger buildings, due perhaps to the makeup of the soil or the location relative to a flood plain, might be considered for commuter parking.

STEVE WHITE: I support commuter rail service for Wheeling. I would suggest the station be located in an area where traffic problems could be minimized.

JAMES WHITTINGTON: First, I do support the plan. My only reservation with it is that we may not plan far enough ahead. I agree with transportation officials that we should try the new route before we spend a large amount of money on the project, but when we decide to go ahead we should build a system that will be useful in the 21st century as well as now.

Second, congestion on Dundee Road is a real problem. It must be considered before plans for a commuter station are completed. Several options are available, including locating the station closer to Hintz Road. The option discussed most often is locating the new station where the original station was located.

District can't afford park: officials

BY FREIDA GAD
Daily Herald Correspondent

Plans for a park in the Arlington Country Club development are dead because Wheeling Park District officials say they can't afford the land.

The park district wanted to buy a five-acre plot in the development at the northeast corner of Buffalo Grove and Dundee Roads, but the developer's selling price was three times higher than the park district was able to spend, Board President Anthony Abruscato said.

After consulting two land appraisers, the district offered Lexington Homes, Ltd. of Arlington Heights $390,000 for the parcel.

The State of Illinois would have provided half the money in a matching grant and the park district would have used a portion of the developer's cash donation to pay the for the rest, board member James Gallagher said.

Lexington President Ronald J. Benach, in a letter to the board, said the site is worth $1,200,000, "and (Lexington) would not entertain an offer for less money."

The park district's offer represents the cost of "raw acreage," Benach said, but the firm already put some money into it.

In 1984 the park district had the option of purchasing the entire 131-acre golf course for $6 million and sought help from the Arlington Heights and Buffalo Grove park districts.

Both districts rejected the plan as too expensive.

Wheeling Park officials then lowered their sights and started planning for a park within the development. In October 1984, Lexington agreed to donate $221,000 to the park district for development of a park site on 11.5 acres of the golf course, provided the parcel was annexed by the village of Wheeling.

The golf course land was annexed, and Lexington was given approval to construct 380 condominiums, 430 apartments, and 164 town homes, but the park site was not developed, because the district could not afford to buy it, Gallagher said.

Through negotiations with the developer, the parcel was reduced to 5 acres, and the district made an offer on the land. However, park officials were not prepared for Lexington's response.

"I was in shock when I saw that $1.2 million," board member Julie Robberson said.

"The price far exceeds the money we can offer," Abruscato said. "The board will drop all efforts in this matter."

ELECTION '87/THE ISSUES

THE RACE

Wheeling Village Board* 3-23-87

THE ISSUE

What is the village board's role in co-managing Pal-Waukee Airport?

* *Six candidates are running for three posts.*

JUDY ABRUSCATO: The board has policy making responsibilities as does the village. The village manager is responsible for directing and controlling of all village operations, which Pal-Waukee Airport is now part of.

ANTHONY ALTIERI, JR.: The main reason for being involved in the purchase of the airport is to insure Wheeling's voice in the decision making process. The village board should only relinquish as much authority to other entities as the efficient day-to-day operation of the airport requires.

CLIFFORD E. BIRD: With the size of the operation and investments involved, the village board must maintain control. It is important that a day-to-day operational manager be hired that would report to the village manager who in turn reports to the village board. A point of compatibility must be reached between the boards of Wheeling and Prospect Heights to ensure a high degree of operational efficiency.

ROGER A. POWERS: I feel someone other than a member of the staff of Wheeling or Prospect Heights should be employed to manage the airport. An individual may be an excellent village manager, but what experience, knowledge or expertise does he or she have in the administration of an airport? The problems encountered in managing an airport are different from those encountered in managing a city or town. I would respectfully suggest that the village boards of Wheeling and Prospect Heights co-manage the airport in the sense of setting the general guidelines for operation. Then these same village boards have a responsibility to hire a competent, professional manager of an airport, give the individual or firm hired the guidelines he is expected to follow, and then let him alone so long as he follows the guidelines. The boards role should be limited to setting the overall operating guidelines (the budget, for example) for the airport and then letting the manager operate, keeping additional roles for the village boards at a minimum.

STEVE WHITE: Wheeling should sell its interest in the airport to Prospect Heights. The agreement should allow Wheeling to collect an annual fee equivalent to taxes a private owner would be paying for an airport. This would relieve Wheeling of future airport maintenance and liability costs.

JAMES WHITTINGTON: Because we had an opportunity to purchase the airport at an economically advantageous time, several details were deferred until some time in the future. One such deferment which has come to the forefront is the village's role in co-managing the airport. The daily management of the facility will require a professional manager. This manager should report to both the village manager of Wheeling and the city administration of Prospect Heights. Additionally, the airport commission has an advisory role in the overall operation but the determination of operating policy must remain with the respective municipal boards.

ELECTION '87/THE ISSUES

THE RACE 3-21-87

Wheeling Village Board*

THE ISSUE

What is your assessment of the downtown redevelopment plan at Milwaukee Avenue and Dundee Road?

* *Six candidates are running three posts.*

JUDY ABRUSCATO: The good points in the downtown redevelopment are: 1) Increased job opportunities. 2) Having people stay in their village to shop and bringing people in from surrounding areas to shop in Wheeling. 3) Helps keep our tax base steady in the village.

The only bad point I see at this time is that with all growth there is relocation, but since they have had their businesses in the village they could rebuild and become part of the redevelopment which will help them continue to grow as they have over the years.

ANTHONY ALTIERI JR.: This project is aimed at improving the asthetics of the area, creating more jobs for residents and improving tax base. We also wish to attract new businesses currently not available to residents in Wheeling. It will utilize currently undeveloped commercial properties which would most likely remain undeveloped for a long time without this program.

The only negative point is the possibility of displacing some of the current businesses. Hopefully alternate sites in or adjacent to this area will be found for them, just as some others have already done.

CLIFFORD E. BIRD: Good points: This project would bring in new business, create jobs, be an economical plus for Wheeling, improve appearance and be a convenience for local shoppers.

Bad point: Displacement of certain existing businesses and other buildings in the area.

ROGER A. POWERS: Currently, I am in favor of a plan which will allow for the redevelopment of the Milwaukee-Dundee area. The good parts of the proposed plan as it now stands is that several older, less useful buildings and some buildings that are actually in disuse will be rehabilitated or destroyed to make room for a newer, more viable downtown area. Tax incremental financing can be used to encourage developments such as the one considered for this area, and if properly handled, a newer part of Wheeling can be brought to fruition with newer, more viable business concerns operating in areas that are now, in the minds of some, totally unproductive. This would provide jobs for our residents and tax revenues for our community.

The bad points of our specific program is that there are too many business and residential facilities that were still in good condition when this plan was introduced. To word this another way, there was the danger that too many individuals and businesses would have to be relocated in order for this redevelopment to be successful, and even then the success was not a certainty.

STEVE WHITE: Wheeling should not be involved in a speculative real estate venture. It is wrong for Wheeling to condemn property of one retailer to sell it to another.

JAMES WHITTINGTON: The redevelopment of the village's downtown area is crucial to the well being of the entire village. While present efforts have been focused on the proposed Crossroad Shopping Center, future development of the overlay zone along Milwaukee Avenue will enhance not only the appearance of the area, but the safety and economic health of village residents. Conversely these proposed changes will cause some existing use of the properties to cease or move. In general the plan will benefit our community.

No takers yet in Wheeling's land buy offer

3-31-87

By C. L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Property owners in the Wheeling Crossroads redevelopment area have until Friday to respond to final offers made by the village for their land, but no one has jumped at the offers so far.

The village is trying to buy property west of Milwaukee Avenue, between Dundee Road and Wheeling Towners, through tax increment financing. The property would then be sold to Vantage Companies of Arlington Heights to construct an $8.9 million retail center.

Wheeling owns five parcels in the area and letters were sent to Doetsch and Associates Real Estate Inc., Dunkin' Donuts, Wheeling Auto Repair, Tien Tsin Restaurant and Dreiske's Florist a week ago making final offers on their properties, Village Attorney James Rhodes said. Neither Rhodes or the property owners contacted would say what offers were made.

"This is the point where we find out if people are serious about selling their property. A lot of people just think we're going to go away," he said. Rhodes said the village will condemn land if it can't reach purchase agreements.

Bernie Brueggemann, owner of Wheeling Auto Repair, says he may end up in court because he isn't satisfied with the village's latest offer, which he says is comparable to one made last December.

"If that's all they're going to offer, then it will go to court," he said.

Offers will go out this week to Sportmart Inc. for a portion of its parking area and to Steve Levin, who owns a house on Milwaukee Avenue, Rhodes said.

Paul Doetsch of Doetsch and Associates said he is trying to work out terms to sell his property to the village.

Vantage is willing to incorporate any present business into the retail center, but it isn't likely that the auto parts business would fit into the design, Rhodes said. There are other properties in the village that are conducive to automobile businesses, he added.

Policemen's vests 3-20-87

Bloomingdale Police Chief Gary Shira is proposing as one of 10 new programs for 1987-88 that all policemen be required to wear bullet-proof vests. He has support from two of the three members of the village board finance committee, and the committee is expected to recommend that vests be included the budget for next year.

Providing vests for the 29 sworn officers in the Bloomingdale Police Department could cost as much as $10,155. That does not seem like a very big price to pay if it saved the life of just one officer.

That is what happened in Mount Prospect in January. A policeman there was unhurt when shot in the chest because he was wearing a bullet-proof vest. On the other hand, a Wheeling policeman who was not protected with a vest was shot to death in late 1985.

Bloomingdale police could wear vests now, but they would have to buy their own out of the $400 clothing allowance each receives every year. If vests were made mandatory, the village would pay for them.

Although Chief Shira would like the bullet-proof vests for his men, if he has to make a choice, he would give priority to other items such as new radios and radar units. However, the trustees could give him those plus the vests. We would encourage them to seriously consider doing that.

Changes in offing for senior complex plan

By Jim Lundin
Daily Herald Correspondent 3-16-87

Changes will be made in plans for a $25 million senior housing facility before construction starts, the Wheeling Plan Commission indicates.

A portion of the lake will be filled in with dirt and one wing of the proposed seven-story building will be moved slightly so as not to be built on the newly filled portion of the lake.

Leisure Technology Inc. of Northbrook plans to construct a 200-apartment facility on First Avenue south of Strong Street. The company is reverting back to its original plan by filling in the lake.

Sheldon Kantoff of Leisurecare said, "We have not really changed the plan, but the land was not as we thought it was so we had to make these changes."

To highlight the dining area, the developer also plans to move the dining area to the front of the building. Kantoff believes this will enhance the image of the building both inside and out.

The facility will be linked to a planned 50-bed nursing home to be built on 7.76 acres. The company hopes to have the building completed by the end of 1988.

Apartments will mostly have one bedroom, but studios and two-bedroom apartments will also be available. The average monthly rent will be $1,500. LeisureCare will be similar to Church Creek in Arlington Heights in the services they will offer.

Leisure Technology must still come before the plan commission to get approval for lighting, landscaping and signage plans.

Post namesake recalls sacrifices of veterans

3-22-87

Lisa Schab

Wheeling

"Phillip Carpenter Post No. 66 AMVETS" says the letterhead, and you've seen that name in this column before.

"Many...do not know the origin of our post name," writes Frank Lipowsky, post commander. "Phillip Carpenter was the first Wheeling World War II veteran to give his life for our country."

Lipowsky, who himself served in the Air Force from 1950 to 1954, shares a letter from Joe Vetter, a friend of the Phillip Carpenter family. It reminds us of the courage of men from our own community who gave their lives for us, the future generations.

"...I sent Phil and the men to headquarters at about 6 in the evening. They were given the orders, and Phil came back and told me what he was to do, and where he was to go. He wrote a letter to his wife and asked me to mail it if anything should happen. We had supper together and he left on his patrol at about 10 p.m. He advanced about 600 yards and ran into a German patrol and a fire fight ensued. That was about 11:30 p.m.

"At about 12:45 Sgt. Robertson, who was with Phil, reported to me that Phil had been shot in the left side of the neck with a burst of machine gun fire, and that he was dead.

"Sgt. Robertson handed me Phil's watch which he took off Phil's arm when he felt his pulse. He told me he crawled up to see how badly Phil had been hit and as soon as he turned him over he said he knew he was gone. It was a very moonlit night — almost as light as day. He felt his pulse then had to withdraw because of the terrific fire that was being placed on that area. There wasn't a chance of bringing Phil's body out at that time.

"What was left of the Patrol returned to my headquarters and at about 1:15 a.m. Sgt. Robertson and another Patrol went back to try and get Phil's body, but he had been moved by the Germans and they couldn't find him. We looked that area over good when we did take it, about two weeks later, but nothing was found. This all happened at St. Germain D'Elle, France, about 12 miles south of Cerisi Forest.

"I do want you to know that Phil was the best officer I had in my command, and my closest friend. I submitted Phil's promotion five days before he was killed. He was so pleased — he said, 'Thanks, Capt. Joe, I know this will please Fran and the folks.' I'm only sorry he didn't live to be a first lieutenant. He wanted it so badly. He was a fine boy..."

This letter was dated the 23rd of January, 1946, just 40 years ago. The Wheeling AMVETS Post was named for Phillip Carpenter. This letter will be framed and placed in the Post Home, 700 McHenry Road in Wheeling.

Lipowsky also spoke hopefully about progress on getting the AMVETS monument, now located in Chamber Park, to be moved to the post grounds.

"The monument is in honor of all Wheeling veterans that gave their lives. It was originally in Heritage Park, and then moved to Chamber Park."

The monument in question will be making its third move, a feat that is easier talked about than done.

"It weighs about 7,000 pounds," says Lipowsky. "It's 9 feet 5 inches tall, and about 4 feet wide. We'll be putting it right alongside Route 83, so you'll be able to see it from the road. We'll probably order a flagpole and plant some bushes too. We're hoping that this will be able to be done within the month."

The Wheeling AMVETS membership is open to all veterans with honorable discharges. Regular meetings are held on the second Tuesday of every month. For more information, call Frank Lipowsky at 541-3818, or the post at 537-0440.

"If we fall on evil days, let us avoid dishonour — for honour is our only gain in death." — Aeschylus

Village is stalling on contract: firefighters

By C. L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer

3-21-87

Wheeling firefighters are charging that the village is stalling on contract negotiations in an attempt to force firefighters out of including lieutenants in their bargaining unit.

Village officials, meanwhile, say they are only following legal procedures. They are appealing a ruling by the Illinois Labor Relations Board last November that said lieutenants should be included in the Wheeling Firefighters Association.

"They are just using the legal avenues that exist to appeal and to avoid dealing with the local," union attorney Dale Berry said.

The village had refused to bargain with firefighters because the union had voted to include lieutenants.

That issue will be decided in court, and firefighters said they were willing to bargain instead using the old bargaining unit — the one without lieutenants.

However, village officials say the original unit of the firefighters' association doesn't exist anymore since the union voted to add lieutenants and form a new unit.

"They want their cake and to eat it too," Village Manager Thomas M. Markus said.

Wheeling Village President Sheila Schultz echoed Markus: "They want to go back and bargain with the original unit, which is no longer their unit."

But Berry said the village is stalling. The appeal process could last a year, he said, and the village's refusal to reopen negotiations with the original bargaining unit is "a strategy to put so much economic pressure on the union that they give up," he said.

Firefighters and the village have been on a see-saw with negotiating a new contract for about a year. The village began bargaining with rank-and-file firefighters in January 1986, but when lieutenants asked for recognition as part of the unit in February, the village said it would no longer bargain.

City told it can't condemn parcel

By Dan Rozek
Daily Herald Staff Writer

3-20-87

Prospect Heights has been told it cannot condemn land in neighboring Wheeling to help keep a controversial day care center open, but city officials are considering other options.

City officials want to meet with Wheeling officials to enlist their aid in easing traffic problems at the center, which is in Prospect Heights but bordered by Wheeling.

Wheeling officials previously balked at efforts to open a second driveway at the center, but say they're willing to meet.

"We're always willing to meet with people who want to meet with us, especially when they're our neighbors," Assistant Manager Robert Fialkowski said.

Part of the land is owned by the Pleasant Run Homeowners Association, which has so far refused to let a driveway cross it. A smaller part is owned by the Wheeling Park District.

Prospect Heights officials had thought about trying to condemn the property so a second exit could be built across it to ease traffic congestion.

City Attorney Donald Kreger, however, told officials they can't do it.

"There are only certain exceptions for condemning land outside your boundaries, and that's not one," Kreger said.

City officials have conditioned the special zoning needed to keep the center open on the construction of a second driveway. Neighbors and city officials say the new exit is needed to ease congestion around the building, formerly John Muir School.

Wheeling officials also have not been supportive of those efforts, saying they do not want to ease traffic congestion on Prospect Heights streets by funneling it through Wheeling.

Prospect Heights Administrator Robert R. Kiely said city officials want to discuss the situation directly with Wheeling officials.

Pal-Waukee exhibition taking off at museum

BY SANDY ALTIERI 3-12-87

■ This Sunday marks the start of the special "Pal-Waukee Airport" exhibit at the Wheeling Historical Museum, Chamber Park, 251 N. Wolf Road. The exhibit consists of photographs that tell the story of the airport from its beginning to the present time.

ALTIERI

There are many serial views showing Wheeling's growth through the years. Artifacts, including a 1947 Ercoupe propeller, a wicker pilot's seat such as the one used by Charles Lindbergh, and a brass aviation lamp are also on display.

Pal-Waukee Airport was founded in 1925. Originally known as Gauthier's Flying Field, it contained 40 acres of grassy open area. By 1933, the airport property totaled 91 acres and several buildings now housing the Hangar Restaurant, Priester Aviation offices, the flight school lounge, and the charter divisions. A hangar for the Goodyear Blimp was on the airport property from 1933 until it was demolished in 1946. The Goodyear Blimp was based there through the duration of the Chicago World's Fair.

Priester Aviation Service purchased the airport in 1953. At that time, the airport covered 109 acres, had four sand and gravel runways, 70 T-hangars and 62 based aircraft. The first runway was paved in 1954 and additional runway construction and paving occurred in 1955 and 1959. The airport assumed its present configuration in 1965 when the 5,000-foot Runway 16-34 was constructed. Other improvements were made through the 1960s and 1970s, including the construction of the air traffic control tower in 1967, and the installation of an instrument landing system on Runway 16-34.

On Dec. 30, 1986, the airport officially shifted from private to public ownership, thus becoming Pal-Waukee Municipal Airport. The village of Wheeling and the city of Prospect Heights are now the joint owners of the nation's largest reliever airport. Pal-Waukee is the home base to aviation departments of over 140 companies. In addition, there are over 430 aircraft occupying hangar and tie-down space.

The exhibit will run through April during museum hours, 1 to 5 p.m. Sundays, and 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays.

■ Amvets 66 Auxiliary is holding its annual "Spring Gala" Sunday, March 29, at Amvets, 700 Old McHenry Road. The festivities, which consist of games and prizes, will begin at 1 p.m. Human Bingo will be played in which each person will sign a block and names will be called as opposed to numbers. Each winner will receive a prize, and there will also be door prizes for a $2 donation at the door. The proceeds from this event support the auxiliary's many community service projects. These include monthly visits to the VA Hospital in North Chicago and the Maple Hill Nursing Home in Long Grove, where the organization runs bingo games for the patients. Other projects include awarding scholarships to high school seniors, assisting needy families and children, and working with the USO at O'Hare Airport.

■ Congratulations to the Chemical People Task Force for being cited as Outstanding Service to Youth Volunteers at the Omni-House Youth Services benefit held Feb. 28.

■ The Wheeling Jaycees are seeking new members who are between the ages of 18 and 35. The Jaycees play a vital role in this village with its many community service projects. As a result, they are the number two chapter in the state of Illinois. To join this dynamic young group of men and women, call President Mark Santy at 537-3673.

■ Congratulations to Wheeling residents **Marty Shuster and Faye Moroz** on their promotions to corporate offices at MFC Mortgage, a subsidiary of First National Bank of Wheeling.

■ Firefighter/Paramedic **Don Malin** conducted First Air and CPR refresher courses for various Boy Scout troops during the month of February. The course is a requirement for attaining the Boy Scout First Aid Merit Badge.

■ **Bill and Alliene Wright** of Beverly Drive recently returned from California, where they attended the wedding of their youngest son, Bob.

Woody and Sue Hughes of Marcy Lane recently returned from Florida, where they spent a month of fun in the sun.

■ The Fourth of July committee would appreciate a donation on the water bill to help make this year's celebration bigger and better than ever.

Parents are concerned by basin drop-off

3-14-87 HERALD

Parents who live near the Meadowbrook tot lot on Nancy Lane are concerned that there is no fence around a five-foot deep retention basin near the play area, but village officials say they can't do anything.

The basin was constructed last fall to collect storm water from the Pal-Waukee Business Center at Hintz and Wolf roads, community development director Michael J. Klitzke said.

The tot lot and the basin are both in a floodway area near the Buffalo Creek-Wheeling Drainage Ditch and the state won't allow construction of a fence around the basin because it will catch debris when the area floods.

Klitzke said the basin does not have a steep drop-off, but resident Janet Finder, of 97 W. Manchester Drive, disagreed.

Finder said the basin is about 50 feet from the tot lot, but a safety feature is needed for a child who might be running backward to catch a fly ball.

Rita Samuelson of 74 Manchester Drive said there is a fence leading up to the basin, but it stops. "All they need is a couple more feet of fence," she said.

Klitzke said that even if the village were allowed to construct a fence, chances are that children would climb it.

Samuelson also is concerned the basin is dangerous should it fill with water. Klitzke said it stays dry 95 percent of the time.

If the nearby creek is out of its banks, it is unlikely the filled basin will be a hazard because the tot lot will be under water as well and children won't be playing there, he said.

"As the creek goes down, so goes the detention facility," he said.

PUBLIC SPEAKING

• "We want their commitment." — Greg Klatecki, head of the Capital Needs Reassessment Advisory Committee for the Wheeling Park District, explaining the group wants attention paid to their recommendations for the district such as enlarging the park board and pitting a fence around a retention basin near the Meadowbrook tot lot.

Industrial arts:

Trio converts old warehouse into artistic center

By BOB KEHOE

Melissa Reasor works alone in an advanced ballet class.

Like a lot of their neighbors in the Wheeling industrial park, the operators of the huge warehouse building at 280 Palatine Road are looking for some people who want to work hard.

Forklift drivers, order fillers, shipping and receiving clerks need not apply, however. It takes the will to learn, a pair of dance shoes, leotards or a robe make it at the Artistic Movement Experience (A.M.E.) Center.

The brainchild of owners Leonard Isras, Lucia Costello, and Joe Gangi, the center is home to the American Academy of Gymnastics, Studio II Dance and Arts Ltd., and Gangi's Kung-Fu Systems, Inc.

Serving about 800 area children and adults, the center is a converted warehouse that specializes assisting of young athletes and artists interested in honing their skills.

STEP INSIDE THE center's vast spaces on any given day of the week and you might find a minister learning martial arts from Gangi, a high school gymnast perfecting his techniques with Isras, or a teen who has forsaken television for a shot at a dance career under Costello's direction.

Students come from all different walks of life to learn from experts about the differences between sport and art.

The business' hallmark is the commitment the staff expects from those who participate in A.M.E. programs, according to Costello. A.M.E. officials maintain a similar commitment to their clients by ensuring that, unlike some martial arts and dance studios, at no time will students be allowed to teach.

COMPETING WITH COMPUTERS, television and school activities for youngsters' time, the center's operators have found enrollment growth slow but steady since last June's grand opening when "fate" brought them together.

After discussing her idea for the business with Gangi, who had lost his lease, and with Isras, who had a similar idea years before but never followed through, Costello said an alliance was formed.

Costello's future plans include adding an exercise facility and offering aerobics classes to local corporate workers looking to shed a few calories on their lunch hours.

A questionnaire being given to parents who watch their children from the center's observation deck should help further refine what changes may be in store for Wheeling's largest and perhaps only artistic center.

No matter what changes are made, however, don't expect to see packing crates and loading docks returning to 280 Palatine Road.

Matt Rossi practices a flying kick in a Kung-Fu class.

Village OKs contract with maintenance staff

By BOB KEHOE

Wheeling officials Monday reached a tentative four-year contract agreement with the village's 27 operations and maintenance department staff workers.

Under terms of the tentative agreement, which still must be approved by the workers' association, custodians, crew leaders, mechanics and water operators would receive a 5 percent pay hike in each of the next three years with only the wage portion of the contract up for renegotiation at that time.

Maintenance operations staff members would receive a 5.5 percent pay hike in each of the first three years with wage negotiations set to be re-opened at that time.

Susan Musick, village personnel director, said maintenance operations staff members would receive the additional .5 percent raise due to market conditions in which their services are in greater demand.

IN EXPLAINING THE reason for the new four-year contract to replace the present two-year deal that is set to expire April 30, Musick said negotiations went fairly smoothly because there was basic satisfaction with the present contract wording.

Once the new contract takes effect, the village's six-step pay scale would call for a minimum $14,500 yearly salary for the village's two janitors and a maximum salary of $18,900.

The six-step pay scale, which rewards workers strictly on a merit basis rather than on seniority, calls for minimum and maximum salaries of $17,302 and $26,460 respectively for the village's 16 maintenance operators.

Custodians would earn an $18,337 minimum salary with a potential of earning $28,046 at the top of scale. Crew leaders, mechanics and water operators would earn a minimum of $20,819 and a maximum of $31,842.

NOW THAT VILLAGE officials have reached agreement with the maintenance and operations staff, attention will shift to contract negotiations with the village's police and fire department staffs.

Firefighter negotiations remain stalled pending a state labor board ruling on whether the village can exclude fire department lieutenants from the collective bargaining unit.

Village officials continue to maintain that lieutenants are supervisory personnel and therefore should not be allowed to be in the same bargaining unit as the workers they oversee. A hearing date on the matter has yet to be set.

In addition to negotiations with the firefighters, contract talks with the police department's bargaining unit have yet to begin. The Wheeling Police Association recently moved to have the Combined Counties Police Association represent the unit in negotiations with the village.

Musick said she couldn't comment on whether the police or the firefighters will see pay raises similar to what the operations and maintenance staff and other village workers received this year.

School news?

Tell it to
Teddi Martin

Wheeling Countryside

200 James Street
Barrington, 60010
381-9200, ext. 185

Taking a dip

Ralph Scrivno and Pat Cicci trip the light fantastic at during a round dance at the Wheeling Pavilion Senior Center. *(Staff photo by Kathy Tray)*

Wheeling man indicted in gambling operation

By BOB KEHOE

The indictment last week of seven suburban residents on gambling charges, including a Wheeling man accused of heading an operation that handled millions of dollars in sports betting since 1982, won't curtail local illegal wagering.

That's the view of organized crime watcher Patrick Healy, executive director of the Chicago Crime Commission.

"This might cause them to break stride for about half a day," Healy said in assessing the long-term impact of the indictments issued by a federal grand jury against Joseph "Joe Pooch" Pascucci, 54, of 1461 Anthony Road, Wheeling, and six of his alleged cohorts.

Calling Pascucci an "old-timer" with a history of bookmaking charges against him and ties to organized crime, Healy said the Wheeling resident's arrest only momentarily interrupted the steady flow of gambling revenues taken in by organized crime in the metropolitan Chicago area.

THOSE PROCEEDS, HE said, are then used to fund other mob activities, such as financing drug buys and other key revenue-producing endeavors.

With local, state and federal law enforcement officials preoccupied with more violent crimes and faced with great obstacles in gathering evidence against bookmaking operations, Healy said illegal gambling — one of the mob's top revenue producers — continues to flourish.

Healy said the indictments detailing five years of work that went into charges being filed against the suburbanites points out the difficulty in prosecuting such cases and the low priority law enforcement officials place on gambling.

And while he called the arrest of Pascucci a "good catch," Healy said the most difficult task is yet ahead for federal officials trying to get to higher-ups in organized crime.

A SPOKESMAN FOR the U.S. Dept. of Justice's Organized Crime and Racketeering Chicago Strike Force, which played a key role in the Pascucci investigation, conceded that illegal gambling remains a huge problem but declined to discuss the force's ability to combat the issue.

For now, the strike force, the U.S. Attorney's office, and the IRS are playing up the importance of last week's arrests following untold hours of police work by the Illinois State Police, the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Schaumburg Police Department.

Described as the "boss" of the illegal bookmaking operation that was under investigation from 1981 through at least May, 1986, Pascucci was named in all 13 counts of the indictment.

He is charged with conspiracy to conduct an illegal bookmaking business, conducting an illegal gambling business, extortion, five counts of failing to pay a special occupational tax imposed on those accepting wagers, and five counts of failing to register with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) before accepting wagers.

PASCUCCI AND FIVE other northwest suburban residents from Buffalo Grove, Palatine, Arlington Heights, and Schaumburg, were arrested at their homes and places of business Friday by federal and local agents.

A seventh suspect indicted in the operation, David Puhl of Palatine, is still being sought.

The seven residents face the following charges:

- James Zeutschel, 69, of 1133 Miller Lane, Buffalo Grove, is charged with conducting an illegal gambling business, and two counts each of failing to pay the special use occupational tax imposed on those accepting wagers and failing to register with the IRS before accepting wagers.
- David Puhl, 49, of 700 Rand Road, Palatine, charged with conspiracy to conduct an illegal bookmaking operation, conducting an illegal gambling business, three counts of failing to pay the special occupational tax imposed on those accepting wagers, and three counts of failing to register with the IRS before accepting wagers.
- Charged with conducting an illegal gambling business and one count each of failing to pay the special use occupational tax and failure to register as a business accepting wagers were: Jeffrey Adelman, 33, of 1168 Cunningham Drive, Palatine; Jack Phillips, 39, of 4000 Bayside, Palatine; Charles Leong, 48, of 1529 Rutland Lane, Schaumburg; and Carol Cobb, 36, of 1706 Columbine Drive, Schaumburg.

IF CONVICTED ON all counts, Pascucci faces a maximum 40-year jail sentence and a $230,000 fine; Puhl faces a maximum 16-year jail sentence and a $150,000 fine; Zeutschel faces a possible 14-year jail sentence and a $100,000 fine; Adelman faces a maximum 12 years in jail and an $80,000 fine; Phillips, Leong and Cobb face up to 12 years in jail and a $50,000 fine.

The indictment alleges that Puhl collected from bettors who lost their wagers and paid out money to winners while the other five co-defendants served as clerks. Bets were reportedly taken on the outcome of sporting events including baseball, football, basketball and horse racing.

During the investigation, special agents representing the government placed bets and observed other gambling activities involving the defendants on various dates starting in October, 1981 and running through May 17, 1986, according to the indictment.

Among the alleged activities that took place during that time period were that wirerooms were set in locations where bettors could place their wagers and that at one time during the investigation Pascucci had $34,000 and a number of records and papers used for wagering inside his Anthony Road home.

THE RESIDENCES OF Pascucci, Adelman and Zeutschel were listed among the places the bookmaking business was run out of, as well as Leong's Restaurant at 823 W. Algonquin Road, Schaumburg and the former Yesterday's Cafe at 1550 Palatine Road.

Oscar watchers: Win some loot

There's still time to get you entry in for This Contest, the *Wheeling Countryside*'s pick-the-Oscar-winners game. This year's installment, the eighth in all, promises more fun for everyone, with loads of prizes waiting for Academy Awards handicappers. Topping the list, for the second year in a row, is a new VHS format video cassette recorder. Other prizes include a weekend away and symphony, comedy, and movie tickets. To enter, simply fill out the coupon in the Weekender section, indicating who you expect will win in the Best Picture, Best Actor and Actress, Best Supporting Actor and Actress and Best Director categories at the Mar. 30 Academy Awards ceremony. Entries must be received by noon March 30.

Sign of the times

What's in a sign? That's something Wheeling officials are just starting to take a long, hard look at.

The village is in the process of revising its sign ordinance, which regulates, among other things, the size, shape and height of signs throughout town.

Although officials have just started deliberating on what changes to make in the existing ordinance, some Wheeling merchants already fear the village will place restrictions on signs that may hurt their businesses.

There are concerns among the business community, for example, that signs in front of office buildings that list the tenants in that building will be outlawed by the village. Businessmen say removing those types of signs would have a negative impact on anyone who does business in an office building.

Village officials deny they're planning any changes in that direction, adding that they have yet to come up with any specific proposals for changes in the sign ordinance. However, we urge the village to make sure they include the local businessmen in discussions about changes in the ordinance.

Perhaps an ad hoc committee of local merchants and representatives of the Chamber of Commerce can be set up to give input to the village before any changes are made.

At the same time, Wheeling officials have to balance the desires of the business community with concerns among residents about about the appearance, size and height of the signs in town. While no one wants to see a sign ordinance so restrictive that it will hurt business, it's also important that the village do what it can to set up guidelines that residents can live with, too.

False proposal

After the infamous scandals resulting from the federal Operation Greylord investigation, it is understandable that moves are afoot for an appointive system of selecting judges, known as merit selection.

So far, two bills have been introduced in the Illinois General Assembly to reform the court system.

Unfortunately, the legislation introduced by Ill. Sen. Adeline Geo-Karis (R-31st) of Zion is one bill that's not all that it purports to be. Not a true "merit election" bill as the senator says, the bill, if passed, could undercut chances for judicial merit selection.

Under Geo-Karis' plan, Cook County would be divided into 15 equal population districts, using existing township and municipal boundaries. Judges would be selected from each district, making judges more accountable to voters, Geo-Karis argues.

Republican committeemen, long controllers of suburban Cook County judicial slating, would retain their power under this plan, as would downstate and Chicago politicians who have the same control in their own areas.

Each group could easily jump on this bill and yet appear to be for judicial reform.

While Geo-Karis' bill is a sham, a true merit selection proposal, a constitutional amendment proposed by Ill. Reps. Al Ronan and Loleta Didrickson, of Chicago, may contain the answers to judicial corruption. It certainly is worth closer scrutiny and would answer many of the problems with Geo-Karis' bill.

Their bill would create local panels of lawyers to make recommendations on appointees, while the governor would make the final selection with the advice and consent of the Illinois Senate. Just as importantly, the bill contains opt-out provisions for those counties that eventually want to return to elective system for selecting judges.

Merit selection of judges is a worthwhile and laudatory goal. It will require a great deal of effort and study.

We shouldn't dilute the efforts with sham bills such as Geo-Karis' that hide their true purpose.

OPINION

Casts insult

To the Editor:

I am one of the Kildeer parents you made reference to in your February 12th editorial regarding the district 96 Board of Education decision made to avoid overcrowding in our schools. From the very beginning the board members made it clear that the proper decision would be made on facts and that in most cases, decisions of this nature will leave some people unhappy and convinced that the wrong decision has been made. Having attended all open board meetings since the beginning of this issue was made public, I have indeed witnessed them make many hard decisions where all sides were not satisfied with the result, but they were made fairly and were based on hours of work not only by board members but teachers, parents, and the advice of experts in the various areas.

The decision reached at the February 10th board meeting appears to be one of those rare moments where all parties involved are satisfied that a sound decision has been made based on the most current information. That your editorial questions the integrity of this decision leads me to believe that you must not have the most current information regarding the status of new developments currently feeding into the schools in our district. Further examination of the facts would show that the minor renovations being performed at Kildeer Countryside are inevitable and most practical to do at this time. I feel that it is most unfortunate that your editorial casts an unjustified insult at a very hard working board of education and concerned parents of district 96. An editorial has a right to express an opinion but is valuable only when that opinion is based on fact.

Bonnie Neubauer

Sympathies

To the Editor:

My sympathies are with Mr. Meltzer who worked hard to establish a Hallmark Store at Lake Cook Road and Route 83 in Buffalo Grove only to have the business actually ruined because of actions taken by Hallmark.

Hallmark promised Mr. Meltzer that his would be the only store in the area, but they allowed another Hallmark store to be opened close by and then put their same line of products into an Osco store close by in the same shopping center. That is when Mr. Meltzer's business dropped off drastically. It seems a shame that a large corporation can start a franchise and not protect the dealer.

I wish Mr. Meltzer well in his new independent venture at the same location.

Evelyn S. Finkel

Village, state to improve intersection

Construction aimed at improving traffic flow and safety at the Northgate Parkway/Dundee Road intersection could come as early as this summer.

Once completed, the present jog in Northgate Parkway to Boehmer Road at Dundee Road will be eliminated due to a realignment of the parkway. Bridge reconstruction on Dundee Road at Boehmer Road is also slated as part of the improvement work that is being done by the state.

Wheeling officials Monday agreed to spend $221,220 as the village's share of the costs, which are estimated at more than $1.3 million. Funding for the village's portion of the work is set to come from Wheeling's motor fuel tax revenues.

In addition to realigning Northgate Parkway, the state will also install traffic signals at the intersection, according to Michael Klitzke, community development director.

UPON COMPLETION, NORTHGATE Parkway will be four lanes wide at the Dundee Road intersection allowing for left and right turn lanes as well as through traffic to Boehmer Road, which is now just to the west of Northgate Parkway.

The fact that Boehmer Road and Northgate Parkway don't line up has created traffic back-ups and safety problems for motorists trying to cross Dundee Road during peak traffic times, Klitzke said.

A start-up date for construction has not been set yet, Klitzke said because the state has not yet accepted bids for the work from contractors. The contracts are tentatively set to be let in mid-May.

As part of the construction project, village officials will have to acquire a number of small land parcels on the north and south sides of Dundee Road to permit for the roadway realignment.

AS OF MONDAY the village had acquired about two-thirds of the property necessary to complete the roadwork.

Once construction does begin, Klitzke said he does not anticipate there will be major inconveniences to Dundee Road motorists. It is possible that one lane of Dundee Road may have to be closed during portions of the work, though, he said.

Licensing bartenders works in Schaumburg

The Wheeling Village Board is considering an ordinance that would require all bartenders to attend classes and obtain licenses before they could serve liquor. Officials at one area municipality with a similar ordinance say licensing bartenders is a good idea. But not everyone in Wheeling agrees.

By BOB KEHOE

It didn't take long for Wheeling bar owner Hans Mechenbier to form an opinion on the village board's idea last week to consider licensing bartenders.

Paraphrasing a popular commercial, he said, "they should leave the driving to Greyhound."

What Mechenbier meant was that bartenders and bar owners know enough about their business to realize when a customer has had enough to drink and when not to serve a patron who walks in drunk.

At his bar, the Old Munich Inn on Milwaukee Avenue, Mechenbier said he simply instructs all of his bartenders not to serve anyone who has had one too many.

MECHENBIER'S POLICY MIGHT work well for him, but some government officials aren't so willing to continue a hands-off approach to the business of serving alcohol.

Wheeling officials are considering a proposal suggested by Village President Sheila Schultz to require bartenders to be licensed before they can serve liquor. Wheeling trustees have yet to vote on the issue, however, some village board members favored the idea when it was brought up at a board meeting last week.

The proposal is patterned after a similar ordinance in Schaumburg enacted last May that requires all of that village's approximately 900 bartenders and 130 bar owners to attend a four-week course at Harper College and to pass a test on materials covered in the course before they can obtain a license to serve liquor.

Although enforcement of the ordinance won't begin until June 1, Schaumburg Police Department officials who are helping to implement the program say bar owner resistance is non-existent and bartender acceptance of the concept is growing.

"THE OWNERS of the bars love it because it helps in (understanding) Dram Shop liabilities," said Detective Ed Pope, the police department's licensing officer.

Reaction from bartenders who must pay $15 for a license and must attend all four sessions of the program as well as pass a test on an array of alcohol-related subjects has been less enthusiastic, Pope said, adding that Schaumburg's alcohol pourers are learning something as a result of the new ordinance.

"On the first day (of class, bartenders) usually hate it, but once they go through it and understand it, most of the ones I've talked to say they found it beneficial," said Pope, who also teaches portions of the class.

The classroom sessions are divided into several topics under which everything from alcohol production to effects of alcohol on drinkers is examined.

INSTRUCTORS ALSO COVER community service aspects of the program in explaining the seller's and customer's responsibilities, the Dram Shop Act, customer relations, and liability.

Inasmuch as the program is designed to help promote responsible serving of alcohol, Pope said it is also set up so that bartenders and bar owners understand the police department's expectations and policies relative to the licensing program.

And while some Wheeling tavern owners might argue that a licensing program involves needless intervention in their business operation from police, Pope said Schaumburg officials are finding just the opposite to be true.

"A lot of establishments feel they are getting a better quality of bartender," he said, citing comments he has heard from owners who are happy to have employees who understand how to properly handle situations where a customer has had one too many.

REACTING TO A comment from some Wheeling bar owners interviewed who said their own training programs were sufficient to handle any situation, Pope said he once heard the same thing in Schaumburg.

The problem with in-house programs, he said, is that they are often conducted and run by beer company representatives who aren't thorough enough in addressing everyday problems presented to bar owners and bartenders.

As for concerns about who pays the $15 fee to cover the license the bartender must keep with him at all times while on duty, Pope said he hasn't heard any complaints.

In fact, he said, the license can be seen as an investment for bartenders who move from one job to another in the course of a year. Pope said he knows of at least one bar that now asks on its application whether the applicant has a bartenders' license with the village.

Wheeling officials taking a close look at signs

By BOB KEHOE

Wheeling businesses have signs of seemingly all shapes, sizes and colors, and village officials want to take a closer look at them.

As part of a review process that will start on March 24 and continue on the fourth Tuesday of every month until the task is complete, Wheeling's sign code board — made up of Zoning Board of Appeals members — will hear testimony from businesses owners and residents before recommending changes to the present sign ordinance.

Tom Fennell, building, housing and zoning administrator for the village, said the sign code board is not going into the hearings with any pre-planned changes, but said the outcome of the board's recommendations could well impact a number of Wheeling businesses.

That was apparent as long as two months before the first hearing date when some business owners began questioning whether there might be changes in store for signs on Dundee Road.

ONE BUSINESS OWNER discussed with Chamber of Commerce officials what he thought was a proposal to eliminate multiple listing signature signs that are used by some shopping centers and office buildings to catch motorists' eyes.

Fennell insisted that no such change is planned as of yet, but said the sign code board will look at all issues relating to signs including size, location and technical requirements under the present ordinance.

The sign code board, he said, will then formulate recommendations that will be forwarded to the village board. He said the hearing process alone could take six months before the village board has a chance to act on any recommendations.

Among the issues the sign code board is likely to examine, according to Fennell, are special sign districts and industrial signs. He declined to offer any opinion about what changes might be in store in these areas.

Fennell added that community participation in the hearing process, both from residents and business owners and operators, is encouraged.

The sign code board itself has no legislative authority. All final action on any sign changes would rest with the village board.

Herald 4-7-87

Literature may move Upward Party onward

By C.L. Waller
and Joan Fleischer
Daily Herald staff writers

If the amount of campaign literature passed out has a positive effect on the Wheeling trustee race, the Wheeling Upward Party comes out ahead.

Incumbents James Whittington, 38, and Anthony Altieri, 48, are running on the ticket with political newcomer Clifford Bird, 64. The ticket has been endorsed by village president Sheila Schultz.

Independent candidates Roger Powers, 42, Steve White, 36, and Judy Abruscato, 52, are each trying for a seat on the village board.

Whittington said he, Altieri and Bird plus an unknown number of helpers have distributed 8,000 to 10,000 pieces of literature for the Wheeling Upward Party since the campaign began.

White said he has had 10 people distributing leaflets door-to-door on a small budget while Abruscato said she had at least 7,000 pieces of literature going throughout the community.

Powers said he mailed out postcards asking residents to vote, but he hopes to reach even more people with a newspaper insert.

Two of the independent candidates as well as the incumbents may have helpful name recognition to people voting at the polls between 6 a.m. and 7 p.m.

Abruscato, a member of the zoning board of appeals, ran for village clerk in 1981 with the Pro-Wheeling Party. Powers was a Wheeling trustee from 1977 to 1985 and ran unsuccessfully for village president two years ago.

Both Altieri and Whittington have served on the village plan commission. Altieri is completing his first term as trustee and Whittington was appointed to the board in 1985.

Wheeling Upward Party's Clifford Bird has lived in Whippletree Village, a mobile home park, since 1981. He became interested in village government as a Whippletree representative when the village was considering enlarging mobile home lots, which would have forced out some of the 400 residents there by 1992.

White became interested because he said the present board does not keep residents informed of their opinions on issues.

Two school tax hike referendums will also be before some residents in the Wheeling area.

Voters living in Prospect Heights Elementary District 23, which takes in a small portion of Wheeling near Hintz Road, are being asked to support a 27 percent tax increase or 80 cents more in the education tax rate. It is the first tax rate increase in 11 years. For the owner of a $100,000 home who now pays a total bill of $1,800, the rate increase will boost taxes by about $160.

District 23 officials say the additional revenue is needed to stave off a projected $3 million deficit over the next five years. If the referendum fails, district officials say they will be forced to make painful cuts in the teaching staff and programming.

Meanwhile, parents in Aptakisic-Tripp Elementary District 102 under the banner of the "Citizens Building Referendum Campaign Committee" were raising support for a 30-cent tax rate hike.

The rate increase would cost about $150 in additional school taxes to the owner of a $150,000 home.

Big Bird does some last-minute campaigning Monday on behalf of a trustee candidate in Lake Zurich.
Daily Herald Photo/Dave Tonge

Call for local election results

The Daily Herald will provide results for local election races and referendum questions tonight. Call 870-3600 after 9:30 p.m.

Our editorial endorsements —Page 10

Senior facility set for fall ground breaking

4-8-87

By C. L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Construction of a $25 million senior housing facility in Wheeling should begin this fall, following village board approval of variations for the facility.

Leisure Technology Inc. of Northbrook plans to construct a 200-apartment facility on First Street, east of Chamber of Commerce Park. The company asked for variations in its plans after it updated a survey of the 7.76 acres.

"Once the developer was into the project several things came to light," Wheeling community development director Michael J. Klitzke said.

Once a new survey was completed, the developer realized that the land had decreased and the pond area increased, Klitzke explained.

Leisure Technology was granted variations in October of 1985, but trustees approved further changes including reducing the rear yard property line from 71 feet to 55 feet and adding another two feet to the planned seven-story building. The modifications also increased the density of the structure from 32.78 dwelling units per acre to 43.57 dwelling units per acre.

The seven-story high apartment building with average rents of $1,400 per month will be linked to a 50-bed nursing home. The area is next to a three-pronged senior development, including a Cook County subsidized senior housing called Wheeling Towers, the Wheeling Senior Center and Holy Family's Ambulatory Care Center.

The company hopes to have the facility finished by the end of 1988.

Wheeling to spruce up several streets

Harmony Drive will have the largest amount of money spent on it this year as nearly one mile of Wheeling street improvements get underway.

Wheeling trustees have approved the use of $474,958 in motor fuel tax collections for a street program. Of that $474,958, $40,360 will be used for engineering.

Trustees also approved an engineering contract with Baxter and Woodman, Inc. of Crystal Lake, which has done street improvements for Wheeling for the past three years.

Included in repairs will be resurfacing, curbs and gutters.

Streets targeted for repairs this year and the estimated cost of repairs are as follows: Harmony Drive, $216,050; Ferne Drive, $107,360; Chelsea Drive, $57,837; Bow Trail, $16,205; Delaware Trail, $15,066; Pueblo Trail, $14,990; Lakeside Circle Drive, $3,837 and South Crow Trail, $3,253.

Construction plans and contract documents have been completed, approved by the Illinois Department of Transportation and are out for bids. Trustees will authorize expenditures of motor fuel tax funds at a later time.

Park district gives up on Arlington Club

4-2-87

By C. L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Five acres in the Arlington Club development once coveted by the Wheeling Park District are now under construction for condominiums.

But the developers of Arlington Club say they will build an 18-acre private park for residents only, that will include jogging trails.

The park district decided not to buy the five acres after Ronald Benach, president of Lexington Homes, said he would not take less than $1.2 million for the property. Benach said he based that figure on the value of 36 condominiums that could be constructed on the property, located in the southeast corner of the development.

Wheeling Park District had two appraisals that said the property was worth $390,000 and park officials refused to continue efforts to develop a park there.

"I would have a difficult time justifying $390,000," said park board President Anthony Abruscato, who said it was beyond the park district's means.

With dropping the Arlington Club park, the park district is no longer eligible for a state matching grant that would have provided half the money for purchase of the park, Abruscato said.

The park district does get to keep $221,000 that Lexington donated to the park district for development of a park site, he added. That money could be used for other park sites.

Park commissioner James Gallagher said he will suggest tonight that the money be used for playground equipment at Eugene Field School, 51 St. Armand Lane.

Abruscato said the district had been urged to build the park by Concerned Residents Against More Multi-family.

The group of residents, who live near the development, did not want the land built into housing.

"This park would have served as a buffer between their property and the Lexington property," Abruscato said.

Two schools qualify for award

WHEELING — Two schools in the village — Wheeling High School and Holmes Junior High — are being considered for a national Secondary School Recognition Award.

Originally 75 Illinois schools submitted applications to the National Secondary Recognition Program along with schools throughout the nation. Schools that pass a vigorous review process will receive an Award of Excellence.

In Illinois, the list of those being considered for the award has been pared down to 13, including Holmes and WHS, which recently received visits from educators selected by the Department of Education in Washington.

The educators spent two days talking to parents, teachers and students.

In order to be considered for the Department of Education's Award of Excellence, the two schools had to submit a 25-page application that covered every element of the schools' performance, including curriculum, community support levels and degree of parental involvement.

Holmes Principal Avrum Poster emphasized that getting site visits is an honor in itself for both schools.

The recognition Holmes has received "has had a real good impact on our school," Poster said. "I am pleased we have come through the process this far, and as much as we would like to go further, I am happy with what we have done. It has meant a lot to the teachers."

Wheeling High School Principal Tom Shirley pointed to the achievement of both schools in having gone this far in the award process.

He said that nationwide 10,000 schools put in applications and only 344 were chosen for site visits.

The schools are supposed to be notified if they won the award on May 22, Shirley said.

Liquor licenses flow from committee

Continued from page 1

largest holder of liquor licenses in the world, Hollan said. No Pizza Hut license has ever been suspended in the Chicago area, he said.

The Liquor Commission, following the village's two-step process for issuing new licenses, recommended that the Village Board add a liquor license. The board is expected to act on that recommendation next Monday, and the Liquor Commission will then consider Pizza Hut's request for the new license.

Village President Sheila Schultz said the village has decided to grant licenses on an individual basis as requested. Markus said that communities that limit the number of liquor licenses find that the value of the license escalates far beyond the fee charged for it.

In Wheeling, he said, when a business is sold the new owner has to go through the liquor license procedure because the license cannot be transferred.

Schultz said that in recent years the proportion of liquor license holders that serve food has increased.

Also Monday, Trustee Elizabeth Hartman questioned whether Billy & Company's 4 a.m. liquor license should be changed to an earlier hour. Billy & Company is the only establishment in Wheeling that has a license to sell liquor later than 2 a.m.

Markus said that it would be too late to change the 4 a.m. license before renewing it because no notice had been given. Hartman said she will bring up the issue again in the near future.

Easter crafts Photo by Tim Boyle

Jimmy Humenski, 4, is busy cutting out his Easter Bunny in the Wheeling Park District's nursery school held at Childerley Park.

Court nixes firing

Continued from page 1

- Failing to respond to a report of a prowler despite having acknowledged receiving a dispatch order to respond.
- Failing to respond "in a timely manner" to a burglar alarm call.
- Leaving his patrol car unattended at the Tiffany Court Apartments, located ouside village limits, for a period of time that exceeded his 30-minute allotted lunch break.
- Once again leaving his patrol car unattended at the Tiffany Court Apartments for a period of time that exceeded his allowed lunch break.

In his appeal of the Board of Fire and Police Commission's decision, Kaminsky's attorney, Noel Wroblewski, noted Kaminsky's "unblemished record" during his 17 years with the department, citing 27 commendations that Kaminsky had received.

The appeal contended that the facts of the case did not support the commission's findings.

Village finances cited

WHEELING — For the sixth year in a row, the village has received the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting. The award is given by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada. The Certificate of Achievement is the highest form of recognition in the area of governmental accounting and financial reporting, and its attainment represents a significant accomplishment, village officials say.

Those financial reports receiving the certificate have been judged by an impartial panel to have met the high standards of the program. To receive the award the reports must demonstrate a constructive spirit of full disclosure; an effort to clearly communicate the governmental body's financial picture; and the ability to motivate potential persons and groups to read the report.

The Finance Officers Association is a non-profit professional association serving 10,500 government finance professionals. The association produces a variety of technical publications in various fields of governmental finance and represents the public finance community in Washington, D.C.

Agencies may ask proof of residency

4-3-87

BY LIZ RUSSELL
and C.L. WALLER
Daily Herald staff writers

Wheeling Township officials say they are considering a residency requirement for people helped through live-in social service facilities.

Township Supervisor Ruth Grundberg said restrictions may be needed in order to insure that people from other parts of the state are not benefiting from township funds by moving to one of the residential facilities in Wheeling Township.

Trustees first considered a residency requirement last month following discussions of funding for Blare House Inc., a live-in facility for autistic adults. Blare House requested $11,148 from Wheeling Township, up from the $4,000 they received the previous year, but will get nothing this year.

Township officials said the cost per resident with Blare House was greater than Clearbrook Center for Handicapped and with both agencies providing comparable service, Blare House was not funded.

Grundberg said she knows of no specific incidents where someone has moved to Wheeling Township just to receive services from a particular agency, but she added that trustees need to decide whether they want to fund an agency's client when that person is not from the township.

Trustees said they aren't sure what length of residency to require, because they want services to remain open to families who recently moved into the township and need help adjusting.

"People are moving in here for our better services," township Trustee Thomas Mead said.

Funding only township residents at social service residential facilities is part of trustees' overall concerns about funding social agencies now that federal revenue sharing has dried up.

Trustees have discussed creating a funding formula where township taxes would only support township residents obtaining services.

'Dull election' doesn't daunt candidates for village board

4-6-87

BY C. L. WALLER
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Wheeling trustee candidates are calling this year's election the dullest in memory, but that doesn't mean they are slacking off.

"I've been pushing every day for four weeks," independent candidate Judy Abruscato said.

Abruscato said she and some 15 workers have been covering Wheeling and distributed at least 7,000 pieces of literature. Meeting little opposition from residents, Abruscato said an expected low voter turnout could work to her advantage. "Those that are interested and concerned will come out," she said.

"There is nothing that would get interest up. It has been an extremely dull election," independent Roger Powers said.

Powers surmised that the election is boring because there are no major issues, people will only be voting for local candidates and the entire village board structure is not at stake.

"A number of people recognize the people who are still in there make up a majority. Even if Judy, Steve and I won we are still a minority," Powers said, referring to fellow challengers Abruscato and Steven White.

The Wheeling Upward Party, made up of incumbents James Whittington, Anthony Altieri and newcomer Clifford Bird, is feeling "comfortable" with their election chances.

The ticket has distributed 8,000 to 10,000 pieces of literature door-to-door and through postcard mailings, Whittington said. "People have said things are going well in the village and they want it to stay that way," he said.

A large voter turnout is not expected by Whittington and he said he does not know if that will help the ticket.

White said the same people tend to vote election after election. "The fewer people who turn out, the more likely it is that it will be the old guard (re-elected)," White said.

Short hop into past of airport

BY SHERRY BOEMMEL
Daily Herald Correspondent 4-2-87

Charles Balling is 81, but he still can remember when the first airplane flew into Pal-Waukee Airport.

It was back in 1925, and the airstrip was known as Gauthier's Flying Field, an open field of mostly grass.

"They put up a tent on the corner," he said. "A Swallow (airplane) dealership operated there."

Much has changed since then; today Pal-Waukee has grown to meet the needs of the jet age.

And the story of that growth is the subject of an exhibit, which runs through April, at the Wheeling Historical Museum, 251 N. Wolf Road.

A long-time Wheeling resident, Balling said he learned to fly and to be a mechanic in 1927, mostly because the then-fledgling airport fueled his interest in aviation.

"I think that did a lot to influence me," he said.

Balling worked as a mechanic during the war years (1940-46) at Pal-Waukee. He is still an authorized Federal Aviation Administration inspector for mechanics.

Rudy Horcher is considerably younger than Balling, but he, too, was a mechanic there about the same time — 1946 and 1947. Another of the nine Horcher children, Edward, was also bitten by the bug and became a corporate pilot.

A wooden propeller from the 1947 Ercoupe plane built by Rudy Horcher and his wife Barbara is part of the exhibit. Flight suits and a flight jacket from 1942-43 also mark that period.

Though there is an aerial photo of the airport in 1927, much of the exhibit deals with the years George Priester owned Pal-Waukee. He bought the 109 acres from Parks Aviation in 1953 after opening a flight school there in 1945.

Under Priester's direction, the airport expanded to 257 acres. The runways were paved and expanded for jets, new hangars were built and services were added. Two more hangars now are under construction.

"You can't stand still," Priester said. "If you need it, you have to try to provide it. That's what made Pal-Waukee what it is today."

See AIRPORT on Page 3

George Priester shows 1934 wedding photo of him and his late wife, Veta, standing next to a plane at Pal-Waukee Airport. The picture is on display at the Wheeling Historical Museum.
Daily Herald Photo/Gilbert Boucher

Pal-Waukee Airport: a look back

1925: The airport opens as Gauthier's Flying Field, a 40-acre grassy field.

1933: Goodyear builds a hangar to house its blimp during the 1933 Century of Progress World's Fair. It remains standing about 10 years.

1953: The airport, which has grown to 109 acres, has sand and gravel runways and is home base for 62 aircraft, is sold to George Priester.

1965: Pal-Waukee enters the jet age with a 5,000-foot runway for jet traffic. Priester forecasts increases in corporate jet use, which now dominate the airport. About 400 aircraft, which represent most Fortune 500 companies, are based at Pal-Waukee.

1967: The Federal Aviation Administration installs equipment and provides personnel for a control tower, one of about three operating in private airports across the nation. It now operates between 6 a.m. and 9 p.m. and supervises between 275,000 to 325,000 flights a year during those hours.

1986: The airport is sold to the communities of Wheeling and Prospect Heights and begins operations as a public airport. It serves as the prime reliever for O'Hare airport traffic. Services continue much as before under the Priester family.

AIRPORT: An exhibit's look back at Pal-Waukee's climb

Continued from Page 1

Pal-Waukee is the main reliever airport for O'Hare International Airport. It serves primarily corporate aircraft — most of the Fortune 500 companies, Priester said. Between 275,000 and 325,000 aircraft a year are served during the 15 hours a day the tower is operating, Priester's administrative assistant Esther Noffke said.

There is a charter service, a flight school, aircraft sales and fuel and maintenance service. Various Priester companies continue to offer the same services as before the airport was sold to the communities of Wheeling and Prospect Heights in December 1986.

The exhibit features family pictures depicting a small measure of George Priester's life in aviation since he flew solo in 1927.

Priester and his late wife, Veta, are shown on their wedding day in 1934 wearing flight helmets and standing in front of a plane.

There are photographs of the Priester daughters, both commercial pilots, and their families in front of aircraft. Priester's son Charlie, also a commercial pilot and chief executive officer at Pal-Waukee, and his family are there, too.

Noffke said rising property values and taxes killed nearby airports like Sky Harbor and Chicagoland. And that's why Pal-Waukee will become a public airport. Taxes were high and Priester said he was told he was crazy to run an airport on such valuable ground.

"We almost had to sell it," Priester said, adding that even though Pal-Waukee did $26 million in business, he was lucky to be able pay its bills.

Museum exhibit through April 25

The Pal-Waukee Airport exhibit will appear through April 25 at the Wheeling Historical Museum.

Regular hours at the museum in Chamber Park, 251 N. Wolf Road, are Sundays from 1 to 5 p.m. and Tuesdays and Thursdays 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. There is no admission charge.

Appointments for group visits may be arranged by calling 537-5110 or 537-3119 during museum hours.

Liquor licenses flow

WHEELING — The Village Board, acting in its role of Liquor Control Commission, renewed the liquor licenses of 29 Wheeling stores, restaurants and taverns Monday.

Approval of the license renewals had been recommended by Village Manager Tom Markus. Markus indicated that the performance of the license holders during the last year had all been acceptable.

The Liquor Commission also indicated that it would grant a beer and wine license to a new restaurant, Pizza Hut, which is scheduled to open at 150 Dundee Road on May 2.

Pizza Hut representative Wendell Hollan told the commission that national sales of beer and wine represent only 1 percent of Pizza Hut's revenues.

But, he said, the restaurant wants to sell liquor because "we found the sale of beer helps sell pizza, sort of like a soup and sandwich."

He said Pizza Hut is a division of Pepsico and is more interested in selling pop than beer.

There will be no carryout of alcohol permitted, Hollan said, adding that the beer is sold from kegs behind the counter only to people who order food. Most Pizza Huts do not serve wine. Pizza Hut is the

Please turn to page 3

LIFe 4-16-87

Liquor licenses flow from committee

Continued from page 1

largest holder of liquor licenses in the world, Hollan said. No Pizza Hut license has ever been suspended in the Chicago area, he said.

The Liquor Commission, following the village's two-step process for issuing new licenses, recommended that the Village Board add a liquor license. The board is expected to act on that recommendation next Monday, and the Liquor Commission will then consider Pizza Hut's request for the new license.

Village President Sheila Schultz said the village has decided to grant licenses on an individual basis as requested. Markus said that communities that limit the number of liquor licenses find that the value of the license escalates far beyond the fee charged for it.

In Wheeling, he said, when a business is sold the new owner has to go through the liquor license procedure because the license cannot be transferred.

Schultz said that in recent years the proportion of liquor license holders that serve food has increased.

Also Monday, Trustee Elizabeth Hartman questioned whether Billy & Company's 4 a.m. liquor license should be changed to an earlier hour. Billy & Company is the only establishment in Wheeling that has a license to sell liquor later than 2 a.m.

Markus said that it would be too late to change the 4 a.m. license before renewing it because no notice had been given. Hartman said she will bring up the issue again in the near future.

LIFe 4-16-87

Court nixes police firing

BY MARIE LUTZ
Staff Writer

WHEELING — Police officer Burton Kaminsky, who was fired from the Police Department two years ago after being found guilty of official misconduct, was reinstated last month after an Appellate Court overturned one of the charges against him.

The court directed the Wheeling Board of Fire and Police Commissioners to reconsider the proper disciplinary measures to be taken against Kaminsky, but said he cannot be dismissed on the basis of the remaining charges. This means the only possible punishment is suspension.

The commissioners will hold a hearing at 8 p.m. Tuesday to consider the Kaminsky case.

The Appellate Court ruled in February that the charge that Kaminsky failed to assist at a fire could not be upheld. Even though he was 25 minutes late, he did respond, the court ruled.

The court upheld the other charges, but said none was cause for dismissal. The Appellate Court ruling overturned a Circuit Court decision in favor of a guilty finding on all charges.

Village Attorney Jim Rhodes said the Board of Fire and Police Commissioners cannot suspend Kaminsky for a period equal to the two years he was out of work because it does not have the authority to impose such lengthy suspensions. He refused to comment on how long a suspension could be given, saying this is open to interpretation. Kaminsky could be entitled to back pay, Rhodes said.

Kaminsky had been with the Wheeling Police Department for 17 years when he was dismissed in March 1985 after the Board of Fire and Police Commissioners found him guilty of five charges.

In addition to the charge of failing to answer a fire call at the Plum Creek Apartments on Wolf Road on Sept. 16, 1984, Kaminsky was found guilty of:

Please turn to page 3

Court nixes firing

Continued from page 1

- Failing to respond to a report of a prowler despite having acknowledged receiving a dispatch order to respond.
- Failing to respond "in a timely manner" to a burglar alarm call.
- Leaving his patrol car unattended at the Tiffany Court Apartments, located ouside village limits, for a period of time that exceeded his 30-minute allotted lunch break.
- Once again leaving his patrol car unattended at the Tiffany Court Apartments for a period of time that exceeded his allowed lunch break.

In his appeal of the Board of Fire and Police Commission's decision, Kaminsky's attorney, Noel Wroblewski, noted Kaminsky's "unblemished record" during his 17 years with the department, citing 27 commendations that Kaminsky had received.

The appeal contended that the facts of the case did not support the commission's findings.

Village finances cited

WHEELING — For the sixth year in a row, the village has received the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting. The award is given by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada. The Certificate of Achievement is the highest form of recognition in the area of governmental accounting and financial reporting, and its attainment represents a significant accomplishment, village officials say.

Those financial reports receiving the certificate have been judged by an impartial panel to have met the high standards of the program. To receive the award the reports must demonstrate a constructive spirit of full disclosure, an effort to clearly communicate the governmental body's financial picture; and the ability to motivate potential persons and groups to read the report.

The Finance Officers Association is a non-profit professional association serving 10,500 government finance professionals. The association produces a variety of technical publications in various fields of governmental finance and represents the public finance community in Washington, D.C.

Herald 4-8-87

And the winners are . . .

Municipal

Arlington Heights Village Board
Martin S. Agran
Peter J. Hogan
Edith T. Jolly
Diane Siles

Barrington Village Board
Richard Burdette III
Anna M. Bush
Theodore Forsberg

Des Plaines City Council
First Ward
Mary C. Childers
Second Ward
Tom Christiansen
Third Ward
James D. Healy
Fifth Ward
Joseph Hardiman
Sixth Ward
Bruce J. Gebert
Eighth Ward
Carl P. Haupt

Hanover Park Village Board
David A. Berkey
Robert D. Packham
Edward J. Resner

Hawthorn Woods Village Board
Terrence L. Kisiel
Lewis A. Markson
Wendell L. Peterson

Hoffman Estates Village Board
Richard A. Cochran
Michael D. Friesen
William D. McLeod

Island Lake Village Board
Georgina S. Cooper
Gregg W. Dvorak
Steven Stiller

Libertyville Village Board
Jerome J. Aguirre
Patricia Enderle
Grant L. Keehn

Mount Prospect Village Board
Gerald L. Farley
George Van Geem
Ted Wattenberg

Palatine Village Board
District 2
James V. Wilson Jr.
District 5
Rich Mierzwinski

Prospect Heights Mayor
John E. Gilligan

Prospect Heights City Council
Second Ward
Charles A. Lutzow
Third Ward
Jerome Meyer
Fourth Ward
Paul Richartz

Rolling Meadows City Council
First Ward
Robert D. Taylor
Fifth Ward
William Ball

Schaumburg Village President
Al L. Larson

Schaumburg Village Clerk
Jo Ann R. Wolf

Schaumburg Village Board
Gail A. Anderson
Kenneth L. Gogue
Robert J. Tikwart

Streamwood Village Board
Four-year terms
James P. Cecille
Billie D. Roth
David J. Stoves
Two-year term
James P. Rauscher

Wauconda Village Board
Jim Eschenbauch
Steven Gurevitz
James P. Keagle

Wheeling Village Board
Judy G. Abruscato
Anthony Altieri
James Whittington

Park Districts

Bloomingdale Park District Board
Six-year terms
Joe Chiaro
Richard Pingel
Two-year terms
Carolyn Sue Pape

Hoffman Estates Park District Board
Michael Beers
Robert Steinberg
Thomas R. Street

Inverness Park District Board
Six-year terms
Thomas Dougherty
Stanley Zydlo

Mount Prospect Park District Board
Four-year terms
Robert Christensen
Charles Miller

Salt Creek Rural Park District Board
Gary Fink
Donald Granell
Patrick Grealish

Streamwood Park District Board
Four-year terms
Diane L. Cox
Naomi S. Walters
Two-year term
William M. Sly

Wauconda Park District Board
Dale J. Miller
William Pohlman
Margaret Redmore

Library Boards

Cook Memorial Library Board
Two-year term
Judith A. Schlesinger

Mount Prospect Library Board
Six-year terms
James Nelson
Laura L. Luteri
Jacqueline Hinaber

Palatine Library Board
Six-year terms
Patricia Ahern
Richard V. Joers
Norma C. Nikolai
Two-year term
Carolyn Roberts

Countryside 4-23-87

Village, township may meet on funding issue

Trustees turn down requests for funds from 4 local social service agencies

By BOB KEHOE

Wheeling trustees plan to meet with township officials soon to examine the best way to fund local social service agencies now that federal revenue sharing funds have been abolished.

Village officials made the pledge Monday after turning down four of six agencies that serve Wheeling residents and sought local funding to supplement lost federal revenue sharing monies.

Many area social service agencies had depended on federal revenue sharing funds as a major source of income. However, now that the revenue sharing program has been eliminated those agencies are having to look elsewhere for money to fund there programs. But Wheeling officials say they aren't sure village funds should be asked to make up for the loss of revenue sharing dollars.

"I think we need to determine what is our responsibility," said Village President Sheila Schultz moments before the board acted on the requests for more than $74,000 to help fund the agencies.

THE BOARD VOTED to give $56,000 to Omni Youth Services, a Wheeling-based counseling and referral service for troubled youths and families, and to give $4,400 to the Shelter Care Center in Arlington Heights, which serves as an emergency center for boys and girls.

Requests from four other local agencies, which were denied, included:

- Horizons Children's Center in Wheeling, which sought $20,020 to offer subsidized day care to those who can't afford it.
- Salvation Army, which asked for $4,000 to supplement crisis intervention and counseling services offered to local families.
- Northwest Service Coordination Center in Arlington Heights, which sought $5,000 for helping to connect senior citizens with each other in residential housing. The service is aimed at helping elderly who own a home but can't keep up with the expense to take in a border so they can remain in their homes.
- and Talkline in Elk Grove Township, which made an appeal for unspecified funds to continue a 24-hour crisis intervention hotline offered to northwest suburban youths.

The requests, while they made board members more aware of services being performed, left some trustees puzzled on what the village's role should be in future funding.

"I feel very inadequate sometimes when people come here with these requests...I don't know that this board is qualified to evaluate (these programs)," said Trustee William Rogers.

OTHER TRUSTEES SAID they find it difficult to determine which agencies should get local funding, especially when the money they are committing comes from local taxpayers.

Although no trustee had a definitive answer on how to best meet the ever-increasing demand from social service agencies seeking to replace lost federal funds, Rogers said it would make sense for the village to work with the township.

Township officials, he said, have had greater experience over the years in working directly with the agencies when doling out portions of its revenue sharing funds to the groups.

Trustee Nicholas Fanella was the only board member who favored dealing with the funding issue on a local level.

"I'D BE against bucking this upstream," Fanella said. "We're really doing this the tough way and the right way (by evaluating each agency's request and making a decision)."

Fanella's opinion notwithstanding, other board members said there has to be a better way to deal with the funding issue.

Trustee James Whittington, who served five years on the Wheeling Township Mental Health Committee, decried the present arrangement that saw social service agency directors taking time away from their regular duties to run from town to town seeking needed funds.

If local municipal officials are unable to best evaluate these programs and and whether they truly are worthy of receiving local tax dollars, the question becomes who will make these determinations?

TOWNSHIP GOVERNMENT MAY be part of a solution, but Schultz called on all residents to give to whatever they can to local organizations they find helpful.

"We're going to struggle with this every year," she said. "I think we should all get involved personally to whatever degree we can."

Suzan Sclove, executive director of the Horizons Children's Center, which offers day care on a sliding fee scale, also called on individual residents to get involved with funding social service agencies, but she said residents first must be educated about these agencies.

"As we make people aware of what we do, more people will come to us," Sclove said.

EVEN THOUGH HER center lost out on its bid for funds, Sclove said she was glad for those who did receive a boost from the village. And unlike the trustees who hope to streamline the funding application process, Sclove doubts that will ever happen.

"There is not that kind of animal out there. There is no one (governmental body) that will address this," she said. "The bottom line is to educate people and let them know they should do something to help in this area."

4-23-87-

NWMC support for tax hike conditional

Local municipal officials, including those in Wheeling, say they'll throw their support behind Gov. James Thompson's motor fuel tax hike proposal if their communities get a fair share of the revenue raised by the tax hike.

By SUSAN MONTGOMERY and BOB KEHOE

The Northwest Municipal Conference's 31 member communities want a larger share of revenue from Gov. James Thompson's proposed 9½-cent motor fuel tax (MFT) increase if they are to support the plan.

The NWMC last week announced it would back the motor fuel tax hike, now before the General Assembly, if revenues raised in District 1 are returned to the district. District 1 includes Cook, Lake, Kane, DuPage, McHenry and Will counties.

Wheeling trustees reached a consensus Monday that they too will likely adopt that same position in the hopes that the northwest suburban area will see more money for local road projects if the tax hike is granted.

Wheeling and the NWMC's support hinges on whether the state's current 40 percent distribution of motor fuel tax revenues to municipalities is retained in the legislation.

UNDER THE PROPOSED legislation, distribution of MFT revenues would be split with 65 percent for the state, and 35 percent to municipalities. Currently, 60 percent of motor fuel tax revenues support state road repair projects and 40 percent are reserved for municipal projects.

The proposed 9½-cent motor fuel tax increase is expected to generate $6.25 million statewide over the next five years. If Thompson's plan is approved, Cook County alone will receive $11 million next year in new revenues for roadway improvements.

This would be in addition to the $53.7 million in MFT revenues the county received this year, according to a spokesman for the Illinois Department of Transportation.

The amount of additional revenues the 9½-cent increase would generate in District 1 hasn't been determined yet, said Rita Athas, the assistant director of the municipal conference.

THE NWMC'S TWO recommendations are aimed at enabling Chicago suburbs to get back more of the MFT revenues their areas generate. Much of the MFT moneys raised in the suburbs now go to fund road improvement projects throughout the state, said Athas.

Conference communities "don't see

(Continued on next page)

COUNTRYSIDE

Cop's disciplinary hearing delayed

A Wheeling police officer's disciplinary hearing called for Tuesday night to determine penalties for his alleged failure to respond to police calls and for leaving his post while on duty in 1984 was postponed without explanation.

The hearing on officer Burton Kaminsky, who was recently reinstated following an appellate court ruling in his favor, has been rescheduled for May 26 at 7 p.m.

Village Attorney James Rhodes gave no explanation for the delay other than to say it was "mutually agreed upon" by the parties involved. Rhodes directed the Police and Fire Commission not to answer any questions regarding this disciplinary hearing or any others in the future.

In a phone interview last week, Rhodes said the commission's task during the hearing will be to determine what disciplinary action to take against Kaminsky based on earlier findings in 1985 that he failed to respond to police calls, concealed himself while on duty, and was inattentive to duty.

The action taken by the commission will have to stop short of calling for Kaminsky's dismissal, Rhodes said.

The allegations against Kaminsky surfaced in 1984, following three separate incidents in which the officer allegedly failed to respond to calls. The Police and Fire Commission moved to dismiss him following hearings in 1985.

5-year-old hit by car on Wolf Rd.

A 5-year-old Wheeling boy suffered minor injuries Saturday afternoon after he was struck by a car while riding his bike on Wolf Road at Glendale Avenue.

A Wheeling Police Department spokesman said a car driven by Longinus Mueller, 43, of 685 Walnut Court, Des Plaines, was northbound on Wolf Road at about 2 p.m. when he noticed the boy riding his bike near the shoulder of the road. As Mueller slowed his vehicle upon approaching where the boy was riding, the youth apparently cut directly in front of the car and was struck, the spokesman said.

The youth was taken to the Holy Family Hospital Ambulatory Care Center on Strong Avenue for treatment of minor injuries and was released. No charges were filed against the driver.

4/87

A LIFE NEWSPAPER, We

Annexation try hit as balefill block

Northwest Municipal Conference and Chicago Gravel Company attorneys will argue Friday to dismiss a petition to annex to Elgin part of the NMC's landfill site.

Attorneys filed objections last week in Kane County Circuit Court to block the annexation petition, filed by the Kane County Forest Preserve District and a group of Kane County landowners.

The petition calls for annexing 130 acres in a 1,700-foot path down the center of the balefill land.

The landfill, called a balefill because garbage is to be baled into cubes before it is buried, is proposed to serve some 31 NMC-member municipalities for 15 years when an alternative solid waste disposal plan is prospected to be available.

Opponents of the balefill, a 200-acre site on 573 acres that includes land in both Kane and Cook counties, say there is no guarantee of safety to water supplies and they fear property values will drop.

Though neither the landowners nor their attorney, Allen Anderson of Elgin, will comment on the annexation petition, conference officials say it is clear the object is to block the balefill.

Solid Waste Project Coordinator William Abolt said conference attorneys will argue that unincorporated Kane County landowners have no right to annex Cook County land to Elgin without also petitioning in Cook County. Kane, on its own, has no jurisdiction in annexing Cook County land, the lawyers' motion said.

The lawyers also will argue the petitioners filed in court rather than by approaching Elgin directly in order to circumvent the conference's rights under its purchase contract for the land.

The annexation was filed "solely for the purpose of cutting (our land) in half," according to the NMC objection. "There is no plan for a road or service line to be put there, there is no purpose, no public purpose, in annexing the property. It is an abandoned gravel pit."

The lawyers also claim that petitioners failed to notify the conference and Chicago Gravel early enough to give them time to prepare objections.

Abolt said the annexation dispute will not affect the next hearing before the Cook County Zoning Board of Appeals. Conference officials filed for a county zoning of the property for a balefill when efforts to get it annexed and zoned to Bartlett failed last year.

The next scheduled hearing is 2 p.m. April 22 in the Hanover Park Village Hall, 2121 W. Lake St.

Repair work announced

WHEELING — The village has designated eight streets to be either repaired or reconstructed this year.

The work is expected to cost $474,958. The Village Board last week selected Baxter & Woodman to do construction engineering services in connection with the projects.

The streets slated for improvement are Chelsea Drive; Harmony Drive; Ferne Drive; Lakeside Circle Drive; Pueblo Trail; Delaware Trail; Bow Trail; and South Crow Trail.

The work will be financed through motor fuel tax funds distributed by the state of Illinois' Department of Transportation.

Lake County's dilemma: to burn or not to burn

BY BURT CONSTABLE
Daily Herald Staff Writer

An entire table of lawyers agrees that the upcoming ruling will be one of those decisions for the ages, for their children's children and beyond.

Engineers and chemists, housewives and farmers joined the battle of lawyers to debate things such as fly ash, leachate and electrostatic precipatators. For 10 weeks this winter and spring, a Lake County pollution hearing committee and handful of hard-core, dedicated neighbors and citizens attended public hearings to see what the folks in the gray pin-striped suits had to say. Most of them have heard more than enough.

The problem is candy bar wrappers and plastic jugs and banana peels and egg shells and fingernail polish and oven cleaners and day-old newspapers and anything else people throw out with the garbage. The solution is debatable and the reason for the public hearings.

Officials of Waste Management Inc., the world's largest garbage disposal company with an annual revenue of about $2 billion, say the solution is building a "state-of-the-art" incinerator north of Mundelein that not only will burn most garbage into a harmless pile of ashes but will produce enough electricity for 15,000 homes.

Neighbors and environmental groups say the Waste Management solution will put toxins in their air, pollute their water and ruin their rural homes.

A seven-member panel of the Lake County Board will decide which side is right. That committee early voted against a plan by ARF Landfill Corp. to expand its adjoining 80-acre landfill by 105 acres. ARF has appealed that ruling to the Illinois Pollution Control Board.

The panel's vote on Waste Management's plan is expected to be closer. The panel's recommendations go to the full county board, which on May 5 is scheduled to either issue or deny permits. The losing side will appeal that ruling to the Illinois Pollution Control Board. The state board could send a case back for more public hearings, reverse the county's decision or uphold the ruling.

That action could be appealed, sending the case to the 2nd District Appellate County in Elgin. That court's ruling could be appealed to the state Supreme Court.

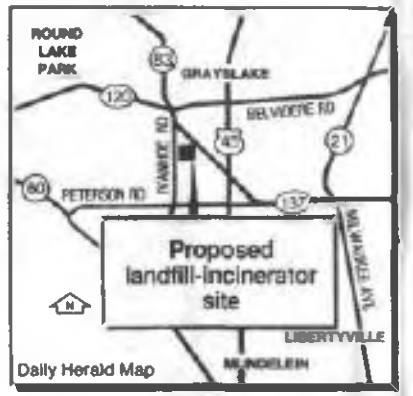
The process, as were the hearings, is long and tedious. It also is expensive. Thousands of pages of evidence and testimony have cost both sides hundreds of thousands of dollars. For critics of the plan, the summary is simple.

"The landfill's no good. The incinerator's no good. Their plan's no good. The company's no good," says Lorens Tronet, leader of Lake County Defenders, one of several citizens groups opposing Waste Management's proposal.

But Waste Management has heard the critics before. Their 14 witnesses refuted the allegations and painted the company as a solution to a problem that won't go away.

Donald J. Morans, the attorney who presented the company's case before the county board panel, said his employer's plans grew out of a 1984 Lake County Solid Waste Advisory Committee published report that recommended a 1,200-ton-a-day incinerator, landfilling and recycling program.

Waste Management officials say they want to build a plant with a 1,000-ton-a-day capacity and a 500-ton-a-day landfill and develop a recycling program. Engineers testified that the current county landfills will be filled by 1992 and this waste plant



will take about five years and $100 million to construct.

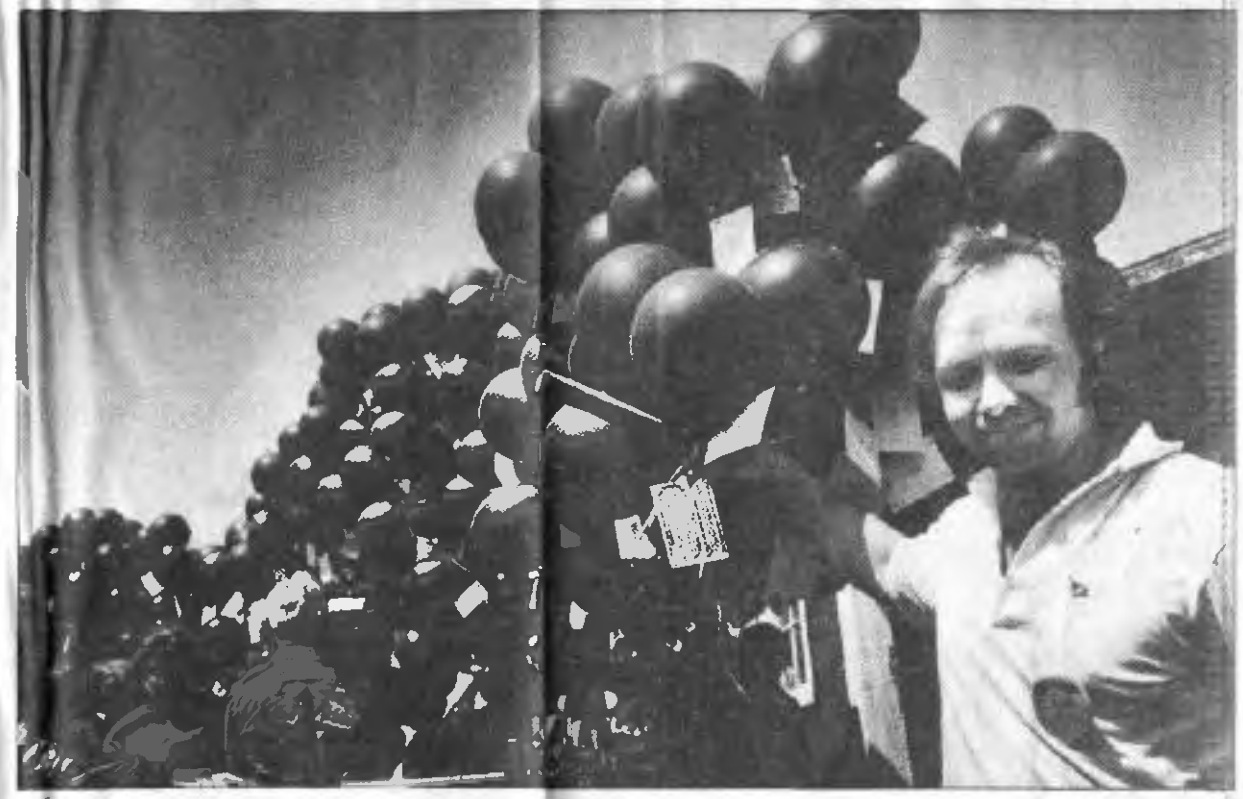
Most of the attention has focused on the incinerator, a process Waste Management's project director Peter J. Ware, says "embodies the state of the art in technology."

Municipal waste, carried by garbage trucks, is dumped in a refuse pit. The trash is mixed by a huge crane, operated primarily by a computer, and dropped into a hopper. It falls into a three-phased furnace that reaches temperatures ranging from 1,100 to 2,000 degrees. Ware said gases are partially combusted and the waste and ashes are burned.

A kiln mixes and grinds the ash for another two hours at 2,200 degrees. The gases are converted into steam, which turns a turbine generator system that will provide about 25 megawatts of electricity or enough to power 15,000 homes.

The ash is not harmful and will be buried along with nonburnable trash in the landfill or possibly even used as filler in concrete or roads, Ware said. The emissions from a 200-foot smokestack will contain miniscule amounts of heavy metals and harmful gases, he said, in compliance with the limits set by the Environmental Protection Agency.

The entire plant will be behind attractive fences, and the lake that will capture run-off seeping from the landfill after rains will "act as a reflecting pool improving the arrival point for any visitors to the waste-to-energy plant," said environmental consultant Wileen E. Sweet.



Charles Titus helps launch black balloons to protest the incinerator Saturday.
Daily Herald Photo/Bob Chwedyk

That testimony is part of "a Waste Management road show," say attorneys Thomas Campbell and Dennis P. Ryan, who represent the largest group of critics — a grassroots collection of neighbors and as many as 4,000 sympathizers calling themselves Citizens of Lake County for Environmental Action Reform.

CLEAR members are united against ARF, Waste Management or anyone who wants to add to the landfills in Fremont Township. The group has raised at least $50,000 through private contributions and has compiled a legal bill of at least $185,000.

"We would like to get paid but we felt more importantly that their cause was just," Ryan said. A Libertyville resident, Ryan said he is waging a personal battle to keep ARF or Waste Management from turning his community into a "disaster."

"The application (by Waste Management) is an insult to every citizen of Lake County," the attorneys said in a written brief. The company's witnesses were "a parade of industry cheerleaders and hucksters," Campbell said.

And CLEAR doesn't believe their stories.

The fears are many: that toxic levels of dioxins, heavy metals and other poisons will be leaked into the groundwater and air; the landfills will smell, attract pests and be noisy; trucks will make traffic dangerous; waste from Cook County and beyond will come into Lake County through nearby railroads as soon as the company gets its foot in the door; the plant will be ugly; property values will plummet; farms will be ruined and even the shadows from the 150-foot mounds of garbage will keep grain and vegetables of nearby farms from growing strong.

Ryan and Campbell said the application is purposely vague and that the company will take advantage of the situation if a permit is granted.

Some county board members have spoken out against the plan, despite their attorney's warnings to wait until all the evidence is in. "The only place Waste Management should burn is in hell," says E. Bruce Hansen, R-Lake Zurich. "We're not dealing with Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs here. We're dealing with the wolf."

Waste Management officials point to some of their other projects and say that similar fears never materialized. The stack's emissions are odorless and colorless and the plants are quiet and attractive, according to press releases.

The company has charged four county board members with prejudice and remains at odds with its critics. About the only thing on which both sides agree is that the final decision will be key to the future of Lake County.

Paratransit service put on shelf

4-26-87

By Liz Russell
and C.L. Waller
Daily Herald staff writers

Wheelchair-bound riders who use the Paratransit van service will instead have to call for PACE buses at least until June.

Paratransit, which sells discount rides to senior citizens and handicapped persons in Wheeling, Barrington, Palatine, Schaumburg, Elk Grove and Maine townships, has decided the service is too costly, said Marianne T. Bailey, executive director.

Along with the costs of maintaining the service, Paratransit is reviewing new federal regulations until June to see if they are providing service to the kinds of riders allowed by regulation and whether to revise rider fees.

The townships and PACE financially support the service, which includes vans and taxi service. But the cost of maintaining the vans and the time involved in assisting riders has made the service too costly and rather than pass the increased cost on to the riders, PACE is taking over, Bailey said.

Paratransit has 200 to 212 riders a month on the special vans, she said. Riders, who usually use the service for commuting to a job or for trips to the doctor, can travel anywhere in the six townships.

Paratransit has turned over its list of riders to PACE and regular riders will receive notice with details of the changes.

Taxi trips provided through Community Cab Co. will be changed from a flat fee of $3.25 to half price vouchers paying up to $4 of the ride. Bailey said the change was being made in response to users' needs for shorter trips.

"The new system will accommodate shorter trips which there is an ever increasing need for.. $3.25 is a hardship for people on fixed incomes," Bailey said.

Paratransit will provide handicapped and senior citizens with vouchers good for half the metered fare up to $4. For example, a $4 taxi ride would cost $2 with a voucher and an $8 ride would cost $4.

Vouchers are available from Paratransit. More information on Paratransit is available at 297-5067.

The top meeting

Who: Wheeling Fire and Police Commission

Where: Wheeling Village Hall, 255 W. Dundee Road

When 8 p.m. Tuesday

4/19-8

THE WEEK AHEAD

Panel to consider penalizing officer

The Wheeling Fire and Police Commission will consider penalizing a police officer on charges of ignoring or arriving late to police calls.

The meeting will be held at 8 p.m. Tuesday at Wheeling Village Hall, 255 W. Dundee Road.

Burton H. Kaminsky, fired two years ago on misconduct charges, is patrolling again in Wheeling but now may be suspended from the force because of two of the original five charges.

An appellate court said that the 17-year veteran should be reinstated because there was not enough evidence to support the most serious charge against him. That charge alleged that Kaminsky failed to respond to a fire at Plum Creek Apartment Complex.

The commission will discuss charges that Kaminsky allegedly ignoring a call on July 18, 1984, about a reported prowler, and that he arrived 15 to 20 minutes late to a Wheeling factory where a burglar alarm had sounded on July 20, 1984.

Attorneys for each side differ in their opinions of whether a maximum 30-day suspension for each charge is allowed by state statute.

Plan panel approves subdivision

4-16-87

By Sherry Boemmel
Daily Herald Correspondent

A proposed subdivision of houses at Harbour Drive and Cornell Street has received zoning and preliminary plan approval from the Wheeling Plan Commission.

Commissioners voted 4-1 to approve a change in zoning and the plan with 19 lots. Tom Kelly of Tri-trade Corp. in Skokie asked to change the minimum lot size to 7,100 square feet, a change from the present requirement of 20,000 square feet or more. The Abourndale lots will range from about 7,100 square feet up to 13,700 square feet, with about three houses per acre, officials said.

Houses were chosen over a multi-family development because there are four homes nearby, Village Planner Richard Greenwood said.

Commissioner Terry Steilen said he opposes houses there.

"I'm very much a proponent of single-family homes," he said. "(But) I'm not sure about putting single-family homes in the middle of a bunch of multifamily units with back yards facing parking lots."

Density also is a concern of homeowners from neighboring Lake of the Winds subdivision. Homeowner Howard Helfrick said residents want a park instead of a subdivision.

The proposed subdivision is part of the Prospect Heights Park District and Helfrick asked the plan commission to table any decision until Prospect Heights Park District is consulted about a park.

"We're concerned about the tremendous density in this area," Helfrick said. "We want a park as a buffer."

The plan commission said nothing is final until the village board considers the issue and there is time to talk to the park district before then.

The commission stipulated that the Tri-trade Corporation provide uniform backyard fences for each home to screen them from the multi-family units on two sides. An existing house on the site will be the only one with a Cornell Street driveway, another commission ruling stipulates.

Chicago Company Picks Wheeling Site For Hdqtrs.

Wilmette-based Alter Group recently broke ground for the Chicago area's largest industrial build-to-suit deal of 1986, a 250,000-square-foot headquarters and assembly-warehouse facility for Chicago Specialty, a division of Beatrice that makes plumbing repair parts for the home.

The facility will be located on a 14.2-acre site at the southwest corner of Lake-Cook Road and Northgate Parkway in Wheeling.

Approximately 285 people will be employed in the new building when it is completed in the fall. Chicago Specialty will use the single-story Wheeling building, which will include 25,000 square-feet of office space, to consolidate the operations of five facilities.

Chicago Specialty President Randall W. Larrimore said The Alter Group put together a design, construction and management package that addressed every need and desire of his firm. "With Alter, we were able to consider every facilities option, from rehabilitation to build-to-suit. They made it easy for us (a company not in the construction business) to select the best alternative and, in this case, build a new facility," he said.

According to Stephen J. Tinsley, senior vice president of The Alter Group, 1986 was the second consecutive year the company secured the market's largest industrial build-to-suit transaction. In 1985, The Alter Group was contracted for the 250,000 square-foot Bridgestone Tire facility in Addison. The Wilmette-based development firm also negotiated the area's largest office build-to-suit deal in 1985, the 147,000-square-foot Illinois Department of Transportation headquarters in Schaumburg.

Jon Construction, Inc. is the general contractor for the project, and asset management will be performed by Lake Center Management. The building was designed by KLLM Architects of Chicago and Waupaca, Wis.

Journal & Topics
4-23-87

Village nixes funding for flood project

4-28-87

By C. L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Wheeling officials decided to support Lake Arlington flood control project with words rather than money Monday night.

Prospect Heights aldermen Christina Carlson and Edward Rotchford asked village trustees Monday night to contribute toward the $9.7 million project because McDonald Creek, which will flood less due to the project, runs through 31 acres in Wheeling, including the developments of Lake in the Winds, Woodland Creek and Foster Industrial and 11 acres of undeveloped land.

"My own personal opinion is outside of that undeveloped area it (the project) doesn't really remove anyone from flooding," Village Manager Thomas Markus said.

Wheeling's refusal to provide financial support for the project leaves Prospect Heights contributing $750,000 to $1 million as its portion.

"Wheeling's going to get it (flood control) for nothing," said Rotchford. But he added that a resolution from Wheeling supporting the project will help in obtaining funding from the Illinois Division of Waterways.

Arlington Heights plans on footing most of the bill for the Lake Arlington project by selling municipal bonds. Prospect Heights officials have informally agreed to pay its portion by raising the city's utility tax from 3½ to 5 percent, boosting the utility tax bill by about $27 annually for an average homeowner.

A study in Prospect Heights showed the lake would remove 44 acres of Prospect Heights land from the creek's flood plain, easing flooding there. The study also showed the 20 acres in Wheeling would be removed from the flood plain.

Prospect Heights determined its contribution based on the difference between what it would cost Arlington Heights to build a lake to relieve flooding only on Arlington Heights roperty and the cost of a deeper ·ke that will also benefit flood- ›ne land downstream in Prospect ghts.

Wheeling condemns 5 properties

By C. L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer

4-21-87

Wheeling officials have moved to condemn five downtown properties to make room for the downtown redevelopment project.

Attorneys for the village filed the condemnation papers with Cook County Circuit Court late last week and property owners have 30 days to respond.

Properties at stake are Dunkin' Donuts, Wheeling Auto Repair, Tien Tsin Restaurant, Dreiske's Florist and a vacant parcel.

The Cook County Sheriff's Department is expected to serve the condemnation papers shortly, said attorney Thomas Burk of Burk and Ryan, a Chicago law firm that specializes in condemnation.

The businesses stand in the way of an $8.9 million retail center targeted for the area northwest of Milwaukee Avenue and Dundee Road that the village wants to buy to complete the land for a $8.9 million retail center.

Wheeling has already purchased five parcels of property in the area, but negotiations stalled with owners of the five remaining properties. The village made what they called final offers to the holdouts last month.

"We'll be waiting and we'll demand our jury," said Michael Norris, an attorney representing the owners of Tien Tsin Restaurant, 144 N. Milwaukee Ave.

Norris said his clients think it will cost them three or four times as much money to build a new restaurant as it did originally.

Plans are for the village to demolish all the buildings west of Milwaukee Avenue, between Dundee Road and Wheeling Towers.

A house along Milwaukee Avenue was demolished last November and village trustees Monday night approved hiring a firm from Des Plaines to demolish a white brick building at 34 N. Milwaukee Ave., owned by Ivan J. Lindquist.

LIFE 4-30-87

Squeezed out

Day care could be shut down

BY MARIE LUTZ
Staff Writer

WHEELING — Two Prospect Heights aldermen told the Wheeling Village Board Monday that Sunnie Kiddies would have to close if Wheeling would not permit a second access to the John Muir School, where the day care facility is now located.

But Wheeling board members said the problem is not one for Wheeling to resolve. The Muir School is located in Prospect Heights south of Hintz Road between Wheeling and Elmhurst roads. It is surrounded on three sides by Wheeling.

"If the school is forced to close, I would object to saying it was because Wheeling refused to act," said Village President Sheila Schultz to Prospect Heights aldermen Christina Carlson and Edward Rotchford.

Schultz said Wheeling has not shirked its responsibilities in dealing with day-care facilities located within its borders, adding that the Sunnie Kiddies issue involves a zoning decision that Prospect Heights must make.

Sunnie Kiddies has been located in District 23's Muir School for the past year. It has an option to buy the building, which was closed because of declining enrollment, contingent on obtaining the proper zoning permit from Prospect Heights.

But the Prospect Heights City Council has refused to grant the OK unless a second access to the school is built, an access that must go through Wheeling.

Carlson and Rotchford told the Wheeling Village Board that the Prospect Heights City Council believes the issue concerns the safety of the children. Although Muir was an elementary school from 1965 to about 1981, the aldermen said the situation was not ideal with only the one access. The single entrance was approved by Cook County before Prospect Heights was incorporated.

Rotchford said the problem of one access is worse with a day-care center because, unlike elementary school children, 1- and 2-year-olds cannot simply walk out of a building in an emergency. Thus there is a need for two access roads so emergency vehicles can approach the school and help evacuate the children, Rotchford indicated.

The aldermen said one reason Wheeling should help is there are more children from Wheeling who attend Sunnie Kiddies than from Prospect Heights. Carlson said a second access would also help relieve traffic problems in Prospect Heights.

Two Wheeling residents whose children attend Sunnie Kiddies at

Please turn to page 3

Day care caught in middle of fl

Continued from page 1

tacked the Wheeling Village Board's refusal to consider a second access.

But another resident, who lives in the Ridgefield subdivision, said Ridgefield residents object to having a second road to the school. He said Prospect Heights residents don't want Sunnie Kiddies to obtain a permit because of the traffic so Prospect Heights is trying to divert traffic to Wheeling as a solution.

"We each have our own constituents," said Wheeling Trustee Nicholas Fanella, who added, "I believe we are serving our own constituents by leaving this situation alone."

After the meeting Eilene Lombardo, executive director of Sunnie Kiddies, said the day-care center's problem does not belong in Wheeling. She said she expects that either Sunnie Kiddies or District 23 will bring a lawsuit against Prospect Heights, which has said that without a second access the day-care center will have to close in June.

"We have done everything that the City Council has asked us to do," Lombardo said. "There really isn't anything left. Wheeling was our last hope."

Lomba
ed for ye
"I rea
problem
that ther
She sa
get into
ant Run
Villag
said Wh
grant ar
ance.

Low-income funds sought

WHEELING — The village is applying for $100,000 in federal funds to help low-income families improve their single-family homes.

The money will be used to provide no-interest loans to eligible households to enable them to make building code improvements.

So far, Wheeling has received $224,083, which has been used to rehabilitate houses.

LIFE 4-30-87

Village condemns 6 TIF sites

WHEELING — The village has instituted condemnation proceedings against six properties located on the northwest corner of Milwaukee Avenue and Dundee Road.

That site is slated to be turned into a shopping center with the existing Sportmart expected to be a major anchor of the redevelopment.

Vantage Companies has been chosen by the village to develop the shopping center, which is being built with the help of Tax Increment Financing (TIF) from the village.

The village has been purchasing properties on the site with the intent of selling the parcels to Vantage at a lower price than it paid for them.

Village Attorney Jim Rhodes said the village has successfully negotiated prices with a number of owners and now owns seven properties. However, agreement could not be reached with six owners who will be brought to court, where a fair market value for the properties will be established by a judge.

According to Rhodes the properties being condemned are the Tien Tsin restaurant; the Leven property, a house; Dreiske Florists; Wheeling Auto Repair; Dunkin' Donuts; and the Reikart Cleaners property, which is currently an empty lot.

Rhodes said the owners of those properties were sent final offers from the village in March. He said court proceedings should be completed by the end of the summer.

The shopping center to be built is

Please turn to page 3

Sewers top '87 agenda

Continued from page 1

a cornerstone of the redevelopment of the Milwaukee Avenue corridor, which is being accomplished with the help of TIF. The assessed value of the properties in the TIF district is being frozen for a maximum of 23 years. Taxes that go up in the corridor as property owners improve their establishments will not go to taxing bodies during those years. Instead it will be used by the village to pay for improvements in the corridor.

The TIF district extends along Milwuakee Avenue from Strong Street on the north to Manchester Drive on the south. It also includes Arbor Court Apartments, formerly known as Wildwood.

The shopping center, to be known as Village Square, will consist of single-story stores joined together in a rough U-shape that will extend along Milwaukee Avenue to just south of the senior citizen housing.

Using TIF money, the village will not only buy land for the shopping center, but also pay for public improvements, such as sewer work and necessary street widening.

The village will also pay for necessary demolition of buildings on the site.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Wheeling joins police recruiting

4-21-87

Wheeling is one of seven communities participating in a joint recruitment process for police officers. All persons interested in being recruited for a police position must attend an orientation session at 7:30 p.m. April 28 at Centre East School, 7701 N. Lincoln, Skokie. All initial application forms and test information will be distributed at the meeting and there is no need to contact the school or police departments.

Applicants are asked to bring two pencils for test forms. Spouses or fiances are also encouraged to attend. Winnetka, Park Ridge, Morton Grove, Bartlett, Northbrook and Skokie are also part of the consortium. The next police test cycle will be in 1988.

Airport grant OK'd

BY DAN ROZEK
Daily Herald Staff Writer 4-28-87

Prospect Heights and Wheeling are getting a $2 million federal grant to improve hangars and other facilities at Pal-Waukee Municipal Airport and to buy two lots near the airport.

"That's music to our ears," airport commission member Charles T. VanderVennet said. "We're very happy the money's there."

Federal Aviation Administration officials are allocating the money to help the towns complete projects that could not be accomplished with earlier federal grants, said David Kohn, press secretary for U.S. Rep. John Porter, who represents the 10th District.

Plans call for buying two parcels at the northeast corner of the airport so a new storage area can be built there, VanderVennet said. About $700,000 is allocated for those purchases.

When that storage area is built, several old hangars on the south edge of the property can be demolished to meet federal requirements for clear areas around public airports.

HAPPENINGS

Wheeling to hold cleanup day

The village of Wheeling will sponsor its eighth annual "Up with Wheeling" day cleanup and beautification campaign on Saturday, May 2. This annual event is a day when all residents, businesses, industries, and community service organizations work together to pick up litter and beautify public properties throughout the village.

All participants should meet at 8:30 a.m. behind the Municipal Complex Fire Station, 255 W. Dundee Road, armed with work clothes and work gloves. Following the cleanup activities, the village will serve a complimentary picnic lunch behind the Municipal Complex.

For information, call 459-2620.

Support group to help lose weight

A free weight support group led by Gertrude Trunda meets at 1:30 p.m. each Wednesday at Pavilion Senior Center, 199 N. First St. Group members support each other in healthy life styles and weight management.

For information and registration, call 537-1335.

LIFE

Committee forms for bicentennial

4-30-81

The village of Wheeling has been recognized as a "Designated Bicentennial Community" by the Commission on the Bicentennial of the United States Constitution. The recognition of the village of Wheeling has pushed the total of such communities to 734.

'The active involvement and willing participation of our nation's local governments will be a key to the success of the Bicentennial," said Chief Justice Warren E. Burger, commission chairman. "A major goal of this commission is to educate the American people on the historical significance of the Constitution," he added.

David Kowal is chairman of the Wheeling Bicentennial Committee. "The task of this committee will be to plan and coordinate bicentennial activities in the village of Wheeling," Kowal said. "We are looking for any suggestions from our citizens to assist us in this endeavor."

Familyfest seeks advertisers for book

The Familyfest '87 Committee seeks advertisers for the Familyfest program book. Many area businesses have received information and contracts. Any businesses that did not receive this mailing are asked to call Mary Ann Brzuszkiewcz at 537-0513 or 537-2740. All ads should be submitted by mid-night, May 15, 1987.

Individuals wishing to support Familyfest are also eligible to be included in the program book as patrons, or they may insert up to a three line message. Contributions to the Familyfest program book are tax deductible.

'Illinois Reads' wins award

Kenneth G. Swanson, administrative librarian of the Indian Trails Public Library District and executive director of the Library Cable Network, has received notification that "Illinois Reads: Talks With Illinois Authors" series has received the John Cotton Dana Special Award in the 1986 library public relations competitions.

The John Cotton Dana Awards are given annually for exceptional library public relations efforts for an outstanding project or event, or for a discrete aspect of library public relations within the context of an annual public relations program.

4-25-81

Wheeling named bicentennial community

The village of Wheeling has been designated a bicentennial community by the Commission on the Bicentennial of the United States Constitution, joining 733 communities already honored.

The commemoration of the Constitution's 200th birthday in 1987 will focus on the writing of the Constitution; in 1988 on its ratification by the states; in 1989 on the formation of the first federal government under the constitutional system; and in 1990 and 1991 on the writing and ratification of the Bill of Rights.

Village Administrative Assistant David Kowal is chairman of the Wheeling Bicentennial Committee.

"The task of this committee will be to plan and coordinate bicentennial activities in the village of Wheeling," he said. "We are looking for any suggestions from our citizens to assist us in this endeavor."

LIFE 4-23-81

Village denies funding pleas

WHEELING — The Village Board Monday refused requests to fund four social service agencies from its 1987-88 budget, agreeing to donate village tax money only to Omni Youth Services and Shelter.

Omni provides counseling and other services and Shelter is an organization that takes care of children who must be removed from their homes on an emergency basis. Board members said both Omni and Shelter provide services to the Wheeling Police Department. Omni will receive $56,000 and Shelter $4,400.

Other agencies requesting funds were Talk Line/Kids Line, a phone-in crisis intervention hotline; Horizon Children's Center, which offers day care, an after- and before-school program and a summer camp; the Salvation Army; and NSC, a shared housing program for the elderly.

Before 1986, the board distributed federal revenue sharing money to a number of agencies, but with that program having ended, any money given to social service groups must now come strictly from village coffers.

Trustee William Rogers said deciding which agencies should get village money is frustrating. He questioned whether the Village Board is qualified to judge how the money is being spent.

The total amount of money requested and given for this year comes to $145,000, Rogers said. This sum includes $60,000 in subsidies to senior citizen programs along with funding for Omni and Shelter and the requests from the other agencies.

"This is growing by leaps and bounds and obviously it's going to grow every year, and we had better establish some formula (on who should get the money)," Rogers said. "Are we ready to fund social agencies by an increasing amount?"

But Trustee Nicholas Fanella said he saw no problem. "The proper way is to say no when we can't do it," he said, adding the requests come to a very small percentage of the village's budget.

Village President Sheila Schultz said that before budget time next year the village should have a long range plan concerning funding of social service groups.

Board members mentioned the possibility of working in concert

Please turn to page 3

Village says 'no' to social services

Continued from page 1

with other municipalities and perhaps developing a regional approach to the problem.

The discussion concerning which social service agencies to fund took place as the board made a few last decisions before approving the slightly revised 1987-88 budget totaling $19,553,243.

In other business, the board voted against a plan to construct a Jiffy Lube and Merlin Muffler Shop on the south side of Dundee Road between Wheeling Road and Railroad avenue. The site is now occupied by the Martin Oil station. Only Fanella voted for approval.

Staff had opposed the proposal to construct the two establishments. In a memo, Village Manager Tom Markus said the proposal would result in property that would be developed too intensely with two high traffic-generating uses.

Also, he said, "I believe that the plan could have provided a better on-site traffic flow and, because there are two uses proposed for the subject site, the allowable space for green areas has been severely reduced.

The Plan Commission also recommended rejection of the proposal.

The developers argued that the two businesses would not generate more than 125 cars per day and that Martin Oil currently attracts more traffic.

Some of the trustees who spoke on their reasons for voting against the proposal said that the site plan does not provide enough green space.

Closing of day-care center threatens school addition

By C. L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer 4-29-87

The possible closing of the Sunnie Kiddies Day Care Center in Prospect Heights may jeopardize plans by Prospect Heights Elementary District 23 to add onto Anne Sullivan School.

Wheeling officials are refusing to allow the day-care center to build a second driveway to the center across Wheeling land. Without the driveway, Prospect Heights officials are threatening to close the center, located in the former John Muir School.

And without the day-care center or someone else to buy Muir school from District 23 for $525,000, the school district won't have the money to break ground on the addition to Sullivan School this summer, Superintendent David Robert said.

Instead, students at Sullivan will be moved to the junior high, mobile classrooms will be installed or Muir will be reopened as a school, Robert said.

Prospect Heights officials pushed Wheeling board members for the driveway earlier this week, saying it will make the area more safe.

Wheeling Trustee Nicholas Fanella said he's not opposed to children's safety, but said the board can best serve Wheeling residents by not addressing the issue.

Wheeling Village Manager Thomas Markus said a safer arrangement that installing a second driveway would be to allow emergency vehicles to approach the school via Pleasant Run Drive and cross a grassy area to the school.

Most of the 268 youths who attend the day-care are from Wheeling and the Ridgefield Subdivision, located near the former school building, Prospect Heights Alderman Christina Carlson said.

"If we have to close the school down it is going to be your residents that are affected because a larger percentage of students come from Wheeling," she said.

Wheeling Village President Sheila Schultz said she objects to Prospect Heights' officials labeling Wheeling responsible for the situation.

Laurels and darts 4-20-87

HERALD

A dart to State Rep. Bernard E. Pedersen, R-Palatine, for refusing to support the Illinois Clean Air Act, even though he has received more than 400 cards from residents who support the bill. The proposed law would require certain public places to designate smoking and no-smoking sections. Peterson, a nonsmoker, has said that he doesn't support the legislation because "too many laws mandate the way people behave in things" and that another law isn't needed. He would, however, support voluntary compliance.

Laurels to Bob and Barb McIntyre for the hundreds of volunteer hours they spent editing a book about the history of Wheeling. The 240-page book, which spans 153 years of Wheeling's history, includes the work of 47 authors and starts in 1833 with George Strong, the first settler in the village, and concludes with the purchase of Pal-Waukee Airport. It differs from most other history books because it is a composed mostly of taped conversations with long-time village residents. It also includes information from conversations Wheeling historian Marshall Balling had with residents in 1974 and also from newspaper clippings. The McIntyres worked for three years editing and interviewing the authors. The book will be sold by the Wheeling Historical Society starting in June.

Laurels to members of the Lake County Board for remembering last fall's flood when they voted not to grant a permit that would have allowed a single-family house to be built in a flood plain. The board refused a request to fill in a flood plain area in Lake Villa Township even though it had been approved by the Zoning Board of Appeals and the planning and zoning committee. Board member E. Bruce Hansen, R-Lake Zurich, said, "Let these people go and sue us." The board must "have enough guts" to protect the environment in the face of legal pressure, he said.

Laurels to Roselle Elementary School District 12 officials who might ban disruptive students from attending special field trips. The school board supported Roselle Middle School Principal Robert Wulffen's request to keep troublemakers from attending the annual sixth-grade trip to Northern Illinois University's Lorado Taft Outdoor Education Campus in Oregon, Ill. Four of the 60 students who attended the three-day, two-night outing were sent home on the second day after several incidents of misbehavior. Wulffen says if a youngster disrupts one field trip, he or she isn't allowed to go on other field trips. This will help ensure that field trips are safer and more pleasant for all participants.

Plans by auto care businesses hit roadblock

By C. L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer 4-23-87

Developers wanting to construct Jiffy Lube and Merlin Muffler businesses along Dundee Road skidded into a roadblock with Wheeling trustees voting 5-1 against the development.

Mitchel Iseberg and Thomas Niemira, owners of property at 621 W. Dundee Road, were told by village officials that development of the two businesses would create an even greater traffic congestion problem on Dundee.

"We've worked very hard to lessen intensity in areas and increase greenery. I just don't see where that is going to not adversely affect us," Trustee Anthony Altieri said.

Trustee Joseph Ratajczak said he did not like the idea of 83 percent of three-fourths of an acre being covered by building and blacktop.

Iseberg argued that there are two curb cuts into the site and there was no need to be concerned about drives being too close to a Lynn Plaza drive on Dundee Road because there is a 200-foot stretch.

The present business on the site, Martin Lynn's Service Station, pumps 3,000 gallons of gasoline per day, and has 300 to 400 cars pass through each day. The proposed businesses would have only brought in 125 cars, Iseberg said.

A 50-year covenant had been placed on the property in 1972 that didn't allow automotive repair.

Iseberg said the covenant may not be valid because it was placed on a corporation, which was renamed. Rhodes said the site plan should stand on its own because an argument could be made as to whether the covenant was valid.

The Wheeling Plan Commission previously voted against two different proposals presented for Jiffy Lube and Merlin Muffler.

Resident faces charges following shooting

A 25-year-old Wheeling security guard who showed up for work Monday in an "upset" state was charged with one misdemeanor count of reckless conduct after he allegedly shot a fellow worker in Schaumburg.

Robert Anchondo, 25, of 112 Coral Street, Wheeling, was charged in the incident following an all-night standoff with Schaumburg police at the Stanley Smith Security firm, 1375 Remington Road.

Schaumburg Police Lt. Richard Casler said the incident occurred around 9:45 p.m. Sunday night, when Anchondo showed up for work upset about something. While in the parking lot of the firm, Anchondo fired off a round from his gun, Casler said, which drew the attention of fellow guard Vincent Cimino, 23, of Chicago.

When Cimino went outside he found Anchondo still holding the gun, Casler said. Cimino proceeded to take the gun away from Anchondo and to empty the bullets from the gun.

As Cimino went inside to phone police, Casler said Anchondo somehow regained possession of his gun, reloaded it and shot Cimino, with the bullet piercing his wrist before entering his stomach.

Cimino was taken to Northwest Community Hospital in Arlington Heights for treatment. Casler said Cimino was coherent late Monday and apparently not in grave condition. He told investigators that he didn't want to press charges because the shooting was accidental.

Following the shooting, Casler said Anchondo, then unarmed, locked himself inside the security firm building and refused to come out. Police kept contact with Anchondo throughout the night via phone hookup before taking him into custody around 5:15 a.m. Monday morning.

If convicted of the reckless conduct charge, Casler said Anchondo faces a maximum penalty of up to one year in jail and a $1,000 fine. He was released Monday on $100 bond.

4/16/87 Cohesly Countryside

Elections leave trail of quotes

4-5-87

Daily Herald staff report

After weeks of haggling, charges and counter chargers, the 1987 election campaign is nearing an end.

Only two days remain before candidates throughout the Northwest suburbs surrender their buttons and placards and turn over center stage to the voters.

And by Tuesday night, it will all be known: the winners and the losers.

But before that, let's relive some of the more memorable moments of Campaign 1987, through the quotes of the candidates themselves.

"We're always (listening) to a different drummer in this town and it doesn't seem to be a positive beat."

— Des Plaines First Ward candidate Mary C. Childers, in reference to the fact that the city does not have a full-time city manager or a comprehensive plan like most suburbs.

"You couldn't mount a write-in campaign (this late) even if you were Jesus Christ and the 12 apostles, anyway."

— Former Des Plaines aldermanic candidate Gerard R. Del Guidice, responding to a request from an unidentified alderman, who asked him to start a write-in campaign against unopposed 8th ward incumbent alderman Judith Zanca.

"If you remove your competition, you have a pretty good chance of winning."

— Rolling Meadows Alderman Thomas Menzel, explaining his belief that Mayor William Ahrens engineered Menzel's ouster in February from the mayoral election. Menzel was challenging Ahrens for mayor, but was kicked off the ballot for failing to file his nominating petitions properly.

"I don't even know why we would want to hassle people who save our lives."

— Wheeling trustee candidate Judy Abruscato, commenting on the village's refusal to bargain with the Wheeling Firefighters Association.

"In the days of the Revolutionary War, they'd challenge you and kill you. During the Civil War they would just hit you over the head with a cane. Today they just throw coffee cups at each other. I call it the Cup War."

— Hoffman Estates trustee candidate Harry Bryant at a candidates forum, tossing a jibe at village board squabbling by recalling an incident in which Village President Betty Gloyd allegedly threw her coffee cup at Trustee William Palmer during a heated executive session.

"I think the biggest thing is they have to win."

— Streamwood park Director Ronald Lyzniak, commenting on the complicated and heated accusations and warnings being traded by park commissioners and a slate running to neutralize the current board.

"Mrs. Jolly and I have not always agreed, but, strange as it may seem, we've agreed far more often than we've disagreed."

— Arlington Heights Village President James T. Ryan, endorsing two-term incumbent Trustee Edith T. Jolly, long considered one of Ryan's chief political foes.

"I think I have more time to devote to the village than a traveling salesman."

— Marvin "Dick" Krueger, candidate for Lake Barrington village president, in response to questions about how his busy work schedule and out-of-town traveling may affect his role on the board.

"It's full of beans, Harold. Get your facts straight. Pick on me all you want, but leave my kids alone."

— Lake Zurich Trustee Milton Faurot responding to charges of nepotism leveled by trustee candidate Harold Crane and his Reform and Environmental Party slate.

Mayor vetoes payment to airport

4-27-87

By Dan Rozek
and Edward Felker
Daily Herald staff writers

Prospect Heights Mayor John E. Gilligan vetoed payment of $20,000 in management fees owed by the Pal-Waukee Municipal Airport Commission, saying he wants an accounting of how the money was spent.

The veto puts Gilligan at odds — again — with the airport commission, his own city council and Wheeling, which also is a partner in the airport.

Gilligan said he wants to see the invoices showing what services the New Jersey-based management firm, Airport Corporation of America, is being paid for before he approves the payment.

"You can't responsibly spend city money without knowing what it goes for and have some accounting of it," Gilligan said.

Airport commission members, however, say they have seen the invoices and are satisfied with the payment. Based on the commission's recommendation, the Prospect Heights City Council and the Wheeling village board approved the payment.

But Gilligan said he has not seen the invoices, and he will not approve the payment until he and city aldermen see them.

"We don't pay without invoices," Gilligan said, adding his disapproval would be withdrawn if the invoices are presented to the city council.

The airport commission, which oversees the public airport, currently owes $60,000 in legal fees to the firm, which handled the acquisition of the airport by Prospect Heights and Wheeling.

Commission members, and aldermen, agreed to pay the $20,000 as a show of good faith toward the firm until the rest of the bill can be paid.

First Ward Alderman Charles T. VanderVennet, who also sits on the airport commission, said Gilligan could have examined the invoices at the same meeting when the commission studied them.

The towns also have approved other airport-related expenses, including $20,000 in legal bills, without seeing the invoices, VanderVennet said.

"There seems to be no reason to make the management contract special," VanderVennet said.

VanderVennet said Gilligan has been unhappy with the management situation there and he suggested that might have played a part in the veto.

"There is a certain prejudice on the part of the mayor against the whole scope of this (management) contract and the work performed under it," VanderVennet said.

Gilligan earlier vetoed the hiring of the management firm because the contract did not include a spending cap. The city council overrode that veto.

Gilligan, aldermen and airport commissioners also have clashed over whether a management firm or an individual manager should be hired to run the airport permanently.

The airport commission is negotiating to hire ACA as the permanent manager, although Gilligan has said an individual manager should be considered.

Gilligan said this veto is based strictly on his concern that paying bills without seeing invoices is a "breech of good business practices."

Commission Chairman Ronald C. Sowatzke said he is concerned the veto on the management fees would affect the commission's authority in recommending payment of bills.

Trustee candidates favor firefighter talks

4-1-87

By C. L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer

ELECTION '87

The three independent candidates for Wheeling village trustee say they think the village made a mistake in refusing to bargain a contract with the Wheeling Firefighters Association because lieutenants are included in the unit.

Firefighters and the village will most likely end up in court over the association's request to include six lieutenants in bargaining. The Illinois Labor Relations Board recently reiterated its decision that lieutenants should be included in bargaining.

The village is expected to appeal that decision in court.

"The village should respect the decision of the labor board," candidate Steve White said. White said he thinks the issue is being prolonged because attorneys representing Wheeling are using it as a test case.

"I don't even know why we would want to hassle people that save our lives," said challenger Judy Abruscato. "We are using taxpayers' money to pay for it in court and I don't understand that."

Roger Powers said lieutenants should be considered members of the union because there is another layer of management in place above them.

In Wheeling there are 31 firefighters, six lieutenants, a captain and the fire chief. "If it were just the chief and the lieutenants, it would always be the firefighters and lieutenants against the chief," he said.

Wheeling Upward Party candidates and incumbents Anthony Altieri and James Whittington would say only that the village manager is following the village board's directive by continuing to argue that lieutenants are supervisors and should not be included in the bargaining.

Clifford Bird, a newcomer to politics who is also on the ticket, said he could not comment.

COUNTRYSIDE 4-30-87

Sunnie Kiddies eyes court fight over zoning

By Bob Kehoe

It may be up to the courts to decide whether the Sunnie Kiddies Day Care Center will remain in Muir School in Prospect Heights.

Eilene Lombardo, the center's executive director, said litigation may hold the only solution to her ongoing zoning squabble with Prospect Heights after an attempt to get Wheeling officials involved in the matter failed Monday.

The center, which serves some 200 Wheeling families, is in jeopardy of being ordered closed by Prospect Heights if Lombardo can't obtain a second access point to the school, which is bordered on three sides by Wheeling.

Prospect Heights officials are demanding another access point to alleviate alleged traffic problems they say are created by the center's 268 clients. That city's officials have also voiced concerns that emergency vehicles could have problems reaching the site if a fire or other disaster were to occur.

ATTEMPTS BY SUNNIE Kiddies officials to get Wheeling to support an access drive through Wheeling were met with stiff resistance from trustees who said that the center's dilemma was created by and should be solved by Prospect Heights.

Assurances from Wheeling officials that emergency vehicles could reach the center through the nearby Pleasant Run condominium complex were not enough, however, to satisfy Prospect Heights aldermen Edward Rotchford and Chris Carlson, who attended Monday's village board meeting.

The aldermen said without some unexpected breakthrough the center's zoning variance request will likely be rejected.

Although the Prospect Heights City Council has set a June 30 deadline for the vote, Lombardo said she will press for an earlier decision so she can plan her next move.

"NOW WE'RE going to push it. We want an answer. If they say no (to the zoning variance request that would allow the center to stay put), I guess it will go to litigation," Lombardo said Tuesday.

Seeking a long-term lease of the building, which is near the Hintz Road/Route 83 intersection, may be one option rather than going through with her contract to buy the building, Lombardo said.

Emphasizing that she had no hard feelings about the lack of action taken by the Wheeling Village Board Monday, Lombardo said she couldn't blame the trustees for their hands-off approach on this issue.

"I can't say I blame them. I can't say it's their problem," she said.

WHEELING VILLAGE PRESIDENT Sheila Schultz offered that same opinion during Monday night's discussion.

"We support Sunnie Kiddies staying open and we hope Prospect Heights will see fit to do that," Schultz said, adding that any attempts to tie Wheeling to the center's fate is unfair.

Ironically, Wheeling trustees once looked at trying to open a through street in the property that surrounds Muir school, but those efforts were silenced when the Wheeling Park District refused to go along with the plan, Schultz said.

The park district owns a four-acre site near the school, but the park board has refused to allow an access drive through the land due to safety concerns for those who will use the park.

ANOTHER EFFORT AIMED at getting the Wheeling and Prospect Heights park districts to open a joint 9-acre park around the school with a through street giving another access point to Muir School also failed.

Wheeling Park Board President Anthony Abruscato said there are no plans to resume discussion on the access drive issue and that discussion on a joint park near on site has also died.

All of which leaves Lombardo and her universally acclaimed day care center fighting for survival.

Based on the advice she has received from her attorney, Lombardo said she thinks even if her contract purchase of the school building doesn't go through, she can still enter into a long-term lease to stay in the school.

THE SCHOOL SALE, if it is ever completed, will come as welcome news to Prospect Heights Elementary District 23, which owns the school and is in dire financial straits following a failed tax hike referendum in April.

District 23 Supt. Dave Robert made a pitch to the Wheeling board Monday to get involved in the matter on behalf of District 23 students — about a third of whom live in Wheeling. But he, too, was unsuccessful in getting the support of village officials.

Concern for neglected park sparks hearing on Thursday

4-4-87

By C. L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Ridgefield subdivision residents' concerns about the lack of development at Last Four Acre Park has prompted the scheduling of a public hearing.

The 7 p.m. Thursday hearing will focus on how residents think the Wheeling Park District should spend the last $100,000 of a Build Illinois grant it got in 1985.

The Wheeling Park District had been given $300,000, with $200,000 earmarked for a new roof on the Chevy Chase Clubhouse at 1000 N. Milwaukee Ave.

The park district receives the money piecemeal as reimbursement, not in a lump sum and the money is available until 1988.

Last Four Acre Park, so called because it was the last four empty acres in the Polo Run subdivision, lies west of Wheeling Road between Hintz and Palatine roads near Ridgefield. It was purchased by the park district for $113,326 in December 1985.

Ridgefield residents say the park district should either use the Build Illinois money to develop the park, hold a fund-raiser or invite Harper College students taking applicable classes to work on its development.

"There's hope, but we have to get the word out to people so they will show up at Thursday's meeting," said Steve Heinz, who helped organize Ridgefield residents.

Heinz said there are piles of concrete and stones left behind from a construction trailer foundation. Last month there was a brush fire in the northwest corner of the park. One resident went out and picked up beer bottles.

"We should seriously look at using the $100,000 in Build Illinois money to develop that park...at the minimum get it cleaned out and leveled," park board President Anthony Abruscato said.

Also, Pulte Home Corp., the developer of neighboring Polo Run, is using a portion of the site to store construction materials.

Cop has job back, still faces penalties

4-13-87 Herald

By C. L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Wheeling police officer Burton H. Kaminsky, fired two years ago on misconduct charges, is back on the job but now may face suspension from the force over two of the original charges.

Kaminsky, a 17-year veteran, was reinstated by the appellate court more than a month ago, which said there wasn't enough evidence to support the most serious charge against him.

The charges he still faces are for allegedly ignoring a call on July 18, 1984, about a reported prowler, and allegedly arriving 15 to 20 minutes late to a Wheeling factory where a burglar alarm had sounded on July 20, 1984.

The Fire and Police Commission will meet April 21 and discuss what penalty the charges deserve.

Fire and Police Commission attorney James Rhodes said he thinks a 30-day suspension can be attached to each charge, if Kaminsky is found guilty.

But Combined Counties Police Association attorney Robert Tingler said if Kaminsky is suspended for the full 60 days, he will appeal the decision in court.

"I just don't think there is enough here to warrant severe discipline," Tingler said.

In January the appellate court overturned the most serious charge Police Chief Michael Haeger brought against Kaminsky, alleging that Kaminsky failed to respond to a fire at Plum Creek Apartment Complex in the early morning hours of Sept. 16, 1984.

Kaminsky was originally hit with five charges.

The remaining three are: that Kaminsky took extended breaks; that he left his squad car unattended at a local apartment complex one night from 2:20 to 3:50 a.m., an hour more than his allotted break; and that on another occasion he stayed inside the apartment complex for 45 minutes over his allotted break.

Kaminsky has admitted that he took extended breaks, Tingler said.

Wheeling trustee

4-1-87 HERALD

Traffic congestion on its major roads, revitalization of Wheeling's central business district at Dundee Road and Milwaukee Avenue and restoring balance to Wheeling's housing supply are the major issues addressed by the six candidates seeking three trustee positions in the April 7 election.

Wheeling is the midst of developing a tax increment district in its downtown. Most of the candidates support the Crossroads shopping center, which will be built there, but several candidates are concerned about what happens to established businesses displaced by the Crossroads center.

We are giving our endorsement to incumbent trustees **Tony Altieri** and **James Whittington** and to **Judy Abruscato**. Altieri is seeking his second term. He is intelligent, articulate and knows the village well. He served nine years on the plan commission and helped to negotiate the joint purchase of Pal-Waukee Airport with Prospect Heights. Altieri wants to improve Wheeling's image and believes the TIF district will help, but he is concerned about relocating the businesses that will have to be moved from the TIF district.

Whittington, student activities director for Northwest Suburban High School District 214, is seeking his first elected term after being appointed in 1985. In that short time he has acquired a sound feel for Wheeling and its problems. He cautions that Wheeling with its large supply of multifamily housing should not pretend to be what it is not but wants single-family house built on the property that remains to be developed.

Abruscato is a banking officer whose business acumen would be an addition to the board. She advocates encouraging walking and use of public transportation to ease traffic congestion.

EDITORIALS

This is a summary of candidates endorsed by the Daily Herald for contested races and recommendations on referendum questions in the April 7 election. The Herald does not endorse in uncontested races.

4-5-87

ARLINGTON HEIGHTS

Trustee:
Marty Agran
Ed Duffy
Edith Jolly
Diane Siles

Library Trustee:
Richard Frisbee
Kenneth L. Olendzki
Phyllis D. Parlee

Park Commissioner
Michael Gilfillan
Katy Graham

BARRINGTON

Trustee
Richard Burdette III
Anna M. Bush
Ted Forsburg

Park Commissioner
John R. Wood

BARTLETT

Trustee
Gerald [illegible]
Ellen V. [illegible]or
Norma [illegible]aver
Marga[illegible]ostiak

BLOOMINGDALE

Trustee
Biff Behr
Walter V. Cropper
Leslie Zimmerman

Park Commissioner, 6-yr. term
Joe Chiaro
James Pingle
James Luberda

Park Commissioner, 2-yr. term
Don Carollo
Sue Pape
Tom Kelly

BUFFALO GROVE

Trustee
Gary Glover
John Marienthal
Jordan Shifrin

COOK MEMORIAL LIBRARY

Trustee
Judith Schlesinger

DES PLAINES

City Council
1st Ward
Mary C. Childers
Robert Lee Ehlert
2nd Ward
Robert Melko
3rd Ward
James D. Healy
5th Ward
Joseph Hardiman
6th Ward
Bruce J. Gebert

Park Commissioner
Dave Dowd
Bill Sibert

ELA LIBRARY

Trustee
James Dudas
Ann Kushner
Jill F. Messier
Audrey A. Metes

GREEN OAKS

Trustee
Richard Glogovsky
William J. Milroy
Bernard Wysocki
Ronald Zabadal

HANOVER PARK

Trustee
Larry F. Byrne
Lola Diehl
Edward Resner

HAWTHORN WOODS

Trustee
Terrence L. Kisiel
Lewis Markson
Wendell Peterson

HOFFMAN ESTATES

Trustee
Harry R. Bryant
Edwin L. Frank
Michael D. Friesen

Park Commissioner
Michael Beers
Thomas Street
Robert Steinberg

INVERNESS

Trustee
Janice A. Brazelton
'Betsy' Passarelli
Donna L. Thomas

Park Commissioner
Thomas Dougherty
Robert Foersterling
Stanley M. Zydlo

ISLAND LAKE

Trustee
Georgine Cooper
Gregg Dvorak
Steven Stiller

KILDEER

Village Board
A. Richard Adkins
Robert Satterfield
George Welch

LAKE BARRINGTON

Village Board
Rich Gregson
Peter Stevens
Deborah Ryan

Village President
Marvin 'Dick' Krueger

LAKE ZURICH

Trustee
Milton R. Faurot
James L. Johnson
Susanne M. Murray

LIBERTYVILLE

Trustee
Eugene Brakel
Patricia Enderle
Pat Malone

LONG GROVE

Trustee
M. Gail Blake
Chester S. Cole
Bruce Klein

MOUNT PROSPECT

Trustee
Gerald L. Farley
George R. Van Geem
Theodore J. Wattenberg

Library Trustee
Jacqueline D. Hinaber
Laura L. Luteri
Sol Minkoff
James Nelson

Park District
Richard Christensen
Victor Rose

MUNDELEIN

Trustee
Arthur T. Glitz
Gerard P. Howland
Patrick R. Wilson

Park Commissioner
Robert Hoffman

N. BARRINGTON

Trustee
Richard Fisk
George E. Larrain
Thomas J. McJoynt

Village President
Walter R. Clarke

PALATINE

Trustee
District 1
James V. Wilson Jr.
District 2
Uncontested
District 3
John Wagner

Library Trustee, 6-yr.
Richard V. Joers
Pat Ahern
Norma C. Nikolai

Library Trustee, 2-yr.
Carolyn Roberts

PROSPECT HEIGHTS

City Council
1st Ward
Uncontested
2nd Ward
Mandel Forester
3rd Ward
Wayne Gangler
4th Ward
Benedict A. Solis

Mayor
Christina Carlson

ROLLING MEADOWS

City Council
1st Ward
Robert Taylor
Fifth Ward
William Ball

SALT CREEK PK. DIST.

Commissioner
Gary Fink
Don Granell
Pat Grelish

SCHAUMBURG

Trustee
Gail A. Anderson
Kenneth L. Gouge
Bob Tikwert

Village Clerk
Jo Anne R. Wolf

Village President
James D'Ambrosio

STREAMWOOD

Trustee, 4-year term
Bob Conway
Billie Roth
David J. Stoves

Trustee, 2-year term
Norbert Esch

Pk. Commissioner, 4-yr.
Daniel J. Johnson
Naomi S. Walters

Pk. Commissioner, 2-yr.
Donald Cassata

VERNON HILLS

Trustee
James Heier
Donna Manahan
Ken Roden

Park Commissioner
Roger Simone
Dennis Skidmore

WAUCONDA

Trustee
Jim Eschdenbauch
Steven Gurevitz
James P. Keagle

Park Commissioner
Bruce T. Lally
Margaret Redmore

WHEELING

Trustee
Judy Abruscato
Tony Altieri
James Whittington

Cop faces reckless driving charges

4-25-87

BY C. L. WALLER
Daily Herald Staff Writer

A Wheeling police officer faces reckless driving charges after reportedly crashing his squad car into another Wheeling police car.

Wheeling Police Chief Michael Haeger claims Officer Robert Pressley acted recklessly Feb. 25 when he tried to pass two other eastbound squad cars on Hintz Road. Haeger said Pressley hit the first squad when it turned left onto Lakeside Circle Drive in front of him. No one was injured.

Pressley will appear before the Wheeling Fire and Police Commission May 28. He is charged with reckless driving, driving on the left side of the roadway within 100 feet of an intersection and moving his vehicle to another lane of traffic unsafely.

Haeger also charges that Pressley lied about the incident by claiming he was in pursuit at the time, a pursuit police say they knew nothing about.

If found guilty, Pressley faces up to 30 days suspension or losing his job. He currently has a pending federal suit filed against the police department in 1983 charging racial discrimination. Pressley is the only black officer in the village's history.

Pressley's attorney Robert Tingler said all three squads were headed to the same investigation when the chase began and he said Pressley didn't have time to radio in his action.

"There's no rational reason for Officer Pressley to pass two police cars unless he saw another vehicle because they were all going to the same place," Tingler argued.

The officer and his attorney appeared before the commission Thursday but the hearing was continued while the police department compiles a list of all the squad car accidents in the past 10 years, at Tingler's request.

Tingler also contends that bringing charges against Pressley is unusual because accidents are generally handled in the department through written or oral reprimand.

Restaurant goers to get choice

BY C. L. WALLER
Daily Herald Staff Writer

4-1-87

Restaurant-goers in Wheeling may be able to choose between smoking and non-smoking dining areas, if restaurant owners follow a request from Wheeling Village President Sheila Schultz.

Schultz has asked restaurant owners to voluntarily designate non-smoking areas.

A village ordinance now prohibits smoking in Wheeling Village Hall, but the village is not considering passing an ordinance prohibiting smoking in restaurants, Schultz said.

"We prefer that it would be done on a voluntary basis," she said.

Don Roth Restaurant in Wheeling, 61 N. Milwaukee Ave., said it would begin testing the use of non-smoking areas at lunch and dinner in hopes of establishing a policy on non-smoking areas by the end of March.

Bob Chinn's Crabhouse Restaurant, 393 S. Milwaukee Ave., will have an easier time establishing a non-smoking area with its building expansion set to open on Mother's Day. Manager Jerri Camacho said the expansion will double the number of people that can be served.

It's a great idea, but it's not applicable here," said Jean Paul Eskenazi, manager of Le Francais Restaurant, Inc., 269 S. Milwaukee Ave. The building is too small to divide it into smoking and non-smoking and ventilation is sufficient to get rid of what smoke there is, he said.

4-23-87

Neighbors press their attack on Bartlett balefill

BY TED GREGORY
Daily Herald Staff Writer

An unexpectedly small but hearty group of about 150 people showed up Wednesday afternoon for a 6½ hour public hearing on a controversial high-tech landfill near Bartlett.

On Tuesday, landfill opponents were planning to file a formal protest over the lack of space for an anticipated crowd of 400 people. About 30 showed up one hour before Wednesday's hearing, but the group never grew to fill all the seats in the Hanover Park Village Board chambers.

"Oh, I think the weather had a lot to do with it," said Larrine Pelletier, who Tuesday planned to collect signatures protesting the lack of space. "I'm disappointed that we didn't have more people but that's the way it goes."

Pelletier, a Bartlett resident who opposes plans for the 35 million landfill at West Bartlett Road near Route 25, denied that the meager turnout indicated residents' apathy about the landfill.

"Most of us have sat through that presentation already in Bartlett," she added, referring to similar zoning hearings held last year in Bartlett.

Another leading opponent of the landfill, Mary Figas, said residents may have stayed home because they

See BALEFILL on Page 3

The balefill at a glance

What: A $35 million high-tech landfill where garbage would be buried in bales.

Where: 409 acres at Route 25 and West Bartlett Road near Bartlett.

Status: The Cook County zoning board eventually will make a recommendation to the county board, which has final authority.

For: The Northwest Municipal Conference, a group of 38 suburbs and townships that proposed the project.

Against: Neighboring homeowners and the municipalities of Bartlett, Streamwood, Elgin and South Elgin.

BALEFILL: Hearing draws 150 residents

Continued from Page 1

knew the hall couldn't seat all the opponents. He also said the last public hearing was held during spring break, making it easier for parents to bring kids with them for the long hearing.

The Cook County Zoning Board hearing was the first of several to determine whether to approve zoning for a 409-acre "balefill," so named because garbage is baled before it is buried. The Northwest Municipal Conference, a group of 31 towns, is proposing the balefill as a high-tech solution to the suburbs' growing problem of garbage disposal.

"It's like randomly placing tainted bottles of Tylenol on store shelves," said Rick Kowall, 36, who picketed in a cold drizzle with his wife, Barbara, and the couple's 3-year-old twins. Kowall cited "statistics" and interpretations of newspaper reports to bolster his theory that air pollution from the balefill would kill five to 20 people in the next 10 years.

"People living the vicinity of landfills have a higher cancer death rate," Kowall said. "This is going to kill people."

A total of three witnesses testified at the hearing and the audience was relatively quiet until a balefill planner said the property would be converted to a golf course and resort hotel after the balefill's use expires in the year 2003. That notion drew howls of laughter and jeers from the group.

The hearing ended at 8:30 p.m. and will convene again at 2 p.m. May 13 in the Hanover Park Village Hall, 2121 W. Lake St. That hearing probably will be followed by two or three others, zoning board chairman Alex Seith said.

Proposed income, gas tax would benefit area

BY DAVE URBANEK
of our Springfield bureau

SPRINGFIELD — The Northwest suburbs could reap more than $4.3 million in new revenues from income and gasoline taxes if Gov. James R. Thompson's proposed tax increases are approved this spring by the General Assembly, the governor's office said Wednesday.

Thompson has told more than 22,000 local officials that local governments would lose more than $827 million in their share of state income and gas taxes over the next five years if his controversial tax proposals are not approved.

In a letter to each local official, Thompson urged support for his tax package. "I need your help in convincing state legislators that new revenues must be made available for this important area of state assistance," the governor said.

Attached to each letter was a sheet detailing what each community and county would receive if the tax package is approved.

Thompson has proposed more than $1 billion in tax hikes for the upcoming fiscal year. If the increases are passed, the share of state income tax revenues given local governments would be boosted by $43 million next year. The share of state gas taxes returned to local governments would also be increased, for a total of $612 million over five years.

During fiscal year 1986, which ended last June 30, the state distributed more than $256.8 million in income taxes to local governments — one-twelfth of all state income tax receipts.

More than $328.4 million in state gas taxes were distributed to counties, townships and municipalities in fiscal 1986. While the local share of gas tax receipts must be used for road maintenance, income taxes can be used for most government operations.

If Thompson's income tax plan is passed as proposed, Northwest suburban communities would receive an extra $2.3 million next year to bolster their budgets. If his gas tax hike is approved as written, area governments would get more than $2 million in new revenues next year.

Counties also would benefit. The Cook County Board would collect $385,819 in income taxes and more than $11 million in gas taxes next year. DuPage County would get $248,523 in income taxes and $1.16 million in gas taxes. Lake County would receive $273,079 in income taxes and $667,162 in motor fuel taxes.

In his letter, the governor also said that state grants to local governments for waste water treatment improvements would be cut if the taxes are not passed. In the proposed $22.1 billion state budget, Thompson has set aside $262 million to help communities fund sewage system repairs needed to avoid federal sanctions.

Northwest suburbs eligible for the wastewater grants are Arlington Heights, up to $1.05 million; Bloomingdale, $1.6 million; Des Plaines, $2.7 million; Hanover Park, $819,000; Mundelein, $1.6 million; Prospect Heights, up to $175,000; Rolling Meadows, up to $1.05 million.

Thompson has proposed raising the state's individual income tax rate from 2.5 percent to 3 percent this summer and hiking the state's 13 cent-a-gallon gas tax over the next five years by 9.5 cents. Those two taxes would raise $709 million in fiscal year 1988.

The governor also has called for extending the state's sales tax to services, nonprescription drugs and computer software, as well as hiking annual license plate fees, all to help local governments and fund social services, road repairs and sewer improvements.

Reinstated officer may face suspension

4-97

BY C. L. WALLER
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Wheeling police officer Burton H. Kaminsky, fired two years ago on misconduct charges, is back on the job but now may face suspension from the force over two of the original charges.

Kaminsky, a 17-year veteran, was reinstated by an appellate court more than a month ago, which said there wasn't enough evidence to support the most serious charge against him.

The charges he still faces are for allegedly ignoring a call on July 18, 1984 about a reported prowler, and allegedly arriving 15 to 20 minutes late to a Wheeling factory where a burglar alarm had sounded on July 20, 1984.

The Fire and Police Commission will meet April 21 and discuss what penalty the charges deserve.

Fire and Police Commission attorney James Rhodes said he thinks a 30-day suspension can be attached to each charge if Kaminsky is found guilty.

But Combined Counties Police Association attorney Robert Tingler said if Kaminsky is suspended for the full 60 days, he will appeal.

"I just don't think there is enough here to warrant severe discipline," Tingler said.

In January the appellate court overturned the most serious charge Police Chief Michael Haeger brought against Kaminsky, alleging that Kaminsky failed to respond to a fire at Plum Creek Apartment Complex.

Kaminsky was originally hit with five charges.

The remaining three are: that Kaminsky took extended breaks; that his left his squad car unattended at a local apartment complex one night from 2:20 to 3:50 a.m., an hour more than his allotted break; and that on another occasion he stayed inside the apartment complex for 45 minutes over his allotted break.

Planners approve western expansion of business park

4/87

BY FREIDA GAD
Daily Herald Correspondent

Buffalo Grove planning officials approved the western expansion of the Chevy Chase Business Park, but warned the developer that he would strike out on the eastern portion if traffic concerns are not corrected.

The park is on the east side of Buffalo Grove near Wheeling.

Plan commissioners were unhappy with the number of entrances from Lake-Cook Road into the eastern 29-acre site, even though the developer reduced the number from five to three.

Residents in the Chevy Chase Estates north of the property are worried that the park's expansion will bring a lot more traffic through their neighborhood.

"We feel our community is isolated," resident Edward Novick said, "and we want to stay that way. Right now no one goes there unless they belong there."

Trustee Stephen Goldspiel agreed that motorists would be tempted to use Linden Avenue to avoid the Milwaukee Avenue and Lake-Cook Road intersection.

"I think it is desirable to build bigger and taller buildings further west," Goldspiel said, which could eliminate one entrance on Lake-Cook Road and protect Linden Avenue from some of the expected traffic.

Hamilton Partners of Itasca fared better with their proposal to develop the 49.5-acre site west of the Soo Line tracks and the Commonwealth Edison right-of-way which contains a natural prairie.

As many as six distribution buildings are planned for the site, which would have one entrance at Hastings Road, a north-south street to be constructed through the center of the property.

The developers have provided an access for the prairie at the northeast corner of the site, and commissioners urged him to include a six-car parking lot for people who want to visit the prairie.

Office plans caught between two towns

4-87

BY C. L. WALLER
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Two office buildings will not go up in Wheeling until the village and Prospect Heights decide who has control of less than an acre of property.

The plan for Capitol Commerce Center, northwest of Wolf and Palatine roads, calls for the corners of two buildings to lap over into Prospect Heights, said David L. Shaw, attorney for the development.

Wheeling approved the plans for the entire development consisting of four office buildings, but trustees said no building permits would be issued until the piece of property is detached from Prospect Heights.

"There's no reason to have the buildings in two towns," Community Development Director Michael Klitzke said.

He said the development would be "a lot cleaner" with all buildings in Wheeling. Problems could arise primarily during construction because building codes in Wheeling and Prospect Heights may be different and there would be a question as to which codes to follow, Klitzke said.

Wheeling also does not give police and fire service to buildings outside the village with water and fire protection, he added.

However, the city of Prospect Heights wants to know what is in it for them.

"What do we get out of it?" asked Mayor Jack Gilligan. "I wouldn't be in favor of handing it over and being nice guys. We're in the business of being nice guys to our own residents," he said.

"The city doesn't see why it would be in their best interest to disannex," city administrator Robert Kiely added.

Legally, there is no requirement that the two buildings must fall in the same jurisdiction, Shaw said.

New Pizza Hut seeks liquor permit

4-87

BY C. L. WALLER
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Wheeling trustees will consider granting a liquor license to a new Pizza Hut at 150 Dundee Road.

Currently there are 29 liquor licenses issued by the village. The liquor control commission, made up of village trustees, is recommending the creation of another license for the new restaurant.

The commission approved liquor license renewals for the current 29 establishments. This year criminal background checks by the Illinois Department of State Police and the FBI were conducted and results were reviewed by the police chief. Village Manager Thomas Markus said the checks showed no problem patterns.

Liquor licenses for 94th Aero Squadron, Edwardo's Natural Pizza and Tahoe Village Pharmacy were approved, subject to review of the criminal background checks for each and 94th Aero Squadron's notarization of its application. Criminal background checks have not been returned on the three establishments.

The restaurant, which plans to open May 2, is asking for a license to sell beer and wine, which will only be sold with orders in the restaurant, said Wendall Hollan, real estate representative for Pizza Hut.

Nationally, 1 percent of Pizza Hut revenues come from beer and wine sales, Hollan said. There are 120 locations in the Chicago area that have liquor licenses, he added.

While beer and wine helps sell pizza, the main thrust is to sell pop because Pizza Hut is owned by Pepsico Corp., Hollan said.

for page mp, dp 2-3

Trustee wants all taverns closed at 2 a.m.

4-15-87

BY C. L. WALLER
Daily Herald Staff Writer

A Wheeling trustee is encouraging the village board to make all local taverns close by 2 a.m., effectively eliminating the one 4 a.m. license the village issues.

The village board renewed the 4 a.m. license for Billy and Company Restaurant, 124 S. Milwaukee Ave., but Trustee Elizabeth Hartman said she thinks it should be pulled when it comes up for renewal again next year.

It would only be fair to wait a year to allow the owner to change work schedules and number of employees needed, she said.

Hartman said she isn't out to injure Billy and Company, but is opposed to any bar open that late. Police say places that stay open that late are a "magnet" for problems, she said.

"The heavy drinkers and people who get high are going to be attracted to a place like that," she complained.

Billy Moss, owner of the restaurant, said he had no comment at this time.

Hartman pointed out that village officials talked about problems caused by the late-night license last year after Billy and Company's license was suspended for three days and Moss was fined.

The suspension and fine resulted from a 1985 incident when a bartender sold beer to a 20-year old police community officer posing as a patron.

A police raid in 1984 resulted in 12 people at Billy and Company being arrested on charges that included underage drinking, battery and possession of cocaine.

Village President Sheila Schultz said the restaurant has not had many negative incidents recently and that the village board may decide there is no basis to eliminate the license.

With the new police computer system it will be easier to identify whether incidents are occurring after 2 a.m., the latest closing time for other bars and restaurants in the village, Schultz said.

Long road ahead for Hintz work

4/87

Drivers must travel slowly on Hintz Road between Elmhurst Road and Wheeling Road through next summer as the Cook County Highway Department completes $4 million of improvements.

Hintz will be reduced to one lane during the day with workers directing traffic, and during busy hours a temporary road on the south edge of the street will be available, county engineer John Beissel said.

The department is currently installing a 48-inch sanitary storm sewer and driving 310 pilings into the ground for a bridge to support the pavement adjacent to Ekco Lake, he said. The pilings are necessary to support the pavement because of a peat bog that goes down 15 to 35 feet, Beissel said. The condition of the soil has contributed to the deterioration of the pavement, he added.

Hintz will be transformed to accommodate four lanes of traffic from Maple Drive to 1,500 feet east of Wheeling Road, Beissel said.

Traffic signals will be installed at Wheeling and Hintz roads. Plus, there will be five lanes north and south of the intersection including turn lanes to go east or west, he said.

Robert R. Anderson Co. of Addison is doing construction for the project, which is expected to be completed in July 1988.

EDITORIALS

4/87

How will election results affect us?

Schaumburg will never be quite the same. The Schaumburg United Party (SUP), which had dominated local government for 31 years, suffered four devastating reverses on Tuesday.

Voters for the first time rejected SUP's candidate for mayor, instead picking independent Al L. Larson. Sandra C. Carsello, Schaumburg's village clerk for 20 years and a leader of SUP, lost her bid for re-election. Voters also rejected one of SUP's candidates for trustee, and they reaffirmed by a 4-to-1 margin that political party names should never again appear on local election ballots.

Backlash against the SUP may have culminated on Tuesday, but it has been building below the surface for several years. In recent elections, the party has fielded some candidates who were not the strongest individuals available for the job. Some SUP leaders began to exhibit a "father knows best" attitude. When the nonpartisan election referendum first passed last November, SUP leaders were clearly unhappy with it and successfully challenged the legality of that version in the courts. That created an issue that opponents were able to use effectively against SUP.

Still, even in defeat, SUP leaders can feel pride and comfort. It is hard to imagine any party with the durability needed to retain power for 31 years. Few elected officials are returned to office time and time again over 20 years. Few communities can boast as many accomplishments.

• • •

Where does Schaumburg go from here? Well, the new independents and officials elected under the SUP banner could fall to bickering about the future direction of the village. That has happened elsewhere.

However, both the independents and the SUP members apparently share one thing in common: a love for Schaumburg. We think there are quality officials on both sides who are capable of overcoming their differences to work for continued progress. A great deal of leadership is required not only of Larson but of the entire village board.

The present time, with a changing of guard in the clerk's office, seems like an opportune moment to correct an anomaly in Schaumburg's village government. Some village staff are directed by the clerk, who also serves as collector for the village. We think Schaumburg should follow the lead of neighboring villages and separate the two jobs, transferring all collection duties, and staff, to the direction of the village manager.

• • •

Major changes were wrought in other Northwest suburban communities as well on Tuesday.

Hoffman Estates voters sent a strong message to their elected officials that it is time to cut out the bickering that has hurt the village for the past two years. They voted out one longtime trustee and returned another without a strong mandate. We hope the newly elected trustees, along with holdover trustees and Village President Betty Gloyd, got the message.

Independents and others shunned by the political establishment also took office in Lake Zurich, Hanover Park, Arlington Heights, Inverness, Libertyville, Lake Barrington, Hawthorn Woods, Mundelein, Wheeling and Bloomingdale.

Write-in candidates were elected in Rolling Meadows and Des Plaines.

Voters in several park districts also mandated a change in direction. In Streamwood, a slate outraged by the dismissal of the park director was elected. Inverness voters put two newcomers on their park board.

Eleventh-hour campaign charges may have played a part in the defeat of two candidates. In Arlington Heights, a retiring trustee took a parting shot at Trustee Ed Duffy, claiming he had missed too many village meetings to be an effective trustee. He was narrowly defeated. In Prospect Heights, supporters of Mayor John E. Gilligan spread a nasty rumor about his opponent, raising the doubt that she might be a LaRouche follower. The allegation was unfounded but may have played a part in her defeat.

Referendum questions were associated with many ballots, and most of them were defeated. Only one that would add to the tax rate was approved when voters in Aptakisic Tripp Elementary District 102 agreed to provide funds for a new school.

The reaction of elected officials to this turmoil was varied. Some were jubilant, others stoic. Some blamed the press, that favorite whipping boy when things don't go one's way.

In Hanover Park, defeated Trustee Lola Diehl commented that voters had "lost a good trustee — me." And in Streamwood, Charles K. McCullough, who had served on the park board since 1969, said he was glad he lost. "I'm burned out," he said. The voters must have known it.

4-19-87 Cohealy Liberty

Village to issue last call on 4 a.m. license?

Wheeling officials are taking a close look at changing the village's liquor ordinance to forbid establishments from staying open until 4 a.m. At least one trustee thinks late-nights bars "attract more problems" than those that close earlier.

By BOB KEHOE

Wheeling officials Monday gave tentative approval to liquor license renewals for all 29 current license holders, but sent a warning that by this time next year they may no longer allow alcohol serving until 4 a.m.

The move to abolish the 4 a.m. license classification was put back on the table by village trustee and liquor commissioner Elizabeth Hartman, who said the change has been considered for some time with no action being taken.

Hartman said she wants the board to discuss the matter next month not because there is a problem with Billy & Co. Restaurant — the only establishment with a 4 a.m. license — but to avoid any potential problems in the future.

"We had talked quite a few months ago about eliminating the late-hour license, but for some reason we forgot about it," Hartman said.

"I DIDN'T (bring this up) to complain about any one place, but I think the late-hour places attract more problems," she said.

If an ordinance change requiring all establishments to have a 2 a.m. limit on serving alcohol is adopted, the move would not take affect until a year from now, when licenses are again up for renewal, said Village Attorney James Rhodes.

Just how much cutting back the serving hours by two hours would hurt Billy & Co. isn't clear and probably won't be until the restaurant's owner appears before the village board, which doubles as the liquor commission.

The restaurant's owner Tuesday declined comment on the subject over concerns that now is not the proper time to discuss the issue in public.

IN REVIEWING ALL of the village's 29 liquor license applications for renewal, village trustees said there were no particular problem establishments based on information supplied by the Wheeling Police Department.

Village President Sheila Schultz said part of the reason for the lack of problems can be traced to an "evolution" that has taken place in recent years whereby more and more establishments are shifting emphasis toward food sales and other sales and away from alcohol.

The Pizza Hut restaurant's application Monday for a liquor license was a perfect case in point.

Owners and operators of the new restaurant on Dundee Road west of Milwaukee Avenue asked the commission to approve a liquor license that would permit the sale of wine and beer, but only with food purchases.

WENDELL C. HOLLAN Jr., a real estate representative with Pizza Hut, said the corporation has a nationwide policy of only serving liquor to those who order food. He said the restaurant's management would work with police to train servers on when not to serve patrons and when to check patrons for identification to prove they are old enough to drink.

Before Pizza Hut can be issued a liquor license, the village board will have to adopt an ordinance increasing the number of licenses that can be issued in the village — a move that appears likely soon based on Monday's review of the restaurant's application.

4-18-87

Wheeling commended again for its financial reporting

For the sixth consecutive year, the village of Wheeling has received a certificate of achievement for excellence in financial reporting from the government finance officers association of the United States and Canada.

The certification is awarded annually and Wheeling's certification was for the 1986 budget year.

"It provides recognition for financial professionals in government that they might not get," association reviewer North Jersild said. Certification also shows bonding agencies the financial efforts of each village, he said.

The association is a non-profit professional group serving 10,500 government finance professionalls. I produces technical publications ir various fields of government finance and represents the public finance community in Washington, D.C.

Annual financial statements from cities, counties, villages and some school boards are submitted for certification. A committee made up of certified public accountants and city finance experts from states other than those being judged review each statement for legal compliance, generally accepted finance principles and clear writing, Jersild said.

For budget year 1985, there were 1,030 statements submitted nationwide and 833 were awarded certificates, he said.

TABLETALK

4,30-87 F

Company rides the wave of bakery trend

By CAROLE HOY

Tucked away in an industrial park in Wheeling, J. W. Allen & Co. is one of the leaders in developing on-premise bakeries in supermarkets. The trend for such bakeries is on the swift rise, John W. Allen, company president and board chairman, believes.

"A supermarket without a deli and a bakery today is not considered a supermarket, according to supermarket industry leaders," Allen, 63, a Northfield resident, said recently. "Supermarket bakeries are coming more and more into the Chicago area and very quickly. We've reached the point now where when you put up a supermarket, you put up a bakery."

Consumers agree with Allen. Seventy-six percent of grocery store shoppers purchased bakery goods in supermarkets last year, according to the Food Marketing Institute, a nonprofit association serving 1,500 retailers, wholesalers and their customers.

"BAKED GOODS LOSE their freshness six to seven hours after they are baked," Allen said. "The best place to have a bakery is where the people are. That's in a supermarket. And that's why in-store bakeries became so popular in the '70s."

Back then, two or three other companies developed in-store bakeries, but most of them used frozen bakery products, Allen said. Today, "We're certainly the leaders in helping supermarkets develop bakeries on their premises."

The firm not only supplies the mixes, frostings, and fillings for supermarket bakeries but also the layout, equipment, training and promotional materials needed for a successful sales program.

"WE WORK IN AN ADVISORY capacity for the supermarket bakery in every phase of its operation while endeavoring to be the full supplier for all of its needs," Allen said.

"According to Bakery Magazine surveys, we're the No. 1 supplier to supermarket bakeries in the eastern half of the United States," he said. In the Chicago area, the company supplies and services supermarket bakeries in Villa Park, Carol Stream, Chicago Heights, Tinley Park, South Holland and Homewood.

Roughly 200 employes make about 400 products, including approximately 145 mixes for nearly any product made in a bakery — cakes, cookies, doughnuts, brownies, breads, rolls and sweet rolls. Its lower-calorie line boasts about 35 percent fewer calories in white and wheat bread, pound cake and brownies. Allen also provides customers with more than 2,000 products, including cake ornaments.

THE COMPANY WAS FORMED in 1881 by Allen's great-grandfather, J. W. Allen, who used a horse and wagon to deliver tubs of shortening, bags of flour, colorings, spices, raisins and other baking ingredients to customers in west-central Chicago. The fifth generation of Allens to be involved in the business is represented by John W. Allen's sons — J. W. Allen Jr., vice president of finance, and Douglas W. Allen, director of purchasing.

"More than any other single thing we do," said Allen, "is to help and work with on-premise supermarket bakers. We help them to make the products in their bakeries — actually allowing them to do the baking and mixing right on their own premises, as opposed to bringing in frozen products. . . In addition, we help them merchandise the products — profitably." The company also helps supermarket executives interpret their markets' demands and corporate needs, including the size of the bakery, the equipment needed and what to project in sales and profits, Allen said.

John W. Allen (above, left) and Don Colson check for quality in a cream cake blueberry muffin made with the Allen firm's mix. Allen (right) surveys part of his Wheeling plant. (Steven Donisch photos)

The way a bakery is arranged in a supermarket will affect its daily profit-generating ability, he said. After recommending the appropriate layout and seeing to the installation of each piece of equipment, Allen's personnel trains the supermarket bakery employes to produce a line of high-quality baked products. With regular callbacks, the company continues to train the bakery staff.

THE TRAINING PROGRAM includes "mix-'n-bake" seminars, which cover merchandising, retail selling, production and profit control.

"We also publish a bimonthly newsletter — "Hot from the Oven" — that is edited to contain articles of interest to everyone in the bakery — salesgirls, production people, managers and owners," Allen said.

Of the several different kinds of on-premise bakeries and combinations thereof in today's supermarkets, the "mix-'n-bake bakery" is the type developed by J. W. Allen & Co. and some other firms. "We were one of the leaders in developing the program," Allen said. The already prepared mixes save store labor costs, he said, and "allow for a natural and high quality-controlled product that provides the bakery with everything it needs for a great smelling, delicious tasting and profitable product that will keep the customer coming back for more."

IN THE "FROZEN BAKE-OFF" type of supermarket bakery, products are purchased in frozen form and then thawed and fried or baked, Allen said. This type of bakery shows a lower labor cost, but because the product must be stored and shipped in a frozen state, material costs are very high, he said.

Allen's company serves "probably about 2,500 supermarket bakeries in the United States," he said, but it's difficult to get an accurate count because "When you sell a corporate chain, you sell its warehouse, and we don't know if they put the product in every store." The number of supermarket bakeries in the country totals about 18,000, he said.

Almost the entire Allen plant — from the room where the bakery layout is planned to the recipe control area — is efficiently run by computers. "Every formula is in the computer, and the computer automatically weighs and controls the mixing time," Allen said. The mixes are packed into bags, weighed again, checked for foreign objects by a metal detector, taken off the production line and put on wooden pallets. Most of the mixes are packaged in 50-pound bags before being sent to the supermarket bakeries.

A SAMPLE PORTION of every mix is baked and tested in the company's baking quality control laboratory before it is allowed to be shipped. Height of the product, color, taste, general appearance and "probably the most important — tenderness"— are checked. All of the frostings and fillings also go through the same rigorous kind of testing — in a second laboratory.

The warehouse is also computer-controlled, allowing for an average of only one error a week in shipping, according to Allen. After each order is pulled from the rack and stretch-wrapped, it is checked again by an employe to make sure it is correct.

Sales have zoomed from $5 million in 1950 to $40 million last year, according to Allen.

THE COMPANY SELLS TO and serves supermarkets in parts of the Midwest and Southwest, besides the East. Allen plans to expand to the West Coast at an undisclosed time.

The 120,000-square-foot Wheeling plant has branches in Minneapolis, Memphis, Dallas, Orlando, Fla., Boston and Greensboro, N.C.

"It's the quality of the people that make up the Allen team that has made the company successful," Allen summed up. "We have long-term employes. Most of the people in important positions have been here 17 years or so."

Correction

In the article on vegetable bouquets last week, the phone number printed for ordering a bouquet was incorrect. The correct number is 831-9068.

Incumbents, Abruscato win trustee race

Continued from page 1

be a member of the Park District's Citizens Advisory Committee.

Altieri expressed disappointment that Bird failed to be elected. He said Abruscato is well-known in the community and was the only woman candidate, which may have made her stand out.

Village President Sheila Schultz, who endorsed Bird, also expressed disappointment at his defeat.

But, she said, "I know that Judy will make a good trustee, and we can work well together because we have worked together. She ran a good campaign and deserved to win."

Schultz said she is confident Bird will continue to be active in government and said she hopes White will also continue his interest in village affairs, adding that his questioning was healthy.

White said he intends to run again in two years if nothing changes drastically in his personal or business life.

White said the people who usually vote in village elections did so in this one, and they generally tend to support the people they are familiar with.

"I would say that out of the six candidates I was the only one with an alternative point of view. That point of view was rejected by the people who ususally vote, and I was ineffective in getting the people who don't vote to get out to vote and support me.

Residents Tuesday also elected four candidates to the Library Board. The race was uncontested. Almost-complete returns show that for the six-year seats incumbent Harold Linn received 2,053 votes, and Wynne Weiss, 1,964. Incumbent Thomas Murray, who was seeking a four-year seat, received 2,133 votes. Newcomer Thomas Clyder received 2,093 votes for a two-year term.

In the Park District race, James Gallagher, who ran uncontested, netted 1,366 votes.

Tax time

Photo by Alan Sue

Filling out income tax forms is never pleasant, but Frank Freddo for Dorothy Fisher. Freddo has volunteered to help seniors at the Wheeling Senior Center with their income taxes.

LIFE

Incumbents keep board seats

BY MARIE LUTZ
Staff Writer

4-9-87

Election '87

WHEELING—Incumbents Jim Whittington and Tony Altieri easily retained their seats on the Village Board Tuesday, but the third member of their Upward Party, newcomer Cliff Bird, was defeated by Judy Abruscato, an independent.

In the unofficial totals, Altieri received 888 votes; Whittington, 894; and Abruscato, 731. Bird came in fourth with 680 votes, followed by Roger Powers, 476, and Steve White, 334.

"I am happy and delighted to be able to serve the residents of Wheeling," Abruscato said after it became clear early in the evening that she had won.

She attributed her victory to hard work and said she had at least 15 people helping in her campaign.

Another factor, she said, may have been that she was an independent with no party affiliation. Her victory, however, marks the first time in the past three or four elections that an independent has won over a party ticket that included incumbents, political observers said.

Bird said he was disappointed but not surprised by Abruscato's victory.

"Judy is known all over this town," Bird said. "Her name is known all over town. My popularity is in Whippletree, which I carried. If anybody was going to beat me Judy would do it."

ALTIERI

WHITTINGTON

Bird is president of the Whippletree Homeowners Association.

Bird said he has no immediate plans for the future. He said he will not run again in May for president of the Whippletree Association, having announced that decision the last time he was elected.

But Bird said he will continue to

Please turn to page 3

A Pulitzer-Lerner Community Newspaper

• A LIFE NEWSPAPER, Week of April 9, 1987

Senior complex receives OK

WHEELING — The Village Board Monday agreed to amend the special use permit previously granted to Leisurecare, which wants to construct a senior citizen apartment complex west of the Pavilion Senior Center.

The complex will consist of a seven-story 200-unit apartment building; a one-story, 50-bed nursing home for use by tenants of the apartments; and a one-story commons area. It will be built on the south side of First Street. and east of Chamber Park.

Most of the amendments to the special use were required because a survey showed that the land area is smaller than anticipated, and the pond on the site is larger. As a result, the board was asked to grant an increase in the land density from 32.78 dwelling units per acre to 43.57 units per acre, among other things.

The buildings will now cover 17.8 percent of the land instead of the previously anticipated 15.9 percent.

Developers said they expect construction of the complex to begin this fall.

The typical occupant of the complex is expected to be a widow or a single woman who is over 75 years of age. She is expected to have a retirement income of between $18,000 and $20,000 annually.

Residents will be able to take meals in a large dining facility. Two meals per day will be included in the rental fee. Also included in the fee will be weekly laundering of bed and bath linens; weekly maid service; and the cost of all utilities except telephones.

The senior complex will include a mini-mall containing a convenience store, pharmacy, branch bank, game rooms, library, beauty/barber shop, and lounge areas. A craft/hobby area will be provided for such things as ceramics, painting and sculpture.

The complex will also provide a mini-bus to transport the seniors to doctor's offices, shopping or entertainment facilities. A staff worker will be available to assist residents with personal, family or social problems that may arise.

The apaartment complex will consist of studio, one-bedroom and two-bedroom apartments.

In other business, the board directed the Sign Code Board of Appeals to recommend whether electronic message boards should be allowed and to recommend standards for them if they are permitted.

An electronic message board consists of messages that constantly change.

The issue of the message boards arose after the First National Bank of Wheeling, 125 McHenry Road, requested permission to install such a board on the top of an existing free-standing sign that identifies the bank. The bank wants the electronic sign to be 30 inches high and 25-feet long.

The village's community development staff had recommended denial of the sign. Among the objections was that such a "message center" is not a sign but an advertising technique that is not necessary for the identification of the business. The staff also objected that the sign would compete for a driver's attention, which could create a hazard.

Village Manager Tom Markus, however, suggested that the board table the bank's request until the Sign Code Board of Appeals could look at the entire issue of message boards, and the board followed his suggestion.

Who's liable for household hazardous waste disposal?

BY JIM NASH
Staff Writer

Household hazardous waste is winning more serious attention at both the state and federal level.

The increased attention, however, is coming in the form of legislation encouraging local governments to take a more active role in household hazardous waste disposal.

What is household hazardous waste?

Broadly speaking, it is "almost any (product) with a caution, warning or danger label on it," said Bill Abolt, project coordinator for the Northwest (suburban) Municipal Conference.

It is precisely because hazardous materials in the home can be defined so sweepingly that authorities are becoming concerned.

Officials at all levels of government acknowledge the potential problem of burying hazardous wastes with ordinary refuse. But there is considerable argument on whose problem it is and who should pay for its management.

To the individual homeowner, a gallon of used motor oil, a quart of paint thinner, or almost-empty cans of oven cleaner pose no tangible threat to the environment However, multiplied by the number of homes with similar trash, the threat becomes more significant.

The realization that a leaking landfill containing substantial amounts of poisonous materials would be environmentally disastrous has spurred efforts by the conference to educate homeowners of the danger and to separate hazardous garbage.

Unfortunately, there is a catch. It's called cradle-to-grave liability.

In collecting and disposing of household hazardous wastes at special hazardous waste landfills, municipalities become partly responsible to clean-up costs if the fills ever leak in the future.

Under current law, every firm or muncipality dumping waste into such facilities must help pay for any future mop-ups. The amount they must pay is based on how much each has dumped. And that

Please turn to page 7

LIFE - 4-9-87

A Pulitzer-Lerner Community Newspaper

Household waste

Continued from page 1

proportion can grow still more if only a few of the contributors are still in business or can be found.

Given the unlikey chance that a town would go out of business, Abolt said, municipalities and the conference itself may be stuck with a substantial share of the clean-up costs.

The conference is gearing up for a summer campaign in Washington to win municipalities at least partial immunity from landfill disaster responsibility, he explained.

"We don't think local governments should pay for 100 percent of household hazardous waste programs — or the state and federal governments either," Abolt said. "We want a partnership."

Conference staffers want to cut a deal in which towns that run Illinois Environmental Protection Agency-certified and IEPA-supervised hazardous waste collections would have complete or partial exemption from liability in case of future leaks.

"If you do everthing to reduce your risk, you shouldn't have to pay proportional damages," he said, adding, "I don't think it's an unrealistic thing to ask."

First, Abolt said, such collection programs are being forced upon local government by states and by Washington.

Second, the amount of household hazardous wastes placed in a special facility is likely to be very small — half a percentage point, according to Abolt — yet a municipality's bill for cleaning up could be large if many other contributors have disappeared.

Abolt said the conference will try to convince one of Illinois' senators to sponsor legislation on the subject sometime after the spring session.

In the meantime, the conference is applying for a state grant that would help pay for some type of household hazardous waste collection program.

Staffers are considering the implementation of one of two collection plans.

Under one plan, a single collection point would exist for the entire 36-member conference region. According to Abolt, the collection would be a single-day event held each year.

The second program under consideration would have each conference community holding its own collection system that might operate continuously throughout the year.

Either way, Abolt explained, video programs on local-access cable television would accompany collection schemes to further educate consumers to the potential danger of their trash.

"We don't think local governments should pay for 100 percent of household hazardous waste programs — or the state and federal governments either."

Bill Abolt
NWMC official

Funding requests heard

WHEELING — Five social service agencies have requested funding from the Village Board.

Currently the only agency the village contributes money to its Omni Youth Services, which provides counseling and other services.

The agenciesmade the requests for the funding at budget hearings held last month.

In addition to Omni, requests were made from Shelter, an organization that takes care of children who must be removed from their homes on an emergency basis; Horizon Children's Center, which offers day care, an after- and before-school program, and a summer camp; the Salvation Army; and NSC, a shared housing program for the elderly.

In prior years, the village contributed revenue sharing money to a number of agencies. In 1985-86, for example, the village gave $50,000 to Omni; $9,000 to Horizon Childrens Center; and $4,400 to Shelter.

In 1986-87, however, with federal revenue sharing coming to an end, the village only gave federal money to Omni.

This year, the village has no more revenue sharing funds to distribute, and any money will have to come from the general fund. The largest source of revenue in that fund is the sales tax, followed by property taxes.

A decision on whether to fund any of the agencies will be made on April 20. Village President Sheila Schultz said criteria used to determine whether to fund will include how many Wheeling residents use the agency.

Bicyclists need to wear helmets

A helmet is the most important element in safe bicycling habits, says the National Safety Council, sponsor of National Bicycle Safety Week, April 19-25.

Each year about 1,000 people are killed in bicycle accidents, according to the council, and nearly 75 percent of these fatalities are caused by head injuries.

More than 65,000 bicycle-related head injuries were reported last year. Many of these tragedies could have been prevented if the cyclists had been wearing helmets.

Cyclists of all ages and children in carrier seats should wear helmets every time they get on a bike, according to Donna Siegfried, technical specialist at the Council. Siegfried also offers these additional bicycle safety tips:

- Wear bright-colored clothing that makes you visible during the day, and wear light-colored clothing and use a headlight and tail light at night.
- Ride with traffic on the right-hand side of the road.
- Obey all traffic signs and signals.
- Keep your bike in good working order.
- Avoid driving your bicycle when roads are wet or icy.
- Do not wear headphones when you are driving.
- Drive defensively.

Wheeling Countryside

4-30-87

Cop faces disciplinary action after accident

Police Chief Michael Haeger has brought charges against a Wheeling police officer who was involved in an accident with another squad car in February. But the attorney for the officer, the only black in the department, claims his client is being unfairly singled out by the chief.

By Bob Kehoe

Wheeling Police Chief Michael Haeger has brought formal charges against an officer for his involvement in a two-squad car accident and alleges that the officer lied about circumstances surrounding the crash.

Robert Pressley, the officer in question, filed documents last week with the Wheeling Police and Fire Commission refuting that he lied about the crash and claiming that he is being unfairly singled out by Haeger for unduly harsh punishment.

The case marks at least the second time that Pressley, the only black officer on the force, has charged that he is being treated unfairly by the department.

A civil rights suit Pressley filed against the department claiming that he was racially harassed and unfairly treated earlier in his eight-year career with the department is awaiting a hearing in U.S. District Court.

A WHEELING POLICE and Fire Commission hearing on the latest charges brought against Pressley was delayed last week until the department can provide records on how similar cases were handled in the past.

The delay was ordered after the three-member commission asked the department to produce records from the past 10 years on how other officers involved squad car accidents were disciplined.

Pressley's attorney, Robert Tingler, hopes to use the past records to show that Pressley is being singled out for harsher punishment than a fellow officer might have been.

Arguments in the hearing are set to begin at 7 p.m. May 28 in the Village Hall Council Chambers.

WHEELING POLICE CHIEF Michael Haeger brought charges against Pressley in March after the officer was involved in a Feb. 25 two-squad car accident near the Hintz Road/Lakeside Circle Drive intersection.

Those charges were not released to the media until last Thursday's meeting.

In bringing the charges, Haeger is seeking an as yet unspecified penalty against Pressley for his actions in the crash.

While Haeger has the authority to suspend Pressley for up to five days without a commission hearing, he did not exercise that option.

HAEGER'S DECISION TO request a police and fire commission hearing on an accident involving a squad car was labeled as "unprecedented" by Tingler.

"A three- or four-day suspension would fine officer Pressley as much as $500 and would exceed all known accident discipline of the past. To exceed five days or to consider discharge would be extreme and represents discriminatory, selective prosecution," Tingler told the commission.

The circumstances surrounding the Feb. 25 afternoon crash are as follows:

Haeger alleges that Pressley was driving eastbound on Hintz Road at Lakeside Circle Drive on Feb. 25 when he tried to pass two squad cars in front of him, each with a civilian suspect inside the squad.

IN TRYING TO pass the squads, Haeger contends that Pressley violated three traffic laws in moving into the westbound lane of traffic and then lied about circumstances surrounding the crash in an internal report to his superiors.

He added that Pressley knew the lead squad car in the three-car pack was going to turn left at Lakeside Circle Drive and would pass directly in front of his squad.

Pressley's action resulted in a collision, causing damage to the lead squad car and Pressley's squad. In the collision, Pressley's squad also ran off the roadway and struck a sign and curbing, according to the charges.

No injuries were reported.

PRESSLEY'S CONTENTION THAT he was trying to catch an eastbound vehicle in the westbound lane of Hintz Road and that there was a vehicle exiting the Lakeside Villas complex going east in the westbound lane of Hintz Road at the time of the crash were not true, according to Haeger's charges.

Following a hearing on this matter, which could include testimony from witnesses to the crash, the commission must determine what, if any, discipline to assess against Pressley.

(Continued on page 20)

Cop—

(Continued from page 5)

Without records on how similar cases were handled in the past, however, Tingler argued the commissioners would not be in a position to make a "fair and reasoned decision that will insure consistency in punishment."

The commissioners, in apparent agreement with Tingler, ordered Haeger to produce the 10-year back log on such cases. That effort is expected to take three to four weeks.

WHILE THE DISCIPLINARY action on the squad car accident is not part of the civil rights suit filed by attorney Alan Freedman, it does raise questions about whether Pressley is being singled out for punishment that another officer would not have been.

In news accounts following a 1985 police and fire commission disciplinary hearing against Pressley alleging that he fell asleep on the job, the officer also expressed concerns that he was being treated differently than a fellow officer in similar circumstances might have been.

Following that hearing, he was given a two-day suspension.

Pressley contended he fell asleep due to consumption of a prescription drug prescribed for him.

TINGLER ALSO RAISED the question of whether Pressley is being treated with the same consideration as other officers would be in this case.

In his report, he called on the commissioners to be more than just the "conscience of the community," but to also be the "check and balance that police officers rely upon to prevent arbitrary, unfair treatment by the chief of police."

Haeger could not be reached for comment on the incident Tuesday and Wednesday.

4/87

Is there interest in municipal elections?

Local municipal elections are scheduled for Tuesday. Have you been following the campaigns in your town? Do you expect to vote?

Mary Garbus, 61, South Wheeling Avenue, Wheeling. Housewife.

"Not too much. Frankly, I'm not terribly interested. I guess because I don't know too many of the people participating in it. I don't go to village meetings. I'm busy with other things in my life right now.

"I probably will vote because it's my duty."

Scott Borge, 28, North Tenth Street, Wheeling, Carpenter.

"No, basically I've been busy. No one has come door-to-door. I read the paper but I just read the sports and the front page.

"No, I won't vote. I'm not registered and I'm not really interested in it."

Paul McCarren, 31, Wood Creek Road, Wheeling, Options trader.

"Not at all. I feel well informed on what is going on nationally rather than locally because I feel the federal government takes a lot more money out of my pocket than the state so I keep a closer eye on how that money is spent.

"No, I won't vote. I haven't followed it in the slightest and without information I would not be making an intelligent decision."

What changes should your elected officials make in your community?

Mary Garbus:

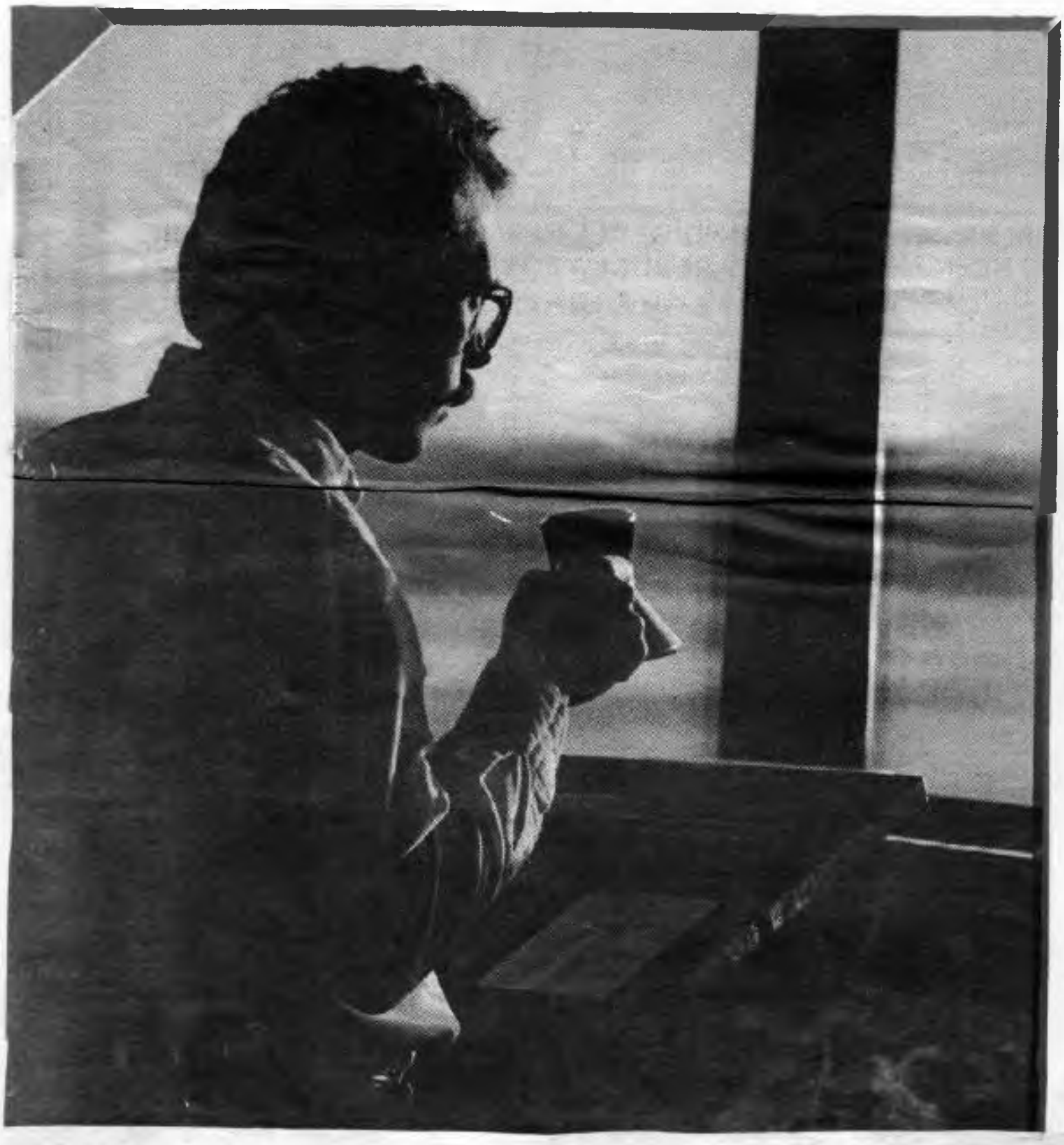
"I don't know. The village seems to be doing pretty well. I have no complaints. You really have to be more active in the community. I don't really keep up with things going on."

Scott Borge:

"There's nothing really. Wheeling seems OK to me."

— compiled by Bill Cole

4-15-87



Pal-Waukee Airport:
O'Hare's 'little brother' soaring higher than ever

Staff photos by KATHY TRAY
Story by BOB KEHOE

Pal-Waukee Airport has lived in the shadow of O'Hare Airport for decades, but the airstrip is not eclipsed by it's neighboring aviation giant in at least one respect — serving the suburban intra-state air commuter and small aircraft enthusiast.

A 24-hour operation that saw an average of 600 takeoff and landing operations per day last year, Pal-Waukee has found its own niche by catering to people who aren't necessarily impressed by airline slogans and stewardesses.

At Pal-Waukee, the airplane is king. Like a California used car lot, you'll find variety and style in the hangars at Pal-Waukee.

Planes from nearly every era and of all sizes and shapes can be found tied down on the airport's acreage or sitting proudly in one of the many cavernous hangars around the airport's two main surrounding thoroughfares and namesakes — Palatine Road and Milwaukee Avenue.

But if the planes are different from the international ambience of O'Hare's jumbo birds, so too is the pace of life.

From the air traffic control tower to the many corporate aircraft hangars that are rooted on Pal-Waukee's 253 acres, there is a controlled, if not hushed, buzz of activity that sets this historic landmark apart from other airports.

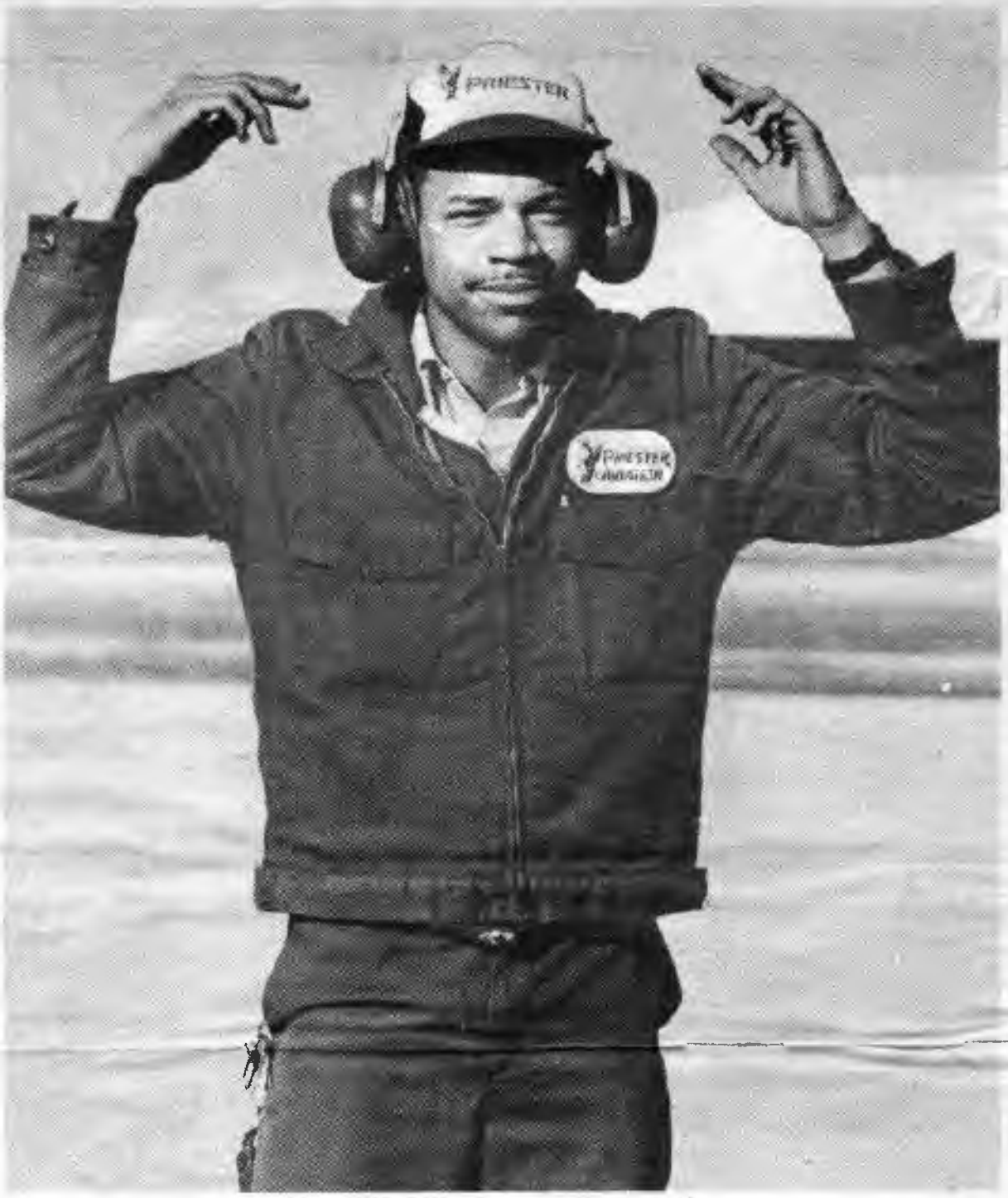
In the bowels of the hangars, the tappings and ratcheting of maintenance workers and mechanics can be heard as workers provide ongoing care to the aircraft that bring both the executive and the recreational aviation enthusiast to their respective rendezvouses.

Out on the tarmac, workers brave the engine thrusts and gusts of wind while fueling the man-made birds for their journeys as planes descend around them from above.

It's been this way since the airport opened in the 1920s, although there was much less traffic then. Several decades later, however, Pal-Waukee began to burgeon when George Priester took over.

Priester's vision of serving the suburban air commuter came to fruition in growing numbers in the succeeding decades, proving that there is more than one way to serve the flying public.

Sold this past year to the village of Wheeling and the city of Prospect Heights, Priester's aviation firm remains on the airport site, preserving a piece of Pal-Waukee's history for another time while this still proud airstrip stands tall against its giant aviation neighbor to the east



Jeffery Taylor, a line service technician at Pal-Waukee, guides a plane as it comes in for a landing.

Air traffic controllers Doug Alms (front) and Jim Johnson take a break from the action in the control tower at Pal-Waukee.

Mechanics keep busy working on planes at one of the service hangars at Pal-Waukee.

Elections leave trail of quotes

Daily Herald staff report

After weeks of haggling, charges and counter chargers, the 1987 election campaign is nearing an end.

Only two days remain before candidates throughout the Northwest suburbs surrender their buttons and placards and turn over center stage to the voters.

And by Tuesday night, it will all be known: the winners and the losers.

But before that, let's relive some of the more memorable moments of Campaign 1987, through the quotes of the candidates themselves.

"We're always (listening) to a different drummer in this town and it doesn't seem to be a positive beat."

— Des Plaines First Ward candidate Mary C. Childers, in reference to the fact that the city does not have a full-time city manager or a comprehensive plan like most suburbs.

"You couldn't mount a write-in campaign (this late) even if you were Jesus Christ and the 12 apostles, anyway."

— Former Des Plaines aldermanic candidate Gerard R. DelGuidice, responding to a request from an unidentified alderman, who asked him to start a write-in campaign against unopposed 8th ward incumbent alderman Judith Zanca.

"If you remove your competition, you have a pretty good chance of winning."

— Rolling Meadows Alderman Thomas Menzel, explaining his belief that Mayor William Ahrens engineered Menzel's ouster in February from the mayoral election. Menzel was challenging Ahrens for mayor, but was kicked off the ballot for failing to file his nominating petitions properly.

"I don't even know why we would want to hassle people who save our lives."

— Wheeling trustee candidate Judy Abruscato, commenting on the village's refusal to bargain with the Wheeling Firefighters Association.

"In the days of the Revolutionary War, they'd challenge you and kill you. During the Civil War they would just hit you over the head with a cane. Today they just throw coffee cups at each other. I call it the Cup War."

— Hoffman Estates trustee candidate Harry Bryant at a candidates forum, tossing a jibe at village board squabbling by recalling an incident in which Village President Betty Gloyd allegedly threw her coffee cup at Trustee William Palmer during a heated executive session.

"I think the biggest thing is they have to win."

— Streamwood park Director Ronald Lyzniak, commenting on the complicated and heated accusations and warnings being traded by park commissioners and a slate running to neutralize the current board.

"Mrs. Jolly and I have not always agreed, but, strange as it may seem, we've agreed far more often than we've disagreed."

— Arlington Heights Village President James T. Ryan, endorsing two-term incumbent Trustee Edith T. Jolly, long considered one of Ryan's chief political foes.

"I think I have more time to devote to the village than a traveling salesman."

— Marvin "Dick" Krueger, candidate for Lake Barrington village president, in response to questions about how his busy work schedule and out-of-town traveling may affect his role on the board.

"It's full of beans, Harold. Get your facts straight. Pick on me all you want, but leave my kids alone."

— Lake Zurich Trustee Milton Faurot responding to charges of nepotism leveled by trustee candidate Harold Crane and his Reform and Environmental Party slate.

The campaign rhetoric is almost over; on Tuesday voters will decide the winners and the losers in **Northwest suburban races.**

Daily Herald Photo

4-15-87

Trustees to consider street repair plans

Wheeling trustees will consider using $474,958 in motor fuel tax funds to repair eight streets in the village this year.

The village board meeting will start at 8 p.m. Monday in Wheeling Village Hall, 255 W. Dundee Road.

Resurfacing, gutters and curbing are scheduled for Chelsea Drive, Harmony Drive, Ferne Drive, Lakeside Circle Drive, Pueblo Trail, Delaware Trail, Bow Trail and South Crow Trail.

Engineering costs are estimated at $40,360.

Trustees will consider approving an engineering contract with Baxter and Woodman, Inc. of Crystal Lake.

The engineering firm has served as engineers for street improvements for the past three years.

Construction plans and contract documents have been approved by the Illinois Department of Transportation and bids are expected to be received Thursday.

Once a construction contract is awarded, the village will be able to spend motor fuel tax money with passage of a resolution Monday.

The village plans to begin the work in May.

The top meeting

Who: Wheeling village board

Where: Wheeling village hall, 255 W. Dundee Road

When: 8 p.m. Monday

4-15-87

Senior facility set for fall ground breaking

By C. L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Construction of a $25 million senior housing facility in Wheeling should begin this fall, following village board approval of variations for the facility.

Leisure Technology Inc. of Northbrook plans to construct a 200-apartment facility on First Street, east of Chamber of Commerce Park. The company asked for variations in its plans after it updated a survey of the 7.76 acres.

"Once the developer was into the project several things came to light," Wheeling community development director Michael J. Klitzke said.

Once a new survey was completed, the developer realized that the land had decreased and the pond area increased, Klitzke explained.

Leisure Technology was granted variations in October of 1985, but trustees approved further changes including reducing the rear yard property line from 71 feet to 55 feet and adding another two feet to the planned seven-story building. The modifications also increased the density of the structure from 32.78 dwelling units per acre to 43.57 dwelling units per acre.

The seven-story high apartment building with average rents of $1,400 per month will be linked to a 50-bed nursing home. The area is next to a three-pronged senior development, including a Cook County subsidized senior housing called Wheeling Towers, the Wheeling Senior Center and Holy Family's Ambulatory Care Center.

The company hopes to have the facility finished by the end of 1988.

Wheeling to spruce up several streets

Harmony Drive will have the largest amount of money spent on it this year as nearly one mile of Wheeling street improvements get underway.

Wheeling trustees have approved the use of $474,958 in motor fuel tax collections for a street program. Of that $474,958, $40,360 will be used for engineering.

Trustees also approved an engineering contract with Baxter and Woodman, Inc. of Crystal Lake, which has done street improvements for Wheeling for the past three years.

Included in repairs will be resurfacing, curbs and gutters.

Streets targeted for repairs this year and the estimated cost of repairs are as follows: Harmony Drive, $216,050; Ferne Drive, $107,360; Chelsea Drive, $57,837; Bow Trail, $16,205; Delaware Trail, $15,066; Pueblo Trail, $14,990; Lakeside Circle Drive, $3,837 and South Crow Trail, $3,253.

Construction plans and contract documents have been completed, approved by the Illinois Department of Transportation and are out for bids. Trustees will authorize expenditures of motor fuel tax funds at a later time.

4-8-87

GYM: The emphasis is on health

4-16-87

Continued from Page 1

els, says Freeman.

"In heterogeneous grouping, the athletic kids would often dominate the game," he says. "And the kid who really needed the workout would stand around." After the groups are divided, Freeman says, the physical education classes are geared to the needs of that group.

For example, in group "four" (the group with the least amount of fitness), there is no half-court basketball, he says.

"Basketball becomes a cardiovascular activity where the kids move all the time," he says. "Everyone plays, there's no choice."

Students are tested at the beginning and end of each quarter and 60 percent of the grade is based on how much their individual level of fitness improved.

Twenty percent of the grade is based on written tests, says Freeman.

Only 10 percent of the grade is based on skills, and the other 10 percent is based on the ability group and serves as a motivator for the child to try and move up to a higher group.

Statistics make strong case for new physical approach

By Mary Ford
Daily Herald Correspondent

Fred Gaines, director of physical education at Elk Grove High School, is a big proponent of "health related fitness" and he has the statistics to support his enthusiasm.

Eighty-three per cent of the students at Elk Grove improved or maintained fitness in just the first quarter of the 1986-87 school year, according to test scores. The number of students in Group I, the top fitness group, increased by 16 per cent in just one quarter. And the number of students in Group IV, the group with the least amount of fitness, decreased by 13.4 per cent.

At the end of the second quarter 67 per cent of the students improved or maintained fitness. And the numbers in Group IV continued to decline by 21.1 per cent.

"If Wilt Chamberlain had been tested just on doing so many freethrows," he says.

Although results from teaching "health-related fitness" can be measured and documented each quarter, selling parents and the community on the philosophy will take time, teachers say. And including the physical education grade in the student's grade-point average, physical educators hope, will become an eventuality.

"We're giving the students the wrong message by not including it in the GPA," says Freeman, "that teenage health is not as important as academics."

Jack Ashenfelter, Dist. 214 assistant superintendent for instruction, foresees physical education getting new respect from the rest of the school community.

Herald 4-12-87

Their three year's work covers the 153-year history of Wheeling

By C. L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer

On the cover stands the Union Hotel complete with boys standing in knickers and white shirts near high-wheel bicycles.

And as the history of Wheeling unravels inside, the reader learns that the hotel, built in 1856, was destroyed by fire in 1925 and rebuilt in brick the following year. The brick is still standing and painted white, but it contains Billy and Company Restaurant, part of Wheeling's restaurant row.

The hotel is just one facet of a book spanning 153 years which will be on sale in June by the Wheeling Historical Society. After June 7, 1,000 books will be available and proceeds will go toward the society.

Bob and Barb McIntyre volunteered to edit the book, which differs from other historical publications because it is comprised mostly of taped conversations with long-time residents in the village.

There are 47 authors in the 240-page book that comes full circle, beginning with 1833 and George Strong, the first settler in Wheeling, and ending with the purchase of Pal-Waukee Municipal Airport, a portion of which was settled by Strong, Barb McIntyre said.

It took the McIntyres three years to edit and interview the authors. Some information was taken from conversations Wheeling historian Marshal Balling had with residents in 1974 and newspaper clippings offered some information, she said.

Several authors contributed to the book, but never saw it published. Otto Orlowski Sr., Victor Haben, Bob Allison, John Forke, Lucille Schneider, Ida V. O'Reilly and Irwin Plagge were such authors, Mrs. McIntyre said.

The book goes from history of the Des Plaines River and schools to homesteading to farms to Old Milwaukee Avenue, incorporation and airplanes. That is followed by the formation of Restaurant Row and Prohibition, and then suburbanization which included the construction of Dunhurst subdivision in 1955 and the airport.

The McIntyres grew up in the city and moved to Wheeling to retire, but with all the time they have spent with the book, they feel like natives. McIntyre said she identifies so much with the old buildings in Wheeling. "You would think I was one of the original settlers."

The couple volunteered for the book after seeing an advertisement, placed by former Wheeling Historical Museum curator Al Fantl.

Improvements eyed for 4-acre park site

By BOB KEHOE

Wheeling's last remaining large, undeveloped park site may finally be transformed from a dirt wasteland to usable recreation space in the near future.

A proposal from park Commissioner James Gallagher calls for using at least part of a $100,000 Build Illinois park development grant to grade and plant grass seed at an as yet unnamed four-acre parcel that sits just east of Elmhurst Road and north of Palatine Road between the Polo Run and Ridgefield subdivisions.

The development of the property topped a list of other park development and land use issues the board discussed last week with future meetings planned to take action on the matters.

Although no date has been set for a park board vote on what to do with the park site, Gallagher said he will urge future action to meet community interest in seeing the property developed for recreational use.

THE LAND, WHICH was purchased in 1985, has sat vacant while developers finish up building single- and multi-family housing in the area.

Gallagher said the time has come to at least convert the land to usable park space by planting grass on it. He also said the district should seriously consider a citizens' advisory committee recommendation to install playground equipment and baseball and soccer fields on the site.

"Right now, it's kind of a dump out there," Gallagher said. "I want to use at least some of the Build Illinois funds to grade and seed the property as well as look at adding some playground equipment."

The park district is scheduled to receive some $100,000 in Build Illinois funds to be used for park development. Gallagher said the project under consideration would fit under that heading.

GALLAGHER ISN'T THE only one who supports spending money to make the four acre park site a recreational area.

A 1986 recommendation from the Capital Needs Reassessment Committee (CNRAC), the park district's citizens' advisory group, calls for spending $49,000 to install baseball and soccer fields and add playground equipment to the site.

In addition to improving the site, park commissioners last week also talked about a number of other land-use related issues.

Among the discussion topics were whether the park district should work to have a fence installed at the Meadowbrook subdivision tot lot on Nancy Lane and whether there is any hope of renewing negotiations to buy a five acres of land at the Arlington Club subdivision near Buffalo Grove and Dundee roads.

THE BOARD WAS non-committal on paying the costs for installing a fence or shrubbery to prevent children using the Meadowbrook tot lot from sliding down a drop-off and into a nearby water retention basin.

Gallagher said there seems to be divided sentiments in the community about the potential danger of a drop-off near the tot lot that is only 24 feet from the retention basin.

Some parents have said they consider the retention basin a potential danger, he said, while others said they never let their children stray far enough to get near the basin.

In discussions with the village, Gallagher said he was assured that the basin doesn't pose a threat to children, especially since it will be dry most of the time.

THE ISSUE OF the Arlington Club property was raised by several CNRAC members who questioned why the park board seems to have given up on buyinga five-acre parcel that was supposed to be used for a park site.

Park board President Anthony Abruscato said the district's offer to buy the land for just under $400,000 was rejected by Lexington Corp. officials who developed the Arlington Club property.

Abruscato said Lexington officials told the board in writing they would not accept anything less than $1.2 million for the land. Even if the parties could agree to a price somewhere between those figures, Abruscato said the district could not afford the land.

Since the district can't afford the property, Lexington is now planning to build some multi-family housing on the site.

WITH THE LAND purchase now a seemingly dead issue, park board officials will turn their attention to determining how to spend a $221,000 developer donation the district will receive from Lexington.

Gallagher, for one, would like to see some of that money used for park improvements that would benefit parks and playgrounds nearest Arlington Club.

He proposed using $15,000 to $20,000 of the developer donation to make improvements and add more playground equipment at the Valley Stream Drive tot lot just off Elmhurst Road and spending between $5,000 and $10,000 to help finish work on the Field School tot lot.

These suggestions, as well as board recommendations on how to use the remainder of the developer donation, are subject to board action at a date to be determined.

The park board has called a special meeting for tonight to begin discussion on some of the CNRAC recommendations with the meeting to continued at a later date.

Ask us about our Homeowners Insurance discount for new homes . . . save up to 15%.

JERRY STARK INSURANCE
139 W. Dundee Rd.
Buffalo Grove
520-4525

AMERICAN FAMILY INSURANCE

URGENTLY NEEDED
FOR TOP CASH
OLD COINS

Morgan & Peace Dollars
Liberty-Franklin Halves
Silver Bars & Rounds
U.S. & Can. Gold Coins
Indian & Large Cents
JEWELRY-DIAMONDS

JOIN OUR BID BOARD
NORTHWEST COIN Shop
Phone 312-705-1717
RAND-DUNDEE CTR. RT. 12 & 68
1590-B Rand Rd., Palatine, IL

Warehouse SALE
Carpet Outlet
Warehouse SALE

6.95 TO 16.95
Completely installed with Pad
All Name Brands

Lowest Prices Anywhere!
(Everyone says it — we mean it!)
For this special sale, enjoy additional savings on our already low, low outlet prices! All warehouse stock is included in this sale.
90 days FREE financing

CARPET OUTLET, INC.
Hours: M-F 10-8
Sat. 10-5, Sun. 11-5
1288 E. Dundee Rd.
(Just West of Rt. 53)
PALATINE
358-3838

Man escapes injury in natural gas explosion

By BOB KEHOE

A Palatine man who took a lunch break from his job in Wheeling Friday was just happy he was still alive to go home and have dinner with his family after his car ignited a natural gas leak on Hintz Road.

Greg Arason, a 33-year-old tool and die maker at the Wand Tool Co. in Wheeling, found himself waiting for a flagman to wave him on past a construction crew that was widening the road when he smelled gas.

As his 1979 Buick stopped running, Arason, of 19 E. Daniels Road, became confused about why the car stalled. He said he smelled gas, but looked out the window and assumed the odor was coming from a nearby construction vehicle. It was then he started his car for the last time.

"I didn't know what was going on," he said of the ensuing explosion that sent flames 20 feet into the air and left his vehicle burned beyond recognition. "I just got out of the car real fast."

"A LITTLE singed," but not injured, Arason quickly fled from the car and found himself one of the many spectators to a natural gas fire caused by a ruptured gas main on Hintz Road near Eastchester.

A Northern Illinois Gas Co. spokesman later confirmed the fire resulted after a construction crew from National Sewer and Water, Inc. inadvertently ruptured a gas main under the roadway. The gas was ignited when Arason attempted to re-start his engine.

Wheeling firefighters concentrated efforts on containing the blaze while Wheeling police roped off the area to prevent onlookers from getting too close to the fire.

The fire was finally extinguished more than two hours later after Northern Illinois Gas Company officials shut off the gas supply that was feeding the flames.

A gas company spokesman said service in the area was not disrupted except for service to a single model home near the site.

Dan Neri, president of National Sewer, said there might well have been no disruption in the Hintz Road area Friday had gas company officials done a better marking job on the gas main that was ignited.

NERI CRITICIZED GAS company officials who he said were on the site prior to the fire for not warning his workers about the dangers of the gas leak.

Claiming that a Commonwealth Edison work truck had stalled about half a block east of the explosion, causing the traffic backup that Arason headed, Neri said his workers told Arason not to start his motor.

But trying to fix the blame for the incident didn't seem to matter as much to Arason Friday as the fact that he made it home once again to see his 3-year-old daughter, who was still crying after watching the news footage of the explosion that claimed the family car.

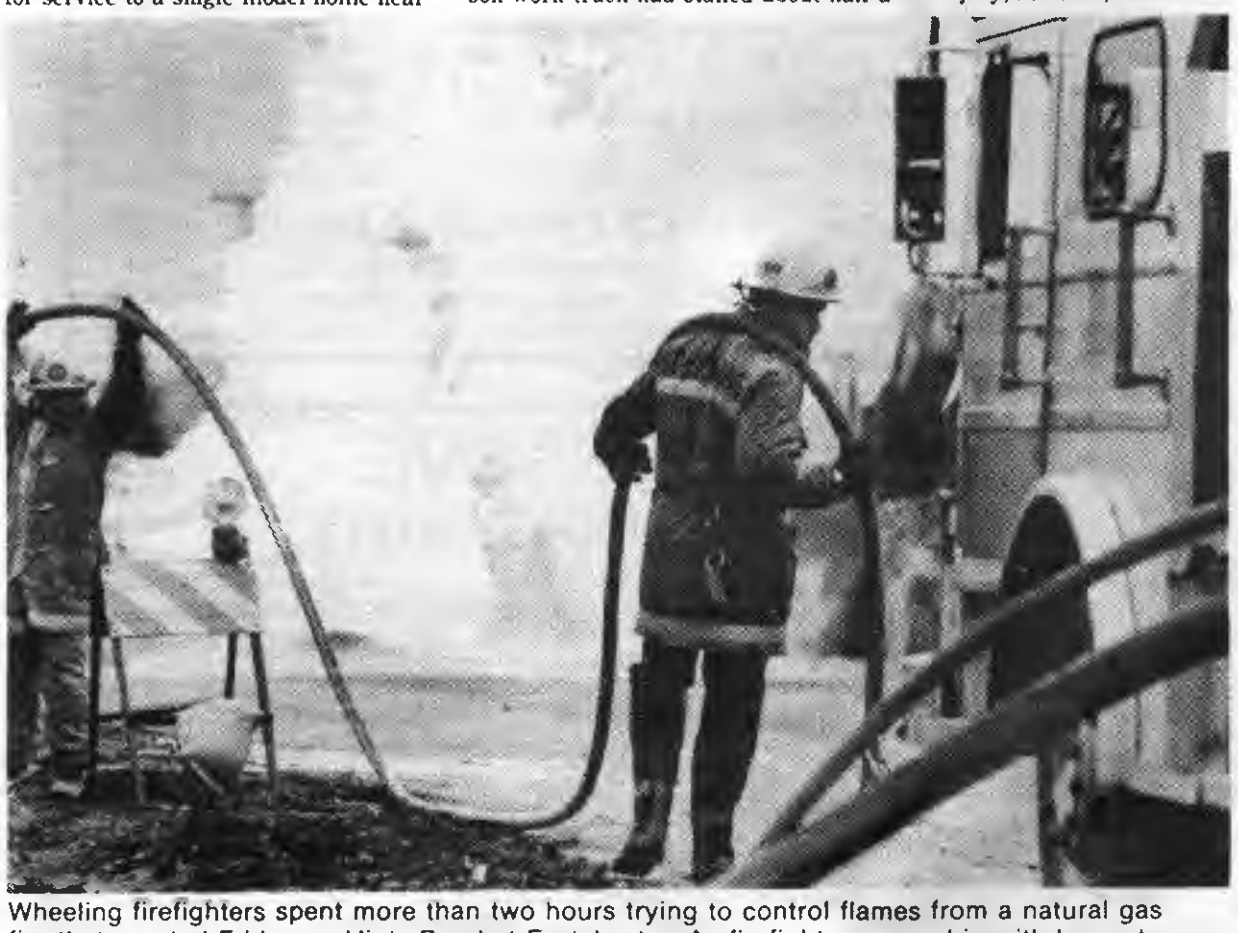
ADDING INSULT TO Arason's lack of injury, however, was the charring of $300 in cash he had just picked up at the bank before attempting to return to work after lunch.

Getting back the money and obtaining reimbursement for his car dominated Arason's thoughts Monday as he prepared to consult an attorney about seeing who would pay for the car roasting.

Neri insisted later Monday afternoon, however, that his company's insurance firm would take care of the matter.

All of which left Arason with little else to do but look for a new car and thank God he's still around to talk about the incident.

Firefighters did what they could to keep flames from consuming Greg Arason's 1979 Buick, but with little success. Arason, who unwittingly ignited the leaking gas by starting his car, miraculously fled from the car without injury. *(Staff photo by Kathy Tray)*



Wheeling firefighters spent more than two hours trying to control flames from a natural gas fire that erupted Friday on Hintz Road at Eastchester. As firefighters moved in with hoses to fight the blaze, flames shot skyward. *(Staff photo by Kathy Tray)*

While firefighters were kept at a distance from the gas inferno, Northern Illinois Gas Co. workers went to work locating a gas main farther down Hintz Road to end the fuel that fed the fire. *(Staff photo by Bill Oakes)*

Reminder 4-2-87

Candidates find apathy on the campaign trail

The more they get out into the community, the more the candidates running for the Wheeling Village Board in Tuesday's election are finding out that there's not a whole lot of interest among voters this time around.

By BOB KEHOE

Running for local office, Wheeling's trustee candidates are finding out, takes a lot of time and effort, but most of all it takes patience in dealing with all the voter apathy.

Asked to assess the most difficult part of the campaign, candidate Roger Powers said, "It's probably the time commitment in terms of response (from voters) in relation to the time invested...that's the most demoralizing part."

Powers is not alone in his assessment of the local electoral process that leads candidates to invest hundreds of dollars and untold hours trying to get their point across to a voting public that seems to be constantly shrinking and increasingly disinterested.

In conducting his first campaign for office since being appointed to the village board in September, 1985, Jim Whittington, who holds a degree in political science, is getting a lesson in civics.

"YOU FIND that there are people who have lived in neighborhoods 20 to 25 years and they've never registered to vote. That's a little shocking," he said, adding that he has heard from several residents who said they don't want to register because they don't want to be eligible for jury duty.

Fellow Wheeling Upward Party slatemate Anthony Altieri, who, with Whittington, is seeking re-election to the board in Tuesday's election, has also learned some surprising things on the campaign trail — many of them unpleasant.

"It's very discouraging, the apathy," he said. "A lot of people seem to think that if it's not an election for governor or President it's not important, and (yet) what we do affects their lives on a daily basis more directly."

Perhaps more discouraging, Altieri said, is when he looks at the number of registered voters in the village and how many will actually vote in this election.

"IT WILL probably be around 5 percent," he said.

Explaining the apathy in this election can be traced to a number of factors, according to the three candidates interviewed. They all agree the overwhelming reason is the lack of a major issue for the candidates to debate.

"A lot of the fun of campaigning is having a good, honest discussion of the issues," said Powers, who was twice

(Continued on page 17)

Reminder 4-2-87

Wheeling fares well in survey

While Wheeling doesn't quite rank up there with Lake Forest or Kenilworth as the wealthiest of the Chicago suburbs, the per capita income of residents in the village has increased substantially since 1979.

According to a study on wealth and poverty in the suburbs prepared by Roosevelt University urbanologist Pierre de Vise, Wheeling ranks 64th in per capita income of the 201 Chicago suburbs with populations of more than 2,500. In 1979, Wheeling ranked 73d among the suburbs surveyed.

Wheeling's 1985 per capita income of $14,617 is 50 percent higher than the 1979 per capita figure of $9,755, according to the study.

Wheeling's per capita income increase during the six-year period is just slightly higher than the nationwide average growth of 49 percent. And the hike in income is a notch above the 48 percent inflation rate that was recorded between 1979 and 1985.

The village's per capita income is below that of Buffalo Grove, which is at $15,200 (ranked 53d); and Prospect Heights, $15,434 (ranked 52d). However, Wheeling is ranked higher than Elk Grove Village, $14,480 (ranked 65th); Hoffman Estates, $14,348 (ranked 67th); and Des Plaines, $14,183 (ranked 71st).

Richest—

(Continued from page 18)

8th), Nichols Hills (Oklahoma City; ranked 9th), and Ladue (St. Louis; ranked 10th)."

Countryside 4-2-87

U.S.'s richest, poorest suburbs located here

By ROBERT NELANDER

Cook County is now the home of the nation's richest, according to a study released last week, but it also the home of the poorest.

Kenilworth, located on the North Shore, was determined to be the nation's wealthiest suburb; Ford Heights, a south suburban Chicago community known as East Chicago Heights until a few months ago, was the poorest in the country.

The study, "The Geography of Wealth and Poverty in Suburban America: 1979 to 1985," was conducted by Roosevelt University urbanologist Pierre de Vise, and compared estimated per capita incomes for the 82.5 million people living in the nation's 15 largest metropolitan suburbs.

The findings that both the poorest and wealthiest suburbs in the United States are located in the Chicago area serves to emphasize the disparity between the rich and poor communities across the country, according to de Vise.

"IT'S UNUSUAL, and it's unique," de Vise said, that both should be located in Cook County. And the disparity between the wealthiest and poorest communities is increasing, he said, as evidenced by the 11-1 ratio between Kenilworth's and Ford Heights' per capita income averages. In 1979, the disparity between the wealthiest and poorest was 9-1; in 1969 it was 4-1, he said.

De Vise cautioned that the findings were based on income and population estimates, and that communities should "not take the results too much to heart" if their suburbs turned out poorly in the rankings.

"It is only the average wealth of the communities as measured by income," he said, and it does not seek to assess the financial stability of the communities.

"The only communities that should worry are places that are hurting fiscally with very high tax rates (already in place)," de Vise said.

MANY COMMUNITIES SURVIVE on revenues stemming from commercial activity, he said, and per capita income figures may be relatively unimportant in terms of municipal fiscal health.

"The two wealthiest (Chicagoland) communities in terms of commercial wealth are Rosemont and Bedford Park," de Vise said, "but those are not highly desirable in terms of places to live."

Several other Chicago-area communities qualified in the rankings for both the richest and poorest suburbs in the country. Among the 50 richest, nationwide, were Glencoe (20th), with per capita income of $35,632; Winnetka (22d), with $35,406; Oak Brook (34th), with $31,520; Barrington Hills (40th), with $30,546; Olympia Fields (49th) with $28,263; and Lake Forest (50th), with $28,150.

Among the 10 poorest, nationwide, were Ford Heights (1st), with per capita income of $4,523; and Robbins (9th), with $6,436.

Chicago's wealthiest suburbs

The chart below shows how the northwest suburban municipalities rank in per capita income among 201 Chicago suburbs with populations greater than 2,500. The chart also compares the rankings and per capita income in 1979 with 1985.

Chicago's Wealthiest Suburbs
How Northwest municipalities rank among 201 Chicago suburbs with populations greater than 2,500.

Municipality	1985 Rankings	(1979)	Per Capita Income 1985	1979	% Increase*
Barrington Hills	5	(5)	30,546	20,816	46.7
Lake Barrington	8	(6)	28,112	20,206	39.1
Inverness	11	(11)	26,603	18,137	46.7
Long Grove	16	(17)	25,512	17,094	49.2
Barrington	28	(29)	20,400	13,553	50.5
Palatine	50	(46)	15,794	10,774	46.6
Buffalo Grove	53	(58)	15,200	10,322	47.3
Wheeling	64	(73)	14,617	9,755	50.0
Cary	77	(82)	13,928	9,476	47.0
Algonquin	83	(86)	13,743	9,348	47.0
Crystal Lake	90	(106)	13,473	8,996	50.0
Lake Zurich	94	(99)	13,197	9,155	44.2
Fox River Grove	97	(129)	13,133	8,551	53.6
Wauconda	150	(157)	11,406	7,945	44.0

Source: 1980 census and 1985 projections based on 1983 census data. Analysis performed by urbanologist Piere deVise of Roosevelt University.
* Between 1979 and 1985 per capita income rose an average of 49 percent nationwide and inflation grew 48 percent.

"NOT SURPRISINGLY, 20 of the nation's wealthiest suburbs are concentrated in the suburbs of Chicago, Long Island and San Francisco," the report reads. "What is surprising...is that the fabled suburban meccas of Beverly Hills, San Marino, Lake Forest, Winnetka, Sausalito and Scarsdale are eclipsed in wealth by relatively unknown el dorados of Hunter's Creek (Houston; ranked 2d), Cherry Hills (Denver; ranked 3d), Mission Hills (Kansas City; ranked 4th), Piney Point (Houston; ranked 5th), Bloomfield Hills (Detroit; ranked 6th), Rancho Santa Fe (San Diego; ranked

(Continued on page 25)

REMINDER 4-2-87

Candidates find apathy on the campaign trail

The more they get out into the community, the more the candidates running for the Wheeling Village Board in Tuesday's election are finding out that there's not a whole lot of interest among voters this time around.

By BOB KEHOE

Running for local office, Wheeling's trustee candidates are finding out, takes a lot of time and effort, but most of all it takes patience in dealing with all the voter apathy.

Asked to assess the most difficult part of the campaign, candidate Roger Powers said, "It's probably the time commitment in terms of response (from voters) in relation to the time invested...that's the most demoralizing part."

Powers is not alone in his assessment of the local electoral process that leads candidates to invest hundreds of dollars and untold hours trying to get their point across to a voting public that seems to be constantly shrinking and increasingly disinterested.

In conducting his first campaign for office since being appointed to the village board in September, 1985, Jim Whittington, who holds a degree in political science, is getting a lesson in civics.

"YOU FIND that there are people who have lived in neighborhoods 20 to 25 years and they've never registered to vote. That's a little shocking," he said, adding that he has heard from several residents who said they don't want to register because they don't want to be eligible for jury duty.

Fellow Wheeling Upward Party slatemate Anthony Altieri, who, with Whittington, is seeking re-election to the board in Tuesday's election, has also learned some surprising things on the campaign trail — many of them unpleasant.

"It's very discouraging, the apathy," he said. "A lot of people seem to think that if it's not an election for governor or President it's not important, and (yet) what we do affects their lives on a daily basis more directly."

Perhaps more discouraging, Altieri said, is when he looks at the number of registered voters in the village and how many will actually vote in this election.

"IT WILL probably be around 5 percent," he said.

Explaining the apathy in this election can be traced to a number of factors, according to the three candidates interviewed. They all agree the overwhelming reason is the lack of a major issue for the candidates to debate.

"A lot of the fun of campaigning is having a good, honest discussion of the issues," said Powers, who was twice

(Continued on page 17)

REMINDER 4-2-87

Wheeling fares well in survey

While Wheeling doesn't quite rank up there with Lake Forest or Kenilworth as the wealthiest of the Chicago suburbs, the per capita income of residents in the village has increased substantially since 1979.

According to a study on wealth and poverty in the suburbs prepared by Roosevelt University urbanologist Pierre de Vise, Wheeling ranks 64th in per capita income of the 201 Chicago suburbs with populations of more than 2,500. In 1979, Wheeling ranked 73d among the suburbs surveyed.

Wheeling's 1985 per capita income of $14,617 is 50 percent higher than the 1979 per capita figure of $9,755, according to the study.

Wheeling's per capita income increase during the six-year period is just slightly higher than the nationwide average growth of 49 percent. And the hike in income is a notch above the 48 percent inflation rate that was recorded between 1979 and 1985.

The village's per capita income is below that of Buffalo Grove, which is at $15,200 (ranked 53d); and Prospect Heights, $15,434 (ranked 52d). However, Wheeling is ranked higher than Elk Grove Village, $14,480 (ranked 65th), Hoffman Estates, $14,348 (ranked 67th); and Des Plaines, $14,183 (ranked 71st).

Richest—

(Continued from page 18)

8th), Nichols Hills (Oklahoma City; ranked 9th), and Ladue (St. Louis; ranked 10th)."

De Vise also developed comparisons between the 201 Chicago-area suburbs with populations of greater than 2,500 people (see related chart). While the movement in rankings is one indicator for determining the wealth ratings of these communities, de Vise said that the per cent increase of income from 1979 to 1985 is the best means of determining "how well-off they are."

"Per capita income grew (nationwide) by 49 percent during the six-year period," de Vise said, "just barely above the inflation rate (48 percent). Only those places that showed an increase of 4 percent or better are prospering above the national average."

Among Chicago's northwest suburbs Barrington, Long Grove, Wheeling, Crystal Lake and Fox River Grove all showed percentage increases in per capita income exceeding the national average. Even Barrington Hills — the fifth wealthiest suburb in the Chicago area, and the 40th nationwide — only exhibited a 46.[illegible] percent increase, which is below the national average.

THE 1985 INCOME figures used by de Vise represent an extrapolation of 1985 U.S. Census Bureau estimates, in which a municipality's rate of growth between 1979 and 1983 are combined with the estimated 14 percent nationwide increase in per capita income experienced between 1983 and 1985.

"It's partly a straight-line projection by assigning half of the four-year increase (between 1979-83) to the two-year period (between 1983-85), and also factoring in the 14 percent increase nationally (between 1983-85) to stabilize the figures," de Vise said. The margin of error could be as high as 3 percent, particularly among the smaller municipalities, he said.

Thursday, April 2, 1987

COUNTRYSIDE 4-2-87

U.S[illegible] sub[illegible]

By R[illegible]

Cook Cou[illegible] nation's rich[illegible] released last[illegible] the poorest.

Kenilwor[illegible] Shore, was d[illegible] wealthiest su[illegible] suburban Ch[illegible] East Chicago[illegible] ago, was the[illegible]

The study[illegible] and Poverty[illegible] to 1985," wa[illegible] University u[illegible] and compar[illegible] incomes for t[illegible] in the natio[illegible] suburbs.

The findin[illegible] wealthiest su[illegible] are located i[illegible] emphasize th[illegible] and poor cor[illegible] try, accordin[illegible]

"IT'S UN[illegible] de Vise said, [illegible] in Cook Co[illegible] between the [illegible] munities is i[illegible] denced by [illegible] Kenilworth's [illegible] ta income ave[illegible] between the [illegible] 9-1; in 1969 it[illegible]

De Vise c[illegible] were based [illegible]

Apathy—

(Continued from page 15)

elected to the village board, "and we don't have that here. There is tremendous apathy."

Powers said he has tried to make clear to voters how he differs from his opponents, but he conceded it's hard to get his adrenaline flowing when there is seemingly no issue out there waiting to grab the attention of Wheeling voters.

STILL, IN SPITE of the apathy and an apparent lack of dynamic issues, Powers said he has devoted an average of about two hours a day to the campaign since the first of the year.

In trying different campaigning techniques, Powers said he has found it difficult going door to door because he has to confront people who are generally wary of who the man at the door is and what he wants.

BY POOLING THEIR campaign resources together with running mate Clifford Bird, Altieri and Whittington said their task has been made slightly easier, although both said they put in a couple of nights a week on the campaign in addition to their full-time jobs and time-consuming posts as village trustees.

Primarily focusing attention [illegible] speaking to groups or in peoples' hom[illegible] Whittington said the campaign hasn't [illegible] much taken time away from someth[illegible] else he'd be doing as it has forced him [illegible] work faster than he'd like.

What keeps him going, he said, i[illegible] genuine fondness for helping people [illegible] researching issues.

Altieri offered much the sa[illegible] reasoning in explaining why he wants [illegible] continue giving up his Monday nights [illegible] the next four years as well as numer[illegible] other evenings to continue playing a p[illegible] in local government.

Such devotion to public office does [illegible] come cheaply. Altieri and Whitting[illegible] say they their three-member party [illegible] spend between $600 and $700 on [illegible] election while Powers, who's runn[illegible] alone, estimates he will spend about $[illegible] on the campaign.

While Altieri and Whittington s[illegible] they have garnered donations fr[illegible] supporters, Powers said he is financ[illegible] his campaign out of his own pocket.

As for whether the expense and ef[illegible] will be worth it, Powers said at leas[illegible] will know he tried.

"The biggest disappointment is [illegible] will be a non-election election," he sa[illegible]

Vandals damage park building

Vandals who recently broke into a Wheeling Park District building at Heritage Park, 222 S. Wolf Road, ransacked the premises and caused more than $5,000 damage.

Park officials, who discovered the break-in March 22 and later reported [illegible] Wheeling police, said extensive dam[illegible] was done to the interior and exterio[illegible] the building. Police say park dist[illegible] employees who investigated the s[illegible] found furniture overturned and p[illegible] splattered throughout the building.

Wheeling Village Trustee

VOTE FOR THREE ☒ ☒ ☒

James R. Whittington

Address: 954 Twilight Lane
Occupation: Director of student activities, High School District 214
Experience: Appointed village trustee in September, 1985. Two years service on Wheeling Plan Commission. Two years service on Wheeling Youth Commission. Four years on Wheeling Township Mental Health Committee.
Civic Activities: Past president, Wheeling Rotary Club.

James R. Whittington, 38, is seeking his first elected term on the board after being appointed as a trustee in September, 1985.

A strong supporter of the Crossroads redevelopment plan at Milwaukee Avenue at Dundee Road to revitalize the downtown commercial district, Whittington said he wants to continue playing a part in planning Wheeling's future.

"We need a coordinated effort to bring Wheeling into the modern era while preserving some of its historic past," he said.

Whittington said the Crossroads project, along with the recently renovated Wildwood Apartment complex, should help increase the village's tax base while improving the area's aesthetic character.

To help control growing traffic problems in the area, Whittington favors limiting curb cuts on busy thoroughfares such as Dundee Road and Milwaukee Avenue.

As for future development, Whittington said he would like to see a limited amount of commercial and industrial property added to the village's tax base with a greater percentage of single-family housing to blend in with the village's residential area.

Although some of his opponents are against Wheeling's recent annexation of the Grand Champion Stables property on Lake-Cook Road, Whittington said the developer of an office complex proposed for the site came to Wheeling only after getting nowhere with Northbrook. "This annexation didn't cost us a thing," he said.

Whittington joins Anthony Altieri and Clifford Bird on the Wheeling Upward Party slate.

Anthony Altieri

Address: 36 Laurel Trail
Occupation: Research technician, Signode Corp.
Experience: Four years on Wheeling Village Board; nine years on Wheeling Plan Commission; Wheeling Liquor Commissioner; Pal-Waukee Municipal Airport Commission.
Civic Activities: Member of Wheeling Jaycees; curator of Wheeling Historical Society; member American Cancer Society; Wheeling AMVETS; Wheeling Historical Society liaison board member.

Wheeling Upward Party candidate Anthony Altieri, 48, is seeking a second term on the village board.

The former Wheeling Plan Commission chairman said continuing commercial redevelopment and projects to maintain and improve Wheeling's streets and sewers and other infrastructure projects will be a top priority.

After witnessing years of rapid village growth, Altieri thinks there has better planning in recent years by village officials that is leading to aesthetic and economic improvements in key areas of Wheeling.

Crediting financial commitments made by the village board with helping to revitalize the former Wildwood Apartment complex, Altieri said planned redevelopment in the Milwaukee Avenue and Dundee Road area should continue that trend.

These moves, he said, are not only helping to improve the village's economic climate and to generate more sales tax revenues but are also leading other commercial district shopping center operators to also consider investing in improvements to their property.

Improving traffic conditions in the area is a concern of Altieri's, but he said the village must channel its concerns through the Northwest Municipal Conference, the state and Cook County before any real progress will be made.

Altieri terms the overall service level delivered by the village as "excellent."

Judy Abruscato

Address: 125 W Wayne Place
Occupation: Assistant personal banking officer
Experience: Member of Wheeling Zoning Board of Appeals, past precinct captain, active in local PTOs, also helped raise funds for Wheeling Police Vest Fund.
Civic Activities: President Wheeling Fourth of July Committee; past secretary for the Wheeling Historical Society; past chairperson for the Salvation Army Donut Day.

Judy Abruscato, 52, says she's running for a seat on the village board because she would like "more input" on the future of Wheeling.

One of the key issues, as far as she's concerned, is downtown redevelopment. Abruscato agrees with the village's plan to redevelop the Crossroads area near Milwaukee Avenue and Dundee Road. "The area does need to be revitalized," she said. "We want people to stay in Wheeling and shop." The down side of redevelopment is that some long-time businesses may have to be relocated, she said. But Abruscato believes the village "has tried to be fair" in dealing with businessmen who may be forced to move out.

She also agrees with the village's philosophy of using tax breaks to lure business and industry into town, saying that's one way to increase jobs and keep the tax base steady.

If elected, Abruscato said she would work on trying to get plans for commuter service on the Soo Line Railroad off the ground. She also thinks the village should encourage residents to carpool and use public transportation as a way to alleviate traffic congestion on the major thoroughfares.

Abruscato also believes that Wheeling has "more than enough multi-family developments," and would like to see more single-family projects come into town.

She also considers garbage an issue in the election, and says many residents are putting their garbage out a day or two before it's picked up. If elected, Abruscato would work on getting community services officers to patrol the neighborhoods to make sure garbage was only put out on the day of pick-up.

Clifford E. Bird

Address: 159 Hansom Drive
Occupation: Vault manager, First National Bank of Wheeling
Experience: Member of Capital Needs Re-Assessment Citizens Advisory Committee (CNRAC) for the Wheeling Park District.
Civic Activities: President of Whippletree Village Homeowners Association; member of Knights of Columbus; member of Phillip Carpenter AMVETS Post #66; member of Regina Council 4837.

Wheeling Upward Party candidate Clifford E. Bird, 64, is running for elected office for the first time.

Like the two candidates he's running with, Anthony Altieri and James Whittington, Bird is convinced the village board is doing an effective job in dealing with the village's growth and he wants to help with planning Wheeling's future.

After years of discussing village issues with residents, Bird said he wants to be able to contribute that input in future village board discussions. A six-year Wheeling resident, Bird has several thoughts on what can be done to ease traffic problems in the village.

Setting up commuter rail service on the Soo Line Railroad — a proposition that would have to be funded by the RTA — would decrease traffic on busy roads like Dundee Road and Milwaukee Avenue, he said. In addition, he said he favors village officials working with county and state officials to find workable, affordable solutions to the traffic congestion problem.

A supporter of downtown redevelopment efforts, Bird is optimistic the village can continue to expand its tax base while at the same time giving certain commercial districts a needed facelift.

In terms of future development, Bird said he would like to see more single-family home development versus multi-family housing. He said he also favors the possibility of offering tax break incentives to help attract more business and industry to Wheeling's vacant properties.

Based on the lack of citizen complaints he has heard, Bird is convinced the overall level of village services is satisfactory and he offered no ideas on recommended changes.

Roger A. Powers

Address: 897 Rose Lane
Occupation: Director of computer resource center, Regina Dominican High School
Experience: Wheeling Village Board trustee 1977 to 1985; Wheeling Police Pension Board trustee.
Civic Activities: Mid America Club of Chicago; Northwestern Club of Chicago; University of Pennsylvania Club of Chicago.

Former Wheeling trustee Roger A. Powers, 42, is stressing his expertise in finance and in dealing with Wheeling issues in his bid to return to the board.

With the loss of Trustee Nicholas Fanella, who is not seeking re-election, Powers said that he is the only candidate with a strong background in finance.

Powers said as a trustee he would look into a number of concerns, including traffic. He is urging that the village conduct balance tests to help determine the severity of traffic backups at key intersections.

He maintains that traffic flow just to the east in Buffalo Grove is roughly twice as fast as it is in Wheeling. Powers opposes the way the Crossroads redevelopment plan at Dundee Road and Milwaukee Avenue was handled.

Concerns about undue displacement of some businesses in the redevelopment area and that the development team had not lined up an adequate number of potential tenants before the project was approved, led Powers to label the plan as one with "high financial risk."

While he is satisfied with the overall level of service from the police department, Powers said the village board should take a more active role in questioning situations like why a Wheeling police officer with two brutality lawsuits pending against him and the village is not given a desk job.

Powers said he would also like to see the board take more of an active role in all negotiating processes to be more informed on issues.

Steve White

Address: 541 Audrey Ct., Wheeling
Occupation: Construction project manager
Experience: No experience in public office
Civic Activities: Youth baseball coach.

Steve White, 37, is seeking his first political office and says he'd like to see a reduction in the size of local government.

An opponent of the village board's decision to jointly purchase Pal-Waukee Airport along with the city of Prospect Heights, White said he doesn't think a primary duty of a village should include running an airport.

He disputes village officials' contention that co-owning the airport will give local officials more control over the airport and said the purchase could prove to be a significant liability if there is ever an airplane crash at the airstrip that results in lawsuits being filed against its operators.

White also isn't satisfied with the way the village board handled the Crossroads redevelopment plan at Dundee Road and Milwaukee Avenue. He said that while he welcomes redevelopment in the area, village officials shouldn't be using taxpayers' money to complete projects.

White is also critical of the village board's decision to annex the Grand Champion Stables property on Lake-Cook Road. He said the move will only aggravate traffic problems in the area and will increase demand for village services while delivering only minimal tax advantages.

If elected, White said he would take a more active role in questioning village administrators on controversial issues like alleged police brutality by claimed in lawsuits against certain members of the police department.

While satisfied with the overall level of services in the village, White said he would try cut costs in delivering those services.

Trustee race tops Tuesday's election lineup

Six candidates will be vying for three open seats on the Wheeling Village Board in the only contested race on the ballot in Tuesday's local elections.

The race will feature incumbents Anthony Altieri and James Whittington, who was appointed to the board in September, 1985, and their fellow Wheeling Upward Party running mate Clifford Bird running against former village board member Roger Powers, and newcomers Judy Abruscato and Steve White.

All those elected will serve four-year terms.

Local polling places will be open from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. Tuesday. Our Voters' Guide is on page 12 and a list of polling places is on page 14.

There will be no competition for the Wheeling Park District Board, where incumbent James Gallagher is

***Voters' Guide* — Page 12**

unopposed in his bid for a four-year commissioner's term.

The remaining local race on the ballot is for the Indian Trails Library Board, where three incumbents and one newcomer are running unopposed.

Incumbents Harold Linn and Wynne Weiss are running for the two six-year terms on the board; incumbent Thomas Murray is seeking a four-year term; and newcomer Thomas Plyder is running for a two-year term on the board.

Wheeling residents who reside within Prospect Heights Elementary District 23 boundaries will also be asked to vote on a property tax hike referendum the district is seeking.

If approved, District 23 residents would see an increase of 80 cents per $100 assessed valuation in the district's portion of their real estate tax bills.

The increase would add about $192 to the tax bill of a Wheeling home with a $90,000 market value and a $24,000 equalized assessed value.

District 23 officials say the tax hike is needed to offset an anticipated $700,000 deficit for this year with other large deficits projected in the years ahead.

Without the increase, said Supt. Dave Robert, the district would have little choice but to make significant program changes, which he added would have an adverse affect on local home values.

Bail call

Wheeling Village President Sheila Schultz found herself temporarily behind bars last week in Mount Prospect. Wheeling's leader didn't do anything wrong, however. She was merely trying to raise money for the American Cancer Society. In a fundraising effort called "Jail and Bail," various elected officials were taken into custody at a "jail" in the Randhurst shopping center and had to raise bail in the form of donations to spur cancer research efforts. *(Photo by Richard Salieh)*

Upward Party slate gets Schultz's backing

By BOB KEHOE

Wheeling Village President Sheila Schultz has endorsed the Wheeling Upward Party slate in Tuesday's race for three seats on the village board.

There seemed little doubt Schultz would endorse incumbent Anthony Altieri, James Whittington, who was appointed to the board in September of 1985, and newcomer Clifford Bird, the only question was when.

Schultz insisted there was no particular reason for issuing the endorsement at this time other than the fact she wanted to let voters know how important she thinks it is for the slate to win and continue what she called "the remarkable progress (made) in recent years" by the village.

In a news release she issued on the endorsement, Schultz said, "I recognize the importance of continuity, as well as the value of new perspectives, so I am happy to give my full support to the candidates of the Wheeling Upward Party."

BEFORE ISSUING HER formal support for the Upward Party slate, Schultz said she did consider the qualifications of the other candidates running.

Although Schultz appointed one of the candidates — Judy Abruscato — to the village's Zoning Board of Appeals, the village president said she thought the Upward Party candidates all had better qualifications than Abruscato.

She added that she ruled out endorsing trustee candidate Steve White because he "could use a better knowledge of the issues."

Schultz, however, declined comment on the candidacy of Roger Powers, who opposed her for village president in the 1985 election.

> ***"I recognize the importance of continuity, as well as the value of new perspectives, so I am happy to give my full support to the candidates of the Wheeling Upward Party."***
>
> ***— Sheila Schultz***
> ***Village President***

IN ASSESSING THE Wheeling Upward Party candidates, Schultz pointed to their experience in village government as key qualities that would help them lead the village in the years ahead.

She singled out Altieri and Whittington for praise their community involvement and their commitment to their jobs in local government as well as in serving in key civic groups.

Bird's "determination to learn the answers first-hand has given him a good understanding of the issues, and the process for dealing with them," she said.

Schultz also singled out trustee Nicholas Fanella, who is not seeking re-election due to business commitments, for praise.

"I DEEPLY regret that Nick Fanella's business commitments didn't allow him to consider a second term," she said. " He has been a thoughtful and constructive trustee, and he will be sorely missed. I am very grateful that he will continue his work as a commissioner of the Pal-Waukee Airport Commission."

Editor's hotline taking your calls

Do you have any complaints, questions or comments about the *Wheeling Countryside*? Then give the Editor's Hotline a call.

Managing Editor Mark Maley is setting up a special time to talk to readers about any aspect of the newspaper. The hotline hours are from 2 to 4 p.m. Thursdays and Fridays, and from 4 to 6 p.m. on Mondays. The hotline number is 381-9200, ext. 154.

EDITORIALS

Our choices

Those who are most familiar with (and correspondingly most jaded by) the process of local elections point to the perennially abysmal turn-out as an indication that local residents have no interest, and thus no stake in the government and administration of their communities.

We'd prefer not to believe in that assessment and instead hope that, when given enough information about the import of local decision-making, residents *do* express preferences and *do* have strong feelings about the direction their villages, park districts and libraries are taking. Speaking from an informed viewpoint ourselves, there *are* significant differences among the candidates running for most offices. The choices reflected here say a couple of things we believe about local government and local elected officials.

First, serving in local government is a time-consuming, often tedious, often thankless job. Most elected officials serve without any remuneration to speak of, save for their own internal satisfaction and in most cases volunteer countless hours in service of their communities. By this standard, anyone willing enough to submit to the pre-election scrutiny, both official and unofficial, and is still willing to serve, is worthy of consideration. At the same time, some candidates are plainly better equipped to assume public office than others. In most cases, our endorsements reflect our view that a particular candidate or set of candidates would simply do a better job than their competition.

Second, we generally recognize that incumbency constitutes an advantage on the local political scene. For reasons of continuity, we give some weight to those who already hold the positions which are contested. In recommending a non-incumbent over a sitting official, we believe we should explain why the newcomer should outweigh these advantages.

Our endorsements were based on interviews conducted with individual candidates running in contested races and were decided by an editorial review board. In a few cases where we did not interview candidates for a contested race, we have chosen not to make endorsements.

Herewith, then, our choices for Tuesday:

Wheeling village trustee

Wheeling is on the right track.

It wasn't too long ago that residents were up in arms about conditions at the Wildwood Apartment complex, which was overcrowded, run down and a haven for criminal activity. Thanks to the efforts of the village, Wildwood is no longer an eyesore to neighboring residents or a thorn in the side of the police department.

While other Cook County municipalities are doing nothing but watching their businesses flock to Lake County, where property taxes are lower, Wheeling is giving industries tax breaks to retain the companies already in town as well as attract new ones.

And instead of sitting back and watching while the business district deteriorates, Wheeling officials have embarked upon an ambitious downtown redevelopment plan they hope will revitalize the village's retail community.

There's no doubt that Wheeling is moving forward, and because we'd like to see that trend continue, we believe that incumbent trustees **Anthony Altieri** and **James Whittington** deserve to be re-elected to the board April 7.

Both incumbents are knowledgeable team players who appear genuinely concerned with working toward further improvement of the village.

We also support the candidacy of former trustee **Roger Powers**, who served on the village board from 1977 to 1985. Powers, while he may not agree with everything the current board does, has some good ideas for alleviating the traffic congestion in town and believes that trustees should be more active in the day-to-day operation of the village.

Powers' financial expertise, previous experience and independent views put him head and shoulders above the three other relatively inexperienced candidates seeking a seat on the village board.

OPINION

Without merit

To the Editor:

The article that appeared on page five of the March 19th issue is troubling to me. Mr. Roger Powers sees fit to pass judgment on the conduct of a hardworking and honored street police officer. He specifically bases his judgment on two lawsuits filed against the officer. He is quick to allege that the suits come from "two different people" but apparently slow to grasp that both originate with the same attorney. Mr. Powers seems to be trying to make political hay at the expense of the reputation of a fine police officer and his department. The citizens of Wheeling are too sophisticated to accept the superficial assessments of Mr. Powers. The voters of Wheeling will make a judgment of candidates based on their performance and reputation. The complaints that concern Mr. Powers have already been investigated by experienced professionals and found to be without merit. The fate of Mr. Powers is yet to be decided by the voters of Wheeling.

Thomas J. Skrabala

Incumbent trustees roll to victory

By BOB KEHOE

Wheeling Upward Party candidates James Whittington and Anthony Altieri were returned to the village board Tuesday for another four years along with newcomer Judy Abruscato.

Whittington topped all six candidates vying for three open seats on the village board with 894 votes, followed by Altieri with 888, and Abruscato with 731, according to unofficial vote totals.

Abruscato, who serves on the Wheeling Zoning board, narrowly edged out Wheeling Upward Party Candidate Clifford Bird, who received 680 votes. Challengers Roger Powers, a former village trustee and village president candidate in 1985, finished fifth with 476 votes, and Steven White garnered 334 votes.

As the results rolled in Tuesday night, Whittington and Altieri were crediting their victory to voter satisfaction with the way the present board has handled issues, while Abruscato was thanking friends, neighbors and family members for getting out the vote.

"I THOUGHT I had a good shot because I did a lot of walking and talking to people," Abruscato said Tuesday night as she met with campaign workers and well-wishers in her home.

Going door to door to better acquaint herself with voters may have helped Abruscato to victory, but her challengers were attributing her win to hard-earned name recognition.

"I give Judy credit because she worked hard to get recognition in the village through her community involvement," Altieri said.

Like Whittington, Altieri was pleased that voters had enough confidence in the job they had done in the past to return them to office, but both men echoed the comments of all elected officials who were disgusted by a turnout that was only in the 10 percent range.

"YOU CAN see from the poor voter

(Continued on page 11)

Trustee Tony Altieri, who was successful in his re-election bid, discusses the outcome with fellow village board member Joe Ratajczak at the Four Stars Restaurant in Wheeling.

Reminder 4-9-87

Victory—

(Continued from page 5)

turnout people don't get involved," Altieri said.

Wheeling Village President Sheila Schultz called the turnout a "disgrace," especially considering this is the year America will celebrate the bicentennial of the U.S. Constitution.

The lack of a dynamic issue to capture voter interest and the fact there were no state or national offices to be decided in the election may have played a part in the low turnout, but all candidates agreed these were excuses, not reasons for people failing to vote.

"I really think we have to have some way to get more information out to the public about local government," said Whittington, in assessing what needs to be done to encourage more interest in future elections.

IN HIS OWN case, Whittington said he felt he and fellow slatemates Altieri and Bird did all they could to try and stir up interest in the election.

"I felt all along that we ran a good campaign. We spent a lot of time analyzing what we were going to do," he said. "I just wish we had a greater opportunity for a debate of the issues."

That lack of debate may well have hurt some of the candidates who didn't have widespread name recognition like Bird and White, both of whom have never run for or held political office.

White said he was "disappointed" with his showing, but said he still thinks all of those who did win will do a good job.

"HAD I had more time, money and energy, maybe I could have tried to reach more people," he said, adding that he thought the low voter turnout favored the incumbents.

Bird, who rode the coattails of some of that voter name recognition by running on the incumbents' ticket, said but it just wasn't enough to overcome Abruscato's popularity.

"The result wasn't what I wanted, but I don't feel too bad because Judy had name recognition all over the village. I've only been here five years," Bird said.

His only hope for victory, in analyzing the post-election returns, Bird said was if he could have delivered another 100 or so votes from the Whippletree subdivision, where he is president of the homeowners association.

WHILE BIRD WAS receiving kudos for his efforts and encouragement from Altieri, Whittington and Schultz, who endorsed the Upward Party slate, to stay active in village affairs, he said he had no future plans.

Reminder

4-2-89

Soo Line r will need l

By TODD SLOANE
and BOB KEHOE

Wheeling officials are taking a wait and see approach to a recent Metra plan that would ask local governments to put their money where their mouths are in support of a proposed new commuter rail line between Mundelein and Chicago.

Village President Sheila Schultz said Tuesday she has yet to hear from Metra officials on what types of assistance local municipalities would be asked for and said any such discussion would have to be conducted among the full village board.

Metra is tentatively in support of such a line, if it can be shown to be economically feasible, meaning that some way must be worked out to have local governments and private developers share in the cost of new stations, parking lots and other costs of starting the new line.

Schultz said in past discussions with Nortran and Metra officials there had been talk of possibly using commuter station parking revenues to offset some Soo Line operational costs for the line, but that no final decisions were made.

WHILE SHE SUPPORTS adding commuter service to the Soo Line to help ease local traffic woes, Schultz cautioned there will be limits on what local governments can afford to pay to help fund the effort.

And as for donating land for a commuter station and parking lot, Schultz

4/89

Dist. 23 ponders budget cuts after tax hike defeat

By BOB KEHOE

Prospect Heights Elementary School District 23 board members were set to meet last night to discuss program cuts and borrowing money to offset an anticipated year-end $700,000 budget deficit after attempts to pass a property tax hike referendum failed Tuesday.

Good weather and a higher than anticipated turnout for Prospect Heights aldermanic and mayoral races spelled bad news for the district, said Supt. Dave Robert. The school board will have to make serious program cuts in all areas to make up for the huge deficit that has been mounting in recent years, he said.

With all precincts reporting, the unofficial results show that the district's request to hike its education fund tax rate by 80 cents per $100 assessed valuation failed 1,351-1,024.

Wheeling residents, who account for about 30 percent of the district's enrollment, favored the referendum by a count of 201 to 95.

HAD IT PASSED, the referendum would have added about $192 to the property tax bill of a person with a home with a market value of $90,000 and an equalized assessed valuation of $24,000.

If approved, the referendum would have provided the district with about an additional $800,000 a year and would have avoided what Robert termed "damaging" cuts to the district's programs.

The referendum's failure will force the district to increase class sizes an average of two to three students per ss, will likely lead to cancellation of many after-school athletics programs, and cuts to the district's band program, Robert said.

(Continued on page 11)

Walk into history in Wheeling

BY C. L. WALLER
Daily Herald Staff Writer

The transformation of Wheeling's first funeral home into John's Shoe Repair at 67 S. Milwaukee Ave. is one of the historical oddities on tap for visitors who take a walking tour of the village.

Beginning Sunday, the Wheeling Historical Society is providing tour booklets for history buffs, particularly those interested in Milwaukee Avenue history.

And because of increased interest in walking, the society decided to list historically significant buildings in Wheeling as a walking tour guide, society member Sandy Altieri said.

Those who are ambitious walkers might want to venture east on Dundee to the Balling family's farm store or west on Dundee Road to the Wheeling Cemetery, Altieri said.

Interested persons can pick up booklets at the Wheeling Historical Museum, in Chamber of Commerce Park, 251 N. Wolf Road, from 1 to 5 p.m. Sundays and from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Society members will be available at those times to also provide tours of the museum.

The museum was the original village hall in Wheeling, built in 1895 for $553.26. It was located on Milwaukee Avenue and Center Street until the society moved it to the park.

Childerley Chapel in Childerley Park, 506 McHenry Road, will open for public tours on Memorial Day weekend and remain open for tours through Labor Day. Historical society members will be available to give tours of the chapel during its regular hours from 1 to 5 p.m. on Sundays.

5-87

Local leaders unite to tackle traffic woes

BY PETE NENNI
Daily Herald Staff Writer

After unveiling the findings of a two-year examination of Northwest suburban traffic congestion Tuesday, organizers of the study urged local business and community leaders to work together on their proposals to address the problem.

The two groups, which coordinated and funded the just-completed Transportation Partnership Task Force report, were asked to jointly plan and oversee a combination of road improvements and other ideas in the report aimed at reducing the number of vehicles clogging area roads.

"We need your input to make it work," Northwest Municipal Conference Executive Director William Grams told 108 local leaders who discussed the recommendations at a workshop at United Airlines' corporate headquarters in Elk Grove Township.

The first step, he said, will be to find businessmen and elected officials to serve on Transpart, a new regional organization that will develop and implement proposals to prevent congestion from getting so bad it threatens the region's vitality.

"We have been and are what we are because we've encouraged growth," Grams said. "The reason we're in this study is to make sure growth continues."

The study and its recommendations were praised by business and local government leaders, who agreed a cooperative effort is necessary to address the problem.

"The number of business representatives here and the role they've played already indicates they are believers," said Thomas Rivera, executive director of the Greater Woodfield Convention and Visitors Bureau, which represents area businesses, chambers of commerce and local governments.

Schaumburg Village President Al Larson, co-chairman of the task force, said communities cannot continue to "pour dollars into concrete and asphalt." Business must be encouraged to promote ideas like flexible work hours and ridesharing, he added.

The $140,000 study examined current and future traffic problems on 17 of the area's busiest thoroughfares — including Algonquin, Lake-Cook and Roselle roads — and proposed measures to cut congestion and accommodate growth in the region.

Bloomingdale-based Metro Transportation Group Inc., which conducted the study, found that traffic on many suburban roads meets or exceeds planned rush-hour capacity.

One recommendation in the study is for $146 million in roadway improvements on 12 of the area's busiest highways, ranging from installing new turn lanes at intersections to building a freeway between Rand Road and Milwaukee Avenue.

Construction would be paid for with federal, state and county funds, with the local share coming from development fees and the proceeds from some form of motor fuel tax increase, conference officials said.

Herald 5-3-81

THE WEEK AHEAD

Flood control plan up for trustees' OK

Dr. Frederick K. Goodwin, sci-

Mental health

ago branch offers its fourth annual series of one-day workshops for beginning geneologists.

Advance registration, at $5 per session, is necessary. Each workshop is limited to 25 participants. Scheduled dates are May 11 and 26, June 10, July 2 and 24, Aug. 10, Sept. 1 and 23, Oct. 15 and Nov. 13. The sessions are held at the archives, 7358 S. Pulaski Road, Chicago. Information: 581-7816.

PUBLIC SPEAKING

• "We need to move on it." — Wheeling Village President Sheila Schultz, explaining that Wheeling officials are sending a position paper to Prospect Heights spelling out the village's stand on how to manage Pal-Waukee Airport.

Herald 5-3-8 K

THE WEEK AHEAD

Flood control plan up for trustees' OK

Wheeling trustees will consider approval of a resolution supporting the Lake Arlington flood control project Monday night.

Plans are for development of a 54-acre artificial lake at Palatine and Schoenbeck roads by Arlington Heights, with a $750,000 to $1 million contribution from Prospect Heights.

At last week's board workshop meeting, trustees agreed to support the flood control project with a resolution, but refused to contribute money toward the $9.7 million project as requested by Prospect Heights officials.

Prospect Heights plans on paying for the project by raising the city's utility tax from 3½ to 5 percent, boosting the average tax bill by about $27 million for an average homeowner.

Arlington Heights plans on paying for most of the project by selling municipal bonds.

The resolution, if passed by Wheeling, will help in obtaining funding for the project from the Illinois Division of Waterways, Prospect Heights officials said.

Cops hunt for sticker scofflaws

5-2-87

By C. L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Wheeling residents may be meeting roadblocks as they leave or enter their homes during the next two weeks as police crack down on village sticker scofflaws.

From 6:30 to 9 a.m., Wheeling police will be posted at entrances of apartment complexes and residential areas stopping cars not bearing a village vehicle sticker. Wheeling Police Chief Michael Haeger said two to six officers will be assigned to different locations each day and residential areas will be sealed off so cars cannot leave or enter by way of another street.

During the past few years, the number of sticker violators ticketed by police has decreased, but an increase is expected this year because of the communitywide roadblocks planned, Haeger said. In a usual year, he said, 250 to 450 violations are recorded.

Only vehicles without stickers will be stopped, but those drivers may end up paying for more than just a sticker violation ticket, Haeger said, because police also will check to see that driver licenses and license plates are current.

"It's unfortunate we have to resort to this kind of tactic," he said, "but it is done in fairness to those who have purchased theirs."

Village vehicle stickers are required by village ordinance and go on sale in November. Cars were supposed to have 1987 stickers by Feb. 1. Residents who bought stickers on time pay $10, but those who forget or refuse to buy the sticker until ticketed could end up paying $40, because a $15 late penalty and the $15 fine is added to the price of the sticker.

The village reports that 14,647 car stickers have been sold so far this year. Village stickers for trucks go on sale this month and are to be displayed by July 1.

5-6-87

Wheeling supports flood work

Wheeling trustees passed a resolution unanimously supporting the Lake Arlington flood control project, but won't give it any money.

The 540-acre flood project is designed to reduce flooding and storm water damage in Arlington Heights and Prospect Heights and within the McDonald Creek watershed in Wheeling.

However, Wheeling officials said they won't contribute financially because the portion of Wheeling that floods is approximately 11 acres of vacant area.

The resolution encourages support for the project from the Metropolitan Sanitary district, Illinois Department of Transportation and the Illinois Department of Waterways.

Prospect Heights plans to contribute $750,000 to $1 million toward the $9.7 million flood control project, the lion's share of which will be paid by Arlington Heights. Prospect Heights officials had asked Wheeling to contribute its "fair share."

Cops get new radio system

5-4-87

By C. L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Wheeling police will no longer be sharing a communications channel with Northbrook beginning today as a new radio system goes on line.

Wheeling has purchased a new system, including 10 mobile radios and 50 portable radios, costing $354,753. New antennas have gone up on five water towers, Indian Trails Public Library and an office building in the village allowing Wheeling police to operate independently.

Wheeling Police Chief Michael Haeger said the new system will ensure better radio communications between the police station and officers compared to the previous system, which is 11 years old.

"There's been a strong fear on the street that our transmissions will get covered by Northbrook's transmissions or from failure of equipment," he said.

Police officer Thomas Lorenz, put in charge of organizing a new system, said the department would sometimes have to resort to a backup system used by Wheeling public works employees when Northbrook had many officers communicating at the same time.

Both Haeger and Lorenz said the system is needed because the village and the department has grown too large for the previous system, which was designed for the number of police calls in the 1970s.

With the new system, each of the 32 officers will be responsible for maintaining his or her own portable radio at all times, Lorenz said. The radios have frequencies similar to cellular telephones and each officer will have the choice of turning it on when he or she is off duty, he said.

Wheeling officers will have an added advantage with the new radios in their cars because they will be able to send a coded message back to the police station without using their voice, Lorenz said.

City on verge of flood control project pact

By Dan Rozek
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Prospect Heights officials say they are close to approving a formal agreement to join Arlington Heights in the $9.7 million Lake Arlington flood control project.

City officials see no major obstacles to signing an agreement with Arlington Heights sometime in May, although some questions — including what type of financing will be used — still must be resolved.

"I hope to get an agreement out by early May," City Administrator Robert R. Kiely said. "I think things have gone well with Arlington Heights since we agreed to participate."

Prospect Heights earlier agreed to contribute $750,000 to $1 million to help build a 54-acre lake at Palatine and Schoenbeck roads to reduce flooding in the area.

City officials had asked the village of Wheeling to contribute to that portion of the bill, but Wheeling officials this week refused to commit any financial support.

Prospect Heights' exact share will depend on the cost of making the lake large enough to hold stormwaters that otherwise would sweep down McDonald Creek and cause flooding in the city.

Arlington Heights officials, who first envisioned the project as only benefitting Arlington Heights, have agreed to pay the rest of the project cost.

While Prospect Heights officials have no major problems with the proposed agreement, they want to be sure the contract strictly controls water flows from the lake into McDonald Creek.

City officials also want to keep any contributions toward the project from other towns downstream — specifically Wheeling and Mount Prospect — and not share them with Arlington Heights.

The financing of the project also has not been finalized. The city will not be able to borrow their share of the project's cost because it would exceed the city's debt limit, Kiely said.

Wheeling makes contribution to Vietnam memorial

The Village of Wheeling has contributed $400 toward the Illinois Vietnam Veterans' memorial in Springfield, and members of VietNow hope it will spur other contributions from the Northwest suburbs.

Trustees approved contributing $400 toward the memorial in the names of three men from Wheeling who were killed in the war or are missing in action. They are John Bienman, Michael Blanchfield and Robert Hoffman.

The names of those men will be among 2,946 killed and 103 POW/MIAs inscribed on the memorial. The $1.2 million memorial is planned for 1.96 acres in Oak Ridge Cemetery. Five black granite walls containing the names will make up the memorial.

Wheeling will get a plaque for its contribution.

Terry Toerpe, a VietNow representative and Wheeling native, has asked area villages to contribute toward the state memorial.

Wheeling's contribution will help a lot, VietNow chapter president Joe Alexander said.

"A lot of other villages will follow suit," he said.

The state has agreed to match up to $485,000 of money contributed toward the memorial, if the money is collected by June 30. So far slightly more than $400,000 has been contributed and the rest of the money is expected to come in as the memorial gets under construction.

Efforts are now being made toward raising $200,000 for a memorial maintenance fund because without that amount, needed before the cemetery will allow construction. Should contributions exceed the cost of the memorial, the extra money will go into the maintenance fund, Alexander said.

Dedication of the memorial is planned for the weekend of Nov. 13-15.

HERALD 5-20-87

Neighbor

Wheeling

SECTION 6

1-87

Bill Kaehms of Wheeling moves in to refuel a corporate jet parked at Pal-Waukee Airport.

Daily Herald Photo/Dave Tonge

Wheeling outlines stand on airport

By C. L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Wheeling officials are sending a position paper to Prospect Heights spelling out the village's stand in hopes of speeding up an agreement on how to manage Pal-Waukee Municipal Airport.

The document outlines duties as they should be performed by the Pal-Waukee Airport Commission; the Wheeling village manager and village board; Prospect Heights city administrator and city council; and the airport manager or management firm.

Wheeling officials believed it was appropriate to give its airport commissioners direction through a document, Village President Sheila Schultz said.

"We need to move on it," she added.

Village Manager Thomas Markus believes two of the important aspects of the paper are arranging a chain of command for both towns and setting up duties of either an airport manager or management firm.

The airport has been without permanent management since the two communities bought it four months ago. Airport Corp. of America, based in New Jersey, is temporarily managing the airport with the village manager and city administrator sharing the responsibility.

The village believes that a management firm should be hired for a few years, followed by only a manager, Markus said.

Wheeling trustees suggest that each elected board choose a person to select an airport manager and oversee daily airport operations. Wheeling's choice is the village manager.

"In Wheeling we (trustees) depend heavily on our professionals advising us," Schultz said.

The Pal-Waukee Airport Commission would work at public relations, reviewing grants and establishing a committee of airport users, the document said.

Village trustees and city aldermen would appoint commission members, approve an annual budget and approve all contracts for purchases more than $5,000.

The village manager and city administrator would be responsible for appointing and removing and airport manager, confirming or discharging employees based on recommendations from the airport manager and overseeing the airport manager's daily work.

Avondale

5 year line of credit

Repayment of loan due in full.

First

7 year line of credit

Repayment of loan

Appointee sees clear sky ahead

5-21-87

By Dan Rozek
Daily Herald Staff Writer

The controversy surrounding the recent appointment of Prospect Heights resident James Nickel to the Pal-Waukee Municipal Airport Commission will not stop him from working effectively there, Nickel said.

Nickel also said he will be able to work with other commission members, although all seven had asked that former commission member Christina J. Carlson be reappointed.

"I don't think it's an issue," he said. "I'm not interested in political issues."

Meanwhile Carlson, who was removed from the commission two weeks ago by Mayor John E. Gilligan in a move she called "political retribution," said she is giving up her battle to be reappointed.

Carlson said she has decided not to challenge her dismissal in court because "it's not a legal issue, it's a political issue."

Several other commission members said they were disappointed Carlson was not reappointed.

"Obviously, it's political," commission member William Rogers said. "Chris is as talented as anyone

Wheeling stands out as one of nation's best high schools

By Joan Fleischer
Daily Herald Staff Writer

5-28-87

There was fanfare. There were wild cheers. The fighting Wildcats of Wheeling High School had just been named among the country's best schools.

"Wheeling High School has been the best kept secret," said French teacher Elise Detterbeck. "The faculty is concerned about students and it's a nice blend of kids. They're not spoiled brats. It's the only school I've ever worked at where the students hold the door open for you or pick up something you've dropped."

Principal Thomas Shirley, at the helm of Wheeling High School for the past 22 years, proudly announced to students and teachers over the intercom Wednesday that the Wildcats had won an excellence in education award in the 1987 National Secondary School Recognition Program.

Nine public high schools and junior high schools and six private secondary schools in Illinois were cited Wednesday by the U.S. Department of Education for "exemplary achievements." In total, 217 secondary schools across the country were named award recipients.

Other local winners include Holmes Junior High in Wheeling, Stevenson High School in Prairie View and Fremd High School in Palatine.

"This is wonderful for the community of Wheeling," said Holmes Principal Avi Poster. "We have a junior high that sends excellent students on to the high school that makes the product even better."

Indeed, the students at Wheeling feel they're getting the last laugh on posher schools.

"We get a lot of ribbing and teasing from students at other schools like Buffalo Grove and Stevenson that we have lower-income kids and kids who don't speak English," said senior Hye Choi. "But we've known

See **WHEELING** *on Page 3*

WHEELING: School named one of the best

Continued from Page 1

all along that this is the best school. We have great teachers and super kids."

The federal criteria ranged from student achievement, school climate, curriculum, teacher advocacy and community support.

"We didn't look for a school that was good, we looked for extraordinary performance," said Barbara Greenberg, program specialist for the U.S. Department of Education. "A school needed to demonstrate outstanding accomplishment in light of their environment and particular circumstances."

Freddie Mitchell, a guidance counselor at Wheeling High School who helped write the school's 25-page application, said the blend of students, including 300 foreign-born students from 25 different countries, made Wheeling stand out.

"I know the job we've been doing here," Mitchell said. "It has always been a caring atmosphere with the interest of the student first and foremost. I love the mix of people here. I believe that's an important aspect of education — diversity and learning to get along with people different than you."

APPOINTEE: Clear skies for newcomer

Continued from Page 1

on the commission."

Nickel, 40, was named to the commission earlier this week to replace Carlson, a former alderman who ran unsuccessfully against Gilligan for mayor this spring.

Gilligan said he had to remove former alderman Carlson, a two-year veteran of the commission, because she is no longer a public official. He argued that since she was a public official when she was appointed, she could no longer hold the seat once she was off the city council.

The city council could have reappointed her as a private citizen, but chose instead to appoint Nickel.

Although the seven other airport commissioners wrote a letter asking that Carlson be reappointed, city aldermen voted 5-4 — with Gilligan casting the deciding vote — for Nickel.

John Gilligan

Nickel, who holds a commercial pilot's license and owns an aircraft based at Pal-Waukee, said he has been interested in the airport for years, but only this year has had enough free time to consider serving on the commission.

"I'm interested in the airport because I'm a pilot and I do use it," he said. "As a businessman, I understand the user's aspect of it. I see other kinds of (airport) facilities, too."

Nickel said he believes the towns can improve the airport without adversely affecting either Prospect Heights or Wheeling.

"I think you can serve two masters," he said. "There is a balance. The city needs the economic engine of the airport, the sales taxes and the flowage fees. But I'm not in favor of putting noisy planes there when you can put quiet ones there."

Nickel, who applied for a commission post in April, said he saw few possible conflicts between his roles as aircraft owner and commission member, but said he would abstain from voting on major issues if there were conflicts.

Gilligan and aldermen who voted for Nickel over Carlson said they did so for several reasons.

Gilligan, while admitting he had difficulty working with Carlson, called Nickel "highly qualified" for the post.

The commission also needs Nickel's business background, Gilligan said. Nickel is a vice president of Motorola Inc. in Schaumburg.

"We need to get someone with a business background there and quit playing games, like approving contracts without caps and sitting on bills," Gilligan said. "We need a positive look, we need people who know a particular business."

Second Ward Alderman Charles Lutzow also said he voted for Nickel because of his strong qualifications.

Dawson memorial to be dedicated

By C. L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer

5-5-87

A memorial to slain Wheeling Police Officer Kenneth R. Dawson and to other village employees who died in service of the village will be dedicated at 1 p.m. May 16.

Dawson, a 16-year veteran of the Wheeling Police Department, was shot and killed Nov. 5, 1985, after he confronted two men prowling through the Cedar Run Subdivision at Route 83 and Lake-Cook Road.

Operations and maintenance employee Dennis Mikosz, a friend of Dawson's, designed the memorial patio area located south of village hall. The patio has cast concrete furniture on a concrete bed measuring 24-by-24-foot square bordered by shrubs, flowers and low voltage lights.

A pentagon-shaped monument cast of concrete and finished in meramec stone will contain a bronze plaque with Dawson's name.

A second plaque at the memorial will commemorate other village employees killed while working in the village.

The first name will be that of former Wheeling Police Chief Herbert Ray Lesch, who was accidentally struck and killed by a police car while on duty in 1935.

Wheeling Police Chief Michael Haeger said it is appropriate to set up one memorial site in the village for all employees killed in the line of duty.

"When it does happen there is a great impact on a village the size of Wheeling," he said.

Kenneth R. Dawson

Traffic congestion is one of the roadblocks the Northwest suburbs must overcome in order to fulfill the region's potential.

Daily Herald Photo/Bob Chwedyk

Obstacles lie in path to golden opportunities

BY THERESA NORTON
and DIANE DUNGEY
Daily Herald staff writers

5/4/87

NORTHWEST 2001

The Northwest suburbs face a golden future — if a host of obstacles don't tarnish their potential.

Business and research centers in the Woodfield, East-West Tollway and southern Lake County areas will serve as satellite "downtowns" for the Chicago region. Jobs will be plentiful and an influx of new residents will keep the area vital.

But passing through the growth spurts of adolescence into graceful middle age won't be without pain. Residents may face traffic so thick it could stifle growth. Open space is in danger of dwindling, gobbled by houses and offices. Political clout is weak in comparison to the area's population. Municipal boundaries fracture the region.

"The area will have to deal with other issues. It won't just be growth issues anymore," said Max Dieber, research director of the Northeastern Illinois Planning Commission.

Traffic is among the most controversial challenges. In 2001, the auto is expected to continue its reign in the Northwest suburbs — along with stop lights, traffic jams, hot radiators and hotter tempers.

"In many ways, there is less congestion in the city than in the Northwest suburbs," said urbanologist Pierre deVise of Roosevelt University.

It will only get worse. Metro Transportation Group, a consultant for a Northwest Municipal Conference committee on traffic, estimates the number of vehicles using major roads in the area will increase by 40 percent in the next decade.

If no solution is found, traffic could stymie the area's growth, sending developers to areas where space is wide open or mass transportation more sophisticated, said John Kramer, a developer who formerly headed the Regional Transportation Authority and served as the state's transportation secretary.

"Traffic will be a detriment. It will force developers to be more selective about where they build high-density office space," he said.

Said Village President Verna L. Clayton of Buffalo Grove: "If I had to pick a number one problem, traffic congestion is it."

Officials from Buffalo Grove and neighboring towns pressed for the widening of Route 83 when the state sought simply to resurface it. "We kept lobbying, saying, 'You

See CHALLENGES *on Page 6*

2001

LLENGE: Growing pains come with gains

Page 1

our-lane it now.' We a year and were final- rk it out," Clayton said.

ton and the other officials phy's Law of traffic plan- re roads bring more traffic. e roads will not solve the m because building more ca- y attracts more cars," accord- to the State of the Region report mpiled by a consortium of govern- nental and civic organizations in the Chicago area.

There is little room for new major highways. At the turn of the century, Route 53 will extend from Grayslake to Interstate 80, partly as a tollway. Another expressway will connect Elgin and the O'Hare area. Randall Road in Kane County and Route 31 in McHenry County will be widened into a "mini-expressway," according to the Chicago Area Transportation Study plan for 2000.

The plan shows another new east-west road slashing through McHenry and Lake counties, but "it's really questionable" whether the road ever will be built, said Eugene Ryan, director of planning for the transportation group.

"Central Lake County has not really developed the consensus that it wants growth," he said.

Keeping existing roads in good repair will be more difficult as federal road funding declines. Even now, two-thirds of the major roads in the Chicago area are in poor to fair condition, the State of the Region report concluded, and traffic on several major thoroughfares is at the capacity for which the highways were designed.

Some towns force developers to help pay for roads. "We require very large amounts of money from developers for traffic improvements," said Thomas C. Koenig, Schaumburg's director of planning.

Arlington Heights Planner Joseph Kesler turns it around: Future development projects "should be dictated by road capacity," he said.

The Northwest Municipal Conference recently released a study by a committee of private and public representatives that calls for a gasoline tax increase to fund road work and a planning agency to oversee traffic problems and monitor the effects of development on traffic.

"[illegible] problems will [illegible] worse for [illegible] member," said William Grams, executive director of the Northwest Municipal Conference. "[illegible] is a problem [illegible] where empty right-of-way could make rail service feasible, she said. An express bus system already connects the O'Hare extension of the CTA line to the Woodfield area.

In other suburban areas, population density is too low for mass transit.

"Unless the growth starts to become more concentrated, mass transit is not going to work," said Deborah C. Stone, senior planner with the Metropolitan Planning Council and project director of the State of the Region report.

With few exceptions, bus systems are not willingly accepted by suburban residents, who are conditioned to using their cars.

"Knowing the mentality of Americans, I am pessimistic about mass transportation except in lower-income areas," Kesler said.

The burden of solving traffic problems could be shifted to businesses, Stone said. Firms could be offered incentives to reduce traffic. For instance, a municipal low-interest loan could be awarded to the company that reduces its 5 p.m. outgoing traffic by 25 percent by staggering shifts, providing bus service or encouraging car pools, she said.

On expressways, special lanes could be reserved for multiple-passenger cars and for buses, she said.

Solutions could be even more innovative. Up-to-the-minute road maps showing traffic backups and accidents could be sent over cable television each day so commuters could plan their route, Grams said.

Sometime in the future, drivers could put their vehicles on automatic pilot. Tracking on electronic signals transmitted from devices in the roadway, drivers could travel bumper-to-bumper at constant speeds, said Lake County Director of Planning Robert W. Chave.

"It would be like making a train out of a private car," he said. "If they can shoot a rocket at a trajectory to the moon, they have the technology to do this."

A third airport?

By most counts, the Northwest suburbs owe their prosperity partly to the proximity of the world's busiest airport. But the airport, with its deafening jet noise, is the nemesis of the prosperous towns that surround it.

Last year, an average of 90 airc[illegible] of every day at O'Hare. That's 6.5 percent more than in 1985, even though O'Hare is in the midst of a $1.6 billion project that will include new terminals for United Airlines and international flights.

The number of passengers taking off from O'Hare will grow steadily through at least 2020, according to a study by Peat, Marwick, Mitchell & Co. More than 26 million passengers left on flights from O'Hare in 1985, [illegible]lion in 1995 [illegible] allow O'Hare to handle takeoffs and landings without a new runway, an alternative last broached a year ago. Only more parking and road capacity would be needed, they said.

Butler fears expanding the airport in any way would expand the problems.

"Obviously, the airport stimulates business, but there are some areas that are getting to be a gridlock of traffic," he said. "I don't know what the quality of life will be in the year [illegible]

"That issue made us realize there is no group consensus nor attempt to discuss issues together," said Kathleen Gilmer, an economic development specialist from Harper College and coordinator of an areawide planning conference slated for May 20 and 21.

"Politics is one area that could be improved," Gilmer said. "I would like to see additional cooperation between elected officials. I would love to see something like a Northwest [illegible]

after time, they have succeeded in bringing millions more dollars in Build Illinois funds to DuPage County, while suburban Cook County grumbles about its meager share.

Thomas S. Rivera, president of the Greater Woodfield Convention and Visitors Bureau, believes that will change with the region's increasing importance and with the seniority of "bright stars" like Wojcik and Republican Sen. Robert Kustra of Des Plaines.

Air traffic at O'Hare is growing, prompting officials to consider expanding the world's busiest airport or adding another airfield.

development on traffic.

"Traffic probably will never be what people here 30 years ago remember," said William Grams, executive director of the conference. "We will need more mass transit."

Mass transportation for the suburbs has its promises and problems.

For the traditional suburban-living, city-working commuters, a new passenger system along the Soo Line tracks could begin operating by 1990, inaugurating commuter service to Buffalo Grove, Mundelein, Wheeling and Vernon Hills, said Thomas F. Kuehne, manager of finance and accounting for Nortran, the Des Plaines-based mass transit system.

Reverse commuters or suburb-to-suburb travelers might be able to board express bus or rail systems linking O'Hare Airport, Elk Grove Village and Oak Brook, partly along the Tri-state Expressway, said Joanne V. Schroeder, head of planning and development for the Regional Transportation Authority.

But construction of a rail line is expensive, and with the Tri-state's heavy traffic, "we're not sure a bus system would be real express," she said.

Adding commuter service is "a priority" along Lake-Cook Road, it.

Last year, an average of 90 aircraft took off and landed each hour

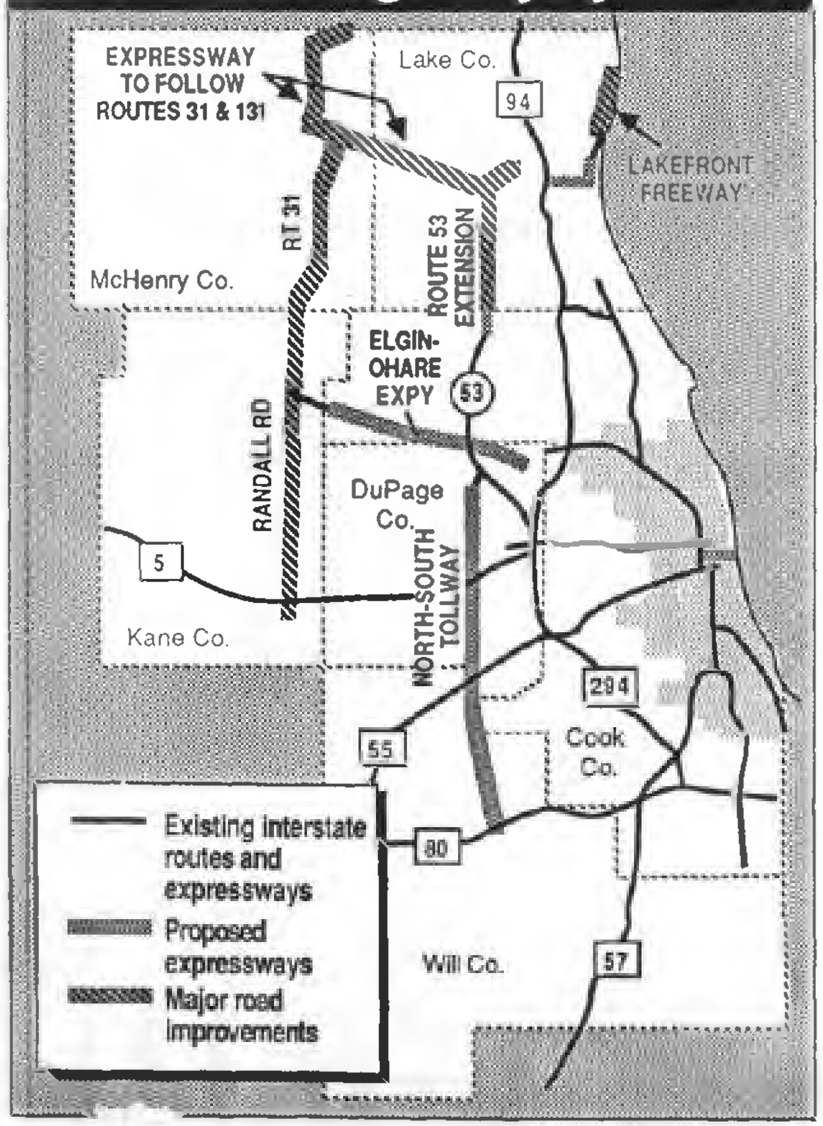
How big are the 'burbs?

The Northwest suburbs have a 1986 population of about 700,000 — which is more people than 10 major cities and five states.

Atlanta	430,000
Boston	610,000
Cleveland	540,000
Denver	511,000
Kansas City	460,000
Milwaukee	611,000
Minneapolis	360,000
New Orleans	564,000
Pittsburgh	403,000
Washington D.C.	627,000
Alaska	534,000
Delaware	633,000
North Dakota	679,000
Vermont	541,000
Wyoming	507,000

Most recent population estimates for cities and 1986 U.S. Census Bureau estimates for states.

Year 2001 highway system



Co. More than 26 million passengers left on flights from O'Hare in 1985, and that number will grow to 40 million in 1995 and to 65 million in 2020, the study concluded.

The problem: without expansion beyond what already has been undertaken, O'Hare's capacity was judged in the study to be about 45 million passengers.

How can the extra passengers be accommodated? The alternatives bring new issues for suburbs that are locked in a love-hate relationship with O'Hare.

The consultants said the Chicago area needs a new airport or must expand an airport in Aurora, Rockford, Milwaukee or Gary to handle the added traffic. The new regional airport would be one of the world's busiest, larger than airports in San Francisco and New York.

Joseph L. Schofer, director of research for the Transportation Center at Northwestern University, doubts that airlines can be convinced to make the huge investments to build a new airport or renovate an old one on Chicago's furthest outskirts.

"The cost would be exorbitant. And you'd get a thing like in Washington D.C., where big, beautiful Dulles Airport is 30 miles from the city and no one uses it," he said.

Some fear a newer airport would leave the Northwest suburbs as economically depressed as the area surrounding Midway Airport after O'Hare opened in 1955. Others disagree, saying a new airport would be more likely to serve as a replacement for Midway.

"I don't see the airlines abandoning O'Hare," Dieber said.

"The stories that it would make this area a ghost town are ridiculous. Some day, there will be a third airport," said Park Ridge Mayor Martin J. Butler, a leader in the jet noise fight.

Despite Butler's protests, Chicago officials maintain that the consultant's projections are wrong and that O'Hare can handle the city's air traffic in the foreseeable future. They said fuller planes and a decline in the number of surviving airlines will

that are getting to be a gridlock of traffic," he said. "I don't know what the quality of life will be in the year 2000 and beyond because of the noise and the sheer volume of traffic. Some of these communities could lose their viability as residential communities."

Quest for clout

Though they have more people than Boston, Denver or even the entire state of Delaware, the Northwest suburbs lack clout in the General Assembly, falling victim time and again to the better organized legislators from Chicago.

On occasion the Northwest suburban legislators create a unified front, but their resolve crumbles during volatile debates.

One well-publicized example: A bill earmarking $10 million to help rebuild Arlington Park Race Track in Arlington Heights — after threats that the revenue-producing track would move elsewhere — squeaked by the House by one vote. Seven of 26 Northwest suburban legislators voted against the racing package.

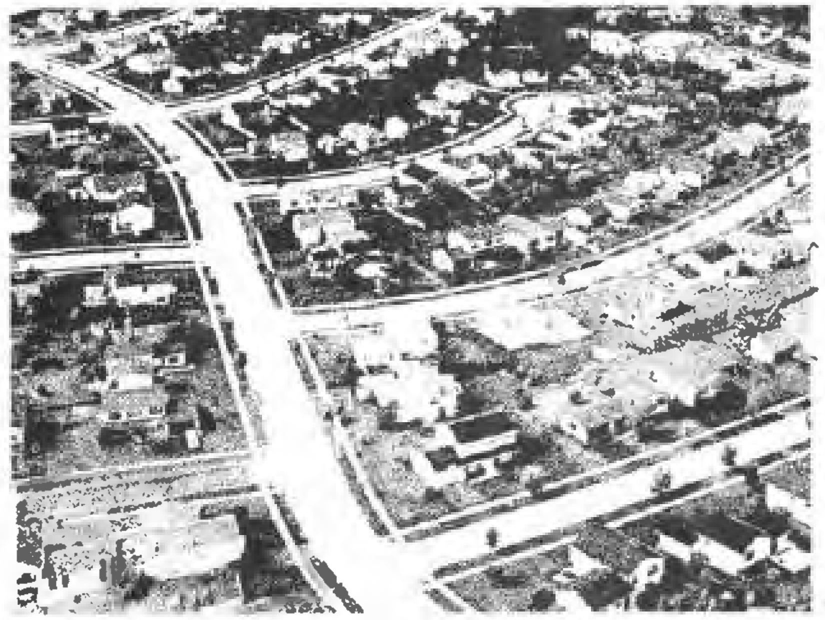
like to see additional cooperation between elected officials. I would love to see something like a Northwest caucus, where there is informal talking about issues. This area would have a lot more political clout if it was seen in Springfield as one cohesive group."

State Rep. Kathleen "Kay" Wojcik, R-Schaumburg, insisted the legislators are becoming a force to be reckoned with. Conversely, she uses the race track vote as proof.

"Clout? I think we have clout. It's a proven fact we got Arlington Park back," she said.

She defended the legislators who voted against the bill in an attempt to stop an amendment legalizing off-track betting. "It's not that we were not united; it was an anti-gambling principle," she said. "But if we had needed those votes, we would have had them."

The suburbs are home to a few powerful politicians, notably Senate Minority Leader James "Pate" Philip, a Republican from Wood Dale, and House Minority Leader Lee Daniels, an Elmhurst Republican. Time



Houses and offices will gobble open space unless towns plan ahead by preserving property for parks and nature preserves.

"bright stars" like Wojcik and Republican Sen. Robert Kustra of Des Plaines.

Others agree. "Suburban taxpayers pay anyway, but they do it without a political voice. I think that probably will change," deVise said. "Suburbanites are going to have the balance of power."

Open space dilemma

Lush green lawns, parks and fields are almost a suburban cliche. But as the Northwest suburbs become more urban, open space slowly is being lost.

"Open space is usually at the bottom of the list of metro issues. But to have a really desirable place to live, it is important," Stone said.

"As the economy shifts more employees to service fields or high-tech management, it will not be so important to be located near a railroad, but you'd better have good golf courses," she added.

The Chicago area has more golf courses per capita than any other region of the country, even though multi-family housing has replaced many fairways in the Northwest suburbs. But the Chicago area is behind other metropolitan areas when it comes to a regional park system, Stone said.

"We don't have enough sheer quantity, and the pieces don't relate very well," she said. Old parks are deteriorating and some swingsets might need to be replaced with walking trails to serve an aging population, she said.

As development creeps along the Fox River, Kane County is striving to protect a ribbon of open space and bike trails, linking historic towns like St. Charles, Geneva and Batavia.

In Libertyville Township, residents voted to spend up to $23 million to buy and preserve land for open space. The unusual move, pioneered by township supervisor F.T. "Mike" Graham, was not successfully copied in Bloomingdale Township, where a referendum to buy land as a means to halt con-

See CHALLENGE *on Page* 7

Conference sets course for 2001

To help the region achieve its potential in the 21st Century, about 500 Northwest suburban leaders will gather this month at an unprecedented conference.

Together, they will attempt to map out the shared goals of the Northwest suburbs and to develop a plan to achieve those dreams. The emphasis will be on communities working together instead of independently.

The conference, called Northwest 2001, will be held May 20 and 21 at Harper College, Algonquin and Roselle roads, Palatine.

"The intent of the conference is to foster the leadership necessary for the region to achieve its potential," said Kathleen Gilmer, economic development specialist at Harper College and the conference coordinator.

The conference is sponsored by The Daily Herald, Harper College, the Golden Corridor Council, Lyng Canteen Service Co. and the Southland Corp.

Keynote speaker will be Louis Masotti, professor of management and urban affairs at the Kellogg Graduate School of Management at Northwestern University.

Participants in panel discussions will include Northwest suburban leaders in business, education, real estate and government.

Topics will include the "Golden Corridor" campaign to lure high-tech development, the Northwest Municipal Conference and the campaign to build a regional convention center in Schaumburg.

On the second day, participants will examine regional cooperation, legislative issues, education and training, ground transportation, air transportation, community services, small-business concerns, downtown development, resource recovery and housing options.

It won't stop with discussion. Goals will be set and concrete proposals written. Follow-up meetings will be scheduled.

The registration fee is $50, which includes two continental breakfasts, two lunches, all workshop sessions, programs, exhibits and a notebook with resource information.

For more information, call 537-5420.

Appointee sees clear sky ahead

5-21-87

By Dan Rozek
Daily Herald Staff Writer

The controversy surrounding the recent appointment of Prospect Heights resident James Nickel to the Pal-Waukee Municipal Airport Commission will not stop him from working effectively there, Nickel said.

Nickel also said he will be able to work with other commission members, although all seven had asked that former commission member Christina J. Carlson be reappointed.

"I don't think it's an issue," he said. "I'm not interested in political issues."

Meanwhile Carlson, who was removed from the commission two weeks ago by Mayor John E. Gilligan in a move she called "political retribution," said she is giving up her battle to be reappointed.

Carlson said she has decided not to challenge her dismissal in court because "it's not a legal issue, it's a political issue."

Several other commission members said they were disappointed Carlson was not reappointed.

"Obviously, it's political," commission member William Rogers said. "Chris is as talented as anyone

Wheeling stands out as one of nation's best high schools

By Joan Fleischer
Daily Herald Staff Writer

5-28-87

There was fanfare. There were wild cheers. The fighting Wildcats of Wheeling High School had just been named among the country's best schools.

"Wheeling High School has been the best kept secret," said French teacher Elise Detterbeck. "The faculty is concerned about students and it's a nice blend of kids. They're not spoiled brats. It's the only school I've ever worked at where the students hold the door open for you or pick up something you've dropped."

Principal Thomas Shirley, at the helm of Wheeling High School for the past 22 years, proudly announced to students and teachers over the intercom Wednesday that the Wildcats had won an excellence in education award in the 1987 National Secondary School Recognition Program.

Nine public high schools and junior high schools and six private secondary schools in Illinois were cited Wednesday by the U.S. Department of Education for "exemplary achievements." In total, 217 secondary schools across the country were named award recipients.

Other local winners include Holmes Junior High in Wheeling, Stevenson High School in Prairie View and Fremd High School in Palatine.

"This is wonderful for the community of Wheeling," said Holmes Principal Avi Poster. "We have a junior high that sends excellent students on to the high school that makes the product even better."

Indeed, the students at Wheeling feel they're getting the last laugh on posher schools.

"We get a lot of ribbing and teasing from students at other schools like Buffalo Grove and Stevenson that we have lower-income kids and kids who don't speak English," said senior Hye Choi. "But we've known

See WHEELING *on Page 3*

WHEELING: School named one of the best

Continued from Page 1

all along that this is the best school. We have great teachers and super kids."

The federal criteria ranged from student achievement, school climate, curriculum, teacher advocacy and community support.

"We didn't look for a school that was good, we looked for extraordinary performance," said Barbara Greenberg, program specialist for the U.S. Department of Education. "A school needed to demonstrate outstanding accomplishment in light of their environment and particular circumstances."

Freddie Mitchell, a guidance counselor at Wheeling High School who helped write the school's 25-page application, said the blend of students, including 300 foreign-born students from 25 different countries, made Wheeling stand out.

"I know the job we've been doing here," Mitchell said. "It has always been a caring atmosphere with the interest of the student first and foremost. I love the mix of people here. I believe that's an important aspect of education — diversity and learning to get along with people different than you."

APPOINTEE: Clear skies for newcomer

Continued from Page 1

on the commission."

Nickel, 40, was named to the commission earlier this week to replace Carlson, a former alderman who ran unsuccessfully against Gilligan for mayor this spring.

Gilligan said he had to remove former alderman Carlson, a two-year veteran of the commission, because she is no longer a public official. He argued that since she was a public official when she was appointed, she could no longer hold the seat once she was off the city council.

The city council could have reappointed her as a private citizen, but chose instead to appoint Nickel.

Although the seven other airport commissioners wrote a letter asking that Carlson be reappointed, city aldermen voted 5-4 — with Gilligan casting the deciding vote — for Nickel.

Nickel, who holds a commercial

John Gilligan

pilot's license and owns an aircraft based at Pal-Waukee, said he has been interested in the airport for years, but only this year has had enough free time to consider serving on the commission.

"I'm interested in the airport because I'm a pilot and I do use it," he said. "As a businessman, I understand the user's aspect of it. I see other kinds of (airport) facilities, too."

Nickel said he believes the towns can improve the airport without adversely affecting either Prospect Heights or Wheeling.

"I think you can serve two masters," he said. "There is a balance. The city needs the economic engine of the airport, the sales taxes and the flowage fees. But I'm not in favor of putting noisy planes there when you can put quiet ones there."

Nickel, who applied for a commission post in April, said he saw few possible conflicts between his roles as aircraft owner and commission member, but said he would abstain from voting on major issues if there were conflicts.

Gilligan and aldermen who voted for Nickel over Carlson said they did so for several reasons.

Gilligan, while admitting he had difficulty working with Carlson, called Nickel "highly qualified" for the post.

The commission also needs Nickel's business background, Gilligan said. Nickel is a vice president of Motorola Inc. in Schaumburg.

"We need to get someone with a business background there and quit playing games, like approving contracts without caps and sitting on bills," Gilligan said. "We need a positive look, we need people who know a particular business."

Second Ward Alderman Charles Lutzow also said he voted for Nickel because of his strong qualifications.

Dawson memorial to be dedicated

By C. L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer

5-5-87

A memorial to slain Wheeling Police Officer Kenneth R. Dawson and to other village employees who died in service of the village will be dedicated at 1 p.m. May 16.

Dawson, a 16-year veteran of the Wheeling Police Department, was shot and killed Nov. 5, 1985, after he confronted two men prowling through the Cedar Run Subdivision at Route 83 and Lake-Cook Road.

Operations and maintenance employee Dennis Mikosz, a friend of Dawson's, designed the memorial patio area located south of village hall. The patio has cast concrete furniture on a concrete bed measuring 24-by-24-foot square bordered by shrubs, flowers and low voltage lights.

A pentagon-shaped monument cast of concrete and finished in meramec stone will contain a bronze plaque with Dawson's name.

A second plaque at the memorial will commemorate other village employees killed while working in the village.

The first name will be that of former Wheeling Police Chief Herbert Ray Lesch, who was accidentally struck and killed by a police car while on duty in 1935.

Wheeling Police Chief Michael Haeger said it is appropriate to set up one memorial site in the village for all employees killed in the line of duty.

"When it does happen there is a great impact on a village the size of Wheeling," he said.

Kenneth R. Dawson

5-25-87 HERALD

Parade slated to step off at 10 a.m. today

Memorial Day ceremonies in Wheeling are scheduled to begin at 10 a.m. today with a parade beginning at Kmart, 780 W. Dundee Road.

The parade will go east on Dundee Road to McHenry Road, northwest on McHenry Road to Route 83 and and proceed on Route 83to Phillip Carpenter Amvets Post 66 for the Memorial Day program.

The Disabled American Veterans Chapter 93 will begin the program by lowering the flag to half mast. Wheeling High School marching band will play the national anthem after which Amvet chaplain Dave Mohr will deliver the invocation. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, the band will play Stars & Stripes Forever.

Lt. Colonel Robert Rhoda will give the Memorial Day address.

Herald 5-20-87

PROSPECT HEIGHTS

Airport safety group

Pilots and aircraft owners at Pal-Waukee Municipal Airport are organizing as a watchdog group to promote safety and work with the new airport owners, Wheeling and Prospect Heights. The Pal-Waukee Airport Pilots' Association has about 100 members including corporate pilots, mechanics and pilots of small aircraft, said Barry Axelrod, president and pilot for Axelrod and Co. in Park Ridge. Axelrod, who also is a board member of the new association, said the informal group of 20 to 30 pilots and plane owners have been meeting for for some time.

5-20-87 Herald

Wheeling makes contribution to Vietnam memorial

The Village of Wheeling has contributed $400 toward the Illinois Vietnam Veterans' memorial in Springfield, and members of VietNow hope it will spur other contributions from the Northwest suburbs.

Trustees approved contributing $400 toward the memorial in the names of three men from Wheeling who were killed in the war or are missing in action. They are John Bienman, Michael Blanchfield and Robert Hoffman.

The names of those men will be among 2,946 killed and 103 POW/MIAs inscribed on the memorial. The $1.2 million memorial is planned for 1.96 acres in Oak Ridge Cemetery. Five black granite walls containing the names will make up the memorial.

Wheeling will get a plaque for its contribution.

Terry Toerpe, a VietNow representative and Wheeling native, has asked area villages to contribute toward the state memorial.

Wheeling's contribution will help a lot, VietNow chapter president Joe Alexander said.

"A lot of other villages will follow suit," he said.

The state has agreed to match up to $485,000 of money contributed toward the memorial, if the money is collected by June 30. So far slightly more than $400,000 has been contributed and the rest of the money is expected to come in as the memorial gets under construction.

Efforts are now being made toward raising $200,000 for a memorial maintenance fund because without that amount, needed before the cemetery will allow construction. Should contributions exceed the cost of the memorial, the extra money will go into the maintenance fund, Alexander said.

Dedication of the memorial is planned for the weekend of Nov. 13-15.

Neighbor

Wheeling

SECTION 2

Herald 5-20-87

Pilot replaces Carlson on airport panel

BY DAN ROZEK
Daily Herald Staff Writer

The Prospect Heights City Council is replacing former alderman and mayoral challenger Christina J. Carlson on the Pal-Waukee Municipal Airport Commission with a resident who is a licensed pilot.

Mayor John E. Gilligan, who removed Carlson from the commission two weeks ago, cast the deciding ballot in a 5-4 vote to appoint resident James Nickel to fill Carlson's former post.

Gilligan said he had to remove Carlson from the commission because its bylaws require a member who also is a city official to step down if he or she no longer holds office.

"We have a legal opinion that the position is open," Gilligan said when he nominated Nickel to the post.

Carlson, who ran unsuccessfully for mayor against Gilligan in the April 7 election, again called her removal politically motivated.

"It's very hard for me to come to any other interpretation. My sin was running against the mayor and losing," Carlson said.

She has charged that when Gilligan notified her of her dismissal he called her incompetent and unqualified -- a charge Gilligan denied.

"This was no offense to Chris," he said.

Gilligan said he appointed Nickel, who is a vice president of Motorola Inc. in Schaumburg, because "he's highly qualified and has a strong business background."

Aldermen who voted against Nickel's appointment cited several different reasons. Second Ward Alderman Warren Sunde said he thought an alderman should be appointed to provide "direct accountability" to residents.

First Ward Alderman Charles T. VanderVennet, who also sits on the commission, said the other seven commission members wanted Carlson to be reappointed to provide "continuity" in running the airport.

Gilligan dismissed the need for continuity and said he was philosophically opposed to [illegible] council members serve on th[illegible] commission.

Homeowner, village at odds over water bill

5-20-87 Herald

BY FREIDA GAD
Daily Herald Correspondent

A Wheeling woman who says she was mailed an outrageously large water bill blames the discrepancy on a bad water meter, while the village is claiming she has a leaky toilet.

Sandra Bunn of Colonial Homes town houses says she can't afford the $168 bill for a three-month period and thinks her old water meter was defective. Normal bills are about $80, she said.

Proving her claim may be difficult since shortly after she got the bill, a water department serviceman tore out the old meter and replaced it with a new one. Wheeling Finance Director Robert Fialkowski said the meter was replaced at Bunn's request.

"Apparently she requested the meter be replaced," he said. "I don't know why."

Fialkowski said he doubted that the meter was defective and said that the same serviceman who changed her meter found a leak in Bunn's toilet. Meters aren't checked unless the owner asks for it, and pays a $25 fee.

"A leak like that over three months could have caused the higher bill," Fialkowski said. A leak could easily add $60 to $300 in charges, he added.

Bunn disputed the theory.

"I have to put my ear close to the tank to hear anything at all," she said. "They are telling me that small leak will double my bill. I don't believe it."

Bunn, who recently declared bankruptcy, contacted Trustee Judy Abruscato for help.

Abruscato said the village board would discuss the problem, but generally, she agrees with Fialkowski.

"I've had toilet leaks that have doubled my water bill," she said. However, the board will research the problem and "come to the decision that is in the best interest of everyone concerned," she said.

Bunn has negotiated with other creditors, she said, but has not spoken with the village.

"I'd have to talk with her," Fialkowski said. "The policy is once the water passes through the meter then the homeowner is responsible. We can't afford to have people not paying their water bills."

He said Bunn can request a hearing, where a village employee is chosen as the hearing officer.

"In the past we have adjusted bills," he said, "but very honestly, I don't think we will in this case."

Village Manager Thomas Markus said it is village procedure to turn off the water when a resident does not pay the bill after a 20-day grace period.

A sign of the suburbs: 'Golden Corridor, next exit'

Herald 5-20-87

By Pete Nenni
Daily Herald Staff Writer

The Northwest suburbs are ready to do a little bragging about the rich vein of business and industry they have cultivated between O'Hare Airport and Elgin.

The area has been known locally for years as the Golden Corridor, and officials have announced plans to emblazon that unofficial nickname on signs along the Northwest Tollway to help identify and market the region to prospective developers.

Although no plans have been finalized, the Illinois State Toll Highway Authority has given initial approval to a proposal calling for six signs to be erected along the tollway, bearing the words "Illinois Golden Corridor/Technology and Commerce."

Barbara Hayskar, Golden Corridor project supervisor, said her group has asked for signs to be placed westbound at the Des Plaines Oasis, the Route 53 exit and near the Route 25 exit.

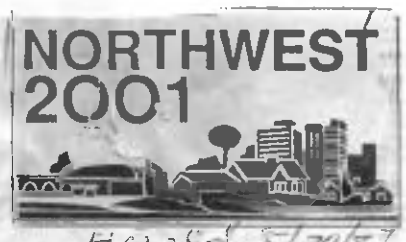
Signs would be placed along the tollway's eastbound lanes near the Route 31 exit, at Roselle Road and at Arlington Heights Road.

"We'd like to have people realize we are a corridor that has a lot of potential as far as major business and commercial enterprises," Hayskar said. "It's a very real name for the area."

The signs are also designed to show a regional involvement and portray the Golden Corridor as a strong high-tech area rivaling the famous Silicon Valley south of San Fransisco and the I-28 corridor near Boston, Hayskar added.

She said she will be meeting soon with officials from the tollway and the Illinois Department of Commerce and Community Affairs to work out funding and other details of the plan.

Similar signs identifying the East-West Tollway Corridor were put up in DuPageCounty last fall.



Herald 5/20/87

It's the first day of 2001 in suburbia

By Diane Dungey
Daily Herald Staff Writer

A two-day conference to prompt civic leaders to "confront the challenge" of planning for the growth and development of the Northwest suburbs will begin today at Harper College in Palatine.

The Northwest 2001 conference, planned for nearly a year, is aimed at encouraging government, education and business leaders to work cooperatively for a plan to propel the Northwest suburbs into the 21st century.

"It's a very constructive approach to a diverse community," said Dr. Louis Masotti, a professor at Northwestern University's Kellogg Graduate School of Management and keynote speaker of the conference.

Because the region is fractured by many municipal boundaries, there has been little incentive to share in planning for the future, he said.

"The area doesn't have a clear identity and it does have some clear jurisdictional concerns. There isn't a decision-making structure. There is some selfishness, and that has to be addressed," Masotti said. "Harper College and the business community have played a major role in beginning to confront the challenge."

Planning together will allow

See 2001 on Page 3

2001: Northwest suburbs' planning oddysey

Continued from Page 1

Northwest suburban towns to determine where new homes, businesses, parks and recreational areas will go and how resources should be allocated for roads and public utilities, he said.

"Those are terribly important issues for a community to face up to. Managed growth is a way to have your cake and eat it, too," he said.

On the first day of the conference, panels of community leaders will highlight the advantages that have primed the suburbs for growth and development. Participants also will discuss current cooperative efforts involving towns, townships, businesses and schools.

In his keynote address, Masotti will discuss management of growth in the Northwest suburbs.

Participants also will be asked to submit proposals they believe would allow the Northwest suburbs to meet their goals for the future. The ideas will be grouped by category and used as a basis for sessions Thursday afternoon in which the participants will attempt to rank the proposed activities.

Those proposed actions, in turn, will be the subject of follow-up workshops that will be scheduled during this summer and fall.

"It's modeled after the town meeting. They'll be able to share their views and identify priorities of the future," said conference coordinator Kathleen Gilmer.

"The workshops will develop specific proposals, and task forces will oversee implementing the proposals," she said.

Said Masotti: "They are structuring the conference in a way to have imaginative solutions. They want a process for continual monitoring of the community."

Also on Thursday, participants will attend briefings dealing with Northwest suburban community services, schools, businesses and housing. Regional cooperation, transportation, legislative issues and downtown development also will be discussed.

The conference is sponsored by Harper College, the Daily Herald, the Golden Corridor Council, Lyng Canteen Service Co. and Southland Corp.

Highlights of Northwest 2001

Wednesday

- Opening address by Jay Hedges, head of Illinois Department of Commerce.
- Discussions about Northwest suburban assets and challenges.
- Keynote speech by urbanologist Louis Masotti.
- Presentation on efforts at regional cooperation.

Thursday

- Sessions will examine key issues and challenges facing Northwest suburbs.
- Participants will set priorities and draw plans to achieve goals.

Herald 5-20-87

Pilots, plane owners form 'watchdog' group

By C. L. Waller
and Dan Rozek
Daily Herald staff writers

Pilots and aircraft owners at Pal-Waukee Municipal Airport have organized to promote safety and serve as a "watchdog" over the new airport owners, Wheeling and Prospect Heights.

The Pal-Waukee Airport Pilots' Association (PAPA) has about 100 members including corporate pilots, mechanics and pilots of small aircraft, said Barry Axelrod, president and pilot for Axelrod and Co. in Park Ridge.

Axelrod, who also is a board member of the new association, said the informal group of 20 to 30 pilots and plane owners have been holding informal breakfast meetings for some time.

He said they decided to organize when Prospect Heights and Wheeling assured them the airport was here to stay after they bought it from George Priester.

"In the context of the airport going from private ownership to public ownership we thought it was a good idea to get in touch with pilots and aircraft owners," he said.

Airport commission Chairman Ronald C. Sowatzke said the pilots' association could improve communication between pilots, commission members and Priester Aviation, which provides fuel and maintenance services at the airport.

"It's a great idea to get a dialogue going," Sowatzke said. But he added, "Neither one (of the groups) should exert pressure to get only their views imposed."

Axelrod said the group will educate pilots about new equipment and new procedures and stress safety.

"We don't think Pal-Waukee is dangerous at all. All we want to do is make sure everyone is learning," he said.

Commission member Charles T. VanderVennet said a pilots' association could play a valuable role in advising the commission.

Homeowner, village at odds over water bill

By Freida Gad
Daily Herald Correspondent

A Wheeling woman who says she was mailed an outrageously large water bill blames the discrepancy on a bad water meter, while the village is claiming she has a leaky toilet.

Sandra Bunn of Colonial Homes town houses says she can't afford the $168 bill for a three-month period and thinks her old water meter was defective. Normal bills are about $80, she said.

Proving her claim may be difficult since shortly after she got the bill, a water department serviceman tore out the old meter and replaced it with a new one. Wheeling Finance Director Robert Fialkowski said the meter was replaced at Bunn's request.

"Apparently she requested the meter be replaced," he said. "I don't know why."

Fialkowski said he doubted that the meter was defective and said that the same serviceman who changed her meter found a leak in Bunn's toilet. Meters aren't checked unless the owner asks for it, and pays a $25 fee.

"A leak like that over three months could have caused the higher bill," Fialkowski said. A leak could easily add $60 to $300 in charges, he added.

Bunn disputed the theory.

"I have to put my ear close to the tank to hear anything at all," she said. "They are telling me that small leak will double my bill. I don't believe it."

Bunn, who recently declared bankruptcy, contacted Trustee Judy Abruscato for help.

Abruscato said the village board would discuss the problem, but generally, she agrees with Fialkowski.

"I've had toilet leaks that have doubled my water bill," she said. However, the board will research the problem and "come to the decision that is in the best interest of everyone concerned," she said.

Bunn has negotiated with other creditors, she said, but has not spoken with the village.

"I'd have to talk with her," Fialkowski said. "The policy is once the water passes through the meter then the homeowner is responsible. We can't afford to have people not paying their water bills."

He said Bunn can request a hearing, where a village employee is chosen as the hearing officer.

"In the past we have adjusted bills," he said, "but very honestly, I don't think we will in this case."

Village Manager Thomas Markus said it is village procedure to turn off the water when a resident does not pay the bill after a 20-day grace period.

HERALD 5-20-87

Daily Herald
FOUNDED 1872

STUART R. PADDOCK JR., *Chairman and Publisher*
ROBERT Y. PADDOCK, *Vice Chairman*
DANIEL F. BAUMANN, *President and Editor*
DOUGLAS K. RAY, *Vice President/Executive Editor*
GEROULD W. KERN, *Managing Editor*

"Our aim: To fear God, tell the truth and make money." H.C. PADDOCK 1852-1935

5-10-87

EDITORIALS

Residency issue lingered too long

Trustees of the Wheeling Township Rural Fire Protection District say that Arlington Heights Village President James T. Ryan tried to engineer their removal from office just after they opted to hire a less expensive attorney for the district's legal work.

In January, just two days after the trustees had told Ryan he had been dropped from the nearly $17,000 a year job as the board's legal counsel, Ryan asked Cook County Board President George Dunne to appoint three new trustees.

Ryan told Dunne that James Winstead, Lou Pintacura and Lance Hooper weren't eligible to be trustees because they didn't live in the district. Although all of them had once lived within the tiny fire district's borders, they don't anymore because the areas where they live, which had been unicorporated Cook County, have been annexed by nearby municipalities.

The lack of residency, Ryan charged, disqualified Winstead, Pintacura and Hooper from being trustees.

The trustees should have known they were supposed to live in the fire protection district to serve on its board. Ryan was correct to point out that requirement.

But at least one of the trustees had not lived in the district for possibly five years. As the board's legal counsel, Ryan should have dealt with that residency question long before.

4 firms win tax breaks; but 1 denied

By C. L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Wheeling village trustees Monday night approved property tax breaks for four manufacturers moving into the Palwaukee Business Center, but denied another request because the firm already had built a facility there.

Trustees approved 12-year tax breaks for Faucet Queens Inc. of Chicago, Bridgestone Co. of Glenview, John Remke Inc. of Skokie, and Fire Control Inc. of Prospect Heights, which all plan to move their operations to Wheeling.

The exemption gives property tax reductions of 60 percent for eight years and 25 percent for the next four years. The tax breaks are designed to keep businesses from moving to Lake or DuPage counties, where property taxes are lower than in Cook County.

Manufacturers must apply for the tax break first with the Cook County Assessor's office and then with the village. Once the village gives its approval, county approval usually follows.

Trustees denied a property tax break for Litho-Tronics Inc. of Skokie, because it already had constructed a building in the Palwaukee Business Center.

The fact that the company exists in Wheeling negates the intent of the exemption, which is to attract businesses to the area, Village President Sheila Shultz said. "As harsh as it may sound, we have to go back to the original intent of the exemption," she said.

Village officials also said they preferred a manufacturer to occupy its entire building, while Litho-Tronics occupies 50 percent of its the building. Litho-Tronics president Dan Ballard said he planned to lease to other manufacturers any portions of the building that Litho-Tronics didn't use.

Ballard said his company would have saved $6,000 per year had the village granted the tax exemption.

Herald 5-10-87

THE WEEK AHEAD

Plan panel to consider zoning change

The top meeting

Who: Wheeling Plan Commission

Where: Wheeling Village Hall, 255 W. Dundee Road

When: 7:30 p.m. Thursday

Members of the Wheeling Plan Commission are scheduled to review plans and a zoning change for a day-care center moving into the former Carl Sandburg school at 3316 Schoenbeck Road.

Horizons Children's Center, which has been leasing Nathaniel Hawthorne School at 200 Glendale Ave., plans on using two-thirds of the Sandburg building for day care and leasing the other portion to a not-for-profit organization.

Horizons officials said they wanted to move the day-care service to Sandburg school because it is larger, located in a more public area and only one story tall. Plus, Wheeling Township Elementary District 21, which owns both school buildings, wants to sell Hawthorne School.

Sunnie Kiddies Day Care and Arlyn School were formerly in the Sandburg building as tenants of the school district. The building has been empty since last summer. Horizons is paying $700,000 for the former school over 11 years.

Horizons has operated for 13 years, first in Northbrook and then in Wheeling.

With the new location, Executive Director Suzan Sclove said Horizons also will offer day care for up to 12 infants. Horizons now has about 100 children with 70 percent paying tuition and 30 percent on scholarship.

The maximum number of students the day care would accept at the former Sandburg building is 200.

POLICE NOTEBOOK

Herald 5-19-87

Gas main ruptured on Wheeling Road

WHEELING — A gas main ruptured Monday at Wheeling and Exchange roads, in Wheeling, and traffic was blocked off in the 600 block of Wheeling Road. Firefighters blocked the traffic for an hour and 15 minutes in order to secure the area. The line was punctured when the back hoe of a road construction vehicle struck the main at about 1:15 p.m., said Wheeling Fire Lt. Jim Johnson. The area was cleared when firefighters arrived. No houses in the area were evacuated and there were no injuries, said Johnson. Northern Illinois Gas Company cut off the supply of gas in order to repair the main.

Herald 5-16-87

Parade will commemorate Memorial Day

A Memorial Day parade including U.S. Marine and Air Force color guards, clowns and the Wheeling High School band begins 10 a.m. May 25, followed by a solemn ceremony at Amvets Phillip Carpenter Post 66.

The parade will begin at K mart, 780 W. Dundee Road, and proceed east on Dundee Road to McHenry Road. Participants will then go northwest on McHenry Road to Route 83 and proceed on Route 83 to the Amvets post.

The program begins with lowering of the flag to half mast by Disabled Veterans Salt Creek Chapter 93. Wheeling High School will play the national anthem and Amvet chaplain Dave Mohr will give the invocation.

In memoriam

5-16-87 Herald

Wheeling patrolman Tim Hillyer strums "Amazing Grace" at the close of dedication ceremonies honoring slain Wheeling policeman Kenneth Dawson. The memorial area behind Wheeling Village Hall was dedicated Friday in honor of Dawson, who died in 1985, and all other village employees who die in the line of duty. Village President Sheila Schultz and Police Chief Michael Haeger listen respectfully.

Daily Herald Photo/Rich Chapman

5-7-87 countryside

Village to honor slain officers in May 15 ceremony

Wheeling village officials have dedicated May 15 as Police Officers' Memorial Day to honor past officers who were killed in the line of duty.

The day will feature a ceremony at 1 p.m. behind village hall to honor slain officer Kenneth R. Dawson, who was shot and killed in the line of duty on Nov. 5, 1985.

The ceremony will also include a brief police department awards ceremony and a reception.

The village will also honor the memory of former police chief Ray Lesch, who was killed in the line of duty back in 1931.

In saluting past officers killed in the line of duty, the village allocated $5,000 to build a memorial south of the main municipal building at 255 W. Dundee Road. There, a plaque with the names of officers slain in the line of duty will be affixed to a stone mantle.

Wheeling Police Chief Michael Haeger said this is the first formal tribute for slain Wheeling officers, and he hopes the ceremony will call attention to the sacrifice officers have made in the name of upholding public safety.

In addition to the local memorial service, Haeger has worked with other law enforcement officials for recognition of slain officers throughout the state. This year the state has set aside May 14 for a state memorial to slain officers.

EDITORIALS

5-7-87 countryside

A Wheeling problem

The operators of a local day care center in danger of being shut down went before the Wheeling village board last week seeking trustees' help in its efforts to stay open.

Unfortunately, they got nowhere with the board.

Sunnie Kiddies Day Care Center, which serves some 200 Wheeling families, recently moved from Wheeling to a vacant school building in Prospect Heights. The center now leases the building, but wants to purchase it from Prospect Heights School District 23.

Before the sale can go through, however, the city of Prospect Heights must approve rezoning of the property — and city officials say they won't do so until Sunnie Kiddies puts in a second driveway to reduce the flow of the traffic in and around the school.

That's where Wheeling comes in.

The school is bordered on three sides by Wheeling, and Sunnie Kiddies officials would to put the second driveway on school property that's located in Wheeling. But the village won't approve the driveway because they say the extra access would cause traffic problems in the residential area near the school.

Furthermore, village officials say, this is a Prospect Heights problem, not a Wheeling problem, because the center isn't located in town.

But the fact that hundreds of Wheeling families rely on Sunnie Kiddies for day care and the fact that the center is on the Wheeling border makes this a Wheeling problem that village officials should attempt to resolve.

Instead of just washing their hands of this issue, Wheeling trustees have an obligation to get involved and help Sunnie Kiddies find a way to stay open. If Prospect Heights and Wheeling can work together to purchase Pal-Waukee Airport, there must be some way officials from the two municipalities can hammer out an agreement on this issue that will satisfy the needs of both towns and Sunnie Kiddies.

Life 5-7-87

Sewers top '87 agenda

WHEELING — Continuation of a $4 million sewer rehabilitation program and construction of new sidewalks are among the items scheduled in this year's capital improvement program for the village.

The sewer rehabilitation, which is being 70 percent funded by the federal government, is expected to be completed this year.

The project is aimed at eliminating the infiltration of ground water into the sewer pipes and bringing the village into compliance with Metropolitan Sanitary District standards.

The village is also planning to construct three new sidewalks this year. They will be built on the north side of Dundee Road from Route 83 to Cedar Drive; on the west side of Wheeling Avenue from Highland north to the existing walk; and on the west side of Wheeling Avenue, north and south of Center Street.

Two flood control projects may also begin this year.

The village is planning to construct a diversionary channel from the Soo line to the Des Plaines River. In heavy rainfall the channel will divert water to the Des Plaines instead of having it go through the Wheeling Drainage Ditch, which does not have the capacity to hold the rain water and thus overflows.

The new channel is expected to reduce flooding in basements and streets. The project is awaiting federal funding.

Another flood control project that may begin this year is construction of a storm water outfall sewer from the Lakeside Village area to Schoenbeck Road. The outfall sewer is also expected to help reduce flooding in the village.

Herald 5-8-87

Daily

[redacted]

says. Carlson, who lost to Gilligan April 7 and had two years left on her airport commission term although she was off the city council, called the action "political retribution" and said she won't give up without a fight.

support. Herald 5-8-87

PROSPECT HEIGHTS

Mayoral foe dumped

Prospect Heights Mayor Jack Gilligan has dumped former alderman and mayoral opponent Christina J. Carlson from the Pal-Waukee Airport Commission, calling her "incompetent and unqualified," Carlson

countryside

Wheeling lends moral support to flood project

By Bob Kehoe

Wheeling trustees Monday lent their moral support to a local flood control plan that would give minor relief to certain unpopulated areas in the village. But they stopped short of getting financially involved in the project.

In adopting a resolution supporting the 540-acre Lake Arlington project, village officials made it clear that while they support flood control efforts, they didn't want to help finance a project that would have no dramatic impact on Wheeling residents.

Trustees took the action after Prospect Heights officials appeared before the board last week and asked Wheeling to join with them in getting financially involved in the project.

The project, which was designed by Arlington Heights officials, calls for building a huge reservoir to retain stormwater during peak periods and restrict water flows to downstream communities to the north.

TWO PROSPECT HEIGHTS aldermen who met with village trustees asked that Wheeling kick in a portion of the $800,000 Prospect Heights will contribute to enlarge the flood control reservoir and thereby give greater relief to both downstream communities.

Wheeling Community Development Director Michael Klitzke, however, questioned just how much of a benefit the project would be to the village.

Klitzke said the Lake Arlington project would not impact any areas in the village that experience flooding problems. Rather, he said, it would reduce storm water runoff in areas that are not now populated.

In total, he said the Lake Arlington project would provide significant relief to only about 30 acres of undeveloped land in Wheeling.

THAT LAND, KLITZKE said, is east of the Woodland Creek subdivision near Wheeling Road and north of Foster Avenue.

A developer now owns that property, Klitzke said, adding that plans for building on the site have been dormant for three or four years now.

Klitzke refuted claims from Prospect Heights Alderman Edward Rotchford that Wheeling only wants the benefits from the Lake Arlington project without paying for them.

"The benefits we're getting aren't the type we're looking for. We're concentrating our efforts on areas that flood," Klitzke said.

The Lake Arlington project, once completed, is designed to lessen flooding damage from stormwater runoff in the McDonald Creek Watershed through the use of a reservoir system that will restrict water flows to downstream communities during storms.

But while Klitzke concedes the project will significantly reduce downstream flows, it will not mean the difference between whether residential areas in Wheeling flood or not — as he said it will in Prospect Heights.

Klitzke said Wheeling does have flooding problems in certain populated areas along the Des Plaines River and that the village has committed available resources to stop that problem.

To reduce water flows and stop flooding in these areas, he said, the village is seeking federal funds to build a diversionary channel to alleviate the problems.

Housing boom continues; prices up 8% in BG, 29% in Wheeling

Last spring marked the beginning of the greatest real estate boom in nearly a decade. This dramatic surge in home buying and selling activity has continued through spring of this year, resulting in a shortage of both new and existing homes and an appreciation of home values throughout the metropolitan Chicago area.

According to Jeff Stone, branch sales manager of Coldwell Banker Real Estate-Chicago/Milwaukee's Buffalo Grove office, Buffalo Grove home sale prices have increased approximately 8 percent over the past year. The average home sale price in this market is now $112,183, compared to $103,750 at the end of February last year.

Similarly, the average home sale price in Wheeling at the end of February, 1987 was $82,727, up 29 percent over the $64,064 average sale price posted at the end of February, 1986.

Paul Jacobson, executive vice president of Coldwell Banker, attributes the rise in Chicagoland home values to increased consumer demand for housing, sparked by low home mortgage interest rates and the new tax reform laws, which have singled out real estate as one of the few tax deductions still allowed. As a result, a greater number of upgraders to higher-valued homes have entered the marketplace.

"Since mortgage interest is still tax deductible," Jacobson said, "people are asking themselves, 'Why not use the equity on our present house and get that dream home now?' Such upgraders now account for more than half of all residential real estate sales, upgrading by an average of one-third to one-half the values of their present homes."

Jacobson predicts further appreciation of Chicago-area home values and, despite fluctuating home mortgage interest rates, continued sound real estate activity throughout the remainder of 1987.

5-7-87

Lifl 5-8-87

Village eyes tax lure to attract businesses

WHEELING — The village is considering giving tax breaks to five companies.

The Village Board last week held a public hearing on the companies' requests for a 6B tax exemption. The exemption would reduce the firms' property tax assessment level to 16 percent for eight years and then to 30 percent for an additional four years.

In order to get the 6B exemption, the companies will have to have not only the approval of the village but also Cook County. Unless exemptions are granted, industrial property in the county is assessed at 40 percent of market value.

One company, Litho-Tronics, Inc., does not appear to meet the requirements of a village ordinance concerning 6B exemptions. That ordinance stipulates that in order to be given the tax break, a company must occupy 75 percent of the building in which it resides.

Litho-Tronics, now located in Skokie, has five employees and would initially only occupy half of the building it would own in the Pal-Waukee Business Center. The other half would be used by tenants although a Litho-Tronics representative said the company plans to expand into the other parts of the building eventually.

Litho-Tronics manufactures, rebuilds and sells sophisticated components that are attached to printers and other equipment.

The other companies seeking the 6B exemption are:

• Faucet Queens Inc., a family-owned company located in Chicago that wants to relocate to the Pal-Wukee Business Center. The company expects to employ 19 people in Wheeling.

Please turn to page 3

Tax lures

Continued from page 1

• The Bridgestone Co., Inc., a family-owned firm now located in Glenview that wants to move to the Pal-Waukee Business Center. The company, which manufactures machine screws, has seven employees.

• John Remke, Inc., manufacturers of screw machine products. The company is now located in several buildings in Skokie and wants to relocate to the Pal-Waukee Business center in one 13,750-square-foot building.

• Fire Control, Inc., manufacturers of fire sprinklers. The company has already moved here from Prospect Heights and occupies a 17,000-square-foot building off Wolf Road between Willow and Camp McDonald roads.

The 6B exemption was approved by the County Board in order to retain Cook County businesses and attract new businesses. While industrial property is normally assessed at 40 percent of market value in Cook County, the assessment level in all other counties is 33⅓ percent.

Firms that are not given approval for a 6B exemption by Wheeling will still qualify for a 6A exemption under which assessment levels would be reduced to 30 percent for eight years. A 6A exemption requires only county approval.

The Village Baord is expected to make a decision on the requests for the property tax exemption at its May 18th meeting.

PUBLIC SPEAKING

• "Gilligan told me (Wednesday) I was incompetent, inexperienced, and not qualified to be a commissioner. I won't take this lying down. I would like to know why I'm not qualified." — Pal-Waukee Airport Commission member Christina J. Carlson, explaining that she feels her dismissal from the commission by Prospect Height mayor Jack Gilligan is political retribution because she was his mayoral opponent in this April's election.

Herald 5-13-87

Herald 5-13-87

PUBLIC SPEAKING

• "There's considerable pressure from our management to move our planes out of Pal-Waukee." H. Paul Harms, flight operations director for Chicago & North Western Ry., explaining that the once busiest private airport has been losing corporate business because of maintenance problems and high fuel prices.

Herald 5-8-87

Memorial for Dawson May 15

A dedication ceremony for a Wheeling village employee memorial will be held at 1 p.m. May 15 south of village hall, 255 W. Dundee Road. The memorial will be dedicated in the name of Wheeling police officer Kenneth R. Dawson, who was shot and killed in the line of duty on Nov. 5, 1985.

Northwest 2001

Today and Thursday at William Rainey Harper College in Palatine more than 300 people will meet to discuss the prospects and problems Northwest suburban communities face as they prepare to enter the 21st century. We salute Harper College for hosting Northwest 2001.

Together the several dozen villages and cities that make up the Northwest suburbs have grown into a new metropolis as large as Milwaukee or Indianapolis.

This vital area is a city of high-quality lifestyles, homes, shopping, offices and high-tech industry.

Until now, politics and history have conspired to keep the Northwest suburbs from reaching its full potential. Those attending the Northwest 2001 conference hope to discover how to dissolve the barriers that could impede this area's progress.

The conference will tackle do-or-die issues ranging from housing options and regional cooperation to air transportation, ground transportation and legislative issues.

If business and civic leaders work together on issues such as traffic congestion, solid waste disposal, flood control and water shortages the region, as well as individual communities, will benefit.

It is our hope that Northwest 2001 will be the precursor of a move by communities in the Northwest suburbs to work more closely to solve their interrelated problems — and to realize that they no longer can successfully act exclusively on an independent community level.

Paddock Publications, Inc.

ROBERT F. DONAHUE, *Vice President/Treasurer*
MARGIE S. FLANDERS, *Vice President/Assistant Treasurer*
JOHN KARAMBELAS, *Vice President/Circulation*
WILLIAM F. SCHOEPKE, *Vice President/Production*
JAMES F. WALSH, *Vice President/Advertising*

An independent newspaper published each morning by Paddock Publications Inc., 217 W. Campbell St., P.O. Box 280, Arlington Heights, Ill. 60006, 312-870-3600

Herald 5-20-87

5-7-87 Herald

Gilligan agrees to pay airport bill

BY DAN ROZEK
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Prospect Heights Mayor John E. Gilligan withdrew his veto of a $20,000 payment owed by the Pal-Waukee Municipal Airport Commission and agreed to pay the bill for management services.

But Gilligan said he still is not happy that the bill, from Airport Corporation of America, was presented to city officials without an invoice listing the duties performed by the company.

The New Jersey-based company is working as a management consultant, advising Prospect Heights and Wheeling on operations at the airport.

"I'm not at all satisfied this bill was submitted properly, but I'll withdraw my veto," Gilligan said. "I'll withdraw it so (ACA) can get some money from us, but it's the last time."

Gilligan vetoed the payment two weeks ago because he wanted to see invoices showing what services the consulting firm had performed for the airport. The invoices were needed to give "some accounting" of how the money was being spent.

Prospect Heights aldermen earlier approved the $20,000 payment without checking the invoices as a show of good faith toward ACA, which is owed about $60,000 for its airport consulting work.

The airport commission reviewed the invoices originally and had recommended that the city council and the Wheeling Village Board pay the $20,000 installment.

After Gilligan vetoed the payment, the city council received a list of ACA's expenses, although that was not a formal accounting of the work the firm had done.

Gilligan agreed to approve the payment after reviewing the list, but said in the future he still wants to see a better accounting of how the money is spent.

"We can't spend money without any accounting of it," he said.

The airport commission, the city council and Wheeling Village Board are scheduled to meet next week to discuss payment of bills and other airport issues.

Herald 5

Park development concerns board

BY ED FELKER
Daily Herald Correspondent

Developing present park sites and reviewing personnel policies are issues that Wheeling Park District board President Anthony Abruscato says the board should study in the coming year.

Abruscato was re-elected to a third term as board president and Commissioner James Gallagher was selected vice-president.

Gallagher was elected to the board in April after filling a vacancy for two years.

Commissioner Edward Klocke voted against Abruscato and Gallagher, but declined to say why. The other commmissioners, Julia Robberson and Donald Lark, were absent.

Abruscato said his plans for the coming year include instituting an annual review of the board's personnel policy, and "possibly redefining the roles of the committees of the board."

He added that he wanted to continue strengthening the board's relationships with the Wheeling Historical Society and the Capital Needs Reassessment Advisory Committee.

Abruscato said the park district should develop the land it already has.

"We're getting on track and we need to continue to build on what we've learned and build upon what we've done," he said.

He pointed to the Valley Stream tot lot, which will get $17,000 in playground equipment. Development of the Last Four Acre Park is starting, with three architects competing for the job expected to be interviewed within two weeks.

Abruscato asked park district Manager Karop Bavougian to begin preparing a park conditions report for the board. Maintenance and the safety of the equipment in the parks are to be the main focus of the review, Abruscato said.

"I want to make sure everything is as it should be as we start to begin the summer," he said.

Board committee assignments also were made. Julia Robberson will chair the building and grounds committee with member Donald Lark. Other assignments were: finance committee, James Gallagher, chairman, Julia Robberson, member; programs and facilities committee, Edward Klocke, chairman, James Gallagher, member; intergovernmental and community relations committee, Donald Lark, chairman, Edward Klocke, member.

Abruscato also appointed Gallagher as liaison to the Capital Needs Reassessment Advisory Committee and reappointed Lark, Robberson and himself for another year as liaisons to the Wheeling Historical Society.

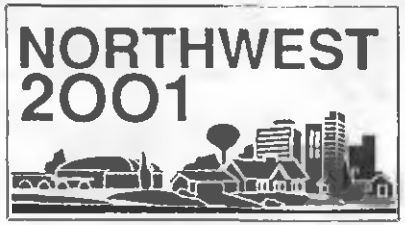
Can suburbs pull together for 2001?

By Diane Dungey
Daily Herald Staff Writer

The Northwest suburbs should band together to form a regional authority "with some teeth to it" to oversee future development in the area, urbanologist Louis Masotti said Wednesday at an unprecedented suburban conference on planning for the 21st Century.

But eliminating local governments in favor of a full-fledged regional administration "isn't a viable solution," said Masotti, a professor at Northwestern University's Kellogg Graduate School of Management.

"This is a geographic area that is



interdependent. What I'm suggesting is some decision-making process that would be binding. Otherwise, in the year 2001, you're going to wake up and not like what you see," he said.

Masotti praised the Northwest Municipal Conference, an organization of 38 towns and townships, but said the group "is so informal, it can only suggest. It can't really act."

He suggested a professionally managed regional authority that could require studies of the impact of various suburban projects and head off inappropriate developments.

The conference at Harper College in Palatine, attended by about 300 government and business leaders, is aimed at gathering ideas for the future and organizing workshops based on those ideas and proposed actions.

"We need to raise awareness of the resources we have and see what issues need to be considered and action taken to build a bright future," said Kris Howard, chairman of Harper's board of trustees.

Masotti, keynote speaker at the two-day conference, said Minneapolis and St. Paul have shared property and sales taxes from major commercial and business developments for more than a decade.

"They said, 'If something impacts both of us, we will negotiate how much each of us gets.' I happen to think it's an equitable solution," he said. "It changes the whole game of development. A community might not want a development if they don't get a disproportionate amount of benefit."

Masotti said the Northwest suburbs have few cultural centers and too much office space — developments that would contribute to in-

See COALITION on Page 12

Louis Masotti

office space? Quality of jobs? Quan-

Planners: map area's future carefully as growth declines

By Theresa Norton
Daily Herald Staff Writer

The Northwest suburbs offer a receptive, attractive environment to new businesses, but the towns must protect and enhance their assets as they enter the 21st century, business and community leaders told a regional planning conference Wednesday.

Business leaders said their companies moved into the so-called Golden Corridor because of its dependable labor force, transportation network, good schools, affordable housing and vacant land.

At the same time, the leaders urged communities to anticipate future problems caused as the area grows older and development slows down.

Two five-person panels examined "Today's Advantages" and "Tomorrow's Resources" during the Northwest 2001 regional planning conference at Harper College in Palatine. Thursday's sessions are expected to develop concrete goals and priorities for the next 14 years.

"Many communities in this area are now passing out of the active development phase into the maturing phase," said David K. Hill Jr., president of Kimball Hill Inc., a major housing developer. "The maturing process requires careful planning... You must look at it as the chance to balance out the overall mix of the communities."

Allan Hamilton, president of Hamilton Partnerships development company, agreed. "We will not see the pace of development over the next 10 years that we have seen over the past 10 to 15 years," he said.

The slower pace will give officials the chance to take stock of their needs and be more selective in future development, Hamilton said.

Arlington Heights Village President James T. Ryan said the region must brace for an expected 40-percent increase in traffic over the next decade, an aging population and infrastructure, and a service economy that is more susceptible to downswings.

"It will be very, very difficult for our children and our children's children to achieve the same standards of living that we grew up with," Ryan said.

While the area already has a host of hotels, restaurants, stores and nightclubs, communities now must work to improve the quality of life, said Thomas Rivera, president of the Greater Woodfield Convention and Visitors Bureau.

"If there is any shortcoming in the year 2001, it is our dedication to the arts,'" he said. "That is being changed, slowly but surely."

Discussing the region's future are, from left, Robert Creek, James Lancaster, Stanley Klyber, Allan Hamilton, Edmund Vesely and moderator Bill Kurtis.

Daily Herald Photo/Dave Tenge

COALITION: Can suburban leaders get it together?

Continued from Page 1

creased traffic congestion if the office vacancy rate, now about 35 percent, dropped.

"If that vacancy is filled, overcrowding will be exacerbated. The glut of office space may be a blessing in disguise," he said. "You have to think of quality of life. What is the measure of success? Square feet of office space? Quality of jobs? Quality of schools?"

In an informal session, participants at the conference said the most serious problems facing the Northwest suburbs are traffic congestion and a lack of political cohesiveness in the General Assembly and in Congress.

"The Northwest suburbs come up short — short on influence, short on benefits, short on everything except the taxes we pay. What we really need to do is find a new way to develop consensus among ourselves," said Daniel E. Baumann, president and editor of the Daily Herald and a panelist at the Northwest 2001 conference.

A task force that met prior to the conference proposed a network of monorail trains to help reduce traffic jams. The task force suggested trains running above major highways to link large shopping areas, a convention center, the Rosemont Horizon and O'Hare Airport. Each town would clear land for a 500-car parking area linked to the monorail system.

The task force also suggested a Northwest caucus of political leaders, a public and private partnership to develop funding for major recreational and economic developments, and a waste recycling center to produce steam, electricity and byproducts that could be used in construction.

The group foresaw a major museum called the Center for Urban Development that would parallel Chicago's Museum of Science and Industry. A regional historical society could restore historic buildings and develop special districts for preservation and revitalization, the task force suggested.

Herald 5-20-87

Gilligan boots Carlson from Pal-Waukee commission

By Freida Gad
and C.L. Waller
Daily Herald staff writers

Prospect Heights Mayor Jack Gilligan has dumped former alderman and mayoral opponent Christina J. Carlson from the Pal-Waukee Airport Commission, reportedly calling her "incompetent and unqualified," Carlson said.

Carlson, who lost to Gilligan April 7 and had two years left on her airport commission term although she was off the city council, called the action "political retribution" and said she won't give up without a fight.

Gilligan has notified the Prospect Heights City Council that he will appoint Jim Nichel, a vice president of Motorola Inc. and a licensed pilot, to replace Carlson. Prospect Heights and Wheeling, which bought the airport together last year, each appoint four members to the commission.

"Gilligan told me (Wednesday) I was incompetent, inexperienced, and not qualified to be a commissioner," Carlson said. "I won't take this lying down. I would like to know why I'm not qualified."

Gilligan said he had no choice but to remove Carlson because the towns have an agreement that any commission member who is appointed by an elected official has to step down once he or she is no longer an elected official.

"It had nothing to do with the fact that she ran against me," he said, adding that Carlson was intelligent and had contributed much time and effort to the city council.

He said it is his "mayoral prerogative" to choose another commissioner.

"The past has shown that Chris and I cannot work well together," he said. "When you look at the qualifications of Jim Nichel, you can't help but be impressed."

But the airport commission has written a "very forceful" letter to

See CARLSON on Page 3

Herald 5-20-87

Gilligan boots Carlson from Pal-Waukee commission

By Freida Gad
and C.L. Waller
Daily Herald staff writers

Prospect Heights Mayor Jack Gilligan has dumped former alderman and mayoral opponent Christina J. Carlson from the Pal-Waukee Airport Commission, reportedly calling her "incompetent and unqualified," Carlson said.

Carlson, who lost to Gilligan April 7 and had two years left on her airport commission term although she was off the city council, called the action "political retribution" and said she won't give up without a fight.

Gilligan has notified the Prospect Heights City Council that he will appoint Jim Nichel, a vice president of Motorola Inc. and a licensed pilot, to replace Carlson. Prospect Heights and Wheeling, which bought the airport together last year, each appoint four members to the commission.

"Gilligan told me (Wednesday) I was incompetent, inexperienced, and not qualified to be a commissioner," Carlson said. "I won't take this lying down. I would like to know why I'm not qualified."

Gilligan said he had no choice but to remove Carlson because the towns have an agreement that any commission member who is appointed by an elected official has to step down once he or she is no longer an elected official.

"It had nothing to do with the fact that she ran against me," he said, adding that Carlson was intelligent and had contributed much time and effort to the city council.

He said it is his "mayoral prerogative" to choose another commissioner.

"The past has shown that Chris and I cannot work well together," he said. "When you look at the qualifications of Jim Nichel, you can't help but be impressed."

But the airport commission has written a "very forceful" letter to

See CARLSON on Page 3

CARLSON: Official gets boot

Continued from Page 1

the Prospect Heights City Council, asking them to reappoint Carlson, said William Rogers, a Wheeling commission member.

Rogers said the intergovernmental agreement Gilligan referred to is cloudy and the commission has asked for a legal interpretation. He said one line of the agreement says that someone cannot be removed from the commission without consent of that person's city council or village board.

However, another line says: "Any commissioners who are members of the corporate authorities of either municipality may serve on the commission so long as such person holds his or her respective municipal office."

Prospect Heights 1st Ward Alderman Charles T. VanderVennet, also a commission member, said he thinks the city council will have to vote before Gilligan can remove Carlson from the board.

"It clearly smacks of politics, rather than a verifiable issue of competency," he said.

Village officials back plan to unsnarl traffic

A new agency made up of municipal officials and private businesses hwas been created to seek solutions to traffic congestion on area roads. While it may be years before the recommendations made by the agency are implemented, Wheeling officials say the effort is at least a step in the right direction.

Countryside 5-14-87

By Bob Kehoe

Wheeling officials have nothing but praise for a recent joint venture between area municipalities and private industry to unblock Cook County's most congested roadways.

Noting that this is the first time private industry and multiple municipal governments have worked together to solve traffic tie-ups, Village President Sheila Schultz said she is confident the move will soon reap benefits for area motorists.

"The most important aspect is the recognition that traffic problems can't be isolated by community," Schultz said of a recent report issued by The Transportation Partnership (Transpart) committee.

The committee, made up of Northwest Municipal Conference officials and private businessmen, seeks legislation to allow municipalities to join together to form "corridor" agencies with bonding authorities to raise funds for transportation improvements.

TO REPAY THE bonds, Transpart proposes using state money to be matched with local funds from local and private sources.

Funds would go toward paying for some $146 million worth of projects proposed last week by Transpart in a 12-page report on how to improve traffic conditions on the county's most heavily traveled roads.

Recommendations for how to improve such busy Wheeling thoroughfares as Lake-Cook, Dundee, Hintz, Palatine, and Wolf roads and Milwaukee Avenue are included in the report.

The report makes specific recommendations on how to improve the road network, along with cost projections and breakdowns of who would fund the improvements.

AND WHILE IT could be months or years before any of the recommendations are implemented, Village Manager Tom Markus said the report and coordinated efforts of local municipalities will only speed efforts to unsnarl traffic.

"The recommendations are out there. Now, it just depends on how many dollars are available," Markus said, adding it will take a new infusion of state taxes to turn some of the proposals into action.

That infusion of state tax dollars could come from Gov. James Thompson's proposal to raise the state's gasoline tax and income tax. But even if those tax hikes are approved, there would have to be some restructuring in how the funds are allocated to make Transpart's plan work.

Ironically, many of the proposals being made by Transpart are not new concepts.

AMONG THE SUGGESTIONS are: greater promotion of car pooling, providing more information about public transportation and getting large local employers to voluntarily stagger work shifts so employees aren't all on busy roads at the same time.

Specific recommendations for the Wheeling area listed in the Transpart report include:

- upgrading Palatine Road to a freeway from Rand Road to Milwaukee Avenue;
- widening Lake-Cook Road to six lanes and consider installing reversible lanes on certain segments of the road;
- widening to four lanes and adding dividers to segments of Wolf Road;
- and, widening Milwaukee Avenue to four lanes and adding a median and making intersection improvements along Milwaukee Avenue between Palatine Road and Lake-Cook Road.

While many of these improvements are costly and would ordinarily take years to obtain funding, Markus and Schultz are optimistic that combined efforts on the part of Transpart supporters will bring quicker action.

And even if funding the projects hit roadblocks, Markus and Schultz both emphasized that other steps, such as getting companies to stagger employee work shifts and improving communication with the media to alert motorists to avoid ongoing road projects, will improve present conditions.

"THE PROBLEM in the past," said Schultz, "is the kind of funding each community would get individually. Doing the (road projects) piece by piece has not been effective."

What Schultz said she finds particularly interesting about many of the alternatives discussed in the Transpart report is that not all recommendations dealt with road widening.

A procedure that might otherwise take months and years of haggling between communities that share Lake-Cook Road borders, Schultz said the committee structure is now in place for each municipality to have input and settle such an issue.

IF COOPERATION BETWEEN communities and corporations taking part in the Transpart joint venture is as good in the future as it has been to this point, Schultz said improving traffic flow in Wheeling and surrounding communities will be much more than talk.

Wheeling Jaycees elect Mike Lynch president

Countryside 5-14-87

Mike Lynch has been elected new president of the Wheeling Jaycees, succeeding Mark Santy, whose term ended on April 30.

"I am very proud to have the opportunity to lead this fine organization and I am committed to make the Wheeling community a better place to live and work," Lynch said at his installation on April 25.

He will head a 16-member board of directors who will guide the 139-member board of directors who will guide the 139-member chapter. The Jaycees are a leadership training organization open to men and women ages 18-36. They provide this leadership experience for young persons through the community service work they do.

"We have a strong organization and my main emphasis this year will be to use our strength in the Village of Wheeling however we can," Lynch said. He asks any citizens or area groups who have ideas or needs in the community to contact him.

Lynch, whose one-year term began May 1, succeeds Mark Santy as president. Through Santy's leadership, the Wheeling Jaycees ran over 100 projects, such as MDA Bowlathon, Sweetest Day Brunch and Roses, Needy Children's Shopping Spree, the Easter Egg Hunt, Halloween Party at Addolorata Villa, and Little City Tag Days.

In order to increase the strength of the organization, Santy explained, so that even more projects could be conducted in the upcoming years, the Wheeling Jaycees doubled their membership, from 69 to 139 members.

"The success of our year is due in part to the tremendous positive response we had in the Village of Wheeling," Santy said, "from the village administration to businesses such as K-Mart and Wa-Pa-Ghetti's who were very willing to donate for worthy causes. I sincerely thank everyone in the village who contributed to our success. You made a difference."

The Jaycees meet the first Tuesday of every month at 7:30 p.m. at Hackney's Restaurant on Milwaukee Avenue in Wheeling. Projects are held at various times and dates throughout the year. New and prospective members are always welcome. For information, contact Lynch at 459-6549.

Countryside 5-14-87

Officials say congestion will get worse by 1997

Traffic congestion on 12 major roads in the northwest suburbs, already bad, is bound to get much worse in the next 10 years unless private and public agencies are given the funding and the authority to seek solutions, say local officials.

A study of traffic in the northwest suburbs commissioned by Transpart, a new transportation alliance of local governments and business, showed that within 10 years, development along the 12 corridors will increase dramatically unless road capacities are increased.

For example, traffic during peak hours is now described as "moderately congested" on Lake Cook Road from the Edens Expressway west to Ill. 83 and beyond. Traffic along the route will become "severe" from the Edens west to Ill. 53 and beyond by the end of the 10-year period, according to the study.

WHILE DUNDEE ROAD has one stretch now rated as "moderately congested" and another stretch, west of Arlington Heights Road and east of Rand Road as "severely congested," the entire road from Milwaukee Avenue west to Rand Road would be severely congested in 10 years.

The same goes for Palatine Road now viewed as relatively uncongested. Within 10 years, this road would be severely congested along its entire route from Milwaukee Avenue west to Hicks Road, according to the study.

"The impact of proposed new development, mainly commercial and office buildings, upon future congestion will be severe indeed," said William Grams, executive director of the Northwest Municipal Conference and an organizer of Transpart, which stands for Transportation Partnership.

The study was limited to the northwest suburbs, generally west of the Tri-State Tollway and south of Lake-Cook Road, the area from which Transpart officials were drawn.

IN ALL, NEW severe congestion is projected on sections of Devon Avenue, Dundee Road, Hintz Road, Lake-Cook Road, Milwaukee Avenue, Northwest Highway, Palatine Road, Roselle Road and Wolf Road.

Within the 12 corridors in the transit study, new office, commercial, industrial and residential developments already proposed are expected to add 600,000 car trips per day.

But an incredible 1.7 million car trips per day could be added if all available vacant land is developed for the maximum use for which the properties are zoned.

To put that figure in perspective, Grams said just 86,000 cars laid bumper to bumper would run from Chicago to Cincinnati. "That's a lot of cars right there, and that is nothing compared to what you are going to see out here," Grams said.

Herald 5-8-87

Haeger to attend cop memorial

Wheeling police chief Michael Haeger will be among police officers attending memorial services and ceremonies in Springfield on May 14, Police Memorial Day.

May 10-16 is Police Officers Week with services at the state capitol May 14, followed by National Peace Officers Memorial Day on May 15. Haeger is chairman of the Illinois Police Memorial Committee.

During 1986, 63 police officers nationwide were killed in the line of duty.

Statewide, four police officers were killed during duty last year, including Illinois State Trooper John Kugelman, who was killed by a fleeing car on Route 53 in November.

Two police officers have been killed in the line of duty in the history of the Wheeling police department. The first was police chief Herbert Ray Lesch, who was accidentally struck by a vehicle in 1935. The second was Kenneth R. Dawson, who was killed in 1985 while responding to a call about a suspicious person.

Police associations encoura[illegible] public to attend the service[illegible] a.m. May 14 in Immacula[illegible] tion Cathedral, 524 E. [illegible] Springfield. The serv[illegible] denominational an[illegible] lowed by memorial [illegible] the east steps of the state [illegible]

House goes down

Another property along Milwaukee Avenue was leveled Friday in preparation for construction of an $8.9 million retail center in Wheeling. A bulldozer took down a house that once contained Ivan J. Lindquist's accounting business. The village paid $147,000 for the property. The village has five parcels yet to buy so the entire area, located northwest of Milwaukee and Dundee Road can be developed. Condemnation proceedings have been brought against remaining property owners who refused offers from the village.

Daily Herald Photo/Vince Pierri

Herald 5-12-87

ILLINOIS BRIEFS

Wind gust blows plane off airport runway

WHEELING — A single-engine Cessna 210 airplane skidded off a runway at Palwaukee Municipal Airport Monday afternoon after it was struck during landing by a strong gust of wind. The pilot was not injured, but the plane's nose gear was damaged, airport General Manager Daniel Darwish said. The plane may cost several thousand dollars to fix.

PUBLIC SPEAKING

• "Gilligan told me (Wednesday) I was incompetent, inexperienced, and not qualified to be a commissioner. I won't take this lying down. I would like to know why I'm not qualified." — Pal-Waukee Airport Commission member Christina J. Carlson, explaining that she feels her dismissal from the commission by Prospect Height mayor Jack Gilligan is political retribution because she was his mayoral opponent in this April's election.

Herald 5-12-87

Park development concerns board

By Ed Felker
Daily Herald Correspondent

Developing present park sites and reviewing personnel policies are issues that Wheeling Park District board President Anthony Abruscato says the board should study in the coming year.

Abruscato was re-elected to a third term as board president and Commissioner James Gallagher was selected vice-president.

Gallagher was elected to the board in April after filling a vacancy for two years.

Commissioner Edward Klocke voted against Abruscato and Gallagher, but declined to say why. The other commmissioners, Julia Robberson and Donald Lark, were absent.

Abruscato said his plans for the coming year include instituting an annual review of the board's personnel policy, and "possibly redefining the roles of the committees of the board."

He added that he wanted to continue strengthening the board's relationships with the Wheeling Historical Society and the Capital Needs Reassessment Advisory Committee.

Abruscato said the park district should develop the land it already has.

"We're getting on track and we need to continue to build on what we've learned and build upon what we've done," he said.

He pointed to the Valley Stream tot lot, which will get $17,000 in playground equipment. Development of the Last Four Acre Park is starting, with three architects competing for the job expected to be interviewed within two weeks.

Abruscato asked park district Manager Karop Bavougian to begin preparing a park conditions report for the board. Maintenance and the safety of the equipment in the parks are to be the main focus of the review, Abruscato said.

"I want to make sure everything is as it should be as we start to begin the summer," he said.

Board committee assignments also were made. Julia Robberson will chair the building and grounds committee with member Donald Lark. Other assignments were: finance committee, James Gallagher, chairman, Julia Robberson, member; programs and facilities committee, Edward Klocke, chairman, James Gallagher, member; intergovernmental and community relations committee, Donald Lark, chairman, Edward Klocke, member.

Abruscato also appointed Gallagher as liaison to the Capital Needs Reassessment Advisory Committee and reappointed Lark, Robberson and himself for another year as liaisons to the Wheeling Historical Society.

Herald 5-12-87

Budget dominated board's agenda

Approving a $20 million budget and settling a contract with Wheeling patrolmen were among highlights of Wheeling Village Board action during April.

Included in the approved budget are expenditures for completing a sanitary sewer project and hiring three additional employees.

The $5 million sanitary sewer project underway in the village is nearly complete with $2 million in expenditures expected this year. Most of the expenditures are covered by a grant from the Build Illinois program. The project covers seven miles of sewer lines in the village.

Another police officer, a maintenance operator and an assistant director of operations will be hired during this budget year at an estimated cost of $55,803. Salary costs for an assistant director of operations will only cover six months in this budget year.

The budget was amended to include $375,000 in expenditures for purchase of a new police and fire radio system.

Also included are new capital improvement projects such as a storm sewer extension for Seventh Street, a sanitary sewer replacement at Northgate Parkway and a village disaster alerting system.

In other business, trustees approved a four-year contract between the village and the police department with 5 percent annual increases for 33 patrolmen.

The first year's increase will cost an estimated $46,000 with salaries ranging from $24,596 to $33,154.

About 60 clerical workers and professional supervisory employees also will get one-year increases of 5 percent, adding an estimated $92,000 to the budget.

Trustees also approved an engineering contract for repairs to eight streets, including resurfacing and new curbs and gutters.

Streets tagged for work are Harmony Drive, Ferne Drive, Chelsea Drive, Bow Trail, Delaware Trail, Pueblo Trail, Lakeside Circle Drive and South Crow Trail.

WHEELING VILLAGE BOARD VOTE SUMMARY

Selected decisions from the village board meetings of April 6 and 20.	Altieri	Fanella	Whittington	Hartman	Ratajczak	Rogers
To pass the 1987-88 budget of approximately $20 million. (Passed 6-0)	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
To agree to a four-year contract, giving 5 percent annual raises to Wheeling police officers. (Passed 6-0)	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
To approve an engineering contract for 1987 street improvements expected to cost $474,958. (Passed 4-0)	YES	ABSENT	YES	YES	YES	ABSENT

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Trustees cite police, works employees

Wheeling trustees recently issued proclamations recognizing police and public works employees, plus history. May 10-16 has been designated as police week and national historic preservation week. Public works week is May 17-23.

Turn to be smoothed

The northernmost portion of Chelsea Drive, which is now a dead end in the Chelseas Cove subdivision, will be curved to provide a smoother turn into a subdivision street called Cambridge Place, Wheeling officials said.

Trustees approved the change to be included in the 1987 street improvement program. Repaving costs previously planned for the street will offset any costs of curving the street and providing curbing and guttering. The Chelsea Cove Condominium Association will be responsible for any landscaping needed after portions of pavement are removed, officials said.

Softball signup

Girls interested in playing softball this summer can register now at the Buffalo Grove Community Center. The 12-inch summer softball season will run from June 15 until July 31. Cost per person is $30. Registeration will be taken until June 8.

6-17-87 HERALD

Traffic may drive out restaurant

By C. L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer

A weekend hangout in Wheeling for classic car buffs will either have to hire its own police patrol or risk losing its business license.

Skippers Inc., 120 S. Elmhurst Road, has created a traffic nuisance and noise near Dundee Road and Route 83 because people are flocking to see the restored cars parked at the restaurant, Trustee Judy Abruscato said.

Abruscato, who lives a block from the restaurant in the Dunhurst Subdivision, said neighbors tell her they yell across Route 83 to tell people to quiet down at the restaurant.

"I love the old cars like anybody else, but the neighborhood where I live is starting to think it's time people speak out," she said.

Wheeling Police Chief Michael Haeger will ask owner Andy Kikis to hire his own traffic patrol. He said Wheeling puts four squad cars, almost half the force, in that four-block area at midnight on Fridays and Saturdays.

"The traffic is out in the street. I don't think it's our responsibility to hire a policeman," Kikis said. Members of the Chevy Club started coming to the restaurant three years ago when it was opened by Kikis and his brother-in-law, Paul Drakousis. Other cars followed.

Most of the people who go to Skippers are between 35 and 40 years old, but problems arise when youths start mixing in, Haeger said.

"People genuinely intend not to be rowdy, but I wouldn't be happy if I lived in that area either," he said.

Village Manager Thomas Markus said the parking area is not large enough to handle the cars and neighboring Dunhurst Shopping Center and Original Granny's restaurant have complained to the village about cars from Skippers taking up space in their lots, Markus said.

Markus said the restaurant could stand to lose its business license.

Herald 5-7-87

Wheeling parade plans hit some roughs spots

Frank Lipowsky, Commander of AMVETS Post 66 here in Wheeling, has been a little discouraged lately in trying to put together the Wheeling Memorial Day Parade. Wheeling High Schoool has come through, but not many others.

"On May 25, 1987 we (AMVETS) will be celebrating Memorial Day to honor all veterans who made the supreme sacrifice to keep our Country free," he says. " Patriotism seems to have gone down hill in the past years and it seems as if their sacrifice has been forgotten by many of the people in the country."

Upon contacting schools in the area that have bands and asking them to participate in the Wheeling Parade, "it seems money is more important than showing respect to our deceased comrades," he says. "Only Wheeling High

countryside 5/28/87

Holmes, Wheeling High School win national education awards

Two Wheeling schools have won the prestigious Excellence in Education awards in the U.S. Department of Educa-

Poster said the award is also important for Wheeling.

The fact that two Wheeling schools

ment with 5 percent annual increases for 33 patrolmen.

The first year's increase will cost an estimated $46,000 with salaries ranging from $24,596 to $33,154.

About 60 clerical workers and professional supervisory employees also will get one-year increases of 5 percent, adding an estimated $92,000 to the budget.

Trustees also approved an engineering contract for repairs to eight streets, including resurfacing and new curbs and gutters.

Streets tagged for work are Harmony Drive, Ferne Drive, Chelsea Drive, Bow Trail, Delaware Trail, Pueblo Trail, Lakeside Circle Drive and South Crow Trail.

The northernmost portion of Chelsea Drive, which is now a dead end in the Chelseas Cove subdivision, will be curved to provide a smoother turn into a subdivision street called Cambridge Place, Wheeling officials said.

Girls interested in playing ball this summer can register now at the Buffalo Grove Community Center. The 12-inch summer softball season will run from June 15 until July 31. Cost per person is $30. Registeration will be taken until June 8.

and noise near Dundee Road and Route 83 because people are flocking to see the restored cars parked at the restaurant, Trustee Judy Abruscato said.

Abruscato, who lives a block from the restaurant in the Dunhurst Subdivision, said neighbors tell her they yell across Route 83 to tell people to

block area at midnight on Fridays and Saturdays.

"The traffic is out in the street. I don't think it's our responsibility to hire a policeman," Kikis said. Members of the Chevy Club started coming to the restaurant three years ago when it was opened by Kikis and his brother-in-law, Paul Drakousis

said enough boring and have cars in the

Ma stand

Herald 5-7-87

Wheeling parade plans hit some roughs spots

Frank Lipowsky, Commander of AMVETS Post 66 here in Wheeling, has been a little discouraged lately in trying to put together the Wheeling Memorial Day Parade. Wheeling High Schoool has come through, but not many others.

"On May 25, 1987 we (AMVETS) will be celebrating Memorial Day to honor all veterans who made the supreme sacrifice to keep our Country free," he says. " Patriotism seems to have gone down hill in the past years and it seems as if their sacrifice has been forgotten by many of the people in the country."

Upon contacting schools in the area that have bands and asking them to participate in the Wheeling Parade, "it seems money is more important than showing respect to our deceased comrades," he says. "Only Wheeling High School is willing to participate without being paid. All other schools have asked to be compensated to participate.

"Our parade may not be as large as we would like, but at least we know respect was shown by all that participated or attended."

Are there any bands out there who could help out the AMVETS and the community of Wheeling? Contact the AMVETS post at 537-0440.

The next AMVETS meeting is scheduled for 8 p.m., Tuesday, May 12, at the Post home, 700 McHenry Road, Wheeling. This will also be the election of the 1987-88 officers.

Countryside 5/28/87

Holmes, Wheeling High School win national education awards

Two Wheeling schools have won the prestigious Excellence in Education awards in the U.S. Department of Education's Secondary School Recognition Program.

Officials at Holmes Junior High School and Wheeling High School found out Tuesday that the two schools were among nine public schools in Illinois who received the awards, which are handed out annually to honor the top schools in the country.

The nine schools that won the award were selected by the Department of Education from 24 Illinois school that were nominated by State Supt. of Education Ted Sanders for the national award.

"We're super-excited," said Avi Poster, Holmes principal. "It's recognition for a large staff of people who for years have been devoted a lot of time and effort in doing the best job they could."

Poster said the award is also important for Wheeling.

The fact that two Wheeling schools were among the nine state winners "is a statement that the school system in Wheeling is outstanding. It's verification of what people in town have known for a long time.

"This should be a source of pride not only for the two schools, but for the whole community," he added.

School applying for the award had to demonstrate how well they met 14 "indicators of success" set down by the U.S. Department of Education. Among the criteria used by the department are: clear academic goals; high expectations for students; rewards and incentives for students; regular monitoring of progress; and development of good character and values.

5-21-87 Journal Tribune

Mt. Prospect and Wheeling fire fighters demonstrate proper methods to respond to a fire to young children. Mt. Prospect fire fighter Gary Klein (above) shows Matt Tamkin the "stop, drop and roll" technique to be used if clothing catches on fire, while Wheeling fire fighter Michael Proebstle activates a smoke detector in a makeshift bedroom so that Ryan Pfeiffer (left) and Jeff Maschoff can crawl out of bed and head for safety should a house fire break out. The exercises are part of the Mt. Prospect department's ongoing fire safety program that is presented to youngsters.

(Journal Photos by Steve Hansen)

Wheeling ready to attack tree-loving bugs

By C. L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Wheeling is declaring war on the cottony maple scale, a little bug that is weakening the village's honey locust and maple tress.

The village will spray 1,000 parkway trees this month for severe cottony maple scale.

Because of a mild winter and early spring, Wheeling, along with other northern Illinois communities, has been hit especially hard by the little insects which feed on tree sap, said Bob Issleb, a superintendent with Wheeling's operations and maintenance department.

Trees afflicted with the disease develop growths that look like cotton, each containing hundreds of eggs. Spraying is most effective when the insects have left their popcorn-like egg sacs and are migrating.

Issleb, a 27-year employee, said this is the worst case of cottony maple scale he has seen, as 75 percent of Wheeling's parkway trees have been infested. Last year the village sprayed only 70 trees for the disease.

If left alone, trees with the disease will not die, but they will become weaker and could stop growing or have dead twigs and branches, Issleb said. Plus, those trees are more susceptible to future infestations, he said.

The village now discourages developers from planting honey locusts and maples in new neighborhoods or industrial developments.

The natural enemy of the cottony maple scale is the ladybug, but because the ladybug is migratory, most will not arrive in Wheeling until the end of the month, Issleb said. Some communities buy ladybugs and release them into diseased trees, but Wheeling officials want a surer method and will bring in a tree spraying firm from Evanston to spray the trees at approximately $3.85 each, he said.

Construct 3d Airport —Official

An ongoing study of how to meet the area's future air travel demands is enough to convince Buffalo Grove Village President Verna Clayton that there is no room at O'Hare International Airport for another runway and that by the year 2020, the unmet demand could reach as much as 15 million takeoffs or landings.

Although the consultants conducting the airport capacity study have yet to formally determine if there are any other expansion alternatives available to accommodate the additional projected growth, Clayton declared that there is enough evidence that points to the need for a third airport in the Chicago area.

Clayton, who is a vocal member of the Illinois State Airport-Heliport Plan policy committee overseeing the study, said enough time has been spent on Phase I of the study---determining whether O'Hare will be able to accommodate air travel needs at the turn of the century. It's high time, she contends, to move on to Phase II---determining the site.

The $594,000 study began last June, and according to Clayton, is about six months behind schedule. Clayton attributes the delay to conflicts between airline and Chicago aviation officials over future demand estimates.

Factors contributing to the debate are airline industry predictions that air traffic control improvements and larger planes will accommodate the demand.

"My feeling is, how big can planes get? How small can seats get?

Clayton said "recent grumblings" that the committee has not studied the capacity of Midway Airport, which some people believe could originate 5 million flights a year (the amount of takeoffs or landings before the early 1960s when it was Chicago's busiest airport), may further delay the study.

"My frustration is that I'm feeling that these are really delaying tactics," she said.

Air Transport Association Executive Director Jerry Mann, who represents the airlines on the committee, has said he is unconcerned about the delay. He stressed the importance of making sure the information used to determine whether to build a third airport is accurate.

Clayton said her main concern is that the congestion and delays caused by overcrowding at O'Hare will force other airlines to leave O'Hare, driving future economic activity from the area.

"I'm afraid, if we don't build a third airport, all these delays will force other airlines to leave O'Hare, and we'll lose the chance of having the economic potential that would come with a third airport," she said.

"The evidence is there that we're going to need another airport. Whether it's 10, 20, or 30 years from now, we're going to need it if we want to meet this (future) unmet demand," Clayton said.

Mt. Prospect Mayor Carolyn Krause, who serves on the Chicago Area Transportation Study, a committee of mayors who are also studying the possibility of a third airport, said she agrees with Clayton.'

"I think the time has come to move forward," she said. "I do think there's a need for another airport, even if its 10 or 20 years from now, it has to be done."

Airline officials, firmly opposed to a third major airport, contend that because it probably would have to be built at a distant site it may not be extensively used and that cost for the new facility would be passed on to passengers.

They also worry that a third airport would cause O'Hare to lose its "hub" status (a major airport at which passengers change planes).

Besides overcrowding at O'Hare, the world's busiest airport, supporters of a third airport worry that continued expansion at O'Hare would lead to additional jet noise. Suburban officials, especially those living in towns nearby the airport such as Park Ridge, Des Plaines, Elk Grove and Schiller Park, have grumbled for years that noise and air pollution levels already are intolerable.

Viator Accounting Team Finishes 3rd

St. Viator High School captured the third place award in the 1987 accounting competition sponsored by Harper Junior College. St. Viator competed against teams from every high school in districts 211 and 214.

country"

Firms stayed put thanks to 6b tax break

Are property tax break incentives bringing more manufacturers to Wheeling and persuading those already in town to stay here?

Three firms that applied under the 6b program and were recommended for approval by the village say there's no doubt about it.

"6b caused us to stay in Wheeling," said Jim Ceriale, vice president of Spectrum Manufacturing Inc., 1708 S. Wolf Road.

Ceriale, whose firm applied for and was granted the tax assessment reduction, said the tax break has not only enabled the company to expand its Wheeling plant from 10,000 to 25,000 square feet but also allowed it to increase the number of employees from 22 to 40.

OVERALL, CERIALE SAID, the granting of 6b status to Spectrum could save the company roughly 40 percent on its annual taxes during the first eight years of the program.

"Because we were in Wheeling the previous four years we wanted to stay," he said, adding that without the incentive the company might well have moved into the Corporate Grove center in Buffalo Grove.

"We thought Lake County had less of a traffic situation, but when you look at the savings you realize that money can be used toward a building or to be put back into the business," Ceriale said.

John Forsythe, president of Indeck Power Equipment Co., 1111 S. Willis Ave., said his company's new building is 90 percent complete, but that the company might have never broken ground were it not village approval of his 6b request.

WHILE THE REDUCTION still has to be officially approved by the Cook County Assessor's office, Forsythe is looking forward to staying put.

"If you look at (the tax costs without the incentives) over a 10 to 15 year period there's no doubt you'd be moving," Forsythe said.

In examining sites in Cook and Lake counties, Forsythe said he reached the conclusion that land values are similar but taxes are "drastically different," with the less expensive alternative in Lake County.

Art Seymour, president of Elenco Electronics Inc. of 618 S. Wheeling Road, said he reached the same conclusion as Forsythe.

SEYMOUR CALLED THE 6b incentive "the deciding factor" in whether the firm would locate in Wheeling or move to Bradley Park in Lake County.

"We had a better tax break in Lake County even with the 6b, but we decided this was closer to our workers," said Seymour, whose company will save about $20,000 annually in property taxes.

Seymour, like Ceriale, said Cook County will have to continue offering more incentives to keep industry within its borders. "Unless they do something soon you'll see a large exodus to the north side of Lake-Cook Road," Seymour said.

Although he praised what he called Wheeling's "aggressive" stand to encourage industrial development, Seymour said he's not sure what he'll do when the tax incentives end in 12 years.

"If we could save a bundle of money in 12 years by moving, we would," he said.

Thursday, May 21, 1987

Despite tax break, businesses still fare better in Lake Co.: Developer

By Bob Kehoe

To some developers, Cook County's move to offer tax break incentives to attract and retain industry is too little and perhaps too late.

Likening Cook County's efforts to playing a shell game without a pea, Lake County developer Harry Dolan said businesses almost always do better from an overall tax standpoint in Lake County.

Why? It's a simple matter of arithmetic, says Dolan.

While Cook County's 6b tax exemption allows manufacturing firm recipients a break to a 16 percent assessment level, or less than half the 33 percent rate in Lake County, Dolan said the state's equalization factor wipes out nearly all of the savings.

THE EQUALIZATION FACTOR, or multiplier, is determined by the state to ensure that all counties are assessing property equitably. The 1985 rate of 1.8085 in Cook County is roughly 80 percent higher than Lake County's 1.0099 equalizer.

Thus, a 50,000-square-foot building built on 2.5 acres of land in a Wheeling industrial park would have a tax bill of about $44,362 for each of the first eight years of the 12-year incentive program, while the same development in an industrial park in the Lake County portion of Buffalo Grove would have a tax bill of $48,762 a year.

The $4,400 annual tax savings offers only a temporary respite, Dolan said, from the whopping tax hike that will come when the assessment level jumps to 30 percent between the ninth and 12th years of the program and to whatever the county assessment level is for all industrial land in the 13th year and beyond.

Of course taxes aren't the sole determining point on where industry will locate, but Dolan said tax implications are getting more and more attention in corporate board rooms during relocation discussions.

IN FACT, THE issue grabbed his attention last year when two different industrial firms told Dolan they settled on Wheeling for their relocation site over Lake County after making a cost comparison.

A move that led him to look deeper into the issue, Dolan came away convinced the firms made a poor decision that will cost them dearly in the long run.

"I've been in the business 22 years and I was aware of the difference in tax rates, but not how drastic the difference was," Dolan said.

As he looks around him near his Bannockburn offices, Dolan is convinced the vast majority of business leaders are seeing the same cost savings he sees in Lake County.

"I WAS a pioneer when I started here in Lake County. Now there is 5 million square feet of (office space) within three miles of me," he said.

If more and more businesses are suddenly discovering Lake County, however, it's not just because of the tax situation, according to Chuck Lamphere, executive vice president of the Van Vlissingen & Co. development firm with major projects in Lake County.

He credits a wider variety in types of office and industrial facilities available, a labor pool that is continually moving farther out from Chicago and the "quality of environment" Lake County offers for luring so many customers north of Lake-Cook Road.

"By no means are taxes the overriding concern (of our clients)," said Lamphere, whose firm in the developer of the Corporate Grove center in Buffalo Grove. "The whole tax issue is important, but by no means is it the overriding concern."

LAND PRICES MAY play an even bigger role in relocation talks, and there has been talk locally that some landowners are adjusting prices downward when necessary to attract industrial customers.

This, coupled with the Cook County tax incentives, may just be enough to keep more firms from heading to the collar counties.

Dolan thinks Cook County is headed in the right direction. He only questions whether the county taking a big enough step to remain competitive and whether it can ever afford to shift some of the tax burden from business and industry to the homeowner without a taxpayer and voter revolt.

"Cook County has got to do figure out how to be competitive and I don't know how they'll do that when the voters have the final say," he said.

Next county hearing on NWMC's balefill proposal set for June 10

The Northwest Municipal Conference's (NWMC) proposal for a landfill near Bartlett will go before the Cook County Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) at 10 a.m. June 10 at the Hanover Park Village Hall, 2121 W. Lake St.

Bill Grams, NWMC executive director, is expected to testify on behalf of the conference's 31-member communities in Cook and Lake counties. He is expected to explain why the 410-acre site was chosen and why conference communities need the new "balefill."

The site in question is at Ill. 25 and W. Bartlett Rd. in unincorporated Cook County.

Rita Athas, NWMC assistant director, said Tuesday she expects three or four more ZBA hearings to take place before the ZBA decides to endorse giving the conference the special use permit needed to own and operate the landfill.

The June 10 hearing is expected to draw about 100 persons, as did a similar hearing last week, she added.

The proposed balefill is drawing continuous protests from residents in Bartlett, Streamwood, Hanover Park and Elgin, who are worried it will pollute the water table and generate lots of truck traffic.

The conference has an option to buy the proposed site from the Chicago Gravel Co., which now owns the land. If the ZBA hasn't granted the permit by September, when the conference's option to buy expires, the conference could ask the gravel company to extend the option, Athas said Tuesday, adding it has already been extended once.

Conference attorneys were expected to appear in the Kane County Circuit Court Wednesday in Geneva regarding a bid by about 12 area landowners to annex a portion of the proposed landfill site to the City of Elgin.

Elgin city officials are on record as opposing the balefill and might, therefore, deny conference officials the necessary zoning changes to construct the balefill, if the site were annexed to the city.

Countryside

Thursday, May 21, 1987

Judge blocks development of Grand Champion stables property

The Grand Champion stables property will remain intact at least until June, a Cook County Circuit Court judge ruled last week, blocking an effort by Wheeling to proceed with development of the area.

The 12-acre horse stable property and seven acres of nearby residential lots has become the center of a legal battle between Northbrook and Wheeling, both of which have annexed the property.

Wheeling annexed the property last November with intentions of creating an office development on the site. But Northbrook officials have contended that Wheeling's annexation is illegal, and that village laid its own claim on the property in January with designs to convert the area to residential housing.

The struggle has ended up in court, and last week a circuit court judge dismissed a motion by Wheeling Village Attorney James Rhodes to remove a restraining order on development of the property.

THE RESTRAINING ORDER was issued several weeks ago by a circuit court judge, who ruled that demolition of the stables should be held off until the legal question of who properly annexed the site could be decided.

But Wheeling has contended that Northbrook's claim to annexation is frivolous and had urged the judge to repeal the restraining order.

The Wheeling Plan Commission has approved plans for an office development on the site proposed by joint owners Calumet Federal Savings and Loan and land developer Joseph Judah.

Judah wants the land rezoned to allow construction of four single-story office building with about 130,000 square feet of space.

Thursday, May 21, 1987

Countryside

6-17-87 HERALD

Officials want land for a drainage facility

By Kris Kopp
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Trying to alleviate a long time flooding problem on University Court, Buffalo Grove village officials will try to buy a piece of land needed to build a $440,000 drainage facility.

Purchase of a three-acre site just south of Tarkington School in Wheeling Township Elementary District 21 would allow the village to build a detention basin and install a 54-inch storm sewer from the basin to University Court, said Public Works Director Gregory Boysen.

Residents of about six houses on University Court, which is located at the southeastern border of the village, said they have had to deal with flooding problems since about 1969. Although several attempts have been made to correct the problem they claim that they are still faced with overflowing sewer water that occasionally is four feet deep.

They are also angry because they are unable to sell their houses.

"Everybody on that court suffers every time it rains," said Chuck Benner of 7 University Court. "but also when we try to sell our houses. The real estate people won't even bring people there."

In a 1970 court ruling, Cambridge Subdivision developers, Wheeling and Buffalo Grove officials were instructed to cooperate and correct the problem.

Curtis Eric Edlund, a Park Ridge attorney hired by the residents, said that to his knowledge the system was re-worked but it was over-burdened, causing the basin to fill up higher than the level in University Court.

Because the water flows into University Court from Tahoe Subdivision in Wheeling, responsibility for the drainage problem has been questioned.

"You can't go to Wheeling and tell them to spend money on people who live in Buffalo Grove," said Edlund.

Fitting tribute

Wheeling officials honor slain officer Kenneth R. Dawson in a special ceremony at village hall Friday. The ceremony, which was attended by Village President Sheila Schultz, Police Chief Michael Haeger and other officials, included the dedication of a memorial for Dawson, who was killed in the line of duty in November, 1985. The ceremony also paid tribute to former police chief Ray Lesch, who was killed in 1931. *(Staff photos by Bill Oakes)*

Fallen Wheeling hero finally gets recognition

By Bob Kehoe

Memorial Day has always been somewhat of a nameless, faceless holiday devoted to honoring a collection of heroes most of us never knew.

Things will be different at the Wheeling AMVETS Post 66 this Memorial Day.

They will come, as they have in years past, to pay homage to all who fought, but this year they will take time to remember a fallen Wheeling soldier whose story was somehow passed over by time.

His name was Michael R. Blanchfield. A private first class in the 173rd Airborne Brigade of the U.S. Army, Blanchfield died on July 3, 1969 during combat patrol in the Binh Dinh province of Vietnam.

HIS FINAL ACTIONS earned him a posthumous place in U.S. history, when he was granted the Congressional Medal of Honor, but in his hometown you'll have to look hard to find any traces of evidence that tell his story.

No, to find the story of Michael Blanchfield you have to look to a citation that passed through Congress en route to Janet Blanchfield, Michael's mother, who now lives in Palatine.

Beneath the preamble of adjectives that could never do justice to his actions can be found Michael's story.

The first few sentences tell how it was that this former Wheeling High School student turned rifleman found his way to the battlefields of the Binh Dinh Province and how it was he spent his last minutes ensuring that others would live.

A TALE THAT is told in the cold terms one might find in a police blotter, the story stands as perhaps the only remaining testimony of a soldier's devotion to his countrymen.

"The patrol surrounded a group of houses to search for suspects. During the search of one of the huts, a man suddenly ran out toward a nearby tree line. Specialist Blanchfield, who was on guard outside the hut, saw the man, shouted for him to halt, and began firing at him as the man ignored the warning and continued to run.

"The suspect suddenly threw a grenade toward the hut and its occupants. Although the exploding grenade severely wounded Specialist Blanchfield and several others, he regained his feet to continue the pursuit of the enemy.

"The fleeing enemy threw a second grenade which landed near Specialist Blanchfield and several members of his patrol. Instantly realizing the danger, he shouted a warning to his comrades. Specialist Blanchfield unhesitatingly and with complete disregard for his own safety, threw himself on the grenade, absorbing the full and fatal impact of the explosion.

"BY HIS GALLANT action and self-sacrifice, he was able to save the lives and prevent injuries to four members of the patrol and several Vietnamese civilians in the immediate area."

The citation, while a welcomed gesture, didn't tell his mother anything about her son she didn't already know.

"He was a gutsy guy. He was never afraid of anything," she said. "He just came to me one day and said he wanted to join the service."

After seeing the nightly accounts of the war on the news, Janet said she formed some definite opinions on what was going on, though she is reluctant to share her thoughts.

WHAT'S IMPORTANT NOW, she says, is Michael's story.

"There was some kind of misunderstanding," she said, describing how it was that perhaps the only tribute to her son was somehow abandoned.

"The American Legion post in Wheeling was named after Michael about a year after he died, but then the post disbanded," she said.

That her son never got the recognition he deserved occasionally crosses her mind, she admitted.

"BUT MY HEART really cries for all who died and came back disabled," she said.

Today, it seems, more people are taking up the cause to remember Michael. Wheeling AMVETS Post 66 has asked Janet to be one of its honored guests on Memorial Day — a request she plans to honor but only with urgings from veterans.

When she wants to be closer to Michael, she said makes the trek to All Saints Cemetery in Des Plaines to his grave.

The headstone will soon be replaced by the government with one bearing an insignia of the Congressional Medal of Honor, she said somberly, lamenting that it was her decision to have her son buried closer to home and not in Arlington National Cemetery.

AS THE CONVERSATION neared an end, she volunteered two thoughts:

"All the time that passes, you never forget. Believe me, no matter how many years."

Being told by a stranger that such feelings are understandable didn't offer the comfort that was intended. Politely, but firmly, she made one last request.

"Make the story nice for Michael," she said.

Vietnam memorial gets support

The Wheeling Village Board Monday agreed to contribute $400 toward an Illinois Vietnam Veterans' Memorial that will list the names of those killed and missing in action.

The board agreed to donate the funds to the memorial that will be built in in the Oak Ridge Cemetery in Springfield with the stipulation that the monument will bear the names of all Wheeling service men and women who were killed or listed as missing in action during the Vietnam war.

The circular-shaped stone monument will bear the names of all 2,928 who died or are still listed as missing in the Vietnam war.

In addition, the board also agreed to fly a flag at Village Hall with the initials P.O.W. and M.I.A. to call attention to the plight of all those who are still listed as prisoners of war and missing in action.

The board agreed to fly the flag that will be supplied by a Vietnam veterans group until there is a final resolution and accounting for all those war veterans who may still be in Vietnam, whether dead or alive.

5-21-87

Countryside

Wheeling pushes tax breaks for four firms

By Bob Kehoe

Four manufacturing firms with plans to expand or open new facilities in Wheeling got village backing Monday in their bids to obtain property tax break incentives.

The board's recommendation will now be forwarded to the Cook County Assessor's office, which will make a final decision on whether the companies should be included in a program that allows participants tax breaks over a 12-year period.

A fifth firm that applied for the incentives failed to get board approval because trustees said the owner did not show he would use at least 75 percent of the building for manufacturing purposes as stipulated in the program guidelines.

The incentives, known as the 6b exemption program, will allow the recipients to have the assessments on their property dropped from 38 percent to 16 percent of the market value for the first eight years of the program and then to 30 percent for the remaining four years.

AFTER THE 12TH year the firms' tax assessments would revert to whatever the present rate is at the time.

Participating in the program, which is offered only to manufacturing firms, can save companies as much to 30 to 50 percent on their annual tax bills during the first eight years the incentives are offered.

While the incentives mean a little less tax revenue than the village and other taxing bodies would normally receive from the developments, the aim of the program is to create more jobs locally and to retain old and attract new business here.

Village officials began taking part in the program in 1986. Since then, only three firms have obtained village support in seeking the tax breaks.

THE PROGRAM APPARENTLY enticed the owner of Litho-tronics Inc. to relocate from Skokie to Wheeling, but village officials turned thumbs down on his bid for the tax break program after learning he was attempting to lease between 3,000 and 9,000 square feet of his 12,000 square foot building.

Despite pleas from the company's attorney to grant his client a couple of extra months to try and line up enough business so the firm could occupy at least 75 percent of the building, village officials said such delays have no place in the program.

Village President Sheila Schultz said it was incumbent upon Litho-tronics, a graphic arts company, to use the space it planned in designing the building.

Some trustees also feared that if the company was granted the incentives, the owner could then sublet portions of the building and reap greater profits than he might otherwise because he would be paying lower property taxes.

RELATED STORIES ON PAGE 16

THE VILLAGE BOARD had no such problems in granting approval to three other companies, Faucet Queens Inc., Bridgestone Company Inc., now located in Glenview, and John Remke, Inc., based in Skokie. The trustees said the companies all met the requirements of the program and should be offered the incentives.

The other company that was given village approval was Fire Control, Inc. Village officials debated whether the firm should be given the incentives since it had already completed its building before the application process was finished.

While the program is designed to attract firms that would not otherwise locate here without the tax breaks, Village Manager Tom Markus said it was clear from correspondence with the company prior to construction that the firm would seek the tax incentives.

In reports filed with the village, all five companies left the impression they would not locate here without the incentives.

ACCORDING TO THE Bridgestone report, the firm estimated it would pay about $12,654 a year in taxes for the first eight years of the incentive program, with the yearly tax bill jumping to $23,734 in years nine through 12. Total taxes for the 12-year period are estimated at $196,168.

Without the tax incentives, the firm said its annual tax bill for the 12-year period would exceed $285,000.

Countryside 5-14-87

In memoriam

Friday is National Police Officers' Memorial Day, a special day set aside to honor those who are killed in the line of duty.

And in Wheeling the day will be particularly important, because village officials are planning a special dedication ceremony of a memorial to officer Ken Dawson, who was killed in November, 1985 while answering a call in Wheeling subdivision.

Wheeling officials spent a lot of time and effort on finding an appropriate way to honor Dawson before coming up with the idea of erecting a memorial in his name to salute all Wheeling officers while serving the village.

And this occasion, part of National Police Week, should be a time for us to reflect upon the service all officers perform for the community, and the risks they take in protecting us. This year, 63 officers were killed in the United States; 10 in Illinois.

And while one may think that officers who work in high crime areas in the big cities are the most likely to get killed, but that's not the case. In fact, more officers were killed during traffic stops last year than in any other situation. That means every time an officer pulls someone over for a traffic violation, he never knows who's behind the wheel or what to expect when he approaches the driver.

It takes a special type of person to pursue a career in law enforcement. Those in Wheeling and elsewhere who protect and serve the community deserve the respect of all of us.

Mr. T sues Wheeling contractor; says builder gave tours of home

By Reid Magney

Mr. T

Mr. T, the television and movie actor, has filed a $244,000 lawsuit against a Wheeling contractor he claims overcharged him and gave unauthorized people guided tours of his new Lake Forest home.

The contractor, Ken Tompkins, declined to comment on the suit, but says he plans to countersue.

Mr. T is seeking a judgment against Tompkins and his company, Kenlor Development Co., who he hired in December to remodel and repair his new home.

According to the lawsuit, filed last month in Lake County Circuit Court, Mr. T and Tompkins had an oral agreement that Tompkins was to be the general contractor, hire subcontractors and charge 15 percent above the improvements' costs as overhead.

Mr. T claims Tompkins misrepresented and padded actual labor costs supplied by himself and the subcontractors he hired. Tompkins charged 20 percent overhead and has not given Mr. T bills from the subcontractors as agreed, the suit says.

Also, Tompkins "erected and installed a huge advertising sign" on Mr. T's fence "solely for his own benefit, aggrandizement, and monetary promotion, and to the detriment and embarrassment" of Mr. T, charges the suit.

Finally, the suit says Tompkins "brought unauthorized persons on the property, and conducted them on guided tours of plaintiff's home, to the detriment and embarrassment of plaintiff, and in violation of his rights of privacy and trespass."

The suit asks for approximately $244,000, including $14,135 for overhead and profit received by Tompkins, $4,890 for labor overcharges, $100,000 in actual damages, $100,000 in punitive damages, and $25,000 in attorney's fees and court costs.

Mr. T's attorney also declined comment while the suit is pending.

HERALD 5-23-87

Wheeling Lions open their den to women

By C. L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Wheeling Lions Club is opening its den to women in anticipation of the international Lions Club voting to allow women during the annual convention in July.

Wheeling Lions Club president Bob Rhoda said removing gender as a qualification for membership has been before Lions Club International three or four times and it is likely there will be enough convention votes to allow women in this time.

Last year, 6,600 delegates attended the annual convention and less than the two-thirds majority needed to admit women voted in favor of the measure. It has been difficult to muster enough votes because some of the 38,000 affiliate clubs, particularly those in third world counties, strongly oppose allowing women to join, Rhoda said.

However, the Lions of Illinois has told local chapters they can proceed with seeking women members and Wheeling will plunge right in, Rhoda said. He said the local club is anxious to increase membership.

There are 22 members in the Wheeling organization, up from eight members in 1985. Rhoda said membership has gone up and down over the years and peaked at 100 members one year. He predicts that the club will continue to grow for the next five or six years and hopes membership will increase to 50 or 60 members.

"We will see growth in the Wheeling Lions Club whether or not women join," he said.

Just like men, women who want to join will have to be sponsored by someone already in the club.

The Wheeling Lioness Club, which is 1 year old, has 10 women members.

The Wheeling Lions and Lioness clubs work together on several projects and Lioness president Judy Abruscato said it would be good for the two organizations to fuse.

5-9-87 Herald

Wheeling budget rising 22 percent

BY C. L. WALLER
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Wheeling will add three employees and complete a sanitary sewer project in the new fiscal year, with passage of a budget 22 percent higher than last year's.

The new budget of $20.4 million is 22 percent higher than last year's budget of $16,652,715.

However, village officials say taxpayers should not expect a hike in their property taxes because just over $3 million listed in expenditures is provided through a Build Illinois grant for sanitary sewer work and from the sale of bonds for improvements in the Crossroads redevelopment area.

The sanitary sewer project underway in the village is nearly complete with $2 million in expenditures expected this year. The entire $5 million sewer rehabilitation project covers seven miles of sewer lines in portions of Wheeling built before 1970, specifically Dunhurst, Old Town, Meadowbrook, Hollywood Ridge and Poplar Grove subdivisions.

Plans are to hire another police officer, a maintenance operator and an assistant director of operations and maintenance. With the assistant director working a half year, added salary costs are estimated at $55,803.

Village officials claim there is an increased need for more employees to handle additional paperwork having to do with a growing population and more commerce.

"We not only have people coming in, but we have more industrial businesses," village finance director Robert Fialkowski said.

Unfinished capital improvement projects carried over into this year's budget include $245,000 for stormwater sewer improvements at the Lakeside Villas development, $154,000 for intersection improvements and engineering at Dundee and Boehmer roads and $60,000 for widening the bridge on Northgate Parkway.

New capital projects include $110,000 for a storm sewer extension on Seventh Street, $100,000 for the Northgate Parkway sanitary sewer replacement, and $100,000 for a village disaster alerting system.

Plans are for the Crossroads redevelopment area to begin showing progress toward construction of an $8.9 million retail center, but no sales tax benefits are expected this year from the redevelopment.

Even though federal revenue sharing no longer exists, two social service agencies will benefit from local taxes after asking the village for money. Omni Youth Services, which has its home office in Wheeling, will receive $56,000 and Shelter Inc., which is based in Arlington Heights, will get $4,400. Five agencies asked Wheeling for funding.

The 1987-88 budget at a glance

Wheeling's $20.4 million spending proposal represents a 22 percent increase

Where the money goes

Expense	This year	Last year	Change
Water and sewer	$6,561,319	$4,811,544	+36%
Police and fire	$4,419,641	4,116,289	+7%
Finance, administrative	$961,588	$904,904	+6%
Capital improvements	$5,424,775	$4,297,047	+26%
Road and Bridge	$959,737	$701,831	+36%
Maintenance	$402,944	$359,914	+12%
Community development	$648,588	$622,503	+4%

Where the money comes from

Revenue	This year	Last year	Change
Property taxes	$4,686,000	$4,530,050	+3%
Loans and grants	$20,388,843	$20,020,044	+2%
Sales taxes	$2,200,000	$2,075,000	+6%
Income tax	$525,000	$500,000	+5%
License and permit fees	$679,500	$559,500	+21%
Court and ticket fines	$135,000	$120,000	+13%
Water/sewer revenue	$6,561,319	$4,811,544	+36%
State gasoline taxes	$894,500	$1,256,961	-40%
Interest	$1,180,400	$1,076,000	+9%
Federal revenue sharing	$0	$243,990	N/A%

Getting stickered

Just as no one likes paying income taxes, most drivers aren't crazy about the idea of plunking down $10 every year for a village vehicle sticker.

But, like taxes, vehicle stickers are required by law, and sticker fees are an important source of revenue for Wheeling and other municipalities.

Most law-abiding citizens purchased their stickers months ago, however, there are still many Wheeling drivers who hope to somehow fall through the cracks and drive around town all year without buying a sticker. It appears as though those motorist are out of luck.

Wheeling police last week began cracking down on motorists who failed to buy their stickers by the Jan. 31 deadline. Police have been setting up roadblocks during the morning rush hours at the entrances to the major subdivisions in town, stopping every car and checking whether they have their new stickers.

Those who don't have stickers are ticketed and have to not only pay the $10 for a new sticker, but are also hit with an additional late fee as well as a fine for not obeying the law. As a result, a motorist caught without a sticker winds up paying four times as much as he would have had he purchased it on time.

The crackdown is successful. In the first week officers issued more than 200 tickets to residents who have procrastinated on purchasing their stickers.

As can be expected whenever this type of crackdown take place, there have been some complaints about the procedure. Nobody likes the idea of being randomly stopped on the way to work, especially if you've already purchased your sticker. But we feel the roadblocks are justified because they're about the only way to ensure that residents are complying with the law.

In order for any law to be effective, it must be enforced. Letting those who ignore the law get away with it would be unfair to the vast majority of residents who have already purchased their stickers.

'Up With Wheeling Day' effort draws large cleanup contingent

About 100 Wheeling residents turned out Saturday to clean up Wheeling's roadsides and show their community pride.

Armed with trash bags and safety vests, the cleanup crew of young and old spent about three hours scouring the roadsides in the village's annual "Up With Wheeling" celebration.

Volunteers began arriving at the fire station behind village hall shortly after 8 a.m. to get instructions and board buses to their cleanup destinations.

Coordinated by the village police department, the activity featured volunteer service provided by residents, elected officials and village staff.

Main thoroughfares like Dundee Road and Milwaukee Avenue got a sprucing up while other crews focused on village parks and nearby schools.

The day concluded with a barbecue lunch for the volunteers and village staff.

5-9-87 Herald

Wheeling trustees issue proclamations

Wheeling trustees recently issued proclamations recognizing police and public works employees, plus history. May 10-16 has been designated as police week and national historic preservation week. Public works week is May 17-23.

Wheeling Countryside

5-14-87

Wheeling police officer Richard Herdus hands a ticket to a motorist leaving Whippletree Village. The driver is one of more than 300 who have been ticketed in the last week for not having a vehicle sticker. *(Staff photo by Daniel White)*

Police begin sticker crackdown

Next to filing state and federal income tax forms, perhaps nothing inspires as much procrastination as buying a village vehicle sticker.

Just ask the more than 300 Wheeling residents without the stickers who were snared and fined this past week in police roadblocks set up throughout the village.

The annual crackdown is designed to get all those who put off the expense past the Jan. 31 deadline to pay for their procrastination.

Instead of paying the $10 fee before the deadline, motorists who are issued tickets now have to cough up an additional $15 late penalty in addition to a $15 fine for violating a village ordinance — bringing the total cost for the adhesive patch of village pride to $40.

Unsuspecting motorists who ventured from their dwellings last week in various subdivisions like Tahoe Village, Shadow Bend, Lake of the Winds and Whippletree Village were caught off guard in the early morning hours between 6 a.m. and 9 a.m. by patrols assigned to check all cars for stickers.

Officers issued a scant 22 tickets as the program began May 4 in the Shadow Bend subdivision before boosting the number of citations written to 84 on May 5 at Tahoe Village — where the most tickets were issued in the first five days of the program.

On May 6, 19 Lake of the Winds motorists were snagged, with 32 Lakeside Villa passersby caught last Thursday. On Monday 37 citations were issued, on Tuesday 24 motorists without stickers were nabbed at Whippletree Village and 14 tickets were handed out Wednesday.

Deputy Chief Gary O'Rourke said officers concentrated on subdivisions that generated the most traffic in an effort to maximize compliance with the village ordinance. The measure appears to be working because the village has sold more than 300 stickers in the last week.

O'Rourke said the department intentionally waited this long before taking an aggressive stab at getting compliance to avoid complaints and excuses from motorists who invariably find a reason for delaying the purchase.

As of Monday, O'Rourke said he wasn't sure how many Wheeling residents have yet to purchase a sticker. He said the program will continue for another week in various locations before a break in the roadblock effort comes as the department realigns shift times for officers.

After the shift change, however, O'Rourke said officers will continue pressing for compliance with the ordinance. All of which means a motorist's chances of putting off the purchase until past next year's tax time without being caught are not very good.

5-7-87 Herald

Village may contribute to memorial

By C. L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Wheeling trustees are considering making a donation toward the Illinois Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Springfield, following a request from the Northwest Suburban Chapter of VietNow.

The $1.2 million memorial is planned for 1.96 acres in Oak Ridge Cemetery. Five black granite walls listing 2,946 names of Illinois residents killed in Vietnam and 103 prisoners of war or those missing in action will make up the memorial.

Terry Toerpe, a representative of the group, asked the village to contribute $400 in the name of Michael Blanchfield, a Wheeling resident who was killed in Vietnam on July 3, 1969, and posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor. He also asked village officials to fly the POW flag for families.

With a $400 contribution, the village would receive a plaque with Blanchfield's name, he said.

Village president Sheila Schultz said the board needs to consider whether it wants to use taxpayers' money for the project and she encouraged service groups to contribute toward the memorial.

"Personally, I have some interest. I think this is something we should look into," trustee James Whittington said.

Three men from Wheeling died in Vietnam — Blanchfield, Robert Hoffman and John Bienman. Trustee Elizabeth Hartman said she would be reluctant to contribute only in the name of one of those men.

Amvets and its women's auxiliary in Wheeling have agreed to contribute $400 in the name of Blanchfield, but other contributions may be made

See MEMORIAL *on Page 3*

MEMORIAL: Village may contribute $400

Continued from Page 1

in his name and other plaques will be given to the contributors of $400, Toerpe said.

The state has agreed to match up to $485,000 of money contributed toward the memorial, if the money is collected by June 30. So far contributions total $401,000.

The rest of the money is expected to keep coming in as the memorial goes under construction. Dedication of the memorial is planned for the weekend of Nov. 13-15.

Efforts now are being made toward raising the $200,000 needed for maintenance of the memorial because without that amount, the cemetery will not allow the memorial to be constructed, said John Nelson, a spokesman for the state memorial fundraiser.

6b: Wheeling's equation for economic growth

Instead of just sitting back and watching while Cook County businesses head north to Lake County, Wheeling officials are offering industries in town a special property tax incentive to keep them here and are using the tax break to lure businesses that otherwise would have relocated to Lake County.

Jim Ceriale, vice president of Spectrum Manufacturing in Wheeling, says his firm probably would have relocated to Buffalo Grove had it not been for the 6b property tax exemption the company received to stay in Cook County. *(Staff photo by Daniel White)*

By Bob Kehoe

Perhaps no one has a better sense of the flight of industry from Cook to Lake county than those who drive down Lake-Cook Road each day en route to work.

The northern roadside in Lake County that once featured huge tracts of open land is now dotted with everything from corporate headquarters to hotels.

The south side of the road in Cook County has also seen steady development, though nowhere near as fast or as frenzied.

What's the difference? One big reason is the fact that property taxes in Lake County are often 30 to 50 percent lower for industry than in Cook County.

Over the years, Cook County has fought back by offering property tax incentives to attract and retain industry, but the program has met with limited success.

AFTER WATCHING development go up around their Lake County border faster than it had at home, Wheeling officials 18 months ago sought some leverage of their own in maintaining the village tax base.

Recognizing the potential loss of sizable numbers of manufacturing firms to Lake County, village officials moved to take part in a Cook County program that gives significant tax breaks over a 12-year period to new and expanding manufacturing firms.

The program is called the 6b tax exemption, named after the assessment classification the county created for manufacturing firms.

The 6b status granted by the assessor's office offers assessment level reductions from 38 percent of a building's market value to 16 percent for the first eight years and to 30 percent in the remaining four years of the program.

AFTER THE 12TH year of the program, the firm's taxes are calculated based on whatever the county assessment level is at that time.

The reductions can cut annual property tax bills in half for some firms in each of the first eight years of the program — a time when the risk of business failure and loan payback burdens are highest.

A move that will cost the village and other local taxing bodies some tax revenues in the short term, officials hope the 6b program will pay dividends in the long run by giving manufacturers the extra push they'll need to succeed in the early years following their investments to expand.

Moreover, they hope the move will at least partially close the window of tax-saving opportunity some manufacturers see in Lake County. But just how successful this effort will be won't be known until more companies take part in the program and until vacant land in Wheeling begins to dry up.

GOING WITH 6B was a calculated risk, according to Village President Sheila Schultz, adding that officials are hoping the incentives draw greater economic expansion than would have occurred without the program.

The goals of 6b, she said, are two-pronged — to put development where there was none before and to slow border-hopping by manufacturers looking to save some tax dollars.

Village Finance Director Bob Fialkowski, who oversees the 6b application process for the village, said it's too early to gauge the success of the program at this point, particularly since only three firms were granted the incentives in the first 15 months of the program.

A decision by the Wheeling Village Board Monday to recommend the assessor's office grant 6b status to four of five companies that applied for the break last month has given some room for optimism that the program will make a difference.

FIALKOWKSI SAYS HE hopes 6b works, but he questions to what extent the incentive is bringing in manufacturing firms that wouldn't otherwise locate here without it. "We've got some 800 to 900

(Continued on page 19)

6b—

(Continued from page 16)

companies in this town. Something made them all locate here before all this economic development came along," he said.

It's this kind of thought that has led some to question whether the village is needlessly supporting tax breaks for manufacturers at the expense of other village taxpayers.

The problem is, there may be no accurate way to tell whether the manufacturers would indeed look elsewhere without the incentives. One look on the north side of Lake-Cook Road may be enough to convince any skeptic of the need for such a program.

There, just across the street in Lake County, what were once huge plots of vacant land now are full of developments that might well have ended up in Cook County were it not for the present tax structure.

ONE REASON SO many businesses moved north was to avoid Cook County's 38 percent assessment level for industrial property — some 15 percent higher than Lake County.

Add in the fact that Cook County's 1985 multiplier — a statewide process used to ensure all assessments are equitable — was roughly 80 percent higher than Lake County's and it's easy to see why so many manufacturing and non-manufacturing companies alike equate Lake County with lower taxes.

Still, even with Lake County's lower tax package, some village officials argue that Wheeling has better services such as like water and sewer, and police and fire protection that aren't so readily available in all areas of Lake County.

Are these strong enough selling points to make Wheeling competitive with other nearby Lake County suburbs like Buffalo Grove? In Fialkowski's eyes it doesn't really matter.

"I'M OF the opinion that we might not get development as quick as Buffalo Grove, which is kind of land rich, but we're getting it on a slow, steady basis as we can handle it," Fialkowski said.

Taking his point a step further, Fialkowski said, "I don't know that absent of this program that we'd be hurting."

On that point Fialkowski won't get much argument from Schultz.

"We're moving ahead at a reasonable pace of development as we were before 6b," Schultz said. "6b is not our means of salvation by any sense."

IF NOT A means of salvation, then perhaps the program will serve as a means to retain growing manufacturing firms in the village while enticing new companies to consider Wheeling.

At least that's what trustee James Whittington is hoping for. He said he hopes 6b will give the village a new shot at attracting manufacturing firms and jobs and not just executives looking for a "tax loophole."

Unless Cook County moves to realign its tax structure and ease some of the burden on industry, it may be difficult for village officials to ever know the real objectives of those seeking relief from the present system.

In the meantime, village officials are content in knowing they've done just about all they can to keep manufacturing firms in Wheeling rather than looking for them on the north side of Lake-Cook Road.

Pilots' group to focus on Pal-Waukee safety

By Mark M[illegible]ey
and Kirk Birginal

About 100 pilots at Pal-Waukee Airport are hoping to get a new organization off the ground that could give them a voice in the operation of the busy airfield.

Barry L. Axelrod, a member of the board of the fledgling Pal-Waukee Airport Pilots' Association, said the group is forming "to get all the people at Pal-Waukee together as a forum for safety meetings and as a way to exchange information."

In addition to acting as a social network, he said, the pilot group would be available to aid in the safe operation of the airport.

"It's a cohesive body that can work with the airport authority and airport manager. We're there if they want our input and assistance," Axelrod said.

HE SAID, FOR instance, the association could offer a pilot's perspective on decisions ranging from closing runways to deciding the best location for another instrument landing system if it's needed.

"Or if we feel we need another taxiway to relieve some congestion, we could go to the airport authority" and lobby for the pilots' position on the issue, he said.

Most of the members are pilots who use their small aircraft for business and pleasure, Axelrod said. About 20 percent of the members are corporate pilots and others are commercial airline pilots who fly their own light aircraft out of the municipal airfield.

The association estimates that there are some 1,300 pilots navigating 640 planes who use Pal-Waukee regularly. The association hopes to eventually have between 300 and 400 members, and would like a larger representation of corporate pilots.

Barry Dainas (left), president of the Pal-Waukee Airport Pilots' Association, and Barry Axelrod, a board member of the organization, said the group will work with airport officials to improve safety at the facility. (Staff photo by Kathy Tray)

BARRY DAINAS, PRESIDENT of the association, said some sort of unity among pilots and aircraft owners "has been needed for a long time." However, it wasn't until Pal-Waukee switched from a private airport to a municipal one that pilots decided to form the organization. Wheeling and Prospect Heights purchased Pal-Waukee from Preister Aviation Services in December, 1986. The airport is being run by the Pal-Waukee Municipal Airport Commission, an entity made up of officials from Wheeling and Prospect Heights.

"Now that it's a public airport, we want to get more involved than we have in the past," Dainas said. "We want to work

(Continued on page 14)

Pilots—

(Continued from page 5)

with the commission. If they need our advice or want our advice, we'll be there to help them. And they might need our help because they're not aviators."

In addition to working with the airport commission, a primary focus of the pilots' association will be safety. The group will provide safety-related programs for pilots at its regular meetings. A speaker next week will give tips on weather patterns during the summer, for example. These continuing education efforts will allow pilots "to learn from one another," Axelrod said.

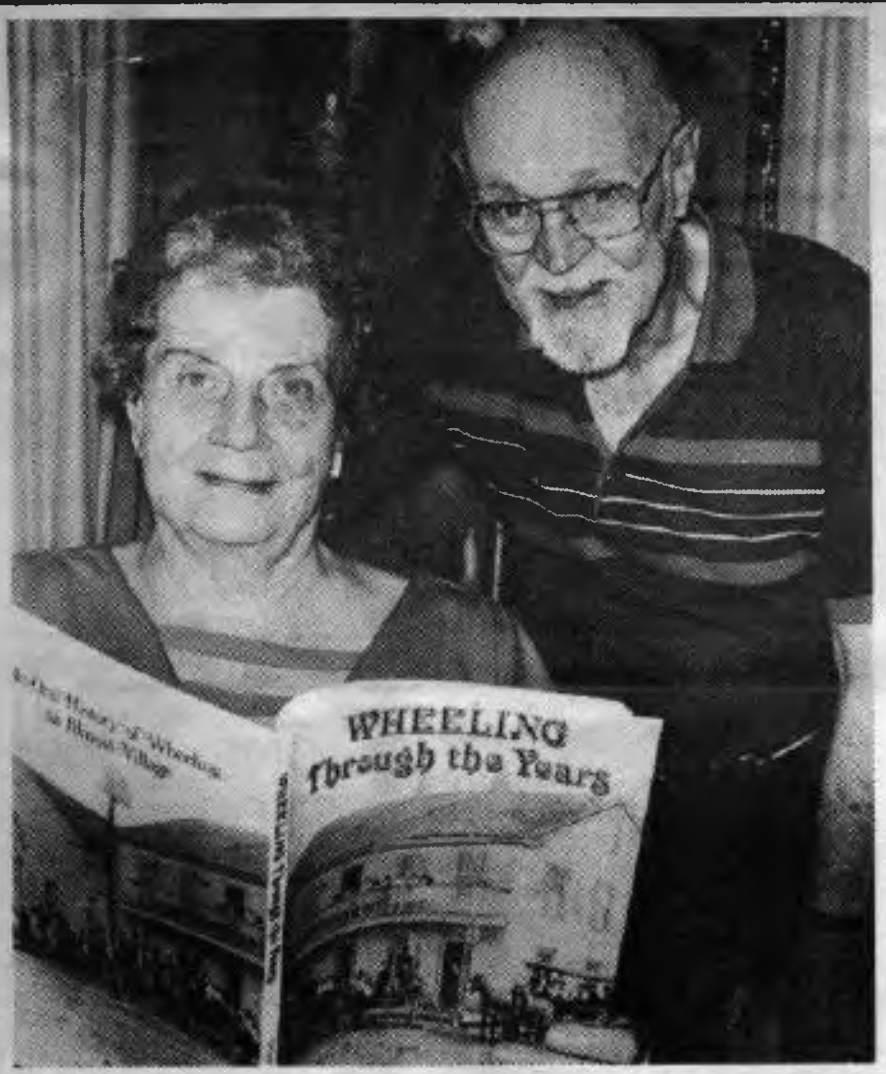
The association will also work with the airport commission to ensure that Pal-Waukee remains a safe operation. Stressing that there are "no safety problems" at the airport now, Dainas said the association will bring concerns about safety to the attention of the commission or the Federal Aviation Administration if they arise in the future.

While safety is the major reason the association was created, the 12-year veteran pilot said the organization also wants to make the community more aware of Pal-Waukee Airport and aviation in general.

ONE OF HIS goals is to sponsor an open house at the airport that would give area residents an up-close view of Pal-Waukee. And if there's an accident near the airport, the association would contact the media to make sure that accounts of the mishap are accurately portrayed by the press, something that doesn't always happen, Dainas said.

But the overriding concern of the organization is, and will remain, making the air space around Pal-Waukee as safe as possible for those who fly through it and those who live below it.

"Ninety-five percent of the pilots want to be safe and they're looking for the kind of information we'll be providing," said Dainas, who's a member of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Air Search and Rescue Unit. "When a pilot gets into an airplane and flies and thinks he knows it all, that's when he's going to become another statistic. And that's what we're trying to avoid."



Wheeling residents Barbara and Robert McIntyre have just finished editing an oral history of the village. *(Staff photo by Kathy Tray)*

New book portrays Wheeling's early years

"My earliest recollection of Wheeling is that when we went to town we used a horse and buggy. I went to Sunday school at the Wheeling Presbyterian Church with a horse and buggy and Milwaukee Ave. was all gravel road..."

— Bob Allison

"Wheeling was mostly a farming community, although in town you had your general store where you could buy almost anything. There were a couple of meat markets. Hans Schmidt was a butcher when I was growing up on Milwaukee Ave. and I remember we used to have our cow and when it had a calf we would take the calf up there and he would butcher it..."

— Betty Barrie

By Susan White

Personal recollections like these do more than document history in the just-published "Wheeling Through the Years," they tell readers what it was really like in Wheeling from 1833 through 1986.

Edited by the husband and wife team of Barbara and Robert McIntyre, the oral history represents years of research and hours of taped interviews with residents who remember the old days in Wheeling.

The McIntyres, who worked as editors before retiring in 1978, responded in 1983 to a plea from the Wheeling Historical Society for volunteers to help with the massive task of putting together a history book about the village.

"We thought there would be more volunteers, a bigger organization working on the project," Barbara said, but after a year of research and "spinning their wheels" the couple decided it was time to get things going and they took on the project themselves.

WORKING IN THEIR home, Barbara transcribed more than 30 tapes, while her husband fed all the information into a borrowed computer. They originally had planned to use the computer only as a tool to file the interview dialogue that was categorized by subject so it could be retrieved and edited when it came time to put together the actual chapters for the book.

In the end, they were able to do all of the typesetting on the computer, producing camera ready pages for the printer. After seeing a mock-up of the book, several local businesses and the Wheeling Area Chamber of Commerce added their support to the project by covering the cost of printing the finished product: 1,000 copies that are being kept under wraps until a June 7 publication party at the Indian Trails Library, 355 Schoenbeck Road.

"The publication party will be like a graduation for us, a celebration," Barbara said. Thinking back over the four years it took to complete the project, the McIntyres said there were surprisingly few hurdles on the way to the book's completion.

"It really has gone smoothly, aside from the fact that it seemed like it would never end," Barbara joked. But as the two talk about the book and the people they met along the way, it's obvious the project was a labor of love.

WHILE THE MCINTYRES have only lived in Wheeling for nine years, they have developed strong community ties through the book. "I have been living in the past so much with all of this, I feel like I was a native. I feel very protective

(Continued on page 21)

Countryside

Early years—

(Continued from page 16)

about the old buildings that they want to tear down now," Barbara said.

Those community feelings are part of the basis for the book. "History binds a community together," said Robert. "If the members of a community have a common knowledge of their history it pulls them together. It's good for people to know more about their roots, especially since people are more mobile today."

His wife agreed that it's important to let future generations know the history of their community. This is especially true in villages like Wheeling that are in a state of constant change — with old buildings being torn down and new developments replacing them, she said.

The timing of the book was critical. "We were doing it now before the old people are gone. Their grandparents were the founders of this community and they are the only ones left who have heard the stories first hand," Barbara said.

THOSE STORIES, IN their original form, are what give life to "Wheeling Through the Years."

"History seems more real to the reader if it's in the words of the people who lived it," Robert said.

The book opens not with a lengthy description of Wheeling's first residents, but with the words of Lucile Schneider, the granddaughter of George J. Schneider, Wheeling's first veterinarian.

"There were two gateposts in front of Grampa's house. Before we had regular lights, we kids used to sit on the top of those posts in the evening and wait for the lamplighter to come. The village marshal — he served as a lamplighter. We didn't have electricity yet. He had a torch and a little wooden ladder."

"WE TRIED TO keep it as faithful as possible to the tapes. I transcribed over 30 tapes, which is six hours of work for every one hour of tape," Barbara said.

After each chapter was completed, copies were were sent to everyone who was represented in that chapter and they had a chance to correct any errors, Barbara explained.

Robert said the folksy tone of the book was one of his favorite elements of the project. The words of Ethel Wieder illustrate his point: "I'll tell you in those days it was different than it is today. From the time I was about 17 or 18 every Saturday night we had dances in town. No matter where you went, you knew everybody. Even when you went to Glenview. It isn't like that today."

Folksy doesn't necessarily preclude a little scandal. Some of the book's best moments are resident's memories of the prohibition days and Wheeling's role as the area watering hole.

FORMER POLICE CHIEF Police Chief Marvin O. Horcher's, known as "Syke," remembered, "At the time I started with the police department there were about 350 people in Wheeling, and maybe 19 or 20 taverns. Almost all of the fine North Shore towns were dry.

"They just wouldn't tolerate alcohol or demon rum in their borders. So on weekends, Wheeling became the watering hole for the fine people who wouldn't allow such beverages in their towns. Two or three good tavern brawls per weekend were not uncommon."

"We didn't intentionally leave anything out," Barbara said. "The book sounds like people are sitting around a table talking; it's friendly."

Reflecting on the project, Barbara said the effort was somewhat like a working on a jigsaw puzzle — looking for the right pieces to put together the whole picture. Although the puzzle is finally complete, the McIntyres' interest in their town will continue as they both plan on remaining active members of the historical society. The money from the sale of the book will go back to the Wheeling Historical Society to help with restoration projects.

"The money from 1,000 copies at $7.95 each will not in itself move buildings, but it will help," Barbara said. The book will hopefully generate more interest in the historical society, bringing more members together to work for the preservation of their town, she said.

After the publication party, the book will be available at Billy & Company restaurant, Cole Taylor Bank, The First National Bank of Wheeling, MFC Mortgage and the Wheeling Area Chamber of Commerce, all of whom helped sponsor the book.

Backers promise land value insurance, well replacement

Balefill 'guarantees' offered

By TERRY LEVECKE
Staff Writer

The Northwest Municipal Conference is willing to guarantee that a balefill proposed for a site near Bartlett will not cost homeowners any financial loss or contaminate water supplies near the site, conference officials said.

The guarantees were contained in a list of conditions under which conference officials proposed to operate the balefill at a Cook County Zoning Board of Appeals hearing last week in Hanover Park.

The conference would reimburse owners of property within one mile of the site for any drop in land value that occurs after the balefill is in operation. The conference also will replace wells that are contaminated from leachate run off from the balefill. A self-insurance program financed through dumping fees would supply funds for the program, said William Grams, executive director of the conference.

A truck route and post-closing monitoring of the site were also included in the conditions. Municipal waste would be driven by truck to two baling stations located within the northwest suburban area. There it would be compacted into bales and then driven to the site on flat bed trucks. One site will be located in Rolling Meadows and another in the northern suburbs, said Grams.

Trucks leaving the balefill site would exit onto Gifford, travel to Bluff City Boulevard and then go east to Lake Street. They will then proceed east to Route 59, north to Golf Road and then east to Barrington. The route continues north to the Northwest Tollway.

ZBA Chairman Alex Seith said the conference must supply testimony and documents of how the conference plans to implement the guarantees and other conditions to convince the board of the conference's ability to carry out the conditions.

Alex Smith (above), chairman of the Cook County Zoning Board of Appeals, moderates the hearing over the proposed balefill. From right, Bartlett attorney Ed Mraz, Elgin attorney Daniel Blondin, and Gerald Brooks, attorney for Spring Lakes Mobile Home Estates, give testimony.

Opponents of the balefill said they were not comforted by the guarantees because they were limited to a one-mile boundary.

"I'm two miles from the site, what about us?" said Mary Figas, an organizer of Citizens Against the Balefill. About 40 citizens picketed in front of the Hanover Park Municipal Center before the hearing carrying signs saying "Dump the Dump" and "Kill the Fill."

Figas said the balefill will drive potential homebuyers away from the communities surrounding the balefill. Also opposing the balefill at the hearing were residents of Bartlett, Hanover Park, South Elgin and Spring Lake Estates Mobile Home Park. The 410-acre site is located on the northwest corner of Bartlett and Gifford Roads. The balefill would be open up to 15 years and would 320 acres of the site, which is an abandoned gravel pit. Balefill opponents said the area is an abundant refuge for wildlife.

Grams, who is scheduled to testify for the conference during the hearing process, said the guarantees are the result of public input from the zoning hearings that occured in Bartlett. The conference first sought zoning and annexation approval for the site from Bartlett, but was denied last summer.

"We're trying to convince the residents that the balefill won't have an impact. But they don't believe us so we're guaranteeing it," said Grams. He said the conference would be willing to expand the 1-mile boundary to 1½ or 2 miles if that is what the ZBA requests.

Grams said the conference didn't have figures on how many homes were within and just outside the 1-mile radius, but residential land use represents 3.5 percent of uses within 1 mile of the site. Seventy percent of the land immediately adjacent to the site is used for industry and mining, said Jacques Gourguechon, a city planner hired by the conference.

Conference members voted on the concept of the self-insurance program at a meeting in December, said Grams.

"If municipalities don't want to accept (the cost) there's no agency and no balefill," said Grams.

After hearing two witnesses in six hours, the hearing was continued to 2 p.m. May 13 at Hanover Park. The conference has four more witnesses, then the objectors will call witnesses. The ZBA must vote on the proposal 30 days after the final hearing. Then the Cook County Board must vote on the ZBA's recommendation.

If the conference receives the preliminary approval, it must obtain permits from the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency and then go back to the ZBA for final plan approval.

Transit solutions mulled

BY BRENDA SCHORY
Staff Writer

The Northwest Municipal Conference last week unveiled a $140,000 transportation study that purports to do more than grouse about the Northwest suburbs' biggest problem — too many cars and not enough road.

The study, funded through a partnership between business groups and 18 municipalities, including Schaumburg, Hoffman Estates, Hanover Park, Roselle and Elk Grove Village, includes several recommendations such as substantial road improvements, car pools, reversible lanes and greater regional cooperation to provide for growth in the area.

Michael Silverman, co-chairman of the study, called the Transportation Partnership, told 110 conference members, "One solution is to get rid of big business. (But) we need big business. We have to deal with the traffic problem."

The study targeted 12 problem corridors and recommended improvements that would cost $246.4 million over the next five or more years.

The roads are Algonquin Road, Central Road, Devon Avenue, Elmhurst Road, Dundee Road, Golf Road, Higgins Road, Lake-Cook Road, Northwest Highway, Palatine Road, Roselle Road and Wolf Road.

Northwest Municipal Conference Director William Grams said the program involves more than just increasing the size of roads, — acknowledging that that just invites more cars to travel on them.

Grams stressed that in order for the Transportation Partnership — dubbed Transpart — to work, people must get out of their cars and use car pools.

One of the incentives to car pooling is a high occupancy lane for cars with three or more passengers. The intent is to have an express lane that will not only move more people more quickly, but will mean fewer cars on the roads. Also "reversible" roads which allow travel only in one direction in the morning and the opposite direction in the afternoon are recommended.

Among the funding sources identified for the $246 million in road improvement recommended over the next five years are Gov. Thompson's proposal to raise the license plate fee to $65, up from $48, a gas tax and fees from development that will impact on the area's transportation system.

The money would be pooled and spent by various transportation cooperatives, formed by communities and businesses, to phase in various traffic improvement plans.

Gene McCormick, state assistant secretary of transportation, warned that if public and private interests did not work together to conquer the traffic problems, there would be a "return to the transportation crisis of 1983 in two or three years."

McCormick said a 1983 dollar would only buy 79 cents worth of roadwork today and only 63 cents worth in five years.

He warned that the suburbs could not depend on federal funds for urban transportation systems, "not because Illinois is not getting its fair share, but because the federal pie has shrunk."

Amvets commemorate those who served in war

BY SANDY ALTIERI

"In grateful memory to the people of Wheeling who served in all wars" is the inscription engraved on the monument at Phillip Carpenter Post No. 66 Amvets Hall, 700 McHenry Road. The monument was recently moved to its final resting place at the Post Home from Chamber Park. A 30-foot flag pole was erected and thanks to Wheeling Nursery, the area around the monument will soon be landscaped.

ALTIERI

On Memorial Day, Monday, May 25, the Amvets will hold services at the Wheeling Cemetery at 6 a.m. The parade will begin at 10 a.m. with a new route this year. The parade will start at the K-Mart parking lot, proceed east on Dundee Road to McHenry Road, then northwest on McHenry Road to the Post Home. The ceremony, honoring those who served their country, will immediately follow the parade.

One courageous young Wheeling man, Specialist Four **Michael R. Blanchfield**, received the Congressional Medal of Honor posthumously for his gallantry in action.

The citation reads: "Specialist Four Michael R. Blanchfield distinguished himself on July 3, 1969, while serving as a rifleman in Company A, 4th Battalion, 502d Infantry, 173d Airborne Brigade, on a combat patrol in Binh Dinh Province, Republic of Vietnam. The patrol surrounded a group of houses to search for suspects. During the search of one of the huts, a man suddenly ran out toward a nearby tree line.

"Specialist Blanchfield, who was on guard outside the hut, saw the man, shouted for him to halt, and began firing at him as the man ignored the warning and continued to run. The suspect suddenly threw a grenade toward the hut and its occupants. Although the exploding grenade severely wounded Specialist Blanchfield and several others, he regained his feet to continue the pursuit of the enemy.

"The fleeing enemy threw a second grenade which landed near Specialist Blanchfield and several members of his patrol. Instantly realizing the danger, he shouted a warning to his comrades. Specialist Blanchfield unhesitatingly and with complete disregard for his own safety, threw himself on the grenade, absorbing the full and fatal impact of the explosion. By his gallant action and self-sacrifice, he was able to save the lives and prevent injury to four members of the patrol and several Vietnamese civilians in the immediate area.

"Specialist Blanchfield's extraordinary courage and gallantry at the cost of his life above and beyond the call of duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army Army."

Blanchfield's mother, **Jeannette**, will be an honored guest at the Memorial Day ceremony. There are many veterans from Wheeling dating all the way back to the Civil War.

This year's parade has over 20 entries, including the Wheeling High School Wildcat Marching Band and NJROTC, the Marine Color Guard from Glenview Naval Air Station, the Air Force Color Guard from O'Hare Field, a Navy recruit float, the Pizza Hut clowns, the Wheeling Police and Fire departments, and other military and scout groups. **Frank Lipowsky**, 1986-87 Amvets commander, is encouraging everyone in town to come out and show their support of the many men and women from Wheeling who served their country.

Raffle tickets are still available for a $1 donation at the Post Home. The money raised will help to defray the parade expenses. The drawing for $100, $50, and $25 will take place immediately following the Memorial Day ceremony.

At the May Amvets meeting, the newly elected officers were installed. Congratulations to **Commander John Helley; Senior Vice Dave Mohr; Junior Vice Tony Kalva; Finance Officer Frank Lipowsky; Judge Advocate M. Huber; Provost Marshall Charles Canisius; and Service Officer Frank Rannie.**

One of the chapter's new projects will be to join the North Chicago V.A. Hospital's Adopt-A-Ward Program. They will be adopting two wards at the hospital to care for the patients on a permanent basis. They provide entertainment and bring "goodies" to the patients to help make their lives a little easier and happier. Our local Amvets also fund the other three area V.A. hospitals for patient entertainment.

For further information, please call 537-0440.

NWMC works with businesses on traffic woes

By Todd Sloane

Motorists who have grown weary of fighting near-gridlock on major suburban roadways must wonder who is responsible for the mess, and why "they" haven't done something about it.

The problem, local officials have said over and over again, is that there has been no local way to solve problems that occur mainly on arterial roads owned and maintained by the state.

Now, a group of northwest suburban officials and private businessmen say that neither the state nor any single suburban government can come up with the solutions needed to ease traffic congestion in the suburbs. But together, they say, they can at least attempt to solve some of the worst suburban rush-hour nightmares.

"WE HAVE THE opportunity to become the 'we' who solve the problem, not just waiting for 'them' to do something," said William Grams, executive director of the Northwest Municipal Conference. He spoke to a group of local officials and private businessmen, who on Tuesday launched a transportation alliance unique to the Chicago area.

The Transportation Partnership, or Transpart, seeks legislation to allow municipalities to join together to form what it calls local corridor agencies, with bonding authority to raise funds for transportation improvements.

As the basis for paying off bonds, the agencies, to be controlled by private industry, would use state money, to be matched with funds raised locally from public and private sources.

In addition, the alliance wants to redirect some of Gov. James Thompson's recommended gas tax increase to the local councils, for an urban congestion fund administered locally rather than by the state.

THOMPSON'S TAX plan, which would raise the motor fuel tax in stages from 13 cents per gallon to 22½ cents per gallon over five years, includes funds for fighting urban congestion, but does not allow those funds to be allocated locally.

The Transportation Partnership was formed by northwest municipalities within the Northwest Municipal Conference including Arlington Heights, Schaumburg, Barrington, Buffalo Grove, Des Plaines, Niles, Palatine, Park Ridge, Wheeling, and nine other municipalities. Also involved are the chambers of commerce from those communities and individual firms with suburban offices, such as United Airlines, Motorola, Hewlett-Packard, and Sears, Roebuck & Co.

Also in on the act are suburban transit agencies such as the North Suburban Mass Transit District, Metra Commuter Rail and Pace suburban bus division.

"The key is the partnership, of business and government working together to solve the problems neither could solve alone," said Mike Silverman, president of the Arlington Heights Chamber of Commerce.

"WE DID THE same thing with the water system (bringing Lake Michigan water to the western suburbs)," Silverman said. "By working together we solved a problem of many communities at the same time."

The alliance released a $120,000 study (see accompanying story) of traffic problems, showing that some $146 million will be needed for short-, medium- and long-

(Continued on page 25)

NWMC—

(Continued from page 18)

range solutions to traffic congestion in 12 major transportation corridors studied by a consultant.

An additional $100 million may be needed to solve the problems in five other corridors initially studied by the alliance.

The suggested solutions include one major new project, the staged upgrading of Palatine Road to a freeway from Rand Road on the west to Milwaukee Avenue on the east. This would solve one longtime desire of local transit planners, to have an east-west freeway connecting the growing suburbs northwest of Chicago.

Golf Road, Higgins Road, and Lake Cook Road would be widened from four to six lanes on heavily travelled segments west of the Tri-State Tollway, and reversible lanes would be added for rush hours. Reversible lanes, through the use of lane signals, permit traffic to travel in different directions at different times.

DIVIDED SEGMENTS of Algonquin, Dundee, Golf, Higgins, Palatine and Roselle roads would be added.

Central Road and Wolf Road would be widened from two to four lanes.

On the Northwest Tollway, two reversible lanes would be added in the middle of the roadway, to raise the capacity by 50 percent each rush hour.

But Grams said the alliance will not be limited to the solutions presented in the first report. "That's why it is important to have the local corridor agencies, so they can work on the unique problems of that area," he said.

FOR EXAMPLE, in the Lake-Cook corridor, considered the fastest growing corridor in northwest suburbs, potential solutions include not just adding lanes, but also some form of light rail or extra bus lane to encourage alternatives to driving.

"We have got to get cars off the road," said Pace suburban bus chairman Florence Boone. "Its always, in our minds, someone else who should stop driving. We have got to address the long-haul express service. Nobody is going to take a 2½-hour work trip, one way. But that's what we have now in many places," Boone said.

Ride-sharing, a concept long promoted by area transit officials, ought to be made more appealing to "yuppies," said several officials, through advertisements, corporate programs and multiple occupant vehicle lanes on expressways.

Boone suggested working with the Illinois Toll Highway Authority to create bus lanes or special bus exits to allow for speedy bus service from suburbs to Chicago, and for suburb-to-suburb commuting.

FOR THIS, BOONE said, the present allocation of regional transportation dollars, which currently heavily favors the Chicago Transit Authority, should be remedied in favor of the suburbs, the area that contributes the most in tax subsidies of public transportation.

Al Larsen, Schaumburg Village president, said "It is not enough to fix a road. We need the cooperation of the private sector, the use of flex time and staggered work hours that will reduce the traffic congestion in the suburbs at peak hours."

It was Schaumburg's success in using a developer's impact fee to help build a road system to handle the staggering new traffic created by the Woodfield shopping mall and other development that was used by some officials as a basis for several local funding ideas.

The alliance is considering a minimum $1-per-square-foot impact fee for new developments within the high density areas. The money could be pooled by the communities within a local corridor agency.

Photo by Tom Bartholomew

Police Officer Tim Hillyer plays the guitar at the close of the ceremony dedicating a memorial to slain officer Kenneth R. Dawson.

Police memorial honors slain officer

WHEELING — In a brief ceremony attended by about 75 people Friday, the Wheeling Municipal Memorial was dedicated in honor of Kenneth R. Dawson, the Wheeling policeman who was killed two years ago in the line of duty.

Flanked by flags flown at half mast, Village President Sheila Schultz spoke of the anger, grief, frustration and helplessness that attended the murder of Dawson on Nov. 5, 1985.

Later, Schultz said, a determination arose that Dawson should never be forgotten and so a public memorial was planned.

Schultz made her remarks at the memorial site, located behind the Village Hall, on National Police Memorial Day. The memorial consists of a patio with benches and round tables where village residents and employees can sit. The patio is surrounded by flowers.

A memorial stone dedicates the patio to Dawson's memory and also in remembrance of others who served. The name of Chief Herbert Ray Lesch who was killed in 1935 is on the stone, which has room to add other names.

Schultz said one of the requirements of the memorial was that it be practical because Dawson was a practical man.

Speaking of the memorial, Schultz said, "For all of us it is the work of our hearts. It will be a place of welcome, a place of joy, a place for rest and tranquility, and a place of remembrance for Kenneth Dawson."

Dawson, who was 41 at the time of his death, was killed when he responded to a call from a resi-

Please turn to page 3

Memorial

Continued from page 1

dent who said two men had entered her home through sliding glass doors. Although the men left when she confronted them, the resident requested that the police investigate.

Dawson responded and was shot and killed by one of the men, according to police.

Two brothers were charged with Dawson's murder: Tyrone Strickland, 21, and Larry Strickland, 26, both of East Chicago Heights. The men are awaiting trail.

The Strickland brothers were captured in Chicago after they broke through a Wheeling police barricade and kidnapped a Buffalo Grove man and two children, according to police.

Dawson had been on the Wheeling police force for 16 years before his death. He lived in Kildeer with his wife, Linda, and three daughters.

He had built his own home on four acres of land on which he kept horses. He had also built and flown his own airplane.

Dawson was described by those who knew him as a man who **loved people** and loved his job.

Police chief asks state to install traffic lights

In an effort to eliviate traffic tie-ups at the intersection of Route 83 and Equestrian Drive, Wheeling Police Chief Michael Haegers is asking the state to look into the possibility of installing traffic lights

By Bob Kehoe

Wheeling Police Chief Michael Haeger is continuing to press state officials to conduct a traffic study at the Route 83/Equestrian Drive intersection to see whether traffic signals should be installed.

Haeger, in letters to the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT), said extensive traffic backups at the intersection warrant swift action by the state.

The intersection, which handles traffic out of the Polo Run subdivision, has undergone several key changes that have increased traffic flow at the site since IDOT officials originally held hearings on making improvements to Route 83, Haeger said.

In an April 24 letter to IDOT, Haeger said that while village officials in the past thought there would be no need for signals at the intersection, the situation has changed dramatically.

A MOVE TO line up Stonegate Drive East in Prospect Heights with the Route 83/Equestrian Drive intersection has improved traffic flow, but has also led to traffic backups in the area, according to Haeger.

The increased traffic flow has also led to more turning movements by motorists, Haeger said, making the need for traffic signals at the intersection even greater.

IDOT District Programs Engineer Benjamin La'O said Wednesday that he sent a letter to Haeger this week asking for counts on the number of cars passing through the intersection to determine whether signalization is warranted.

"If the signals can be justified by the traffic counts, then we'll approve them," La'O said, adding that a number of factors including traffic volume will determine where on IDOT's priority list Wheeling's request will go.

DEPENDING ON THE traffic counts and future progress in negotiations with village officials on how costs for the signalization would be split with the state, La'O said it could be as long as a year or two before signals are installed at the intersection.

La'O added that no other roadway improvements are slated in the near future for Route 83 between Lake-Cook Road and Palatine Road — an area that has long been known for its traffic tie-ups.

Valley Stream to become playground

WHEELING — The Park District will be installing playground equipment to the Valley Stream Tot Lot located behind Childerley Park off Old McHenry Road and north of Dundee Road.

The Park Board last Thursday voted to develop and put in the equipment, which will probably be done this summer. Currently, Valley Stream is a small empty lot.

Before the equipment is added, the lot will be graded, leveled and seeded.

In other business Thursday, the Park Board swore in James Gallagher who was the only candidate for Park Commissioner in the recent election. A software programmer for Amoco Corp., Gallagher, 35, was first elected to the board in 1985 to fill an uncompleted term.

The board also elected officers Thursday. Tony Abruscato was reelected president of the Park Board. e Gallagher was elected vice president, taking over that post from Ed Klocke.

New committee appointments were also made. Julia Robberson was named chairwoman efings Gronds t and Don Lark a member of the Buildings and Grounds Committee; Gallagher was named chairman and Robberson a member of the Finance Committee; Klocke was named chairman and Gallagher a member of the Programs and Facilities Committee; and Lark was named chairman and Klocke a member of the Intergovernmental and Community Relations Committee.

Herald 5-7-87

Did Ryan 'get back at' fire district?

BY DAN ROZEK
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Arlington Heights Mayor James T. Ryan tried to engineer the removal of three Wheeling Township Rural Fire District trustees shortly after they dropped him from his $16,750-a-year job as fire district attorney, trustees are charging.

However, Ryan says he recommended replacing the three trustees with three new ones because none of the current members lived in the fire district any longer. At least one of the members hasn't lived in the district for possibly five years.

Ryan recommended in January that Cook County Board Chairman George Dunne appoint three new trustees to replace the trustees who two days earlier had decided to oust him for a less expensive attorney.

Trustees James Winstead and Lance Hooper say Ryan, as a political vendetta, tried to replace the whole fire district board without informing trustees of his actions.

"I can see very little reason for this except to get back at us for removing him," Winstead said. "And we did remove him."

"I think he was just angry," Hooper said. The new attorney, Anthony Buckun of Des Plaines, was hired at a rate of $75 an hour, less than Ryan's $135 an hour fee.

Ryan, however, insists his action was strictly a "legal matter" and denied he was motivated by politics or personality conflicts. Winstead, Hooper and Lou Pintacura no longer met the residency requirements since their homes had been annexed out of the fire district and into nearby towns, he said.

"We had three people who don't live in the district. What am I supposed to do, nothing?" Ryan said. He also says he told Winstead about his actions. Winstead denies being told.

The tiny fire protection district, organized years ago to give fire protection to the unincorporated areas between Wheeling, Mount Prospect and Buffalo Grove, has since abandoned its firefighting force, equipment and fire stations.

James T. Ryan

Now, the board collects taxes from residents to pay for fire service from the nearby towns. Officials say they will let the fire district fade quietly out of existence when the last of it is annexed into neighboring towns.

Ryan said he only became aware the trustees did not live in the district in late 1986 when a map detailing the district was completed. He faulted trustees for not realizing they didn't live in the district anymore and taking steps to remove themselves from the board.

Winstead and Hooper said they were not aware, or had forgotten about the residency requirement, because they had been on the board for years. Winstead also says the map was completed in August 1986, not later in the year.

"I may have been aware of it years ago, but I just didn't think of it," said Hooper, who has been on the board for 12 years. "In effect, I was not aware. No way I thought I was living in sin."

Hooper's neighborhood was annexed to Wheeling at least five years ago, he said. Winstead, who also has been a board member for about 12 years, was annexed to Buffalo Grove "at least three years ago" but he said he did not recall the residency rule.

"I simply didn't think of it. It just didn't occur to anyone," Winstead said. Pintacura's house was annexed to Wheeling several years ago, he said.

Still, they are soured by Ryan's timing.

"For him to suddenly wake up when he loses his job, it's an interesting coincidence," Hooper said.

Some trustees' terms also had expired before — up to a year before — but Ryan took no action at the time.

"Apparently we made Mr. Ryan angry with us," Winstead said. "He's the wrong person to get angry. At any rate, we have a real jumbled mess."

The mess centers on who is on the board and who isn't and worry over whether the new board members will follow the policy of letting the district die. Also, nobody knows whether the new board will try to bring Ryan back as attorney.

The confusion extends to the county board, where even Dunne, who ap-

See RYAN on Page 3

Who's Who in the Wheeling Township Rural Fire District

Who's out:

James T. Ryan — An attorney in private practice, who earned $16,750 last year as legal counsel for the Wheeling Township Rural Fire Protection District and was removed by the board late in 1986 in favor of a less expensive attorney. Also the Arlington Heights mayor, which is separate and distinct from his work as a private attorney.

James Winstead — Formerly the fire district board president and a member of the board for 12 years. Hasn't lived in the district for three years and has been replaced by a district resident. Annual pay: $1,125.

Lou Pintacura — Former member of the fire district board who was on the board for about six years. Has been replaced by a district resident. Annual pay: $1,125.

Who's on the way out:

Lance Hooper — Board member whose term expires in 1988 and will stay on until then, even though he hasn't lived in the district for five years. Annual pay currently: $1,125.

Who's in:

Anthony Buckun — A Des Plaines attorney hired by the old board of trustees at an hourly rate of $75, less than the $135 per hour Ryan charged.

Alfred Schmidt — Of Prospect Heights, and a resident of the fire protection district.

Frank Schwab — Of unincorporated Arlington Heights, and a resident of the fire protection district.

David Wiltse — Hired treasurer of the district at an annual salary of $2,000.

5-29-87 HERALD

Airport panel taking no chances

By C. L. WALLER
Daily Herald Staff Writer

The lack of insurance covering the members of the Pal-Waukee Municipal Airport Commission has made members skittish about voting on decisions affecting the airport — their basic function as commissioners.

The insurance policies held by both Wheeling and Prospect Heights through the Intergovernmental Risk Management Association (IRMA) insurance pool specifically omits the commission and its members from being insured, said Cathy Howe, an IRMA spokesperson.

"Gee, I wouldn't want to be sitting on that commission," she said.

The commission has been turned down by seven different insurers, said member William Rogers. Last month members threatened to resign if the problem was not corrected, but so far no one has left.

Concern [illegible] the eight-member commission reached new heights this week when three members, Rogers, Charles VanderVennet and James Nickel, abstained from voting on a pavement engineering contract.

The contract was approved, but failure to get coverage from seven different insurance companies has made commissioners nervous.

"Until the insurance issue is resolved we are walking a tightrope. It's been 2½ years since we first addressed this issue," Rogers said.

"If anything happens at the airport as a result of a recommendation we made, anyone with $46 in their pocket could sue," member Carey Chickerneo said.

Chickerneo, who serves on a committee investigating the insurance question, mailed letters to Prospect Heights and Wheeling about a month ago saying commissioners would resign if they were not covered through an errors and omissions policy protecting their decisions.

Neither community responded to the letter, but Wheeling did agree to ask the insurance group about it.

See INSURANCE on Page 3

INSURANCE: It's grounding air panel

Continued from Page 1

Chickerneo said if insurance is not found "in short order," he would follow through with his threat to quit.

VanderVennet, meanwhile, said he will continue abstaining from votes.

"The two communities... should think about the commission not meeting until we get this thing resolved," Rogers said.

Commission Chairman Ronald Sowatzke said the commission has been told that insurance for commissioners was difficult to find because the group, now about 2½ years old, has no "track record."

Howe said she thinks Wheeling and Prospect Heights could remove the airport commission exclusion clause from their IRMA policies or the commission could continue to seek its own insurance through a private company.

However, Wheeling village attorney James Rhodes said it is not clear specifically what is and what is not covered by the IRMA contract.

Sowatzke said the commission has requested that the insurance pool put its opinion in writing.

"The interpretation of the policy is different with different people," he said.

NORTHOMES

Photos by Alan Sue

THE OLD AND the new: Wheeling offers a variety of housing from older homes near the downtown area to new homes in developments such as Kingsport Village.

Wheeling still has room for development

By JIM BISHOP
Correspondent

When the first settler arrived in what is now the Village of Wheeling more than 150 years ago, the landscape was filled with tall prairie grass, buffalo herds and a few Indians who ignored the governor's order to head westward. Today, the town is a growing and thriving community of 23,600 people in varying stages and stations of life. The buffalo have gone, but prairie grass till stands in some spots as evidence of Wheeling's ripeness for even further growth.

"About 90 percent of the space available for single-family homes is already developed," says Village [illegible]ner Richard D. Greenwood. [illegible]re only about 50 percent [illegible]strial development. [illegible] apartment land is developed."

A comparatively large light industrial component and ease of access to transportation of all kinds are among the keys to Wheeling's vitality, Greenwood says.

"About one-third of our land is zoned for industrial use," he notes. "We'We in a very good position for industrial development, and that has brought in the residential development."

Ecko Products, Inc., Wickes Furniture, American Cable Corp. and Kenny Construction Co. are among the firms that already have headquarters or major plants in Wheeling.

Once referred to merely as "Camp 20" by Soo Line Railroad crews who worked on the line there, Wheeling today is far from reminiscent of a camp. Instead, visitors will find well-kept apartment complexes and houses ranging from single-story brick bungalows built in the '50s to crisp new developments featuring spacious two-story homes on streets bearing names like "Captain's Lane" and "Longtree Drive."

And visitors there are, because Wheeling is the home of the popular Milwaukee Avenue "Restaurant Row," whose origins locals trace back to the time when Wheeling was a rest stop for travelers between Chicago and Milwaukee. Here, both residents and culinary pilgrims from surrounding communities like Buffalo Grove, Mt. Prospect and Northbrook come to sample everything from pizza to Peking duck. Even Chicagoans sneak over for a taste from time to time, so the rumors go.

One of the problems for apartment and house-seekers in Wheeling today, says Greenwood, is that people are not easily uprooted from the community.

"The turnover rate is not high," Greenwood says. He cites "Cook County property tax rates, easy access to transportation, good quality residences, our dining facilities and parks and recreational activities" as major attractions making the village hard to leave.

"Lots of people like to drive around the corner to go to work," notes Mary Ann Wands, manager of Foxboro Apartments, a nine-year-old, 402-unit apartment complex near the intersection of Wolf and Dundee Roads. She says turnover rates at Foxboro "have never been high, because tenants pretty much work in this area" and in nearby suburbs.

The $470 and $490 rents for one-bedroom apartments at Foxboro are "about average for Wheeling," according to Wands. However, as planner Greenwood notes, housing and apartments in the village "are not that inexpensive anymore." Apartments at Woodland Creek, for example, a complex now in its second development phase at Palatine and Wolf Roads, has rents in the $800 to $1,100 range, according to Greenwood.

Two of Wheeling's newer developments, Kingsport Village and Kingsport Commons, reflect both housing and pricing trends in the area. Kingsport Village, completed last year, is a 225-unit development of two-story single-family homes in the $125,000 to $150,000 price range. Kingsport Commons, now under construction off McHenry Road at Denoyer Trail, will offer two-story multi-family housing units ranging in price from $85,700 to $96,400.

"Wheeling is ideal for these developments," says Joel Neiberg, spokesman for Kingsport Development, Inc., the Wheeling-based builder of both complexes. Like Greenwood and Wands, Neiberg cites closeness to work a quiet community and the relative advantages of Cook County property taxes among the area's attractions. "There's a high demand for these price ranges and this location," says Neiberg.

Kingsport Commons will offer busy residents landscape maintenance, snow removal and other services for a monthly fee. That will give them a head start on people who have to mow their lawns before they try to beat the out-of-towners to a choice table on Restaurant Row.

Tax exemptions

Continued from page 1

decision to move to Wheeling from Skokie. But Village Manager Tom Markus said that the purpose of the tax break is to attract businesses to the community and Litho-Tronics is already located here.

Village President Sheila Schultz said that "as harsh as it may sound we have to go back to the original intent" of the 6B exemption, which is to attract businesses.

She said the fact that the business is already in Wheeling negates the whole purpose of the tax break.

"These exemptions are, in essence, lowering taxes to the community," Schultz said.

Markus also pointed out that a village ordinance requires a company to occupy 75 percent of the building it is using in order to qualify for the 6B.

Litho-Tronics does not meet that requirement and is planning to lease out more than 25 percent of its facility, at least for a while.

Although the staff recommended denial of the 6B exemption to Litho-Tronics, it recommended giving the tax break to Fire Control, even though the building that company will occupy has also been built, off Wolf Road between Willow and Camp McDonald roads.

Markus said the recommendation to approve the Fire Control exemption was "a close call," and suggested that the Village Board debate it.

He said that although Fire Control had already constructed the building it had done so with company officials thinking they would get the 6B exemption. The officials did not understand village procedures and thought a building permit was a form of acceptance of the tax break, Markus said.

Despite the staff's doubts, the board unanimously granted the 6B exemption.

Other firms given the tax break were Faucet Queens, which is planning to move from Chicago to the Palwaukee Business Center; John Remke, Inc., a Skokie firm that wants to relocate to the Pal-Waukee Business Center; and the Bridgestone Co., a Glenview company that also is moving to the Pal-Waukee Business Center.

Village grants tax exemptions to firms

WHEELING — The Village Board Monday agreed to give tax breaks to four new businesses but refused to grant a 6B tax exemp- exemption to a fifth company despite pleas from the president of the firm

The 6B exemption reduces companies' property tax assessment levels to 16 percent for eight years and then to 30 percent for an additional four years. Industrial property in Cook County is currently assessed at 40 percent of market value.

In order to get the 6B exemption, companies must have the approval of the village and the county. The exemption was designed to make Cook County more competitive with other counties, where the assessment rate is 33⅓ percent.

The firm that was denied the exemption, Litho-Tronics, Inc., has constructed a building in the Pal-Waukee Business Center. Dan Ballard, president of the firm, told the Village Board that the 6B exemption was a factor in the company's

Please turn to page 3

5-7-87 Herald

Annexing of stables questioned

BY C. L. WALLER
Daily Herald Staff Writer

A judge has halted development of the Grand Champion Stables property at least until the courts decide whether Wheeling annexed the stables properly.

A judge is expected to decide Tuesday whether Wheeling can go ahead and issue permits for the demolition of buildings there, at Lake-Cook and Portwine roads.

The developer wants to tear down the eight stable buildings and build four one-story office buildings.

The villages of Northbrook and Riverwoods are suing Wheeling over the annexation last November, claiming it was illegal because the 12-acre parcel was not contiguous to Wheeling. They say that Portwine Road, which runs through the Potawatomi Woods, interrupts Wheeling's contiguity to the nearby forest preserve, and the stables were on the far side of the preserve.

Northbrook officials instead claim the property is rightfully theirs and say it has been included in that village's master land-use plans.

"This thing should be held status quo until a judge decides whether Wheeling or Northbrook is in control of the property," said John Siegel, special attorney for Northbrook and Riverwoods.

Both Riverwoods and Northbrook say they are concerned that Wheeling will neglect enforcing zoning and building regulations because the forest preserve divides the property from the rest of the village. Wheeling officials, however, say they will be attentive to the development.

Siegel said he is confident that the judge will issue an injunction on demolition permits for the property until the annexation lawsuit is settled.

Meanwhile, both sides already have argued in court over who is representing them. Each side has claimed at least once that the attorney for the other was causing a conflict of interest because of clients the law firms had represented.

CENTER: Will suburbs reap $351 million?

Continued from Page 1

ties with fewer attractions would receive smaller amounts.

Convention center boosters hope to persuade municipal officials to pledge part of the anticipated sales tax gains toward the annual $7 million needed to defray construction costs and an annual $500,000 deficit. A 25-year commitment is needed but the study expects the convention center to generate projected revenue in three to five years.

Organizers may run into some difficulty convincing towns to share the burden.

"There's no doubt about it, the region will benefit," said Hanover Park Village President Sonya Crawshaw. "But as far as specific benefits to Hanover Park, I think you're stretching it. It's real hard to imagine what conventioneers would come to Hanover Park to do."

Palatine Village President Frank Munch expressed skepticism about the size of the projected tax gains, but said "I would not be opposed to pledge some (sales tax) dollars based on our return."

The size of each town's contribution will probably be determined within the next month at meetings of the Schaumburg Metropolitan Exposition and Office Building Authority and the blue-ribbon committee for a convention center.

Hotel operators have already agreed to contribute $1 million annually to the convention center by raising their room tax from 4 to 5 percent as an investment in increasing their business.

A task force will lobby the state for funding, possibly through the Build Illinois program. The study projects the state would receive between $13.4 million and $19.6 million in additional sales, gasoline and income taxes.

If funding is secured without obstacle, construction could begin by late 1988, Rivera said.

The study, conducted by Laventhol & Horwath Certified Public Accountants, predicts conventioneers would spend between $52.7 million and $77.4 million each year in hotel rooms, meals and shopping, depending on the size and type of the convention center. The economic gain would grow to between $240 million and $350 million in spin-off spending throughout the region, the study said. In addition, 2,200 to 3,200 new jobs would be created.

The study also reaffirmed the authority's decision that Schaumburg is the best location because it has the most hotel rooms, shopping opportunities and is accessible to major highways.

Flying together

For the first time in the history of Pal-Waukee Airport, a group of pilots and aircraft owners has come together and created an organization aimed at both improving safety conditions at the facility and bettering communications between those who use the airport and those who operate it.

The organization, called the Pal-Waukee Airport Pilots' Association, was established to form a link between the pilots and the airport commission, an entity made up of officials from Prospect Heights and Wheeling, the two towns that purchased the airport at the end of last year.

Pilots emphasize they have no problem with the way Pal-Waukee's being run, but that they feel it's important to have a way to communicate with the commission in case problems arise down the road.

The group, made up of some 100 pilots and owners, wants to work with the commission and the Federal Aviation Administration to develop safety training programs for pilots and community awareness programs for the public.

The association also hopes the commission will use it as a sounding board while it considers various improvements or changes at the airport.

Those are good ideas. And the timing couldn't be better. Now that Pal-Waukee has switched from private to public ownership, the pilots should have the opportunity to voice any concerns they have to the commission.

We only hope the commission will listen to what those who use the airport the most have to say about the way it's being run.

5-28-87

Reader by Rossa and Vendermeer is very informative. Fascinating glimpses of the lives of 17 U.S. citizens are provided in *Bearing Witness: Building Bridges* by Everett. It contains interviews conducted in 1985 in Nicaragua.

Does Ronald Reagan really believe all of the people in the U.S. are going to wear the same blinders he does? It is time that those who oppose the support of this war speak

AIRPORT: Pal-Waukee's corporate business dips

Continued from Page 1

the recently expanded Waukegan Regional Airport has had in competing for business.

The Pal-Waukee Airport commission has no figures on the status of company clients, but VanderVennet said it may be time to take a count to see how many have left and how many firms remain.

Waukegan airport officials, however, have been counting. They say nearly 40 companies have shifted operations to Waukegan from Pal-Waukee.

In the past two years, that number has included 10 corporation flight departments and eight other business planes, Waukegan airport manager Patrick Nolan said. Another 28 transient companies — which use the airport, but are not officially based there — also are using Waukegan instead of Pal-Waukee, Nolan said.

He predicted about 12 more corporations would move to Waukegan from Pal-Waukee in the next two years.

Priester Aviation spokesman John Ostrowski argued that only about four corporate flight departments — the largest and most valuable customers — have left Pal-Waukee for Waukegan. He later revised the number to seven corporations, although he disputed two other corporations that Nolan said had switched to Waukegan.

Even with the recent changes, Pal-Waukee still is home to about 140 corporate flight departments, airport commission members say. Waukegan is home to about 20.

Several improvements at Waukegan, including extending a runway and refurbishing taxiways and building new hangars, are the major reasons for the airport's increased business, Nolan said.

But some unhappy Pal-Waukee pilots say problems at Pal-Waukee have exacerbated the situation. Common complaints are that the hangars are improperly maintained and that fuel prices are too high.

Former airport owner George Priester, who now is contracted by Wheeling and Prospect Heights to maintain the airport grounds and sell fuel, denied charges that he is not maintaining the airport satisfactorily.

VanderVennet backed Priester, saying "as a general rule, maintenance is good on the field."

Some pilots disagree.

Pointing to a rusty brown water stain stretching from the ceiling of the hangar housing millions of dollars in corporate jets, Harms charges that the hangars are not adequately maintained. He said he asked Priester to fix the leak two years ago.

"We're lucky if we can get him in here to change the light bulbs," Harms said.

Besides having large holes, the [illegible] the Chicago &

more because they buy from a fixed base operator, Priester Aviation, which also provides mechanical services, Priester said.

Airport Chairman Sowatzke said municipal officials, under the terms of their contract, cannot regulate what Priester charges for fuel.

"We cannot establish his fees," Sowatzke said. "That's his business."

Pal-Waukee officials say they eventually may contract with another fuel firm to compete with Priester, which probably would lower fuel prices, but there is no room for another company now, Sowatzke said.

Commission members also have limited say over how the field is maintained. Priester is obligated to meet certain conditions, such as keeping runways patched and clear of snow, keeping the grass cut and maintaining the lighting system.

Priester is obligated to maintain the hangars he leases from the towns and then rents to customers, but without an on-site manager, it is difficult to enforce those terms, Sowatzke said.

"We can't be out there," he said.

Harms said Wheeling and Prospect Heights should be asking the airport's users what needs to be done there. Many pilots can't leave Pal-Waukee for another airport because of its convenient location, he said.

He said several users are attempting to form a lobby group of flight directors or chief pilots to give corporate users more say in how the airport is run.

Sowatzke said the towns want to keep their customers satisfied, because the economic health of the airport depends on having a solid base of customers.

Fuel purchases are particularly vital, he said, because a 6-cent-a-gallon gas tax provides revenue for the towns to run the airport.

"We are extremely concerned because we don't want to lose people," Sowatzke said. "We always have to worry about people leaving, but we've had many, many inquiries from people wanting to come here, but there's no room for them."

Sowatzke said hiring a permanent manager to deal directly with airport users would help [illegible] concerns raised by Harm[illegible] pilots and mechanics.

"It's absolutely the fir[illegible] step," Sowatzke said. "T[illegible] man here they can conta[illegible] who can answer their que[illegible]

The commission hoped [illegible] on-site manager late las[illegible] negotiations have dragge[illegible] because the commission [illegible] and uses attorneys to neg[illegible]

"It takes time and it's [illegible] process," Sowatzke said.

Airport's watching business fly away

By Dan Rozek
and C.L. Waller
Daily Herald staff writers

Pal-Waukee Municipal Airport, once the nation's busiest private airport, is losing corporate business in a downturn that some pilots and mechanics are blaming on maintenance problems and high fuel prices.

Traffic at Pal-Waukee, now owned jointly by the municipalities of Prospect Heights and Wheeling, has dropped by an average of 60 flights per day in the past year, and many of the losses are attributed to corporate clients who have taken their business elsewhere.

"There's considerable pressure from our management to move our planes out of Pal-Waukee," said H. Paul Harms, flight operations director for the Chicago & North Western Ry., who criticized the airport's operation.

Pal-Waukee Airport Commission members concede that the airport is facing a number of problems — some created by the absence of an airport manager since December.

"I don't know why flights are down," airport commission Chairman Ronald C. Sowatzke said. "It could be because of less training. It could be anything."

But they also warned that the loss in business at Pal-Waukee — still one of the most active small airports in the country — should not be exaggerated.

"The ebb and flow (of flights) is there, but with mergers and other changes, that's going to happen," air-

number to seven corporations, although he disputed two other corporations that Nolan said had switched to Waukegan.

Even with the recent changes, Pal-Waukee still is home to about 140 corporate flight departments, airport commission members say. Waukegan is home to about 20.

Several improvements at Waukegan, including extending a runway and refurbishing taxiways and building new hangars, are the major reasons for the airport's increased business, Nolan said.

But some unhappy Pal-Waukee pilots say problems at Pal-Waukee have exacerbated the situation. Common complaints are that the hangars are improperly maintained and that fuel prices are too high.

Former airport owner George Priester, who now is contracted by Wheeling and Prospect Heights to maintain the airport grounds and sell fuel, denied charges that he is not maintaining the airport satisfactorily.

VanderVennet backed Priester, saying "as a general rule, maintenance is good on the field."

Some pilots disagree.

Pointing to a rusty brown water stain stretching from the ceiling of the hangar housing millions of dollars in corporate jets, Harms charges that the hangars are not adequately maintained. He said he asked Priester to fix the leak two years ago.

"We're lucky if we can get him in here to change the light bulbs," Harms said.

Besides having large holes, the ceiling of the hangar the Chicago & North Western rents for $2,500 a month has large pieces of concrete missing. Harms said there is one hangar at Pal-Waukee that has chunks of concrete falling off of the roof.

"You get a slab of concrete falling on a wing," he said, "and that's a quarter of a million dollars worth of repairs."

Some pilots said they were pleased when the municipalities of Wheeling and Prospect Heights bought the airport, because they believed it would improve operations there. They said they are disappointed that Priester Aviation still is providing services there under contract with the towns.

"We had high hopes, but Priester still is dabbling in the middle," said Bob Anderson, chief pilot for Aon Corp.

Priester said his company has had a good working relationship with pilots through the years and has done a good job of running the airport.

"If they've got complaints," he said, "they have not taken them to me or the management."

Indeed, there are pilots who say they are satisfied with the way the airport is run.

"My experience has been positive," said Ron Podlesak, chief pilot for Centel in Des Plaines. "I have no complaints."

Renting a hangar at Pal-Waukee costs more than at Waukegan. Rental fees begin at $315 a month, while Waukegan's fees start at $200 monthly.

Waukegan, however, charges visiting aircraft a landing fee of between $3 and $60, depending on the size of the plane. There are no landing fees at Pal-Waukee.

The major price difference between airports is the cost of aviation fuel.

Jet fuel costs at least 30 to 40 cents more per gallon at Pal-Waukee Airport than at Waukegan.

Harms said he buys fuel for 89 cents a gallon at Waukegan while the fuel at Pal-Waukee commonly costs $1.46. Harms' company purchases 10,000 gallons monthly from Priester, a purchase that costs about $5,500 more a month than if it were bought in Waukegan.

Priester said that Waukegan has allowed customers to install their own fuel pumps, creating a large savings.

"What you really wind up with," he said, "is having a municipal airport run by its users."

Customers at Pal-Waukee pay

By Dan Rozek
and C.L. Waller
Daily Herald staff writers

Pal-Waukee Municipal Airport, once the nation's busiest private airport, is losing corporate business in a downturn that some pilots and mechanics are blaming on maintenance problems and high fuel prices.

Traffic at Pal-Waukee, now owned jointly by the municipalities of Prospect Heights and Wheeling, has dropped by an average of 60 flights per day in the past year, and many of the losses are attributed to corporate clients who have taken their business elsewhere.

"There's considerable pressure from our management to move our planes out of Pal-Waukee," said H. Paul Harms, flight operations director for the Chicago & North Western Ry., who criticized the airport's operation.

Pal-Waukee Airport Commission members concede that the airport is facing a number of problems — some created by the absence of an airport manager since December.

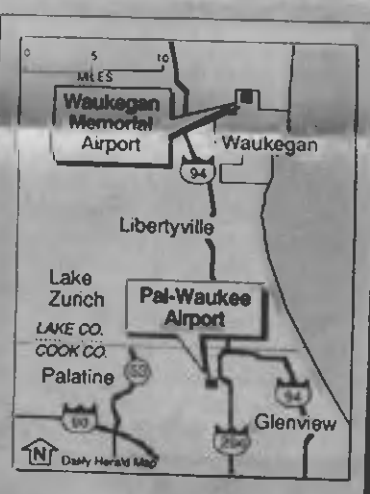
"I don't know why flights are down," airport commission Chairman Ronald C. Sowatzke said. "It could be because of less training. It could be anything."

But they also warned that the loss in business at Pal-Waukee — still one of the most active small airports in the country — should not be exaggerated.

"The ebb and flow (of flights) is there, but with mergers and other changes, that's going to happen," airport commission member Charles T. VanderVennet said. "I guarantee the (airplane) noise going over my house is still there."

One of the challenges facing the airport, Pal-Waukee officials conceded, is the increasing success that

See AIRPORT *on Page 5*



Flight from Pal-Waukee

In the past two years, Pal-Waukee Municipal Airport has been losing business, much of it to Waukegan Regional Airport. Here's how the two compare.

Pal-Waukee

Size: 256 acres
Runways: 4
Longest: 5,000 feet
Daily traffic: 580 in 1986, 640 in 1985
Jet fuel base cost: $1.61 per gallon
Indoor hangar fees: $315 to $2,500 monthly

Waukegan

Size: 600 acres
Runways: 1
Length: 6,000 feet
Daily traffic: 370 in 1986, 331 in 1985
Jet fuel base cost: $1.20-$1.30 per gallon
Indoor hangar fees: $200 to $1,600 monthly

Wheeling Countryside

Crowds turn out at Skipper's on Elmhurst Road just about every Friday and Saturday night to take a peak at out the custom cars parked in the lot of the establishment. *(Staff photos by Geoff Scheerer)*

Village cracks down on classic car hangout

By Mark Maley

An uninitiated motorist passing by Skipper's restaurant on Elmhurst Road on a weekend night may think he's stumbled onto a scene from the television series "Happy Days."

Parked outside the burger joint on just about any warm Friday or Saturday night are about a dozen or so classic cars in mint condition — with their hoods propped up so that gawkers can "ooh" and "ahh" at the chrome engines.

Paul Drakousis, who owns the restaurant, says for the last three years car buffs from throughout the Chicago area have been coming to Skipper's to show off their autos, and the display of hot rods and custom cars attracts admirers from all over the suburbs.

But the popularity of the impromptu auto shows at Skipper's is creating traffic and parking problems in the area, and Wheeling officials say something has to be done about it.

BECAUSE MOST OF the parking lot at the restaurant is filled with old Chevys, Corvettes, GTOs and other classics, customers and those who come just to view the cars have to park elsewhere. And a lot of them are parking illegally on the shoulder of Elmhurst Road, in no-parking zones and in the lot of the Dunhurst shopping center on Dundee Road.

The village has also received complaints from residents living on nearby Jenkins Court about drivers speeding and squealing their tires as they drive through the residential area.

"The cars are gorgeous," said Wheeling Police Sgt. Jack Kimsey, "but we're concerned about the safety. We're trying to make it a safer environment."

"A lot of people consider this place a nuisance," added Village Manager Tom Markus, who admits he's visited Skipper's a few times himself to check out the cars.

TO REDUCE THE traffic and parking problems near Skipper's, police have provided Drakousis with no parking signs that he has agreed to post on the parkways on the south and east sides of the restaurant.

The village has also installed no parking signs on Jenkins Court and has asked the Illinois Department of Transportation to put no parking signs on Elmhurst Road, which is a state highway.

On Friday and Saturday night, police beefed up patrols around the restaurant, and although no citations were issued, police say they will continue to monitor the activity around Skipper's and will write tickets when necessary.

And Police Chief Michael Haeger met with Drakousis last month in an effort to come up with solutions to the traffic problems.

FOR NOW, DRAKOUSIS and village officials are working together to reduce the traffic and parking problems at Skipper's. But Markus warns that if the situation doesn't get better, Wheeling could consider shutting down the restaurant.

"Our first effort is to work with the restaurant owner," he said. "He said he will attempt to cooperate to the extent that he can. But some of these things are out of his control...The village has the authority to pull his license, but we don't want it to come to that."

A couple checks out the interior of a 1950 Mercury parked at Skipper's Saturday night.

Drakousis acknowledges that his restaurant does generate extra traffic in the area, but he says there's a Dairy Queen next to his establishment that he thinks is the major source of the traffic problems on Jenkins Court.

And while residents in the area complain about cars from Skipper's driving recklessly through their neighborhood, Drakousis says that's not the case.

"I DON'T see anything wrong," he said. "A lot of these cars are worth $20,000, so these are not kids who own them, and they're not causing problems. Most of the people who come here are middle-aged."

Although Drakousis feels his establishment is being unfairly singled out, he says he's willing to work with the village to correct whatever problems exist around the restaurant.

"If the police say there's a problem, there's nothing more I can say," he said.

Village officials are hoping the no parking signs and increased enforcement will take care of the problems at Skipper's, and Markus insists he doesn't want to shut down the restaurant or force the car buffs to meet elsewhere.

DRAKOUSIS, TOO, SAYS it would be a shame if the cars no longer gathered at his establishment on Friday and Saturday nights.

"The way I see it, it's something different for the town," he said. "People come to Wheeling from all around to take a look at the old cars. That's something special."

Life 6-4-87

LIFE IN WHEELING

WHS, Holmes Jr. High honored for excellence

BY SANDY ALTIERI

■ It was announced last week that Wheeling High School and Holmes Jr. High were among nine Illinois public schools to receive the Excellence in Education Award in the 1987 National Secondary School Recognition Program. These two Wheeling schools were among 217 secondary schools chosen throughout the entire country for their exemplary achievements.

ALTIERI

To be among the country's best schools is a great honor. We commend **Tom Shirley**, principal of Wheeling High, **Avi Poster**, principal of Holmes Jr. High, the excellent faculty, and the super students. The citizens of Wheeling are proud of you; keep up the good work.

Wheeling has many people of whom to be proud. Among them is Wheeling High School junior **Amy Pielin**, a member of the school's symphony orchestra and concertmistress of the chamber orchestra. Pielin, also concertmistress of the Metropolitan Youth Symphony Orchestra of Chicago, was the featured soloist in the Allegro from Mozart's G Major Violin Concerto at the May 4 concert at Orchestra Hall. Amy, daughter of **Don and Linda Pielin** of Sarasota Drive, appeared recently on the WTTW-TV Young Performers' Competition, playing the Mozart Concerto No. 5.

In addition to playing the violin, Pielin is also an accomplished pianist. Her goal is to have a career in conducting or composing. It's a pleasure to know this delightful young lady, and we wish her the best in all of her pursuits.

■ When one thinks of service to others, senior citizen **Betty Barrie** of West Wayne Place is someone of whom to be proud. She spends endless hours serving the community in many different areas. Barrie, corresponding secretary of the Wheeling Historical Society, can be found at the Wheeling Museum on Tuesday mornings compiling the "Who's Who" (tracing early Wheeling families). She also serves as a tour guide for the many Scout groups that visit the museum.

In addition, Betty serves as treasurer of the Amvets Auxiliary. She enjoys visiting the servicemen at the VA hospitals and the patients at Maple Hill Nursing Home to bring a little bit of cheer into their lives. The mother of eight grown children, Barrie spends Thanksgiving Day cooking and serving a traditional dinner to the servicemen from Great Lakes who are invited to the Amvets Post each year.

"Betty's Deli Lunch" is often seen on the calendar of events at Pavilion Senior Center, where she prepares lunch for over 30 seniors. She is also a member of the Pavilion-Aires Chorus that performs in the area under the direction of **Joe Ochs**.

Those of us who are fortunate enough to knwo Betty are proud to have her as a friend.

■ The Wheeling Jaycees really stood out in the crowd at the recent Jaycee State Convention in Oakbrook, as they won many of the top state awards. They won the Giessenbier Award, making them the No. 1 overall Jaycee chapter in their population division. Individual awards were presented to **Mark and Debbie Santy, Chuck McFarlin, Rich and Carol Grooms, Jack Schumacher, Barb Sigwarth, Mike Lynch, Gil Carr and Tom Todd** for being outstanding local officers. **Mark** and Debbie Santy were named Illinois Jaycee Family of the Year. In the **Parade of Chapters**, Wheeling placed No. 1 in their population division and No. 5 in the state. They also came home with 12 programming awards in recognition of their many fine community projects.

"The success of our year is due in part to the tremendous positive response we had in the village of Wheeling," Mark Santy said, "from the village administration to businesses such as Kmart and Wa-Pa-Ghetti's, who were very willing to donate for worthy causes. I sincerely thank everyone in the village who contributed to our success. You made a difference."

In order to increase the strength of the organization so that even more projects can be conducted in the upcoming years, the Jaycees have doubled their membership from 69 to 139 members. Mike Lynch, whose one-year term began May 1, succeeds Mark Santy as president.

Congratulations to this fine group of young men and women on their success.

Life 6-4-87

Village OKs sign approval

BY LINDA COOPER
Correspondent

A reader board sign was approved for use by Dairy Queen, 122 Elmhurst Road.

Wheeling trustees voted at Monday night's meeting to modify the Wheeling sign code, thus allowing the sign.

One section of the code had stated "that not more than one free-standing sign should be displayed on any street front of any premises."

Ashok Luthra of Dairy Queen petitioned to add the reader board to the existing pole sign. Luthra said the addition of the board would eliminate the need for banners to advertise specials as well as help-wanted signs, which are free-standing.

Approval of the sign had been recommended by the Village Appearance Commission.

The topic of aesthetics was raised by Trustee Elizabeth Hartman, who said landscaping at the Dairy Queen had been neglected. Board President Sheila Schultz advised Luthra that the Village Board would "appreciate attention" to the outlet's landscaping.

Trustee Judy Abruscato asked if the sign would bring added business to Dairy Queen. Luthra's attorney said the sign would attract traffic both in summer and in winter, when customers sometimes don't realize the restaurant is open. Trustee William Rodgers said the village should see that the landscaping at the site be upgraded.

Only Abruscato voted against the sign.

The board also passed three ordinances which will allow the development of three lots at Dougherty Shamrock Estates to be built. The board agreed to reduce property setback lines from 25 feet to 15 feet to accomodate the three lots. Two lots are on Anita Place and the third is on Stone Place.

Restaurant owner George Kastanis was honored at the meeting by the Lions Club for his fundraising efforts. Kastanis owns the original Granny Annies in Wheeling. He has donated pancake batter and sausages for the Lions Club breakfasts. Upon receiving a plaque in his honor, Kastanis said, "Wheeling's been so good to me."

Schultz told him, "When you help the Lions Club, you help the village."

HEELING COUNTRYSIDE

6-11-87

Cops' discipline hearings slated for next week

The Wheeling Board of Fire and Police Commissioners will hold disciplinary hearings next week for police officers Robert Pressley and Burton Kaminsky.

Kaminsky's hearing, set for 7 p.m. Wednesday, will determine what action, if any, will be taken against the officer on charges of failing to answer police calls and leaving his post while on duty.

Kaminsky was originally dismissed from the force in 1985 on those charges, but a recent Illinois Appellate Court ruling reversed the commission's decision and ordered that he be rehired. The court decision reversed the commission's finding that Kaminsky failed to respond to a September, 1984 fire call.

Next week's hearing will determine what disciplinary action, short of dismissal, should be taken against Kaminsky.

Officer Robert Pressley will appear before the commission at 7 p.m. June 18 to answer charges that he lied about his role in a two-squad car accident.

Police Chief Michael Hager pressed formal charges against Pressley, saying the officer violated three traffic laws during a police chase and then lied about it. The commission had delayed the hearing until the police department produced past records to show how officers involved in similar cases were disciplined.

Pressley, the only black officer on the force, has since filed a civil rights suit against the department, claiming that he has been discriminated against. Pressley says in the suit that he was racially harassed earlier in his eight-year career with the department.

Architect hired to develop Last Four Acre

Herald 6-8-87

Plans will be formulated soon for the development of Last Four Acre Park in Wheeling, as Wheeling Park District commissioners have hired an architect.

Rose and Associates, Inc. of Hinsdale was hired by the park board at a cost not to exceed $8,250.

The park, which lies west of Wheeling Road between Hintz and Palatine roads near the Ridgefield subdivision, is being developed with $50,000 that was awarded to the park district from the Build Illinois program.

The architectural firm will be asked to present three designs for developing the park and the board will choose one of the three options.

The five architects interviewed for the project reviewed suggestions by residents of the Ridgefield and Polo Run subdivisions, which lie adjacent to the park. Included in those suggestions were two playground facilities, one for toddlers and one for older children, a playing field with no backstop and a cul-de-sac, said Ridgefield resident Steve Heinz, who helped organize residents.

Because Honeysuckle Drive now dead-ends into the park, the cul-de-sac would make snow plowing easier and parents can turn cars easier into the cul-de-sac to see if their children are at the park, Heinz said.

He said residents don't want parking allowed on the cul-de-sac.

Wheeling Park District was chosen to receive a $300,000 grant, two-thirds of which was used to repair the roof on the Chevy Chase Clubhouse. Of the $100,000 left, the park will use $46,000 for improvements at Heritage Park on Wolf Road and $4,000 for improvements at Childerly Park on McHenry Road.

WHEELING COUNTRYSIDE

6-11-87

Wheeling takes look at recycling program

By Lee Ann Mackulin

Wheeling officials are getting behind plans for a regional recycling center for the northwest suburbs.

Plans for the recycling center, which would serve the municipalities that belong to the Northwest Municipal Conference (NWMC), would greatly reduce the amount of garbage dumped by each suburb.

According to Wheeling Administrative Assistant David Kowal, the center could reduce the amount of waste sent to landfills from these towns by 10 percent.

Materials, including paper products, clear, green and amber glass, steel bimetal and aluminum cans and oil would be dropped off at one of 10 proposed collection center locations for recycling. At least 10 recycling centers are required to make the project economical.

NWMC TOWNS PARTICIPATING in the recycle effort would each be asked to pay $10,000 each for start-up costs for the centers.

According to Kowal, once opened, money generated from the sale of recycled material would pay for continued operation of the center.

Still in the discussion stages, the recycling center is the result of a recent NWMC board decision approving a five-year goal to reduce the municipal waste stream locally.

The project was proposed to the NWMC board by the North Shore Ecology Center (NSEC), which would oversee the project. NSEC has already been successful in starting 14 similar operations, some operating since 1971.

CHICAGO SUBURBS THAT have been serviced by regional recycling centers include Skokie, Glencoe, Northbrook, Waukegan, Libertyville, Lake Forest Winnetka and Deerfield. According to the program director for NSEC, George Brabec, Glencoe is "the best example of operation" of a recycling center. Glencoe has experienced a 6.5 percent reduction so far in their waste stream.

Brabec said that on the average it takes six months before a recycling program is approved and another 90 days for NSEC to implement it.

Kowal is recommending that the village board continue to investigate the possibility of taking part in the project, but he said the recycling project will require "in-depth study" before the project will get off the ground.

Trustee Jim Whittington, who supports the idea of a recycling center to serve the village, said Wheeling could stand having a little less garbage. "Right now we're dumping garbage so fast we don't know what to do with it," he said.

WHITTINGTON SAID A bail landfill, which would serve Wheeling and other communities, is still under consideration. The landfill would be located in unincorporated Cook County property near Bartlett. The next step in getting rid of garbage would be the construction of an incineration site, something Whittington predicts would take 15 years to get approved and implemented.

"Recycling on a big scale, where everyone contributes and everyone's responsible," would go far in controlling the garbage problem, he said.

Whittington added that that communities would also benefit by being able to re-use the recycled products. "We should recycle and have them (materials) stay within our system," he said.

Benefits to this type of waste control include shared costs, resulting in lower cost for everyone. The large amount of recycled material collected by so many centers makes it easier to sell with market sources more likely to purchase larger volumes.

Village eyeing new building codes

Updated safety, building and structure and maintenance codes are being considered for adoption by Wheeling trustees.

The revised 300-page document was presented to trustees at Monday's committee-of-the-whole meeting. The village board is expected to OK the new codes at Monday's regular meeting.

Building, Housing and Zoning Administrator Tom Fenell said upgrading village codes will make it "easier to understand the codes and easier to enforce them."

One major change will allow "for a distinction in defining waterproofing and damp-proofing," something that has been unclear until now, he said. Building codes will also be more clearly stated, Fenell added.

Although typically codes are updated on a three-year cycle, the last revision of the Wheeling code was in 1981.

The "very technical" document includes "major changes in all codes in general," said Fenell.

Herald 6-10-87

Event set to raise 4th funds

BY C. L. WALLER
Daily Herald Staff Writer

The Wheeling Fourth of July committee could raise as much as $1,200 this weekend for the parade and fireworks with "Afternoon in the Park."

Organizations and residents are invited to spend Sunday afternoon at Chamber of Commerce Park, 251 N. Wolf Road, eating hotdogs and listening to Joe Ochs play piano.

Committee president Judy Abruscato said they are expecting 200 to 300 people to attend the event with lunch of hotdogs, chips and soda pop served from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

There will also be an ice cream social, face painting by "James," 298 balloons with "Wheeling Fourth of July" written on them and gifts handed out by the pocket lady. Abruscato said the face painting, balloons and pocket lady gifts are free.

A raffle for baskets of wine and cheese will also be held for those attending the fund-raiser.

So far 60 units have signed up to be in this year's parade. Costs for the Fourth of July parade and fireworks are estimated at $10,000. St. Joseph the Worker Church's Familyfest, scheduled for July 1-5, has pledged a $4,000 match for $4,000 raised by the committee. Abruscato said there was about $1,700 carried over from last year's event and that money came from a refund on bad fireworks.

This year's Fourth of July theme is "Grand Old Flag" and residents watching the parade are asked to bring American flags and wave them as the parade proceeds at 9 a.m. from K mart east on Dundee Road to Wolf Road and south to Heritage Park, 222 S. Wolf Road. Small flags are being sold for 50 cents at Gene's Standard, 995 S. Elmhurst Road.

Fireworks will go off at Heritage Park at 9:15 or 9:30 p.m. on the Fourth. Those who attend the fireworks are asked to bring their portable radios or stereos to the park and dial into WSEX-FM, which will be broadcasting special music during the fireworks. The music should carry from the Familyfest celebration to the fireworks at Heritage Park.

McGruff to adorn village vehicles

6-87

BY C. L. WALLER
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Public works vehicles in Wheeling will soon be carrying bumper stickers with pictures of McGruff, the crime prevention dog, as the village operations and maintenance department joins Wheeling police in fighting crime.

The police department is starting "Fleet Watch," where civilians, whose jobs take them into the community, are asked to be extra eyes for the police department.

Describing the program as a neighborhood watch on wheels, Wheeling crime prevention officer Kathryn Tracy said the department is beginning with public works employees who have previously used their two-way radios to call in emergencies.

"They're all for it. They are very enthusiastic about the program," Tracy said.

Wheeling police sergeant Jack Kimsey said the program gives public works more authority in calling in suspicious incidents and if it works with this group, other groups may be asked to be a part of Fleet Watch.

Public works employees will participate in an hour-long training session explaining that they are to be looking out for anything unusual and get a description of anyone suspicious-looking. When an employee notices something, he is asked to radio information to the police radio dispatcher who will relay information to police.

"We don't recommend they try to apprehend them, but just get as much information as possible and report it to the police," Tracy said.

Police can also tell public works employees to be on watch for someone when they are working, she added.

In talking to school children, Tracy said she will explain to them that public works employees are there to help them if they need it, however, employees should not put the child inside the vehicle.

Park Ridge, Skokie, Mount Prospect and St. Charles are among the communities who have already started a Fleet Watch program.

Countryside 6-18-87

Wheeling police chief convinced Wolf needs speed limit reduction

Wheeling Police Chief Michael Haeger is concerned that a stretch of residential area along Wolf Road is unsafe due to the posted speed limits.

Last month, the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) denied Haeger a reduction in the 35 and 40 mph speed limits posted between Hintz and Dundee roads along Wolf Road. This marked the third time in the last few years that Haeger's request for a reduction of speed along that stretch was denied.

Roger Neubert, accident data technician for IDOT, said that an updated study of the area was performed on May 6 of this year. The results of the study, performed as a result of Haeger's concerns, did not warrant a reduction in the posted limits, said Neubert.

"That stretch of road is in some areas primarily residential," said Haeger. Holmes Junior High School and Heritage Park are located along that section.

"WE WANT them to bring it down to a normal residential speed limit. Most residential areas in the village are posted at 25 mph," he said.

"There's an overall tendency right now for people to speed along that road anyway - we don't know why. There is an extreme amount of truck traffic on that street. If a kid should dart out, it would be hard for a truck to be able to stop going 35 or 40 mph," said Haeger.

Haeger said that there are frequent complaints by residents in that area about speeding.

Aside from placing crossing guards at locations heavily trafficked by pedestrians, Haeger admits that "there is not much we can do. They (IDOT) are the ruling jurisdiction."

THE RESULTS OF the study performed last month indicated a high enough accident rate, 2.7 times the state average, and a large enough number of additional driveways to warrant a 20 percent reduction in speed, but it still didn't warrant a speed limit less than 35 mph, said Neubert.

Using the 85th percentile, the average rate of speed of the cars measured was calculated at 42 mph. Even with the 20 percent reduction, the average rate of speed was still 33.6 mph, which keeps it within the 35 mph limit, explained Neubert.

"We can study it again in six months to a year," he said.

Traffic studies are normally performed every six years, according to Cliff Scherer, traffic studies engineer for IDOT. Studies are based on the calculated rate of speed for 200 cars. Adjustments are made based on pedestrian traffic, access ways and accidents. Because of Haeger's concerns, studies of the area in question are more frequent. Prior to the study last month, one was performed in Jan. 1986.

"I MAY request them to show me the document on their study. I think a 30 mph speed limit is very appropriate for that area," insists Haeger.

We do have accidents along that stretch," said Haeger. He said there wasn't one specific incident that sparked his actions, just a general concern for safety in that area.

Countryside 6-18-87

Firm courts Wheeling, asks for tax breaks

The Rolling Meadows-based Graphic Products Corp. would like to expand its operation and move it to Wheeling, provided it is awarded a tax break under Cook County's 6b property tax exemption incentive.

The corporation, which has already purchased a 4.3-acre site on the west side of Wolf Road, just south of Palatine Road, would like to construct a one-story, 53,000 square foot building to house the business which officials of the corporation say is expanding.

At the same time, they are requesting the benefit of the 6b assessment break, which would give them a cut in their property assessments from 38 to 16 percent of the market value during the first eight years of operation. For four years after that, the assessment would stand at 30 percent. After 12 years in operation the property assessment would return to the normal market value for that property in the county.

ADMINISTRATIVE MANAGER FOR the company, Jerry Podraza, said that "If we don't get this tax (cut) approved by the Village of Wheeling, it's possible we won't build."

The tax break incentive was devised by Cook County in Jan. 1985 as incentive to lure expanding, new businesses into the area and bring more employment into the suburbs. Since 1985, eight companies have been awarded the 6b incentive to move to and remain in Wheeling, said Wheeling Finance Director Bob Fialkowski.

He said that it is too early to tell what the real impact of the incentive program will be on the village.

Graphic Products Inc. will come before the village board for a decision on July 6. The final blessing however comes from the Cook County Assessor's office.

GRAPHICS PRODUCTS CORP. President Robert Serafin told village trustees at a public hearing on Monday that the company already owns property in Itasca, in DuPage County, which could be developed. However, he said the company prefers to stay in Cook. Building in DuPage County would mean a much lower property assessment, Serafin told trustees.

Serafin also told trustees that the 25-year old company anticipates a 25 to 30 percent increase in employees at the new location. The company currently employs 48. The propsed building is 23,000 square feet larger than the Rolling Meadows facility. The new site allows for considerably more land than the company needs right now, allowing for expansion in the future, Serafin told trustees.

The company manufactures products used for architectural and commercial purposes. All products are sold through commercial art supply stores throughout the United States said Serafin.

He anticipates that a new building would generate 75 passenger vehicles and three trucks daily with an 8:15 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. working day.

IF THE PROPOSAL and the tax break are approved, the company would like to be ready to move into their new home by the end of the year, said Podraza.

Countryside 6-18-87

Huff n' puff

George Booth, custodian at the Wheeling Senior Center, donates his time and air to fill up balloons for a birthday party held at the center last week. (*Staff Photo by Daniel White*)

Pal-Waukee noise plan on tap

A plan to reduce noise caused by aircraft flying into and out of Pal-Waukee Airport will be introduced at a public information workshop set for 6:30 p.m. June 24.

The meeting will be held in room 230 of William Rainey Harper College in the Northeast Center, 1375 South Wolf Rd. Prospect Heights.

An airport consulting firm, Coffman Associates, Inc. of Kansas City, MO put together the plan to help reduce the amount of noise from the airport that is carried over into residential areas.

Part of the proposal calls for new aircraft operating procedures including a restriction of take-offs of the loudest jets after 10 p.m. and before 7 a.m.

The proposal also includes the rezoning of land surrounding the airport, making the land uses more compatible. Included in the plan is the rezoning of residential areas for industrial or commercial use and the prohibiting of housing and other noise-sensitive uses near the airport.

Officials from Coffman Associates will present their plan to the Wheeling Village Board at 8 p.m. Monday night and to the Prospect Heights City Council at 8 p.m. Tuesday night. The two municipalities are co-owners of the airport. This will be the first time officials from the two towns will see the proposal.

The Pal-Waukee Airport Commission will be the first to consider the plan for adoption. It will make its recommendation to trustees in both towns who will consider it for final approval. If federal funding is necessary to administer the plan, approval of the Federal Aviation Administration must be had. Partner with Coffman Associates, Mark Johnson said it is uncertain how long the approval process will take.

The $216,000 noise-study necessary to formulate the plan took one year and was funded by the Federal Aviation Administration, the Illinois Division of Aeronautics, the City of Prospect Heights and the Village of Wheeling.

Johnson said that 20 to 30 letters were sent to residents living near the airport announcing next Wednesday's public meeting.

Countryside 6-18-87

Countryside 6-18-87

Parking lot noise has area honking

Skippers is making some waves.

The drive-up restaurant on Elmhurst Road, just south of Route 83 in Wheeling, has become an overnight sensation, a hot-spot where every Friday and Saturday night a few display their super-shiny sport and antique cars in the parking lot while hundreds come to gawk.

Although owner Paul Drakousis is happy with the increased popularity of the restaurant, nearby residents, area homeowners and village trustees are not.

At Monday's village board meeting, trustees agreed that something has to be done to cut the number of people drawn to the restaurant's parking lot each weekend.

Because the lot is filled with cars on display, there is no turnover, forcing other customers and onlookers to park wherever they can find a spot - whether it be in the Dunhurst shopping plaza lot down the street or on nearby Jenkins Court.

VILLAGE MANAGER TOM Markus said that measures are being undertaken to try to work with Drakousis toward a solution. Markus was expected to set up another meeting with Drakousis to try again to alleviate the traffic and parking congestion on the weekends.

So far, tickets have been issued and no parking signs posted, but nothing seems to be working.

"We have issued speeding tickets, improper starting (burning rubber) tickets and parking tickets. We're forced to pull too many squads into that area for what we believe is the problem of the owners of that particular establishment," Markus told trustees.

Trustees agreed that if continued attempts to work out a solution fail, a public hearing could be called to consider rescinding the operating license of the restaurant.

"MY EFFORTS have been and tend to be somewhat progressive, so if we have to have a public hearing and pull the license we'll have a track-record of trying to work this thing out," said Markus.

"Lets give this individual every opportunity to correct this problem himself and if he doesn't correct it this board will take action," he added.

Drakousis said that he patrols the lot personally each weekend and tells people "not to park in my neighbors' parking lots."

"I don't want my neighbors to hurt because of me," he added.

HE SAID THAT the crowd is only there from 10 p.m. to midnight on Friday and Saturday. "We close down at midnight and there's nobody left," he said.

The car-show has helped his business tremendously, said Drakousis.

"All these people that come here are buying food and they come again and again," he said.

Markus said that the car-show idea "could have been positive but the site just isn't big enough to accommodate for what's going on there."

Thursday, June 18, 1987

Firm up for sale

Sun 6-11-87

Cablenet shake-up foreseen

Cablenet Inc. wants to sell out its half of the cable company, Cablenet Associates, to its partner, Telenois, Inc., a subsidiary of TCI.

Northbrook and Glenview have approved the sale, subject to conditions, as have communities in the Northwest (Suburban) Municipal Conference Cable Council.

Telenois has accepted the conditions imposed by Glenview and Northbrook as a condition of the sale, but there has yet to be agreement between Telenois and the Cable Council municipalities, which include Wheeling.

Karen Giet, acting director of the NWMC Cable Council, said the Cable Council recommended that the transfer of ownership only be approved if Telenois gives certain financial guarantees and, among other things, agrees that Telenois cannot transfer any of its Cablenet franchises to subsidiaries or holding companies without approval of the communities. Telenois has indicated it has problems with that condition, Giet said. She added, however, that Telenois has not yet made any formal objections.

Telenois has also made it clear that as the sole owner it will want franchise modifications, said Giet.

Originally Telenois had wanted the franchise modifications and the transfer agreement to be handled together.

But the Northwest Municipal Conference Cable Council recommended that the two items be separated and the requested modifications handled after the transfer takes effect.

Giet said she could not elaborate on what kinds of changes would be requested since no formal demands have yet been made.

Giet said Cablenet, Inc., a Canadian firm, wants to sell its 50 percent ownership of Cablenet Associates because it wants to get out of the cable company business.

Cablenet, Inc. and Telenois formed a partnership in 1984. Previously Cablenet, Inc. owned the entire cable company.

SUMMARY

Cablenet Inc. wants to get out of the cable business and intends to sell out its half of Cablenet Associates to its partner, Telenois, a subsidiary of TCI.

Northbrook, Glenview and the communities in the Northwest Municipal Conference Cable Council have approved the sale, subject to conditions.

Cablenet, Inc and Telenois formed a partnership in 1984

WHS staff honored for outstanding work

Sun 6-11

WHEELING — The District 214 School Board honored outstanding educators Monday.

Wheeling High School teachers who received the Excellence in Education awards were Don Bauder, science; Dean Folkes, social science; Peter Ogilvie, science; Robert Ranieri, remedial reading; Robert Schulze, physical education; Joann Smith, math; Ron Tavares, limited English proficiency; and Carol Windus, home economics.

Also receiving the awards were Ellen Brodbeck, guidance counselor and Molly Warren, head librarian.

Outstanding educators could be nominated by any staff member in a building. The final selections were made by committees in each school.

The committees chose teachers who met one or more of the following criteria: developed outstanding educational programs or was dedicated to an ongoing program, developed an outstanding extracurricular program, displayed effective teaching or coun-

Please turn to page 3

Wheeling Police Dept. to seek accreditation

Herald 6-20-87

The Wheeling Police Department will attempt to win accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement.

The commission, made up of 13 members, including policemen, citizens, court officials and politicians, lists 944 standards that must be met before accreditation is awarded, including crime analysis, recruitment and disciplinary procedures.

Wheeling will spend $4,400 on the upgrading process, but half of that can be reimbursed by the insurance cooperative the village belongs to when accreditation is complete.

Wheeling Police Chief Michael Haeger said the department was planning on upgrading its standards anyway and the accreditation will provide guidelines for the department to follow.

Plus, the Intergovernmental Risk Management Association, an insurance pool of suburban villages, said the accreditation will help the department insulate itself when it is sued, Haeger said. There are four lawsuits pending against the police department.

"It's an expensive process, but I believe it's a process we should complete and be accredited," he said.

Once the department files an application, it must complete documents that will be reviewed by three police chiefs from outside Illinois. After that review the information will be returned to the department outlining the standards that need to be changed and the department will change them, Haeger said.

Police departments in Buffalo Grove, Schaumburg, Palatine and Wilmette and the Illinois State Police have gotten accreditation so far and 86 other departments are in the process of working towards it, Haeger said.

Herald 6-23-87

Open house addresses noise at Pal-Waukee

Residents who live and work near Pal-Waukee Municipal Airport will have one last chance to voice their opinions about noise from the airport at an open house on Wednesday.

The public will be able to look at exhibits and talk with consultants and airport officials about noise levels from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. in room 230 at Harper College Northeast Center, 1375 S. Wolf Road, in Prospect Heights.

Coffman Associates of Kansas City was hired by Prospect Heights and Wheeling to study noise levels at Pal-Waukee, and representatives will be at the open house to explain their findings and record suggestions for cutting back on noise.

The company has studied the past history of the airport, measured noise levels and prepared some maps with the present noise contours.

Three open houses have been held so far and this is the last meeting before both the village and the city certify and approve noise contour maps prepared by Coffman Associates.

Life 6-18-87

Police seek accreditation

WHEELING — The Police Department is seeking to be accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, a private, nonprofit organization that sets the highest standards for police departments.

The goal of the group is "to promote, recognize and maintain professional excellence in law enforcement through accreditation."

The Wheeling Village Board Monday approved a resolution authorizing the village president and police chief to sign an agreement under which the Police Department will seek accreditation.

Police Chief Michael Haeger said the department wants to update and look into its operations and the standards set by the Commission on Accreditation are good guidelines to follow.

"These standards are an excellent foundation for a police department to abide by," Haeger told the Village Board.

In addition, he said, being accredited will help protect the department against litigation.

He said the Police Department could probably meet the commission standards but may have to fine-tune certain operations. For example, Haeger said, the department is going to update its operating procedures manual.

The Commission on Accreditation, formed in 1979, began slowly, but is now developing widespread acceptance, Haeger said.

In Illinois, five agencies have so far been accredited: Schaumburg, Buffalo Grove, Wilmette, Palatine, and the Illinois State Police.

The Commission on Accreditation was formed through the efforts of four major law enforcement associations: the International Association of Chiefs of Police, the National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives, the National Sheriffs' Association, and the Police Executive Research Forum.

HAEGER

Its 21 members include a state supreme court justice, state senator, mayor, law enforcement personnel and members of the judiciary.

The final step in the accreditation process, which is expected to be reached in 18 months, will be an on-site inspection of the Police Department by three out-of-state police chiefs.

In other business, the Village Board held a public hearing on a request by Graphic Products Corp. for a 6B tax exemption.

If granted by the village and the county, the exemption would reduce the firm's property tax assessment to 16 percent for eight years and then to 30 percent for an additional four years. Industrial property in Cook County is currently assessed at 40 percent of market value.

Dist. 214 welcomes OBE input

WHEELING — The District 214 High School Board will set aside one hour Monday for public questions and comments on Outcomes Based Education.

The hour will preceed the regular board meeting, scheduled to begin at 8 p.m.

At its regular board meeting on July 13, the board will set aside another hour, from 7 to 8 p.m., for comments on OBE.

Both meetings will be held at the Administration Center, 799 W. Kensington Road, Mount Prospect.

OBE is a method of education that the School District is expecting to eventually utilize in all of its classes.

Life 6-11-87

For sale — Hein's Pub

WHEELING — A woman who wants to buy Hein's Pub and Liquor Store will be granted a liquor license if she meets certain conditions, but she may have to curtail expansion plans for the business because of a shortage of parking spaces.

Dawn Humer, former owner of an Arlington Heights restaurant/pub called Dawn's Beginning, applied for a liquor license Monday. The Village Board, acting in its role of Liquor Commission, agreed to grant the license subject to conditions that include a satisfactory criminal background check and approval of parking variations, which may allow Humer to operate the business as it now exists.

But Village Manager Tom Markus told Humer that there is little chance for approval of her plans to possibly add a beer garden during the summer or to expand the restaurant portion of the business into the liquor store. That is because the business already has a severe shortage of parking spaces under current ordinances.

The pub has an estimated 35 spaces and Markus said current ordinances require it to have at least 50 or 60 more. Hein's Pub, along with some other establishments in the village are considered to be nonconforming uses and have until 1992 to comply with current ordinances or else to seek variations. When a business is sold, however, the new owner must comply immediately.

Before Humer will be granted a liquor license she will have to receive the parking variations that may allow her to have fewer than the required parking spaces. Markus indicated that the village will try to work out arrangements with nonconforming businesses.

Other conditions Humer must meet before receiving the license are submission and approval of a site plan, approval of special use permits for the restaurant and for liquor sales; and reference checks.

Humer, a Wheeling resident, said she has been in the liquor business for 10 years. She said she intends to make no immediate changes to the Hein's business.

Although Humer wants to buy the business, she only intends to lease the land and building.

Also Monday, the Village Board in a workshop meeting decided to ask Buffalo Grove/Wheeling Disposal to come up with a simpler, more general holiday pickup schedule.

Buffalo Grove/Wheeling, which is the disposal company that services the village's residences, is owned by Waste Management, the largest disposal company in the world. The firm bought Wheeling Disposal last year and has since changed the holiday schedule.

Previously, when a holiday fell on the day garbage was to be picked up, service was moved up

Please turn to page 3

For sale: Hein's Pub

Continued from page 1

one day. But under the holiday schedule proposed by Waste Management, garbage will be picked up one day later on some days but one day earlier on others. The company proposes to publish the holiday schedule.

But Village Board members said the schedule appeared too complicated and that people could forget whether the company was going to pick up garbage before or after a holiday.

Markus said he would ask the firm to try to come up with a more general, easily remembered holiday schedule that would not have to be published yearly.

The board Monday also discussed updating the Boca basic property maintenance and Boca National Building codes.

The board is expected to approve the code revisions recommended by the village staff on June 15.

Herald 6-20-87

Wheeling police officer suspended

Wheeling police officer Robert Pressley will be suspended for three days without pay on charges that he caused an accident between two Wheeling squad cars.

The Wheeling Fire and Police Commission gave the order this week following a negotiated settlement between Combined Counties Police Association attorney Noel Wroblewski, who represented Pressley, and police department attorney Stephen Culliton.

The dates of suspension have not yet been determined.

Wheeling Police Chief Michael Haeger charged that Pressley acted recklessly Feb. 25 when he tried to pass two other eastbound squad cars on Hintz Road. Haeger said Pressley hit the first squad when it turned left onto Lakeside Circle Drive in front of him. No one was injured.

Pressley admitted to the charges of reckless driving, driving on the left side of the roadway within 100 feet of an intersection and moving his vehicle to another lane of traffic unsafely.

However, a separate charge that accused Pressley of lying about the incident by claiming he was in pursuit at the time, was dropped.

"It could be better," Pressley said after the verdict.

Stiffer penalties that could have been imposed included a 30-day suspension or firing.

Pressley, the only black officer in the department's history, sued the department in 1983, charging racial discrimination. The suit still is pending.

Herald 6-10-87

'Hatfields' granted liquor license

By C. L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer

The Wheeling Liquor Control Commission approved granting a liquor license to the new owner of Hein's Pub and Liquor Store, now "Hatfield's," at 141 S. Milwaukee Ave.

But new owner Dawn Humer still has to get a special permit from the Wheeling Plan Commission for the restaurant and liquor sales, a site plan approval and parking changes.

When a business changes ownership the village requires that the premises be brought up to village code. The former owners were not operating with a special use permit for the restaurant or liquor sales, village manager Thomas Markus said.

Markus said the parking space is not sufficient for the business, but suggested that the special use permit be granted since there is no place she can expand the lot. Village code requires one parking space for every three seats in a restaurant and Humer estimated that there are 110 seats in the establishment with 35 parking spaces.

Humer told the commission she has considered expanding the restaurant into the packaged liquor sales area or opening a beer garden in the rear sometime in the future, depending on the parking space needed.

Markus said it is unlikely that the beer garden will be allowed because there is already a lack of sufficient parking space.

"My personal opinion is the business would be allowed to operate close to what it is now," he said.

Like other liquor license holders in the village, Humer has submitted to fingerprinting for a criminal background check, but the results have not been returned from the state yet. Village officials said license approval also hinges on her references as well.

Humer is the former owner of the Dawn's Beginning restaurant in Arlington Heights. She said she sold her business and wants to buy the Wheeling business because it is larger.

WHEELING COUNTRYSIDE 6-11-87

Garbage schedule confuses residents

The takeover of the Wheeling/Buffalo Grove Disposal Service by Waste Management Inc. earlier this year is apparently causing some confusion among Wheeling residents as to when garbage is picked up around the holidays.

Monday holidays have been the source of the mix-up with residents unsure as to the alternate pickup date. According to the new contract signed with the village, if a Monday holiday occurs, garbage will be picked up the day after the normal pickup day, regardless of which day of the week garbage is usually picked up.

Waste Management officials were expected to meet with Wheeling trustees at Monday's committee-of-the-whole meeting to discuss this and any other problems, but company officials were unable to attend the meeting. Village officials still plan to meet with representatives of the company, but a date for that meeting has not yet been set.

News releases are being prepared to explain to residents about any changes in garbage service since the takeover.

According to Trustee Jim Whittington, the bugs in the new disposal service are being ironed out. Most of the problem are simply a matter of Watse Management being new to the area, he said.

Thursday, June 11, 1987

Herald 6-11-87

Landowners pondering town's offers

By C. L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer

The village of Wheeling is continuing to negotiate with several of the six downtown property owners it served with condemnation papers, the village's hired attorney said.

The village wants to buy the land and demolish buildings on the six properties, along with several others downtown, and replace them with a new $8.9 million retail center, planned to be built northwest of Dundee Road and Milwaukee Avenue.

Attorney Barry Springer, hired by Wheeling to handle the negotiations, said final offers were made to property owners based on certified land appraisals. Negotiations with some of the six property owners are underway, but he declined to say which ones or how many.

"The only question is, 'What do they want to be paid?'" he said.

The affected businesses are Dunkin' Donuts, Wheeling Auto Repair, Tien Tsin Restaurant and Dreiske's Florist. There is also a vacant parcel included in the condemnation. All the parcels are located northwest of Milwaukee Avenue and Dundee Road.

Plans are for the village to demolish all the buildings and sell the property for construction of the retail center called Village Square.

Doetsch and Associates Real Estate Inc. and Sportmart Inc., both on Dundee Road, also will be purchased by the village, but both owners are ompleting negotiations with the village.

Paul Doetsch Sr. said he expects o complete negotiations with the illage on the property price by the nd of this week.

The Sportmart store will not be emolished, but will be incorporated nto the new retail center, Sportmart ttorney Bob Cole said.

Herald 6-23-87

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Wheeling amends several village codes

Amendments to health, sanitation, fire and building codes in the village of Wheeling have been adopted by trustees. The updated codes include guidelines outlined in a heating ordinance previously adopted by the village, requirements of addresses on commercial and residential buildings and required clearing of private property used by the public.

Herald 6-20-87

School playground may become a park

By Maris Strautmanis
Daily Herald Correspondent

The Wheeling Park District and the Field School parent-teacher organization may join forces to upgrade the school playground and turn it into a neighborhood park.

The playground, at 51 Armand Lane, Wheeling, has been used more heavily since it has become surrounded by subdivisions and multi-family housing complexes, said residents and Yvonne Judy, a representative from the Field School Parent-Teachers' Organization.

Judy said the number of people regularly using the park has tripled in recent years, to about 600 now.

The Field School PTO is asking the park district to spend $50,000 to develop the park either through a donation to the PTO or by supplying playground equipment.

Judy said the Field School PTO has raised $10,000 toward the project.

Park Board President Anthony Abruscato said the park board would review the proposal, and that the park staff might make a final recommendation at the park board meeting on July 16.

The park board originally planned to use money donated by the developer of the neighborhood around the school, to buy open land and turn it into a park, a plan that was scrapped when it became too expensive.

"That money was intended to purchase open land, and they didn't purchase it. We feel that the money belongs to our subdivisions," said Nancy Lambert, 122 Berkshire.

Abruscato said he was apprehensive that the agreement would lead to similar requests from other Wheeling schools.

"We may leave ourselves open to a lot of school sites coming in to ask us to purchase new equipment for them," he said. "We might be setting a precedent. That's all I'm worried about."

Study proposes noise measures for Pal-Waukee...

BY MARIE LUTZ
Staff Writer

WHEELING — Measures that would reduce noise levels caused by Pal-Waukee Airport aircraft were recommended to the Village Board Monday by consultants Coffman and Associates.

Max Wolfe, senior associate, said that if the recommendations were carried out, they would cut in half the area in Wheeling that is most impacted by airport noise.

Currently the sections of Wheeling most affected by Pal-Waukee noise stretches for one mile east and one mile west of Wolf Road and for one mile south along Dundee road, according to Wolfe.

Three schools, Holmes Junior High School, Whitman and Frost, are included in the area most impacted by noise.

Approximately 6,800 people in Wheeling, Prospect Heights, Mount Prospect and unincorporated Cook County bear the worst brunt of the noise, the consultants told the Village Board. About 1,400 of these people live in Wheeling and most of the rest in Prospect Heights.

Coffman and Associates, which is also presenting its findings to the Prospect Heights City Council, recommended a number of noise abatement measures to lessen the impact of the Pal-Waukee noise.

Among those recommendations are making changes in jet departure procedures; imposing takeoff and landing restrictions on the noisiest aircraft from 10 p.m. to 7 a.m.; and forbidding routine maintenance runups from 10 p.m. to 7 a.m.

The consultants also recommended creating four new noise zoning categories. Increasingly stringent developmental restric-

Please turn to page 3

...Airport plan looks at moving Hintz, Wolf roads

BY MARIE LUTZ
Staff Writer

WHEELING — The Wheeling Village Board Monday heard a consultant's preliminary plans for the relocation of Wolf and Hintz roads, but Village President Sheila Schultz insisted that the firm also look at the option of not moving the roads at all.

The relocation may be necessary to meet Federal Aviation Administration requirements for Pal-Waukee Airport now that it's a public facility jointly owned by Prospect Heights and Wheeling. Federal requirements are more stringent for public than private facilities.

But Schultz said that despite the fact that the village is constantly faced with people who believe that moving the roads is a foregone conclusion, Wheeling wants to examine the possibility of leaving the roads where they are.

"The moving of the intersection is not a foregone conclusion in our minds as it is in the minds of a lot of other people," Schultz said.

Moving Hintz and Wolf roads would require demolishing some homes, moving Hintz closer to the Plum Creek condominiums, and creating a series of curves on both roads which are now relatively straight, in the area of the airport, under the plan presented by Crawford, Murphy and Tilly, Inc.

Very preliminary estimates are that the total cost of the project would be $5.5 million to $6.5 million.

The reason the roads may have to be moved is that Pal-Waukee's main runway, which is more than 5,000 feet in length, is now required to have a clear zone around it that meets FAA requirements for public airports. A clear zone is an area in which there are no obstacles, including roads.

The consultants said that if the Pal-Waukee runway could be

Please turn to page 3

Study proposes noise measures ...

Continued from page 1

tions would be imposed in each of the zones depending on how badly the zone is impacted by Pal-Waukee.

Regulations could range from requiring mild soundproofing of any new homes built in the zoning area with the least noise problem to prohibiting development of single-family and duplex homes in areas that are more affected.

Other recommendations included the suggestion that Pal-Waukee purchase all the land surrounding the facility that is severely impacted by aircraft noise.

The consultants said they are also suggesting that Prospect Heights buy and redevelop multifamily buildings located in a severely impacted area south of Palatine Road and north of Apple Drive in Prospect Heights. The project will be expensive and require detailed planning by Prospect Heights, the consultants said, but, they added that Wheeling would not have to contribute any money.

The consultants projected a significant increase in operations at the airport from 1986 to 2006. There were 205,500 operations in 1986 and there will be 365,000 in 2006, they estimated. This would include an increase in the number of jet takeoffs and landings, but they said, there would be a slight shrinkage in the problem noise areas by 2006, even if nothing is done, because new jet aircraft are quieter than older ones. The Coffman Part 150 noise study is sponsored by the village of Wheeling and city of Prospect Heights with financial assistance from the Illinois Division of Aeronautics and the Federal Aviation Administration. Prospect Heights and Wheeling are joint owners of Pal-Waukee, having purchased the facility late last year.

The consultants said that if the study is accepted by the FAA, it could make Prospect Heights and Wheeling eligible for federal funding.

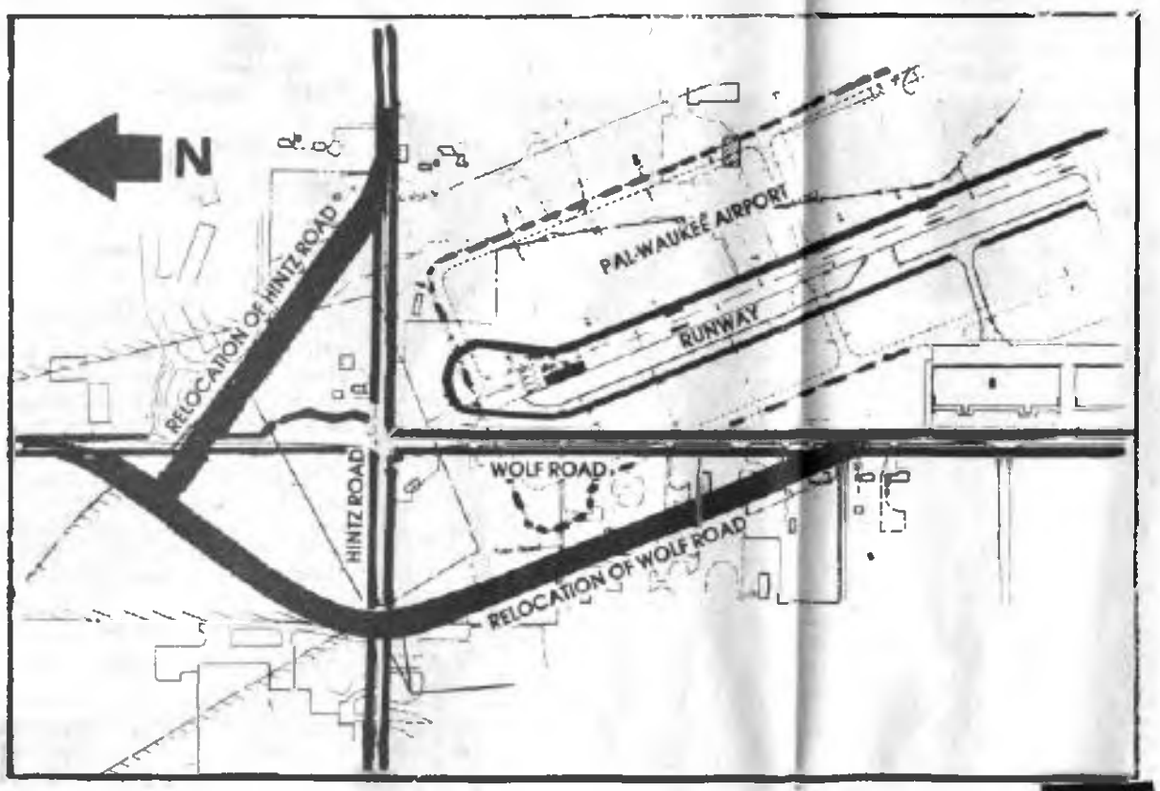
... Airport plans include Wolf/Hintz intersection

Continued from page 1

shortened to about 4,300 feet the roads would no longer be in the clear zone. But, they said, shortening the runway would cost the airport essential business.

Some jet plane owners have said they cannot get insurance if the runway is under 5,000 feet, the consultants said.

But Schultz said that the possibility of shortening the runway should be looked into further. The potential loss of business to the airport by shortening the runway has never been adequately determined, she said.



"The moving of the intersection is not a foregone conclusion in our minds."

Village President Sheila Schultz

Under the consultants' preliminary plans, Wolf Road would be moved about 620 feet west and Hintz would be moved 365 feet north. In addition, the major runway would be raised at least four feet so the required clear zone would be smaller. The runway would also be moved 140 to 211 feet south.

The plan would have to be further refined after all affected parties, including the county and state, examine it, the consultants said.

They said that under the proposed plan, Hintz and Wolf are still slightly within the clear zone and the proposal will thus have to either be changed further or be granted a waiver by the FAA.

Life 6-18-87

NWMC eyes recycling project

The Northwest Municipal Conference is seeking a grant from the

Under the NSEC proposal for a regional recycling program, each

ucts, Abolt said.

NSEC estimates that a minimum

Life 6-18-87

NWMC eyes recycling project

The Northwest Municipal Conference is seeking a grant from the Illinois Department of Energy and Natural Resources to help establish a regional recycling program.

The grant would be from $50,000 to $100,000 said Bill Abolt, solid waste project coordinator for the Conference.

The Conference would like to see each member municipality run recycling projects that would ultimately result in a 10 percent reduction in the amount of garbage produced by the area.

The community programs would be run by the North Shore Ecology Center, a nonprofit organization that already has operations in municipalities that include Glencoe, Morton Grove and Northbrook.

Under the NSEC proposal for a regional recycling program, each community would collect newspaper and paper related products; clear, green and amber glass, steel, bi-metal and aluminum cans, and, in some cases, oil.

The NSEC would be responsible for the overall program and for marketing the products collected, Abolt said.

He said a regional approach is desirable because it's difficult for any one community to arrange to market the material it collects for recycling.

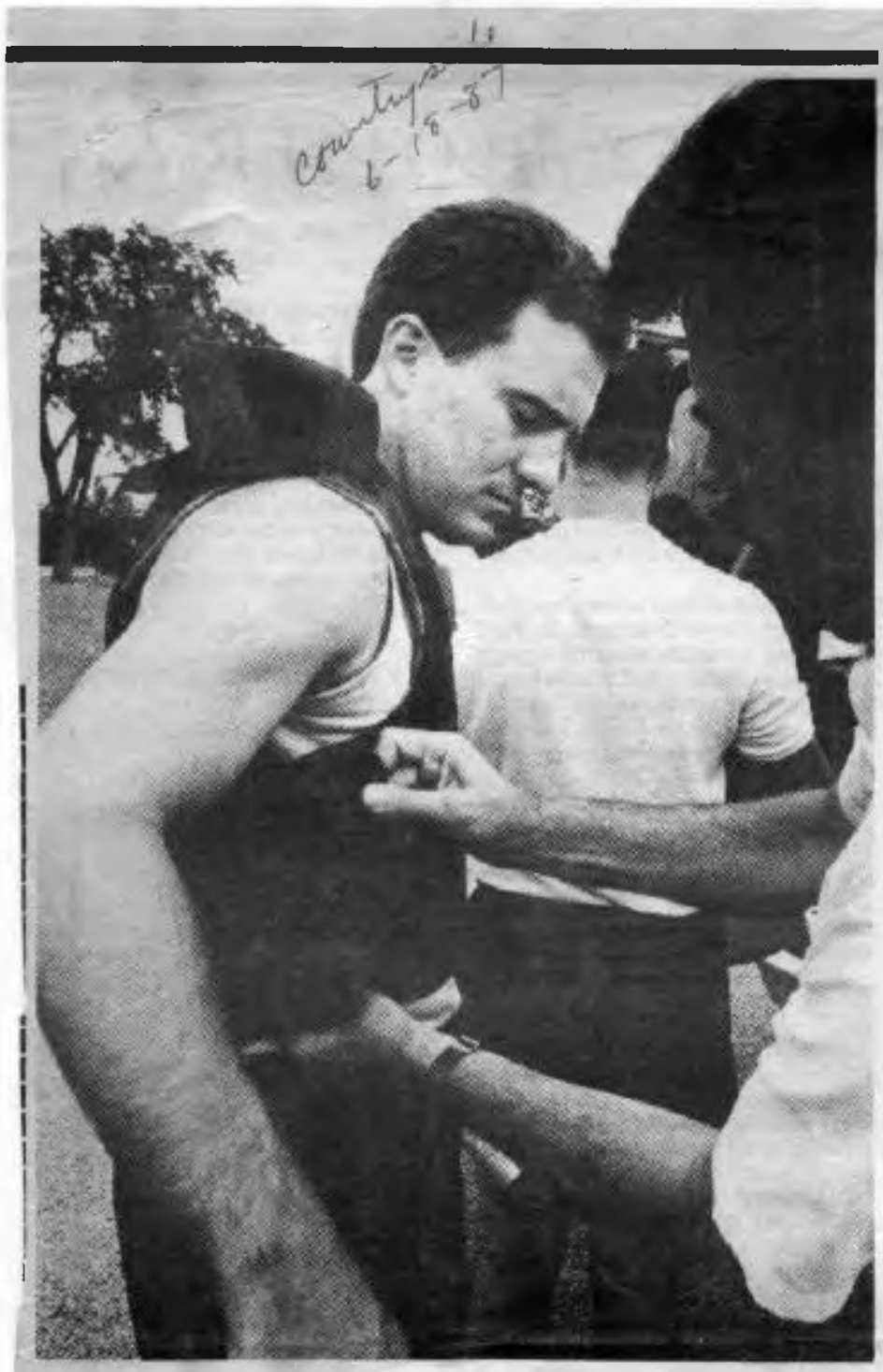
The NSEC runs a fairly lean operation that will enable it to continue the recycling effort even in lean years when there is lessened demand for recycled products, Abolt said.

NSEC estimates that a minimum of 10 recycling centers would be necessary in order to make the project economically sound.

NSEC would be responsible for the maintenance and operation of all the collection centers. It would sort the material collected and ship and market them.

NSEC proposes to establish a centralized facility where the material can be sorted and transferred.

Under the plan, any profits generated by the sale of materials would be reinvested into the program for research and for development of resource recovery technologies that could benefit the NWMC member communities.



Wheeling patrol officer Rich Sheffler is assisted by a Northern Illinois Police Alarm System member during training exercises recently at Deerfield High School. *(Staff Photo by Bill Powers)*

Police teaming up to fight disasters

By Richard Sackley

In the event of a hostage situation, plane or train crash or natural disaster, most area law enforcement agencies would find their resources woefully inadequate at best to handle the disaster.

Last week, a group of 23 north and northwest communities belonging to the Northern Illinois Police Alarm System (NIPAS) took their first step in correcting that deficiency. Thirty-seven officers from 12 member police departments competed in a rigorous physical training test at Deerfield High School. The goal of the 5-year-old NIPAS consortium is to put together a 25-member emergency services team and equipment. The unit is designed to respond to incidents requiring special training, tactics or techniques.

"It's a combined effort of all of the towns involved to spread cost and manpower requirements," said Wheeling Deputy Chief Gary O'Rourke. He, along with several other NIPAS members are coordinating the squad.

The incidents that the team will prepare for are "not every day occurences, but they could occur at any time. This provides us with the opportunity to have a group to call on." said O'Rourke. The 41-officer Wheeling department presently relys on Deerfield's emergency team to help when a situation calls for help outside of their resources.

Of the 36 applicants trying for a spot on the team, four are Wheeling Police officers. The team is expected to be chosen by the end of summer in time for a two-week course set for Oct. 12 said O'Rourke.

Deerfield Cmdr. Gary Stryker, coordinator of the NIPAS team described the unit as "above and beyond" the SWAT teams, made popular by TV, because officers will be trained to handle disaster situations and to administer first aid.

"Deerfield has 35 police officers," he said. "If there was a tornado situation we would probably need 15 to 25 more police officers to assist."

Helping Stryker coordinate the program are O'Rourke, Park Ridge Deputy Police Chief Larry Herzog, Libertyville Police Cmdr. Chuck Bouland, and Buffalo Grove Police Sgt. Lester Aradi.

O'Rourke said the most recent event where Wheeling had to call on Deerfield's emergency team was to help out with a hostage situation. He said a full-scale NIPAS team will help take the burden off

(Continued on next page)

Teaming up—

(Continued from previous page)

those few agencies with specially trained units.

"I'M PLEASED with the way the program has been made in getting as many police departments together," O'Rourke said.

Herzog said it is hoped that within two years, the team's roster will grow to at least 40 officers. While Park Ridge also has a separate emergency team, he said, "We see advantages for better equipment, additional manpower and training experience."

Before the team's roster is compiled by the NIPAS board in August, the 37 officers will also have undergone a psychological written test, an oral interview and a screening for drug and alcohol use. Last week's fitness test had officers competing in a 1.5-mile run, climbing up and down a 100-foot aerial ladder, a one-minute sit-up test, a single repetition bench press, scaling a six-foot wall after running 100 yards, and dragging a 150-pound dummy 30 feet from under the front dashboard of a vehicle.

Male and female officers vying for this year's NIPAS team are from departments in Deerfield, Bannockburn, Lincolnshire, Lake Forest, Evanston, Glencoe, Libertyville, Vernon Hills, Wheeling, Buffalo Grove, Niles and Park Ridge.

STRYKER SAID OTHER members planned to contribute officers to the team, but many were unable to because the idea was adopted too late for this year's budget planning. But at least for the initial year, he said all NIPAS towns can call upon the team, regardless of whether it includes any of their officers. The balance of NIPAS members include the towns of Northbrook, Glenview, Wilmette, Winnetka, Northfield, Highland Park, Lake Bluff, Skokie, Lincolnwood, Morton Grove and Palatine.

"I think once the operation is in full swing that a bunch of the other towns will decide to contribute officers," said Libertyville Police Chief Roger Striker.

NIPAS itself was formed in 1982 as a cooperative effort at the time by 18 communities to assist in mutual aid situations, according to Deerfield Police Chief Richard Brandt, chairman of NIPAS' policy board. Currently, NIPAS members need only contact dispatch centers in Glenview and Wheeling to have up to 25 officers within 10 minutes.

Upon further review of its response plan, Brandt said the NIPAS board decided last December to compile a team of officers as an additional resource members can call upon. He said this concept allows a highly-trained unit to be available at minimal cost that provides specialization that a single agency would not find cost effective.

"IT HAS many more rewards than are so easily apparent," Brandt said. "Having the officers trained together and working together is how efficiency is increased."

Deerfield Cmdr. Ken Anderson, who handles administrative duties for NIPAS, said NIPAS already works hand-in-hand with the more than 100 fire departments and districts in the area that belong to the Mutual Aid Box Alarm System (MABAS). In fact, he said MABAS was founded several years ago by Elk Grove Village as a mechanism providing mutual aid and equipment at the scene of a major disaster.

Herald 6-29-87

Police crackdown on speeders announced

By C. L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Police will begin a crackdown on speeders along Dundee and Wolf roads in Wheeling next month.

"Ever since they raised the speed limit on interstates (to 65 mph) it's almost as though people are taking advantage of higher speeds on other roadways," Wheeling Police Chief Michael Haeger said.

Officers will be on the lookout for improper lane use, improper turns, speeding and improper use of medians, Haeger said.

Vehicles are speeding down those roads at 55 or 60 mph, Haeger said, when the speed limit is 35 or 40 mph. Drivers also are exceeding the limit on Wolf Road near Holmes Junior High school and Heritage Park, he said.

"The number of accidents are not that high, but we don't need them to get that high," Haeger said.

Haeger had asked that the speed limit on Wolf Road between Hintz and Dundee roads, now 40 and 45 mph, be lowered to a uniform 35 mph.

Pal-Waukee panel chief calls it quits

Herald 6-27-87

By C. L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer

The chairman of the Pal-Waukee Municipal Airport Commission has resigned, saying he can no longer stay on the commission without being protected by insurance.

Ronald Sowatzke of Prospect Heights, named chairman in March, said he has submitted letters of resignation to Prospect Heights Mayor Jack Gilligan and commission vice chairman Anthony Altieri of Wheeling.

The eight-member commission, made up of residents of Wheeling and Prospect Heights, has tried and failed to get insurance to cover the panel since it formed two years ago. Carriers have reportedly refused to cover the commission since it is a new organization without a track record of claims.

"I'm getting close to retirement and I don't have deep pockets," Sowatzke said.

Sowatzke's resignation is the most dramatic step among commissioners who say they are afraid to vote on issues that concern the airport, for fear of opening themselves up to litigation.

At recent meetings, some members refused to vote on anything beyond the approval of the minutes from the previous meeting.

The Prospect Heights City Council is expected to discuss the resignation at its next meeting July 6. With Sowatzke resigning, the city will be bringing on its third new member in recent months. Christina Carlson, a former alderman who ran unsuccessfully against Gilligan for mayor in April, was ousted by Gilligan shortly thereafter and Charles VanderVennet resigned under political pressure from Gilligan earlier this month.

Altieri said Friday he didn't know if Sowatzke's resignation will be followed by others.

Herald 6-27-87

District 23 extends lease for day-care center

By Joan Fleischer
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Hoping to recoup the cash from the sale of the former Muir School this year, Prospect Heights Elementary District 23 has extended a rental lease to the owner of the Sunnie Kiddies Day Care Center in Prospect Heights.

The school board approved granting a second year lease to Eilene Lombardo, executive director of Sunnie Kiddies, at an annual rent of $52,000.

"We extended it for one year to allow time for Sunnie Kiddies to obtain zoning approvals," said Superintendent David Robert. Lombardo is trying to buy the school for $525,000 but is entangled in trying to get zoning approval from Prospect Heights.

The city of Prospect Heights has not granted a zoning permit for operating the day care center in the residential neighborhood and the sale is contingent upon Lombardo's receiving the permit.

Prospect Heights had originally given Lombardo a June 30 deadline to either build a second driveway into the school or face eviction from the school at 1001 Oak St. and Elmhurst Road in Propsect Heights. The deadline was extended indefinitely.

But the second driveway has been hung up because the land needed for it is owned by the Village of Wheeling, which refuses to allow the driveway to cross it.

Some neighbors oppose the center because they said it causes traffic problems in the area.

Neighbors and Prospect Heights officials say the second exit is needed to ease the congestion around the day-care center. Wheeling officials, however, say they do not want to ease traffic congestion in Prospect Heights by funneling it through Wheeling.

Meanwhile, Lombardo has hired legal help to resolve the zoning dilemma.

"Nothing has been settled. Right now, I can't say what's happening. We're getting an extension from the city until a solution is found," Lombardo said. "We've looked at different sites, but it's difficult to find a place for 300 children. The lease with the school district helps give us more time."

Herald 6-18-87

Firm asks for tax break in move to Wheeling

A Rolling Meadows company is asking for a property tax break as an incentive to move to Wheeling.

Graphic Products Corp., which manufactures self-adhesive printed material used by industrial and commercial artists, told officials they have outgrown their two buildings in Rolling Meadows and would like to expand their business in Wheeling on south Wolf Road.

The company owned property in Schaumburg, but decided against building there and it could not find land in DuPage County, so Wheeling property was purchased because the tax exemption is being offered, company president Robert F. Serafin said.

The exemption gives property tax reductions of 60 percent for eight years and 25 percent for the next four years. The tax breaks are designed to keep businesses from moving to Lake or DuPage counties, where property taxes are lower than in Cook County.

Manufacturers must first apply for the tax break with the Cook County Assessor's office and then with the village. Once the village gives its approval, county approval usually follows. Wheeling has granted 9 property tax exemptions.

There are 48 employees with the graphics company and the number of employees will increase 25 percent in the next three to 10 years, Serafin said.

Herald 6-18-87

Problems still plague apartments

By C. L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Although the old Wildwood Apartments have undergone a name change and new owners, residents there still are complaining about falling ceilings and broken air conditioning.

The apartment complex on Dundee Road near Wheeling Avenue was purchased and renovated about a year ago by Continental Properties of Kansas City, Kan., after years of multiple owners and poorly managed buildings.

While the upgrading improved the looks of the complex, now called Arbor Court, residents say it is poorly managed again.

Resident Bill Albrecht, who called a tenants meeting that drew about 25 people, said rules are being broken.

For example, he said, a two-bedroom apartment has five occupants, which violates building rules. Kerosene and space heaters were used to keep warm in the winter and now the air conditioning is broken, he said.

Albrecht moved into the complex last November and has been withholding portions of his rent since December because he said improvements have not been made.

"They could put air compressors in all the buildings but it wouldn't help because the duct work is not installed correctly," Albrecht said.

Manager Don Sanders agreed the lack of air conditioning is due to a duct problem. Five of the seven buildings have "irreparable" air-conditioning systems and the management company is buying new equipment for them, he said.

So far, Continental Properties has spent $500,000 more than it anticipated on renovattions, Sanders said.

Village sanitarian Dan Adams said inspectors were called to check three apartments but did not find any critical conditions.

Hire a guard

For dozens of Wheeling area car buffs, heading down to Skippers restaurant on weekend nights to check out the antique and custom autos has become a ritual. On just about every Friday and Saturday night for the last three years, custom cars of all makes and models have parked in the Skippers lot on Elmhurst Road with their hoods propped up and chrome engines on display. The impromptu car shows attract folks from all over the Chicago area — and that's becoming a problem.

The parking lot at the small drive-in isn't big enough to accommodate both the custom car owners and the gawkers who flock to Skippers on the weekends, and village officials say cars are parking illegally on Elmhurst Road and in the parking lot of a nearby shopping center. And residents living near the establishment are complaining that Skippers' customers are driving recklessly through their neighborhood.

Because the popularity of Skippers is becoming a problem, Wheeling trustees are now talking about the possibility of revoking its business license if the situation doesn't improve. But we think that should be the last resort, and that there are other steps the village and management of Skippers can take before pulling the license is considered.

One of those steps — increasing police patrols around the restaurant — has already started. No-parking signs have been posted in areas where it's illegal to park and police are patrolling the area more diligently than before, ticketing reckless drivers and illegally-parked cars.

But the village shouldn't have the entire responsibility of keeping Skipper's in line. That's why we think there's a second step that hasn't yet been tried should be pursued — hiring a private security guard to keep order at the establishment.

Other restaurants hire off-duty police officers at their expense to control crowds, and we believe Skippers should be required to do the same. The owner of the restaurant acknowledges that the weekend car shows help his business tremendously, and he should be willing pay the cost of extra security for a few hours on weekend nights.

Before Wheeling officials conduct a hearing on whether Skippers' license should be revoked, they should require the restaurant to provide a security guard there on Friday and Saturday nights. The extra security coupled with the increased enforcement from Wheeling police should do the job. If it doesn't, then it's time to look at more drastic measures.

Job well done

A citizens' advisory committee in School District 96 last week came up with a recommendation that the district lease a school in Arlington Heights to deal with its growing enrollment. The committee came up with the recommendation after studying numerous options to the enrollment problem and well as the costs of each option.

While it remains to be seen whether the school board will go along with the recommendation, leasing a school instead of building a new one or an addition to an existing school appears to make sense.

While there's a lot of growth in the district now, enrollment is expected to level off within the next 10 years, and officials may be making a mistake if they build now and get stuck with half-filled schools a decade down the road.

It would have been easy for the 16-member committee to recommend that District 96 build a new school and seek a property tax referendum to pay for the building, an option that's been popular over the years but has backfired in the past. The committee deserves credit for objectively looking at all the options and coming up with the one that appears to best fits the districts' needs.

countryside

6-25-87

Cop gets suspension for reckless driving

Wheeling Police Officer Robert Pressley has been suspended for three days without pay after pleading guilty to a charge of reckless and careless driving during a Feb. 25 car chase.

Wheeling Police Chief Michael Haeger, who filed charges against Pressley in April, voluntarily withdrew a second charge in which he had claimed that Pressley lied about the circumstances surrounding the February incident, which resulted in a two-car accident.

The disciplinary action was approved by the Wheeling Board of Fire and Police Commissioners at a hearing last week.

Pressley had requested a postponement of the original hearing date, scheduled for last month, to look at a 10-year history of how accidents involving officers were handled in the past. Pressley's attorney Noel Wroblewski could not be reached for comment regarding the findings of that study.

VILLAGE ATTORNEY JAMES Rhodes and Haeger would not comment on the findings, saying that they were not relevant to the decision. Rhodes said that the results of the findings given to Pressley and his attorney were "never dealt with. Ultimately there was never a ruling made as to whether this information was relevant or not," he said.

Commission Chairman Mary Ellen Westrich said the study was never seen by the fire and police commission and that the attorneys handling the case had negotiated an agreement prior to the June 17 hearing.

The charges against Pressley stemmed from an incident that occurred at 1:30 a.m. Feb. 25. Haeger charged that Pressley was driving eastbound on Hintz Road at the intersection of Lakeside Circle Drive when he attempted to pass two squad cars that were in front of him.

Haeger contends that Pressley violated three traffic laws by moving into the westbound lane of traffic and attempting to pass the two squad cars. The move resulted in a collision of Pressley's and one other squad car.

AS A RESULT, Haeger charged Pressley with reckless driving, driving on the left side of the roadway within 100 feet of an intersection and moving into the westbound lane in an unsafe manner, charges Pressley pleaded guilty to.

Haeger dropped a charge that Pressley had lied about the incident when he claimed he was trying to catch an eastbound vehicle in the westbound lane of Hintz Road. Haeger had also charged that Pressley lied when stating that there was a car exiting the Lakeside Villas complex going east in the westbound lane of Hintz Road at the time of the incident.

Pressley, the only black officer in the Wheeling department, has filed a civil rights suit against the department, claiming that he has been racially harassed on several occasions during his eight years on the force.

The attorney representing the commission, Robert DiLeonardi, called the punishment "fair and reasonable disciplinary action."

Herald 6-27-87

All agreed, track needs fence

BY MICHAEL WHITE
Daily Herald correspondent

Wheeling plan commissioners are saying a go-cart track on Milwaukee Avenue is too close to the roadway and they will ask Cook County officials to erect a fence between the track and the road.

However, the owners of the track may beat the county to it.

Commissioners said it's only a matter of time before a go-cart rolls out onto Milwaukee Avenue or a car crashes onto the track. The track is part of Baseball Batting & Hi-Speed Racing, just north of Pal-Waukee Airport in unincorporated Cook County.

A row of tractor tires around the track and a parkway separates the motorized go-carts and south bound vehicles.

"The go-carts go to within a few feet of Milwaukee Avenue," said commissioner Steve E. Walanka, who proposed writing a letter that asks the county for fencing. "It's very distracting when you drive by, and it's really dangerous.

ILLINOIS USA TODAY 6-24-87

CHICAGO — Riccordino Realty agreed to pay $29,000 in lawsuit by 2 civic groups. Complaint: Firm excited home sales in mostly white neighborhood by claiming that minorities planned to move in, hurt property values. ... URBANA — Dr. Thomas E. Everhart, chancellor of University of Illinois campus here, will take over as president of California Institute of Technology Sept. 1. Marvin L. Goldberger is retiring. ... WHEELING — City says Skippers Inc. restaurant must get own police patrol or lose business license. Cited: High noise levels, severe traffic hazard created by classic car buffs who hang out here.

State takes control of credit union

Herald 6-26-87

By C.L. Waller
and Chris Szechenyi
Daily Herald staff writers

A state regulatory agency has eized control of a Wheeling-based redit union after discovering what called "unsound financial practic-s," officials revealed Thursday.

The Illinois Department of Finan-ial Institutions this week ousted the oard of directors of the American aw Enforcement Credit Union and ppointed a trustee to manage the redit union's business for an indefi-ite period.

The credit union, which had about 26 million in deposits in the last ive years, has 14,000 members from he Northwest suburbs and other arts of the state. The credit union erves members of the Combined County Police Association, a police nion.

Michael Fryzel, IDFI director, aid American is one of 20 Illinois redit unions, out of a possible 800, eing scrutinized by the state as a esult of irregularities found during nnual reviews.

Examiners discovered "unsound" ractices in American's loans and ollections during a recent audit, aid Fred Zeni, IDFI's chief counsel. He did not elaborate but said the ase has not been sent to prosecu-ors.

The takeover does not freeze the redit union's assets and members an still apply for loans and make eposits as usual, officials said.

But Fryzel said the credit union may be forced to merge with anoth-er or liquidate its assets. The next step depends on a review by the trus-tee, Gary Peterson, a former bank examiner from Iowa.

If the credit union is stabilized, members may re-elect a new board of directors to take charge of its dai-ly operations, Zeni said.

The National Credit Union Admin-istration, which insures American, has been keeping close tabs on its op-eration for more than a year, Fryzel said.

Businesses antsy over road work

Herald 6-25-87

By C. L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer

It's been nine months since the Wheeling Road reconstruction project between Hintz and Dundee roads began, and businessmen located near the project say they are due for a little relief.

The mile-long, $1.6 million project began in October with sewer repairs that were supposed to be completed in December, followed by a street closing in spring for resurfacing.

But delays began when a subcontractor fell behind, and the sewer plans had to be reworked because other underground utilities were discovered.

With curbs going in this week, village officials are predicting that it will be at least another month before Wheeling Road gets back to normal. That's not soon enough for businessmen, who say the delays have been difficult for them financially.

"I think they are asking too much of the businessmen along here," said Ron Besserud, president of Economy Mechanical Industries, Inc., 77 S. Wheeling Road.

Besserud said his firm does sewer and water main repairs itself, so he can understand delays. However, more consideration should have been given to business owners along Wheeling Road who were not notified that the road was going to be torn up, and now have landscaping missing, he said.

"Between the dirt and the inconvenience of our customers, it's been horrendous," said Debbie Laurie, assistant manager at Brown's Chicken, 625 W. Dundee Road.

Brown's, which is at the corner of Dundee and Wheeling Road, has two driveways onto Dundee Road. Laurie said customers, who mostly stop in during evening rush hours, cannot move if they do not go east on Dundee when leaving.

Midas Muffler Shop, 33 S. Wheeling Road, has a narrow gravel entry onto Wheeling Road and one employee said he saw two cars fall off into the ditch last week.

DISTRICT: Village denies charges

Continued from Page 1

Fire Department's annual budget. This year the budget is $1.9 million.

Wheeling, however, added another $460,000 in administrative costs, telephone service and radio costs, to its fire department budget and billed the Wheeling Township fire district for 20 percent of the additional cost.

Prospect Heights fire district officials said the new charges are unfair because those expenses are not made for the Wheeling Township fire district.

"They (Wheeling officials) are charging a certain amount of the fire department budget, plus a certain amount of the village operating expenses," said David Jost, a spokesman for the Prospect Heights Fire District.

"They're charging the di some additional expenses tha long in (Wheeling), not in the fir trict," Prospect Heights 3rd Alderman Edward Rotch agreed.

Was fire district overcharged?

Herald 6-12-87

By Dan Rozek
and Michael D. White
Daily Herald staff writers

The village of Wheeling overcharged the Wheeling Township Rural Fire Protection District $92,000 for fire protection this year, Prospect Heights fire and city officials are claiming.

The charges have prompted the Wheeling Township fire district to temporarily halt a $237,000 payment to Wheeling, which provides fire protection on contract to the independent township fire district.

They halted the payment although the fire district's own attorney, Anthony Buckun, says he doesn't see anything out of line about the bill.

Wheeling municipal officials deny they tried to bill the township fire district too much money for the fire protection their municipal department provides.

"I'm confident what they're being charged is a fair rate for the service received," Wheeling Village President Sheila H. Schultz said Thursday.

Wheeling officials are asking the township fire district to pay them a total of $474,000 this year to protect parts of the Wheeling Township R ral Fire Protection District, wh includes parts of Prospect Heig and unincorporated areas betw Wheeling and Buffalo Grove.

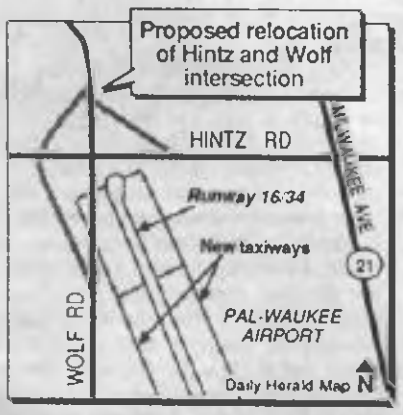
The fire district trustees, which not operate their own fire depa ment, contract with surrounding f departments to protect homes a businesses in their area. Wheeling far has the largest contract.

Normally, the village of Wheel charges the fire district an amo equal to 20 percent of the Wheel

6-24-87 Herald

Plan would move road from airport

By C. L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer



Engineers have devised a $6.5 million plan to move the intersection of Hintz and Wolf roads farther away from a 5,000-foot runway at Pal-Waukee Municipal Airport.

The relocation may ease the harrowing feeling drivers get when low flying aircraft pass directly over their vehicles. The main runway points directly at the intersection from the northwest corner of the airport.

Crawford, Murphy and Tilly Inc. has devised a plan that curves Wolf Road 620 feet west of its current location and moves Hintz Road about 365 feet north.

Engineers mentioned two runway options: raising the runway four feet and cutting 140 to 211 feet off the end for clearance, or raising the runway 7.7 feet and having clearance without shortening the runway.

The firm was hired by Wheeling and Prospect Heights in December to draw up a plan for moving the intersection and bringing the airport in compliance with Federal Aviation Administration safety standards.

The estimated cost of moving the intersection is between $4 million and $5 million. The cost of raising the runway four feet is estimated at $1.5 million, but there are no estimates yet for raising the runway 7.7 feet.

All construction, land acquisition and relocation costs are eligible for federal, county and state funding of up to 95 percent of the total cost, said Warren Knoles, an official with Crawford, Murphy and Tilly, Inc. Prospect Heights and Wheeling would each pay 2.5 percent of the costs.

The center of the runway is 5,300 feet long, but because the corners are rounded off, the length is considered to be 5,140 feet, said Steve Moulton, an official with the engineering firm. Plane owners report they cannot get insurance from some carriers if their planes are based at airports runways smaller than 5,000 feet, Moulton said.

"Clearance" zones are now only eight feet at the edges of the runway but the four foot buildup brings it up to 12 feet, still three feet short of the FAA rule, Knoles said.

It is likely that Prospect Heights and Wheeling will have to request clearance variances from the FAA no matter what the design is, engineers said.

Wheeling Village President Sheila Schultz says Wheeling may choose to leave the intersection as it is.

"The moving of the intersection in our mind is not a foregone conclusion," she said.

Engineers said their design keeps in mind the nearness of the Plum Grove Condomiuniums, just east of the intersection, and Acco International and Ensar Handi-Foil Corp., both located west of the intersection.

In the design, Hintz Road has four lanes and widens to five at the intersection. Wolf Road will have only four lanes at the intersection. Both streets would have speed limits of 40 mph. Copies of the plans have been sent to the FAA, the Illinois Department of Transportation and Cook County Highway Department, Knoles added.

Herald 6-30-87

Go-cart track traffic has neighbors upset

By Dan Rozek
and C.L. Waller
Daily Herald staff writers

The go-carts at a Milwaukee Avenue track don't bother neighbors, but cars traveling to and from the track, which lies between Wheeling and Prospect Heights, have neighbors spinning their wheels in frustration.

Patrons of Baseball Batting & Hi-Speed Racing park all along Sumac Road, clogging the small street and damaging landscaping of businesses along the road, neighbors charge.

Cars also back into the lane, risking accidents with passing vehicles, particularly trucks servicing the approximately 10 businesses on the dead-end street, the businessmen say.

Neighbors are particularly upset because they said an off-street parking lot originally was supposed to be built, while the business now only has paved a parking area along the shoulder of the road.

"They're supposed to have parking behind the batting cage; now it's on the street where there wasn't supposed to be anything," said Lauric Mangan, of Sam Mormino Corp., 230 A Sumac Road.

"The traffic problem is getting terrible," said Dave Harrington, president of IGE Inc., 300 Sumac Road. "Everything has to park on the shoulder and back into the street. There aren't enough parking spaces."

Track owners could not be reached for comment.

Neighbors also are concerned about plans to build a fence along Milwaukee Avenue to separate the track from Milwaukee Avenue.

The fence will cut visibility, making the intersection of Sumac Road and Milwaukee Avenue even more dangerous than it now is, they said.

Cook County Sheriff spokesman Fernando Cepeda said neighbors could petition Wheeling Township to post no parking signs on Sumac Road. Once those signs are up, cars parking along the private street could be ticketed and towed.

Industrial, residential construction on the rise

A worker smoothes pavement at the Arlington Club development, one of Wheeling's major residential developments. *(Staff photo by Bill Oakes)*

By Lee Ann Mackulin

The Village of Wheeling is growing by leaps and bounds.

The number of building permits issued for single-family homes, townhomes, apartments and industrial buildings doubled last fiscal year from the previous year, according to a report released last week by Director of Community Development Michael Klitzke.

There were 248 permits issued for single-family homes during the 1986-87 fiscal year, which ran from May, 1986 through April, 1987, compared to only 130 permits issued during the 1985-86 fiscal year.

In the 1986-87 fiscal year, permits were issued for 87 multi-family buildings with 816 housing units, compared to 38 buildings with 452 units the previous year.

THERE WERE 22 permits issued for industrial buildings in 1986-87, compared to just nine in 1985-86.

The total value of new construction for last fiscal year is $92 million, double the $46 million in 1985-86.

The increase in building activity came as no surprise to village officials.

"We expected it because of the strong market that we were in (for single-family homes) and because of the projects that we had going," said Klitzke. Low interest rates and a need for more single-family homes in the village prompted the construction, he said.

POLO RUN, EASTCHESTER and Arlington Club are just a few of the residential developments that are completed or are nearing completion in Wheeling.

The sold-out 250 single family home/condominium Polo Run subdivision, located on Palatine Road between Route 83 and Wheeling Road, "set phenomenal sales records," said Ken Lauber, market research analyst for Pulte Home Corp.

A "pent-up demand" for housing in the northwest suburbs has Pulte involved in six developments in surrounding communities. "Attractive" interest rates over the last year has driven up the demand for single-family homes, said Lauber.

"We feel there is a strong enough demand (for single-family homes) that we are looking at another site for a similar project (to Polo Run) in Wheeling," said Lauber. Although he declined to go into detail, the proposed project would be smaller than Polo Run.

THE CONSTRUCTION BOOM has left the village with smaller parcels available for future development of single-family homes, but not many larger tracts.

"The big 40-acre pieces are rapidly

(Continued on page 15)

Building—

(Continued from page 5)

disappearing. The pieces are smaller, but there's still a fair amount of residential area," said Klitzke.

Village President Sheila Schultz said that "as available land diminishes, we're more and more concerned with what is developed."

Although single-family developments seem to be sprouting up all over Wheeling, Schultz maintains that the the number of multi-family dwellings will always outweigh single-family homes.

However, he is looking for "continued industrial growth and development" next fiscal year as well as development of a few smaller single family-home projects.

"The type of aircraft used is more critical than the volume of aircraft," he said. One older model jet could have the noise equivalent of 50 small corporate jets, said Wolfe. The gradual replacement of the old with the new will slowly minimize noise caused by aircraft, he said.

With 419 aircraft currently based at Pal-Waukee, the study projects that by 1990, 465 will be based there and 609 will utilize the facility by the year 2006.

KEEPING RESIDENTIALLY ZONED areas distanced from airports is also a big step in reducing complaints about noise, said Wolfe.

Wheeling officials have for years

Herald 6-25-81

Arbor Court: a dream gone awry

By C. L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Continental Properties was the answer to Wheeling's dreams a year ago.

No more windows without screens, no more junk cars sitting in the parking lot, no more Wildwood apartments and no more village eyesore at Wheeling Avenue and Dundee Road.

Continental Properties was going to manage the apartments and All-State Roofing of Kansas City was going to finance the $2.6 million purchase and rehabilitation costs. The ambitious redevelopers renamed the place Arbor Court.

Everything went well. But when the heroes wound up spending more than they planned in renovation costs, they had to go back to the Wheeling Village Board last fall and get $80,000 in early loan money.

The original agreement between Wheeling and Continental Properties called for the village to loan developer Larry Floria a total of $220,000 from a tax increment financing fund, if he agreed to operate and maintain the apartment complex for five years. He would receive half of the loan prior to renovations and the other half after the work was completed.

The village has $30,000 left to pay once work is complete.

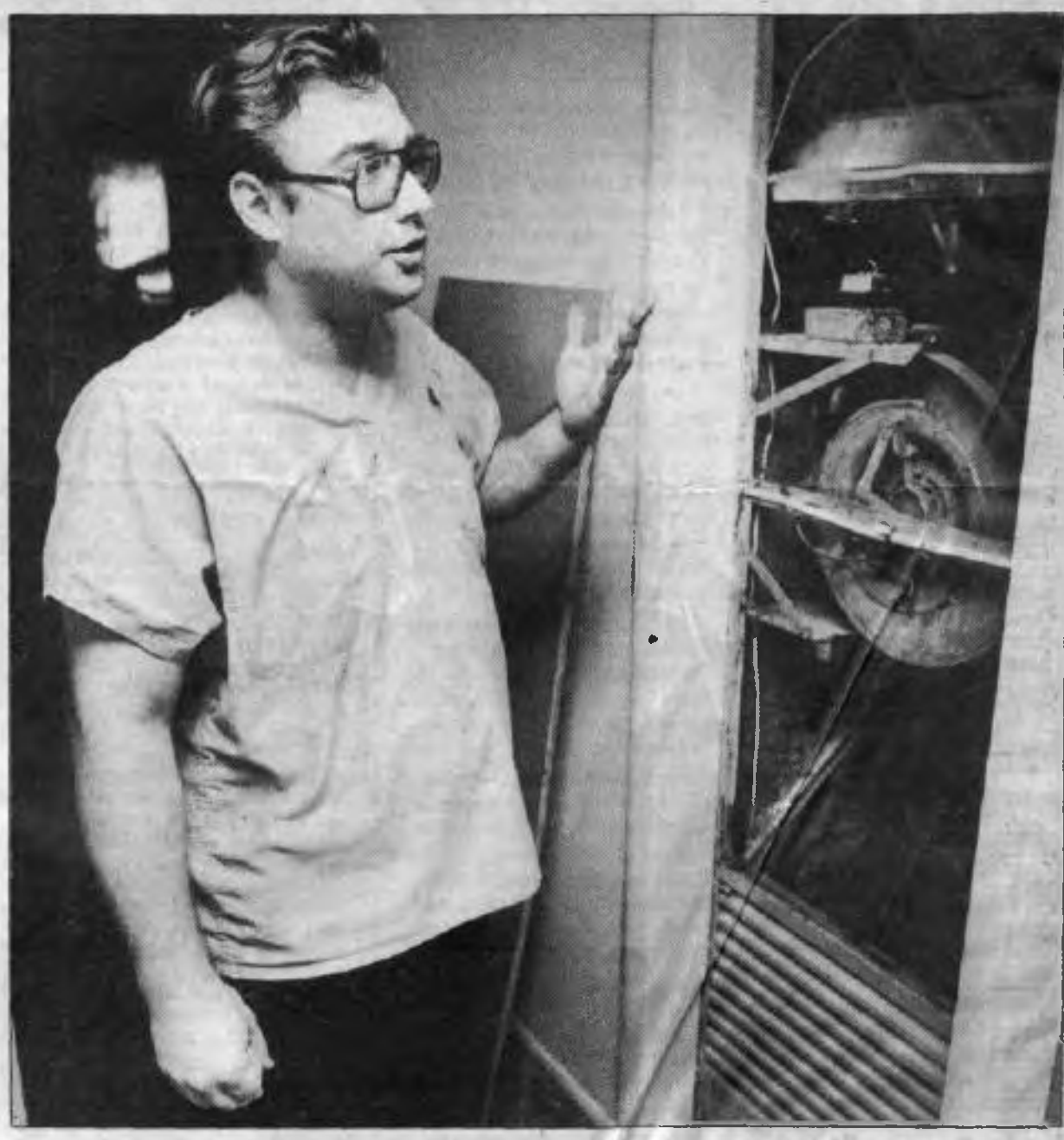
But Floria was fired from the project last February after a squabble with his partners at All-State Roofing.

"All of a sudden they just wanted to use the bank's money instead of investing their own," Floria said.

Floria said by the time he was dumped, 60 percent of the apartments were occupied but it was difficult to make repairs because the investors were not providing money. There were plans to install air conditioning units in March or April.

When the air conditioning failed to materialize and the temperatures shot up, tempers flared. Several residents have started talking about suing the owners over rent they had paid for apartments that were supposed to be air conditioned. Others have discussed putting their rent payments into an escrow account as a protest.

At a recent tenants' meeting residents complained about several apartments without locks on the doors, mold growing on walls and of course, no air conditioning.



Arbor Court resident Bill Albrecht claims his furnace has not been repaired.

Daily Herald Photo/Jon Kirn

There was also talk of no firebreaks in the double ceiling and too many people living in some of the apartments, which are officially limited to two people per bedroom.

Ron Nichols said he was guaranteed heat and air conditioning when he moved into Arbor Court in February.

"We were fed a story when we moved in," said the construction worker, who shares the apartment with two other men

"We work out in the heat eight to 10 hours a day and then we have to come home and sit in it," he says.

New manager Don Sanders says the problems will be solved in time. Air conditioning units are being installed in two of the seven buildings with three more coming, he said. It will take time to install the units and modify the duct work, he added.

The partners have invested $400,000 of their own money into repairs and both the owners and management are committed to upgrading Arbor Court apartments, Sanders said.

Still, there are four or five residents still interested in suing the owner, said resident Bill Albrecht one of the tenants who organized his fellow renters.

He said several residents are becoming gun-shy for fear of eviction

Countryside

1-9-87

No progress in contract talks, firefighters report

Wheeling firefighters have been without a contract for 14 months now — and negotiations remain at a standstill.

A court battle over whether or not the six lieutenants in the fire department should be included as part of the firefighters' bargaining unit is just beginning. And that issue alone may delay any kind of settlement for far longer than either side imagined.

Village officials brought the issue to the Illinois Appellate Court in May in hopes of having a recent ruling by the Illinois Labor Relations Board, (ILRB) which favored new bargaining rights for lieutenants, overturned.

Village Manager Tom Markus, who declined to comment on the issue, said a trial date has not been set.

THE VILLAGE IS fighting the ILRB decision, saying that including lieutenants in the bargaining process would threaten the village's right to manage the bargaining unit, the Wheeling Firefighters' Association. The 37-member association, on the other hand, argues that lieutenants should be part of the group.

Bart Burns, president of the association, said that right now the only talking going on is between the attorneys representing each side. Burns is hoping the village will agree to negotiate other aspects of the contract while the court proceedings on the lieutenants issue are taking place.

"We're in a waiting period," said Burns. Fire departments in surrounding communities are also waiting for the appellate court decision, he said.

"A lot of other departments are looking to include their officers at the bargaining table. There are some departments that have even put in their contracts that lieutenants' bargaining rights depend upon this Wheeling decision," he said.

UNTIL THE STATE adopted a new collective bargaining law in Jan. 1, 1986, firefighters little few bargaining rights, Burns said. "They (the village) decided what was the final offer. There wasn't any real bargaining going on," he said. Since the law was passed, however, Burns said "there is no question as to the collective bargaining rights of the blueshirts."

The rights of the six lieutenants, however, is still a question that still needs to be resolved.

"We feel we have a strong decision (by the ILRB) and we feel that the court will uphold it. Unfortunately, we have to go through this rather expensive process," said Burns. So far, negotiations have cost the association $17,000, all of which has come out of the pockets of its members. Burns could not estimate how much additional costs would be incurred fighting the village's appeal.

Prospect Heights delays decision on fate of Sunnie Kiddies — again

By Lee Ann Mackulin

Countryside

A decision on granting a special use permit to Sunnie Kiddies day care center, which would require construction of an additional access drive to the site at 3316 Schoenbeck Road in Prospect Heights, has been postponed — again.

Prospect Heights aldermen voted unanimously Monday to wait until Sept. 1 to work out a way to keep the center operating at that location, extending a previously imposed June 30 deadline.

With the operation of the center in jeopardy, director of the Sunnie Kiddies Foundation day care center Eileen Lombardo was hesitant to say exactly what details city officials are trying to work out.

The center currently serves approximately 300 youngsters. Without an additional drive leading into the site in order to alleviate traffic congestion caused by the drop off and pick up of children, city officials say Lombardo will not be able to continue her operation from that building.

"IT'S REALLY touch and go right now. If this piece of the puzzle gets put together we could be home free," said Lombardo. She said that the Prospect Heights Park District is key to working out an agreement with the city, but would not say exactly how they are involved. Park officials are expected to discuss the day care center in executive session after a regular park board meeting Tuesday night.

The park district leases property surrounding the center from Prospect Heights Elementary School District 23, where playground equipment is currently set up. The center operates in the old District 23 John Muir School.

City and park district officials would not comment on exactly what the park district's role is in the issue or on any aspect of what is being worked out. Officials are onlysaying that they are trying to work toward an agreement to allow the center to remain operational.

"I think that something could be worked out," said Prospect Heights Park District Director James Devos. Devos would only say that the park district's role in the issue "could have something to do with the (construction of an) access way — eventually."

"THE BOARD will discuss this and see if it's in our best interest to pursue this matter a little further," he said.

Prospect Heights Mayor John Gilligan also declined comment on the matter.

"What the nature of the agreement is I can't say at this time. It will remain a little under wraps until all of the people who are supposed to do certain things have done them," he said.

Residents living near the center would like an interim solution to the traffic congestion near that site - but they're not going to get one. Several residents attending Monday's meeting asked that a patrolman be placed near the school to help conduct traffic.

Gilligan said the city would not take one of its officers off other streets in the city to patrol just that one corner.

Parents who have children enrolled in the day care center are concerned about the possibility of its closing. Many parents have said that they do not believe that the impact of the traffic on the neighborhood generated by Sunnie Kiddies is that great.

Thursday, July 9, 1987

Township fire district agrees to pay bill

7-11-87

By Michael David White
Daily Herald Correspondent

Dismissing allegations that the village of Wheeling overcharged them for fire service, the Wheeling Township Rural Fire Protection District board agreed to pay a $237,495 bill.

Fire district trustees last month delayed paying the bill after officials from Prospect Heights complained that Wheeling overcharged the fire district by $92,000.

But after a meeting between Wheeling and fire district officials, the fire district concluded those charges were proper, based on the formula set in a 1982 contract.

Questions about over-billing were raised last month by Prospect Heights 3rd Ward Alderman Edward Rotchford. Prospect Heights is battling Wheeling for the contract to provide fire protection to the tiny Wheeling Township Fire Protection District, which includes about half of Prosepct Heights and the unincorporated areas between Wheeling and Buffalo Grove.

The fire district board of trustees currently contracts with Wheeling for the majority of the work. The Prospect Heights Rural Fire Protection District and the village of Buffalo Grove receive minimal amounts to protect the remaining parts of the district.

Officials from Prospect Heights and the Prospect Heights fire district are pushing for a larger share of the tax money because about 65 percent of the Wheeling Township fire district is within Prospect Heights.

Schwab asked both sides to work together on dividing the Wheeling fire district property.

"The overlapping properties are obviously subject to a great deal of discussion," said Schwab. "But the contention is between the two municipalities, not the fire district. Those items should be put on the table and discussed."

The Wheeling Township fire district is in the process of disbanding, as sections of it get annexed to neighboring towns. Trustees will hear arguments in September on how the fire district should be divided.

Wheeling officials have argued that they have spent money to build up their fire department, in order to adequately protect the additional area.

Prospect Heights Mayor John E. Gilligan, however, charged that Wheeling "has made an investment at the expense of Prospect Heights taxpayers."

Gilligan said the final decision should be made by the residents and he said they support having unified fire protection provided by the Prospect Heights fire district.

City officials do not like the current system of having several fire departments protect the city because they say residents often are uncertain which department to call in an emergency.

Although Wheeling officials have questioned whether the mostly volunteer Prospect Heights fire district could protect the whole city, Prospect Heights Fire Department Chief Don R. Gould Sr. disagreed.

"It would be no hardship to service the rest of the city," he said.

Deadline set for airport manager

7-8-87

By C. L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Prospect Heights and Wheeling officials have decided to "get off dead center" and set a Dec. 31 deadline to find a manager for Pal-Waukee Municipal Airport.

Prospect Heights Administrator Robert Kiely and Wheeling Village Manager Thomas Markus say they are determined to find either a manager or a management firm by the deadline.

"Rather than continue debate back and forth, we thought let's get off dead center and hire a manager," Kiely said.

"I think the two communities and the commission recognize we need to do something," Wheeling Village President Sheila Schultz said.

The towns differ on whether just a manager or a management firm should be hired. Prospect Heights aldermen have reiterated they want a single manager, employed by the Pal-Waukee Airport Commission. Wheeling favors hiring a firm.

Wheeling has suggested that each town choose one person and that those two together find a manager to oversee daily airport operations, a proposal Prospect Heights has agreed to.

Since the towns jointly bought Pal-Waukee in 1986, the eight-member airport commission was responsible for recommending a new manager.

Kiely said the change of responsibility frees up the commission for other issues, and commission members can sit in on interviews.

"We're not cutting them out," Kiely said.

Markus said, however, that the commission is not required to be included in determining a job description and sitting in on interviews.

Prospect Heights Mayor Jack Gilligan said approving the resolution to move ahead was the best decision the council could have made.

"We feel quite strongly there should be a manager aboard as soon as possible," he said.

Extra sets of eyes

7-9-87

The Wheeling Public Works Department is doing more these days than just fixing streets and replacing sewers.

The department is teaming up with police as part of the village's new "Fleetwatch" program, a crime prevention system where public works employees keep an eye out for accidents and any unusual or suspicious occurances in Wheeling neighborhoods and notify police about potential problems right away.

Police also will go to the schools this fall and tell school children that the public works employees will assist them in they're lost on the street or in need of help.

This program is a great idea because it means there will be some extra sets of eyes keeping a watch on Wheeling neighborhoods. While public works employees aren't trained law enforcement professionals and shouldn't be considered as such, it's nice to know that they're out there to lend a hand to police when the need arises.

Both departments should be commended for implementing this unique program.

Arbor Court owners looking to bail out

BY C. L. WALLER
Daily Herald Staff Writer

7-21-87

The yearlong owners of Arbor Court apartments in Wheeling want to sell the complex even if it means taking a loss.

"What we had in mind was a major rehab and what we got was a major fiasco," said Bernie Belcher, one of four partners who own the complex.

Continental Properties, represented by Larry Floria, and partners from All-State Roofing in Kansas City merged to purchase the former Wildwood apartments, southwest of Wheeling Avenue and Dundee Road, for $2.6 million.

Belcher said the partnership spent $600,000 more than it planned in renovating the 78-unit complex and plans on spending another $30,000 to cool down tenants who have sued over lack of air conditioning.

A lawsuit has been filed on behalf of tenants asking that portions of rent and $25 per day be returned to each resident. The lawsuit, filed in Cook County Circuit Court, contends that residents should be reimbursed for the lack of adequate heat and air conditioning.

Belcher claims that one of the other partners, Larry Floria, did not have the expertise to predict the renovation needed and the partnership is now "stuck in a situation" where they are over budget. Floria could not be reached to respond.

Plumbing, electrical and duct work are among the types of renovations being done in the apartments and Belcher said it is unlikely they will be able to sell the complex until next year, particularly since more repairs are needed.

Meanwhile, if the partners sell, they will be losing a portion of a $200,000 loan the village has on the development. The agreement was that Continental Properites would own the complex for five years and get half of the money prior to renovations and half after renovations were complete.

The company has received $180,000 so far.

Police, public works team up against crime

7-9-87 Countryside

By Lee Ann Mackulin

Public works employees are doing more than cleaining streets and fixing sewers these days. They're also working with the police department as part of a new crime prevention program in town.

McGruff, that crime-fighting canine is the mascot of Wheeling's new Fleetwatch crime prevention program. The program, where public works employees work with police to detect and report crimes, is being coordinated by Bob Gray, director of maintenance and operations for the village, and crime prevention officer Kathy Tracy. *(Staff photo by Kathy Tray)*

McGruff is helping take an even bigger bite out of crime in Wheeling.

The old dog is the face behind a new crime prevention program where public works employees aid the police department in detecting and reporting crimes and accidents.

Manned with two-way radios, public works employees are instructed to keep an eye out for crime in the community and contact police immediately with any information.

Although the public works department has always made a point of helping the police by reporting crimes, the Fleetwatch program will turn what was once a voluntary act into an obligation for public works employees to help in crime prevention.

BRIGHT, GREEN FLEETWATCH stickers, bearing McGruff's fat, fuzzy face, now adorn all public works trucks, announcing to the community that the employees in that vehicle are watching out for any problems while sweeping the streets or reparing the roads. There are between 20 and 25 public works employees out in the village on a typical work day.

"We're hoping to reinforce people reporting crimes (and) to increase public awareness," said Wheeling crime prevention officer Kathy Tracy.

Tracy conducted a one-hour training session last month to teach public works employees proper terms and descriptions to use when calling in a crime to police. All crews now carry with them a Fleetwatch pamphlet that explains how to report crimes. In the past, police officers were left to decipher reports called in by workers.

"It aids the radio operator if descriptions (of crimes) are given in a

(Continued on page 11)

County funds go to suburbs, area agencies

By Kathy Schaeffer
Daily Herald Staff Writer 7-8-87

Four Northwest suburbs and three local agencies will receive funds from Cook County's Community Development Block Grant Program, which will allow them to improve living conditions for low- and moderate-income residents.

The Cook County Board has approved allocating $11.1 million in funds to 80 projects, including $480,000 to seven area programs.

The villages of Hoffman Estates, Streamwood and Wheeling each are set to receive $50,000 for single-family home rehabilitation projects.

The single-family program allows homeowners whose family income is less than 80 percent of the town's median income to apply for loans to repair building code violations in their houses, said Suzanne Hayes, director of the county's community development program.

Palatine Township will get $100,000 for capital improvements at its two buildings that house the township's senior center, day-care center and The Bridge Youth Services. Palatine Township office manager Joan Kuhn said she was thrilled to learn of the grant.

Kuhn said the money will go toward installing fans in the buildings, fixing a drainage problem in the parking lot, improving storage and remedying phone line difficulties at the day-care center.

Northwest Community Services in Mount Prospect, which serves the entire area, is slated to get $30,000 for housing counseling. Community Economic Development Authority will receive $149,466 for housing counseling and post-rehabilitation maintenance seminars. And Northwest Service Coordination in Arlington Heights is slated to get $50,000 to help people who can't afford to live on their own find roommates.

Hayes said those agencies are increasingly more important to northern Cook County because of growing numbers of elderly people, single-parent families and others who can no longer afford to stay in the area because of rising housing costs.

"There's this population in northern Cook County that nobody wants to admit is there," Hayes said. Those agencies help address the growing problem of affordable housing, she said.

Dundee Car-Wash hits hurdle

By Michael D. White
Daily Herald Correspondent 7-27-87

The proposed Dundee Car-Wash, whose developers won authority to build after a six-year court battle, has been delayed until problems of elevation are resolved.

Village officials said the plans had a four-foot rise in one spot for people to drive on, but no explanation how the cars would get up four feet.

"The grading plan can greatly regulate what the final site plan is," said Wheeling Plan Commission Chairman Paul Eisterhold. "We do not want to go ahead without the benefit of the engineers questions and judgement."

Stuart Jacobson, car-wash architect, said the request for the grade plan came just three working days before plans went to the commission. Jacobson said he was not told to submit an elevation plan.

"We've agreed to do every single thing on this site that we've been asked to do," Jacobson said. "We seem to be going back and forth and getting bounced around like a ball."

Village Planner Richard D. Greenwood said the elevation plan does not meet floodplain regulations which must be resolved before the site plan is considered accurate.

"I don't think he can build it according to the plans," said Greenwood. "We discovered they couldn't do what they said they were going to do."

The plan commission agreed it would be impossible to consider the site plan when a change in grading might force alterations.

Jacobson asked the commission to review the site plan, but withhold the building permit pending approval of grade plans.

Liquor license is approved

Lile 7-23-87

A liquor license was granted Monday to a restaurant that is to open Aug. 1, at 604 N. Milwaukee Avenue.

The Wheeling Village Board in its role of Liquor Commission approved the Class B liquor license after briefly lecturing the 25-year-old owner of the new establishment on how strictly Wheeling enforces its liquor ordinances against under age drinking.

Vivian Lee, owner of Vivian Lee's Restaurant, said she intends to make sure all waiters and waitresses check i.d.s before serving drinks.

Lee, a Northbrook resident, said she will sell Chinese and American foods. The establishment will be mainly a restaurant geared toward families and business people, she said.

The restaurant will be open from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. and the bar may be open an hour or two later, Lee said.

Lee said she currently manages two establishments, the Hong Kong Restaurant in Normal and the China Garden in Bloomington.

The new establishment replaces Carmen's of Wheeling Pizzeria.

Municipalities to use grant to buy hangars

By C. L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer 7-27-87

Prospect Heights and Wheeling will use a $2.26 million grant to buy hangars for corporate planes at Pal-Waukee Municipal Airport and some property at Wolf and Hintz roads.

The Illinois Division of Aeronautics has given the grant to the two municipalities that own Pal-Waukee, said Stephen Moore, attorney for the Pal-Waukee Municipal Airport Commission.

Of the grant, $1.5 million will be used to buy four hangars owned by George Priester, the former airport owner, Moore said.

A building along Milwaukee Avenue that is used as the corporate center for Priester Aviation, flight school offices and a pilots' lounge also is included.

Moore said the building purchases were not part of the original agreement to buy the airport for $22 million. He said the city and village agreed to pay Priester the appraised value of the property or up to $1.5 million for the buildings.

As it turned out, the appraisal was substantially higher than $1.5 million, and Prospect Heights and Wheeling only had to pay $1.5 million, he said.

The rest of the grant money, or about $750,000, will be used to purchase vacant parcels of property near Wolf and Hintz roads.

Two parcels are on the southwest corner of the intersection and one is on the northeast corner of the intersection, said Bruce Carey, a representative of the Illinois Division of Aeronautics in Springfield.

Moore said the land at the intersection is needed to relocate the intersection further west. The 5,000-foot airport runway points directly at the intersection and engineers have come up with a plan to move Wolf Road 620 feet west of its current location and Hintz Road about 365 feet north.

Neighbor Wheeling SECTION 2

Sunnie Kiddies given permanent OK to stay

By Dan Rozek
Daily Herald Staff Writer 7-22-87

After 10 months of debates, disputes and delays, Prospect Heights aldermen Monday voted to allow the Sunnie Kiddies Day Care Center to remain permanently in the former John Muir School.

The city council granted the day-care center the special use permit needed so it could remain permanently in the school, now leased from Prospect Heights Elementary District 23.

Although city officials refused to disclose details, they said plans call for the addition of a second entrance to the site, which has been the major point of contention.

The second entrance apparently will be added as the result of a four-way agreement that calls for the day-care center to donate the southernmost 4.5 acres of the school property to the Prospect Heights Park District for recreational use.

City officials refused to disclose details of the four-party agreement involving the city, park district, school district and day-care center, saying it has not been formally approved by all the parties.

But Mayor John E. Gilligan said the land transfer is meant to ensure a second driveway is opened to the site to relieve traffic congestion in the residential neighborhood around the school building.

"The city's intent is for a second access," Gilligan said, adding "not all the engineering details are definite."

Earlier plans called for building a driveway across the southern part of the 10-acre school site and then hooking it up to Pleasant Run Drive. That plan fell through under opposition from Wheeling and a local condominium association.

Gilligan and other city officials refused to say if new plans call for building a driveway across the land being transferred to the park district.

District 23 board president Jane Adelman also would not comment on specifics of the agreement, but said, "I think we have a good outcome, something that will benefit the whole community."

Park officials and Sunnie Kiddies executive director Eilene Lombardo could not be reached for comment.

Village spends $2,000 on ad to promote industrial area

By C. L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer 7-29-87

The village of Wheeling has spent $2,000 telling business people that Wheeling is "A Great Place to Be."

As part of the village's ongoing economic development program, an advertisement touting Wheeling and its industrial area in particular was recently included in Crain's Chicago Business.

Village Planner Richard Greenwood said he spent the whole advertising budget — $2,000 — on the one ad. But advertising in the Wall Street Journal or radio spots are future possibilities, depending on more money being earmarked for it, he said.

"What we're selling is community," Greenwood said. Marketing experts say community environment is what attracts industries to an area, he added.

So centered in the six- by eight-inch Crain's ad are photos of familiar Wheeling sites such as Woodland Creek Apartments, Le Francais Restaurant and Indian Trails Public Library. The ad explains that Wheeling is 27 miles northwest of downtown Chicago, seven miles from O'Hare Airport and the owner of Pal-Waukee Municipal Airport.

"A total community with a complete business environment," it says, mentioning that 600 acres of industrial development are available.

Forty-six percent of Wheeling's 1,235 industrial acres are developed. If HWeeling could successfully build up the rest it would double the tax base, Greenwood said. While daytime employment is now 13,000, in 10 years there should be about 25,000 working in the village, he added.

From the Crain's ad, the village got calls from approximately 40 large and small industrial developers and investment bankers, mostly from the Chicago area.

Village President Sheila Schultz said many years ago an industrial commission in the village did a brochure to attract industries and that commission attracted the first of several industries to Wheeling.

Commission OKs liquor license for restaurant

Herald 7-22-87

The Wheeling Liquor Control Commission has approved a liquor license for Eastern Seas Inc., which is opening Vivian Lee's Restaurant at 604 N. Milwaukee Ave.

The restaurant will serve Chinese and American food. It will be located in the former Carmen's of Wheeling Pizzeria building.

Vivian Lee, 25, is owner of the establishment which will be open from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. each night.

Lee said all employees are told to ask for identification from anyone ordering alcoholic beverages. She said the bar might stay open an hour or two after the restaurant closes, but if there are no customers, the bar will close.

The restaurant will have a Class B license which requires a minimum seating capacity of 75 people, exclusive of the bar area. Complete meals must be served on the premises and orders are to be taken until no earlier than two hours prior to the actual closing of the establishment, according to license requirements.

Wheeling poised to get project money

7-10-87

By C. L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Wheeling is poised to get federal funding for a project designed to alleviate flooding from the Wheeling Drainage Ditch.

The ditch, which flows through Heritage Park and the Meadowbrook Subdivision and is sometimes called Wheeling-Buffalo Grove Creek, contributed to a lot of street and basement flooding in 1982.

Using federal money, Wheeling wants to build a channel that will divert water from the ditch and eventually dump it in the Des Plaines River. The ditch itself starts in Lake Zurich and empties into the river near Pal-Waukee Airport.

Wheeling is one of 16 agencies or governments trying to get federal funding for flooding problems along the Des Plaines River and the more aggressive a community is, the more likely they will get federal funding for their project first, said Kay Whitlock, engineering chief with the Illinois Division of Water Resources.

Whitlock categorized Wheeling as an aggressive community because it has been cleaning out the drainage ditch and is now ready to proceed with building the channel. Village officials also plan to have the land purchases, estimated at $305,000, completed this fall.

"I think it was a smart move on their part. We want to be sure we have all local requirements met because we don't know how quickly the federal funding will be coming," she said.

Federal funds may be released this fall for the project through the U.S. Department of Agriculture, she said. The channel will cost about $1.8 million.

Because of last fall's flood, the channel, which is part of the 1984 Lower Des Plaines Tributaries Watershed Plan, has moved up in federally-funded priorities, Wheeling Community Development Director Michael Klitzke said. The $55 million plan outlines land protection and flood control measures in a 381-square-mile area centered near O'Hare Airport.

Certification gives village insight to itself

7-29-87 - Herald

Wheeling officials said "thanks but no thanks" two years ago when Wheeling was invited to become an official Certified City of Illinois. The village was too busy dealing with new developments to worry about a program designed to coax more businesses into the area.

But that was then. A year ago, with renewed interest, officials handed its administrative assistant the task of completing an application for the Certified Cities program sponsored through the Illinois Department of Commerce and Community Affairs.

The application, completed last December, required extensive documentation on all aspects of city services. In return, Commerce and Community Affairs passes along the information to industries interested in building in Illinois. To stay active, the process is repeated every three years.

Wheeling officials and state representatives are expected to have an awards ceremony in three to four weeks.

But Wheeling still looks at certification differently from other towns, which jumped on the bandwagon first and saw it as a way to get state assistance in recruiting industry and becoming more visible among developers.

"It's like another good thing on your resume," said Village President Sheila Schultz.

Crediting Administrative Assistant David Kowal with completing the intensive application, Schultz said the true value of certification is giving the village an opportunity to look at itself.

The application asks for cultural, economic and educational information. It gives Wheeling "a fresh look at what we are," she said.

Categories on the application include business climate, community development, human development, community facilities, employment and training, financial assistance and marketing, Kowal said.

Emphasis was placed on preparing for economic development.

"If you weren't preparing for economic development you could not meet application requirements," Kowal said.

In Wheeling, for example, the need to show that it is actively making physical improvements was met by documenting changes along the Milwaukee Avenue corridor before and after the Riverside Plaza development.

The Certified Cities program is part of Sell Illinois, a project begun in 1981 by Gov. James R. Thompson. Applications were sent to cities in the state encouraging each one to apply at no cost, other than staff time invested.

County 7-23-87

Tax break unlikely for Chicago Specialties

Beatrice Home Specialties Inc. may be hard pressed in getting a property tax break for one of its companies in Wheeling.

Beatrice applied for Cook County's 6b property tax exemption, a program designed to lure expanding new businesses into area suburbs. The request for a 6b exemption must first be approved by the municipality before it's sent to the county.

The problem that Wheeling officials had with approving the Beatrice application was that the company applying for the break is already in Wheeling — or is almost there.

The Skokie-based Chicago Specialties, a company owned by Beatrice, has nearly completed a one-story, 250,000-square-foot building on the southwest corner of Lake-Cook Road and Northgate Parkway. Village officials don't think the company merits a tax break because it has already decided to operate in Wheeling.

THE TAX INCENTIVE program offers a cut in a company's property assessments from 38 to 16 percent of the market value during the first eight years of operation. For four years after that, the assessment would stand at 30 percent. After 12 years in operation, the property assessment level would return to the normal market value for that property in the county.

Wheeling officials, who have heard appeals from numerous developers since the inception of the tax break in 1985, have approved eight applications so far. Trustees are expected to vote on the Beatrice application at the Aug. 3 village board meeting.

"What is the purpose of trying to give an incentive to companies to move to Wheeling if we're going to give it to one that's already here?" asked Bob Fialkowski, Wheeling's finance director.

The village "would have to have a real compelling reason" to grant the company the tax break, added Village President Sheila Schultz. She said allowing the company a tax break would not be in the best interest of the community.

DESPITE THE INITIAL reaction, officials at Chicago Specialties did not think that their postponed application for the tax break would be a problem.

"We as a company did not think that there would be a problem in gaining this incentive," said Al King, executive vice president of Chicago Specialties.

Although the company's plans to move into the Wheeling site by Nov. 1 will still be on, tax break or no tax break, King said that a rejection by the village could affect the firm's future expansion plans.

"It can affect future decisions we might make such as do we expand in Wheeling. It has a lot of impact on what we do in the future as a company," said King.

CHICAGO SPECIALTIES SPECIALIZES in the assembly, packaging and distribution of plumbing materials. The company has offices nationwide.

Firm seeks tax break

BY MARIE LUTZ
Staff Writer

7-23-87 Wh

Another company requested a property tax break at a public hearing conducted by the Village Board Monday.

About nine companies have been granted reductions in their property tax assessment levels. Only one request has been denied.

It appeared, however, that Beatrice Home Specialties might be the second company to be refused the tax break. The board will vote on the matter at later date.

Trustee William Rogers said that the 6B -exemption is designed to induce companies to move to Wheeling. Yet, he noted, Beatrice Home Specialties, a subsidiary of Beatrice Home Products, a large multi-national corporation, announced its planned move to Wheeling six to eight months ago.

Beatrice has already agreed to lease a facility that is being constructed on the southwest corner of Lake Cook Road and Northgate Parkway. The Village Board has a precedent for refusing the 6B exemption to Beatrice. Just last May the tax break was denied to a company that had already constructed a building in Wheeling. Board members said that village ordinances require the 6B exemption to be used to attract businesses.

Rogers also said that when tax reductions are given to a firm it takes away tax money that is used to provide services to residents.

In a memo to the Village Board, Bob Fialkowski, director of finance, listed another possible objection to granting the tax break.

Beatrice, he said, is signing a 10-

Firm seeks tax break

Continued from page 1

year lease with two five-year options. Village ordinances state that in order to receive the 6B exemption, a company must certify that its manufacturing business will occupy the facility for 12 years, the life of the tax break.

The 6B tax exemption reduces a firm's property tax assessment level to 16 percent for eight years and then to 30 percent for an additional four years. Industrial property in Cook County is normally assessed at 40 percent of market value. The exemption was approved by the County Board in order to make Cook County more competitive with surrounding counties, where the assessement rate is 33⅓ percent of market value.

All 6B exemptions must be approved by the affected municipality as well as by the county.

Beatrice attorney Lawrence Freedman argued for giving the exemption despite the objections. He said that although in the short term the village might lose tax money by granting the tax break it would gain money in the long run by encouraging development.

He said Beatrice did not apply for the exemption before arranging for the lease because there was not enough time to do so before closing the deal.

Freedman also said that whether Beatrice has the exemption would be one of the factors that would determine whether the firm would later expand the Wheeling facility or a facility in another part of the United States.

But Village President Sheila Schultz pointed out that if the firm does decide to expand here, it can at that time apply for a 6B exemption for the portion of the building to be enlarged.

The Beatrice facility is to be used for the manufacture of plumbing products for the wholesale hardware and home center industry. A portion of the building will also be used for storage and office space.

Sewer project nearing completion

County page

A $5 million sewer replacement project underway in Wheeling is nearing completion.

The replacement of the village's ancient sewer system began last October and officials anticipate the project will be completed by September.

Kennedy Construction of Wadsworth has been contracted to do the work, which has required tearing up of some streets and curbs in the village.

The project was scheduled to take two years, said Bob Issleb, superintendent of streets and sewers, but good weather and fair conditions that have prevailed throughout most of the year have made it possible to complete the job in half the time.

Currently being replaced are sewers on Milwaukee Avenue, just north of Dundee Road.

"We're progressing pretty well on Milwaukee Avenue," said Issleb. The curbs are now being put back in at that location.

Only a few sections of the village are still in need of work, and officials are optimistic that the project will be completed ahead of schedule.

The project is a first for the village, said Issleb. Only minor repairs had been done to the old deteriorating system in the past.

"There have been a few minor repairs done to the system, but as for an overall project, I can't ever recall one being done," he said.

Thursday, July 16, 1987

Officials: Sirens are a sound idea

BY C. L. WALLER
Daily Herald Staff Writer

7-31-87

The ears of Wheeling residents may perk up to a warning siren in fall, but they need not be alarmed.

Village officials are considering purchase of an outdoor emergency warning siren system to alert citizens in case of a disaster. Trustees will consider a low bid of $44,493.10 for a system from Federal Signal Corp. in University Park, Ill.

"It might wake up a baby or two once in a while, but it's worth it if we can save lives," said Village Fire Chief Bernhardt O. Koeppen.

The new system will be used mostly for tornadoes, but it also can be used to warn residents of flash floods, bad snowstorms or disasters handled by the civil defense.

Wheeling does not have a village-wide system now. The warning siren available has been in the village for 30 years and was once used to alert firefighters of a fire, Koeppen said. Now it is used only to alert residents at Halloween that trick or treat hours are beginning, he said.

"We have talked about a system like this for years and there just happened to be enough money available," Koeppen said.

In preparing the village budget, $100,000 was set aside for the system. The village may never use the sire, but the one time it is needed will make it worth the cost, said Village Manager Thomas Markus.

Plans are to install five siren units throughout the village, Koeppen said.

He said they could be located at village hall, northeast of Hintz Road and Longtree Drive at a well site building, northeast corner of Abbott Drive and the Palatine frontage road near the railroad, southeast of Hintz Road and Chaddick Drive in the parkway, and on McHenry Road near Childerley Park.

Each siren will be mounted on a 50-foot pole and the system will be set off by someone at the police station pushing a button, Koeppen said.

Township fire district agrees to pay bill

BY MICHAEL DAVID WHITE
Daily Herald Correspondent

7-11-8

Dismissing allegations that the village of Wheeling overcharged them for fire service, the Wheeling Township Rural Fire Protection District board agreed to pay a $237,495 bill.

Fire district trustees last month delayed paying the bill after officials from Prospect Heights complained that Wheeling overcharged the fire district by $92,000.

But after a meeting between Wheeling and fire district officials, the fire district concluded those charges were proper, based on the formula set in a 1982 contract.

Questions about over-billing were raised last month by Prospect Heights 3rd Ward Alderman Edward Rotchford. Prospect Heights is battling Wheeling for the contract to provide fire protection to the tiny Wheeling Township Fire Protection District, which includes about half of Prosepct Heights and the unincorporated areas between Wheeling and Buffalo Grove.

The fire district board of trustees currently contracts with Wheeling for the majority of the work. The Prospect Heights Rural Fire Protection District and the village of Buffalo Grove receive minimal amounts to protect the remaining parts of the district.

Officials from Prospect Heights and the Prospect Heights fire district are pushing for a larger share of the tax money because about 65 percent of the Wheeling Township fire district is within Prospect Heights.

Schwab asked both sides to work together on dividing the Wheeling fire district property.

"The overlapping properties are obviously subject to a great deal of discussion," said Schwab. "But the contention is between the two municipalities, not the fire district. Those items should be put on the table and discussed."

The Wheeling Township fire district is in the process of disbanding, as sections of it get annexed to neighboring towns. Trustees will hear arguments in September on how the fire district should be divided.

Wheeling officials have argued that they have spent money to build up their fire department, in order to adequately protect the additional area.

Prospect Heights Mayor John E. Gilligan, however, charged that Wheeling "has made an investment at the expense of Prospect Heights taxpayers."

Gilligan said the final decision should be made by the residents and he said they support having unified fire protection provided by the Prospect Heights fire district.

City officials do not like the current system of having several fire departments protect the city because they say residents often are uncertain which department to call in an emergency.

Although Wheeling officials have questioned whether the mostly volunteer Prospect Heights fire district could protect the whole city, Prospect Heights Fire Department Chief Don R. Gould Sr. disagreed.

"It would be no hardship to service the rest of the city," he said.

Skipper's caters to car buffs

7-23-87

But complaints revved up over crowds

Want to see antique cars and talk to their owners?

If it's not raining, you might try coming down to Skipper's Drive-in, 120 S. Elmhurst Road on a Friday or Saturday night.

It's a place that seems to attract car buffs along with the curious, who are drawn by the sight of the unusual cars.

For a while there were so many people congregating at Skipper's that it caused a minor stir among the homeowners and businessmen in the area.

The homeowners didn't like all the traffic and all the people who parked their cars in front of their driveways because there wasn't enough room at Skipper's. Businessmen didn't like the people who parked cars in lots reserved for their customers and then walked over to Skipper's to see the antique autos.

The homeowners and businessmen were so upset, they came to a Village Board meeting one night in June to voice their concerns.

Because of the complaints the police became involved.

Although the people who congregated at Skipper's were well-behaved, they caused problems because there was such a crowd, according to Deputy Chief Gary O'Rourke.

Among the difficulties with which the police had to contend were people parking illegally on the shoulder of the roads and individuals attempting to cross the busy streets once they had parked.

O'Rourke said the Police Department simply couldn't afford to keep sending officers to Skipper's to handle the situation.

So Andy Kikas, owner of the restaurant, agreed to pay for two officers to help out on two consecutive weekend nights. The standard rate per officer is $23.91 an hour.

All the complaints and police attention made Kikas fearful.

"I can't afford to lose the license," he said. "We have been here three years."

He complained that he felt pressured into closing earlier and says he now shuts down at 10 or 11 p.m. instead of midnight.

For whatever reason, the situation at Skipper's appears to have calmed down during the last few weeks.

There have been no more problems since the end of June, O'Rourke said.

Car buffs still congregate at Skipper's, although perhaps not in the numbers they once did.

Clive Fishman, a Prospect Heights pharmacist who owns a Corvette, said he enjoys going to Skipper's on pleasant, warm weekend nights with his prized auto. He said he opens the hood to show off the engine and talks to people who come by.

According to Fishman, there are many different types of autos that are brought to Skippers, including cars from the '30s, '50s and '60s.

"Every one of these cars are either high performance cars or show cars or vehicles that have been restored to new condition," Fishman said.

This handbuilt 1915-style roadster was one of the autos that could be seen last weekend at Skipper's. Bill Petrow, who shows off the auto with his son Bill Jr., said he built the car, which he calls "Time Machine," using Ford and Chrysler components.

Traffic woes plague both villages

7-12-87

BY KRIS KOPP
Daily Herald Staff Writer

The busiest intersection in Buffalo Grove is also in Wheeling.

Lake-Cook Road and Milwaukee Avenue is operating at a "forced-flow" traffic level, a recent Buffalo Grove traffic study says, meaning that motorists sometimes have to sit through more than two lights before getting through.

Ken Carmignani of James J. Benes and Associates Inc., said an average of 1,700 cars pass through Lake-Cook and Milwaukee each hour during the morning and evening peak periods. Police Commander Gary Del Re said that 11 accidents were reported at the intersection last year.

The study concludes that at least one third of all Buffalo Grove intersections will be choked with traffic beyond reasonable limits if building continues as expected over the next 30 years in Wheeling's neighbor to the west.

At the second busiest intersection, Dundee and Arlington Heights roads, it is estimated that about 960 vehicles drive use the corner each hour of the morning and another 1,600 per hour come through in the afternoon. Police have responded to 63 accidents at this intersection in the past year.

In addition, four other intersections currently have an "unstable" flow, causing congestion and intolerable delays, the study said. They are Half Day Road and Route 83, Aptikisic and Weiland roads, Deerfield Road and Milwaukee Avenue and Lake-Cook Road and Route 83.

The study suggests that portions of Lake-Cook Road and Milwaukee Avenue be widened to six lanes and that sections of Half Day and Aptakisic roads also be widened. The inclusion of dual left and right turning lanes also is suggested for some intersections.

The village paid the traffic consulting firm $15,000 to analyze the current traffic conditions and draw a scenario of what would be necessary as the comprehensive plan fills out. Carmignani said they started work on the plan last June.

Electronic signs may win nod

7-3-87

By C. L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Electronic signs should be allowed in Wheeling on a limited basis, the village's sign code board of appeals hs recommended.

The sign code board voted 3-2 to recommend that signs be permitted, but only if they take surrounding properties and safety into account. Board members Arthur Kaplan, Wayne Wisinski and Greg Klatecki voted in favor of allowing the signs, while Barry Fieldsteel and Ronald Rebel opposed it.

Community Development Director Michael Klitzke and village attorney James Rhodes are reviewing suggested criteria and the final approval rests with the Wheeling Village Board.

Economic and aesthetic impacts on surrounding properties, limitations on the sign's size and the impact on traffic and safety are the types of criteria an electronic message sign must meet, said Thomas Fennell, building, zoning and housing administrator for the village.

Electronic message signs are not allowed in the village but the First National Bank of Wheeling has asked for permission to install one at its building on McHenry Road, just off of Dundee Road.

Fieldsteel said the bank is concerned about its visibility to the public, but not allowing electronic signs makes Wheeling "unique" from surrounding communities, he said. He said he also fears that, "If you're traveling along Dundee Road and you're watching an electric sign you're going to be visiting your neighbor in front of you," he said.

At the same time, Fieldsteel said, electronic message signs can be helpful by showing public service messages.

Wisinski said he does not want to go overboard with the signs.

"We don't want something in Wheeling that would disturb the village," he said. "I don't want a little Las Vegas. The village is doing a lot to make the village look pleasing and I want to see that continue."

7-23-87 Herald

Village employees will fill 'er up with cards, not keys

Village employees in Wheeling will be getting fuel for village automobiles with the help of a card rather than a key.

Trustees have approved spending $14,947 for a fuel monitoring system that will service about 90 village vehicles. The present system, which requires a key to operate the pump, began eight or nine years ago.

Under the present system, the village knows how many gallons of gasoline are used, but not which car is using it or whether departments are being billed for the right amount of gasoline.

Mankoff Equipment, Inc. of Wheeling was awarded the job even though Corkill Electric Co. of Arlington Heights submitted a lower bid of $11,615.

Wheeling Administrative Assistant David Kowal said that Corkill wanted to use Wheeling as a "pilot" for its fuel system. He said the company could not provide a reference that had used its system.

Included in the clients Mankoff uses as references are the villages of Buffalo Grove and Schaumburg.

POLICE BEAT

Herald

Wheeling police probing auto burglaries, airport vandalism

Along with the reports of burglaries of autos in Wheeling last week were reports of vandalism at Pal-Waukee Airport and the theft of a tent.

One of the auto burglaries was reportedly discovered when a man's mother called to tell him she had been told the Wheeling police had recovered his wallet July 9.

Since the man knew his wallet had been in his 1987 Chrysler parked in a garage on the 1400 block of Chippewa Trail, he checked and found an $800 Seiko watch, a $500 camera, three check books and a $200 Cobra radar detector were also missing.

Damage to airport runway lights valued at $396 and bulbs valued at $270 was reported July 9 — a total loss of $666.

The tent, a four-man Camel Corps model, was reported stolen July 4 from the 200 block of Albert Terrace. The yellow and green tent was valued at $45.

FIRE CALLS

Past week a hectic one for Wheeling paramedics

A 35-year-old woman who had yelled for a doctor while talking to her mother was found without vital signs, a man was found unconscious possibly from an overdose, and an expectant mother having contractions to the hospital were among the people treated by Wheeling paramedics during the past week.

The mother of the 35-year-old woman reportedly drove to her daughter's home and called the paramedics when she arrived July 6. Her daughter was not breathing and had no pulse or heartbeat. The paramedics were unable to change her status before she arrived at the hospital.

The wife of the unconscious man, who reacted only to painful stimuli, reportedly said an overdose was a possibility. He was treated for one, but there was no change in his condition before he arrived at the hospital. The 56-year-old man had last been seen four hours earlier.

The expectant mother, 19, reportedly said her baby was due in three weeks, but her contractions, which lasted 35 seconds, were two to three minutes apart when the paramedics took her to the hospital.

Traffic woes plague both villages

7-12-87

By Kris Kopp
Daily Herald Staff Writer

The busiest intersection in Buffalo Grove is also in Wheeling.

Lake-Cook Road and Milwaukee Avenue is operating at a "forced-flow" traffic level, a recent Buffalo Grove traffic study says, meaning that motorists sometimes have to sit through more than two lights before getting through.

Ken Carmignani of James J. Benes and Associates Inc., said an average of 1,700 cars pass through Lake-Cook and Milwaukee each hour during the morning and evening peak periods. Police Commander Gary Del Re said that 11 accidents were reported at the intersection last year.

The study concludes that at least one third of all Buffalo Grove intersections will be choked with traffic beyond reasonable limits if building continues as expected over the next 30 years in Wheeling's neighbor to the west.

At the second busiest intersection, Dundee and Arlington Heights roads, it is estimated that about 960 vehicles drive use the corner each hour of the morning and another 1,600 per hour come through in the afternoon. Police have responded to 63 accidents at this intersection in the past year.

In addition, four other intersections currently have an "unstable" flow, causing congestion and intolerable delays, the study said. They are Half Day Road and Route 83, Aptikisic and Weiland roads, Deerfield Road and Milwaukee Avenue and Lake-Cook Road and Route 83.

The study suggests that portions of Lake-Cook Road and Milwaukee Avenue be widened to six lanes and that sections of Half Day and Aptakisic roads also be widened. The inclusion of dual left and right turning lanes also is suggested for some intersections.

The village paid the traffic consulting firm $15,000 to analyze the current traffic conditions and draw a scenario of what would be necessary as the comprehensive plan fills out. Carmignani said they started work on the plan last June.

Credit union under investigation

The credit union that's holding some $2.5 million in Wheeling Police Pension Fund money is under investigation by the state for improper management practices. Despite that investigation, the pension board last week voted 3-2 to keep the funds invested in that institution.

By Lee Ann Mackulin

The American Law Enforcement Credit Union, where half of the Wheeling Police Department's pension fund is invested, is under investigation by state authorities for improper management practices.

A two-year investigation by the state's Department of Financial Institutions has revealed that the credit union, which holds funds for several suburban police departments, has had delinquencies exceed revenues for several years, said Brenda Seipel, supervisor of the department's credit union division.

Seipel said the department discovered problems with the credit union's overall organization and operation, and with its lending and collecting policies. Officials at American Law Enforcement would not comment on the findings.

The state's first move was to replace the board of directors at the credit union with an appointed trustee/manager. Gary Peterson, appointed to that position, declined to comment on the recent actions. Seipel said the department did try to work with the previous board of directors, but those attempts were unsuccessful.

"WE ARE primarily concerned with the safe and sound operation of the union," said Seipel. She said the new management will try to correct some of the problems the credit union has had. The department's function is to see that all state financial institutions are run properly.

Federal authorities are reportedly getting in on the act by investigating alleged illegal loans made by former employees of the credit union's Wheeling office, at 39 N. Milwaukee Ave.

Despite the recent findings, the Wheeling Police Pension Board voted 3-2 last week to keep $2.5 million, half of its total fund, invested in that credit union.

Because the funds are protected by the National Credit Union Association, Wheeling officers are not afraid of losing their pension money, said veteran officer and pension board member William Stutzman.

HOWEVER, THERE IS some concern among the officers as to the amount of money that might be lost in interest collected if the credit union folds, he said.

"Obviously, our guys are concerned. That's a substantial amount of money that's in there," he said.

"Right now it (the credit union) is still operating as normal. We're still earning interest on our money. If the worst scenario would happen, that's one thing we will look into," said Stutzman.

The village has a stake in this as well.

WITH MORE THAN half of the police pension fund coming from village-generated property tax revenues, Finance Director Bob Fialkowski said Wheeling officials are concerned about where the funds are invested.

This year, $178,000 was put into the pension fund through village generated property taxes and $121,000 from officers' salaries, said Fialkowski.

"The concern is that we have a substantial amount of funds invested in one institution with questionable stability," he said. "We have always questioned the stability of the institution — and it appears rightly so."

While half of pension fund is invested in American Law Enforcement, the remainder is invested in U.S. securities, government agency securities and investments through Merrill Lynch, said Fialkowski.

WHEELING POLICE CHIEF Michael Haeger can only hope that the pension fund is invested wisely. "I would prefer the money stay within a more stable institution," he said. "I just hope that the representatives of the Wheeling Police Pension Board made the right decision."

Road project closes entrance at Chevy Chase

If you've driven down Milwaukee Avenue past the Chevy Chase Country Club lately, you may have noticed some changes.

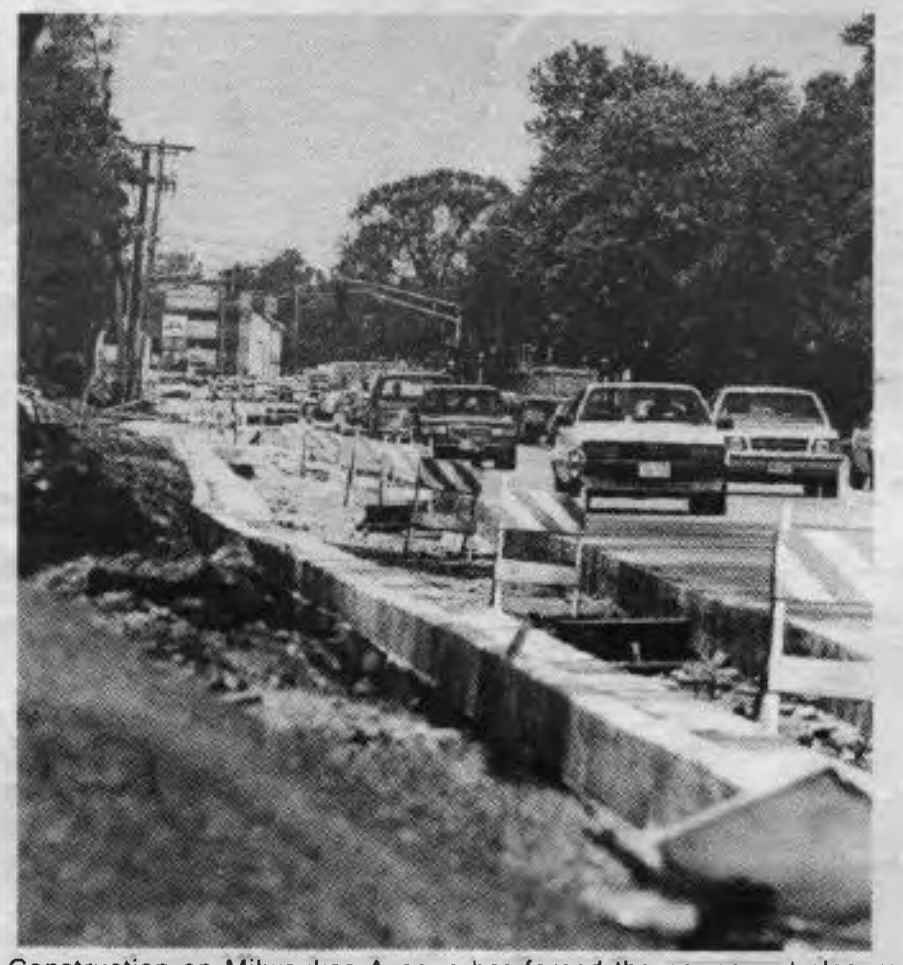
The giant arch that once loomed over the Milwaukee Avenue entrance to the club is no longer there — and neither is the entrance. The road in front of Chevy Chase is being widened to provide additional lanes for traffic entering and leaving the newly-constructed Lincoln Club apartment complex, located just north of the country club in Buffalo Grove.

Lincoln Property Company is behind the month-old road project, which is expected to be completed within the next few weeks, said Gary Kachadurian, a partner with the company.

The park district has swallowed the changes without too much problem.

"We lost our main entrance. We didn't necessarily want to lose our Milwaukee entrance, but we had no choice in that," said Karop Bavougian, Wheeling Park District manager.

Presently, the only way to enter the Chevy Chase parking lot, which extends around both the north and south sides of the building, is through an entrance south of the site. An entrance into the parking lot on the north end of the site is now being built and will be off the the newly-dedicated Johnson Drive, which runs along the north end of the golf course.



Construction on Milwaukee Avenue has forced the permanent closure of the main entrance to the Chevy Chase Country Club. *(Staff photo by Kathy Tray)*

Although the sudden absence of the Milwaukee Avenue entrance has caused some confusion for people driving into the parking lot, Bavougian said the most of them come into the south lot enter off of Chevy Chase Drive anyway.

Pension fund concerns are nothing new

Village officials say they've been concerned about the management of police pension funds for quite some time and even filed a lawsuit against the credit union that's under investigation.

By Lee Ann Mackulin

While the investment of the Wheeling Police Department's pension funds has recently become a matter of state concern, the issue is not a new one to village officials and two police pension board members.

A lawsuit was filed in 1983 by village officials and by pension board members John Cole and Joe Proietti against the American Law Enforcement Credit Union, where a large portion of the Wheeling pension fund has been invested for several years.

More recently, an investigation by the state's Department of Financial Institutions has revealed that the credit union has been losing money for two years now and that overall management practices have been unsound (**See related story this page**). Many police departments in the suburban Chicago area are members of the credit union.

The suit, now pending in Cook County Circuit Court, claims the credit union has been mismanaging funds.

AT THE TIME the suit was filed, Cole was a trustee on the Wheeling Village Board. He has since been appointed by the village to serve on the pension board. Cole and Proietti are the only village-appointed members. The other three members, chairman Edward Theriault, Marvin Horcher and William Stutzman were selected by officers in the department.

The main concern of the village in filing the suit was a mortgage plan touted by the credit union that offered a very low rate of return, which could have cost the village a lot of money, said Village Attorney James Rhodes.

"If the rate of return on investments goes down, than the amount of money the village contributes to the fund (through property taxes) goes up," he said. The village contributes more than half of the money in the pension fund through its property tax revenues. The rest of the fund comes from contributions from officers' paychecks.

The pension board had considered participating in the mortgage program prior to the lawsuit being filed, but never did invest in it, Cole said.

(Continued on page 11)

(Continued from page 5)

THE SUIT ALSO named as defendant current pension board member Theriault as well as three former pension board members, contending that they did not act with due care in managing the pension fund.

Rhodes explained that the board acted in violation of a state code that requires disbursement of pension funds into several securities to avoid the risk of investing a large sum of money in one place. The board has chosen to invest more than half its funds with the American Law Enforcement Credit Union. Currently, $2.5 million is invested in the credit union and the rest of the fund is invested in various government securities.

The Department of Financial Institutions has been closely monitoring American Law Enforcement only to discover that its delinquencies have exceeded its revenues for

expected to be completed within the next few weeks, said Gary Kachadurian, a partner with the company.

The park district has swallowed the changes without too much problem.

"We lost our main entrance. We didn't necessarily want to lose our Milwaukee entrance, but we had no choice in that," said Karop Bavougian, Wheeling Park District manager.

Presently, the only way to enter the Chevy Chase parking lot, which extends around both the north and south sides of the building, is through an entrance south of the site. An entrance into the parking lot on the north end of the site is now being built and will be off the the newly-dedicated Johnson Drive, which runs along the north end of the golf course.

Construction on Milwaukee Avenue has forced the permanent closure of the main entrance to the Chevy Chase Country Club. *(Staff photo by Kathy Tray)*

Although the sudden absence of the Milwaukee Avenue entrance has caused some confusion for people driving into the parking lot, Bavougian said the most of them come into the south lot enter off of Chevy Chase Drive anyway.

which could have cost the village a lot of money, said Village Attorney James Rhodes.

"If the rate of return on investments goes down, than the amount of money the village contributes to the fund (through property taxes) goes up," he said. The village contributes more than half of the money in the pension fund through its property tax revenues. The rest of the fund comes from contributions from officers' paychecks.

The pension board had considered participating in the mortgage program prior to the lawsuit being filed, but never did invest in it, Cole said.

(Continued on page 11)

(Continued from page 5)

THE SUIT ALSO named as defendant current pension board member Theriault as well as three former pension board members, contending that they did not act with due care in managing the pension fund.

Rhodes explained that the board acted in violation of a state code that requires disbursement of pension funds into several securities to avoid the risk of investing a large sum of money in one place. The board has chosen to invest more than half its funds with the American Law Enforcement Credit Union. Currently, $2.5 million is invested in the credit union and the rest of the fund is invested in various government securities.

The Department of Financial Institutions has been closely monitoring American Law Enforcement only to discover that its delinquencies have exceeded its revenues for the past two years, said Brenda Seipel, supervisor of the department's credit union division.

Despite these findings, the Wheeling Police Pension Board voted 3-2 last week to keep its money invested in the institution. Cole and Proietti were the only two to vote for taking the funds out of the credit union.

Although the fund is insured by the National Credit Union Association, interest being earned on the money could be lost, according to Rhodes. The money, at this point, is still collecting interest.

"IF, IN fact, the credit union should go under, while the pension fund is insured, the interest is not," he explained. "When you're dealing with $2.5 million, you're talking about a lot of money (in interest)."

Cole's concern is that "if that credit union goes under, who knows when we would see that money."

"State law requires a disbursement of the pension funds," Cole said. At one point in the pension's history, Cole said 70 to 80 percent of the fund was invested in the credit union.

"I think it's a little ridiculous to have that much money invested in a credit union that has been taken over by the state," he said.

HORCHER, A BOARD member selected by the officers, said he is not concerned about the recent investigations into the credit union and that even if it folds, he anticipates the fund would be returned to the pension board in full, complete with interest earned up to that point. Until last month, Horcher was employed by the credit union as a financial adviser.

Theriault, chairman of the pension board, currently serves as vice chairman of the board of the Combined Counties Police Association, a labor union closely tied to American Law Enforcement.

The fact that two board members have close ties to the credit union in question troubles Cole.

"I certainly think there is a conflict of interest when a board member is constantly pushing to invest millions of dollars in a credit union with which he is affiliated," he said.

Horcher insists that his affiliation with the credit union has not interfered with his duties as a pension board member.

Police Assn. tabs chief

After a year of campaigning for the post, Wheeling Police Chief Michael Haeger was this month elected a vice president of the Illinois Association of Chiefs of Police.

Haeger defeated Stan Troyer, chief of the Springfield Police Department, who also campaigned over a period of a year.

Haeger said both he and Troyer visited most of the police associations during the past 12 months in order to gain support for their vice presidential bids.

Haeger, who will be installed as fourth vice president in January, is now in line to become president of the association in 1992. The presidency is currently held by Bob Bonneville, director of Public Safety in Glencoe.

Before he becomes president,

Please turn to page 3

HAEGER

Police Assn. elects chief

Continued from page 1

Haeger said, he wants to see established the Police Memorial planned for the grounds of the Capitol building in Springfield. The memorial would honor officers who died in the line of duty.

Haeger said he also wants to see the association remain very involved in state legislative matters of concern to police, especially collective bargaining laws.

The association has a large legislative committee that oversees and actively participates in the state's legislative process.

The organization consists of a little under 1,000 members with about 540 active members.

Of the vice presidential slot, Haeger said, "I think it's a good position to be in. It not only helps the position of the village of Wheeling, it helps me as an individual."

EDITORIALS

Manager will help airport steer route

Officials in Wheeling and Prospect Heights, communities which co-own Pal-Waukee Muncipal Airport, have set a Dec. 31 deadline for hiring a permanent airport manager.

That's good news. The airport is not falling apart under the temporary care of a manager from New Jersey. But since the two municipalities bought the facility in December 1986, officials from Wheeling and Prospect Heights have faced a litany of challenges. They have struggled while trying to solve the facility's most pressing problems. Some of those challenges fall within the purview of the eight-member airport commission. Others would be best tackled by a full-time, professional manager.

What are the challenges? The airport is operating without liability insurance, which, understandably, makes some commission members nervous. In recent months, the number of flights at Pal-Waukee has decreased, with some of the business apparently lost to Waukegan Memorial Airport.

Reasons for the decline in flights at Pal-Waukee are not clear. But some pilots and the companies for which they fly complain that Pal-Waukee hangars are not maintained properly. Others complain that they pay higher prices for fuel at Pal-Waukee than they do at competing airports.

Again, a manager could not be expected to tackle all of those matters, but the addition of an on-site manager almost certainly would put the day-to-day operations on more solid ground. The commission, then, would be free to proceed with broader matters of policy.

The process of selecting a manager may be complicated by differing philosophies of Wheeling and Prospect Heights. In general, Prospect Heights officials prefer hiring one individual. Wheeling officials would rather hire a management firm. It's possible to make a case for either approach. The important goal now is for authorities to reach a consensus on one plan or the other and then proceed.

Prospect Heights and Wheeling have assumed a major undertaking. In buying and learning to operate a facility that had operated as the nation's largest private airport, they are treading unfamiliar territory.

A key part of their task is to operate the facility in a way that inspires confidence in the people who use it. That kind of confidence is most easily won when customers see that someone is guiding airport policies with clear objectives and a steady hand. By reaching a consensus on management style and hiring a strong manager, officials from Wheeling and Prospect Heights can take a big stride in the right direction.

Manufacturer is seeking tax break

By C. L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer

A manufacturer who has begun construction on a new Wheeling facility is asking village officials for the same tax break it offers firms as an enticement to move to Wheeling.

Trustees will vote Aug. 3 on whether to grant a 12-year property tax reduction to Beatrice Home Specialties, which is constructing a 225,000-square-foot building at Lake-Cook Road and Northgate Parkway.

Trustees turned down a similar request in May, from Litho-Tronics Inc. of Skokie. Litho-Tronics had already built its structure in the Palwaukee Business Center when it made the request and trustees noted that the firm was going to occupy only half the building.

Beatrice, which has a 10-year lease on the building from the Alter Group, took a risk in proceeding with construction, said Lawrence Freedman, attorney representing Beatrice. If the village refuses to grant the tax exemption to the company, other developers will be discouraged from constructing in the area, he added.

Trustee William Rogers said he is concerned that Beatrice has a 10-year lease while a tax break, if granted, is good for 12 years. The exemption gives property tax reductions of 60 percent for eight years and 25 percent for the next four years.

Beatrice, which manufactures plumbing products, plans on opening the building Oct. 31 with 235 employees transferred from existing operations and 65 employees hired locally.

"As trustees in the village we have to weigh the fact that 6B (exemption) was designed to attract companies here rather than Lake or DuPage counties," Rogers said, adding that he does not understand why a company as large as Beatrice needs the tax break.

Freedman said the company is different from the previous company turned down because Beatrice plans on adding another 25,000 square feet at a later time.

Thursday, July 23, 1987 Daily Herald

Commissioners OK Four Acre Park plans

By C. L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Excavation plans for the Last Four Acre Park in Wheeling should be completed in a couple of weeks, following the park board's approval of an architect's designs.

Wheeling park commissioners approved a $162,000 plan for the park, which lies west of Wheeling Road between Hintz and Palatine roads near the Ridgefield subdivision. Rose and Associates, Inc. of Hinsdale is the architect.

The design chosen by the park board includes a playing field which lies at a 45-degree angle from the northwest to the southeast. A tot lot on the north side, a playground for older children on the east and a picnic area at the northeast corner also are planned.

A berm will be set up between the park and houses in the Ridgefield subdivision and most of the east side will have berming separating the park from the parking lot for Winetree apartments.

Park officials plan to complete the park in phases, beginning with the use of $50,000 awarded to the park district from the Build Illinois program.

A basketball court also is included, but the primary goal now is to have the area excavated, seeded and add playground equipment, said Steve Heinz, who helped organize residents around the park from Ridgefield and Polo Run subdivisions.

The park district has a portion of the money available now, but welcomes donations. The design shows several trees around the park and Heinz is hopeful the park district's program of donating a tree in someone's name will be used.

The park district also plans on spending $46,000 in Build Illinois money for improvements at Heritage Park on Wolf Road and $4,000 for improvements at Childerley Park on McHenry Road.

Wpe 7-16-01

Photo by Tom Bartholomew

Police auction

Residents look at the bikes being unloaded at the Wheeling Police auction held last weekend. Among those helping out was Bob Fialkowski, assistant village manager, who holds one of the 80 bicycles offered for sale. Also auctioned was other property recovered by the police but never claimed, including television sets, jewelry and ice coolers. The auction netted the Police Department $1,800, but not all the bikes were sold and another auction is planned for the fall.

Sewer project nearing completion

Countryside

A $5 million sewer replacement project underway in Wheeling is nearing completion.

The replacement of the village's ancient sewer system began last October and officials anticipate the project will be completed by September.

Kennedy Construction of Wadsworth has been contracted to do the work, which has required tearing up of some streets and curbs in the village.

The project was scheduled to take two years, said Bob Issleb, superintendent of streets and sewers, but good weather and fair conditions that have prevailed throughout most of the year have made it possible to complete the job in half the time.

Currently being replaced are sewers on Milwaukee Avenue, just north of Dundee Road.

"We're progressing pretty well on Milwaukee Avenue," said Issleb. The curbs are now being put back in at that location.

Only a few sections of the village are still in need of work, and officials are optimistic that the project will be completed ahead of schedule.

The project is a first for the village, said Issleb. Only minor repairs had been done to the old deteriorating system in the past.

"There have been a few minor repairs done to the system, but as for an overall project, I can't ever recall one being done," he said.

Thursday, July 16, 1987

Familyfest expected to draw 230,000

By C. L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer 7-1-87

As many as 230,000 people are expected to be attracted to Wheeling's Familyfest celebration, which opens tonight.

With free parking and admission, Familyfest is sponsored for the sixth year by St. Joseph the Worker Catholic Church at 171 W. Dundee Road.

WGN-AM radio will have a booth at the festival and do live broadcasts on Thursday and Saturday which should draw more people, said Familyfest spokesman Chic Freund.

The festival started out in 1982 with 10,000 to 12,000 people.

People from all over the Chicago area attend the fest each year, and with Irish duo Tommy Makem and Liam Clancy performing this year, Freund said he expects to get a lot of South Siders from Chicago.

The fest will be open from 6 to 11 p.m. today and Thursday, from 2 to 11 p.m. Friday, from 2 p.m. to midnight on Saturday and from 2 to 10 p.m. on Sunday.

Included as Main Stage entertainment this year are The Buckinghams, Big Twist & The Mellow Fellows, Roy Orbison and Dave Major & The Minors. There is no charge for the entertainment.

Last year wind caused a portion of the entertainment tent to collapse on some of the audience, and Freund said this year only entertainers will be under the tent.

Rain has never hindered Familyfest activities and Freund is praying for the best again this year. "If God is good to us we'll have good weather," he said.

There will be raffle tickets on sale for $2 each and winners will be announced each hour. Freund said a $500 fishing cruise on Lake Michigan and a get-away weekend at the Lincolnshire Marriott are among prizes in the raffle.

The car bash and mud pit rope pull are back again this year as well as Superstar events for all ages from a diaper derby to a memory game for seniors.

EDITORIALS

1.16.87

Don't gamble

A ongoing investigation by the state into the alleged mismanagement of a credit union that holds about half of the money Wheeling's Police Pension Fund may be just now be making headlines, but the news comes as no surprise to village officials.

In fact, Wheeling officials say they've had concerns about the management practices of the American Law Enforcement Credit Union for years, and in 1983 the village filed a lawsuit against it and some members the pension board to get the village's funds out of the institution.

In addition to the ongoing investigation into the credit union, Wheeling's village attorney says it's illegal to have more than half of the pension fund invested in a single institution.

Despite allegations of mismanagement and fears that the money invested with the credit union is at risk because the institution is unstable, the pension board has continued to invest substantial portion of its funds in the credit union — a situation we say is inexcusable and should be stopped.

The pension board, which is made up of three members chosen by police officers and two members appointed by the village president, is refusing to take the $2.5 million out of the credit union. The two members appointed by the village have voted to get the money taken out of the institution, but the other three members want to leave the money where it is.

Those three members who are unwilling to find another way to invest those funds pension board should have listened to village officials four years ago, when they first had apprehensions about the credit union. We urge the three members of the board who are adamant about keeping the money in the credit union to re-examine the situation and find another institution to invest the pension money.

To do otherwise is tantamount to gambling with money contributed by Wheeling officers and taxpayers.

Scale down plans

Buffalo Grove officials got a rude awakening Monday when they were told by an architect designing a new municipal campus that the project will cost some 20 percent more than originally estimated.

The project, which includes a new police station, public works building and golf course clubhouse, will cost about $5.8 million — roughly $1 million more than the village had planned to spend.

The discrepancy in the two figures apparently arose because the original estimates failed to include site work, such as demolishing existing buildings, as part of the costs.

The bad news leaves village officials with two options: they can either find the revenue needed to pay for the project as it was originally planned or they can have the architect scale down plans and spend what they originally planned on spending.

We encourage the village board to choose the latter and cut corners where necessary.

On paper, the original plans for the new facilities looked very nice. The buildings had rounded corners and fancy skylights, the clubhouse overlooked the golf course and had a recessed bar.

But under the revised drawings these features have been eliminated and now some trustees appear intent on getting them back into the plans.

If this building were being constructed for a private business, we'd see no problem in paying for such "extras." But when you're talking about using taxpayers' money for the project, we think it's more important to spend as little as a possible on functional buildings that do what they're supposed to do.

Even though Buffalo Grove officials are talking about increasing golf course and clubhouse fees to generate the extra revenue needed to pay for the extra amenities, it's quite possible the fee hikes won't provide enough money to fund the upgrades. And if they don't, the difference will be made up with tax dollars.

It's unfortunate that the village's architect made an error, but the taxpayers shouldn't get stuck paying for his mistake.

1.13.87

Manager will help airport steer route

Officials in Wheeling and Prospect Heights, communities which co-own Pal-Waukee Muncipal Airport, have set a Dec. 31 deadline for hiring a permanent airport manager.

That's good news. The airport is not falling apart under the temporary care of a manager from New Jersey. But since the two municipalities bought the facility in December 1986, officials from Wheeling and Prospect Heights have faced a litany of challenges. They have struggled while trying to solve the facility's most pressing problems. Some of those challenges fall within the purview of the eight-member airport commission. Others would be best tackled by a full-time, professional manager.

What are the challenges? The airport is operating without liability insurance, which, understandably, makes some commission members nervous. In recent months, the number of flights at Pal-Waukee has decreased, with some of the business apparently lost to Waukegan Memorial Airport.

Reasons for the decline in flights at Pal-Waukee are not clear. But some pilots and the companies for which they fly complain that Pal-Waukee hangars are not maintained properly. Others complain that they pay higher prices for fuel at Pal-Waukee than they do at competing airports.

Again, a manager could not be expected to tackle all of those matters, but the addition of an on-site manager almost certainly would put the day-to-day operations on more solid ground. The commission, then, would be free to proceed with broader matters of policy.

The process of selecting a manager may be complicated by differing philosophies of Wheeling and Prospect Heights. In general, Prospect Heights officials prefer hiring one individual. Wheeling officials would rather hire a management firm. It's possible to make a case for either approach. The important goal now is for authorities to reach a consensus on one plan or the other and then proceed.

Prospect Heights and Wheeling have assumed a major undertaking. In buying and learning to operate a facility that had operated as the nation's largest private airport, they are treading unfamiliar territory.

A key part of their task is to operate the facility in a way that inspires confidence in the people who use it. That kind of confidence is most easily won when customers see that someone is guiding airport policies with clear objectives and a steady hand. By reaching a consensus on management style and hiring a strong manager, officials from Wheeling and Prospect Heights can take a big stride in the right direction.

DAILY HERALD 7-15-87

State orders police union out of offices

BY C.L. WALLER
and CHRIS SZECHENYI
Daily Herald staff writers

The Combined Counties Police Association has been ordered by a state regulatory agency to move out of the building it shares with a police credit union, because of an ongoing grand jury investigation into the credit union's loans.

"We felt it would be best to separate the credit union from the CCPA," said Brenda Seipel, a supervisor with the Department of Financial Institutions.

The CCPA, a police union, is closely associated with the American Law Enforcement Credit Union, as members of the credit union also have to be members of the CCPA.

The credit union, which has 4,000 members in suburban Chicago and Las Vegas-area police departments, owns the building at 39 N. Milwaukee Avenue. The credit union leases the second floor of its building to the Combined Counties Police Association, one of the largest labor unions in Illinois representing suburban police officers.

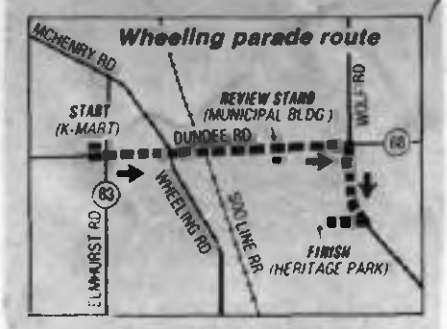
Union vice president Edward Theriault said the two organizations have been in Wheeling for about 15 years and in that location for seven to eight years. The union has until July 24 to move and Theriault said he doesn't know where it will go.

The Department of Financial Institutions ousted the credit union board of directors in June and appointed a manager trustee to head the credit union. The department cited improper loan practices, high delinquency rates and mismanagement in the handling of police pension funds.

The DFI says the credit union had been in danger of collapsing within three to six months.

Seipel said with people from the police union walking through the building, the credit union records are "not secure." The purpose of the department's investigation is to establish sound business practices, and forcing the union to move is one way to do it, she said.

The credit union has granted $43 million in loans since its inception in 1973. As of May 31, the credit union had $760,344 in delinquent loans, which is considered too high by state analysts.



Food, fun, fireworks fill today

BY C. L. WALLER
Daily Herald Staff Writer 7-4-87

Known for a variety of restaurants, Wheeling's Fourth of July celebration today accentuates the village's reputation with foods ranging from Chinese to goodies from home.

Area residents who come to watch the Fourth of July parade at 10 a.m. can bring along their favorite dish from home and after the parade, race at Coppell, Texas, rattlesnake hunt at Warden, Wash., and cherry-pit spitting showdown at Eau Claire, Mich.

Bradford, N.H., residents can have something to remember the town's 200th birthday besides left over hot dogs, ice cream and watermelons — postal officials will July Fourth letters with a special bicentennial cancellation stamp.

OTTO GOEBB

Pal-Waukee panel seeks insurance

BY C. L. WALLER
Daily Herald Staff Writer 7-2-87

The Pal-Waukee Municipal Airport Commission agreed Wednesday night to contact two Chicago companies for insurance covering its decisions.

Airport Commissioner Carey Chickerneo has contacted Myers-Baker Co. for insurance coverage and Julius Moll Co. has contacted commission attorney Stephen Moore about coverage, commonly called an errors and omissions policy. Neither company has indicated how much coverage it can supply.

The companies requested financial records of airport operations and temporary airport manager John P. Kennedy said he would obtain the information today.

The eight-member commission has repeatedly attempted to get insurance during its 2½-year existence, but seven companies have rejected the commission's applications, all stating the panel has no "track record."

Some airport commissioners have felt a more urgent need for errors and omissions insurance since Prospect Heights and Wheeling purchased Pal-Waukee six months ago.

Commissioners believe they are more vulnerable to litigation for their decisions since the purchase became official. Last month, three commissioners abstained from voting on a engineering contract because of their fears.

Commissioner William Rogers stressed moving quickly on the applications.

"We ought to alert these agencies that we don't want the applications to drag out another six to eight months," he said.

Chickerneo said, "My target date was yesterday. I think they (the companies) understand the sense of urgency."

Moore attempted to reassure commissioners by saying only "gross negligence of the law" could get them in trouble.

Lack of insurance spurred the resignation of commission chairman Ronald Sowatzke and the commission accepted his resignation Wednesday night.

7-4-87

Fire district trustee calls it quits

BY DAN ROZEK
Daily Herald Staff Writer

A Wheeling Township Rural Fire Protection District trustee has resigned two months after he survived an attempt to oust him from the fire district board.

Trustee Lance Hooper of Buffalo Grove said he resigned because he no longer lives in the district, which does not have a fire department of its own but contracts for fire protection from surrounding departments.

The district includes parts of Prospect Heights, as well as unincorporated areas around Wheeling and Buffalo Grove.

Hooper nearly was removed from the three-member fire district board in late April for the same reason — a lack of residency in the district. The two other trustees were not reappointed at that time because they also did not live in the district.

Former fire district attorney James T. Ryan in January tried to replace Hooper and the two other trustees, saying they could not continue serving because they no longer lived in the fire district.

Hooper and former trustee James Winstead said the attempt to replace them was a political vendetta launched by Ryan, who had just been replaced as fire district attorney in favor of a cheaper attorney.

Ryan denied that charge and he faulted trustees for remaining on the board when they no longer lived in the district as the law required. Hooper and other trustees said they had forgotten about the residency requirements.

All three trustees originally lived in the district, but their homes later were annexed into surrounding towns and out of the district.

The dispute dragged on until late April when two of the trustees, whose terms had expired, were not reappointed by Cook County Board President George Dunne. Dunne instead appointed two new members who live in the district.

But Hooper remained on the board at that time because his term had not expired, even though he no longer lived in the district.

His resignation was part of the agreement with Dunne that ended the dispute over the board membership, Hooper said.

Hooper said he wanted to remain on the board until the two new members appointed in early May, Alfred Schmidt and Frank Schwab, gained some experience in overseeing the district.

"That was our deal," Hooper said. "There wasn't any time frame on it."

Now that the new members have been through several meetings, Hooper said he believes it would be better for him to resign so no questions can be raised about actions taken by the board.

That is particularly important, he said, since the independent district is in the process of disbanding because fire officials believe other fire districts and departments can protect the area more efficiently.

"My vote might be questioned down the line, because of my lack of proper residency," Hooper said. "I'm illegally seated, so I should be going."

Dunne could not be reached for comment.

Hooper, an accountant who served about 13 years on the board, said he is not worried about the lack of experience on the board, because the new members are competent and well-advised by several district staffers.

But Schmidt said Hooper's experience in overseeing the fire district would be missed.

"You don't just step into something like this and know the ins and outs," Schmidt said. "In 13 years, a lot goes past you that helps you learn how things work."

Liquor store to face charges

Herald - 7-16-87

A Wheeling package liquor store will be called before the village liquor control commission on charges of selling beer to a minor.

Bell Liquors, 767 W. Dundee Road, is scheduled to appear before the commission at 8 p.m. Aug. 3.

Wheeling Police Chief Michael Haeger asked the commission for the hearing. The commission is made up of the village board and is chaired by Village President Sheila Schultz.

Haeger charges that on March 20 Bell Liquors employee Francis E. Hart sold a 12-pack of beer to Sean M. Emgelman, 20, without asking him for identification proving his age.

Hart, 47, was charged with selling liquor to a minor, pleaded guilty and was fined $50. Emgelman was charged with being a minor in possession of alcohol.

Bell Liquors was fined $300 for a similar incident about a year ago when a store clerk reportedly sold a 12-pack of beer to a 19-year-old.

According to news accounts following that incident, the establishment reportedly began asking for identification and photographing customers.

Neither Hart or village prosecutor Steven Handler would comment on the matter. The maximum penalty Bell Liquors faces is having its liquor license revoked.

Wheeling gets senior honors

Herald 7-16-87

Wheeling was among several communities recently recognized by the Illinois Department of Commerce and Community Affairs for its senior citizen involvement.

The village was awarded for the Illinois Governor's Home Town Awards Program.

Wheeling entered in the senior citizen involvement category and received a certificate, but did not win the category. Other categories were general, youth involvement and economic development. About 200 entries were reviewed by a panel of judges for all categories.

Village Administrative Assistant David Kowal said the emphasis this year was on volunteerism.

"Because we utilize volunteers at the senior center we submitted an application and described the senior project," Kowal said. Wheeling owns the Pavilion Senior Center, 199 N. First St., which offers programs for seniors in the area.

This is the sixth year for the state awards program. Kowal said Wheeling's purpose for participating is to inform the Department of Commerce and Community Affairs how it uses volunteers and how the senior center works for the community.

"We just feel we've identified and met the needs of senior citizens and the state has recognized that," Kowal said.

Apartment renovation continues at Arbor Court

BY MARIE LUTZ
Staff Writer

Herald 7-2-87

WHEELING — While Arbor Court Apartments still incur heated complaints from tenants about the lack of air conditioning, the 78-apartment complex is greatly improved from 1½ years ago when it was plagued by building code violations, a deteriorating condition, and absentee landlords.

"We are certainly concerned for the future (of Arbor Court) and want to see it continue to be a nice complex and hope the concerns can be resolved between the managers and the owners and the tenants," said Village President Sheila Schultz.

But, she added, the apartments, formerly known as Wildwood, have been improved.

"Much of what has intended to be done has been done," she said.

Village Manager Tom Markus agreed. Although he questioned the way the apartments have been managed, Markus said, "I think there's no question that the facility has been substantially upgraded both inside and out."

Arbor Court, located on Dundee Road between Wheeling and Milwaukee avenues, is owned by Continental Properties, which purchased the site for more than $2 million last year. Helped by $220,000 from the village, the new owners have renovated the apartments extensively, torn down a building that had been ravaged by fire, and cleaned up and improved the parking area.

Before being purchased by Continental, Arbor Court had been owned by five landlords and populated largely by Hispanics. Reportedly it was common for two or three families to share an apartment and a former Arbor Court manager cited one instance in which 20 people were living in a one-bedroom unit.

Neighbors often complained about excessive noise, drunkenness and prostitution. Improvement of the complex became a village goal, which is why Wheeling provided a $220,000 loan to upgrade the complex. The loan was to be forgiven if certain condittions were met.

The new owners have monitored the number of people living in the

Arbor Courts

Continued from page 1

apartments more closely and have required leases. Most of the old tenants have moved out.

The cost of the renovations, however, has come to far more than Continental expected.

Don Sanders, on-site property manager of Continental Properties, said the owners have been forced to put in $400,000 of their own private funds into the renovation. But, he said, they are committed to seeing the project through.

He admitted that there are still problems with air conditioning. Five out of seven central air units still require replacement. He said that hopefully two more units would be on line by the end of the week, providing cooling to more than 50 percent of the tenants.

There may also be some problems with the duct work, which may have caused heating difficulties, he said.

"The tenants are upset because there is no air conditioning, and we are sympathetic with their discomfort," Sanders said.

But the condition of the apartments was far worse than the new owners had imagined, he added.

"Anything that was in as bad a condition as I understand this was when the new owners bought it can't be brought up to standard overnight," he said.

Sanders, who said his assignment and goal is to make Arbor Court profitable, is the third manager of the complex since Continental took over.

At the request of tenants, the village investigated reported building and property code violations on June 15.

Tom Fennell, the village's building, housing and zoning administrator, said there were a few minor violations, which have since been corrected.

Speeders w Run residents

BY C. L. WALLER
Daily Herald Staff Writer

7-10-87

Residents along Equestrian Drive in the Polo Run subdivision claim they are living on a drag strip and they want the Village of Wheeling to do something about it.

"We do understand it's a public street and anyone can pass through there at any time. Sometimes, you feel like you live on a speedway," resident Marty Shuster said.

The speed limit on Equestrian Drive is 25 miles per hour, but Shuster said people drive through there as fast at 40 miles per hour

and
safet
"It
a lot
child
son
child
drag
Whee
Plus,
shortc
she sai
"Thi
curred
some ti
ident Sh
There
the sub

Wheeling Road. Families
ike to see more stop signs or
; signs planted to slow down

ver, Village Manager Thom-
us said the state does not al-
signs to be used to control

es, the number of speeding
s in the area does not war-
re stop signs, Wheeling Po-
f Michael Haeger said. Cit-
Old Town subdivision as an
, Haeger said drivers even-
sregard stop signs in a sub-
if there are a lot of them
ren would be given a false
ecurity with the signs.

However, Haeger did say that an additional speed limit sign and signs notifying drivers that children are in the area will be put up because the area is residential. He said he also will talk to concerned subdivision residents this week.

Officers have patrolled Polo Run for speeders and found few people to ticket. Haeger said one officer sat in the subdivision for two hours recently and issued one ticket.

Equestrian Drive is a curvy street and though there may be people speeding through, Haeger said, "A number of cars people conceive as speeding may not be speeding."

Speeders worry Polo Run residents

7/10/87

By C. L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Residents along Equestrian Drive in the Polo Run subdivision claim they are living on a drag strip and they want the Village of Wheeling to do something about it.

"We do understand it's a public street and anyone can pass through there at any time. Sometimes, you feel like you live on a speedway," resident Marty Shuster said.

The speed limit on Equestrian Drive is 25 miles per hour, but Shuster said people drive through there as fast at 40 miles per hour and families are concerned about safety.

"It's a serious problem. There are a lot of us who are worried about our children," resident Nancy Stephenson said. Some drivers won't stop for children in the street, and teen-agers drag race from Illinois Route 83 to Wheeling Road, Stephenson said. Plus, drivers use the subdivision as a shortcut between those two streets, she said.

"This type of situation has occurred in all our neighborhoods at some time or another," Village President Sheila Schultz said.

There are now two stop signs in the subdivision, one at Route 83 and one at Wheeling Road. Families would like to see more stop signs or warning signs planted to slow down traffic.

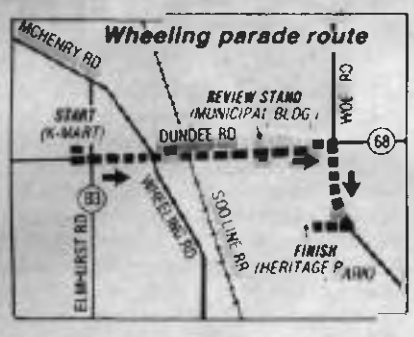
However, Village Manager Thomas Markus said the state does not allow stop signs to be used to control speed.

Besides, the number of speeding violations in the area does not warrant more stop signs, Wheeling Police Chief Michael Haeger said. Citing the Old Town subdivision as an example, Haeger said drivers eventually disregard stop signs in a subdivision if there are a lot of them and children would be given a false sense of security with the signs.

However, Haeger did say that an additional speed limit sign and signs notifying drivers that children are in the area will be put up because the area is residential. He said he also will talk to concerned subdivision residents this week.

Officers have patrolled Polo Run for speeders and found few people to ticket. Haeger said one officer sat in the subdivision for two hours recently and issued one ticket.

Equestrian Drive is a curvy street and though there may be people speeding through, Haeger said, "A number of cars people conceive as speeding may not be speeding."



Wheeling ready to celebrate

By C. L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer

A 100-year-old fire engine and the radio debut of St. Mary's School band in Buffalo Grove will be among the highlights of this year's Fourth of July parade and fireworks in Wheeling.

At least 70 units will be marching in the parade, which steps off at 10 a.m. from K mart and proceeds east on Dundee Road to Wolf Road and south to Heritage Park, 222 S. Wolf Road.

A group dressed in Civil War uniforms and pulling a cannon will be in the parade along with the police drill team, said Fourth of July committee Chairman Judy Abruscato. Hoyne Savings and Loan Association in Wheeling is sponsoring a float and a 100-year-old fire engine to commemorate its 100th anniversary, she said.

Fictitious characters McGruff and Familyfest's Mr. and Mrs. Watermelon also will be in the parade.

Some familiar faces from years past may be seen in the Wheeling High School marching band which has gathered 30 to 40 of its alumni to play with the band in the parade.

Those who watch the parade are asked to wave small flags which will be sold by the committee along the parade route. The theme of this year's parade is "Grand Old Flag."

Following the parade, residents can grab their favorite dish and go to the Old Settlers' Picnic at Chamber of Commerce Park, 251 N. Wolf Road. Each family is asked to bring food to share at the potluck picnic and beverages will be provided. The picnic will be held near the Community Church and the gazebo in the park.

A fireworks display will be held in Heritage Park from 9:30 to 10 p.m. Saturday. Those who attend are asked to bring their portable radios or stereos to the park and dial into WSEX-FM, which will be broadcasting music during the fireworks, including a recording by the St. Mary's School band.

Music should carry from the Familyfest celebration to the fireworks at Heritage Park. Next year, all bands will be offered the opportunity to have their recording played during the fireworks, Abruscato said.

Wheeling Familyfest schedule

Thursday

6-7 p.m. Main Stage: Mickey and the Memories
7 p.m.: Live broadcast by WGN, with Spike O'Dell
7 p.m. Kid Stage: Illustrated Theatre, "Simply Grimm's"
7-9 p.m. Kid Stage: Ribbie & Roobarb
7-9 p.m.: Superstar competitions
7:30-8:30 p.m. Main Stage: Mickey and the Memories
8 p.m. Kid Stage: Pound Puppies, He-Man & Skeletor
9:30-11 p.m. Main Stage: The Buckinghams

Friday

3 p.m. Kid Stage: Melikin Puppets
3:30-6:30 p.m. Main Stage: Special Concensus
4 p.m. Kid Stage: Pound Puppies
5 p.m. Kid Stage: Ken Schultz
6 p.m. Kid Stage: He-Man & Skeletor
7-9 p.m. Kid Stage: Ribbie & Roobarb
7-9 p.m. Superstar competitions
8:30-9:15 p.m. Main Stage: Sha Na Na
10:15-11 p.m. Main Stage: Sha Na Na

Saturday

10 p.m. Fourth of July parade, Kmart parking lot at Route 83 and Dundee Road.
2:30 p.m. Olympic-style mud pit rope pull
2:30 p.m. Kid Stage: Bosco the Red Doberman
3-5 p.m.: Superstar competitions
3:30 p.m. Kid Stage: Danny Orleans
3:30-6:30 p.m. Main Stage: Mike Jordan & the Rockamatics
4:30 p.m. Kid Stage: Pound Puppies
5:30 p.m. Kid Stage: Lester the Clown
6:30 p.m. Kid Stage: He-Man & Skeletor
7-9 p.m.: Superstar competitions
7-9 p.m. Kid Stage: Ribbie & Roobarb
7 p.m.: Live WGN broadcast, with Al Lerner and Ed Curran
8-9:30 p.m. Main Stage: Dave Major & the Minors
10:30 p.m.-midnight Main Stage: Dave Major & the Minors

Sunday

2:30 p.m. Kid Stage: Marilyn Price Puppets
3-5 p.m. Superstar competitions
4 p.m. Kid Stage: Pound Puppies
4-6 p.m. Main Stage: Tommy Makem & Liam Clancy
5:30 p.m. Kid Stage: Songs You Can See
6:30 p.m. Kid Stage: He-Man & Skeletor
7-9 p.m. Kid Stage: Ribbie & Roobarb
7-9 p.m.: Superstar competitions
7-10 p.m. Main Stage: Big Twist & the Mellow Fellows
7:30 p.m. Kid Stage: Bosco the Red Doberman

Wheeling places restrictions on watering lawns, washing cars

Water conservation efforts are back on tap in Wheeling, and residents had better check the clock before they turn on a hose or water sprinkler.

Demands on the village's water supply during the summer months have forced officials to impose a water ban during certain hours each day. From now through Sept. 15, residents are prohibited from using water for activities like watering lawns, washing cars and filling swimming pools between the hours of noon and 6 p.m.

Residents who use water during the ban are given warnings for the first offense and are ticketed if they're seen violating the restriction a second time, according to Deputy Police Chief Gary O'Rourke. O'Rourke said officers are instructed to watch for violations during their normal patrols.

When the weather gets hot, water usage can reach twice the normal daily usage, said August Lockefeer, Wheeling's water superintendent. Lockefeer said that the ban on the use of Lake Michigan water during the summer months is a state requirement.

"**THE STATE** requires us to practice conservation along with getting water from Lake Michigan," he said. The village began purchasing Lake Michigan water in April, 1985. Lockefeer said that water bans had been issued in the village prior to that.

"We've always practiced some kind of conservation effort. It's just sound judgment. Water is a natural resource that we've abused for years," he said.

The peak demands for water are in the morning and evening, said Lockefeer. With the afternoon ban on non-essential water usage, it gives the water supply a chance to recover.

Complaints from residents are quite common, said Lockefeer, especially when there's not enough rain to keep the lawns from turning brown.

"**WE GET** calls from new residents who have new sod put in. What I tell them is that during those hours when the sun is at its hottest, the water doesn't do any good anyway," he said.

New construction in the village is also required to contain water-saving devices, said Lockefeer. New plumbing devices only require half the amount of water per toilet flush, he explained.

Although it would seem that expanding the water supply system to accommodate the increased usage makes sense, "it is not economically sensible to have a water supply system overbuilt to provide large demands for only a few months a year," he said.

DAILY HERALD 7-15-87

State orders police union out of offices

BY C.L. WALLER
and CHRIS SZECHENYI
Daily Herald staff writers

The Combined Counties Police Association has been ordered by a state regulatory agency to move out of the building it shares with a police credit union, because of an ongoing grand jury investigation into the credit union's loans.

"We felt it would be best to separate the credit union from the CCPA," said Brenda Seipel, a supervisor with the Department of Financial Institutions.

The CCPA, a police union, is closely associated with the American Law Enforcement Credit Union, as members of the credit union also have to be members of the CCPA.

The credit union, which has 4,000 members in suburban Chicago and Las Vegas-area police departments, owns the building at 39 N. Milwaukee Avenue. The credit union leases the second floor of its building to the Combined Counties Police Association, one of the largest labor unions in Illinois representing suburban police officers.

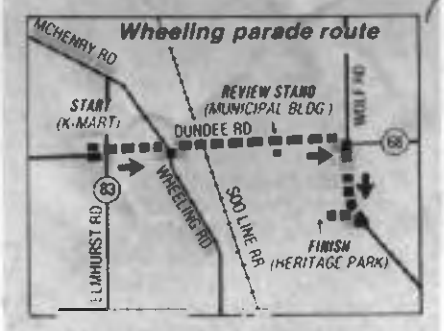
Union vice president Edward Theriault said the two organizations have been in Wheeling for about 15 years and in that location for seven to eight years. The union has until July 24 to move and Theriault said he doesn't know where it will go.

The Department of Financial Institutions ousted the credit union board of directors in June and appointed a manager trustee to head the credit union. The department cited improper loan practices, high delinquency rates and mismanagement in the handling of police pension funds.

The DFI says the credit union had been in danger of collapsing within three to six months.

Seipel said with people from the police union walking through the building, the credit union records are "not secure." The purpose of the department's investigation is to establish sound business practices, and forcing the union to move is one way to do it, she said.

The credit union has granted $43 million in loans since its inception in 1973. As of May 31, the credit union had $760,344 in delinquent loans, which is considered too high by state analysts.



Food, fun, fireworks fill today

BY C. L. WALLER
Daily Herald Staff Writer 7-4-87

Known for a variety of restaurants, Wheeling's Fourth of July celebration today accentuates the village's reputation with foods ranging from Chinese to goodies from home.

Area residents who come to watch the Fourth of July parade at 10 a.m. can bring along their favorite dish from home and after the parade, head to Chamber of Commerce Park on Wolf Road for the old settlers picnic.

Sponsored by the Wheeling Historical Society, the picnic will give visitors a chance to chat with descendants of old settlers and share their food at the pot-luck picnic.

Appetites can be further satisfied when St. Joseph the Worker Catholic Church's Familyfest at 181 W. Dundee Road opens at 2 p.m.

French, Chinese, German, Italian and Armenian delicacies along with the common hamburger will be available at the "Bits 'N Bites" section of the festival.

Those who like to sit back and relax after a good meal can play bingo, take a helicopter ride or watch about 10 teams compete in the mud pit rope pull, all at Familyfest.

Waistline watchers may want to work off the calories by participating in the adult competitions of an obstacle course, three-legged race or tire roll during the superstar competitions from 3 to 5 p.m. and from 7 to 9 p.m.

Fireworks will finish off today's events, beginning at about 9:30 p.m. at Heritage Park, 222 S. Wolf Road.

Pal-Waukee panel seeks insurance

BY C. L. WALLER
Daily Herald Staff Writer 7-2-87

The Pal-Waukee Municipal Airport Commission agreed Wednesday night to contact two Chicago companies for insurance covering its decisions.

Airport Commissioner Carey Chickerneo has contacted Myers-Baker Co. for insurance coverage and Julius Moll Co. has contacted commission attorney Stephen Moore about coverage, commonly called an errors and omissions policy. Neither company has indicated how much coverage it can supply.

The companies requested financial records of airport operations and temporary airport manager John P. Kennedy said he would obtain the information today.

The eight-member commission has repeatedly attempted to get insurance during its 2½-year existence, but seven companies have rejected the commission's applications, all stating the panel has no "track record."

Some airport commissioners have felt a more urgent need for errors and omissions insurance since Prospect Heights and Wheeling purchased Pal-Waukee six months ago.

Commissioners believe they are more vulnerable to litigation for their decisions since the purchase became official. Last month, three commissioners abstained from voting on a engineering contract because of their fears.

Commissioner William Rogers stressed moving quickly on the applications.

"We ought to alert these agencies that we don't want the applications to drag out another six to eight months," he said.

Chickerneo said, "My target date was yesterday. I think they (the companies) understand the sense of urgency."

Moore attempted to reassure commissioners by saying only "gross negligence of the law" could get them in trouble.

Lack of insurance spurred the resignation of commission chairman Ronald Sowatzke and the commission accepted his resignation Wednesday night.

Fire district trustee calls it quits

BY DAN ROZEK
Daily Herald Staff Writer

A Wheeling Township Rural Fire Protection District trustee has resigned two months after he survived an attempt to oust him from the fire district board.

Trustee Lance Hooper of Buffalo Grove said he resigned because he no longer lives in the district, which does not have a fire department of its own but contracts for fire protection from surrounding departments.

The district includes parts of Prospect Heights, as well as unincorporated areas around Wheeling and Buffalo Grove.

Hooper nearly was removed from the three-member fire district board in late April for the same reason — a lack of residency in the district. The two other trustees were not reappointed at that time because they also did not live in the district.

Former fire district attorney James T. Ryan in January tried to replace Hooper and the two other trustees, saying they could not continue serving because they no longer lived in the fire district.

Hooper and former trustee James Winstead said the attempt to replace them was a political vendetta launched by Ryan, who had just been replaced as fire district attorney in favor of a cheaper attorney.

Ryan denied that charge and he faulted trustees for remaining on the board when they no longer lived in the district as the law required. Hooper and other trustees said they had forgotten about the residency requirements.

All three trustees originally lived in the district, but their homes later were annexed into surrounding towns and out of the district.

The dispute dragged on until late April when two of the trustees, whose terms had expired, were not reappointed by Cook County Board President George Dunne. Dunne instead appointed two new members who live in the district.

But Hooper remained on the board at that time because his term had not expired, even though he no longer lived in the district.

His resignation was part of the agreement with Dunne that ended the dispute over the board membership, Hooper said.

Hooper said he wanted to remain on the board until the two new members appointed in early May, Alfred Schmidt and Frank Schwab, gained some experience in overseeing the district.

"That was our deal," Hooper said. "There wasn't any time frame on it."

Now that the new members have been through several meetings, Hooper said he believes it would be better for him to resign so no questions can be raised about actions taken by the board.

That is particularly important, he said, since the independent district is in the process of disbanding because fire officials believe other fire districts and departments can protect the area more efficiently.

"My vote might be questioned down the line, because of my lack of proper residency," Hooper said. "I'm illegally seated, so I should be going."

Dunne could not be reached for comment.

Hooper, an accountant who served about 13 years on the board, said he is not worried about the lack of experience on the board, because the new members are competent and well-advised by several district staffers.

But Schmidt said Hooper's experience in overseeing the fire district would be missed.

"You don't just step into something like this and know the ins and outs," Schmidt said. "In 13 years, a lot goes past you that helps you learn how things work."

Fire pullout may burn Wheeling

Prospect Heights balks at service, looks elsewhere

By MARIE LUTZ
Staff Writer

The city of Prospect Heights is seeking to ultimately have fire service provided by the Prospect Heights Rural Fire Protection District instead of the Wheeling Fire Department, a move that could be detrimental to Wheeling.

As a first step, Prospect Heights Rural Wednesday, July 8, asked the Wheeling Rural Fire Protection District Board to let it service two areas in Prospect Heights that the Wheeling Fire Department currently contracts to serve.

One area contains three sudivisions with an assessed valuation of $9.4 million and the second is being developed with homes, according to Don Kreger, Prospect Heights attorney.

Both sections provide revenue to the Wheeling Fire Department. The revenue is determined through a formula utilizing the assessed valuation of the area served.

Wheeling's Assistant Village Manager Bob Fialkowski said the village is concerned about the fiscal impact no longer servicing Prospect Heights would have. The Wheeling Fire Department has built itself up to the point where it has more manpower and equipment than it needs to service just Wheeling, Fialkowski said.

Fialkowski said he is not certain of the impact of taking away just a portion of Propsect Heights, but removing the entire area now served by the Wheeling Fire Department would mean a significant drop in revenue.

Just over 20 percent of the revenue Wheeling gets to run the Wheeling Fire Department comes from contracts with the Wheeling Township Rural Fire Protection District, Fialkowski said. About 66 percent of the revenue from those contracts comes from servicing Prospect Heights.

Prospect Heights Mayor John Gilligan said Prospect Heights would like to have unified fire protection within the city."

Currently Prospect Heights is serviced by four fire departments.

Gilligan said the city would like to see Prospect Heights Rural ultimately protect the entire area of Prospect Heights within Wheeling Township. The Glenbrook Fire Department could continue to service the remaining 10 percent of Prospect Heights that is within Northfield Township, he said. That 10 percent portion is largely undeveloped. Prospect Heights Rural does not have the capacity to immediately service most of Prospect Heights, Gilligan said. Gilligan said having four fire departments service Prospect Heights causes a great deal of confusion because many residents call the wrong fire department, and time is lost when there is a fire.

> ***"They (Wheeling Fire Department) are charging the limit and not delivering all of the services that they could."***
>
> ***John Gilligan***
> ***Prospect Heights Mayor***

He also said that the Wheeling Fire Department doesn't provide a good deal to Prospect Heights residents.

"They are charging the limit and not delivering all of the services that they could," Gilligan said.

The tax revenue provided to the Wheeling Fire Department goes to support all the expenses of the department, but Prospect Heights' residents don't obtain all the services Wheeling residents get, Gilligan said.

"We are charged for a fire inspector but we don't get a fire inspector," he said. . That is just one example of the kind of services that we pay for but don't get delivered."

It's legal, Gilligan said. "But we would be smart enough to want to get out of that kind of situation."

Fialkowski, however, said that the rate that Wheeling charges for its services is set by the Wheeling Township Rural Fire Protection District, not the village.

Also, he said, "What (Gilligan) is claiming that he is being charged for and not provided is a miniscule portion of the cost of running the department."

Please turn to page 3

Fire pullout

Continued from page 1

He added that there are also services Wheeling provides that Prospect Heights doesn't pay any portion of, such as the cost of running the police and fire emergency dispatch system.

Dave Wiltse, treasurer of the Wheeling Township Rural Fire Protection District Board of Trustees, said the board last Wednesday asked Wheeling and Prospect Heights to try to iron out their differences and reach a concensus before the next Fire Protection District meeting in September.

"We are hopeful that the parties will be able to work it out," he said.

One issue that has been resolved is whether Wheeling had overcharged for fire services it provided Prospect Heights, as some Prospect Heights officials had suggested. . The Fire Protection Board last week said the Wheeling bill was calculated properly and agreed to pay it.

Wheeling Police Department seeking national accreditation

The Wheeling Police Department wants to be one of the best.

The department is seeking national accreditation, something only five departments in the state have acquired.

To be eligible, the department must change some policies and procedures to comply with specifications outlined by the Virginia-based Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc.

The commission was formed in 1979 to develop criteria for law enforcement agencies to show that they do in fact meet professional standards. The commission is made up of 11 law enforcement professionals and 10 individuals representing the public and private sector.

GETTING PREPARED FOR accreditation takes between 12 and 18 months. During that time, the department will "revamp policies and procedures" and update operations, said Wheeling Police Chief Michael Haeger. An entire overview of the department's operation has not been made since 1977, he said.

Standards looked at by the national commission relate to organization and management of the department, prisoner and court-related services, auxiliary and technical services, personnel administration, traffic law enforcement, and responsibilities and relationships with other agencies.

"There has been nothing as intense or in depth as this accreditation process," said Haeger. He sees accreditation as more than just "window dressing."

THE INDIVIDUAL OFFICER will benefit the most, said Haeger.

"In the long run, it will make their jobs easier. They'll have a better understanding of how everything operates. It will open up communication in the department," he said.

Although the changes in the department won't be noticed immediately, "over the years we'll see an improvement," said Haeger.

To be accredited, the department must pass the inspection of an assessment team, made up of three out-of-state police chiefs, who will come to the department for three days to evaluate the operation.

THE INSPECTION WILL take place once the Wheeling department is satisfied that its records and files meet the outlined specifications. Haeger said the department is planning a self-inspection this fall, prior to the assessment team's visit.

One thing that the assessment team will do during their stay is take phone calls from residents. Residents will be able to tell the team whether they think that the department can comply with national standards.

The assessment team then delivers its report to the commission, which ultimately decides if accreditation should be awarded. If accredited, the department will be re-evaluated every five years by the commission.

"We will be going to other departments (already accredited) to gain ideas," said Haeger. The Buffalo Grove Police Department was the most recent in the state to receive accreditation.

Countryside

Thursday, July 2, 1987

nt of Time Products International, dis-
calculator, which comes complete with
ray)

company
he unusual

*ipany that brought you the Statue of
oden duck telephone, comes a
over up embarrassing noises.*

fun. He has been with the company for eight years.

"I don't ever want to retire. This is fun. I'm always looking for ideas of things to market," he said.

The 12-year-old company, which puts out about a dozen off-the-wall items a year, moved from Morton Grove to 152 Messner Drive in Wheeling more than a year ago.

MOST OF THE ideas for products conceived by Gusfield or one of the nine other Time Products employees. Resident electrician Clarence Chow tests out the products, most of which are electrical, before they are displayed at trade shows. If interest is shown in any of the products, it's either produced at the company's Wheeling plant or shipped overseas for a final design. The company sends its products to nearly 10 different manufacturers in Hong Kong and Taiwan.

"We assemble some things here, but most of our products come from overseas," said Gusfield.

Most of the company's sales come through mail order and premium catalogs all over the country. Taylor Gifts, based in Pennsylvania, and U.S.

(Continued on page 55)

(Continued from page 15)

Sales in California are two companys with catalogs featuring Time products.

The company's goods, such as the three-foot long wooden clock shaped like a watch and a calculator that looks like a phone, have also been sold in several department stores, including Bloomingdales and Carson Pirie Scott.

SO FAR, THE most popular item has been the Lady Liberty flashlight, complete with a glowing rubber flame. This product is a big seller in the Statue of Liberty gift store and a portion of the money from each sale goes toward the restoration costs of the statue, said Gusfield.

1-30-87

Wheeling residents face higher property tax bills

Cook County property tax bills are in the mail, and most Wheeling residents can expect to pay nearly 5 percent more in taxes this year than in 1986.

By Lee Ann Mackulin

The typical homeowner in Wheeling will pay around $124 more in property taxes this year than in 1986. That's the bad news that will be found in the Cook County 1986 property tax bills, which should arrive in the mailbox by next week.

Hefty increases in the Wheeling Park District's tax rate and in the rates of both Township High School District 214 and Elementary School District 21 were the main contributors to the overall tax increase.

For most Wheeling residents, the combined total tax rate of all taxing bodies increased from $8.573 to per $100 of assessed valuation last year to $8.970 per $100 assessed valuation in 1986 — a 4.63 percent hike. That increase, combined with a jump in the county multiplier, means a Wheeling resident owning a $75,000 home will pay a total of $1,676 in property taxes this year, compared to $1,552 last year.

Most Cook County property owners will see increases in the second installment of their 1986 tax bills, according to tax rates released this week from the county clerk's office.

SOME $1.4 million in tax bills for Cook County will be printed and mailed this week and are expected to be received by homeowners no later than Aug. 5, five days later than last year's July 29 mailing.

An increase in the tax multiplier, from 1.8085 to 1.8486, set on Friday, will raise the equalized assessed value of properties, resulting in larger tax bills.

The valuation of each parcel is computed by the county assessor, who in 1986 set rates of 16 percent of market value for private residences and 40 percent for industrial and commercial properties.

The multiplier, set by the Illinois Department of Revenue, is intended to equalize assessments throughout the state. The multiplier for Cook County took an unusual turn this year, increasing for the first time in four years.

COMPUTERIZATION HAS ALLOWED the clerk's office to compile tax rates in 2½ days, said Cook County Clerk Stanley Kusper. Previously, it took six weeks for the clerk's office to complete the task after the state multiplier was set.

Computers have speeded up the effort considerably, saving local tax districts the cost of borrowing money to operate until receiving their late tax payments, Kusper said. Taxing bodies generally dip into reserve funds on hand for just such emergencies as late tax receipts. Once reserves are exhausted, a taxing body would have to borrow money and pay interest on that loan to pay its bills.

A resident with a $75,000 home who lives in Elementary School District 21 will pay $488 to the district in taxes this year — a figure that reflects a 6.26 percent increase in the district's 1985 tax rate. The property tax rate in District 21 rose from $2.460 per $100 of assessed valuation to $2.614.

School officials say the major reason for the increased rate is that the district is beginning to repay a $10.2 million bond that was issue last year to help keep the financially-strapped district afloat.

TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL District 214's tax rate increased by 8.7 percent, from $1.986 to $2.159 per $100 of assessed valuation. A resident owning a $75,000 home will pay $403 in property taxes to District 214, compared with $371 paid last year.

A combination of higher salaries, a $500,000 hike in liability insurance cost, a continuation of maintenance and repair projects throughout the district and transportation cost increases contributed to the higher tax rate.

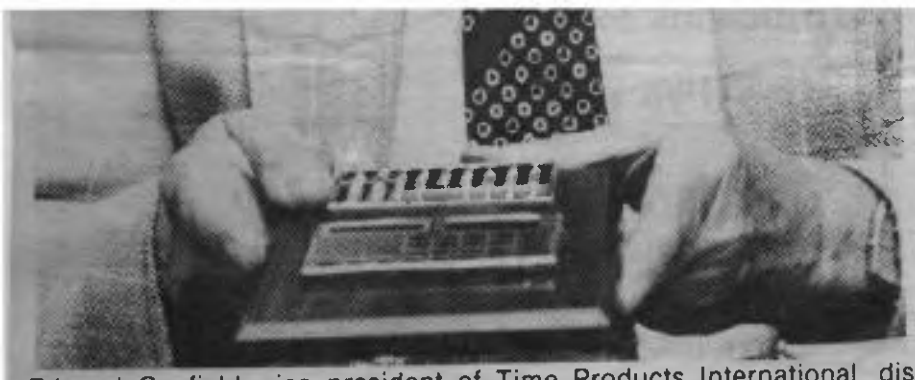
District 214 officials also blame the hike on decreased funding from the state over the last several years as well as smaller than normal increases in property values.

Wheeling residents who live in Prospect Heights School District 23 will see drop in the tax rate thanks to a 6 percent increase in the district's equalized assessed valuation. District 23's tax rate dipped from $2.973 to $2.962

(Continued on page 11)

Wheeling property tax rates

TAXING BODY	1986	1985	% CHANGE
Cook County	.858	.847	+1.30
Wheeling Township	.106	.107	—.93
Twp.-General Assistance	.031	.011	+181.82
Twn.-Road and Bridge	.008		
Village of Wheeling	.470	.432	+8.80
Wheeling Park Dist.	.323	.311	+3.86
Indian Trails Library	.334	.329	+1.52
School District 21	2.614	2.460	+6.26
School District 214	2.159	1.986	+8.71



Edward Gusfield, vice president of Time Products International, displays the company's east/west calculator, which comes complete with abacus. *(Staff photo by Kathy Tray)*

Wheeling company features the unusual

And now, from the same company that brought you the Statue of Liberty flashlight and the wooden duck telephone, comes a bathroom radio designed to cover up embarrassing noises.

By Lee Ann Mackulin

If it's unusual, Time Products International probably makes it or sells it.

From a Statue of Liberty flashlight to a radio disguised as a Coke vending machine, the Wheeling-based company has a knack for coming up with wacky novelty items that sell.

The latest craze at the company is a radio designed to cover up embarrassing bathroom noises that people would rather keep from the ears of friends and family. The radio, which is attached to the bathroom door, plays for three minutes once the door is closed, long enough — in most cases — to do what's necessary.

"The bathroom is an area where there are a lot of things that can be done to make it fun. People should have fun in the bathroom, they spend a lot of time there," said Edward Gusfield, the company's senior vice president of marketing.

ASIDE FROM MAKING trips to the bathroom more fun, Gusfield sees this latest invention as a necessity. "There is a real necessity to cover up embarrassing bathroom sounds," he said.

At age 70, Gusfield has no intention of retiring — not when the job is this much fun. He has been with the company for eight years.

"I don't ever want to retire. This is fun. I'm always looking for ideas of things to market," he said.

The 12-year-old company, which puts out about a dozen off-the-wall items a year, moved from Morton Grove to 152 Messner Drive in Wheeling more than a year ago.

MOST OF THE ideas for products conceived by Gusfield or one of the nine other Time Products employees. Resident electrician Clarence Chow tests out the products, most of which are electrical, before they are displayed at trade shows. If interest is shown in any of the products, it's either produced at the company's Wheeling plant or shipped overseas for a final design. The company sends its products to nearly 10 different manufacturers in Hong Kong and Taiwan.

"We assemble some things here, but most of our products come from overseas," said Gusfield.

Most of the company's sales come through mail order and premium catalogs all over the country. Taylor Gifts, based in Pennsylvania, and U.S.

(Continued on page 55)

(Continued from page 15)

Sales in California are two companys with catalogs featuring Time products.

The company's goods, such as the three-foot long wooden clock shaped like a watch and a calculator that looks like a phone, have also been sold in several department stores, including Bloomingdales and Carson Pirie Scott.

SO FAR, THE most popular item has been the Lady Liberty flashlight, complete with a glowing rubber flame. This product is a big seller in the Statue of Liberty gift store and a portion of the money from each sale goes toward the restoration costs of the statue, said Gusfield.

Aside from coming up with its own ideas, Time Products has several customers who have the company to design products for them.

"We're small enough and flexible enough to move quickly," he said. Advertising representatives from both Coca-Cola and Pepsi have come to Time Products for assistance in designing items to promote their products.

The company also sells products brought to them by companies that are either overloaded with products or are trying to close out a certain stock.

A PIGGY BANK that automatically registers the amount of money deposited and a parrot clock that moves its tail to the sound of tick-tock are a few of the items Time Products sells for other companies.

Approximately eight of the dozen new products designed each year are successful, said Gusfield. But with nearly $5 million in annual sales, he said the company can't complain about its success rate.

As for the future of Time Products is concerned, Gusfield says there will also be new products as long as there are fresh ideas.

"We're always looking for new ideas," he said.

combined total tax rate of all taxing bodies increased from $8.573 to per $100 of assessed valuation last year to $8.970 per $100 assessed valuation in 1986 — a 4.63 percent hike. That increase, combined with a jump in the county multiplier, means a Wheeling resident owning a $75,000 home will pay a total of $1,676 in property taxes this year, compared to $1,552 last year.

Most Cook County property owners will see increases in the second installment of their 1986 tax bills, according to tax rates released this week from the county clerk's office.

SOME $1.4 million in tax bills for Cook County will be printed and mailed this week and are expected to be received by homeowners no later than Aug. 5, five days later than last year's July 29 mailing.

An increase in the tax multiplier, from 1.8085 to 1.8486, set on Friday, will raise the equalized assessed value of properties, resulting in larger tax bills.

The valuation of each parcel is computed by the county assessor, who in 1986 set rates of 16 percent of market value for private residences and 40 percent for industrial and commercial properties.

The multiplier, set by the Illinois Department of Revenue, is intended to equalize assessments throughout the state. The multiplier for Cook County took an unusual turn this year, increasing for the first time in four years.

COMPUTERIZATION HAS

loan to pay its bills.

A resident with a $75,000 home who lives in Elementary School District 21 will pay $488 to the district in taxes this year — a figure that reflects a 6.26 percent increase in the district's 1985 tax rate. The property tax rate in District 21 rose from $2.460 per $100 of assessed valuation to $2.614.

School officials say the major reason for the increased rate is that the district is beginning to repay a $10.2 million bond that was issue last year to help keep the financially-strapped district afloat.

TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL District 214's tax rate increased by 8.7 percent, from $1.986 to $2.159 per $100 of assessed valuation. A resident owning a $75,000 home will pay $403 in property taxes to District 214, compared with $371 paid last year.

A combination of higher salaries, a $500,000 hike in liability insurance cost, a continuation of maintenance and repair projects throughout the district and transportation cost increases contributed to the higher tax rate.

District 214 officials also blame the hike on decreased funding from the state over the last several years as well as smaller than normal increases in property values.

Wheeling residents who live in Prospect Heights School District 23 will see drop in the tax rate thanks to a 6 percent increase in the district's equalized assessed valuation. District 23's tax rate dipped from $2.973 to $2.962

(Continued on page 11)

Wheeling property tax rates

TAXING BODY	1986	1985	% CHANGE
Cook County	.858	.847	+1.30
Wheeling Township	.106	.107	—.93
Twp.-General Assistance	.031	.011	+181.82
Twn.-Road and Bridge	.008		
Village of Wheeling	.470	.432	+8.80
Wheeling Park Dist.	.323	.311	+3.86
Indian Trails Library	.334	.329	+1.52
School District 21	2.614	2.460	+6.26
School District 214	2.159	1.986	+8.71

Liquor license is approved

A liquor license was granted Monday to a restaurant that is to open Aug. 1, at 604 N. Milwaukee Avenue.

The Wheeling Village Board in its role of Liquor Commission approved the Class B liquor license after briefly lecturing the 25-year-old owner of the new establishment on how strictly Wheeling enforces its liquor ordinances against under age drinking.

Vivian Lee, owner of Vivian Lee's Restaurant, said she intends to make sure all waiters and waitresses check i.d.s before serving drinks.

Lee, a Northbrook resident, said she will sell Chinese and American foods. The establishment will be mainly a restaurant geared toward families and business people, she said.

The restaurant will be open from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. and the bar may be open an hour or two later, Lee said.

Lee said she currently manages two establishments, the Hong Kong Restaurant in Normal and the China Garden in Bloomington.

The new establishment replaces Carmen's of Wheeling Pizzeria.

Firm seeks tax break

BY MARIE LUTZ
Staff Writer

Another company requested a property tax break at a public hearing conducted by the Village Board Monday.

About nine companies have been granted reductions in their property tax assessment levels. Only one request has been denied.

It appeared, however, that Beatrice Home Specialties might be the second company to be refused the tax break. The board will vote on the matter at later date.

Trustee William Rogers said that the 6B exemption is designed to induce companies to move to Wheeling. Yet, he noted, Beatrice Home Specialties, a subsidiary of Beatrice Home Products, a large multi-national corporation, announced its planned move to Wheeling six to eight months ago.

Beatrice has already agreed to lease a facility that is being constructed on the southwest corner of Lake Cook Road and Northgate Parkway. The Village Board has a precedent for refusing the 6B exemption to Beatrice. Just last May the tax break was denied to a company that had already constructed a building in Wheeling. Board members said that village ordinances require the 6B exemption to be used to attract businesses.

Rogers also said that when tax reductions are given to a firm it takes away tax money that is used to provide services to residents.

In a memo to the Village Board, Bob Fialkowski, director of finance, listed another possible objection to granting the tax break.

Beatrice, he said, is signing a 10-

Please turn to page 3

Firm seeks tax break

Continued from page 1

year lease with two five-year options. Village ordinances state that in order to receive the 6B exemption, a company must certify that its manufacturing business will occupy the facility for 12 years, the life of the tax break.

The 6B tax exemption reduces a firm's property tax assessment level to 16 percent for eight years and then to 30 percent for an additional four years. Industrial property in Cook County is normally assessed at 40 percent of market value. The exemption was approved by the County Board in order to make Cook County more competitive with surrounding counties, where the assessement rate is 33⅓ percent of market value.

All 6B exemptions must be approved by the affected municipality as well as by the county.

Beatrice attorney Lawrence Freedman argued for giving the exemption despite the objections. He said that although in the short term the village might lose tax money by granting the tax break it would gain money in the long run by encouraging development.

He said Beatrice did not apply for the exemption before arranging for the lease because there was not enough time to do so before closing the deal.

Freedman also said that whether Beatrice has the exemption would be one of the factors that would determine whether the firm would later expand the Wheeling facility or a facility in another part of the United States.

But Village President Sheila Schultz pointed out that if the firm does decide to expand here, it can at that time apply for a 6B exemption for the portion of the building to be enlarged.

The Beatrice facility is to be used for the manufacture of plumbing products for the wholesale hardware and home center industry. A portion of the building will also be used for storage and office space.

Skipper's caters to car buffs

But complaints revved up over crowds

Want to see antique cars and talk to their owners?

If it's not raining, you might try coming down to Skipper's Drive-in, 120 S. Elmhurst Road on a Friday or Saturday night.

It's a place that seems to attract car buffs along with the curious, who are drawn by the sight of the unusual cars.

For a while there were so many people congregating at Skipper's that it caused a minor stir among the homeowners and businessmen in the area.

The homeowners didn't like all the traffic and all the people who parked their cars in front of their driveways because there wasn't enough room at Skipper's. Businessmen didn't like the people who parked cars in lots reserved for their customers and then walked over to Skipper's to see the antique autos.

The homeowners and businessmen were so upset, they came to a Village Board meeting one night in June to voice their concerns.

Because of the complaints the police became involved.

Although the people who congregated at Skipper's were well-behaved, they caused problems because there was such a crowd, according to Deputy Chief Gary O'Rourke.

Among the difficulties with which the police had to contend were people parking illegally on the shoulder of the roads and individuals attempting to cross the busy streets once they had parked.

O'Rourke said the Police Department simply couldn't afford to keep sending officers to Skipper's to handle the situation.

So Andy Kikas, owner of the restaurant, agreed to pay for two officers to help out on two consecutive weekend nights. The standard rate per officer is $23.91 an hour.

All the complaints and police attention made Kikas fearful.

"I can't afford to lose the license," he said. "We have been here three years."

He complained that he felt pressured into closing earlier and says he now shuts down at 10 or 11 p.m. instead of midnight.

For whatever reason, the situation at Skipper's appears to have calmed down during the last few weeks.

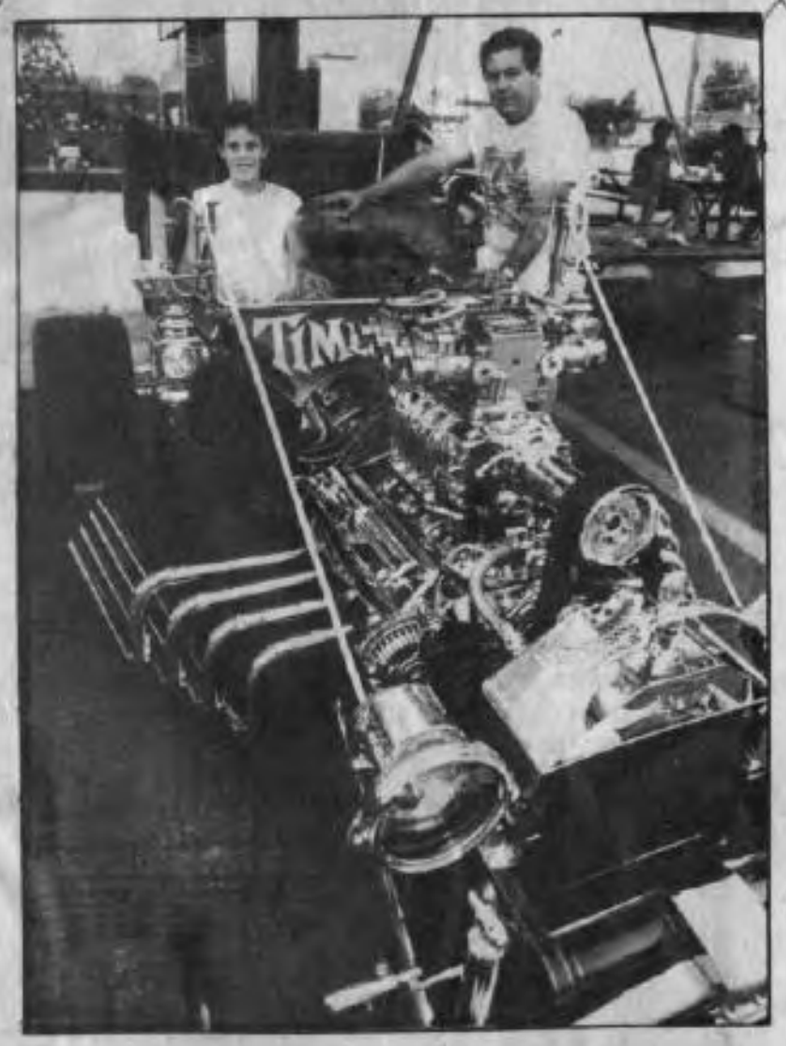
There have been no more problems since the end of June, O'Rourke said.

Car buffs still congregate at Skipper's, although perhaps not in the numbers they once did.

Clive Fishman, a Prospect Heights pharmacist who owns a Corvette, said he enjoys going to Skipper's on pleasant, warm weekend nights with his prized auto. He said he opens the hood to show off the engine and talks to people who come by.

According to Fishman, there are many different types of autos that are brought to Skippers, including cars from the '30s, '50s and '60s.

"Every one of these cars are either high performance cars or show cars or vehicles that have been restored to new condition," Fishman said.



This handbuilt 1915-style roadster was one of the autos that could be seen last weekend at Skipper's. Bill Petrow, who shows off the auto with his son Bill Jr., said he built the car, which he calls "Time Machine," using Ford and Chrysler components.

Fire pullout may burn Wheeling

Prospect Heights balks at service, looks elsewhere

By MARIE LUTZ
Staff Writer

The city of Prospect Heights is seeking to ultimately have fire service provided by the Prospect Heights Rural Fire Protection District instead of the Wheeling Fire Department, a move that could be detrimental to Wheeling.

As a first step, Prospect Heights Rural Wednesday, July 8, asked the Wheeling Rural Fire Protection District Board to let it service two areas in Prospect Heights that the Wheeling Fire Department currently contracts to serve.

One area contains three sudivisions with an assessed valuation of $9.4 million and the second is being developed with homes, according to Don Kreger, Prospect Heights attorney.

Both sections provide revenue to the Wheeling Fire Department. The revenue is determined through a formula utilizing the assessed valuation of the area served.

Wheeling's Assistant Village Manager Bob Fialkowski said the village is concerned about the fiscal impact no longer servicing Prospect Heights would have. The Wheeling Fire Department has built itself up to the point where it has more manpower and equipment than it needs to service just Wheeling, Fialkowski said.

Fialkowski said he is not certain of the impact of taking away just a portion of Propsect Heights, but removing the entire area now served by the Wheeling Fire Department would mean a significant drop in revenue.

Just over 20 percent of the revenue Wheeling gets to run the Wheeling Fire Department comes from contracts with the Wheeling Township Rural Fire Protection District, Fialkowski said. About 66 percent of the revenue from those contracts comes from servicing Prospect Heights.

Prospect Heights Mayor John Gilligan said Prospect Heights would like to have unified fire protection within the city."

Currently Prospect Heights is serviced by four fire departments.

Gilligan said the city would like to see Prospect Heights Rural ultimately protect the entire area of Prospect Heights within Wheeling Township. The Glenbrook Fire Department could continue to service the remaining 10 percent of Prospect Heights that is within Northfield Township, he said. That 10 percent portion is largely undeveloped. Prospect Heights Rural does not have the capacity to immediately service most of Prospect Heights, Gilligan said. Gilligan said having four fire departments service Prospect Heights causes a great deal of confusion because many residents call the wrong fire department, and time is lost when there is a fire.

> ***"They (Wheeling Fire Department) are charging the limit and not delivering all of the services that they could."***
>
> ***John Gilligan***
> ***Prospect Heights Mayor***

He also said that the Wheeling Fire Department doesn't provide a good deal to Prospect Heights residents.

"They are charging the limit and not delivering all of the services that they could," Gilligan said.

The tax revenue provided to the Wheeling Fire Department goes to support all the expenses of the department, but Prospect Heights' residents don't obtain all the services Wheeling residents get, Gilligan said.

"We are charged for a fire inspector but we don't get a fire inspector," he said. . That is just one example of the kind of services that we pay for but don't get delivered."

It's legal, Gilligan said. "But we would be smart enough to want to get out of that kind of situation."

Fialkowski, however, said that the rate that Wheeling charges for its services is set by the Wheeling Township Rural Fire Protection District, not the village.

Also, he said, "What (Gilligan) is claiming that he is being charged for and not provided is a miniscule portion of the cost of running the department."

Please turn to page 3

Fire pullout

Continued from page 1

He added that there are also services Wheeling provides that Prospect Heights doesn't pay any portion of, such as the cost of running the police and fire emergency dispatch system.

Dave Wiltse, treasurer of the Wheeling Township Rural Fire Protection District Board of Trustees, said the board last Wednesday asked Wheeling and Prospect Heights to try to iron out their differences and reach a concensus before the next Fire Protection District meeting in September.

"We are hopeful that the parties will be able to work it out," he said.

One issue that has been resolved is whether Wheeling had overcharged for fire services it provided Prospect Heights, as some Prospect Heights officials had suggested. . The Fire Protection Board last week said the Wheeling bill was calculated properly and agreed to pay it.

Commuters beware: road closed

BY C. L. WALLER
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Drivers northbound on Wheeling Road between Hintz and Dundee roads will have to be rerouted beginning Monday as northbound lanes are closed for two weeks.

From July 13-27, northbound travelers will have to get to Dundee Road from Elmhurst or Wolf roads, located on either side of Wheeling Road, said Cook County engineer John Beissel.

With the amount of excavation being done at the intersection of Hintz and Wheeling roads, closing half of Wheeling Road was the only solution, Beissel said.

Signs along Wheeling Road warning drivers of the closure are supposed to go up today.

Southbound Wheeling Road traffic will be allowed through and there will be access for emergency vehicles going north on Wheeling Road, Beissel said. East-west travel on Hintz Road will also be open, he said.

In August, southbound drivers will add a minute to their commute because they will be required to detour off Wheeling Road and onto Alice Street to avoid work on Hintz Road, Beissel said.

The Cook County Highway Department is working on $8 million in improvements to Hintz Road, which includes laying 10 inches of concrete pavement plus curbs and sewer repair. Robert R. Anderson Co. of Addison is doing construction for the project and it appears to be ahead of schedule, Beissel said.

The end result, scheduled to be realized by July 1988, is widening Hintz Road to four lanes between Arlington Heights Road and Milwaukee Avenue.

Other construction on Hintz has included work between Elmhurst and Wheeling roads where a 48-inch sanitary storm sewer was installed and 310 pilings were put into the ground to support pavement for a 500-foot bridge near Ekco Lake.

Pilings were needed because the soil there is a peat bog, a type of soil that contributed to the deterioration of the pavement, Beissel said.

Village ordinance requires new houses to have garages

BY C. L. WALLER
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Any new Wheeling building permits issued after Friday will require house builders to construct at least a single-car garage as well.

The new village ordinance is designed to ensure construction on stray lots are in character with the neighborhoods, said Community Development Director Michael Klitzke.

Garages are not currently required to be built as part of new houses, and the law will not require houses that do not have garages to build them.

"Our problem is people build a house and decide they can't afford a garage and are left with outside storage," Klitzke said.

Trustee Judy Abruscato was the only objector and Trustee William Rogers was absent from Monday's meeting. Abruscato said she is concerned that if potential homebuyers decide they cannot afford a garage, then they might do without either one.

With the new ordinance, a person cannot obtain an occupancy permit to move into his new home until the garage is completed.

Abruscato said the clause should state that construction of a garage should be completed within a year from when the house is completed.

Norman Petroski, a Skokie resident who wants to build a house in the Michael Manor subdivision in Wheeling but doesn't have a permit yet, said the builder probably will have to build the garage as well in order to have both completed at the same time.

He said the ordinance effectively eliminates his ability to competitively bid on his garage.

Courier-Herald 7-30-87

Plans for 4-acre park off the drawing board

By Lee Ann Mackulin

Wheeling's Last Four Acre Park is finally taking shape.

A look into the future shows a tot lot, basketball court and baseball fields on the site, located near the Polo Run and Ridgefield subdivisions, east of Wheeling Road and north of Palatine Road.

Wheeling Park District commissioners have approved plans for the project, designed by William Rose and Associates architects of Hinsdale. Park officials aren't sure how long it will take to fully implement the $165,000 project because the development of the park will depend on money is available for improvements, explained park board President Anthony Abruscato.

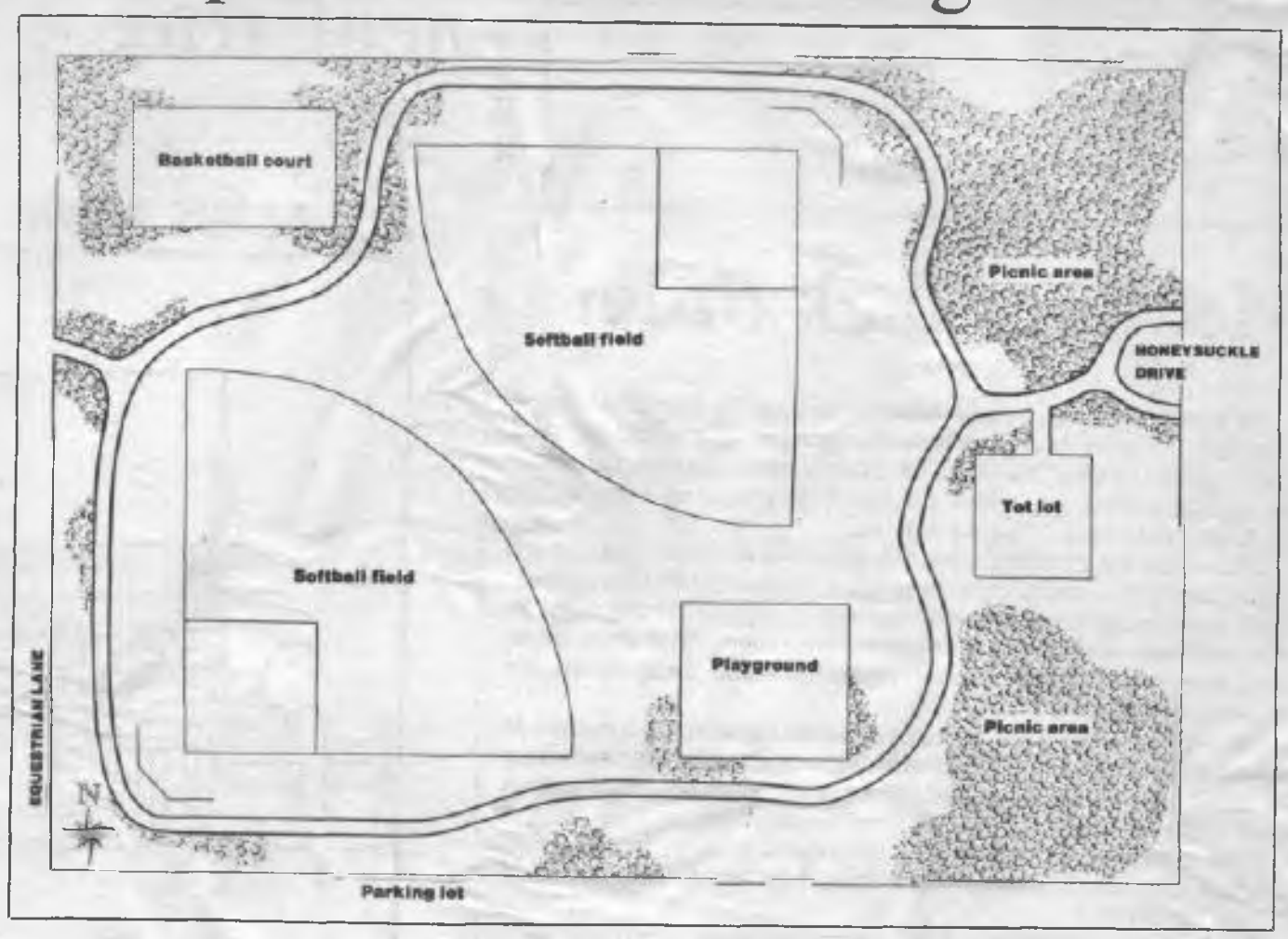
For now, park officials have $50,000 from Gov. Jim Thompson's Build Illinois program to work with. This money will pay for the excavation of the property, which will include the removal of fill piled on the site from nearby construction.

THE PARK DISTRICT is going out to bid this week for landscaping of the site. Grading and seeding of that property is scheduled for this fall.

The district's Community Needs Reassessment Committee originally proposed the improvements to the site. The citizens' group, which made a proposal for various park district projects, had been lobbying for the Four Acre Park improvement for some time.

Park officials are currently working on a priority list that will determine which portion of the project will be implemented first, said Abruscato.

Ultimately, the park will provide non-structured recreational activities for residents, especially those living in Ridgefield and Polo Run subdivisions.



The above map represents an architect's plans for the Wheeling Park District's new four-acre park near the Polo Run and Ridgefield subdivisions.

ONCE COMPLETED, THE park will contain one paved basketball court, a playground area for older children, a tot lot and a paved walkway onto the site. *One-fourth of the land will be left*

(Continued on page 11)

Courier-Herald - 7-30-87

State gives go-ahead to widening Route 83

By Lee Ann Mackulin

Illinois Route 83 will become a four-lane highway one day — but not anytime soon.

The design for a $10.7 million improvement project to Route 83, from north of Palatine Road to Lake-Cook Road, was approved by the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) last week.

The plan calls widening the road from two to four lanes. Construction of left turn lanes on Route 83 at Lake-Cook Road is also planned. The improvements will help to move traffic through the area more efficiently and relieve congestion at that intersection said Michael Klitzke, director of community development in Wheeling.

Although the project design was approved, it may be years before construction begins.

THE PROJECT WILL go on the back burner for now, along with a number of other projects IDOT is overseeing. However, Gov. James Thompson's recent budget cuts have delayed several road projects, including the Route 83 work, said Ed Nash, an IDOT spokesman.

"That (the budget cut) puts nearly every single one of the projects on hold to a certain extent," he said. "We don't even have the Route 83 project slotted for a tentative year. At the very least, we're talking several years before the project might go out for bid. We just wanted to let people know that the department does have this project in mind, but that it is still a ways away."

Once construction of the project is approved, it will take around two years to complete, Nash said.

While there's no timetable for construction yet, Wheeling officials, who have been lobbying for the Route 83 improvements for several years, say they're happy the project is at least being considered.

"THERE'S NO DOUBT that the improvements will help contain the volume of traffic on Route 83 and help to relieve congestion at that intersection (Lake-Cook and Route 83)," said Klitzke.

Prospect Heights officials are equally concerned with the traffic pattern along Route 83.

"There is no question about the fact that Route 83 is handling a tremendous amount of traffic right now," said Prospect Heights City Administrator Robert Kiely.

Wheeling Village President Sheila Schultz said IDOT has held several local public hearings on the project over the past year that have enabled village officials and residents to give some input into the proposed improvements.

"It's been in the planning stages for quite a while now," she said. "We're very interested in the project and delighted to know that it's moving along."

(Continued from page 3)

per $100 of assessed valuation. Richard Ewanio, business administrator for the district, said since some of the district funds will increase in the 1987-88 budget, the increase in assessed valuation helped the tax rate to drop slightly.

A WHEELING RESIDENT owning a $75,000 home will pay $553 to District 23 this year.

taxing bodies is up; the Village of Wheeling's rate decreased .76 percent, from $1.447 to $1.436 per $100 assessed valuation. A resident owning a $75,000 home will pay $268 in 1986 property taxes compared with $270 paid for 1985 property taxes.

Wheeling Township's rate increased by 43 percent this year, however, the township's rate is one the lowest on the tax bill. A resident with a home valued at $75,000 home will pay $19.22 to the township, up from $13 last year.

The township didn't levy a road and bridge fund tax in 1985, but its 1986 rate in that fund is set at .8 cents per $100 of assessed valuation. Road and bridge improvements last year cost the township $99,000. There were no expenditures for road improvements in 1985.

THE FEE FOR welfare services such as housing and clothing provided for by the township also increased, boosting the general assistance fund tax rate from 1.1 cents to 3.1 cents per $100 assessed valuation.

"We have not raised our payment level (to welfare recipients) for quite a few years," said Ruth Grundberg, Wheeling Township supervisor. "The cost of food and housing over the last five to seven years has gone up a lot."

An increased liability fund has forced the Wheeling Park District tax rate up this year from 50.5 cents to 54.3 cents per $100 of assessed valuation — a 7.52 percent increase. Residents will pay $101 to the district in 1986 property *taxes compared to $94 paid in 1985 property taxes.*

PARK DISTRICT MANAGER Karop Bavougian said the removal of asbestos in buildings throughout the district last year boosted expenditures in the liability fund from $150,540 in 1985 to $321,945 in 1986, accounting for most of the increase.

The Indian Trails Library District tax rate increased from 32.9 cents to 33.4 cents per $100 of assessed valuation — a 1.52 percent increase. A resident owning a $75,000 home will pay the library district about $62 this year.

Wheeling Road to be closed

WHEELING — Wheeling Road will be closed north of Hintz Road for two weeks probably beginning Monday.

Because of road work just north of the Hintz intersection, cars wishing access to businesses along Wheeling Road north of Hintz will have to turn onto Hintz from Dundee Road.

After that work is completed, construction will begin on the Hintz/Wheeling intersection, and Wheeling Road north of Hintz will be reopened. Traffic south of Hintz however, will be detoured on Alice and Noel. East/west access on Hintz will open at all times.

Wheeling Road has been closed to all but local traffic since last fall because of construction of a relief sewer. It's anticipated that Wheeling Road will be open to through traffic on July 27.

Airport panel won't appoint manager

Wheeling Life 7-9-87

WHEELING — The responsibility to hire a manager for Pal-Waukee Airport has been taken away from the Pal-Waukee Municipal Airport Commission and given to the village manager of Wheeling and city administrator of Prospect Heights.

The City Council and Village Board made the change Monday through an amendment in the intergovernmental agreement between the two municipalities, which jointly own Pal-Waukee.

"Hopefully this will expedite the process of getting an airport manager and getting him operating," said Village Manager Tom Markus.

He said the hiring of an airport manager wasn't being done by the commission.

Village President Sheila Schultz said having the village manager and city administrator responsible for selecting an airport manager should speed up the process. Markus said that hopefully a new manager would be chosen by Dec. 31.

The two municipalities are to decide together whether a full-time manager or airport management company should be hired. The appointment will be made by the mutual agreeement of the two municipalities.

In Wheeling Markus has final responsibility for the selection of a manager while in Prospect Heights City Administrator Robert Kiely will recommend a candidate to the City Council.

John Kennedy of Airport Corp. of America, which was hired to help with the purchase of the airport, is the temporary acting manager of Pal-Waukee.

The two communities bought Pal-Waukee at the end of last year. Also Monday, the Village Board approved a zoning amendment that requires all new single-family homes to have either attached or detached garages. The requirement is not retroactive.

"This additional requirement is in keeping with the character of single-family development in the village of Wheeling," said a staff memo. "It meets the parking requirement for single-family residences, and is an added convenience to the home buyer to have a garage."

The board also amended the zoning ordinance to de-emphasize auto service, encourage more diversity, and emphasize general retail uses in the B-4 business district. B-4 zoning is generally found along the village's major streets, such as Milwaukee Avenue and Dundee Road.

A memo to the board said that the "objective is to broaden the scope of the permitted retail uses along our major highway corridors and to provide greater control over the auto-oriented uses such as used car sales and auto repair."

SUMMARY

The village manager of Wheeling and city administrator of Prospect Heights have been given the responsibility to choose a manager for Pal-Waukee Airport.

Airport manager

Continued from page 1

A zoning amendment was also approved that limits the height of accessory buildings (garages) in single-family areas to 16 feet or the height of the principal structure.

"There are concerns that when the size of the accessory structure is not defined, the chance of illegal uses taking place is greater," said a staff memo. "Home occupations, illegal residences and storage of noxious materials are just a few of the uses which potentially result."

In other business, the board:

• Granted a 6B property tax exemption to Graphic Products Corp. If also approved by the county, the exemption will reduce the firm's property tax asessment to 16 percent for eight years and then to 30 percent for an additional four years. Industrial property in Cook County is currently assessed at 40 percent of market value.

• Granted a special use and site plan approval to the Four Stars Restaurant, 43 W. Dundee Road, to allow an upgrading of the existing building and a 33-seat expansion to a total of 158 seats.

The plan was approved although it allows for seven parking spaces fewer than would normally be required. Staff said that available adjacent parking and proposed landscapping compensate for the parking shortage.

Clear-zone study needs more facts

Wheeling Life 7-9-87

Now that Pal-Waukee Airport has been bought by Wheeling and Prospect Heights it is subject to the more stringent federal rules that govern public airports.

As a result, the clear zone (the area in which no obstacles are allowed) must be enlarged and, unfortunately, two major roads, Wolf and Hintz now fall within that area.

One solution to the problem would be to move the roads, an expensive proposition but one some feel is inevitable in order to meet the federal standards. Moving the roads would entail demolishing some homes and creating two new curved roads instead of the neat cross-shaped intersection that now exists.

Understandably, Wheeling officials are not too happy about that prospect and were hoping that a study, done by consultants hired by Wheeling and Prospect Heights, could point to another answer.

Incredibly, however, the consultants, Crawford, Murphy and Tilly Inc., did not look into other alternatives besides moving the roads. They did not, for example, study the possibility of shortening the main runway as a means of decreasing the required clear zone to the point where Hintz and Wolf could stay where they are. cc c c te tw roads could be moved with the ye they have not done e all the alaterna

The consultants assumed that shortening the runway would be financially bad for the airport. They said some jet-plane owners complained they could not get insurance if the runway is shortened. But the consultants did no independent study to see if these assumptions are true.

The consultants reportedly have done an excellent job of investigating how the two roads could be moved with the least disruption and most public support, but they have not done a complete job until they investigate all the alternatives. Wheeling officials were right to insist that Crawford, Murphy and Tilly go back and get more facts. No reasonable possibility should remain unexplored before an expensive and disruptive road moving is undertaken.

On the other hand, if — after all the studying is done — moving the roads turns out to be the only solution, the village of Wheeling should graciously accept the inevitable.

The airport, which is a general-aviation facility used by private and corporate pilots, is important to the economy of the region. Its viability must not be damaged simply to avoid moving Hintz and Wolf.

Remnant in Stock
With This Ad

889 Dundee Rd.
Wheeling
520-7867

DAILY HERALD 7-12-87

Feds probe police credit union loans

BY C.L. WALLER
and CHRISSZECHENYI
Daily Herald staff writers

Federal authorities are investigating illegal loans allegedly made by former employees of a police association's credit union that is under fire for mismanagement and financial irregularities, according to court records and sources familiar with the probe.

A federal grand jury is examining loans made by the American Law Enforcement Credit Union, a nonprofit institution that has 4,000 members in suburban Chicago and Las Vegas-area police departments.

The credit union has granted $43 million in loans since its inception in 1973, but was on the brink of collapse until its seven directors were ousted in June, according to the Illinois Department of Financial Institutions.

Royal Martin, the credit union's attorney, said Assistant U.S. Attorney Steve Miller recently told him the matter is being pursued by a federal grand jury. Martin said the probe centers on a former credit union employee who worked in the Wheeling office. The former employee's identity was not revealed.

Brenda Seipel, a supervisor with the Department of Financial Institutions, said the FBI has examined loans made by two former credit union employees, but she did not know the amount or number of loans involved in the probe. Federal authorities declined to discuss the matter.

The credit union is closely associated with the Combined Counties Police Association, one of the largest labor unions in Illinois representing suburban police officers. The credit union and police association are both based at 39 N. Milwaukee Ave.

When the Department of Financial Institutions removed the directors and replaced them with a trustee, it cited improper loan practices, high delinquency rates and mismanage-

See PROBE on Page 5

PROBE: Feds investigate police credit union lo

Continued from Page 1

ment in the handling of police pension funds.

The department said the credit union had been in danger of collapsing within three to six months.

"The board has not run this credit union in a safe and sound manner," said Ferdinand Zeni, attorney for the Department of Financial Institutions.

Nearly 6 percent of the credit union's loans are delinquent by two months or more, according to business records. Specifically, as of May 31, the credit union had $760,344 in delinquent loans — an amount considered too high by state analysts. Most delinquencies involve Las Vegas residents who took out loans from the credit union's Nevada office.

Several credit union officials denied the credit union was in the dire straits described by the Department of Financial Institutions.

The credit union's comptroller, Ronald N. Ally, and its chief of lending and collections, Laura Moore Godek, said the credit union has made recent progress in collecting delinquent loans and in improving other business practices.

"I don't see us folding at all," said Lawrence Parks, a Wheeling policeman who served on the credit union board.

Another former board member, Lt. John Numrich of Carol Stream, admitted the institution made mistakes but denied the existence of criminal mismanagement. "We obviously did not make the best loans," he said.

John Flood, former credit union board chairman and chairman of the Combined Counties Police Association, said at a May 28 board of directors meeting with state officials that the board was not involved in any criminal practices, according to a transcript of the discussion.

Documents from the regulatory agency say the credit union has violated state regulations by failing to write off delinquent loans, refinancing questionable loans and neglecting to keep records that accurately reflect its operations. As a result of the alleged irregularities, the organization understated its delinquency problem, the agency said.

Illinois officials said the credit union used bad judgment in granting loans to individuals who had poor credit records. Several of the Las Vegas residents went bankrupt and fell months behind in their loan payments, according to the credit union's internal business records.

The credit union, whose members come from Lake, DuPage and Cook counties, offers savings and checking accounts to members as well as mortgages and consumer loans. The organization uses members' deposits as a pool of capital from which to provide the financial services.

'The board has not run this credit union in a safe and sound manner.'

— Ferdinand Zeni
Department of Financial Institutions

The board sets the credit union's policies, which are carried out by 11 employees, including three workers stationed at an office in Las Vegas.

At the May 28 meeting, William Wilcop, assistant supervisor of the credit union division of the Department of Financial Institutions, and other state officials asked the board to resign voluntarily. Instead, the directors unsuccessfully went to court in an attempt to keep their positions.

In proceeding with the takeover, the state agency said the credit union has not corrected poor lending practices or resolved ineffective collection procedures that have persisted for three years.

"We decided that the board must be held accountable for inadequate management," said Seipel, supervisor of the agency's credit union division.

The state takeover, a rare move for the regulatory agency, does not guarantee the credit union's survival.

"No concrete decision has been made as to the future of this credit union," Seipel said.

It still may be merged with another financial institution or liquidated, depending on the state-appointed trustee's assessment of its condition and success in collecting delinquent loans.

The credit union, which has about $17 million in assets, has been operating at a loss during the past two years. It ended 1986 with a $151,000 deficit and reported $149,000 in losses during the first four months of this year, according to documents filed in Cook County Circuit Court.

The credit union also has failed to keep an adequate cash reserve, so much so that if the Maywood police pulled out its $2 million in pension funds the union would most likely collapse, according to affidavits filed in court.

So far, members have not rushed to remove deposits from the credit union, state officials said. But late last week, Wheeling officials considered withdrawing their $2.5 million in police pension funds. And before the state takeover, Barrington officials took $300,000 out of the credit union, and St. Charles authorities withdrew $1.2 million.

Last year, the credit union experienced another setback when Cook County correctional officers stopped depositing their pension funds in American Law Enforcement's accounts. Officers had switched from the Combined Counties Police Association to Teamster Local Union No. 714.

To compound the problem, the National Credit Union Administration, a federal agency that insures credit union deposits, recently decided to seek termination of the credit union's insurance policy after determining it had been operating in an unsound manner.

That unusual step will be ruled upon by an administrative law judge this summer. H. Allen Carver, the federal agency's regional director, said the government would insure accounts for a year after terminating the policy to give depositors time to deal with their funds. Afterward, the credit union would have to obtain deposit insurance from a private carrier, according to state law.

Carver said the federal agency has never before gone so far in attempting to remove a credit union's insurance. Though he is aware of the FBI investigation of the institution's former employees, Carver said it was the credit union's overall performance that convinced federal officials to take radical action.

Wheeling police pension funds to stay pu

BY C.L. WALLER
and CHRIS SZECHENYI
Daily Herald staff writers

Wheeling's police pension board voted 3-2 late last week to keep $2.5 million in pension funds in the American Law Enforcement Credit Union despite the questionable future of the lending institution.

But two of the "aye" votes came from pension board trustees with ties to the credit union.

Board member Marvin O. "Syke" Horcher, who voted in favor of leaving the funds in the credit union, was employed by American Law Enforcement until June to promote membership, work on investments and act as a financial adviser for people taking out loans.

"Syke was sitting here for years on the board in a conflict of interest," said John Cole, a village-appointed member of the pension board who voted to remove the funds from the beleaguered credit union.

Pension board Chairman Edward Theriault also serves as vice-chairman of the board of the Combined Counties Police Association, a labor union that represents suburban police officers and is closely associated with the credit union.

The credit union requires its members to belong to CCPA, and also shares offices with the association in Wheeling. In addition, CCPA Chairman John J. Flood until recently also was chairman of the credit union board.

Both Horcher and Theriault denied having any conflicts of interest and said they had not profited from their dual roles.

"I'm not going to jeopardize my job or my pension," Theriault said.

Wheeling keeps half its police pension funds in American Law Enforcement. Theriault said the pension funds are safely insured and argued vehemently against withdrawing the money.

Others said the pension board should invest its funds more wisely by diversifying its investments.

"It's not the purpose of this board to make sure the CCPA stays in business," said pension board member Frank Proietti, who pushed for the board to remove funds from the credit union. "The purpose is to safeguard the police pension fund."

Cole supported Proietti, saying that if the credit union becomes insolvent, the police would have a difficult time getting their money.

But Th
liam Stu
sure. The
board m
ion woul
four day
sets.

In rec
St. Char
ey out o

In Ba
ington
ter wit
ment p
ion's di
showed
board
pensio
check
ment,
sion fu
McNa

WHEELING LIFE 7-9-87

Officials review the 'cost' of labor law

BY JIM BISHOP
Staff Writer

"The fact of the matter is, management's rights have been substantially reduced, and the rights of the community have been substantially reduced."

Tom Markus
Wheeling Village Manager

Four summers ago, some local officials were chewing their fingernails over a labor bill just passed by the state legislature that would give all public employees — except firefighters and police — the right to strike. The mandate went into effect July 1, 1984, with police and firefighters granted the same rights on Jan. 1, 1986. Today, local government managers express mixed reactions to, and perceptions of, its impact, although most feel it has had little effect.

Wheeling Village Manager Tom Markus is an exception. "The fact of the matter is, management's rights have been substantially reduced, and the rights of the community have been substantially reduced," Markus said.

Wheeling police, public works employees and firefighters had in-house associations prior to passage of the law, but later petitioned successfully to gain status as full-fledged collective bargaining units. Village dispatchers have also organized under the law. Now, if a labor dispute arises between Wheeling managers and public workers, it can result in arbitration or ultimately be resolved by the Illinois Labor Relations Board.

One of Markus's fears, he said, is that the ILRB could potentially make a decision on an issue its members do not really understand.

"I'm not opposed to collective bargaining," Markus explained. "I just think the state gave too much

Please turn to page 5

Officials review 'cost'

Continued from page 1

away to employee groups, and I think it's inconsistent with what the state has been saying about keeping costs down."

According to Markus, "There's no doubt the new laws have added costs to the operations. Employees have additional rights that they didn't have, and those rights cost something."

Northbrook Assistant Village Manager John Novinson agreed that the law has made labor relations "a little more expensive," but he said he does not see many other changes as a result of its passage, at least in Northbrook.

"We have had unions here for a long time," Novinson noted. "And we have a long tradition of being able to sit down and work out problems."

This year, he said, despite "enormous areas of conflict, we were able to sit down (with the unions) and work them out."

Northbrook's experience with labor relations has not been marred by the kind of controversy that arose in Wheeling a few months ago, when village officials challenged the Wheeling Firefighters Association's inclusion of six Fire Department lieutenants in the union. The village refused to bargain with the Firefighters Association after it held an election in which the lieutenants participated. The ILRB had previously ruled, in what village officials called a "precedent-setting" decision, that the lieutenants could vote in the election.

The continuing dispute, according to Markus, is a prime example of how the collective bargaining law erodes management's rights and leads to additional expense. Wheeling officials' decison to appeal the ILRB decision, Markus noted, "has cost the village substantially."

Markus is also concerned that "there's really no such thing as informal talks anymore." If an agreement is in writing, he said, it has to be sent to the ILRB, and if it is not in writing, there is, in effect, no agreement.

Most other local managers, on the other hand, like Northbrook's Novinson, stress the high quality of communications enjoyed between management and employees in their organizations.

Glenview Park Superintendent Robert E. Johns also attributes the lack of interest in unionization by his workers to good communications with management. He also feels that maintaining a par with the provisions of union contracts is a factor.

"Many of the things covered by a union contract, such as overtime pay, we have had for years and years," Johns said. Johns also conducts wage surveys annually to determine salaries.

Police patrol officers in Glenview briefly toyed with the idea of unionization, but elected to drop it, observed Assistant Village Manager Craig Anderson. "They did have an election," Anderson said, "but they voted for no representation."

Anderson agreed with most of his local managerial colleagues that public employees on the North Shore "look around at unions in the area and see that (union workers) are not any better off" than those not in unions. Also, said Anderson, in Glenview, "Some of our people have been in unions elsewhere and they're not keen on the idea."

Anderson also stressed that communications with employees are very open and that, "for whatever reason, people here are cooperative."

With the exception of Wheeling's Markus, village managers seem to be very comfortable with the 1984 collective bargaining law. In fact, most of them do not have to deal with it directly at all, despite its availability for their employees as an option.

Three years ago, things looked quite different.

"It's a pistol lying on the table, and I don't know how it's loaded," Glenview Village Manager Paul McCarthy commented then. "It seems to me it's bad news," said Joe Dowd. Glenview's Johns was worried about the possibility of restrictive work rules.

While the apprehensions of most local managers have been allayed because their employees have shown little interest in unionization, other public employees in Illinois have responded to the law by organizing in large numbers.

The American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) today has double the membership in the state that it had when the law went into effect, according to AFSCME Council 31 Public Relations Director Hank Scheff. The group now has from 45,000 to 50,000 members here and expects to grow, said Scheff.

AFSCME, the fastest growing union in the country, typically does not include teachers, police or fire employees in its membership.

Public employees "have inadequate salaries in many instances and inadequate benefits," Scheff commented. They also often have no input or effective communications with management, he added.

Local public officials appear convinced that the keys to avoiding unionization of their employees are effective communications as well as pay rates and benefits comparable to unionized workers. On the other hand, people like Hank Scheff and AFSCME members seem equally convinced that the 1984 collective bargaining law offers a welcome alternative to public employees who may not find themselves in such happy circumstances.

"It's a great law," Scheff said.

Countryside 7-1

Homegrown' company relocates to Wheeling

By Lee Ann Mackulin

Cole Taylor Financial Group is homegrown.

When Glencoe residents Sidney Taylor and Irwin Cole sunk every penny they had into buying the Main State Bank in Chicago in 1969, they never dreamed it would lead them to becoming co-owners of a successful multi-bank holding company.

The two neighborhood buddies never contemplated owning a five-bank, eight-location financial group with current assets exceeding $1 billion — but 18 years later, they're beaming about it.

But as it's gotten larger, the company has also outgrown its corporate offices in Northbrook, and last month officials decided to move the company's headquarters to the third floor of the Cole Taylor Bank/Main in Wheeling.

WITH A NEWLY-DESIGNED company logo boldly printed in red and black, Cole and Taylor through it was about time that all of their banks adorned the family names. Now each of the banks — in Wheeling, Skokie, Lombard and two in Chicago — have taken on the Cole Taylor name.

"People remembered the name Cole Taylor," said Taylor, who felt it was time the company "capitalized on name recognition."

Taylor sees the move of the corporate offices to Wheeling as a positive step forward for the company.

"We like Wheeling. We feel it's an excellent location — a very, very dynamic area. We feel we're part of this community and we'll take an active role as we grow," he said.

"We like Wheeling. We feel it's an excellent location — a very, very dynamic area. We feel we're part of this community."

— Sidney Taylor
Chairman
Cole Taylor
Financial Group

"WE DO NEED more space because we're developing the ability to create more and more services for our customers. We're trying to make certain that we are well equipped to deal with our growth," Taylor added.

The 12,000 square feet of office space on the third floor of the Wheeling bank had been set aside by Cole Taylor for expansion purposes for quite some time. The move of the corporate offices to Wheeling brought with it an additional 30 employees. The company has a total of 750 employees.

The cold, impersonal surroundings associated with many banks is not found in Cole Taylor's new corporate offices — primarily because the building is owned by a couple of art buffs.

Art work, collected by Cole and Taylor for display in their banks, is shown throughout the lobbies and halls of the Wheeling facility. The two have collected contemporary art by Chicago artists as well as Indian art and southwestern art since the late 1960s.

"WE'RE NOT BRINGING in the old masters," said Taylor, who insists on limiting the collection to those three categories. He said the art work has become precious to company employees, some of whom get upset if a favorite piece of art is moved from their building.

Cole and Taylor have always had aspirations of expanding not only their art collection, but their bank collection as well.

In 1978, the two purchased the Drovers National Bank on Chicago's south side and the Bank of Yorktown in Lombard, making them the owners of three banks with three separate holding companies.

In 1984, Illinois legislators passed a law that allowed a company to hold stock in more than one bank, a move that gave Cole and Taylor the ticket they were waiting for.

"WHEN THE LAW was passed, we merged all of our holding companies and on that same day bought the Skokie Trust and Savings," as well as the Ford City Bank in Chicago, said Taylor.

"We're an emerging and, I think, important regional banking company. Merging regional banks will be the dominant force of banking (in the future)," predicts Taylor.

The future of Cole Taylor will remain in the family, with three of Taylor's sons, Jeffrey, Scott and Bruce, who currently serve as presidents of the banks in Wheeling, Skokie and Lombard. Each of the three has either an MBA or a degree in law. Taylor's son-in-law is also part of the family business.

"As the younger men become more and more qualified, as they are becoming, they will end up being managers of this company," said the 64-year-old Taylor.

At age 70, Cole has not brought any sons into the family business, but has recruited one of his daughters, Lori, to sing the Cole Taylor jingle in its commercials.

"Cole Taylor — the people with the personal touch" is the phrase catching everyone's attention and helping this company reach its aspirations.

Wheeling Countrysid

July 16, 1987

Credit union under investiga

The credit union that's holding some $2.5 million in Wheeling Police Pension Fund money is under investigation by the state for improper management practices. Despite that investigation, the pension board last week voted 3-2 to keep the funds invested in that institution.

By Lee Ann Mackulin

The American Law Enforcement Credit Union, where half of the Wheeling Police Department's pension fund is invested, is under investigation by state authorities for improper management practices.

A two-year investigation by the state's Department of Financial Institutions has revealed that the credit union, which holds funds for several suburban police departments, has had delinquencies exceed revenues for several years, said Brenda Seipel, supervisor of the department's credit union division.

Seipel said the department discovered problems with the credit union's overall organization and operation, and with its lending and collecting policies. Officials at American Law Enforcement would not comment on the findings.

The state's first move was to replace the board of directors at the credit union with an appointed trustee/manager. Gary Peterson, appointed to that position, declined to comment on the recent actions. Seipel said the department did try to work with the previous board of directors, but those attempts were unsuccessful.

"WE ARE primarily concerned with the safe and sound operation of the union," said Seipel. She said the new management will try to correct some of the problems the credit union has had. The department's function is to see that all state financial institutions are run properly.

Federal authorities are reportedly getting in on the act by investigating alleged illegal loans made by former employees of the credit union's Wheeling office, at 39 N. Milwaukee Ave.

Despite the recent findings, the Wheeling Police Pension Board voted 3-2 last week to keep $2.5 million, half of its total fund, invested in that credit union.

Because the funds are protected by the National Credit Union Association, Wheeling officers are not afraid of losing their pension money, said veteran officer and pension board member William Stutzman.

HOWEVER, THERE IS some concern among the officers as to the amount of money that might be lost in interest collected if the credit union folds, he said.

"Obviously, our guys are concerned. That's a substantial amount of money that's in there," he said.

"Right now it (the cr operating as normal. W interest on our mone scenario would happen we will look into," said S

The village has a stal

WITH MORE THAN pension fund c village-generated prope Finance Director Bob Wheeling officials are where the funds are inve

This year, $178,000 pension fund through v property taxes and $121, salaries, said Fialkowsk

"The concern is substantial amount of one institution wit stability," he said. "V questioned the stability — and it appears rightly

While half of pension in American Law E remainder is invested i government agency investments through M Fialkowski.

WHEELING PO Michael Haeger can o pension fund is invested prefer the money stay stable institution," he s that the representatives Police Pension Board decision."

Road project closes entrance at Chevy Chase

If you've driven down Milwaukee Avenue past the Chevy Chase Country Club lately, you may have noticed some changes.

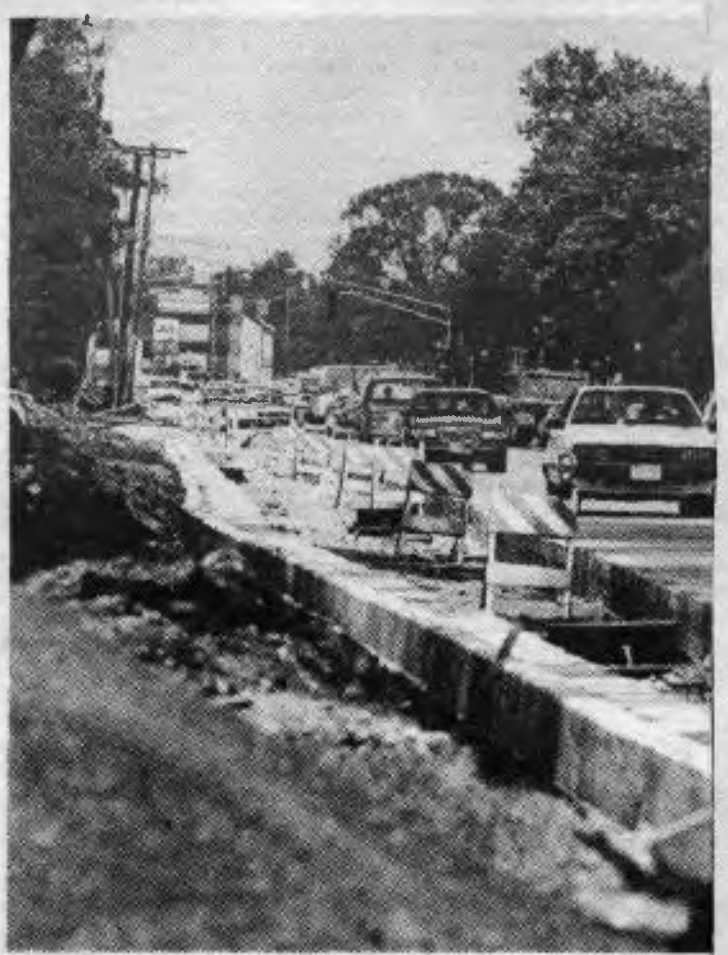
The giant arch that once loomed over the Milwaukee Avenue entrance to the club is no longer there — and neither is the entrance. The road in front of Chevy Chase is being widened to provide additional lanes for traffic entering and leaving the newly-constructed Lincoln Club apartment complex, located just north of the country club in Buffalo Grove.

Lincoln Property Company is behind the month-old road project, which is expected to be completed within the next few weeks, said Gary Kachadurian, a partner with the company.

The park district has swallowed the changes without too much problem.

"We lost our main entrance. We didn't necessarily want to lose our Milwaukee entrance, but we had no choice in that," said Karop Bavougian, Wheeling Park District manager.

Presently, the only way to enter the Chevy Chase parking lot, which extends around both the north and south sides of the building, is through an entrance south of the site. An entrance into the parking lot on the north end of the site is now being built and will be off the the newly-dedicated Johnson Drive, which runs along the north end of the golf course.



Construction on Milwaukee Avenue has forced the perm of the main entrance to the Chevy Chase Country Club. (*Kathy Tray)*

Although the sudden absence of the Milwaukee Avenue entrance has caused some confusion for people driving into the parking lot, Bavougian them come into the sou Chevy Chase Drive anyw

Pension—

(Continued from page 5)

THE SUIT ALSO named as defendant current pension board member Theriault as well as three former pension board members, contending that they did not act with due care in managing the pension fund.

Rhodes explained that the board acted in violation of a state code that requires disbursement of pension funds into several securities to avoid the risk of investing a large sum of money in one place. The board has chosen to invest more than half its funds with the American Law Enforcement Credit Union. Currently, $2.5 million is invested in the credit union and the rest of the fund is invested in various government securities.

The Department of Financial Institutions has been closely monitoring American Law Enforcement only to discover that its delinquencies have exceeded its revenues for the past two years, said Brenda Seipel, supervisor of the department's credit union division.

Despite these findings, the Wheeling Police Pension Board voted 3-2 last week to keep its money invested in the institution. Cole and Proietti were the only two to vote for taking the funds out of the credit union.

Although the fund is insured by the National Credit Union Association, interest being earned on the money could be lost, according to Rhodes. The money, at this point, is still collecting interest.

"IF, IN fact, the credit union should go under, while the pension fund is insured, the interest is not," he explained. "When you're dealing with $2.5 million, you're talking about a lot of money (in interest)."

Cole's concern is that "if that credit union goes under, who knows when we would see that money."

"State law requires a disbursement of the pension funds," Cole said. At one point in the pension's history, Cole said 70 to 80 percent of the fund was invested in the credit union.

"I think it's a little ridiculous to have that much money invested in a credit union that has been taken over by the state," he said.

HORCHER, A BOARD member selected by the officers, said he is not concerned about the recent investigations into the credit union and that even if it folds, he anticipates the fund would be returned to the pension board in full, complete with interest earned up to that point. Until last month, Horcher was employed by the credit union as a financial adviser.

Theriault, chairman of the pension board, currently serves as vice chairman of the board of the Combined Counties Police Association, a labor union closely tied to American Law Enforcement.

The fact that two board members have close ties to the credit union in question troubles Cole.

"I certainly think there is a conflict of interest when a board member is constantly pushing to invest millions of dollars in a credit union with which he is affiliated," he said.

Horcher insists that his affiliation with the credit union has not interfered with his duties as a pension board member.

on fund rns are ng new

uls say they've ed about the of police pen- quite some filed a lawsuit edit union nvestigation.

lackulin

nvestment of the Department's pen- recently become a oncern, the issue is village officials and n board members. as filed in 1983 by and by pension John Cole and Joe the American Law edit Union, where a e Wheeling pension nvested for several

y, an investigation partment of Finan- has revealed that has been losing ears now and that ent practices have **related story this** ice departments in cago area are mem- union. v pending in Cook Court, claims the been mismanaging

E the suit was filed, ee on the Wheeling He has since been village to serve on d. Cole and Proietti ge-appointed mem- r three members, rd Theriault, Mar- William Stutzman y officers in the

ern of the village in s a mortgage plan credit union that ow rate of return, cost the village a d Village Attorney

f return on invest- than the amount of contributes to the perty taxes) goes village contributes f the money in the ugh its property tax st of the fund comes ns from officers'

board had consid- g in the mortgage the lawsuit being ld invest in it, Cole

ntinued on page 11)

Wheeling Countryside
July 16, 1987

Credit union under investigation

The credit union that's holding some $2.5 million in Wheeling Police Pension Fund money is under investigation by the state for improper management practices. Despite that investigation, the pension board last week voted 3-2 to keep the funds invested in that institution.

By Lee Ann Mackulin

The American Law Enforcement Credit Union, where half of the Wheeling Police Department's pension fund is invested, is under investigation by state authorities for improper management practices.

A two-year investigation by the state's Department of Financial Institutions has revealed that the credit union, which holds funds for several suburban police departments, has had delinquencies exceed revenues for several years, said Brenda Seipel, supervisor of the department's credit union division.

Seipel said the department discovered problems with the credit union's overall organization and operation, and with its lending and collecting policies. Officials at American Law Enforcement would not comment on the findings.

The state's first move was to replace the board of directors at the credit union with an appointed trustee/manager. Gary Peterson, appointed to that position, declined to comment on the recent actions. Seipel said the department did try to work with the previous board of directors, but those attempts were unsuccessful.

"WE ARE primarily concerned with the safe and sound operation of the union," said Seipel. She said the new management will try to correct some of the problems the credit union has had. The department's function is to see that all state financial institutions are run properly.

Federal authorities are reportedly getting in on the act by investigating alleged illegal loans made by former employees of the credit union's Wheeling office, at 39 N. Milwaukee Ave.

Despite the recent findings, the Wheeling Police Pension Board voted 3-2 last week to keep $2.5 million, half of its total fund, invested in that credit union.

Because the funds are protected by the National Credit Union Association, Wheeling officers are not afraid of losing their pension money, said veteran officer and pension board member William Stutzman.

HOWEVER, THERE IS some concern among the officers as to the amount of money that might be lost in interest collected if the credit union folds, he said.

"Obviously, our guys are concerned. That's a substantial amount of money that's in there," he said.

"Right now it (the credit union) is still operating as normal. We're still earning interest on our money. If the worst scenario would happen, that's one thing we will look into," said Stutzman.

The village has a stake in this as well.

WITH MORE THAN half of the police pension fund coming from village-generated property tax revenues, Finance Director Bob Fialkowski said Wheeling officials are concerned about where the funds are invested.

This year, $178,000 was put into the pension fund through village generated property taxes and $121,000 from officers' salaries, said Fialkowski.

"The concern is that we have a substantial amount of funds invested in one institution with questionable stability," he said. "We have always questioned the stability of the institution — and it appears rightly so."

While half of pension fund is invested in American Law Enforcement, the remainder is invested in U.S. securities, government agency securities and investments through Merrill Lynch, said Fialkowski.

WHEELING POLICE CHIEF Michael Haeger can only hope that the pension fund is invested wisely. "I would prefer the money stay within a more stable institution," he said. "I just hope that the representatives of the Wheeling Police Pension Board made the right decision."

Road project closes entrance at Chevy Chase

If you've driven down Milwaukee Avenue past the Chevy Chase Country Club lately, you may have noticed some changes.

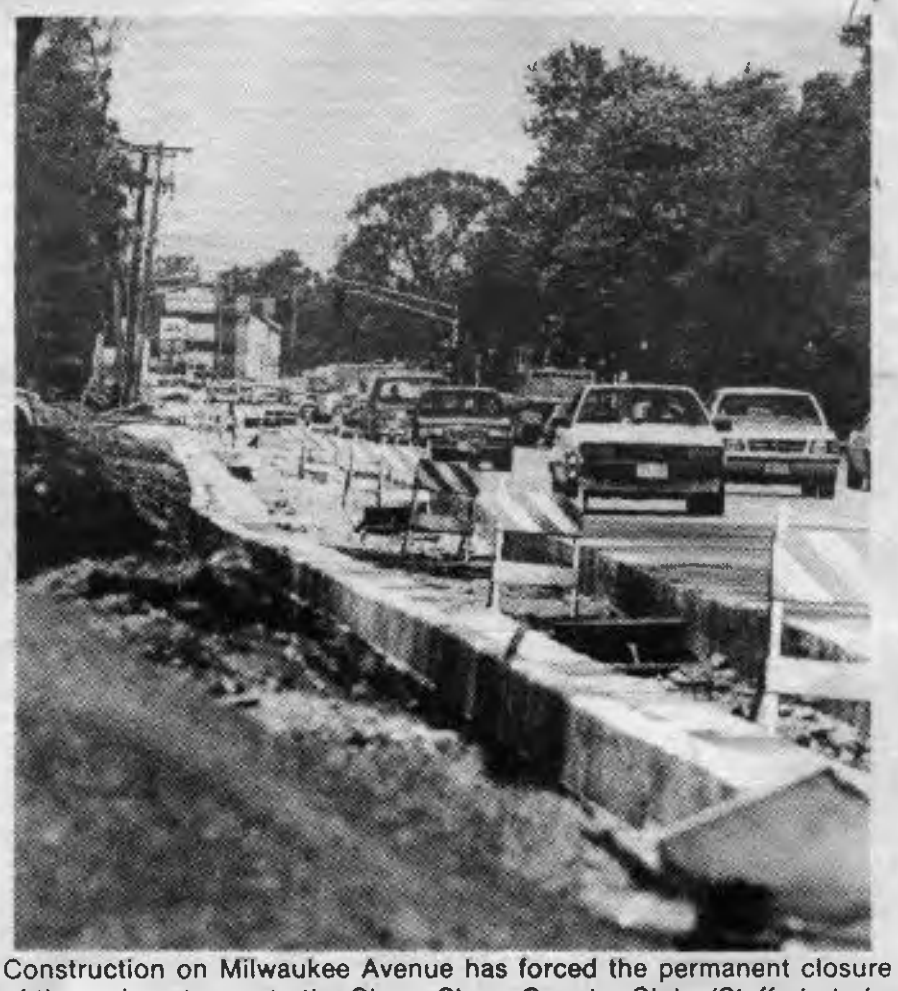
The giant arch that once loomed over the Milwaukee Avenue entrance to the club is no longer there — and neither is the entrance. The road in front of Chevy Chase is being widened to provide additional lanes for traffic entering and leaving the newly-constructed Lincoln Club apartment complex, located just north of the country club in Buffalo Grove.

Lincoln Property Company is behind the month-old road project, which is expected to be completed within the next few weeks, said Gary Kachadurian, a partner with the company.

The park district has swallowed the changes without too much problem.

"We lost our main entrance. We didn't necessarily want to lose our Milwaukee entrance, but we had no choice in that," said Karop Bavougian, Wheeling Park District manager.

Presently, the only way to enter the Chevy Chase parking lot, which extends around both the north and south sides of the building, is through an entrance south of the site. An entrance into the parking lot on the north end of the site is now being built and will be off the the newly-dedicated Johnson Drive, which runs along the north end of the golf course.



Construction on Milwaukee Avenue has forced the permanent closure of the main entrance to the Chevy Chase Country Club. *(Staff photo by Kathy Tray)*

Although the sudden absence of the Milwaukee Avenue entrance has caused some confusion for people driving into the parking lot, Bavougian said the most of them come into the south lot enter off of Chevy Chase Drive anyway.

Pension fund concerns are nothing new

Village officials say they've been concerned about the management of police pension funds for quite some time and even filed a lawsuit against the credit union that's under investigation.

By Lee Ann Mackulin

While the investment of the Wheeling Police Department's pension funds has recently become a matter of state concern, the issue is not a new one to village officials and two police pension board members.

A lawsuit was filed in 1983 by village officials and by pension board members John Cole and Joe Proietti against the American Law Enforcement Credit Union, where a large portion of the Wheeling pension fund has been invested for several years.

More recently, an investigation by the state's Department of Financial Institutions has revealed that the credit union has been losing money for two years now and that overall management practices have been unsound (**See related story this page**). Many police departments in the suburban Chicago area are members of the credit union.

The suit, now pending in Cook County Circuit Court, claims the credit union has been mismanaging funds.

AT THE TIME the suit was filed, Cole was a trustee on the Wheeling Village Board. He has since been appointed by the village to serve on the pension board. Cole and Proietti are the only village-appointed members. The other three members, chairman Edward Theriault, Marvin Horcher and William Stutzman were selected by officers in the department.

The main concern of the village in filing the suit was a mortgage plan touted by the credit union that offered a very low rate of return, which could have cost the village a lot of money, said Village Attorney James Rhodes.

"If the rate of return on investments goes down, than the amount of money the village contributes to the fund (through property taxes) goes up," he said. The village contributes more than half of the money in the pension fund through its property tax revenues. The rest of the fund comes from contributions from officers' paychecks.

The pension board had considered participating in the mortgage program prior to the lawsuit being filed, but never did invest in it, Cole said.

(Continued on page 11)

Commission OKs subdivision despite a 'substandard' plan

Herald - 8-29-87

By Maris Strautmanis
Daily Herald Correspondent

Developers of a Wheeling subdivision got approval from the village's plan commission for a 14-house development despite plans for a single-lane, one-way street which one commissioner called "substandard."

"It's not the policy of (suburban) municipalities to have them," said Commissioner Theodore R. Johnson. "We've had problems with half-streets."

But Johnson was the lone dissenter against the Eastchester development. The subdivision will be located across Garth Avenue from a 66-house development built by the same company, Scarsdale Enterprises of Evanston.

The 14 proposed lots, east of Elmhurst Road and north of Kristy Lane, ranging in size from 7,500 to 12,500 square feet, will have homes priced from $145,000.

Halfway down the one-way street which bisects the subdivision, two lanes become one single lane, because the owner of the southwest corner is not interested in selling his parcel and does not want to sell an easement for a road, said Jerome Eister, the builders' attorney.

The developers do not want to make the road full size by moving it to the north because this would narrow lots to the north by 15 feet, he said.

Lakeside Villa is evacuated

8-20-87 Life

The Lakeside Villas subdivision was the hardest hit area in Wheeling, after intense rains drenched the entire area, particularly the west side of the village causing severe flooding.

The amount of water prompted the evacuation of the subdivision, located off of Hintz Road east of Buffalo Grove Road, said Wheeling Police Chief Michael Haeger.

Police also used a 2.5-ton pickup truck and a dump truck from the Public Works Department to patrol Lakeside and the Meadowbrook subdivision, which was closed off, Haeger said.

Rainfall for the 24-hour period ending at 2 p.m. Friday, Aug. 14 totaled nine inches in the western suburbs.

Several main thoroughfares were closed in the village, including Hintz, Wheeling Road, Rte. 83, and Wolf and Palatine Roads, said Tom Markus, village manager. He said most of the roads that had been closed were open by Sunday.

The village, however, experienced only 5 percent of the flooding it had last fall, when a week-long rain swelled the Des Plaines River and other waters, Markus said.

Some residents last week had basements completely filled with

Please turn to page 3

News tips? Story ideas?

Tell it to
Lee Ann Mackulin

Wheeling
Countryside

200 James Street
Barrington, 60010
381-9200, ext. 183

Thursday, August 6, 1987

Record rainfall drenches area

Continued from page 1

water that was coming up onto the main floor, he said.

Federal representatives are now in the community evaluating damage, Markus said.

And what would a natural disaster be without at least one heroic deed?

The Lincolnwood Police Department plans to present certificates to four men who helped to rescue a 78-year-old Wheeling man from his car, which was stuck in a flooded underpass on the Edens Expressway at Pratt Avenue early Friday morning.

When Howard Pearlman drove into the underpass at about 3:20 a.m. Friday morning, his car became stalled in several feet of water, and water poured into the car until he was up to his chin, said Lincolnwood Police Chief Stephen Kuhn.

Gary Flosi of Chicago, who had managed to push his own car out of the underpass just a few minutes s earlier, saw Pearlman struggling to get out of his car. He and another stranded motorist waded into the five-foot deep water, lifted Pearlman out of his car through the window and carried him to safety, Flosi said. Once out of the water, they met with two other motorists, and together the four carried Pearlman to Cicero Avenue where they called an ambulance, he said. Kuhn said that Pearlman was uninjured.

Trustees approve police canine program

8-18-87

By C. L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer

A four-legged addition will be making its way to the Wheeling Police Department after trustees on Monday approved starting a canine program.

Wheeling police chief Michael Haeger said the department will attempt to get a dog trained to respond only to German commands if a dog cannot be donated from a dog training facility. A German-trained dog will cost approximately $2,500.

Wheeling Jaycees, who are donating $6,397 toward the cost of the dog and first year operating costs, first asked Wheeling Deputy Chief Gary D. O'Rourke about having a dog in the police department and offered to hold a fund-raising event to pay for the animal.

The Jaycees will hold an auction Sept. 15 at the Chevy Chase clubhouse in Wheeling. Jaycees president Mike Lynch said the group will solicit items from businesses in Wheeling for the auction.

"I'm confident we will raise the funds and more," Lynch said.

The dog may be used to search buildings, track lost children and wanted persons, search for narcotics and control crowds, O'Rourke said.

Haeger said, "The dog can search a building in far less time than three or four police officers."

Woodridge police officer Steve Herron and his dog, Nico, demonstrated to trustees how helpful a police dog can be. Haeger said a major benefit is officer safety for the officer handling the dog as well as other officers working near the dog.

One police officer currently in the department will be trained with the dog and he will keep the animal at his home, he said. The officer and dog will participate in a 14-week course offered at no cost to Wheeling by the Chicago Police Department.

Wheeling Village Manager Thomas M. Markus pointed out that the village will be paying annual costs of approximately $1,500.

Gov. Thompson says he'll request federal flood relief for for Cook and DuPage counties.

Daily Herald Photo/Bob Chwedyk

Governor issues urgent plea for federal flood aid

BY DANIEL CURRY
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Gov. James R. Thompson announced Thursday he's making an "urgent request" for $77.6 million in federal flood relief money for Cook and DuPage counties – almost double the amount officials asked for after last fall's deluge.

Thompson made the announcement while standing in front of a 10-foot pile of waterlogged debris in unincorporated Maine Township.

"I'll call the White House when I leave here," Thompson said from a neighborhood wedged between Des Plaines and Park Ridge, where an entire townhouse development was swamped with three feet of flood water last week.

Federal approval could come as soon as next week, Thompson said, meaning residents and businesses could begin applying for low-interest loans, grants and temporary housing. Applications could be made at disaster centers, which would be set up next week.

Thompson said the damage assessment — confined to uninsured property — could climb to more than $100 million. Last fall's flood, which ravaged Cook and Lake counties was estimated at $40 million.

Damage estimates compiled by county agencies are higher because they include damage to public buildings and insured property.

Thompson and other government officials cautioned flood victims about expecting too much relief.

"Help is of a limited nature," he said. "It's impossible for any kind of government to fully compensate everybody in cash for every dollar lost."

> "Help is of a limited nature. It's impossible for any kind of government to fully compensate everybody in cash for every dollar lost."
>
> Gov. James R. Thompson

Ron Buddecke, regional chief of the Federal Emergency Management Agency said 70 percent of flood victims qualify for federal relief. Loans, which Thompson estimated would carry about a 4 percent interest rate, make up the vast majority of relief dollars.

Flood victims received $25 million to $30 million in relief last fall, 95 percent of it in loans, said Gregg Durham, spokesman for the Illinois Emergency Services Disaster Agency.

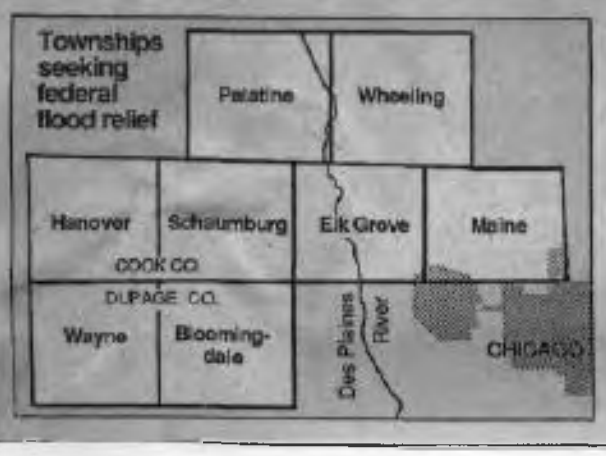
"We won't get anything, we didn't last time," said Harriett Hall, a resident observing Thompson's announcement. She suffered flood damage last fall and again last week.

See FLOOD on Page 3

Herald 8-21-87

Disaster areas

Townships where Gov is seeking federal aid



What: Gov. James Thompson asked President Reagan to declare portions of Cook and DuPage counties disaster areas.

Why: So residents, businesses can get loans. Most loans will be issued at around 4 percent interest.

Who qualifies: About 70 percent of flood victims.

Where: Cook townships of Elk Grove, Hanover, Leyden, Lyons, Maine, Norwood Park, Palatine, Proviso, River Forest, Riverside, Schaumburg and Wheeling. DuPage townships of Addison, Bloomingdale, Downers Grove, Wayne and York.

Damage estimate: Nearly $77.6 million (uninsured). More than 16,000 houses, businesses.

FLOOD: Thompson seeks $77 million in aid

Continued from Page 1

"We're like aliens here. This is just a show."

Hall's neighborhood was particularly hard-hit. Streets resemble a junk yard, as residents threw away furniture and other debris ruined by flood water.

"Mattresses, couches, chairs, bowling balls, anything you can think of we've hauled away," said Jeff Moritz, a Maine Township road district worker.

Besides federal relief, residents can apply for help with the American Red Cross, their local township office or village hall. Victims can also ask their township assessor to reduce their home's assessment. Residents should take pictures of damage and document losses in any way possible while waiting for relief, Buddecke said.

In addition, Paul Halverson, Maine Township supervisor, said he's writing a letter to the county asking it allow township residents an additional three to six months to pay this year's property tax bill, due Sept. 4.

"We don't know if this will fly or not," he said, "but we can't give up, we have to have a positive attitude and positive community spirit."

Flood insurance available

BY GINA BILOTTO
Staff Writer

Herald 9-3-87

It's not until after a flood that most homeowners know whether or not they have insurance that covers the resulting water damage.

Most private insurance companies do not offer flood insurance, but homeowners may purchase it from the federally subsidized National Flood Insurance Program through any licensed insurance company or agent.

To qualify for flood insurance, however, the home must be located in a community that participates in the program. Deerfield, Glenview, Northbrook and Wheeling are just a few of the 700 participating municipalities in Illinois, said Eileen Courter, a spokeswoman for the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

Two types of insurance are offered through the program. One is for the contents only and another covers the structure, Courter said. Lenders usually require that prospective home buyers purchase insurance on the structure if the home is located in a high-risk flood area.

The standard federal policy covers flooding caused by overrun of tributaries and from an accumulation of surface water. It does not, however, cover damage as a result of sewer back-up, Courter said. If that type of coverage is desired, it must be purchased as part of an endorsement to the standard homeowners policy.

Some companies that offer coverage for sewer back-up are Economy Fire and Casualty, State Farm Insurance and American Family Insurance, according to the Illinois Department of Insurance. State Farm's endorsement costs the homeowner $35 annually, said Henry Hakanen, a State Farm agent at 400 Lake-Cook Road, Deerfield.

Courter said the program's statistics show that 40 percent of flood claims each year are not from high-risk areas.

New rainfall causes few Wheeling woes

Herald 9-3-87

Last week's rains caused more flooding in some northwest suburbs last week, but except for minor problems the village of Wheeling escaped serious difficulties.

Bob Fialkowski, village finance director, said that a week ago Wednesday some streets in Lakeside Villas flooded along with some low-lying streets in other areas of the village.

But no major roads in Wheeling were blocked because of water, Fialkowski said. Also, he said, the rains appeared to cause no damge to individual buildings.

Not all northwest suburbs were so lucky. The more than two inches of rain that fell Aug. 26 caused sewage backup to homes in Palatine and Arlington Heights, for example.

In some communities major streets were also closed, including the Northwest Highway between Palatine and Barrington, and Route 53 at Lake Street near Addison, and through parts of Lombard and Glen Ellyn.

The rains last week, however, were relatively minor compared to the deluge that hit the Chicago area on Aug. 14, when more than nine inches of rain fell in 24 hours.

That rainfall caused widespread problems in Wheeling, where streets were closed and basements flooded.

Wheeling police officer Tom Lorenz takes aim at oncoming traffic with one of the department's new radar guns.

Daily Herald Photo/Kent Kriegshauser

Traffic officers radar-gunning for speeders

9,381

By C. L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Her long earrings swing as she takes a quick, hard look at the Wheeling police car reflected in the rear-view mirror.

She doesn't need a sixth sense to wonder if the U-turn made by the police officer on Dundee Road was meant for her.

The light turns green and she's off, only to be stopped a couple hundred feet away for speeding.

More and more drivers in Wheeling are experiencing the same thing.

Police officer Tom Lorenz doesn't believe in stopping people at intersections because it backs up traffic, but U-turns are allowed if it's safe and someone clocked on radar is exceeding the limit.

"By the time I'm turning around it's too late. I've already got you locked in," he said.

Lorenz and officer Mike Rompala, Wheeling's traffic officers, are part of the department's stepped up effort to enforce traffic laws on busy roadways in the village. Three hand-held radar meters have been added to the police department and two more are expected.

The hand-held radar is better at monitoring speed than the mounted radar guns because the gun is perpendicular to the roadway, officers say. Plans are for each of the police department's 10 squad cars to have radar, either hand-held or moving, so all officers have an opportunity to clock traffic.

Sitting in a squad car not too close to an intersection along Wheeling Road, Lorenz stretches his forearm across the edge of the door and takes aim at oncoming traffic.

The radar locks in on a car going 15 miles over the limit. A rush hits Lorenz's passenger because suddenly they are zipping up the street on the speeder's tail.

In the first six hours on his shift, Lorenz has issued 17 traffic tickets ranging from speeding to not using a turn signal correctly. He calls the day a good one, because there haven't been any accidents.

In two hours, he issues four more speeding tickets. Lorenz hits the red emergency lights and gives a short beep on the horn to get a driver's attention. He says he hardly ever uses the long, wailing siren because drivers get embarrassed.

Peering over his aviator sunglasses, the officer gets a closer look at the Ohio license plates on the car he just stopped. He's heard the story before, the one about how the driver is

See **RADAR** *on Page 3*

RADAR: Traffic officers aim the 'camera' to get speeders

Continued from Page 1

from out of town and isn't familiar with Wheeling streets, etc.

But like all the rest, the man reaches into his wallet for his driver's license.

Preventing accidents is at the core of being a traffic officer, said Lorenz, who has issued about 1,100 tickets each of the eight years he has been with the division.

Ticketed drivers only notice the ticket, he says. "They don't have to see the busted up cars and bodies."

The crackdown is not only with speeding. Drivers weaving in and out of traffic to get ahead, people driving on the median strip and drivers passing on the right also are subject to stops by Wheeling police.

Lorenz argues on behalf of his work.

"I'm not out there to make money for the village and I'm not out there to fill a quota," he said. "When it's my day off I don't want to spend the day in court."

Like a maestro pulling out his prized Stradivarius, Lorenz reaches into a case in the back seat and pulls out a tuning fork. Striking the fork on an iron rifle holder, Lorenz tunes the radar before and after each traffic stop.

Officers running radar grow accustomed to the dull "thong" of the fork, each with its own mile-per-hour measurement. Waves from the fork are picked up by the radar equipment and show a reading to test accuracy.

Radar has continuously been criticized for not working properly, but Lorenz takes the instrument of his trade seriously. It's as accurate as the officer who uses it, he says.

Each officer makes his own decision as to how much speed to allow before turning on the emergency lights. Lorenz said the smallest margin he has allowed over the speed limit was 10 miles per hour and that was with a man driving 45 miles per hour on Milwaukee Avenue during a snowstorm.

Drivers sometimes go 55 miles per hour at night on Dundee Road where the speed limit is 35. On Palatine Road, speeds get up to the 70s and 80s.

If you're ever stopped, you can quit arguing as soon as the officer starts writing you up. Each ticket is numbered, and the officer can't throw it away without getting a lot of questions back at the station.

Pressing his pen through the five copies of a ticket, Lorenz said, "I've had people argue with me until I'm at the bottom of the ticket signing my name."

Officials: Can't plan for 100-year flood

8-27-87 Life

There is no practical way to prevent flooding during a rainfall of the magnitude that inundated the Chicago area on Aug. 14, according to village officials.

It would be cost prohibitive to build a sewer system that could handle a rainfall of such intensity, said Robert Gray, director of operations and maintenance.

Even if all the flood prevention improvements planned for the Wheeling area had been constructed, so much rain in a 24-hour period would still result in flooding, said Bob Fialkowski, village finance director.

Although not as hard hit as some other areas, Wheeling experienced considerable flooding two weeks ago when nine inches of water fell in a 15-hour period. Mike Klitzke, director of community development, said officials have not been able to find a chart that plots that amount of rain in such a short period of time.

Five inches of rain in 12 hours is considered a 100-year event, Klitzke said. The rainfall on Aug. 14 is the worst on record in the Chicago area's history.

Flooded streets, intersections and basements were among the problems. Wheeling Township has been declared a federal disaster area, which makes residents eligible for federal assistance, mainly involving eligibility for low-interest loans.

In general, the central and west areas of Wheeling were hardest hit by the storm, according to Gray. Those are low areas that normally get flooded, he said.

Areas that that suffered flooding include Lakeside Villas, off Hintz Road, east of Buffalo Grove Road; the Dunhurst subdivision, south of Dundee Road and east and west of Route 83; the Mallard Lake Apartments, immediately west of Lakeside Villas; Palm Drive, Redwood Trail, Willow Trail and Valley Stream Drive in the Hollywood Ridge subdivision, south of Dundee; Thelma Court, north of Horizon Park; Anthony Trail, north of Thelma Court; Harmony Village at Harmony Drive, and the north end of 7th Street.

Also flooded were portions of Wheeling, Wolf and Hintz roads; the Kmart parking lot; and the intersection of Wheeling, Dundee and McHenry roads.

Gray said the latest flooding had different causes than the flooding that the northwest suburbs experienced last fall. Problems last year were caused by the overflowing of the Des Plaines River and Buffalo Creek as rain fell to the northwest of Wheeling. At that time, officials credited flood control measures

Please turn to page 3

Residents cope with flooded homes

Between 6:30 and 8 a.m. on Friday, Aug. 14, Edward Cooper watched the water overflow the banks of the lakes on the Lakeside Villas townhouse subdivision and creep over the lawn toward his house.

At first the threatening waters caused Cooper to move items off the basement floor. But when the flowing water broke a window well and started pouring into the finished basement, Cooper moved valuables to the first floor.

Among the items he could not bring to safety was a 25-inch console television set.

"I remember going back and seeing it float in the basement," Cooper said.

By 9:30 a.m. Cooper and his wife and two kids had waded through two feet of water to the Lakeside Villas Clubhouse. Some streets had five feet of water, Cooper said, adding that he saw rowboats all over the place.

Once in the clubhouse, there

Please turn to page 3

Village manager ushers in new era of professionalism

BY DORIS FOLKL
Correspondent

8-27-87 Life

Village Manager Tom Markus had just put in a hectic week. The record 12-inch rain that fell on Chicago's northern and western suburbs between midnight Aug. 13 and midnight Aug. 15 had kept him and his village crews working around the clock.

"We've been pumping water out of basements and supplying sand and sandbags," said Markus. "We've been shutting down electric and gas connections, and monitoring fire and police operations."

His voice sounded tired.

"This past week just proves that we've got to push the federal government even harder for a diversionary channel to relieve flooding along the Wheeling Drainage Ditch," Markus said. "We've acquired 65 percent of the land for the ditch, but the project has been delayed while we wait for the whole thing to get through Congress."

The federal government is expected to fund the building of the diversionary channel on land acquired by the village of Wheeling.

"Actually, we're just winding down from seven years of improvements on the village's water and sanitary sewer systems," said Markus. "We've completely rebuilt the water system and are now converted from wells to Lake Michigan water. And we've done a major rehabilitation of the sanitary sewers."

Originally from a small town in southern Minnesota, Markus came to Wheeling in 1[illegible] as an administrative intern after graduating from the University of Minnesota. He had majored in urban studies and finance. In 1976 he earned a master's degree in public administration from Roosevelt University.

"Then I went back to Minnesota for three years as village manager in Savage, a suburb of Minneapolis-St. Paul. I came back here in 1980," recalled Markus.

His selection as manager marked the end of a lengthy battle waged in the 1970s by a group of Wheeling citizens who challenged a patronage system that they said had long crippled Wheeling city government. Markus is the city's first professional manager.

"It's this professionalism that has enabled us to make real progress in Wheeling," said Village President Sheila Schultz, who spearheaded the fight for an independent board of trustees and village manager. "Tom has a real understanding of the relationship between elected officials and the city administration. He does a good job of carrying out the directions of the board and he has a lot of original ideas. He has a real feeling about this community."

MARKUS

What does Markus consider the most important achievements of his time as village manager?

"Well, of course, the major work was with the water and sewer systems, but we've also built a senior citizen center in conjunction with Cook County and Holy Family

Please turn to page 3

Village manager ushers in new era

Continued from page 1

Hospital," said Markus.

"And I've worked closely with the Planning Commission and Community Development Department on public and private improvements along Milwaukee Avenue.

"We've created a tax increment financing district to allow us to work with developers to put together parcels of land for redevelopment in this area.

"You might say our focus now has changed from work on the city's infrastructure (sewer and water systems) to providing a higher level of community services and to seeking quality in the development of our remaining land."

Married and the father of three children who are enrolled in Wheeling public schools, Markus sees himself and his family as long-term residents of the community.

He is a coach in Park District programs, where his children are active in basketball, soccer, baseball and floor hockey programs.

His wife, Debbie, is a student at Northeastern Illinois University, pursuing a bachelor's degree in biology and secondary education.

"But she's not just interested in teaching science," said Markus. "She'd also like to work with high school-age groups encouraging fitness."

Currently, the Markus family is building a condominium in the Swanson subdivision area and is now living in interim housing.

"Yes, we had water in our basement over the weekend," noted the chagrined village manager. "But I really believe that now we just need to build on what we've already accomplished. The storm last week was very much out of the ordinary.

"In the past seven years, Wheeling's image definitely has been improved and I feel a very strong sense of achievement. Our population has risen from 26,300 to 28,000 and is continuing to go up. It could be as high as 30,000 by the turn of the decade."

Markus paused to take a breath.

"But there are a lot of things I would still like to see happen."

Lakeside

Continued from page 1

was nothing to do but wait it out, he said.

The Cooper family slept in the clubhouse Friday and Saturday nights. In addition to the flooded basement, they had no gas or electricity in their home.

Nonetheless, Cooper considers himself lucky in many ways. For one thing, the water in his basement was simply rainwater, not the sewage experienced by some of his neighbors. Secondly, there was no damage to the first floor. At least three Lakeside Villas homes suffered first-floor damage, Cooper said.

"I lucked out because I visited some of the other homes where water came up to the first floor and those are the ones that are really in bad shape," he said.

The Cooper family, however, lost many valuables, and their insurance company is denying liability. The Coopers have no flood insurance.

Destroyed were carpeting and padding, the television set, a sofa, and lamps at an estimated cost of $5,000 to $6,000. But even worse was the destruction of irreplaceable personal items, including photographs and the high school yearbooks of Cooper and his wife.

100-year flood

Continued from page 1

that had been taken with preventing the flooding in Wheeling from being worse than it was.

During this latest storm, however, Buffalo Creek overflowed, but the Des Plaines did not, Gray said. The major flood damage was caused by the fact that the storm water system could not handle the immense amount of water that fell in such a short period of time, Gray said.

Even if it were possible to build a storm system that could carry away such a huge amount of water, there would be no place to send it without flooding other communities, Gray said.

"It's kind of disheartening to see this hit, but I don't think anyone builds around a storm of this intensity," Gray said .

Lakeside Villas residents Allan and Rosemary Sitt survey their once-valuable possessions, which are bundled up waiting to be hauled away as trash. *(Staff photo by Kathy Tray)*

Residents still trying to get lives back in order

By Lee Ann Mackulin

Countryside 8-27-87

It's been nearly two weeks since the floods hit Wheeling, but many Lakeside Villas residents still haven't started to put the pieces of their lives back together.

Homeowners in the 240-unit townhome complex, located north of Hintz Road and east of Buffalo Grove Road, are still cleaning up — almost two weeks after flood waters ravaged their homes. The water filled basements and the first floors of many homes, ruining furniture, appliances and other valuables.

The aftermath of the storm, which dumped nine inches of rain on Wheeling within 12 hours on Aug. 14, has residents sanitizing their homes, waiting for inspectors to assess the damage done by the flood and wondering how in the world their lives will ever be the same.

Money, and where it will come from to help repair the damage, is first and foremost in everyone's minds. Although Wheeling Township has been declared a federal disaster area, residents are still unsure what kind of financial help that designation will bring to them.

CHARLES AND SHEILA Brown, of 689 Lakeside Circle Drive, estimate their loss at between $30,000 and $40,000. The Browns' newly-finished basement was filled to the ceiling with water and sewage.

"Our loss is extreme. I had more stuff downstairs than in the rest of my house," said Sheila Brown. "This won't go away for a long time."

The Browns, who were forced to stay with relatives in Chicago for a week, have moved back into their home and are waiting to find out just how much federal aid they are eligible for before planning any improvements.

Allan and Rosemary Sitt, of 611 Barberry Lane, are also still assessing the damage.

THE SITTS JUST got their phone service back on Saturday and don't know when they'll have gas service. The downstairs' phone is still out of service because the phone company says the in-house wiring that was ruined is not insured for damage by flood waters. "This is such a joke," said Allan Sitt.

The basement of the Sitts' home was filled to the ceiling with water and their first floor had four inches of water after the flood.

Although the carpeting was pulled from the first floor of their home and much of their furniture and appliances damaged, the Sitts never left the fort.

"WE WERE troopers," said Allan Sitt. "Besides, we really had no place else to go and we didn't want to leave the house in case something would happen." The Sitts have lived in the house for 18 years. He said several of his neighbors had still not moved back to their homes.

The Sitts' son, Brian, said he still can't get over what's happened to the family.

"It's really uncomfortable. You don't sleep much, you keep thinking about everything that's happened and everything that needs to be done," he said.

The Sitts try not to give too much thought to what the flood took away from them. An antique mahogany desk and several antique dressers are just a sample of what the Sitts lost in the flood.

Bill Kelly and his wife, who live at 607 Barberry, have no idea how much federal assistance they will receive, but they're counting on something. The Kellys' basement was also completely gutted by flood water.

"We figure we paid around $80,000 for the house and one-third of the house is now gone," said Bill Kelly.

Reagan declares flood area a disaster

By Keri Wyatt
Daily Herald Staff Writer

8-22-87

President Reagan declared 17 area townships hard hit by flooding a federal disaster area Friday.

The declaration will bring federal dollars in the form of grants and low-interest loans to businesses and residents inundated by last week's heavy rains. Townships covered by the declaration include Elk Grove, Hanover, Leyden, Lyons, Maine, Norwood Park, Palatine, Proviso, River Forest, Riverside, Schaumburg and Wheeling in Cook County. Addison, Bloomingdale, Downers Grove, Wayne and York townships in DuPage County are also covered.

More townships currently being assessed by the federal government will probably be added to that list next week.

Gov. James R. Thompson requested $77.6 million in aid from the federal government for the 17 townships Thursday.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency will set up three Disaster Application Centers next week. "They will probably have one in DuPage and two in Cook open by Wednesday," Gregg Durham, assistant director of Illinois Emergency Services and Disaster Agency.

Residents and business owners whose property was damaged by the flood will be able to go to the centers and apply for grants or loans. Grants up to $5,000 will be available to qualified residents. Durham said. Loans will be available at both 4 and 8 percent interest, based on the applicant's needs and eligibility. Durham said the federal government expects that 70 percent of the loan applicants will be eligible for the 4 percent rate.

Durham said there is no specific limit on the amount of federal aid available. "In the last flood, they allowed $120,000 for structural damage and $50,000 for property damage on each loan. But there's no specific overall limit," Durham said.

He suggested that residents bring any available photos, receipts, and records of flood damage when they apply for aid. "They are not required, because some people lost everything in the flood, but pictures and records will speed up the application process," Durham said.

Disaster Application Center locations will be announced today, but the actual centers will not open until Wednesday.

Except in extremely desperate cases, Durham said, residents can expect to receive their loans about a week or two after applying.

In addition to processing loan and grant applications, the centers may provide other services, such as temporary housing and unemployment insurance. Representatives from the Red Cross and the Internal Revenue Service are also expected to staff the centers. "The IRS comes in, to give tax counseling. They explain how to claim flood losses and also what to do if all your records were destroyed," Durham said.

Counselors will be available to help victims cope with the loss of their homes and possessions, Durham said. "A lot of these people are very upset, and angry."

"This will help immensely," Sharon Weiszmann, spokesperson for the Des Plaines Emergency Services and Disaster Agency. Des Plaines was hit hard by last Friday's flood, which affected about 80 percent of the city's homes and businesses.

Pal-Waukee commission up in air over chairman

8-21-87

By Maris Strautmanis
Daily Herald Correspondent

Pal-Waukee Airport Commission members need a new chairman, but they're not sure how to choose one.

The commission has not found anything in the intergovernmental agreement between airport owners Wheeling and Prospect Heights that specifies how to select a new chairman or how long the vice chairman stays in power, said vice-chairman Anthony Altieri.

Altieri is serving as acting chairman since Ronald Sowatzke's resignation in June.

The commissioners plan to come up with proposals to amend the agreement at their Sept. 16 meeting, but there is already disagreement about getting advice from the village and city.

Altieri says the ambiguities should be solved by the communities, not the commission.

"They are the two authors of the intergovernmental agreement," he said. "We don't have the power to resolve this. I'm hoping we'll put some recommendations forth, but it's the municipalities who have to adopt them."

But commissioner Carey L. Chickerneo said the board needs to assert more authority if it wants to be taken seriously.

"If we don't act, and go running back to some municipality saying, 'We don't know how to elect a chairman,' they won't trust us with much," he said. "If you've got a tough issue, you've got to deal with it here."

Officials of the two villages drafted the 2-year-old pact, which states that officers are to be elected to two-year terms, and commission chairmen are to alternate between the communities.

There is no language as to whether the vice-chairman, always from the opposite municipality as the chairman, should stay in power through the rest of a term, or whether a new chairman should be elected.

Cop's hearing rescheduled for Sept. 17

A hearing for Wheeling police officer Burton H. Kaminsky is rescheduled for 7 p.m. Sept. 17 before the Wheeling fire and police commission.

Kaminsky, a 17-year veteran, was fired two years ago on misconduct charges but was reinstated by an appellate court early this year. The court said there was not enough evidence to support the most serious charge, which alleged that Kaminsky failed to respond to a fire at the Plum Creek apartment complex.

The charges he still faces are for allegedly ignoring a call on July 18, 1984 about a reported prowler, and allegedly arriving 15 to 20 minutes late to a Wheeling factory where a burglar alarm had sounded on July 20, 1984.

Wheeling levy is good news for taxpayers

Countryside 8-27-87

Wheeling trustees adopted a $5.2 million 1987 property tax levy Monday — a figure that's 11 percent more than last year's levy.

However, the village board also approved an ordinance calling for abatement of $550,000 from the village's general obligation bond and interest fund levy. The abatement will reduce the overall levy to $4.6 million, which is a .4 percent decrease over the 1986 levy.

"The net effect is that the levy will be going down .4 percent because we're abating right away," said Finance Director Bob Fialkowski. "What taxpayers will see is that the levy has decreased."

Municipalities have until March to abate funds, but Wheeling officials decided to do so immediately to show residents that the levy is not increasing, explained Fialkowski.

The slight drop in levy plus a projected 2 percent increase in the village's equalized assessed valuation should mean a drop in the 1987 property tax rate, he said.

Fialkowski predicts the tax rate will drop from $1.436 to $1.403 per $100 of assessed valuation. If that projection holds true, a resident with a home valued at $75,000 will pay $262 to the village in property taxes next year, about $6 less than that same resident paid this year.

Increases in the 1987 levy are found in the general fund, which provides support for various departments in the village, the road and bridge fund and the police and fire department pension funds.

Police Department going to the dogs

Life 8-30-87

BY LINDA COOPER
Correspondent

There will soon be a new addition to the Wheeling Police Department who possesses the ability to search "every nook and cranny" of an industrial office building, according to Police Chief Michael Haeger. And the latest recruit to the force is ... none other than a dog.

The Wheeling Village Board Monday unanimously approved a police canine program. The police force, along with the Wheeling Jaycees which is sponsoring the program, said such a program would be mutually beneficial to the village.

Haeger said that a dog had the ability to search an office building in less time than "three, four or five police officers." The dog will be teamed with a canine officer, who will work with the animal on duty, as well as caring for him in the off hours.

In a written report to the Village Board supporting the program, Haeger said the benefits of the canine program include "reduction in man hours and increase in officer safety, as well as use in tracking lost children, wanted persons, searching for objects and narcotics, and crowd control."

A representative of the Jaycees said that funds for the project will be raised through a community auction Sept. 15 when donations will be sought from Wheeling businesses.

The Police Department is hoping to acquire a donated dog through the auction. However, if it were necessary to purchase the animal, the cost would be from $1,500 to $2,500. Additional fees include the cost of a kennel at the canine officer's home, dog house and vet, as well as miscellaneous fees totalling $1,600. In addition it will be necessary to convert the canine officers vehicle to a "canine container," so that it will act as "a dog house on wheels" for a cost of $965, said Haeger. Equipment, health care and food would be $1,332 for a total first year cost of $3,897.

In addition, Haeger said the dog would serve as a representative of public relations between the police force and children, senior citizens and community groups.

A representative of the Jaycees said the organization was confident it could raise the necessary funds and that the canine program was a worthwhile endeavor.

No village tax hike foreseen

Life 8-27-87

Taxpayers will probably see no increase in the village portion of their tax bill next year.

Bob Fialkowski, village finance director, said that with a proposed $550,000 abatement, the proposed village levy is $4,631,964. Last year's was $4,650,383.

Taxes to pay this year's levy will appear on 1988 tax bills. The levy is scheduled to be approved by the Village Board after a public hearing Aug. 24.

Fialkowski said that because of the slight reduction in the levy from last year and an increase in the tax base due to new growth, the average homeowner can expect to pay a couple of dollars less in village taxes next year.

The $550,000 abatement will come about because the general obligation bond and interest fund has enough of a fund balance to cover that much of the principal and interest payments in the 1987 tax year.

Flood damage adds up as area totals its losses

BY THERESA NORTON
Daily Herald Staff Writer

8-26-87

Flash floods on Aug. 14 damaged 16,222 residences and 571 businesses in Cook and DuPage counties, according to figures released Tuesday.

Three federal assistance centers, which offer loans and grants to flood victims, open today. Officials expect to interview 750 people a day.

The damage figures show that Addison and Des Plaines were among the hardest-hit towns. In Des Plaines, 1,277 homes were damaged; 1,009 houses had up to 3 feet of water on the main floor while 268 had less than 4 feet of water in the basement.

In Addison, fewer homes suffered more severe damage. Of the 1,018 houses damaged, 145 flooded with more than 3 feet of water on the main floor, 373 had less than 3 feet on the main level, and 500 took in less than 4 feet of water in the basement.

The western suburb of Bellwood suffered the most damage — 2,461 houses. Also, 1,143 houses were damaged in Elmhurst, and 1,204 in North Riverside.

In addition, 352 businesses in Cook County suffered $12 million in uninsured damage, according to the figures released by the Federal Emergency Management Agency. In Du-

How federal aid works

Who's eligible: Flood victims in 13 Cook and four DuPage county townships.

How to apply: Application centers at Maine West High School, 1755 S. Wolf Road, Des Plaines; Addison Trail High School, 213 N. Lombard Road, Addison; or Jane Addams School, 910 Division St., Melrose Park.

Aid available: Rent for up to three months for the displaced; grants of up to $5,000. Loans of up to 30 years with 4- or 8-percent interest rates, maximum $120,000 for homeowners; up to $500,000 for firms.

More information: Call 696-2100.

Source: Federal Emergency Management Agency, Small Business Administration

Laurels and darts

Herald 8-3-87

Laurels to Wheeling village officials for considering the purchase of an emergency warning siren system. Such systems can be well worth the cost. The systems can be used to alert residents of tornadoes, snowstorms or disasters handled by civil defense. As Village Fire Chief Bernhardt O. Koeppen aptly said, "It might wake up a baby or two once in awhile, but it's worth it if we can save lives."

Laurels to the state troopers who suggested dedicating a building to State Trooper John Kugelman, who was run down and killed while trying to stop a high-speed chase last fall. The building dedicated is District 2 Illinois State Police Headquarters in Elgin. The post has been named in Kugelman's honor, and a plaque bearing the likeness of the slain trooper will be mounted in the building.

A dart to the few parents who are complaining about a proposed homework policy in Aptakisic-Tripp Elementary District 102. Trying to make homework requirements consistent throughout the district, Superintendent Glenn W. McGee's policy calls for a certain amount of homework each school night — beginning with 15 to 45 minutes for third- and fourth-graders and ranging upward for older students. McGee is understandably puzzled by the complaints. "It's my understanding," he said, "the community wants their kids educated well."

FLOOD: Damage adds up

Continued from Page 1

Page County, 255 businesses suffered uninsured losses totaling $10.6 million.

Damage to public buildings is expected to surpass $8 million, said Chuck Jones, director of the Illinois Emergency Services and Disaster Agency.

Total damage from the flooding is expected to rise to more than $100 million. Flood victims in the 17 townships declared disaster areas by President Reagan are eligible for various forms of federal assistance. Gov. James R. Thompson asked Reagan to add 15 more townships to the list, and expects a response within a day or two.

Jones said Thompson also may seek federal money to help local governments repair flood-damaged public buildings and meet disaster-related expenses, such as overtime pay for village crews or debris removal.

The flood damage figures released Tuesday are preliminary and subject to updating.

"We are continuing to look at areas to make sure people who need aid programs are being brought into the fold," Jones said.

Meanwhile, 100 trained federal disaster-assistance counselors will open aid centers at 10 a.m. today at Maine West High School, 1755 S. Wolf Road, Des Plaines; Addison Trail High School, 213 N. Lombard Road, Addison, and Jane Addams School, 910 Division St., Melrose Park.

The centers will be open from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. seven days a week as long as warranted, said Ron Buddecke, Chicago area FEMA coordinator. Flood victims must attend a center to apply for grants or low-interest loans. Applicants must bring identification, their current address and phone number if they are living elsewhere, income information, and their flood insurance policy number if they are covered.

In a few days, teams will inspect the damaged property to verify the claim.

Assistance to flood victims includes:

- Emergency grants to people who cannot live in their flood-damaged home. The grants average $800 and generally are available in seven to 10 days. The grants are good for rent to a maximum of three months or for repairs to make a house habitable.

Homes damaged by flood*

Town	Up to 4 feet in basement	Up to 3 feet on main floor	More than 3 feet on main floor
Cook County			
Des Plaines	268	1,009	0
Elk Grove Village	422	0	0
Hanover Park	43	275	0
Hoffman Estates	2	69	0
Mount Prospect	268	322	0
Prospect Heights	52	77	0
Schaumburg	60	183	0
Wheeling	90	95	0
DuPage County			
Addison	500	373	145
Bensenville	227	468	31
Bloomingdale	671	101	32
Itasca	27	90	2
Roselle	10	597	9
Wood Dale	185	38	99

* Preliminary figures for worst hit areas. Statistics for other towns are being compiled and will be published later.

Source: Federal Emergency Management Agency

LeisureCare housing plan has designs on the elderly

8-20-87 Life

There is a model community coming to Wheeling complete with shops, a library, a place to eat and many more places to stay.

Readying to meet the needs of a growing number of seniors, a new housing project for the elderly will soon join the ranks of other continuing care retirement communities.

Stephen Friedman, real estate adviser at Laventhol & Horwath, and Alan Itzkowitz, project manager at Braun Skiba Architects, are helping to shape this growing industry and described their work with LeisureCare, a division of Leisure and Technology, a national developer of these types of facilities for the elderly.

"This new kind of real estate development is becoming very popular because there is a need for it," said Friedman. "In 1980, there were 25 million Americans over age 65. By the year 2000, there will be 35 million Americans over age 65."

A large proportion of the elderly are relatively healthy and financially self-sustaining. About 15 percent prefer a group form of living with built-in support services and a sense of security within their home environment.

LeisureCare's Continuing Care Retirement Communities are a type of adult congregate living facility (ACLF) designed to meet the needs of this market, said Friedman.

ACLFs provide apartment living for more vital seniors. Nursing care facilities are either on site or arranged nearby for those with medical needs. The continuing care retirement facilities provide seniors with apartments, single rooms with assisted living, and a nursing home to accommodate seniors as their health needs change. Support services include emergency health care, group meal services, housekeeping, transportation and recreational activities for seniors.

Braun Skiba is currently design-

Housing for elderly

Continued from page 1

ing a continuing care retirement facility for LeisureCare located at First Street and Strong Street in Wheeling. "The LeisureCare Wheeling project has developed in a way that has really helped the area," said Itzkowitz. "The community is very receptive to it.

"The 201,800-square-foot LeisureCare project is located in downtown Wheeling near shopping centers, a senior activity center, a HUD development for the elderly, and Holy Family Hospital emergency health facility," said Itzkowitz. The seven-story, 200-unit facility will house a mix of one- and two-bedroom apartments, studio units, shared-service facilities, and a separate 50-bed nursing home.

The design includes a restaurant-like dining room, cafe, full-service kitchen, library, multi-purpose activity rooms, lounge area, laundry facility, small shops, administrative offices and a housekeeping area. "The building also features security and safety systems designed with seniors in mind, such as hand railings in the hallways and centrally monitored emergency call stations in all the apartments," added Itzkowitz.

Life 8-20-87

Gov. lauds village's 'future'

THOMPSON

Governor James R. Thompson has announced that Wheeling will become the state's 29th community to be designated an "Illinois Certified City."

"Wheeling is a community looking to the future," Thompson said. "Necessary infrastructure improvements have been made, and the efforts are paying off — over 200 single family homes were built last year, and two new industrial parks are filling quickly.

"To be a Certified City, a community must meet tough standards. Only those who are energetic and devoted to community development can pass the test.

Please turn to page 3

• A LIFE NEWSPAPER, Week of August 20, 1987

Gov. lauds village's future

Continued from page 1

I'm pleased to welcome Wheeling to the distinguished list of Illinois Certified Cities."

Stewart Schrodt, assistant deputy director for the Bureau of Program Administration for the Department of Commerce and Community Affairs, made the announcement in Wheeling on behalf of the Thompson administration. The Certified Cities program is administered by the Department of Commerce and Community Affairs.

"Wheeling is using its economic development tools aggressively," Schrodt said. "The community has successfully used industrial revenue bonds and single-family mortgage revenue bonds to enable new development. Community leaders are currently establishing a Tax Increment Financing district to hasten improvements in the Crossroads Redevelopment Area.

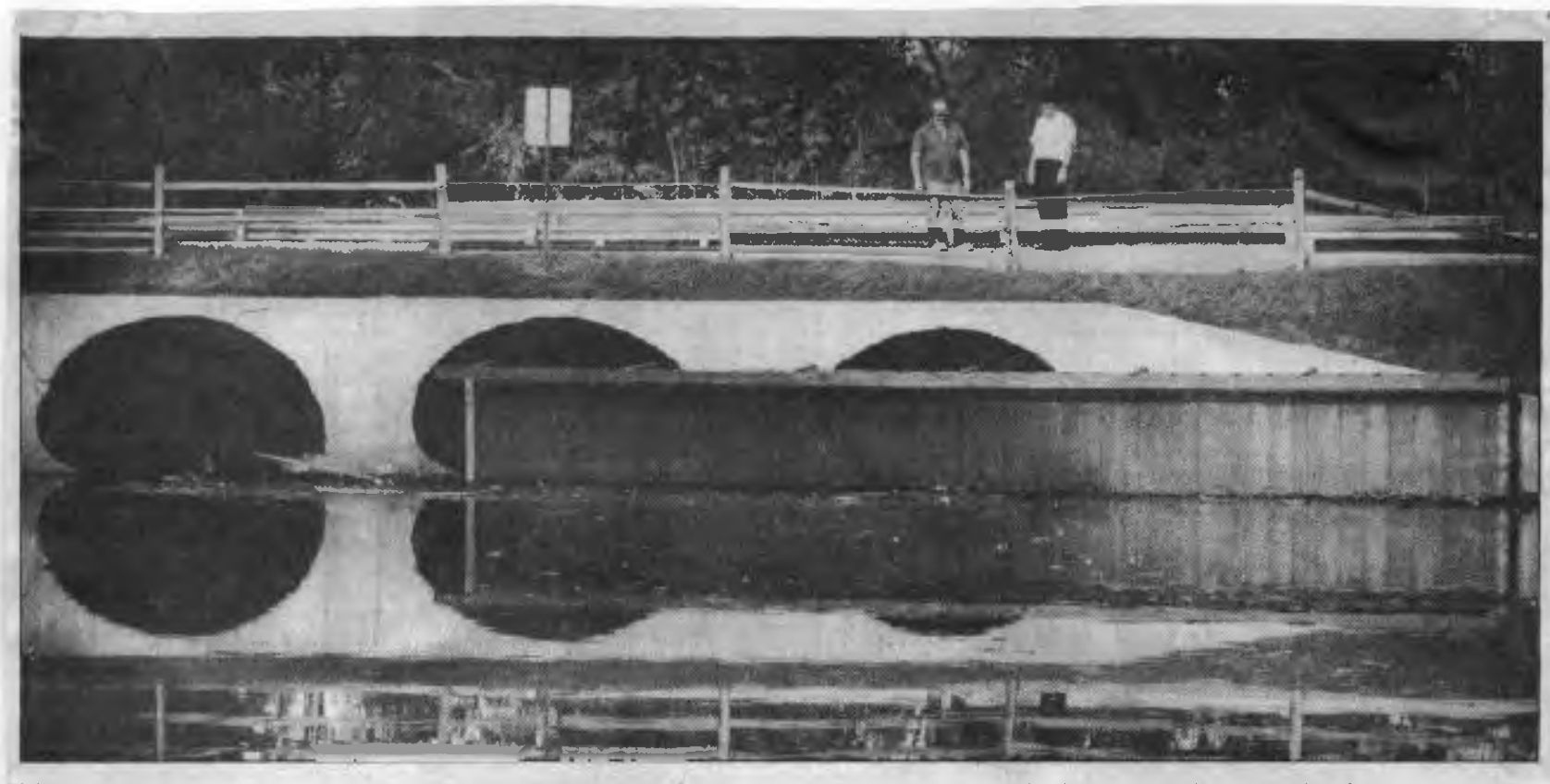
"Businesses and families have noticed these efforts. Ekco Housewares, which manufactures kitchenware, has just completed a major expansion which will mean jobs for 800 employees. Spectrum Manufacturing and Spectra Tool have chosen Wheeling for their operations. After a slowing in the homebuilding industry a few years ago, Wheeling is experiencing a housing boom. With the Certified City designation, the state is adding its applause for a job well done."

DCCA Director Jay R. Hedges said Certified Cities must excel in five categories related to economic development, including business climate and services, employment and training, community development, financial asistance, and marketing. The community must document its performance in the five categories in its application, which is evaluated by a team of state and private sector economic development experts.

"This program offers communities an opportunity to review current programs and receive input from others on ways to improve their efforts," said Hedges. "Communities like Wheeling which receive the Certified Cities designation send a message to businesses everywhere that they have prepared themselves for new economic development."

Since the Certified Cities program began in 1983, 29 Illinois communities have received the designation. They are Decatur, Niles, Des Plaines, Bartlett, Charleston, Quincy, Urbana, Schaumburg, Springfield, Buffalo Grove, Moline, Elmhurst, Sterling, Naperville, Sauk Village, Mattoon, McHenry, Champaign, Macomb, West Chicago, Carol Stream, Carthage, Palatine, Glendale Heights, Woodstock, Calumet City, Evanston, St. Charles and Wheeling.

Certified Cities are recognized by the state with a road sign and plaque, and they may note the designation on community letterhead, in publications, and in advertising. All cities must be recertified every three years.



Richard Rowan of Wheeling and George Slezak of Arlington Heights look at the bridge blocking two culverts under Cornell Avenue.

Daily Herald Photo/Jon Kirn

Steps to nowhere mark where the bridge crossed the pond.

Daily Herald Photo/Jon Kirn

Does fallen bridge pose flood threat?

8-21-87

BY C. L. WALLER
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Fear of another flood is looming over a few Arlington Heights residents in the Ivy Hill subdivision, who blame their troubles on a collapsed foot bridge in Wheeling.

"We could have another disaster with a moderate storm," said George Slezak, a resident for 16 years on Crabtree Drive in Arlington Heights.

The Slezaks said their home is one of four on Crabtree, east of Windsor Drive, that was damaged because of a fallen bridge in Wheeling's Lake of the Winds condominium complex. Four feet of water that seeped into their furnished basement caused $15,000 in damage, they said.

"All day Saturday I thought it was an act of God and then I found out what the cause was," Slezak said.

However, Lake of the Winds property manager Joe Malone said the bridge did not cause flooding. "They can say whatever they want. They're just trying to find someone to blame," he said.

As the water rose Friday in the pond — which actually is a widening of McDonald Creek — the 8-foot by 5-foot bridge standing three feet above the water broke away from the ground and fell whole into the water, Slezak said.

At about 6 a.m. the bridge moved 300 feet east and blocked three open culverts under Cornell Avenue, where large amounts of water should have flowed, he said.

Ted Eisenberg's full basement filled up with water on Friday and he claims the nine inches of rain would have flowed away easily had the bridge not blocked the culverts.

The rains filled up the Windsor basin and the push of water from McDonald Creek caused water to seek its lowest point, which was Crabtree, he added.

Residents on Crabtree Drive for 13 years, the Eisenbergs said they never had a flooded basement.

The bridge is still lodged against the culverts and the Slezaks are looking for someone to take the responsibility of moving it.

Malone said it will probably cost the homeowner's association between $10,000 and $15,000 to move and repair the bridge. He said he is trying to get bids now, but contractors are busy repairing homes that received structural damage from floodwaters.

Wheeling Aldi store gets clean bill of health

By Jeff Graunke Countryside 8-27-87

Following weekend reports of food contamination by rats and mice in an Aldi Inc. warehouse in Batavia, local health inspectors say there is no evidence of adulterated food in the Wheeling Aldi store on Dundee Road.

"I saw nothing there connected with the problems they were having at the warehouse in Batavia," said Daniel Adams, Wheeling village sanitarian. Adams said inspected the store Monday after being asked to do so by the Cook County Department of Health. He looked the stock over, checking for gnawing marks, rodent droppings, stains left from rodents' body oils, and any other unusual signs.

Adams routinely inspects the retail food stores in Wheeling about every six months, and said he has had no serious problems with the Aldi food store in town. The store's management is "generally responsive" to any concerns that arise, he said.

Adams conducted a routine inspection of the Wheeling Aldi two weeks ago and he gave the store a score of 97 out of possible 100 points. The store received 91 points in its July inspection, he said.

AN INSPECTION OF Aldi's store in Mundelein by the Lake County Health Department on Monday produced similar results, according to a spokesman for the department.

MORE THAN 200,000 pounds of food valued at $1 million was under federal court custody at Aldi's Batavia warehouse Tuesday after the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) found evidence of rodent infestation there last week during routine inspections, said Assistant U.S. Attorney Fred Branding, who is handling the case.

The Batavia warehouse is one of five used by the grocery store chain to store food for distribution to its retail stores. This location serves 60 retail locations throughout Illinois, Indiana and Wisconsin.

Aldi filed a claim in U.S. District Court on Monday stating that the seized products still belong to the company, said Aldi spokesman Mike Grossman. The claim asks that a joint investigation by Aldi and the FDA be conducted to determine the condition of the food products in custody, Grossman said.

"We are cooperating with the FDA and every local health department and want to get to the root of the problem," Grossman said Monday. The company voluntarily pulled the products in question off store shelves last Friday, and won't sell the products until the issue is resolved, he said.

THE PRODUCTS AFFECTED include flaked coconut, dried potatoes, egg noodle and aseptic juice products in cardboard, paper and plastic containers.

Aldi is also issuing refunds for any product returned to its stores, regardless if it is one of the products in question, Grossman said. "No questions will be asked," he said.

Local health departments are handling the inspections of the 17 Chicago-area Aldi food stores, according Dean Schott, an Illinois Department of Public Health spokesman. The local health departments are looking for adulterated products on the shelves and in the store rooms of the stores, he said.

If unsanitary conditions are reported at any of the stores, it will be up to the local health department to resolve the problems.

ALL PARTIES INVOLVED want to settle the situation expeditiously, but they are waiting for the court to act, Branding said. The case will probably move quickly because of the "spirit of cooperation" between Aldi, FDA and the U.S. Attorney's office, he said.

Once a court decision is handed down, the long process of methodically examining the more than tons of food products will begin. It is likely the seized goods will reconditioned, Branding said, which means destroying the adulterated goods and returning the untouched goods to Aldi.

Local health officials have given the Aldi store on Dundee Road of Wheeling a clean bill of health after inspecting the grocery store Monday. *(Staff photo by Kathy Tray)*

Wheeling approves new 'welcome' signs

Herald 8-26-87

The yellow smiling face that now greets people coming into Wheeling will be replaced with wooden signs simply saying, "Village of Wheeling."

Village trustees agreed to buy five new signs for the village at a cost of $595 each. The village will spend up to $2,000, as budgeted, and the extra $975 will be contributed by community service groups.

Signs will be stained dark brown. Lettering, a wheel and the border will be painted beige.

Plans are to post signs on Dundee Road, east of the entrance to Potawatomi Woods; on Milwaukee Avenue with one south of Dr. Ian Taylor's veterinarian business and one just south of Lake-Cook Road; on Lake-Cook Road near the Lexington development and on Elmhurst Road, near the Polo Run subdivision.

The village will also buy four signs at $38 each proclaiming Wheeling a "certified city," which means that the state of Illinois will promote Wheeling to out of state business and industry.

One sign was free from the state. They will be hung throughout the village.

The new sign design

Wheeling trustees will consider erecting new village signs

By C. L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer 8-24-87

Travelers will have no doubt they are in Wheeling if the village board approves erecting five modern signs that say "Village of Wheeling."

Trustees will discuss tonight the merits of spending $2,000 for five signs at the village limits. Two current signs on east Dundee Road and south Milwaukee Avenue proclaim "Welcome to Wheeling/The village with feeling."

However, Village Administrative Assistant David Kowal is suggesting that those signs be replaced with signs of thick red cedar or redwood, and include the drawing of a spoked wheel.

"What we're trying to do is coordinate all the promotional designs," said Wheeling Village Manager Thomas Markus. The design proposed for the sign is identical to that on the repainted water towers, advertisements and village brochures.

Kowal's proposal suggests that the signs stand on posts on east Dundee Road, south Milwaukee Avenue, north Milwaukee Avenue, on west Lake-Cook Road and south Elmhurst Road.

The lowest bidder for each sign is Howard L. White and Associates of Hoffman Estates quoting $595. Markus said several community service groups have shown interest in donating the $975 that is not in the budget.

The Rotary Club has ag[illegible]d to contribute $500, the Jaycee[illegible] ould like to chip in and Wheeling [illegible]olice Chief Michael Haeger, a Lions Club member, plans to ask his organization for a contribution, Markus said.

Trustees decide tonight if it's too late for a tax break

By C. L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer

The manufacturer building a 225,000-square-foot building may have difficulty persuading Wheeling village trustees to give him a tax break now, but he may be entitled to one in the future.

Trustees will vote tonight whether to grant a 12-year property tax reduction to Beatrice Home Specialties, which has a 10-year lease on a building from the Alter Group in Wilmette. The building is being constructed at Lake-Cook Road and Northgate Parkway.

Wheeling trustees have granted tax reductions, designed to attract manufacturers to the area, but hesitate when it comes to granting the tax break to a company that has already begun building in the village.

Beatrice claims it is unique because it plans on adding another 25,000 square feet at a later time. The company would be eligible for a tax exemption on the addition, village officials said.

Village Trustee Elizabeth Hartman said that Beatrice apparently did not follow the guidelines and apply for the tax break before construction.

Village Trustee James Whittington said he is weighing the fact that the building is already under construction against the benefit of having another manufacturer in town.

"I'm still really undecided about this," he said.

Trustess have not passed a resolution with specifically excludes companies which have already begun construction from being granted an exemption.

Whittington said officials have discussed designating zones or a percentage of buildings in the village that would be allowed the exemption.

"If we had every business come in at a reduced (tax) rate, the village could not provide enough services to residents," Whittington said.

Village plans to install new emergency system

By C. L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer

The first Tuesday of each month this fall will be ear-openers for some residents in Wheeling as testing of a new outdoor emergency warning siren system gets underway.

Wheeling trustees on Monday night approved buying a system for $44,493.10 from Federal Signal Corp. in University Park, Ill. Four bids were submitted to the village with the lowest being from Federal Signal Corp.

Officials said the new system will be used mostly for tornadoes, but it can also be used to warn residents of flash floods, bad snowstorms or disasters handled by the civil defense.

Village president Sheila Schultz pointed out that a siren would be particularly beneficial should the village experience a disaster like that which recently occurred in Edmonton when a series of tornadoes swept through the central Canadian city.

"All the towns around us have sirens, so with us installing a system we will have good coverage in this area," said Wheeling Fire Chief Bernhardt O. Koeppen.

Wheeling currently does not have a villagewide system, but $100,000 was earmarked for the system in this year's village budget.

Plans are to install five siren units throughout the village. They will be located at the village hall, at a well-site building northeast of Hintz Road and Longtree Drive, at a site northeast of Abbott Drive and the Palatine frontage road near the railroad, in the parkway southeast of Hintz Road and Chaddick Drive, and at Childerley Park, 590 McHenry Road.

Village manager Thomas M. Markus said the village currently is working on an agreement with the Wheeling Park District to place a siren unit at the park.

Each siren will be mounted on a 50-foot pole and the system will be set off by someone at the police station pushing a button.

The actual testing will be conducted at 10 a.m. on the first Tuesday of the month. Sirens will be on for one minute during the test.

It's official: Wheeling is now a Certified City

*Wheeling officials have just found out that the village has been designated a **Certified City by the** state. Officials say certification should help **the village's effort to attract new businesses here.***

By Lee Ann Mackulin

Wheeling officials are beaming from ear to ear.

After all, not every town has the achieved the honor of being designated a Certified City by the state.

In fact, Wheeling has just become only the 29th municipality in the state to be certified by the Illinois Department of Commerce and Community Affairs (DCCA). There are 1,270 incorporated towns in Illinois, 100 of which have applied to the state for certification so far.

Many towns shy away from certification simply because they don't want to go through the long and grueling application and review process, said Bob Glatz, Certified Cities administrator for DCCA.

WHEELING OFFICIALS SPENT five months preparing their application and were notified July 24 that the village achieved certified status. DCCA officials will visit Wheeling Aug. 13 to present the village with the Certified Cities award.

A status report on everything from the village schools and parks to police protection and plans for community development, was sent to DCCA last December. State agencies, including the Illinois State Police, the Illinois Association of Park Districts and the State Board of Education, evaluated the application to see what areas did and did not meet state standards, said Glatz.

Wheeling officials were kept informed throughout the evaluation of what areas of community operation needed improvement before certification would be awarded.

The long process was worth it, said Wheeling Administrative Assistant David Kowal, because it gave officials a chance to take a good look at themselves and the services they offer to residents.

"THE MAJOR purpose of our participating in the program was that it helped us evaluate ourselves and helped us locate areas where we may possibly be deficient," said Kowal. "I don't think that there are areas where we were that deficient, but it helps us take a look at the operation. I certainly don't think it hurt."

A more tangible benefit to certification is being able to show to potential corporate residents that Wheeling does in fact live up to state standards.

"It sends a signal to businesses that may be considering locating to the area that we do meet state standards. It's the message sent out to the business community that will help us (to grow)," he explained.

"Certification forces a community to do an inventory," echoed Village Manager Tom Markus. "It puts us at a level that will attract new industry. It indicates to new developers that we are well organized."

THE MESSAGE WILL also appear, in the form of a bright red stamp, across Wheeling's community profile filed with DCCA. The profile is accessible to anyone interested in Wheeling, but is primarily used by corporations in deciding where to locate their businesses.

Although an upbeat message may not be enough to get all Illinois communities to apply for certification, Glatz predicts that the program will become more popular. The Certified Cities program began in Illinois three years ago and is patterned after a similar review process implemented in Georgia to help rural towns get their governments and schools up to state standards, he explained.

There are five major areas of community operation evaluated, with 21 categories and 113 components detailed under those areas. The major categories are: business climate and services; community development; employment and training; financial assistance and marketing.

At least 75 components must meet state standards before certification will be awarded. In three years the state will re-evaluate Wheeling to make sure the village is living up to the certification standards. At that same time, the village will be asked to adhere to several more of the 113 components in the state guidelines, explained Glatz.

Other area municipalities that have been certified include Buffalo Grove, Palatine, Des Plaines, Evanston, Schaumburg, Elmhurst, Woodstock and McHenry.

Landfill shortage leads to garbage fee hike

By C. L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Wheeling residents will begin paying the price for less landfill space as another 58 cents is tacked on to their garbage collection bills next month.

Wheeling trustees approved the monthly increase from $9.50 to $10.08 to Buffalo Grove/Wheeling Disposal in Wheeling.

"It was justified. Nobody likes the raise, but it was a fair request," said Wheeling village president Sheila Schultz.

When less landfill space is available truck drivers are paid more because of the extra time needed to drive to a dump site, Schultz said. Also, disposal businesses must pay surcharges when they take garbage to another county.

"We just can't keep taking the increases. As they run out of room the price goes up," said Tom Mazzenga, general manager of the disposal company.

The disposal company spends 45 percent of its operating costs on landfill costs and 35 percent on personnel, according to figures compiled by village administrative assistant David Kowal.

Garbage rates could double if a proposed landfill near Bartlett fails to become reality, said Schultz, who is chairman of the Northwest Municipal Conference solid waste committee. She said figures from the Northeastern Illinois Plan Commission show that it will take less than six years for landfills in a six-county area to top out.

Buffalo Grove/Wheeling Disposal, a division of Waste Management Inc., took over Wheeling Disposal Co. a year ago and rates increased $1.70.

"We have always had excellent service from the previous company and that is continuing," Schultz said.

Village officials believe that with the increase, Wheeling is still in line with charges in area communities. Buffalo Grove residents pay $10.06 per month for curbside service twice a week while Prospect Heights residents pay $11.50 for curbside service twice a week.

Corrections

In the July 30 *Wheeling Countryside*, the 1986 property tax rate of the Village of Wheeling was incorrectly listed on a chart that accompanied a story on local taxes.

The village's tax rate is $1.436 per $100 assessed valuation, a .76 percent decrease from the previous year's rate.

Another story in that issue on suburban newspapers reported an incorrect figure for the total paid circulation of Pioneer Press newspapers. Total circulation as of June was 160,419.

We regret the errors.

Sale to minor costs liquor store

8-5-87

By C. L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer

The Wheeling Liquor Commission has leveled a three-day suspension against Bell Liquors, 767 W. Dundee Road, after the business was found guilty of selling alcohol to a minor.

The liquor store will be closed Sept. 18 to 20 to serve the suspension. Store owner San Im-Choi also was fined $500.

The liquor commission, made up of village board trustees and chaired by Village President Sheila H. Schultz, also told store manager Francis E. Hart to attend a class at Harper College that helps employees identify underaged customers. Fees for the class will be paid from the fine.

Wheeling Police Chief Michael Haeger had charged that on March 20 Hart, 47, sold a 12-pack of beer to Sean M. Engelman, 20, without asking him for identification proving his age.

Hart was charged with selling liquor to a minor, pleaded guilty in court and was fined $50. Village Prosecutor Steven Handler said Engelman was granted immunity from prosecution by cooperating and appearing before the liquor commission.

Wheeling Police Officer Kenneth R. Sheffler testified he was sitting across the street from the liquor store in a squad car when, through binoculars, he saw Engelman purchase the beer without showing identification.

Haeger said Sheffler is a member of a tactical unit that periodically watches stores that sell liquor.

John Placek, attorney for Bell Liquors, said that Sheffler could have missed seeing Engelman show his identification when he brought down the binoculars.

Engelman told the commission that he could not remember if th officer asked him for identificatio or whether he had identificatio when the officer stopped him.

Bell Liquors was fined $300 for similar incident about a year ag when Hart was found guilty of sell ing a 12-pack of beer to a 19-year old.

"This commission understands i may be difficult to check for identifi cation," Schultz said. "However, tha just has to be a way of life, at leas in this community."

Placek would not comment or whether he will appeal the decision.

Beatrice denied retroactive tax break

Because the building is already under construction, Beatrice Home Specialties was denied the same tax break that is used by the village to entice industry to Wheeling.

Beatrice has a 10-year lease on a building at Lake-Cook Road and Northgate Parkway that is owned by the Alter Group in Wilmette.

The company requested a property tax break for 12 years, but trustees said that the program, created by Cook County, is designed to attract businesses to the area and prevent manufacturers from moving to Lake or DuPage counties, where property taxes are lower than in Cook County.

Beatrice didn't qualify because it was already here, they said.

The exemption gives tax reductions of 60 percent for eight years and 25 percent for four years after that. Manufacturers must first apply for the tax break with the county and once a village approves the request, county approval is likely.

Beatrice argued that it was unique in that it plans on expanding the 225,000-square-foot building by adding 25,000 square feet in the future and with the break on taxes, it is more likely that the money will be available to spend on the expansion.

Village officials said that Beatrice would be eligible to come back for an exemption on the expanded portion of the building, if they come back before constructi ins.

The tax man cometh again soon in Wheeling

8-1-87

Taxpayers in Wheeling should be receiving the second installments of their 1986 tax bills today or early next week.

The county treasurer's began mailing tax bills for the 1.5 million pieces of property in Cook County on Friday. All of the tax bills should be in the mail by Tuesday, officials say.

Last week, county officials released 1986 tax rates for local governments, schools and other taxing districts. For most residents in Wheeling, those rates increased 4.63 percent.

So for most taxpayers, that means the new tax rate of $8.970 per $100 assessed valuation will generate a tax bill of about $2,339 for person with a home valued at $100,000.

Payments on the second installment of 1986 property tax bills are due Sept. 4. In Cook County, this year's tax bills will produce $2 billion for local taxing agencies.

Herald

Wheeling tax rates
(Per $100 assessed valuation)

	1985	1986	%
Cook County	$ .847	$ .858	+ 1.30
Forest Preserve	.107	.106	—0.93
Suburban TB Sanitary District	.011	.010	—9.09
Metropolitan Sanitary District	.612	.635	+ 3.76
NW Mosquito Abatement District	.013	.012	—7.69
Wheeling Township (all funds)	.072	.103	+ 43.05
Village of Wheeling	1.447	1.436	—0.76
Wheeling Park District	.505	.543	+ 7.52
Indian Trails Public Library Dist.	.329	.334	+ 1.52
Wheeling Twp. Rural Fire Dist	.143	.141	—1.40
School District 21	2.460	2.614	+ 6.26
High School District 214	1.986	2.159	+ 8.71
Harper College	.279	.279	0.00
River Trails Park District	.311	.323	+ 3.86
Forest River Fire Prot	.300	.300	0.00
Wheeling total			
(Library district)	$8.697	$9.089	+ 4.51
(River Trails park)	$8.852	$9.250	+ 4.50
(Wheeling park)	$8.573	$8.970	+ 4.6

No noise-relief funds for airport?

By C. L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer 8-5-87

A Wheeling trustee is questioning whether there is enough noise generated by Pal-Waukee Municipal Airport to qualify the village for federal noise-abatement funds.

Trustee William Rogers, also a member of the airport commission, said there is so little noise from the airport that Prospect Heights and Wheeling may not be eligible for federal funding to alleviate it, not even for nearby Holmes Junior High School.

"There isn't going to be any noise reduction at Pal-Waukee," Rogers predicted.

The Federal Aviation Administration can provide funds to insulate private houses and other buildings around the airport, if the villages complete applications that show they are eligible.

One step in the process is the approval of official noise level maps that outline where noise is the worst in areas surrounding the airport. Wheeling and Prospect Heights jointly bought the private airport in 1986.

"I'd like to know right now whether the Holmes (Junior High) school will get insulation," Rogers said.

"If it (maps) are approved we may or may not (get funding). If we don't approve them there's no chance," Village President Sheila Schultz said.

Maps are one portion of the noise study that must be submitted to the FAA for eligibility of grants, said Mark Johnson of Coffman Associates in Kansas City. Coffman conducted the study which hypothesizes noise levels for the next five and 20 years for an area extending two miles north and south of the airport and 1.5 miles east and west of the airport.

Recommendations to reduce noise are another part of the study, but Johnson said there were no recommendations to insulate buildings near the airport."

Fewer than 100 buildings would qualify for insulation, according to FAA standards, he said.

July 4th committee will meet Sept. 2

Herald 8-18-87

The Wheeling Fourth of July committee will hold it first meeting Sept. 2 to begin planning next year's events.

The meeting will be held at 8 p.m. in the lunchroom at village hall, 255 W. Dundee Road.

The committee is in charge of lining up units for the annual parade in the village and hiring someone to display fireworks from Heritage Park in Wheeling. Fund-raisers are held by the committee throughout the year and contributions residents make through their water bills also are used to fund Fourth of July activities.

Anyone with questions or an interest in helping to plan next year's events may call Judy Abruscato, Fourth of July coordinator, at 459-4000 any day after 3 p.m. or in the evenings at 541-8788.

Wheeling expects dip in tax bills

8-6-87

BY C. L. WALLER
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Village of Wheeling tax bills could dip as much as $200 next year, thanks to new subdivisions being added to the tax rolls.

Wheeling village officials are making the optimistic prediction based on the addition of the Polo Run, Ridgefield, Woodland Creek and Arlington Club subdivisions to the list of taxable properties, and also a $550,000 planned reduction in the proposed tax levy.

Village officials have proposed a $5.18 million levy this year, collectible in 1988. That is 12 percent higher than last year's levy of $4.65 million, but a planned $550,000 reduction means the levy will be only 1 percent higher.

With the reduction the village tax rate is expected to be $1.42 per $100 assessed value [illegible] property. A resident in Wh[illegible] with an $85,000 home would [illegible] approximately $307.30 to the village in 1988, down from $563.11 paid this year.

"We're in a situation where we've got some pretty good growth coming down from developments," said Wheeling Finance Director Robert W. Fialkowski.

The $550,000 tax abatement is money deemed not needed in the bond and interest fund because of interest earned on its fund balance, the 1985 refinancing of the village debt and the bond issue with the Des Plaines Reservoir project.

Debts being repaid until 1995 include street and water improvements throughout the village and the village hall expansion.

Village Manager Thomas M Markus said it is essential that the village gradually do improvements on a "pay as you go basis" to prevent long-term indebtedness.

Fialkowski said the village has been able to hold off adding personnel for a long time, but that more police, firefighters and street and water employees are needed to maintain the village, which grew by 3,000 residents from 1980 to 1986.

[illegible]lic hearing on the levy will [illegible]t 8 p.m. Aug. 24.

Restaurants get license to serve liquor

Herald 8-6-87

Two new restaurants in Wheeling have been granted liquor licenses.

The village liquor control commission approved licenses for The Hungry Fox Inc. Restaurant, 1083 Lake-Cook Road, and The Manchester Place Restaurant, 521 S. Milwaukee Ave.

Under the Class B license, places must seat a minimum of 75 people, excluding bar areas, and operate primarily as a restaurant. Full meals must be prepared and served on the premises. There are 17 other Class B restaurants now in Wheeling.

The liquor control commission, made up of the village board and chaired by Village President Sheila Schultz, has authorized a total of 33 liquor licenses.

Schultz told managers of both restaurants that the village strictly enforces the liquor laws. Both restaurants are supposed to submit to the village written policies of how they handle an employee who serves liquor to underaged persons.

The Hungry Fox Restaurant manager Allan Rabin said his business is a family style restaurant that will be open from 10:30 a.m. to 11 p.m.

The Manchester Place Restaurant will serve [illegible]rican food from 11 a.m. to 2 [illegible], said managers Ike and Sophia [illegible]nerios.

Bell Liquors ordered to close for 3 days for selling liquor to minor

Courtesy side

Bell Liquors, 767 West Dundee Road, will close for three days in September as part of a penalty for selling alcohol to a minor in March.

This marks the second time in less than two years that the Wheeling Liquor Control Commission has penalized the store for that offense.

The liquor store will close the weekend of Sept. 18-20. Young Choy, owner of the store, was fined $500 by commissioners and store manager Frank Hart was ordered to attend a bartender training course at Harper College to help him identify underage customers.

The penalty was proposed by Attorney Steve Handler, who represented the complainant, Wheeling Police Chief Michael Haeger. The suspension dates were selected to give the defendants time to file an appeal, however, Choy's attorney, John Placek, would not comment whether his client will appeal.

WHEELING POLICE OFFICER Kenneth Sheffler testified at a liquor commission hearing Monday that he was on duty March 20 and through a pair of binoculars saw Hart sell a 12-pack of beer to 20-year-old Sean Emgelman. He also said Emgelman never showed any identification to Hart when he bought the beer.

Emgelman, who was granted immunity for his testimony, told the commission he did not have a driver's license on him at the time of the incident because his license had been suspended.

Despite Sheffler's testimony, Hart insisted that Emgelman was not in the store on that night and that the transaction never happened.

"I know every customer that comes in that store and I would have definitely carded him if he had come in," he said. Hart also said that his policy is to take a picture of any customer with his license, if he thinks the identification might not be valid.

HART OFFERED, HOWEVER, that "anybody can make a mistake, I'm only human."

In February, 1986 Hart was charged with selling alcohol to another minor — his and the store's first offense. Following that incident, the commission, which is made up of the village board and Village President Sheila Schultz, fined Bell Liquors $300 and asked the owners to set up a program to train employees to spot underage customers.

"It may indeed by difficult to always check identification, however that has to be a way of life," Schultz told Hart. "We have to emphasize the importance of this to the community. Our hope is that we eliminate a[illegible] offenses."

Thursday, August 6, 1987

Certified

8-6-87

Wheeling has just been recognized by the Illinois Department of Commerce and Community Affairs as one of 29 Certified Cities in the state, a designation that's more than just something to hang on the "Welcome to Wheeling" signs at the village limits.

The Certified Cities designation is important because it's something a company that's in the process of relocating will consider. Certification gives perspective corporations an idea of what the business climate is like in a particular community.

The fact that Wheeling officials spent five months going through the arduous application procedure is another indication that they're serious about pursuing every possible avenue to attract businesses to the village.

Residents may not notice any difference in Wheeling because it's now a Certified City, but if that designation helps attract more businesses to town, it will play a role in increasing Wheeling's property tax base. That, in turn, will reduce the tax burden on residents — and that's good news for everyone.

Pal-Waukee pilots tell Schultz they don't want runway shortened

Courtesy side

By Lee Ann Mackulin

Meeting federal standards is not an easy task.

The clear zone of a runway at Pal-Waukee Airport, near the Hintz Road/Wolf Road intersection, must be widened substantially to meet Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) standards.

To meet these standards one of two things must happen. Either the runway, now 5,000 feet long, must be shortened or the Hintz/Wolf intersection must be moved back. Both alternatives would provide more room for clearance of aircraft landing on that runway.

Pilots who make use of the airport are concerned that if that runway is shortened, Pal-Waukee's business would go down because the larger aircraft could no longer use the airport.

OFFICIALS IN WHEELING and Prospect Heights, however, the towns that own the airport, are going to weigh the cost of relocating the intersection against the potential revenue loss from decreased business due to a shortened runway before making a final decision.

The cost of relocating the intersection northwest of its current location could cost more that $4 million, with federal funding matching local funds to pay for the proposed project.

No one is sure how much revenue would be lost by shortening the runway.

Both proposals are just being discussed at this stage, with officials in Wheeling and Prospect Heights weighing the costs of both alternatives.

PILOTS WANT THE runway lengthened and intersection relocated — no matter what the cost.

A letter was recently sent to Wheeling Village President Sheila Schultz from Barry Dainas, president of the Pal-Waukee Airport Pilot's Association, that expressed the pilots concerns over the possibility of the runway being shortened.

"Just the mention of it has the potential of frightening a lot of customers here at the airport," said Dainas. "Five thousand feet is minimum for many types of aircraft. They need every bit of that runway to take off. "To reduce it at all or even have the fear that it might be reduced is frightening people here. Our assoc[illegible]ion doesn't want to lose any business."

Shultz is also interested in working toward a common goal. But, she said, officials must first determine the costs of both options as well as how relocating the Hintz/Wolf intersection would affect the immediate area.

A study is now being conducted to look at those concerns.

A COMPLETE RELOCATION study and engineering assessment of the project should be completed within the next six to eight months, said Warren Knoles, engineer with the firm. Knoles estimated the project, design and construction phases, to be around $4.03 million.

Whatever the cost, something will eventually have to be done to improve that runway situation.

"The way it (the runway) is operating now it does not meet FAA requirements," said Schultz.

Thursday, August 6, 1987

Request for tax break rejected by Wheeling

By Lee Ann Mackulin

Chicago Specialties will be setting up shop in Wheeling — but without a property tax break the company was banking on, its stay in town may be cut short.

The Skokie-based Beatrice Home Specialties Inc., owner of Chicago Specialties, was denied tax relief under Cook County's 6b property tax exemption program by Wheeling trustees Monday night.

The 6b exemption is designed specifically to attract new and expanding businesses to the village. However, Beatrice officials made the decision to move Chicago Specialties to Wheeling before they ever applied for the tax break. In fact, construction of a new 250,000-square-foot assembly and packaging plant at the southwest corner of Northgate Parkway and Lake-Cook Road is just about finished.

Although the company, which specializes in assembly, packaging and distribution of plumbing materials, will move into the building this fall and enter into a 10-year lease with the Alter Realty, Inc. of Wilmette, officials say they will think twice before expanding on that site. Monday's decision by trustees to deny the tax break will enter into any future plans the company may have in Wheeling, said Al King, executive vice president of Beatrice.

"TIME WILL tell. It's definitely going to figure into any decision we make, but to what extent I don't know right now," he said.

Village Manager Tom Markus told trustees that company officials were advised when they broke ground to get their application for the tax break in early to avoid any difficulties in getting it approved.

The tax incentive program offers a cut in a company's property assessments from 38 to 16 percent of the market value during the first eight years of operation. For four years after that the assessment would stand at 30 percent. After 12 years of operation, the property assessment level would return to normal market value for that property in the county.

Had Wheeling officials approved the tax break, it would have saved the company about $100,000 annually.

"WE'RE VERY pleased that Beatrice has chosen this community. But this board has to weigh the concept of permitting almost anyone in this community to be a 6b recipient," said Trustee William Rogers.

"This is a very competitive type of incentive for companies who need a break in order to move to Wheeling in the first place. You've already made that decision," he said.

Beatrice officials insist they are just as good a candidate for the tax break as any company.

"I don't know why we didn't do it (apply earlier). We did, however, make a decision early on to come to Wheeling," said King. "We hope to be a good community participant here. I would like to think that we are not being penalized because we didn't ask for it sooner."

ANOTHER PROBLEM THAT Wheeling officials had with the Beatrice application was that the company just signed a 10-year lease for the building, while the tax incentive program runs for 12 years.

"The purpose is to attract a long-term user and to have that entity in the community long after the incentive program ends," said Markus.

The company had every intention of remaining in the community for a long time, said King. He explained that Beatrice enters into lease agreements for several of its buildings around the country. The lease on the Lake-Cook Road property comes with an option to stay an additional 10 years, he said.

The company was located in Skokie for 35 years before officials decided to move to Wheeling to expand. The new site offers plenty of room for Chicago Specialties to grow, he stressed, but now company officials aren't sure they want to add on to the Wheeling facility. "The only way we can expand (in the future) is by weighing the economics," said King.

Wheeling officials fight merger of fire districts

By Dan Rozek
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Wheeling officials say they will challenge an attempt by the Prospect Heights Rural Fire Protection District to win control over areas of Prospect Heights and nearby unincorporated areas.

The opposition by Wheeling could delay plans by Prospect Heights to consolidate with the neighboring Wheeling Township Rural Fire Protection District, currently in charge of fire protection for the disputed area.

The consolidation hit another snag Tuesday — although officials said it is a minor one — when a court hearing on the plan was delayed for a month.

Voters in the Wheeling Township fire district must approve the consolidation in a referendum and Prospect Heights fire officials had hoped that question could be placed on the November ballot.

The court delay means the question probably cannot be placed on the November ballot, Prospect Heights fire district attorney Donald Kreger said.

Currently, the Wheeling Township fire district — which does not have its own men or equipment — contracts for protection from surrounding departments. Those include the full-time Wheeling and Buffalo Grove fire departments and the mostly volunteer Prospect Heights fire district.

Wheeling Township fire district officials, who have long planned to disband the district, are not objecting to the consolidation.

Wheeling village officials object to the consolidation because they are uncertain if residents in a consolidated fire district would get adequate protection, Village Attorney James Rhodes said.

They also question whether Prospect Heights fire officials followed proper legal procedures when col-

See MERGER on Page 3

MERGER: Wheeling fights fire district consolidation

Continued from Page 1

lecting signatures to start the consolidation drive. Prospect Heights fire officials say they did.

Prospect Heights fire district president Robert Bremner said if the consolidation succeeds, his fire district would immediately begin protecting the northern side and some of the east side of Prospect Heights. It would also collect taxes from properties in that area.

Fire district files petition to consolidate

By Dan Rozek
Daily Herald Staff Writer

The Prospect Heights Rural Fire Protection District is going to court to win greater control over the fire protection provided in Prospect Heights.

Fire district officials filed a petition to consolidate their district with the neighboring Wheeling Township Rural Fire Protection District, which doesn't have its own men or equipment, but is responsible for hiring fire protection for parts of Prospect Heights and nearby unincorporated areas.

Currently, the Wheeling Township fire district board of trustees pays the nearby Wheeling Fire Department — a full-time department — about $475,000 a year to protect the north and east sides of Prospect Heights and nearby unincorporated areas.

The Prospect Heights fire district is a largely volunteer department that protects most of the rest of the city.

The intent of the consolidation petition, filed in Cook County Circuit Court, is to correct inequities in the current, splintered system, said Prospect Heights 3rd Ward Alderman Edward Rotchford.

Prospect Heights fire and city officials have long been unhappy with the arrangement. They say the Wheeling Fire Department overcharges the Wheeling Township fire district for providing minimal services and that if they were in charge could renegotiate a better contract with Wheeling.

Both Wheeling Village Manager Thomas M. Markus and Wheeling Township fire district officials declined to comment on the consolidation petition.

If the districts are consolidated, the Prospect Heights fire district also could expand its coverage in the city, although it could not protect all of the existing Wheeling Township fire district, Rotchford said.

"There is no way Prospect Heights could handle all the fire protection," said Rotchford. "They'd still be contracting with Wheeling and Buffalo Grove, but at a much reduced rate."

Countryside 8-87

Serious crime down 10% in first half of '87

By Lee Ann Mackulin

Crime is down in Wheeling.

A report detailing crime statistics for the first six months of 1987 showsthe number of serious crimes reported in the village has dropped by 10 percent compared to the same period last year.

While incidents of theft, battery, driving under the influence and sex offenses were up in the first half of 1987, reports of burglaries from cars, aggravated assault and battery, and motor vehicle thefts decreased.

The most significant decrease in crime, and one the most applauded by Police Chief Michael Haeger, is the number of burglaries from motor vehicles. There was a 31 percent decrease in the theft of radar detectors, cassette players and dozens of other items from cars parked in driveways, parking lots, and other locations. There were 102 offenses during the first six months of 1987, compared to 147 last year.

SIGNS POSTED ON restaurants and other businesses in Wheeling this year that warn drivers not to leave valuables in their cars played a major role in the drop in that statistic, said Haeger.

A four-man tactical unit, which patrols parking lots between 6 p.m. and 4 a.m., has also contributed to the decreased number of burglaries from cars, said Haeger.

"This means that our residents and people who visit the community are less likely to be a victim of crime," he said.

While it's a statistic not reflected in the village's crime rate, Haeger is equally pleased with the decrease in personal injury accidents.

THE NUMBER OF automobile accidents resulting in personal injury decreased 16 percent in the first six months of 1987. And that drop comes on the heels of a 27 percent decrease in injury accidents in 1986. Haeger views the continued decline as a sure sign that traffic enforcement in the village is as good as its ever been.

"Traffic enforcement by all officers is very strong. As our traffic enforcement numbers have gone up, the number of personal injury incidents have gone down," he said. In the first half of 1986 there were 138 injury-related accidents, compared with 121 during the first six months of 1987.

Arrests made for driving under the influence of alcohol (DUI) are up by 5 percent so far this year, but statistics still show that drivers are being more careful not to drive drunk than in past years, said Haeger. There were 112 DUI arrests in the first six months of 1986 compared to 118 so far this year.

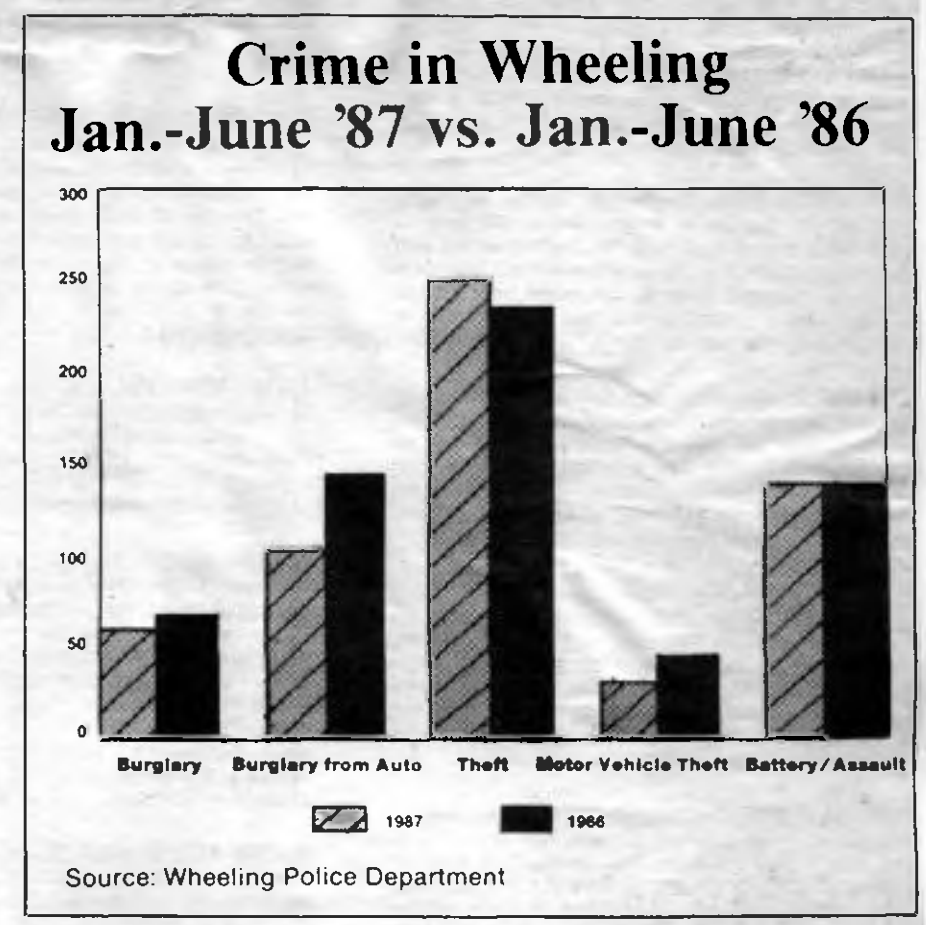
"DUI arrests have gone up, but not as much as in past years. Drunk drivers just are not out there like they used to be. It seems less likely that people will get in their car after they've been drinking," said Haeger.

DRIVERS ARE MORE sensitive to the potential problems that drunken driving can cause than they used to be, he added.

Crime statistic are reported in two categories: Part One and Part Two offenses. Part One offense are serious violent and property crimes that are included in the determination of the village's crime rate. Part Two offenses are the less serious crimes.

Here is a rundown of Part One crimes reported from Jan. 1 to June 30, 1987 and how those numbers compare to the same period last year:

- Burglary: 61 in 1987; 63 in 1986
- Criminal sexual assault: three in 1987; three in 1986



- Robbery: three in 1987; seven in 1986
- Burglary from motor vehicle: 102 in 1987; 147 in 1986
- Theft: 249 in 1987; 232 in 1986
- Motor vehicle theft: 39 in 1987; 44 in 1986
- Arson: two in 1987; five in 1986
- Aggravated assault and battery: 20 in 1987; 31 in 1986
- Homicide: None in 1987; none in 1986.

Part Two battery and assault incidents are up so far this year to 114 cases reported, compared to 103 last year. There were 12 Part Two sex offenses reported during the first half of 1987, compared to three in the same period last year. Incidents of criminal damage to property and trespass to property are down so far, with 308 incidents reported in 1987, compared to 313 last year.

'87 tax levy figures are deceiving

Wheeling trustees are considering a $5.2 million 1987 property tax levy, a figure that's 11 percent more that last year's levy.

However, trustees also plan an immediate abatement of $550,000 from the village's general obligation bond and interest fund — a move that will reduce the overall levy to $4.6 million, a .4 percent decrease over the 1986 levy.

An abatement ordinance has been drawn up and will be considered for adoption along with consideration of the property tax levy at the Aug. 24 village board meeting, said Finance Director Bob Fialkowski.

"The net effect is that it (the levy) will be going down .4 percent because we'll be abating right away," explained Fialkowski. "What taxpayers will see is a levy that has decreased."

THE STATE GIVES municipalities until March to decide on the abatement of funds, but Wheeling officials have chosen to abate immediately to show residents that the levy is not increasing, said Fialkowski.

The slight drop in the tax levy plus a hike in the assessed valuation of the village should mean a dip in the 1987 property tax rate, he said.

Fialkowski predicts the tax rate will drop from $1.436 to $1.403 per $100 of assessed valuation. He bases that projection on a decrease in the levy along with an estimated 2 percent increase this year in the village's equalized assessed valuation.

If that projection holds true, a resident with a home valued at $75,000 will pay $262 to the village in property taxes next year, about $6 less than that same resident will pay this year.

INCREASES IN THE 1987 levy are found in the general fund, which provides support for various departments in the village, the road and bridge fund and the police and fire department pension funds.

The addition of personnel to various village departments is a major reason behind the increase in the general fund levy, which went from $999,100 in 1986 to $1.3 million this year. An anticipated reduction in building fees due to a recent slow down in new construction also helped to boost the general fund, said Fialkowski.

A recent construction boom, however, has taken its toll on village roads, requiring a larger staff to repair them. New employees plus the increased cost of construction supplies for street repairs has boosted the road and bridge fund levy from $383,907 in 1986 to $494,191 in 1987.

A state mandated increase in the village's contribution to the fire pension fund has increased that fund's levy to $217,124 in 1987, up from $94,693 last year.

AN INCREASE IN the police pension fund, from $166,517 in 1986 to $210,258 this year is due in part to new employee salaries and part to the cost of continuing litigation.

Village officials filed suit in 1983 against the American Law Enforcement Credit Union, where $2.5 million, half of the Wheeling Police Department's pension fund, is now invested. Village officials fear that the fund is being mismanaged by that union. The suit is still pending in Cook County Circuit Court. The pension fund is a combination of employee deductions, investment earnings and village levied property taxes.

New Showtime starts today

Do you want to know what's playing this weekend at more than 25 movie theaters in the area? Then look no further than inside this issue of the *Wheeling Countryside*.

Beginning this week, our Showtime movie listings feature in Weekender is bigger and better than ever, with complete details on what's playing at theaters throughout the north and northwest suburbs.

In addition to providing a comprehensive rundown of theaters and performance times, there will be weekly drawings for nearly 100 pairs of complimentary movie passes to all the local theaters included in Showtime. The new Showtime is on Weekender page B9.

Wheeling police officer Tom Lorenz takes aim at oncoming traffic with one of the department's new radar guns.

Daily Herald Photo/Kent Kriegshauser

Traffic officers radar-gunning for speeders

By C. L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer

9-3-87

Her long earrings swing as she takes a quick, hard look at the Wheeling police car reflected in the rear-view mirror.

She doesn't need a sixth sense to wonder if the U-turn made by the police officer on Dundee Road was meant for her.

The light turns green and she's off, only to be stopped a couple hundred feet away for speeding.

More and more drivers in Wheeling are experiencing the same thing.

Police officer Tom Lorenz doesn't believe in stopping people at intersections because it backs up traffic, but U-turns are allowed if it's safe and someone clocked on radar is exceeding the limit.

"By the time I'm turning around it's too late. I've already got you locked in," he said.

Lorenz and officer Mike Rompala, Wheeling's traffic officers, are part of the department's stepped up effort to enforce traffic laws on busy roadways in the village. Three hand-held radar meters have been added to the police department and two more are expected.

The hand-held radar is better at monitoring speed than the mounted radar guns because the gun is perpendicular to the roadway, officers say. Plans are for each of the police department's 10 squad cars to have radar, either hand-held or moving, so all officers have an opportunity to clock traffic.

Sitting in a squad car not too close to an intersection along Wheeling Road, Lorenz stretches his forearm across the edge of the door and takes aim at oncoming traffic.

The radar locks in on a car going 15 miles over the limit. A rush hits Lorenz's passenger because suddenly they are zipping up the street on the speeder's tail.

In the first six hours on his shift, Lorenz has issued 17 traffic tickets ranging from speeding to not using a turn signal correctly. He calls the day a good one, because there haven't been any accidents.

In two hours, he issues four more speeding tickets. Lorenz hits the red emergency lights and gives a short beep on the horn to get a driver's attention. He says he hardly ever uses the long, wailing siren because drivers get embarrassed.

Peering over his aviator sunglasses, the officer gets a closer look at the Ohio license plates on the car he just stopped. He's heard the story before, the one about how the driver is

See RADAR on Page 3

RADAR: Traffic officers aim the 'camera' to get speeders

Continued from Page 1

from out of town and isn't familiar with Wheeling streets, etc.

But like all the rest, the man reaches into his wallet for his driver's license.

Preventing accidents is at the core of being a traffic officer, said Lorenz, who has issued about 1,100 tickets each of the eight years he has been with the division.

Ticketed drivers only notice the ticket, he says. "They don't have to see the busted up cars and bodies."

The crackdown is not only with speeding. Drivers weaving in and out of traffic to get ahead, people driving on the median strip and drivers passing on the right also are subject to stops by Wheeling police.

Lorenz argues on behalf of his work.

"I'm not out there to make money for the village and I'm not out there to fill a quota," he said. "When it's my day off I don't want to spend the day in court."

Like a maestro pulling out his prized Stradivarius, Lorenz reaches into a case in the back seat and pulls out a tuning fork. Striking the fork on an iron rifle holder, Lorenz tunes the radar before and after each traffic stop.

Officers running radar grow accustomed to the dull "thong" of the fork, each with its own mile-per-hour measurement. Waves from the fork are picked up by the radar equipment and show a reading to test accuracy.

Radar has continuously been criticized for not working properly, but Lorenz takes the instrument of his trade seriously. It's as accurate as the officer who uses it, he says.

Each officer makes his own decision as to how much speed to allow before turning on the emergency lights. Lorenz said the smallest margin he has allowed over the speed limit was 10 miles per hour and that was with a man driving 45 miles per hour on Milwaukee Avenue during a snowstorm.

Drivers sometimes go 55 miles per hour at night on Dundee Road where the speed limit is 35. On Palatine Road, speeds get up to the 70s and 80s.

If you're ever stopped, you can quit arguing as soon as the officer starts writing you up. Each ticket is numbered, and the officer can't throw it away without getting a lot of questions back at the station.

Pressing his pen through the five copies of a ticket, Lorenz said, "I've had people argue with me until I'm at the bottom of the ticket signing my name."

New rainfall causes few Wheeling woes

Life - 9-3-87

Last week's rains caused more flooding in some northwest suburbs last week, but except for minor problems the village of Wheeling escaped serious difficulties.

Bob Fialkowski, village finance director, said that a week ago Wednesday some streets in Lakeside Villas flooded along with some low-lying streets in other areas of the village.

But no major roads in Wheeling were blocked because of water, Fialkowski said. Also, he said, the rains appeared to cause no damge to individual buildings.

Not all northwest suburbs were so lucky. The more than two inches of rain that fell Aug. 26 caused sewage backup to homes in Palatine and Arlington Heights, for example.

In some communities major streets were also closed, including the Northwest Highway between Palatine and Barrington, and Route 53 at Lake Street near Addison, and through parts of Lombard and Glen Ellyn.

The rains last week, however, were relatively minor compared to the deluge that hit the Chicago area on Aug. 14, when more than nine inches of rain fell in 24 hours.

That rainfall caused widespread problems in Wheeling, where streets were closed and basements flooded.

Airport panel lands insurance

By C. L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer 8-21-87

Pal-Waukee Airport commissioners have found insurance coverage, a discovery expected to keep any more members from resigning and ease commissioners' fears over making decisions.

Commissioners are now insured for $1 million by Scottsdale Insurance Co. in Scottsdale, Ariz.

"There was a joint sigh of relief," said William Rogers, one of eight commissioners representing Wheeling and Prospect Heights.

With the additional insurance each community will pay about $900 more this year, said Wheeling village attorney James Rhodes.

Commissioners had threatened not to make decisions because they had no public officials' liability insurance covering their actions. Former commission Chairman Donald Sowatzke resigned, saying without insurance he would not serve.

"It (insurance) is something we never intend to use, but we are most grateful it is there," Rogers said.

Officials said they first tried to get insurance from the Intergovernmental Risk Management Association (IRMA), an insurance cooperative of municipalities. But IRMA policies specifically exclude airports from coverage.

Both Prospect Heights and Wheeling are members of the pool, but also buy public officials liability insurance from the Scottsdale company. The company agreed to include the airport commissioners in the policy for the extra premium, Rhodes said.

Officials said they do not know what a full year's coverage will cost.

Wheeling officials were given responsibility for finding insurance for the airport commission, but Prospect Heights airport commissioner Carey Chickerneo said he thinks they dragged their feet because Wheeling has never favored a strong commission.

"I don't think they wanted to place it (insurance)," he said. "When they saw it was imminent, they went ahead and placed it."

Trustees to review tax plan

By C. L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer 9-8-87

Wheeling trustees will study the property tax breaks they give to entice new industry to the village, to see if they have truly been an incentive.

Most of the tax exemptions granted are in the Palwaukee Business Center and two more requests for that center will come before trustees Tuesday night. Edgar A. Weber and Co. of Elk Grove Village and A & M Tool Co. of Rolling Meadows are asking for the tax break in order to relocate in the business center.

Officials were uncertain how many breaks have been granted in the 1½ years of the program.

The village's objective was to attract industries, said Village Manager Thomas M. Markus. The tax break reduces a business's property taxes by 60 percent for eight years and 25 percent for four years after that.

Markus said the village would have lost more money if it had agreed to give blanket approval of tax exemptions for an industrial area, like some communities have done. Wheeling, instead studies each case individually, turning down requests from firms that have already started to build their plants in Wheeling.

"It's the same old struggle of would they be here if we didn't give it to them," said Village President Sheila Schultz. "As far as we know it has done what it's supposed to in keeping them in the (Cook) county."

Village officials will argue that they are giving nothing away.

"It's not like you're giving somebody a tax break," Schultz said. "It's that they are paying a rate they wouldn't pay had they not been there at all."

In Cook County there is a substantial discrepancy between property taxes paid by businesses and those paid by residents.

"It seems strange to charge (businesses) more (than residences) and then give them tax breaks," Schultz said.

Weather warning system on its way to Wheeling

Countryside 5-13-87

By Lee Ann Mackulin

If a tornado is approaching, Wheeling residents will be among the first to know about it — thanks to a new severe weather warning system to be installed this fall at five locations throughout the village.

The warning system will emit a high-pitched sound when disastrous weather is seen approaching the area. If severe weather is on its way, the siren will sound for between three and five minutes, warning people to seek shelter.

The system was purchased by the village last month for $44,493 from Federal Signal Corp. of University Park.

The system will be tested at 10 a.m. on the first Tuesday of each month soon after it's installed. During the testing period, the warning system will sound for one minute, will be silent for another minute and then will sound again for one minute.

THE SIRENS WILL be located on top of 50-foot-tall poles that will be installed throughout the village. All of the controls will be mounted on top of the poles — not near the ground — to prevent damage to the equipment, said Wheeling Fire Chief Bernard Koeppen.

Koeppen said the system should be installed by the end of October.

The five locations selected for the poles are at Wheeling Road and Palatine Frontage Road; Hintz Road and Longtree Drive; the northeast corner of Palatine Frontage Road and Abbott Drive; the southeast corner of Chaddick Drive and Hintz Road; and McHenry Road, near Childerley Park.

THE WHEELING POLICE Department will be the first to be alerted of oncoming bad weather. The controls to the warning system will be operated from the department's communication room, where there are two employees on duty around the clock.

"We're notified of any pending disaster," said Police Sgt. Jack Kimsey. The controls to the warning system will be kept locked up to prevent someone from signaling accidently.

Koeppen remembers the days when advanced warning systems had not been discovered.

"Years ago, when the town was smaller, there was one siren located at the fire station. When we would get information about severe weather, we would run around town in the engines trying to warn people. We would go up and down the streets with the loud speakers announcing an approaching storm," Koeppen recalled.

Residents seeking tips on what protective measures to take in the event of severe weather can get that information, provided by the National Weather Service, Wheeling Police Department, and Dundee Road.

Wheeling KinderCare to open next month

By Michael D. White
Daily Herald Correspondent 8-18-87

A $450,000 day-care center being constructed by KinderCare of Glendale Heights should be enrolling children at its Wheeling location by the end of September.

The Wheeling Plan Commission has approved a sign for the building at 700 Schoenbeck Road.

With completion of the Wheeling building, KinderCare will have 44 centers in the Chicago area. The center will accept children from 6½ weeks old to 12 years, and hours of operation will be from 6:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.

"We try to create an environment where the children can express themselves, but with some guidance," said Bryant A. Lubbs, a KinderCare representative.

Lubbs said KinderCare is a national company based in Alabama. Parents and their employers generally pay tuition, but Lubbs said publicly subsidized children are accepted. Prices will be competitive with other professional, licensed, day-care centers, he said.

KinderCare will offer kindergarten and preschool classes in the morning and the afternoon, as well as the day-care service. The number of children in the different programs depends on demand, Lubbs said, adding that no more than 130 students will be enrolled

Lubbs said demographic studies in the Wheeling area showed a high number of two-income families, and the company decided to start a center here based on those studies.

Daily Herald

07-070940271
VILL OF WH%VILL MNGR
MUNICIPAL BLDG OFF
WHEELING IL 60090

Movie review
'Monster Squad'
a comedy chiller

SHOWCASE/Sec. 2, Page 4

Visitors pick the winners

HOME STYLES/Section 7

WHEELING EDITION | PADDOCK PUBLICATIONS | Saturday, August 15, 1987 | 7 Sections | 25 Cents

Saturday

WEATHER

More rain on the way?

Partly sunny and humid with a 50 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. High near 90. Tonight partly cloudy and humid with low in the lower 70s. Sunday partly sunny, hot and humid. High in the lower 90s. Chance of more thunderstorms Monday and Tuesday.

INSIDE

Pilot is AWOL

The Army private who piloted the small airplane that flew perilously close to President Reagan's helicopter was jailed on charges of being AWOL — Page 5.

Fighting fires

Gov. James R. Thompson signed a new law requiring smoke detectors in all Illinois residences by next July 1 — Page 6.

Unsafe sex

Homosexual and bisexual men living in areas where AIDS cases are few may still be practicing high-risk sexual activity — Page 8.

Remains unearthed

Investigators unearthed more human remains in a row house three doors away from the Philadelphia apartment building where six corpses and parts of another were found — Page 9.

BUSINESS

Flood waters gobble an abandoned car in Schaumburg.
Daily Herald Photo/Kent Kriegshauser

STORM OF THE CENTURY: SPECIAL REPORT

Evacuees find shelter at two area high schools. Page 2.

- Highways turn into rivers; O'Hare Airport's an island. Page 3.
- Cleaning up the mess: what to do when the water recedes. Page 3.
- Watery escape: Herald editor tells of her encounter with flood. Page 3.
- Full page of color photos on 'storm of the century.' Sect. 4, Page 1.
- How the Deep Tunnel works and how much it helped. Sect. 4, Page 2.
- Business, industry shut down by murky waters. Sect. 4, Page 2.
- Day of rain spawns hardships for emergency services. Sect. 4, Page 2.

Chicago area's heaviest rains

1. 9.47 inches — Aug. 14*
2. 6.16 inches — July 12, 1957
3. 4.71 inches — July 27, 1966
4. 4.64 inches — June 13, 1976
5. 4.58 inches — June 25, 1959

Calendar days as measured at O'Hare Airport.
* Measured from 9 p.m. Thursday to noon Friday.
Source: Illinois State Climatologist

See story on page 3

Flash flood

'Storm of century' overwhelms region

By Diane Dungey
Daily Herald Staff Writer

The storm of the century crippled the Northwest suburbs Friday, flooding neighborhoods, stranding thousands of motorists and leaving O'Hare Airport accessible only from the sky for much of the day.

Two suburban residents drowned while trying to drain their flooded basements, and two others were killed in traffic accidents.

The storm dumped nearly 9½ inches of rain on some areas between 10 p.m. Thursday and 3 p.m. Friday. It was the worst one-day rainfall in 117 years of record-keeping.

Illinois Gov. James R. Thompson declared Cook and DuPage counties disaster areas and called out 200 National Guard troops to provide security and help evacuate areas hardest hit by flooding.

BUSINESS

Record trade deficit

The U.S. trade deficit widened to $15.71 billion in June, apparently the worst shortfall ever — Section 3, Page 1.

SPORTS

Cubs pound Mets

Keith Moreland slammed a 3-run homer and Scott Sanderson and two relievers combined on a 6-hitter Friday to pace the Cubs to a 6-1 win over the New York Mets — Section 6.

LEISURE

Sailing, sailing

If you have a taste for the bounding main but a budget more suited to the neighborhood pond, consider a radio-controlled model yacht — Section 2.

INDEX

Arts/2-2	Leisure/2-1
Bridge/5-2	Movies/2-3
Business/3-1	Obituaries/1-9
Classifieds/4-3	Outdoors/6-6
Comics/5-2	Religion/5-3
Crossword/5-2	Showcase/2-2
Editorials/1-10	Sports/6-1
Features/2-1	Stocks/3-2
Homestyles/7-1	Television/2-4
Horoscope/5-2	

Thirsty trip

While the Northwests suburbs were drowning Friday, Outdoor Editor Jim Cook was thirsting for water during a recent rafting trip down the Peshtigo River in Wisconsin — Section 6, Page 6.

out 200 National Guard troops to provide security and help evacuate areas hardest hit by flooding.

"Record-breaking rain has caused heavy damage throughout northeast Illinois. I have asked the Illinois Emergency Services and Disaster Agency to make available any state resources to help the area's residents with recovery efforts," the governor said.

Thompson's declaration is the first step in getting President Reagan to name the counties a federal disaster area, which would free money for loans and grants to victims, ESDA spokesman Gregg Durham said.

The state has no loan programs for flood victims, but declaring the counties a state disaster area will allow for tax breaks for those with property damage, Durham said.

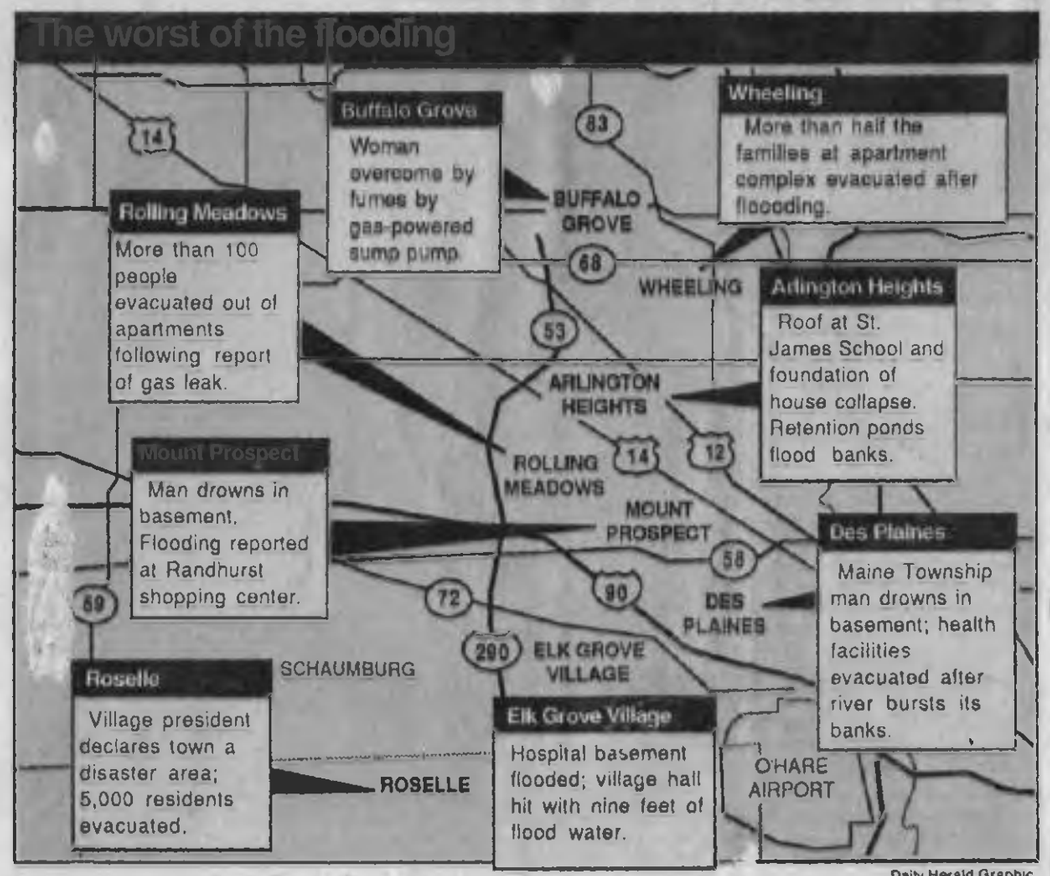
Flood waters killed Jose Arelland, 26, of 8839 Robin Drive in unincorporated Maine Township, after he went to his basement to get his car keys and apparently was trapped when water crashed through the windows.

Fire department divers were unable to locate Arelland in the murky water in the basement until

See **FLOOD** *on Page 2*

Record amounts of rain soaked the Northwest suburbs on Friday, causing severe flooding in neighborhoods throughout the area.

Daily Herald Photo/Bob Chwedyk



Daily Herald Graphic

Flooding leaves dozens stranded and homeless

8-15-87

By C. L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Steering a rowboat as he sloshed through waist-high water, Rick Hopper had to grin.

"I wanted to go out in a boat today, but not like this," he said.

Hopper was among those in the Lakeside Villas development on Hintz Road who helped some of his 125 neighbors get away from their homes when the floodwaters came through windows in the furnished basements.

"The windows blew out at about 7:30 this morning and then the wood paneling blew off the walls," said Mark Miller, a resident at Lakeside for eight years.

About half of the Lakeside Circle residents, ranging from 10 days old to 70 years, stuffed their valuables in garbage bags and suitcases and carried them above their heads or threw them in boats as they left their houses.

"We've decided we're never going to move into a place again with the name 'Lake' in it," said Ginger Goldman.

Still in shock, Goldman sat on a stairway with her head in her hands saying, "I've been single 10 years and I just saw 10 years washed away."

Standing near the development's clubhouse, which was opened to homeless residents, Ronni Goldberg related how her office and laundry room were under water.

Marla Topliff's home in Lakeside escaped the floodwaters, so she opened up her home as a quasi-relief station for those who needed to use a phone, rest or grab a sandwich.

"I've had 30 homeless people in my home since 7:30 this morning," Topliff said, adding that four dogs were also part of the visitors.

Walking through floodwater up to her chest, Topliff said she roused neighbors Friday morning to help them get to higher ground.

"My neighbor and I walked down there and we were carrying babies and dogs. There was one woman standing at her door crying with a gallon of milk in one arm and a baby in the other arm," Topliff said.

The Red Cross set up an interim shelter at Wheeling High School for those left homeless. The village used up its supply of sandbags and intends to pump basements for residents once the water begins receding.

Thompson dubs Wheeling a 'certified city'

By Dave Urbanek
of our Springfield bureau

8-14-87

SPRINGFIELD — Wheeling was designated Illinois' 29th "certified city" Thursday by Gov. James R. Thompson, who cited the village's "devotion" to economic development.

"Wheeling is a community looking to the future," Thompson said. "Necessary infrastructure improvements have been made, and the efforts are paying off. Over 200 single-family homes were built last year, and two new industrial parks are filling quickly."

Stewart Schrodt of the state Department of Commerce and Community Affairs said Wheeling has used several economic development tools "aggressively." Schrodt said the use of industrial revenue bonds, single-family mortgage revenue bonds and the establishment of a tax increment financing district are working to bring jobs and development to Wheeling.

"With the certified city designation, the state is adding its applause for a job well done," Schrodt added.

To become a certified city, a municipality must excel in five economic development areas, including business climate and services; employment and job training; community development; financial assistance; and marketing. A city applies for the designation and its application is evaluated by a team of economic development experts from state and industry.

Communities selected as certified cities can use the designation on letterheads, in publications and in advertising. Municipalities are given a plaque and a road sign to commemorate the event. All certified cities must be recertified every three years. Other Northwest suburban certified cities are Des Plaines, Bartlett, Buffalo Grove, Schaumburg and Palatine.

Wheeling to get Certified Cities honor

Herald 8-13-87

Representatives from the Illinois Department of Commerce and Community Affairs will be in Wheeling today to present the Certified Cities Award to the village.

An awards ceremony will be held at 1 p.m. in village hall, 255 W. Dundee Road.

The application for the award, completed last December, required extensive documentation on all aspects of village services. In return, Commerce and Community Affairs passes along the information to industries interested in building in Illinois. To stay active, the process is repeated every three years.

Wheeling Administrative Assistant David Kowal prepared the intensive application for the village. Kowal was given the assignment as one of his first duties when hired by the village.

The application process began in August 1986. Categories that needed to be documented included the village's business climate, community development, human development, community facilities, employment and training, financial assistance and marketing.

The Certified Cities program is a project begun in 1981 by Gov. James R. Thompson. Applications were sent to cities in the state encouraging each one to apply at no cost, other than staff time invested.

Redevelopment work to pick up

By C. L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer

8-14-87

The legal wrangling inhibiting progress of Wheeling's downtown redevelopment should end this fall, predicts the Wheeling village attorney.

Construction of an $8.9 million shopping center northwest of Milwaukee Avenue and Dundee Road probably won't get under way until next year, but residents will see more demolition and grading in fall and through winter, said attorney James Rhodes.

There are six properties left in the area that the village wants to buy, level the buildings and build a shopping center called Village Square. The properties will be resold to Vantage Companies Inc. of Arlington Heights for redevelopment.

"We would have liked to have gotten it done sooner," Rhodes said.

Wheeling has bought eight parcels and condemned five, including Dunkin' Donuts, Wheeling Auto Repair, Tien Tsin Restaurant and Dreiske's Florist.

Meanwhile, on Sept. 15 a judge will decide whether to drop condemnation proceedings against Dunkin' Donuts and a vacant lot next to the doughnut business. Attorneys representing the property owners asked the court to drop the proceedings and an attorney representing Tien Tsin said he will join in that request.

The condemnation of property does not serve a public purpose, said Kenneth Siegan, attorney for the doughnut franchisee.

However, Rhodes said condemnation is proper because the redevelopment is in the tax increment financing district.

"The courts have already recognized that a business can do just as well across the street," he said.

Siegan indicated there are options. "If they (the village) want to incorporate the Dunkin' Donuts into the shopping center, we want to stay."

Rhodes said the village should have a signed agreement with Doetsch and Associates Real Estate, Inc. next month.

Anniversary panel to be considered

Herald — 9-6-87

A resolution creating an ad hoc committee for planning the village's 100th anniversary will be considered by Wheeling trustees Monday night.

Village President Sheila Schultz and trustees requested that the resolution be prepared.

Though seven years ahead of schedule, a sufficient length of time is needed for the village to schedule quality activities, Thomas Markus said in a memo to Schultz and the board of trustees.

Five people will be appointed to the committee by the village president with the consent of the village trustees and they will serve for terms set by the village president.

The temporary committee will be responsible for recommending methods, activities and programs for the 1994 celebration and getting approval for its recommendations from the village board.

Committee members will not have financial authorization or responsibility to commit the village.

Wheeling was incorporated on June 22, 1894. In 1969, Ted Scanlon was village president when Wheeling celebrated its 75th anniversary for nine days complete with beards, long dresses and historical exhibits. At that time a jubilee corporation was set up to plan events.

One historical rendition says a man known only as "Mr. Sweet" was the first man, after the Indians, to arrive in the Wheeling area in 1833. The first permanent settler was George Strong, who bought Sweet's claim for $60 and moved into the Sweet cabin, according to one account.

THE WEEK AHEAD

The top meeting

Who: Wheeling village board

Where: Wheeling village hall, 255 W. Dundee Road

When: 8 p.m. Monday

Trustees grant another tax break

By C. L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer

9-9-87

Judging by Tuesday's night's action, Wheeling trustees believe tax breaks to entice new industries are working. Trustees Tuesday night approved a property tax break for A & M Tool Inc. of Rolling Meadows, marking the 10th tax exemption the village board has granted. A & M wants to relocate at the Palwaukee Business Center at Chaddick Drive and Hintz Road.

Under the tax break, the village reduces a business's property taxes by 60 percent for eight years and 25 percent for four years after that. The village offers the tax incentive to manufacturers to entice them to locate in Wheeling and to prevent existing industries from moving to Lake or DuPage counties where property taxes are lower.

Companies must first apply for the tax break with the Cook County Assessor's office and then the village. Once the village gives approval, county approval usually follows.

Of the 10 tax exemptions granted by the village board, seven are in the Palwaukee Business Center. Two applications for a tax break have been denied by trustees.

A map outlining the exemptions granted showed with 2 million square feet of property in the business center, nearly half will not be taxed fully for 12 years under the tax program.

"The map showed us we were not inundated with 6Bs (tax exemptions)," said Wheeling Village President Sheila H. Schultz.

Village Manager Thomas M. Markus said the program is working for the village because it is attracting manufacturers not wanting the tax incentive along with those wanting the exemption.

The village would have lost more property tax revenue if it had agreed to give blanket approval of tax exemptions for an industrial area, like some communities have done, Markus said.

Tool company gets tax break

Countryside 9-10-87

Another manufacturer, A&M Tool Co., will be moving to Wheeling thanks to a tax incentive program used by village officials to attract new business for more than a year.

Trustees approved an application Monday by the Skokie-based tool company to relocate to the Pal-Waukee Business Center on Chaddick Drive, under the 6b property tax exemption program. The company will join six others that have found their way to the center via the program.

A&M, which will save about $107,000 a year in taxes for building in the village under the program, plans to begin construction this winter and open the plant in late 1988.

Another manufacturer, Edgar A. Weber and Co., made a presentation to the board on Monday to relocate from Elk Grove Village to the Pal-Waukee Business Center, providing it's awarded the 6b incentive.

Under the program, a company is granted a reduction in its property assessment level from 38 to 16 percent of the market value during the first eight years of operation. For four years after that, the assessment stands at 30 percent. After 12 years of operation, the property would be assessed at whatever the normal level for commercial property is at that time.

Weber would save $333,000 in taxes during the 12-year period. If approved for the 6b program at the board's Sept. 21 meeting, the company would begin construction in May 1988.

Founded in 1902, the company manufactures fruit and vanilla extract flavorings. It currently operates out of three locations in Elk Grove Village.

Condemned businesses fight Wheeling in court

By C. L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer 9-17-87

The owners of several downtown businesses in Wheeling are fighting the village's condemnation proceedings against them by questioning the validity of the action.

Attorneys for Dunkin' Donuts, Tien Tsin Restaurant and Wheeling Auto Repair are charging in court that there is no state law cited that allows the village to condemn the properties, northwest of Dundee Road and Milwaukee Avenue, in order to build an $8.9 million retail center.

They also charge that there is no explanation of why the area is blighted or why condemning the properties would serve the public. A circuit court hearing will be held Dec. 1.

"We think the village should go back to the drawing board," said Kenneth R. Siegan, attorney for the Dunkin' Donuts franchise owner, Ram Krishna Inc.

Properties also at stake in the condemnation are Dreiske's Florist and a vacant lot next to the doughnut business.

Wheeling's tax increment financing district stretches north and south on Milwaukee Avenue, east to the Des Plaines River and west to First Street. For now, Wheeling is concentrating on redevelopment of the area where the businesses are located and has already purchased five parcels of property there.

Tax increment financing means that any incremental increases in property taxes generated by the upgrade are sloughed off to repay the loans.

Wheeling has hired a Chicago firm to study the validity of the financing district. Trkla, Pettigrew and Associates of Chicago will look at marketability and conditions of the area and land use in conjunction with the village's goals, said Nicholas Trkla.

"The property on the whole would probably not have redeveloped without the TIF district," said Wheeling village President Sheila H. Schultz. The aim of the village is to increase its tax base through the tax increment financing plan, she said.

Village plans under way for 100th birthday

Sun 9-17-87

The Village Board voted last week to establish a committee that will help Wheeling celebrate its 100th birthday in 1994.

The committee will make recommendations to the Village Board on how to make the birthday a special event. The group will have no power to spend funds.

The new committee was established at the recommendation of Village Manager Tom Markus, who said it might seem a little early to start planning for the centennial event.

But, he added in a memo to the board, "if the village is to undertake any type of program for this celebration, a sufficient length of time will be necessary to put all the activities in place and ensure that they are developed with the highest possible quality which an anniversary of this type deserves."

In other business the board approved a tax break for one business and held a public hearing on a tax exemption requested for another business. Both businesses plan to locate in the Pal-Waukee Business Center.

Flood control cash pours in

By Kathy Schaeffer
Daily Herald Staff Writer 9-10-87

Federal funding for projects to help prevent flooding along the Des Plaines River in the Northwest suburbs was approved Wednesday by the U.S. Senate.

The Senate approved granting $34 million toward a $54 million-plan to build five reservoirs, a dike and 2.5 miles of diversion channels and to improve 1.21 miles of river tributaries.

The Illinois Department of Transportation and the Metropolitan Sanitary District will pay the remaining $20 million for the work; the land already has been set aside.

Illinois Democratic Sens. Alan Dixon and Paul Simon announced authorization of the federal money for the projects, which will hold more than 1 billion gallons of storm water when completed.

"Having just gone through a terrible flood, we know how important this can be," said Emmet O'Neil, Dixon's executive assistant.

MSD President Nicholas Melas said that after the September 1986 floods, he and other MSD commissioners began urging the Senate to approve funding for the projects, which have been on the drawing board since 1975.

"Unfortunately, sometimes it takes a major catastrophe, a flood, to get things moving," Melas said.

The projects and areas to get relief are:

- The $9 million Willow-Higgins Reservoir and $1.49 million in channel improvements in Des Plaines, Rosemont and in Chicago near O'Hare Airport.
- The $5.5 million Spring Brook Reservoir in DuPage County, which will help Itasca, Wood Dale, Addison and unincorporated DuPage County.
- A $1 million diversion channel in Buffalo Grove and Wheeling, and a $324,000 channel in McDonald Creek in Prospect Heights will contain water in those towns.
- The $7.2 million Silver Creek Reservoir to help Franklin Park and unincorporated Cook County.
- The $2.3 million Northlake Reservoir to help Northlake, Melrose Park and Bellwood.
- The $2.6 million Franklin Park Reservoir, to aid Franklin Park and Melrose Park.

Daily Herald Monday, September 14, 1987

Laurels to the Wheeling trustees for ensuring that travelers will have no doubt about when they've crossed a village boundary. The village board recently approved erecting five modern signs that say "Village of Wheeling." These signs will be planted at strategic spots at the village limits and will replace two signs that say, "Welcome to Wheeling/The village with feeling." The design proposed for the signs is identical to the one that's on the repainted water towers and on village advertisements and brochures. The signs will be stained dark brown and the wheel design, lettering and border will be painted beige. **Laurels** also to the Rotary Club for agreeing to contribute $500 to help pay for the signs, which will cost about $600 each.

Panel won't change pub zoning

9-14-81

BY FREIDA GAD
Daily Herald Correspondent

Despite the owner's contention she cannot sell the business without it, the Wheeling Plan Commission refused to alter the zoning for Hein's Pub and Liquor Store.

The building at 141-149 S. Milwaukee Ave. is not in compliance with existing village code, but is allowed to remain as it is because it was built before the ordinances were passed.

However, if the building is sold it would then be subject to the present code. Owner Ida Hein wants to sell the building and the business and is asking the village to wipe away the requirements and approve the building as it is for the next owner.

"The property is virtually unsellable," said Hein's attorney Rickey J. Ament. "We have been trying to sel the property for two years. The onl buyer we have found requires tha the variations become legal."

The store has fewer parking spac es than village code allows; also, it is too close to the property lines and the street access is not up to standard.

Commissioners voted 6 to 1 not to grant the special permits that Hein's would need to sell.

"I have a problem with the whole site," Commission Chairman Paul D. Eisterhold said. "It's too intense a use. It would open a can of worms."

Village Planner Richard D. Greenwood recommended that the commission deny the variations because there are not enough parking spaces. Village code requires 83 parking spaces for the building, but only 33 are available on the site. If Milwaukee Avenue is widened 13 parking spaces would be lost.

Commissioner Terry A. Steilen said he is concerned about expanding the parking because it would infringe on neighbors.

But this leaves Hein in a no-win situation, since the business is landlocked and cannot expand, Ament argued.

"The business needs a liquor license," he said, "but the village won't issue a liquor license without a special use permit. We can't sell it and we can't do anything with it."

The argument convinced Commissioner Steve E. Walanka, the only commissioner to vote for the special use permits, but Eisterhold said Hein could find another use for the site.

"She's going to make money at the expense of the community," he said.

A Pulitzer-Lerner Community Newspaper

Airport safety not an issue at Pal-Waukee

It's been a bad year for air safety. So-called industry experts across the country have been lining up to blame a cluster of untimely accidents and mid-air near collisions, deregulation, overburdened air traffic controllers, faulty equipment, and/or pilot error.

Not so at Pal-Waukee Airport.

Since last winter, pilots at this busy suburban air facility have been banding together to get a fledgling pilots association off the ground. And their primary concern is safety.

"Actually, I'd had an idea about forming a pilots' group to promote safety and general aviation for a year or two," said Barry Dainas, president of the new Pal-Waukee Airport Pilots Association. "For a long time I'd been talking to other pilots to get feedback."

In December, when Pal-Waukee switched from being a private airport to a municipal one, the group began to take form.

At that time Wheeling and Prospect Heights bought the airport from Priester Aviation Services. Pal-Waukee is now being run by the Pal-Waukee Municipal Airport Commission, a dual governing body made up of officials from the two villages.

"When the municipalities came in, we felt there might be a communication problem," said Dainas. "They're basically oriented to community interests. We felt we could communicate to them what the pilots needed and they could use us to reach the pilots."

According to Dainas, one of the association's first chances to help came in June when PAPA was invited by the commission to a special meeting on safety and revenue considerations involved in maintaining the 5,000-foot runway. The discussion was prompted when the airport became a public facility, with new safety standards demanding increased distance between the runway and the nearest highway.

"Mayor Sheila Schultz of Wheeling asked if shortening the runway to meet new FAA regulations was feasible. Our message was tha 000 feet is a bare minimum many of the flight operatior Pal-Waukee. When margins narrow, a few feet can drasti alter safety standards."

As a matter of fact, Daina PAPA'S role as to im communication among a ments of the airport's popul

"We're a door to the air cc ers. We announce input from in our newsletter and at our ings.

"We're a door to and fron line crews. They let us know w happening at the airport — something as small as gravel b scattered onto the runways f nearby access roads. It only ta one stone to nick a propeller."

Barry Axelrod, a member of board of the pilots' associati agreed with Dainas that safety communication are PAPA's m concerns.

"But we also want to provide social forum where people can g together and talk about aviation, said Axelrod.

"We have monthly board meetings. We had a general meeting in June at which Earl Funkle of WMAQ talked to us about weather. On Sept. 21 an expert on Loran-C navigational equipment will address the group. And we're making plans now to invite a controller from O'Hare. He can give us his perspective and let us know how we can work together."

Axelrod explained that PAPA's meeting are geared to qualify as safety seminars in the Federal Aviation Administration's Wings Program

"The program is aimed at improving pilot skills. Along with the seminars, pilots fly three hours a year with an instructor. The FAA awards a proficiency certificate and a pin. It's a good opportunity for pilots to continue educating themselves."

Approximately 600 airplanes are based at the 250-acre Pal-Waukee Airport, according to Axelrod.

"Planes range from Cessna 150's, which are trainers, to Falcon ... which are three-engine corporat jets," he said. "Right now we hav 160 members in our association an we represent all interests — pri vate pilots, instructors, and corporate pilots who fly for business and pleasure."

Pal-Waukee is one of the busiest general airports in the nation, the second busiest in the state, next to O'Hare, said Axelrod. The control tower is open from 6 a.m. to 9 p.m. during the week and from 7 a.m. to

• A LIFE NEWSPAPER

• A LIFE NEW

LIFE

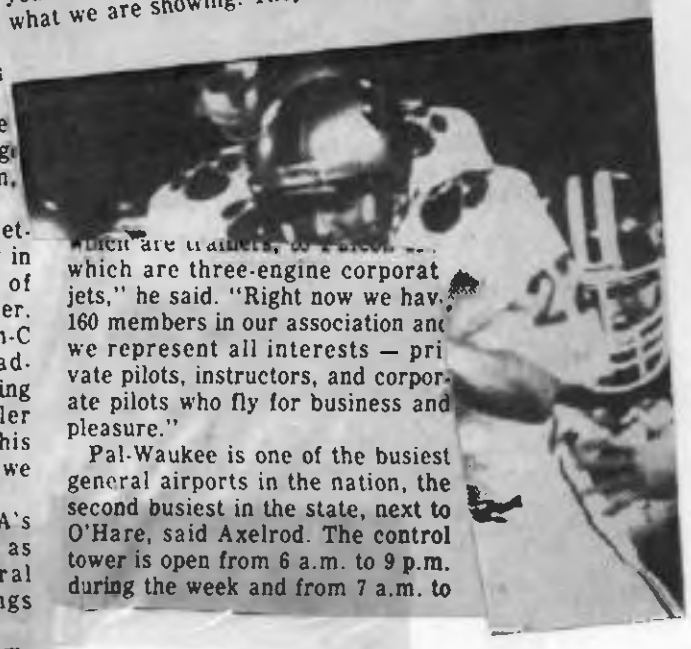
g regroups

89. Buffalo Grove was third n 98 points, Maine West was urth with 108 and Glenbrook North was fifth with 125.

"We were just hoping to compete on Saturday," coach Mark Saylor said. "Our goal was to get over whatever it is that is going on. We just wanted to compete and walk away knowing that we did our best. I was just happy to beat Buffalo Grove because they have a good team this year.

"The kids are putting undo pressure on themselves," Saylor said. "They are trying to do what last year's team did. We are better than what we are showing. They need to concentrate on this y the kids are out of sh work on that for the because we can no lo ference."

The Wildcats were l ing state champ Da who won the race record time of 12:55 istance second-place Adams of Prospect reen Bergquist place time of 14:27 and was ninth with a t Amy McRaven plac Maureen Rafferty w However, it was N



despite the owner's contention she cannot sell the business without it, the Wheeling Plan Commission refused to alter the zoning for Hein's Pub and Liquor Store.

The building at 141-149 S. Milwaukee Ave. is not in compliance with existing village code, but is allowed to remain as it is because it was built before the ordinances were passed.

However, if the building is sold it would then be subject to the present code. Owner Ida Hein wants to sell the building and the business and is asking the village to wipe away the requirements and approve the building as it is for the next owner.

"The property is virtually unsellable," said Hein's attorney Rickey J. Ament. "We have been trying to sel the property for two years. The onl buyer we have found requires tha the variations become legal."

The store has fewer parking spac

... is not up to standard.

Commissioners voted 6 to 1 not to grant the special permits that Hein's would need to sell.

"I have a problem with the whole site," Commission Chairman Paul D. Eisterhold said. "It's too intense a use. It would open a can of worms."

Village Planner Richard D. Greenwood recommended that the commission deny the variations because there are not enough parking spaces. Village code requires 83 parking spaces for the building, but only 33 are available on the site. If Milwaukee Avenue is widened 13 parking spaces would be lost.

the parking because it would infringe on neighbors.

But this leaves Hein in a no-win situation, since the business is landlocked and cannot expand, Ament argued.

"The business needs a liquor license," he said, "but the village won't issue a liquor license without a special use permit. We can't sell it and we can't do anything with it."

The argument convinced Commissioner Steve E. Walanka, the only commissioner to vote for the special use permits, but Eisterhold said Hein could find another use for the site.

"She's going to make money at the expense of the community," he said.

A Pulitzer-Lerner Community Newspaper

• A LIFE NEWSPAPER, Week of September 17, 1987

Airport safety not an issue at Pal-Waukee

It's been a bad year for air safety. So-called industry experts across the country have been lining up to blame a cluster of untimely accidents and mid-air near collisions, deregulation, overburdened air traffic controllers, faulty equipment, and/or pilot error.

Not so at Pal-Waukee Airport.

Since last winter, pilots at this busy suburban air facility have been banding together to get a fledgling pilots association off the ground. And their primary concern is safety.

"Actually, I'd had an idea about forming a pilots' group to promote safety and general aviation for a year or two," said Barry Dainas, president of the new Pal-Waukee Airport Pilots Association. "For a long time I'd been talking to other pilots to get feedback."

In December, when Pal-Waukee switched from being a private airport to a municipal one, the group began to take form.

At that time Wheeling and Prospect Heights bought the airport from Priester Aviation Services. Pal-Waukee is now being run by the Pal-Waukee Municipal Airport Commission, a dual governing body made up of officials from the two villages.

"When the municipalities came in, we felt there might be a communication problem," said Dainas. "They're basically oriented to community interests. We felt we could communicate to them what the pilots needed and they could use us to reach the pilots."

According to Dainas, one of the association's first chances to help came in June when PAPA was invited by the commission to a special meeting on safety and revenue considerations involved in maintaining the 5,000-foot runway. The discussion was prompted when the feasible. Our message was that 5,000 feet is a bare minimum for many of the flight operations at Pal-Waukee. When margins are narrow, a few feet can drastically alter safety standards."

As a matter of fact, Dainas sees PAPA'S role as to improve communication among all segments of the airport's population.

"We're a door to the air controllers. We announce input from them in our newsletter and at our meetings.

"We're a door to and from the line crews. They let us know what's happening at the airport — even something as small as gravel being scattered onto the runways from nearby access roads. It only takes one stone to nick a propeller."

Barry Axelrod, a member of the board of the pilots' association, agreed with Dainas that safety and communication are PAPA's main concerns.

"But we also want to provide a social forum where people can get together and talk about aviation," said Axelrod.

"We have monthly board meetings. We had a general meeting in June at which Earl Funkle of WMAQ talked to us about weather. On Sept. 21 an expert on Loran-C navigational equipment will address the group. And we're making plans now to invite a controller from O'Hare. He can give us his perspective and let us know how we can work together."

Axelrod explained that PAPA's meeting are geared to qualify as safety seminars in the Federal Aviation Administration's Wings Program

"The program is aimed at improving pilot skills. Along with the seminars, pilots fly three hours a year with an instructor. The FAA awards a proficiency certificate

Photo by Tim Boyle

Corporate executives and flying enthusiasts alike look to Pal-Waukee Airport in Wheeling as an alternative to the hustle and bustle of O'Hare. A new pilot's association is forming at Pal-Waukee, formerly the nation's largest private airport, to make sure the facility continues its exemplary safety record as it converts to public ownership.

which are trainers, to Falcon 50's, which are three-engine corporate jets," he said. "Right now we have 160 members in our association and we represent all interests — private pilots, instructors, and corporate pilots who fly for business and pleasure."

Pal-Waukee is one of the busiest general airports in the nation, the second busiest in the state, next to O'Hare, said Axelrod. The control tower is open from 6 a.m. to 9 p.m. during the week and from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. on weekends.

Both Axelrod and Dainas see the present media barrage on air safety as overkill.

"It sells newspapers," said Axelrod. "But it also frightens people. In many ways the press is uninformed. We've invited them to our meetings, but no one comes."

"Ninety-five percent of pilots are interested in self-education," said Dainas. "Pal-Waukee is a safe airport, and the pilots do a good job here, but everybody can do better."

Pal-Waukee panel asks owners help in decision

By Freida Gad
Daily Herald Correspondent 9-18-87

Still floundering over the limits of its power, the Pal-Waukee Municipal Airport Commission is asking the airport's two owners to help choose a new commission chairman.

The chairman's post has been vacant since June because the eight commissioners cannot agree on how a new one should be selected.

When Wheeling and Prospect Heights bought the airport, they formed the commission to oversee it, but did not specifically state how to fill a vacancy in the chairman's post.

Airport commissioners — four from Wheeling and four from Prospect Heights — are split along hometown lines in replacing former chairman and Prospect Heights resident Ronald C. Sowatzke.

Wheeling commissioners want the two towns to decide. Prospect Heights commissioners want the commission to make its own decision.

"We can set a precedent. If we act on it and put our house in order, it allows us to use our judgment, which is suspect at best," said Prospect Heights commissioner Carey L. Chickerneo, referring to the commission's indecision. The commission tried unsuccessfully in August to fill the vacancy.

But Wheeling commissioner Anthony Altieri said the agreement governing the airport commission is too vague.

"There is a deficiency there," he said.

Wheeling commissioner Robert Strauss urged the commission to keep Altieri, the vice chairman, serving as acting chairman.

After a proposal to fill the vacancy themselves failed, the commissioners agreed to let their towns decide the issue.

The commission has had problems making other decisions. It failed to hire an airport manager and also ran into lengthy delays obtaining liability insurance for its members.

Village plans under way for 100th birthday

Life 9-17-87

The Village Board voted last week to establish a committee that will help Wheeling celebrate its 100th birthday in 1994.

The committee will make recommendations to the Village Board on how to make the birthday a special event. The group will have no power to spend funds.

The new committee was established at the recommendation of Village Manager Tom Markus, who said it might seem a little early to start planning for the centennial event.

But, he added in a memo to the board, "if the village is to undertake any type of program for this celebration, a sufficient length of time will be necessary to put all the activities in place and ensure that they are developed with the highest possible quality which an anniversary of this type deserves."

In other business the board approved a tax break for one business and held a public hearing on a tax exemption requested for another business. Both businesses plan to locate in the Pal-Waukee Business Center.

Pal-Waukee panel asks owners help in decision

By Freida Gad
Daily Herald Correspondent 9-18-87

Still floundering over the limits of its power, the Pal-Waukee Municipal Airport Commission is asking the airport's two owners to help choose a new commission chairman.

The chairman's post has been vacant since June because the eight commissioners cannot agree on how a new one should be selected.

When Wheeling and Prospect Heights bought the airport, they formed the commission to oversee it, but did not specifically state how to fill a vacancy in the chairman's post.

Airport commissioners — four from Wheeling and four from Prospect Heights — are split along hometown lines in replacing former chairman and Prospect Heights resident Ronald C. Sowatzke.

Wheeling commissioners want the two towns to decide. Prospect Heights commissioners want the commission to make its own decision.

"We can set a precedent. If we act on it and put our house in order, it allows us to use our judgment, which is suspect at best," said Prospect Heights commissioner Carey L. Chickerneo, referring to the commission's indecision. The commission tried unsuccessfully in August to fill the vacancy.

But Wheeling commissioner Anthony Altieri said the agreement governing the airport commission is too vague.

"There is a deficiency there," he said.

Wheeling commissioner Robert Strauss urged the commission to keep Altieri, the vice chairman, serving as acting chairman.

After a proposal to fill the vacancy themselves failed, the commissioners agreed to let their towns decide the issue.

The commission has had problems making other decisions. It failed to hire an airport manager and also ran into lengthy delays obtaining liability insurance for its members.

Trustees to consider buying more Crossroads property

Herald 9-20-87

Wheeling trustees on Monday will consider the purchase of more property within the village's Crossroads project.

Crossroads is the village's plan for redeveloping the area near Dundee Road and Milwaukee Avenue. Two years ago, Wheeling created a tax increment financing district to finance purchases of property and redevelopment of an area that stretches north and south along both sides of Milwaukee Avenue, east to the Des Plaines River and west to First Street.

Currently, the village is concentrating on redevelopment of an area northwest of Milwaukee and Dundee where an $8.9 million shopping center called Village Square is planned. Plans are for a 130,000-square-foot building with about 35 stores. The Sportmart store at 240 E. Dundee Road will be used as one of the anchor stores for the shopping center.

Property being considered by the village is Doetsch and Associates, 268 E. Dundee Road. On the property stands a two-story house which Doetsch has been selling real estate from for six years.

There is also a building on the property that the Wheeling Historical Society wants to use as a barn to house and display horse-drawn carriages.

The village now owns five properties in the area planned for a shopping center. Properties were last purchased in November 1986.

Negotiations on other properties have stalled while condemnation proceedings are pending in court.

The top meeting

Who: Wheeling village board

Where: Wheeling Village Hall, 255 W. Dundee Road

When: 8 p.m. Monday

Village buys Crossroads parcel

By C. L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer 9-22-87

Wheeling trustees on Monday approved buying the eighth piece of property in the Crossroads Redevelopment area.

Paul Doetsch agreed to sell his property at 268 E. Dundee Road to the village for $180,000. Doetsch has operated a real estate business from a two-story house on the property for six years. He is moving his business about a block and a half away to a house that is currently empty.

The village expects to close the deal with Doetsch in two weeks. Doetsch will be allowed to stay on the property for about three months after the closing.

The Crossroads -- which stretches from Manchester Drive north to Strong Street on both sides of Milwaukee Avenue and on both sides of Dundee Road from the Des Plaines River west to First Street -- is aimed at redesigning Wheeling's downtown and attracting shoppers.

Doetsch's property lies in an area where an $8.9 million retail center with 35 stores is planned. Prices for the seven remaining parcels still to be purchased by the village will be determined through condemnation proceedings in court.

Once the village buys all the property, it will be resold to a developer in charge of the shopping center. Plans are to demolish the house on the Doetsch property, but trustees still must approve a contract for that demolition.

The purchase is being financed through tax increment financing, a method in which the district's property taxes are frozen and what would have been an increase in property taxes is instead channeled to a special fund for redevelopment. There is currently about $3 million in that fund.

It has been nearly a year since Wheeling purchased property in the Crossroads area. That occurred shortly after the sale of $4.4 million in general obligation bonds to finance the redevelopment.

Police asking for feedback on performance

Herald 9-22-87

What do you think about the Wheeling Police Department? The village wants to know.

People who have had contact with the Wheeling police, including nonresidents, are invited to complete a one-page survey. Wheeling Police Chief Michael F. Haeger said the idea for the survey came from a recommendation included in the Illinois Certified Cities program application. Wheeling was designated a certified city in August.

More than 200 surveys have been received by the department and tabulation of the results will probably not occur for about two weeks, Haeger said.

Those completing the survey are not required to sign their name. Under "optional" information listed on the survey is whether the individual lives in a single or multiple-family residence or comes from a commercial or industrial area. The person completing the survey also may indicate their sex and age.

The survey includes questions about the officer's politeness, response time and whether he or she provided help.

Questions about an overall impression of the Wheeling Police Department and recommended changes are also included.

Surveys are available in the village newsletter to residents or at village hall, 255 W. Dundee Road. Postage will not be paid for returning the survey to the police department.

Official will take note of airport noise

By C. L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer 9-22-87

Early risers traveling near Wolf and Hintz roads may see a man with a note pad looking in the sky -- and he won't be checking the weather.

Wheeling trustee and Pal-Waukee Municipal Airport commissioner William Rogers said he will begin monitoring flights onto and off of the north end of the airport runway to prove a point -- planes and noise are affecting Wheeling more than airport co-owner Prospect Heights.

In foggy weather or when wind is blowing from the east and west or early in the morning, planes usually take off or land at Pal-Waukee by flying over Wheeling, said Rogers, who hears the noise at his home on Wolf Road.

Rogers takes exception to the number of takeoffs over Wheeling and voted against a plan he believed contained "preferential departures" to the northwest over Wheeling.

However, those who prepared the plan said it does not favor sending more planes over Wheeling than Prospect Heights, but agreed that Prospect Heights would benefit more by it.

"The total plan would have reduced noise in both communities, but more so in Prospect Heights," said Max Wolfe, consultant with Coffman Associates in Kansas City.

Coffman was hired to prepare a noise study, and is recommending that air traffic controllers steer more planes over the nearby industrial area on takeoffs and that pilots cut back on engine thrust on takeoff.

Those recommendations have not yet been considered by the airport commission, which will review them before sending them to the Wheeling village board and Prospect Heights City Council for further study.

There are approximately 15,400 people from Wheeling, Prospect Heights, Mount Prospect and unincorporated Cook County who are affected by airport noise, Wolfe said. The plan would bring that number down to 9,700.

Towns contest airport panel post

By Dan Rozek
Daily Herald Staff Writer 9-23-87

Filling a key vacancy on the Pal-Waukee Municipal Airport Commission may prove difficult because Prospect Heights and Wheeling apparently disagree about who should take the post.

The eight-member airport commission overseeing the airport is deadlocked over who should be named chairman, and in desperation, commission members turned for help to the towns that own the airport.

But town officials apparently have opposing views about who should serve as chairman.

Prospect Heights aldermen say one of the four Prospect Heights residents serving on the commission should be named chairman, although none has served longer than eight months.

Wheeling Village President Sheila H. Schultz, however, says Wheeling resident Anthony Altieri, the vice chairman, should assume the chairman's post.

Prospect Heights officials base their claim to the chairmanship on the agreement between the towns that established the airport commission.

"I know the intent was that each municipality take a two-year term with the chairmanship," said 1st Ward Aldermen Charles T. VanderVennet, who formerly served on the commission.

Prospect Heights resident Ronald C. Sowatzke served as chairman for about four months before resigning in June. Aldermen say they believe a Prospect Heights resident should serve the rest of Sowatzke's two-year term.

"I sure as hell assumed the chair would remain for two years with someone from Prospect Heights," VanderVennet said.

But Schultz says the agreement apparently requires the towns to alternate chairmen so it is Wheeling's turn to provide a chairman. Even if the agreement is unclear, Altieri, as vice chairman, should be named to fill the vacancy, she said.

"We're very comfortable with Tony Altieri chairing the group," she said. "If there's any question on how it's filled, we'd like to see him (as chairman)."

The commission tried unsuccessfully in August, and then again last week, to fill the vacancy, but members split along town lines and could not reach a decision.

Schultz said she wants a quick solution to the problem so the commission does not get bogged down waiting for a chairman.

"I would hope they keep on with the business at hand," she said. "I don't see that that should delay the issues they have facing them."

Village itching to plan centennial

By C. L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer

9-23-87

Let the brainstorming begin.

After hearing about anniversary celebrations in other towns, Wheeling Village President Sheila H. Schultz believes Wheeling should begin making plans for its centennial, even if it's seven years away.

"To do things really well things need to be done in advance," Schultz says.

A five-person committee, still to be appointed by Schultz, will be responsible for ideas on the 100th anniversary celebration.

The village always seem to be pushing against the clock with other projects, Schultz said adding, "The main thrust is let's not get caught short."

But Trustee Judy G. Abruscato thinks the advance planning is a bit absurd.

"I still believe seven years is too long," said Abruscato, who has been planning Fourth of July festivities in Wheeling for several years.

Some bands or organizations may require scheduling two years in advance, Abruscato said, adding that four years is a comfortable margin.

Wheeling Trustee James Whittington said extensive planning requires decisions about who will be directly involved in centennial preparations and what should be highlighted in the community.

The committee might decide a celebration could span over a couple of years, he added.

Talking to old-timers also is important to do now, Whittington said.

"There are people who have a wealth of knowledge about Wheeling when it was a small community of 50 or 60 years ago and they are getting older," he said.

The Wheeling Historical Society helped organize the village's Diamond Jubilee celebration and society president Frank Schnaitmann said he would like to appoint someone to be on the village committee.

"It's never too soon. Sometimes we start too late and never get anything done," he said.

2 Wheelings share only the name

By Sherry Boemmel
Daily Herald Correspondent

9-24-87

Although they share the same name, Wheeling Ill., top, and Wheeling West Va., below, have different looking downtowns. The corner of Dundee and Milwaukee Avenues features one-story buildings while multi-story buildings dot the business area of Wheeling West Va.

Daily Herald Photo

There are lots of Wheelers in the United States, but only two communities named Wheeling — Wheeling, West, Va., and Wheeling, Ill.

And although the towns share the same name, the two communities are far from identical.

There are legends about how each town got its name, no one seems to know for sure.

Wheeling West Va., Chamber of Commerce President Richard Kennedy says the name is supposedly derived from the Indian word "willlunk" meaning head. Kennedy says — with disbelief in his voice — that the name commemorates the death of an army officer, who survived a 170-foot fall from a cliff on his horse only to be beheaded by the Indians.

The West Virginia city is the older of the two Wheelings.

It was settled by the Zane family in 1769 and its history is closely tied to the major events of the developing nation. It was incorporated in 1836.

It is no longer on Main Street, but Fort Fincastle was the site of a battle in the French and Indian War (1754-63) in which settlers held off Indian raiders. Later renamed for Patrick Henry, the fort was the site of one of the last skirmishes of the Revolutionary War in 1782.

The city was the headquarters for the Union sympathizers during the Civil War. West Virginia refused to secede with Virginia, which was the first and largest of Britain's American colonies, and became a state itself in 1863. Wheeling was the state capital from 1863-70 and from 1875-85.

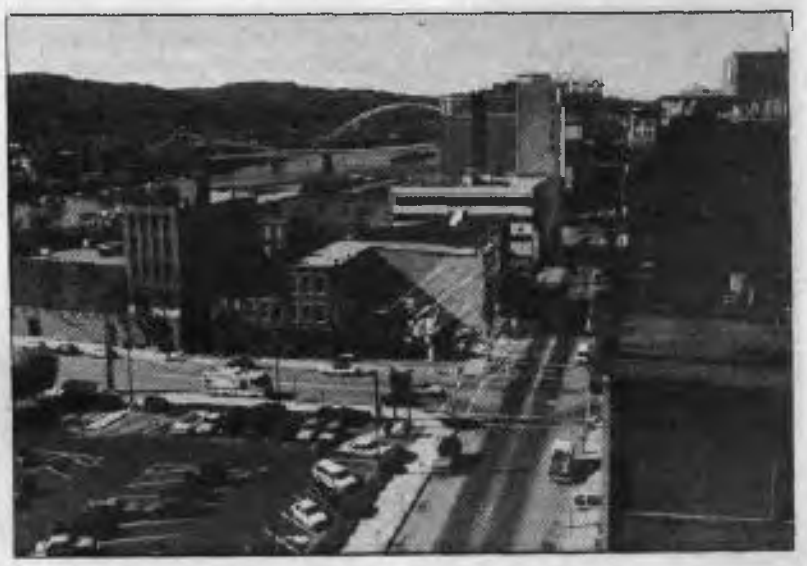
Wheeling also was important in the early transportation network. It was the western end of the Cumberland Road, an early stop (1852) on the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad and one of the large ports on the Ohio River.

Though coal and manufacturing and now computer service businesses are important economically, Wheeling is also the home of the stogie, a cheap cigar named for Conestoga wagons, which traveled on the Cumberland Road.

The West Viginia city has a population of 45,000, but it is the hub of a metropolitan area of about 185,000, which extends across the Ohio River into Ohio. Since it is in the northern panhandle of the state, it is only 60 miles south of Pittsburg, its "Chicago."

Almost half a country away, Wheeling, Ill., has a different story behind its name. Sandy Altieri of the Wheeling Historical Society, says she found a story about a religious group, which was headed from West Virginia to Illinois, but found no news of their arrival.

Wheeling was settled in 1835 by a Mr. Sweet and officially became a town in 1894. Then, as now, Wheeling was known for restaurants and taverns because it was about halfway to Milwaukee. Altieri says the town was founded so police could be hired to control the rowdy railroad men, who worked in Deerfield and Highland Park.



Manufacturing is important here just as it is in West Virginia. Both have airports for smaller planes. The Des Plaines River was more important for recreation years ago, but floods of that river have apparently caused more damage than the Ohio in recent years. The Ohio's last major flood was in 1975, when a river island where 2,000 persons live was flooded, says City Manager Mike Nau.

As seen through the eyes of the town managers, the character of the communities seems quite different. The first place Nau would take visitors is to 1,200 — acre Oglebay Park.

The tour would include the dog track, the historical waterfront and early 1800's houses, Jambouree USA, an annual music festival, and the best steaks in the East.

Nau would tell tourists about the fine schools, the lowest crime rate in the country and an article in which "Money Magazine" ranked the community as the third best place to live in the country. The magazine praised Wheeling for its low-cost housing and a low crime rate.

Thomas Markus, village manager Wheelng, Ill., says his tour would stress diversity what he called a cross between a self-sufficient town and a bedroom community. He would explain how the ethnic and religious diversity makes it a good place to raise children.

Markus would begin with the "industrial tax base," which features products from food preparation to high tech. Schools, new housing developments, the historic river and restaurants would also be on his tour, he says.

A glance at Wheelings: a tale of two cities

	Wheeling, W. Va	Wheeling, Ill.
First settled	1769	1835
Incorporation	1836	1894
Population	45,000	28,000
Median income per household	$23,505	$13,906
Library Est.	1809	1958
Economy	Industrial, retail, service	Diverse
Nearest City	Pittsburg,Pa.	Chicago

Police Department going to the dogs

Life 9-24-87

Within a few months the Police Department will be getting a new member, one that doesn't talk, but has a terrific sense of smell.

The latest recruit, a dog, will be purchased with funds raised by the Wheeling Jaycees.

An auction sponsored by the Jaycees last week netted a little more than $3,000 for the puchase of the animal.

The Jaycees also received a cash donation of up to $2,500 from the Wheeling Chamber of Commerce along with other cash donations totaling more than $2,-100.

There is now enough money to buy the dog and the equipment and supplies necessary to house him, said Debbie Santy, spokeswoman for the Jaycees. The dog will reside at a kennel to be built in an officer's yard. That policeman will be responsible for the care of the animal. He and the dog, which will already have some training, will receive special training together.

The request to help raise funds to purchase the animal was warmly received by the business community, according to Santy. Many businesses made either cash donations or gave items to be auctioned.

Among the contributers were Burger King, which donated 10 free whoppers to the auction; Video Joynt, which donated 30 free rentals; and Ace hardware, which donated an electric fry-pan.

Those giving cash, included the Barson Chemical Co., Sir Speedy Printing; and the First National Bank.

Police Chief Michael Haeger holds flowers to be auctioned to raise money to buy a dog for the police department. The auction, held last week, netted more than $3,000.

Police Dept. goes to dogs

Continued from page 1

Santy said the Jaycees were "tickled pink" by the response.

"I think there was so much support because it's something the community needs," Santy said. "With such a large industrial base, the community is lacking without a dog."

Deputy Chief Gary O'Rourke said the dog will be used for many purposes. For example, he said, it could be used to search buildings for the presence of unauthroized persons if there is a suspected burglary. And, although it requires special training, the dog could be used for narcotics searches.

It could also be used to track a missing child, he said.

He told of one recent incident in which 10 Wheeling officers looked for a missing 5-year-old child. The child was found in a nearby yard with some new friends that his mother didn't know about.

"If we had the dog to track, it would have saved us two hours of searching," O'Rourke said.

The dog will also be used in such things as crime prevention programs with school children and community groups.

Eastchester will get third exit

9-24-87

By C. L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Residents in the Eastchester of Wheeling subdivision will get a third exit out of the area with the construction of "Eastchester II," east of Elmhurst Road and north of Kristy Lane.

Eastchester II is comprised of 14 lots located across Garth Road from the 66-house development called Eastchester of Wheeling. Both are being built by Scarsdale Enterprises of Evanston.

Included in the second phase of development is a street which starts out as two lanes at Garth Road and narrows into one lane going west to Elmhurst Road.

Eastchester residents currently enter and exit the development from Eastchester Road off Hintz Road and from Kristy Lane off Elmhurst Road.

The new one-way street will bisect the subdivision between Hastings Court on the north and Kristy Lane to the south. Two lanes will become one lane because the owner of the southwest corner is reportedly not interested in selling his property or granting an easement for a road.

Developers do not want to move the street north to provide a full-sized street because it would narrow the lots by 15 feet. Scarsdale has agreed to pay for curbing on the south side of the street.

There will be signs posted on Elmhurst Road warning drivers not to enter the half street.

Since appearance commissioner Bing Zielka had questions about fencing the new area, plans for Eastchester II will go before the appearance commission.

Properties fight condemnation

Life 9-24-87

The village has now come to an agreement to buy eight parcels on the northwest corner of Milwaukee Avenue and Dundee Road, but the owners of two of the remaining seven sites the village wants are contending in court that Wheeling has no right to purchase their property through condemnation.

The Milwaukee/Dundee corner is slated to be the site of a shopping center to be built with village help. On Monday, the Village Board approved the purchase, for $180,000, of the Paul Doetsch property, which is being used as a real estate office. The village had previously bought seven other parcels and instituted condemnation proceedings against the remaining seven sites.

The Milwaukee/Dundee shopping center is to be developed by Vantage Companies, which will get the benefits of Tax Increment Financing to help pay for the project. One benefit involves the village selling the parcels it buys to Vantage at a lower price than it paid for them.

However, the owners of two properties the village wants, Dunkin' Donuts and Tien Tsin restaurant, are arguing that the Wheeling has no right to condemn their properties. A condemnation hearing for all seven properties will be held on Dec. 1.

Kenneth Siegan, attorney for the Dunkin' Donut franchisee, said he is fighting the condemnation on the following grounds:

- The village complaint was not done properly.
- The property to be bought will not be used for a public use, which is a requirement of condemnation.
- The Tax Increment Financing Statute says the area to be used for TIF must be either blighted or an industrial park conservation area, and the Milwaukee/Dundee site is neither.
- Finally, the TIF statute itself is unconstitutional because it is too vague. For example, it does not adequately define what "blighted" means.

Also Monday, Village Manager

Properties against condemnation

Continued from page 1

Tom Markus said that Doetsch is willing to donate the old barn located on the property he is selling to the village to the Historical Society, which wants to use the facility as a carriage house in Chamber Park.

The Historical Society will ask the Park Board on Oct. 1 to move the structure to that location. Bob McIntyre, a member of the Historical Society, said the group has received an estimate that it will cost $5,000 to move the barn.

A carriage house is part of Historical Society plans to create an historic village at Chamber Park, 251 N. Wolf Road. Currently at the park is the Historical Museum and old Community Church, built in 1865.

Besides adding a carriage house to the park, the society would eventually like to add a house furnished in the period of the 1890s.

In other business Monday, the Village Board approved the Part 150 noise study plan for Pal-Waukee Airport. The plan was prepared by Coffman and Associates.

Trustee Bill Rogers said approval had earlier been delayed at his request because of an item in the plan that would have increased the number of takeoffs going over Wheeling in order to reduce noise levels in the more populated areas south of the airport.

The Village Board also approved a 6-B property tax exemption for Edgar A. Weber & Co., which is to locate in the Pal-Waukee Business Center.

According to a report presented to the board, 12 companies, including Weber, have so far been granted the exemptions. Two applications have been turned down.

The 6B exemption, which must be approved by the county also reduces a firm's property tax assessment level to 16 percent for eight years and then to 30 percent for an additional four years. Industrial property in Cook County is normally assessed at 40 percent of market value. The exemption law was approved by the board to make Cook County more competitive with surrounding counties, where the assessment rate is 33½ percent of market value.

Countryside 9-24-87

Wheeling police officer suspended by village for not answering calls

Wheeling police officer Burton Kaminsky has been suspended without pay for 50 days on charges that he did not respond to two separate calls while on duty in 1985.

The decision was made by the Wheeling Fire and Police Commission following a three-hour long disciplinary hearing conducted last Thursday. The hearing was the was the second held in the case. The first was held in 1985, when four charges that Kaminsky did not respond to four different calls were filed by Police Chief Michael Haeger. That hearing resulted in Kaminsky's dismissal from the department.

Kaminsky went to court to get the ruling overturned.

The Illinois Appellate Court earlier this year reversed the commission's original decision, saying that Kaminsky was only at fault in two of the charges. The court ordered that he be rehired and that a second hearing be held, this time with a less severe penalty imposed.

The court also ruled that Kaminsky should receive back pay for the time he was out of work, said fire and police commissioner John Sheik. However, any money Kaminsky earned during the time he was not on the force will be deducted from the back pay as will the salary he will lose from the 50-day suspension, Sheik said.

In all, the village will pay the officer $38,000, he said.

The maximum penalty that could have been imposed was a 30-day suspension on each charge. "We determined that 25 days was adequate," said Sheik.

NEWS BRIEFS

Countryside 9-24-87

- **EDGAR A.** Weber and Co., which manufactures fruit and vanilla extract flavorings, will move from Elk Grove Village to Wheeling, thanks to a tax break used by village officials to attract new business.

The Wheeling Village Board Monday approved the development of a new facility for the company under the provisions the tax incentive program.

Developing under Cook County's 6b property tax exemption program will save Weber about $333,000 in taxes during its first 12 years of operation. The company plans to begin construction of a plant at the Pal-Waukee Business Center in May 1988.

Under the tax incentive program, a company is granted a reduction in its property assessment level from 38 to 16 percent of the market value during the first eight years of operation. For four years after that, the assessment stands at 30 percent. After 12 years of operation, the property would be assessed at whatever the normal level for commercial property is at that time.

- **WHEELING TRUSTEES** Monday unanimously approved the rezoning of a 3.5-acre lot from the R-1 district to R-3, which will allow the construction of more single-family homes on the parcel.

The change in residential zoning allows the developer to build on smaller lots, said Michael Klitzke, community development director.

The development, called Eastchester Unit II, will be located east of Elmhurst Road and north of Kristy Lane. Officials from Scarsdale Homes in Evanston say the 14 new homes will be constructed under the same guidelines as Eastchester Unit I.

Police pension fund losing about $500 daily

9-25-87

By C. L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer

The Wheeling Police Pension Fund may be losing $500 in interest each day since the credit union where it invested money was closed by state authorities.

The state Department of Financial Institutions closed the American Law Enforcement Credit Union and ordered its assets liquidated on Sept. 10.

Money has been returned to individuals with accounts at the credit union, but larger accounts like the Wheeling Pension Fund, with $2.5 million invested, are taking longer to tabulate, said Layne Bumgardner, deputy regional director of the National Credit Union Administration, insurer of investments.

"Until we get the money and some accounting of it, we won't know how much interest we get," said Robert R. Fialkowski, pension fund treasurer.

Wheeling had half of its roughly $5 million pension fund in the American Law Enforcement Credit union.

Bumgardner said interest on pension fund investments is insured through the date of liquidation. But, interest earned since the liquidation is probably lost, Fialkowski said. An estimated loss is as much as $500 each day, he said.

Other losses are also possible.

The credit union administration is verifying whether the 46 members of the pension fund are also members of the credit union, Bumgardner said. Most of the members are active police officers, Fialkowski said.

Credit union bylaws require pension fund members to be members of the credit union and the amount of pension money insured could be affected if investors are not members of both, Bumgardner said.

Money should be returned to the pension board by the end of the month, he said.

Fialkowski said he will recommend that the pension board reinvest in various accounts.

Village to sponsor health fair

9-25-87 Herald

Activities ranging from blood donations to testing your knowledge of AIDS will be featured Saturday at a health fair sponsored by the Wheeling Board of Health.

The fair will be from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Lynn Plaza Shopping Center, McHenry and Dundee roads. Most of the activities will be held outside and if it rains, there is room inside the plaza for the 11 booths expected, said Daniel Adams, village sanitarian.

The board developed the health fair after coming up with the idea about two years ago, Adams said.

"This is an excellent opportunity for everyone in the community to explore health issues of concern to them and learn about other health issues," he said.

Information about recognition, diagnosis, treatment and prevention of disease will be available. A dentist and chiropractor also will be there to talk with visitors.

Exhibitors will discuss lung disease, colon and other types of cancer, diabetes, blindness, drug abuse, oral hygiene, spinal problems and blood supply.

Blood donor pledges will be accepted and some home test kits, including glucose monitoring kits, will be distributed, Adams said.

The Cook County Health Department will have an AIDS game to test the public's knowledge about the disease, he said.

Rezoning called vital for sale of business

9-26-87

By C. L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Wheeling trustees are faced with either losing a business or setting a precedent for lenience along Milwaukee Avenue.

Ida Hein, owner of Hein's Pub and Liquor Store, will ask the village board Monday to rezone her business so she can sell it.

The building at 141-149 S. Milwaukee Ave., which also contains an empty store and Eagle Auto Parts, was built before current village codes went into effect.

But Hein wants to sell the building, which would make it subject to the present, stricter code.

She is asking the village to wipe away the requirements and approve the building as it is for the next owner, or she fears it won't be sold.

"It's a situation that doesn't seem to have any good answers," said Wheeling Trustee William A. Rogers.

The Wheeling Plan Commission turned down Hein's request, 6-1, saying there are not enough parking spaces and the building is too close to Milwaukee Avenue.

"My feel for the board is they will back up the plan commission," said Wheeling Village President Sheila H. Schultz.

Village code requires 83 parking spaces for the building, but only 33 are available on the site. Plus, plans for widening Milwaukee Avenue would wipe out another 13 spaces.

While the village decides what to allow, a liquor license is pending for Dawn Humer, who wants to buy the business and call it Hatfield's.

Oldtimers in Wheeling are also watching the village board's decision closely because of the administration's political background.

Schultz defeated Ida Hein's son, William H., in his bid for a second term as village president six years ago.

"I have a reversed political pressure," she said. Schultz added she does not vote at village board meeting unless there is a tie.

Zoning variations for pub sale to be mulled

Herald 9-27-87

Zoning variations that the owner of Hein's Pub and Liquor Store says are necessary for her to sell the Milwaukee Avenue business will be discussed by Wheeling village trustees Monday.

During a board workshop meeting, trustees will consider the fact that Ida Hein's building is not in compliance with village code because it has too few parking spaces, is too close to the property lines and access to the street is not up to standard.

For instance, village code requires 83 parking spaces for the building, but only 33 are available on the site. Once Milwaukee Avenue is widened as planned, the business will lose another 13 parking spaces and neighboring businesses do not have the space to share.

The building has been allowed to remain as it is because it was constructed before current village ordinances were passed.

Now that Hein wants to sell the structure, it would be subject to the present village code for the new owner. But Hein is asking the village to wipe away the requirements and approve the building as it is for the next owner, otherwise, she fears it will never sell.

The top meeting

Who: Wheeling village board

Where: Wheeling village hall, 255 W. Dundee Road

When: 8 p.m. Monday

Wheeling threatens charging for cops

By C. L. Waller 9.28.87
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Wheeling may start billing Prospect Heights for answering emergency police calls there when the Cook County Sheriff's Department is short-handed and can't respond.

Wheeling police say that of the 2,097 calls they answered in August, 27 or 1.3 percent of them came from Prospect Heights. From January through June, Wheeling police say they went to Prospect Heights 82 times.

That is too much for Wheeling Police Chief Michael F. Haeger, who said his men are answering calls in Prospect Heights far more than in neighboring towns.

"I can guarantee you we didn't have 2 percent of our calls in Buffalo Grove, Northbrook or Arlington Heights," he said.

"It should be a rare time when you are called out of your own community," echoed Wheeling Village President Sheila H. Schultz. Schultz and Haeger said billing their neighbor for the man hours is a possibility.

Wheeling puts between four and nine officers on the street at one time for a community of about 27,000 people. Prospect Heights, a community of about 13,000, averages two or three officers at a time, said Prospect Heights Mayor John E. Gilligan. Prospect Heights hires the Cook County Sheriff's Department to patrol the area because it doesn't have its own police force.

When a Prospect Heights resident calls the emergency number for police, his call is answered by Cook County police in Maywood. If the sheriff's contingent in Prospect Heights is unavailable, the county dispatcher usually contacts Wheeling police for help.

Mount Prospect police say the county doesn't call them except in cases where sheriff's deputies need a backup. Arlington Heights police say

CHARGES: Wheeling may send bill for cops' use

Continued from Page 1

the county rarely calls them because they aren't as close as Wheeling to most Prospect Heights calls.

"Our intent is not to be a burden on Wheeling," said Prospect Heights City Administrator Robert R. Kiely. He said he could understand Wheeling's concern "if it was a large percentage," and that one of the city's goals is to decrease the need to call for help from the outside.

Until 1985, Prospect Heights deputies used the Wheeling police interrogation room, Breathalyzer and holding cell, Haeger said. When Wheeling threatened to send a bill, the sheriff's department instead starting taking suspects to the county lockups in Skokie and Maywood, Kiely said.

Pub fate draws a blank

By C. L. Waller 9.29.87
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Wheeling trustees did not provide any answers Monday night to a business woman who needs zoning changes in order to sell her Wheeling business.

Ida Hein, owner of Hein's Hatfield Pub and Liquor Store, asked village trustees to ease zoning restrictions that have sprouted around her Milwaukee Avenue property in the years since she set up shop.

Hein said she cannot sell the business at 141-149 S. Milwaukee Ave. unless the village board allows a zoning that demands less parking. The building also houses a vacant store and Eagle Auto Parts.

Dawn Humer wants to purchase the business, but she cannot operate it under a new set of zoning restrictions governing parking needs based on the nature of the business. An Arlington Heights investment firm wants to buy the building, but the new code says it is too close to Milwaukee Avenue.

Wheeling Village President Sheila H. Schultz said trustees are struggling to come up with an answer for Hein.

The building, owned by Hein for 14 years, is allowed to remain as it is because it was built before the ordinances were passed. "We have the same booths, the same tables we had 14 years ago," she said. "I don't feel I should be up here begging."

The restaurant portion of the building seats 104. Village code requires 83 parking spaces for the building, but only 33 are available on the site. Plans for widening Milwaukee Avenue would wipe out another 13 parking spaces.

Hein's attorney Rickey J. Ament said, "There's not enough parking for nearly every business along Milwaukee Avenue." Should the village board vote down rezoning, the only option left is litigation, Ament said.

Town may ban toy guns in stores

By C. L. Waller 9.30.87
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Wheeling may ask store owners to voluntarily remove spring-loaded toy guns from their shelves after an incident in which a 15-year-old was charged with pointing one across Dundee Road at a McDonald's restaurant.

The boy was charged Monday with disorderly conduct and knowingly and unlawfully possessing a spring-loaded gun. It is illegal to possess spring loaded guns in Wheeling, although it is not illegal to sell them.

The gun that shoots plastic pellets is really no different than a BB gun or a pellet gun, said Wheeling Police Chief Michael F. Haeger, who supports the move to pull the guns from the shelves.

"Parents cannot let their kids go around with these guns," he said.

The mother of the teen-ager in question said her son was holding an empty four-inch, spring-loaded gun when he was arrested. The plastic gun cost $1.98 and was purchased at a local store, she said.

"If it is illegal for my kids to have these guns," she complained to the village board after the incident, "then why isn't it illegal for the stores to sell them?"

At about 3:30 p.m. Monday, Wheeling police received a report that a man with a gun was pointing the gun at the restaurant. Haeger said police found the youth sitting on a brick wall near his home in the Arbor Court apartment complex with the toy gun nearby.

The mother said five squad cars and seven police officers arrived at Arbor Court apartment complex and all of the officers had their guns pointed at her son.

However, Haeger said the youth was not confronted by that many officers. Two were present; one frisked the youth and the other covered him. More officers arrived at the scene later, he said.

Arrest of boy with toy gun sets off mom

Life 10-1-87

An angry mother and several teen-agers complained to the Wheeling Village Board Monday about the way a 15-year-old who was "playing" with a toy gun was arrested.

But Police Chief Michael Haeger defended the actions of his men, saying it's difficult to distinguish a toy weapon from the real thing.

The boy with the gun, Paul Albrecht, was charged under a local ordinance for knowingly and unlawfully possessing a spring-loaded toy gun. The gun shoots small pellets. Part of the reason for the charge, Haeger said, was that the youth caused a great deal of alarm and fear by his actions.

Mary Albrecht, the boy's mother, said her son was sitting on a wall at Arbor Court apartments, where they live, pointing the empty gun at the street on Monday afternoon.

About seven officers, with guns drawn, handcuffed and arrested the boy, she said.

"When I saw my son being held at gunpoint and handcuffed, I said, 'That is my son, what is going on here?'" Albrecht said, adding that the police refused to tell her what he had done.

Haeger told the Village Board that the police had received a call reporting that a man was pointing a gun at McDonald's across the street from Arbor Court. Paul is a large youth who looks older than 15.

Haeger showed the board a .25-caliber automatic and said it is impossible to tell at a distance the difference between the pistol and the toy.

After the meeting he said the officers acted properly under the circumstances.

"They took all the appropriate steps that need to be taken," he said. "They did a good job."

He said that at first only two officers arrived at Arbor Court, but as many as seven or eight may have later arrived on the scene.

Haeger asked why teen-agers are being allowed by their parents to use toys that are so difficult to distinguish from real weapons.

Paul's mother, however, told the Village Board that "all boys play with guns."

She said the kids didn't know the toys were illegal, and that they are freely sold at Wheeling stores.

"If it's illegal for my kid to possess these guns, then it's illegal for the stores to possess them, and yet my son will go to court for having a toy gun," Albrecht said.

Village Attorney Jim Rhodes said it's an inconsistency, but a store can sell the spring-loaded toys while residents can't possess them

Village President Sheila Schultz asked Haeger for a report on the incident. She argues that all guns — toys or real — should be banned from the village.

New code throttles Hein's sale

Life 10-1-87

Hein's Pub and Liquor Store representatives came before the Village Board Monday seeking a way to win the variations and special uses that they say are necessary to sell the establishment.

The Plan Commission has recommended denial of most of the requested variations along with the special uses for the restaurant and liquor store.

At the workshop session Monday, Dolly Hein, owner of the business, expressed resentment at having to come before the board.

"I have lived in Wheeling for 35 years. I have given a lot. I don't feel that I should be up here begging for something that I shouldn't beg for," she said.

"We are not asking to enlarge (the business). We are not asking to do anything with it but to operate it the way it's been."

The Hein building at 141 S. Milwaukee Avenue has been in existence for 14 years. It consists of an auto parts store, the pub, a liquor store and space for future expansion. The building met code standards when it was first constructed. But the village has since passed more stringent requirements in an attempt to upgrade Milwaukee Avenue.

The businesses along the street generally have until 1992 or 2003 to meet the requirements or seek variations. Otherwise they can use their business as a tax write-off.

Hein wants the variations. Rickey Ament, attorney for Hein, told the board that it would be impossible to sell the building or business with the knowledge that it would eventually have to meet the more stringent requirements.

Village Planner Richard Greenwood said the Plan Commission generally denied the special use for the restaurant and liquor store because the establishment lacks enough parking spaces.

Under the existing code about 80 spaces would be needed. There currently are 33.

Greenwood said the village has made a number of suggestions through the years on ways to increase the parking.

Day care center receives reprieve

Life 10-1-87

Prospect Heights, backing down from its threats to close Sunnie Kiddies, has granted the day care center a special use ordinance.

As a result, the center will be able to to purchase the John Muir School, where it has been located for more than a year.

The closing on the sale will hopefully be on Oct. 1, said Eilene Lombardo, executive director of Sunnie Kiddies.

Last April, two Prospect Heights alderman told the Wheeling Village Board that Sunnie Kiddies would not be given a special use permit unless Wheeling permitted a second access to the Muir School. Sunnie Kiddies could not purchase Muir until it had the proper permits, and the center's officials feared they would have to shut down.

Muir, a District 23 building closed because of declining enrollment, is located in Prospect Heights south of Hintz Road between Wheeling and Elmhurst roads. It is surrounded on three sides by Wheeling.

The Prospect Heights aldermen said that the second access to the school was needed to ensure the safety of the children.

Although Muir was an elementary school from 1965 to about 1981, the aldermen said the situation was not ideal with only one access. The single entrance was approved by Cook County before Prospect Heights was incorporated.

But Wheeling board members said the problem was not Wheeling's. Village President Sheila Schultz said the Sunnie Kiddies issue involved a zoning decision Prospect Heights must make.

Fearing increased traffic, some Wheeling residents had objected to a second access.

Last week, Prospect Heights Mayor John Gilligan said the city granted the special use permit in July after an agreement between parties that included the day care center, the city and the School District. Wheeling was not involved, he said.

He refused to elaborate and said the agreement was made at a closed meeting.

After the terms of the agreement are accomplished, it will be made public, Gilligan said. Lombardo would only say that the day care center had donated 41/2 acres of land adjacent to the school to the Prospect Heights Park District.

"It's property we don't need and the Park District was using and maintaining it all along," she said. Lombardo, however, said she did not know if the donation of the land had anything to do with granting the special use permit a month later.

She said she had been prepared for the Prospect Heights Council to turn down the special use permit request and was in a state of shock when it was approved.

Sunnie Kiddies serves about 300 preschoolers.

Wheeling Countryside

10-1-91

Scary incident prompts review of toy gun sales

By Mark Maley

It was shortly before 3:30 p.m. Monday when the call came into the Wheeling Police Department. A man with a gun was seen in the parking lot of the Arbor Court apartments on Dundee Road.

With the 1985 shooting death of patrolman Kenneth Dawson still fresh in the minds of members of the department, the two officers who answered the call approached the scene with caution — not knowing what to expect. They arrived at the apartment complex and saw a young man sitting on the ledge of a brick wall holding a gun. The officers drew their guns and told the suspect to drop his weapon, which he did.

As one officer searched the suspect to make sure he had no other weapons on him, his partner kept his gun aimed at the youth until the two were sure the suspect was unarmed. As all this was happening, other officers responded to the call as well — making sure everything was under control.

As it turned out, the suspect was a 15-year-old boy and his weapon was a plastic pellet gun that he had purchased at a local store.

BUT THE INCIDENT, and a similar one the night before where a youngster was shot at by another teenager at the McDonald's restaurant on Dundee Road, has prompted village officials take a look at the possibility of prohibiting Wheeling businesses from selling the pellet guns.

"We know first-hand of the tragic consequences of people with guns," said Village President Sheila Schultz, "and we're grateful that there were no tragic consequences here. But even if this was an innocent action on the part of the youngster, there's still a problem with it."

Schultz said there's a "quirk" in existing village ordinances that makes it illegal to possess pellet guns, air guns or BB guns in public but doesn't outlaw the sale of those weapons in town.

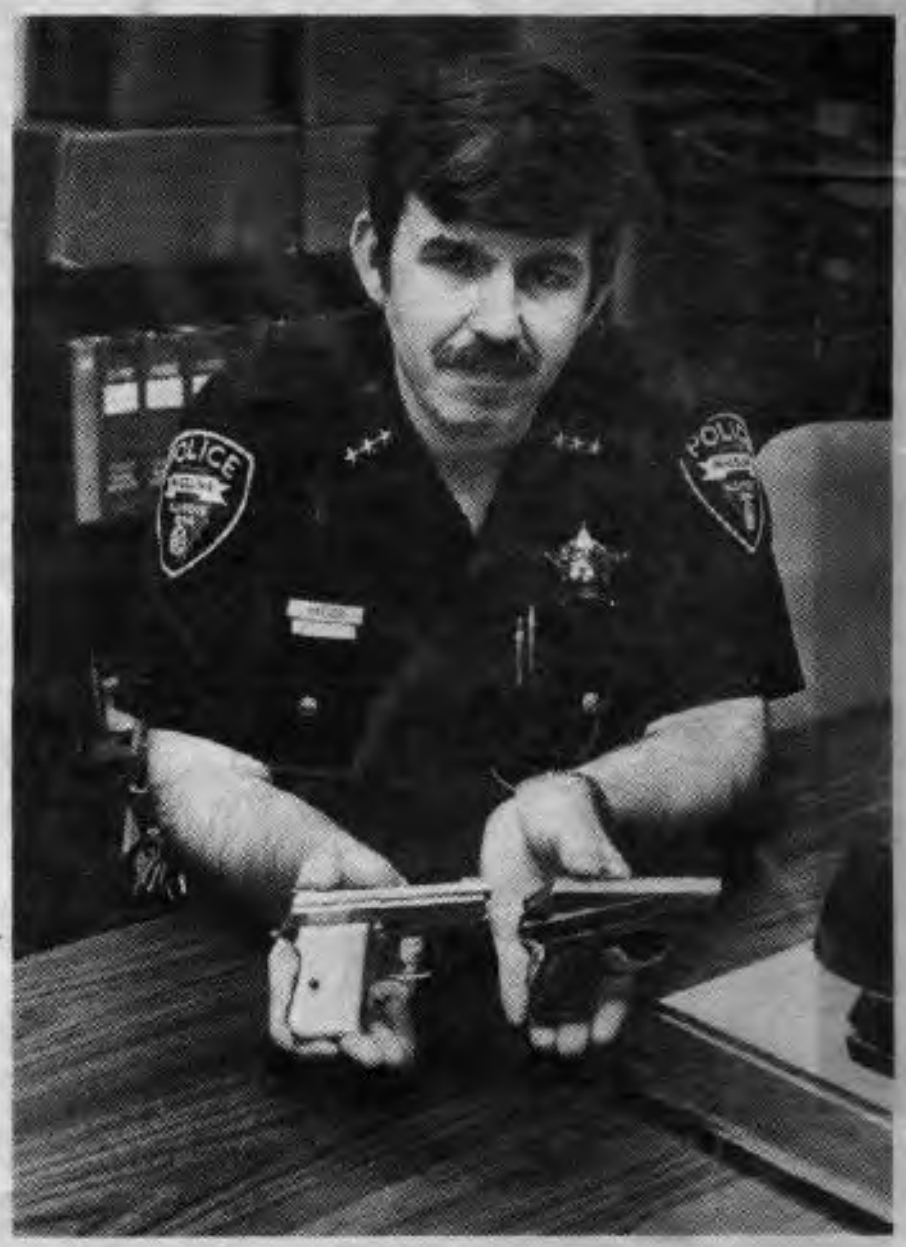
Schultz, who six years ago lobbied unsuccessfully to ban the sale of handguns in the village, said she would still like to see the village board place restrictions on the sale of both types of weapons — standard handguns and air guns and pellet guns. However, Schultz says she doesn't think the village can ban the sale of pellet guns and air guns without including handguns, too. And, she says, right now there's "no visable support" for a restricting the sale of guns.

"YEARS AGO I attempted to begin discussions on banning the sale of guns, but I got no support on that issue," she said. "But in light of our discussion on this incident, it would be worth checking again with our attorney to see if it's possible (to ban the sale of pellet guns)."

Even though it's not against the law to sell the pellet guns, Police Chief Michael Haeger said he has talked to the owner of a local drug store that carries the guns and asked him to remove the items from the shelves, which the owner agreed to do.

Haeger said the pellet guns used in the incidents Sunday and Monday are plastic weapons that look like the real handguns and shoot hard plastic pellets

(Continued on page 12)



Wheeling Police Chief Michael Haeger displays a real .25-caliber handgun on the left and a plastic pellet gun on the right. *(Staff photo by Daniel White)*

(Continued from page 9)

that can cause injuries. To get an idea of what kind of injury the guns can cause, Haeger said he shot himself in the arm with one of the pellet guns and "I got a big welt from it."

"It wasn't a serious injury, but think of what it would do if it struck you in the eye or hit an innocent child in the eye," he said.

WHILE NO ONE was shot in the incident on Monday, Haeger said a youth was shot by a teenager with a pellet gun at McDonald's Sunday night. No charges have yet been filed in that incident, but the pellet guns were confiscated. The 15-year-old who was involved in Monday's incident has been charged with possession of a spring-loaded gun and is scheduled to appear in court on Nov. 2.

The mother of the youth who was arrested appeared before the village board Monday night to complain about the methods used by the officers responding to the call. The woman told the board that the department overreacted by sending seven officers to the scene and claimed that officers arrested her son without reading him his rights.

But Haeger defended the actions of his officers.

"I have conducted a preliminary review of the incident and found no wrongdoing on the part of the officers," he said. "Based on the way the dispatcher took the call, they responded the way the were supposed to. I also have no problem with the number of officers who responded...Other officers arrived on the scene, but they took no action."

Wheeling police say that from the distance it's impossible to tell the difference between a real handgun (left) and a pellet gun. When officers responded to a call Monday afternoon of a man with a gun, they had no idea that he was brandishing a pellet gun. *(Staff photo by Daniel White)*

HAEGER SAID THAT from a distance there's "no way anyone can tell the difference between a toy gun and a .25-caliber automatic."

Schultz also defended the way Monday's incident was handled by police. "If they get a report of a man with a gun, they have to respond appropriately," she said. "You have to understand the climate of a community that experienced the tragedy of a patrolman being shot on duty. They acted appropriately and safely."

— Kimberlee Wawak contributed to this story

Hein may take village to court over variances

Countryside 10-1-87

By Kimberlee Wawak

The owner of a Milwaukee Avenue tavern and restaurant may go to court if Wheeling officials refuse to grant her the zoning variances she needs to sell the business.

Ida Hein, owner of Hein's Pub, 141 S. Milwaukee Ave., wants to sell the establishment to another party, but, according to village ordinances, the new owner would be required to comply with existing zoning codes. Because the tavern opened before many of the existing codes went into effect, Hein was not required to bring the building up to code when the new laws were adopted.

However, village officials say the building would have to be brought up to code if a change in ownership takes place.

Hein and her attorney, Rickey Ament, appeared before the village board Monday night seeking several variations to the zoning code that would allow the business to remain as is under the new ownership.

HEIN IS SEEKING variances that would allow the building to operate with the existing 33 parking spaces instead of the 83 required by law. She is also seeking variances in the village's sign codes, minimum yard requirements and requirements for access to the building.

The village's plan commission has already recommended that the village board approve two variances — one concerning the minimum yard requirement, or the space surrounding the building, and one regarding access to the building.

The commission rejected requests for the other variances, however.

The 67-year-old Hein, who says she can no longer run the building and restaurant and wants to sell both, made an emotional plea to the village board to overturn the plan commission's decision.

"IT IS THE same as it was 14 years ago, nothing is different," she said. "I've lived here for 35 years. I don't feel I should have to come here and beg. I'm not buying new property, other buildings (along Milwaukee Avenue) are not set back as far as I am. We do not back onto Milwaukee Avenue, we never had any parking problems. I will dress it up."

The party who wants to buy the business is happy with the number of seats in the restaurant and has no plans to expand. But in order to meet minimum code requirements there must be 83 parking spaces in the lot, equal to the number of seats in the restaurant. The building's parking lot has only 33 spaces, but the restaurant has access to parking spaces at adjacent office buildings, which are not open during the dinner hours.

The village board took no action on the variance requests Monday, and did not set a date for making a decision on the matter. However, Village President Sheila Schultz said granting the variance could create safety and esthetic problems.

Schultz said there are plans on the drawing board to widen Milwaukee Avenue, and when that happens part of the existing parking lot at Hein's will be needed for a right-of-way for the new road. That, she said, would even further reduce the number of parking spaces on the property. What that could mean is that cars leaving the restaurant would have to back out directly onto Milwaukee Avenue, which could create a safety hazard.

IF THE BOARD upholds the plan commission recommendation and denies the variances, Ament said his client may take the village to court.

"Under village codes legal non-conforming use at a certain point will have to conform. It has not yet been tested in court," he said. "It is up to my client whether or not if we are turned down if we will take the matter to court, but if we are turned down we will have no remedy except for litigation."

Frustrated Pal-Waukee commission member quits

By C. L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer

10-28-87

A Wheeling representative has resigned from the Pal-Waukee Airport Commission, saying he is frustrated by a lack of progress.

Nicholas R. Fanella also said he is tied up with his business as a mortgage banker. Wheeling Trustee Elizabeth L. Hartman is expected to be appointed by the Wheeling village board Monday as his replacement.

Her appointment would give Wheeling three trustee members and one resident member on the airport commission, while Prospect Heights has four resident members.

Describing himself as practical and action-oriented, Fanella said he became frustrated as a commissioner because of the channels that need to be followed to get anything approved.

Commissioners are appointed by the city of Prospect Heights and the village of Wheeling, owners of the airport. The commission acts as a recommending body that passes along ideas to the ruling councils of both towns for their approval.

Hartman believes commissioners can move forward.

"This year is very difficult because we are getting rolling. Once we get our feet wet and get a manager it will be better," she said.

Fanella, who was one of three Wheeling trustees who voted against buying the airport in 1985, said he still believes it was a bad purchase.

The two communities were at odds from the beginning, he said, adding that differing attitudes make airport management difficult.

Plus, neither town has that much control because the Federal Aviation Administration holds the purse strings, he said.

Herald 10-4-87

Error 17 years ago may force annexation

A typographical error 17 years ago is causing Wheeling trustees to consider forced annexation of some property completely surrounded by the village.

The village board will discuss the problem at 8 p.m. Monday in the Wheeling Village Hall, 255 W. Dundee Road.

The village annexed 20 acres south of Hintz Road, directly across from Glenn Avenue in 1970, but the ordinance had a typographical error in the legal description of the property, annexing the wrong parcel of property, southwest of Wolf and Palatine roads.

An ordinance and plat are submitted to the Cook County assessor's office for tax purposes, but the county only read the ordinance, not the plat, which property descriptions are supposed to match, but didn't, said Michael J. Klitzke, Wheeling community development director.

The property that was supposedly annexed in 1970 was vacant and still is, Klitzke said.

The error was discovered when a person who recently bought a house on the property at Palatine and Wolf noticed he was paying taxes to Wheeling. Most of the property at Palatine and Wolf is vacant, but there are a couple of houses on the property, Klitzke said.

Apparently, the property owners at Wolf and Palatine have not been noticing for the past 17 years that their tax bills indicated they were paying taxes to Wheeling, he said.

To complicate matters further, five or six other properties were part of the same 1970 ordinance. Whether the village needs to pass new annexation agreements or amend the current one is still in question.

Klitzke said the village is not sure of the legal ramifications of the error, but the village attorney is looking into it.

The top meeting

Who: Wheeling village board

Where: Wheeling village hall, 255 W. Dundee Road

When: 8 p.m. Monday

Wheeling fixes 17-year-old mistake

By C. L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer 10-6-87

Wheeling trustees approved force annexing some property Monday night that they thought was annexed to the village 17 years ago.

However, a public hearing will be held for property owners who want to disconnect from the parcel mistakenly annexed in 1970.

The village annexed 20 vacant acres south of Hintz Road, directly across from Glenn Avenue in 1970, but the ordinance had a typographical error in the legal description of the property, annexing the wrong parcel of property, a quarter mile down the road at Palatine and Wolf roads.

An ordinance and plat are submitted to the Cook County assessor's office for tax purposes, but the county apparently only read the ordinance, not the plat. The ordinance and plat are supposed to match, but they did not in this case.

The annexation error was discovered when new homeowners Leah A. Zeldes and her husband, Richard H. E. Smith, saw that they were paying taxes to the Village of Wheeling for their property located southwest of Wolf and Palatine roads.

Apparently, property owners at Wolf and Palatine roads have not been noticing for the past 17 years that their tax bills indicated they were paying taxes to Wheeling.

Zeldes and Smith paid the village $200 in property taxes after they moved in October, 1986.

Zeldes said they want to stay in unincorporated Cook County rather than be annexed to the village. "For $200 we don't get that much," she said. "We get Wheeling police instead of Cook County police, and I'm not sure that's an improvement."

The village would like Zeldes, Smith and other property owners in that section to sign a waiver releasing Wheeling from the responsibility of paying back taxes from the 17 years.

"If the board, in its wisdom, were to ask for waivers, perhaps it would be appropriate that waivers begin in 1985," said Smith, adding that he would like to get his taxes back.

"At this point, to the best of our understanding, we paid 1986 taxes for services we didn't get," Smith said.

Wheeling stores willingly remove plastic pellet guns

By C. L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer 10-7-87

A grocery cart filled with plastic toy guns rolled out of Mark Drugs in Wheeling Tuesday. The guns, which shoot plastic pellets or disks, were being shipped to other stores in the area, outside Wheeling.

Although it is legal in Wheeling to sell toy guns, store managers at Sportmart, Kmart and Mark Drugs stores here are voluntarily complying with a request from the village to remove guns with small plastic pellets from their shelves.

The request came after a 15-year-old youth was charged with disorderly conduct a week ago for reportedly pointing one of the plastic guns across Dundee Road at McDonald's Restaurant.

Wheeling law prohibits possession of toy guns that shoot plastic pellets, but there is no ban on sales.

"I'm sure in the weeks to come we will be looking at our ordinance and whether there have been any modifications to ordinances in the area or outside the state regarding sale of these guns," said Wheeling Police Chief Michael F. Haeger.

"The problem is kids can buy them and they look realistic," said Jim Driess, manager of Sportmart. The store removed the guns and will require buyers of toy guns in the future to be 21 years old, he said.

"Maybe it's something that shouldn't be on the shelves anyway," said Dennis Dobberke, manager at Kmart.

Sales of toy guns with projectiles range from $500 to $1,000 a year at Kmart. Haeger said that the village is not asking stores to pull BB guns or steel pellet guns because those guns are expensive and generally not accessible to children.

Mark Drugs sells about 48 toy guns per month. Manager Ed Cohen said he does not mind removing the toys from shelves.

"I'll do anything as long as they don't take away my squirt guns," Cohen said.

Expanding Wheeling firm seeks tax break

By C. L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer 10-7-87

A company that makes disposable eating tools and straws for the food service industry is asking Wheeling trustees to give them a tax break on property where the company plans to expand.

Clearshield National currently has its corporate headquarters and 250 employees at 1175 Wheeling Road. It wants to keep that facility and expand its manufacturing operations to an 80,000 square-foot building at Marquardt and Peterson drives in the Wheeling Center for Industry.

The company has been in Wheeling since 1974 and the construction costs of the new facility are estimated at $3 million.

With a tax break, the village reduces a business's property taxes by 60 percent for eight years and 25 percent for four years after that. The tax incentive is offered to out-of-town manufacturers to entice them to relocate in Wheeling and to prevent existing industries from moving to Lake or DuPage counties where property taxes are lower.

Also eligible for the tax breaks are Wheeling firms that are planning to expand.

Companies must first apply for the tax break with the Cook County Assessor's office and then the village. Once the village gives approval, county approval usual follows.

Police pension fund board weighs investment options

By C. L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer 10-8-87

Members of the Wheeling police pension fund board will decide tonight where to reinvest the $2.5 million that was put in a credit union the state closed almost a month ago.

The state Department of Financial Institutions closed the American Law Enforcement Credit Union and ordered its assets liquidated on Sept. 10.

Recommendations on where to invest the money will come from a broker for Merrill Lynch and pension board treasurer Robert Fialkowski, who also is Wheeling's finance director.

The board is prohibited by state law from buying stock, but investments including treasury bills, agency securities and state of Israel bonds may be used as investments, Fialkowski said.

The most important decision is how long to invest and not how much, Fialkowsk said, adding that he will recommend most of the money be put in short term investments in the event interest rates go down.

With half of its roughly $5 million pension fund in the American Law Enforcement Credit Union, Wheeling had one of the largest amounts invested.

Pension board members, most of whom are active police officers, have been waiting to get the money back since the liquidation and board chairman Edward Therialt expects the check to arrive today.

Tired of waiting for the check, Therialt said he and the board attorney called a representative for the National Credit Union Administration last week and issued an ultimatum.

"We told them either we get the money or our board will take them to federal court," Therialt said.

The credit union administration said it was taking more time to return the pension money because it was verifying whether interest on the pension fund was insured.

The police pension fund has lost about $10,000 from the time of liquidation through today, based on a 6 percent interest rate, he said. Interest accrued before the liquidation will be returned, Therialt said.

17 years of wrongful taxing

Residents cite annexation error

The Wheeling Village Board has once again annexed a 20-acre parcel of land believed to have been annexed 17 years ago.

Because of a clerical error another parcel was recorded as having been annexed instead, and residents owning the mistakenly annexed land have been paying taxes to the village of Wheeling for years.

The property that was to have been annexed originally (and was finally annexed Monday) is located on Glenn Avenue on the south side of Hintz Road. The property that was recorded as being annexed is a 20-acre parcel on the southwest corner of Wolf and Hintz roads.

The error was finally discovered by two residents who bought a house located at Kerry and Ande lanes a year ago.

The residents, Leah Zeldes and her husband, Richard Smith, told the Village Board Monday that they had thought the house they purchased was located in unincorporated Cook County and were surprised that they were paying taxes to Wheeling.

They asked the Village Board to disannex their property, saying they are receiving few if any village services. The streets are unpaved and there are no sewer or water connections they said.

The couple said that they are paying about $200 a year more in taxes by being in the village than they would if they were in unincorporated Cook County.

The accidentally annexed 20 acres includes two houses, a dirt farm and two vacant parcels.

Village Manager Tom Markus said the board should consider disannexing the property, but said he would first want the owners of all the parcels to waive any claim to the taxes they have paid the village. The owners are at least partly

Please turn to page 3

Continued from page 1

to blame for erroneously paying the village taxes because they never notified the officials of the error, Markus said.

He said the village would hold a public hearing at a yet unspecified date concerning possible disannexation.

In other business, the board:

•Appointed Trustee Elizabeth Hartman to the Pal-Waukee Municipal Airport Commission. Hartman replaces Nicholas Fanella, who was a trustee until April. Fanella did not seek re-election.

•Annexed a 200-by-200-foot parcel on the northwest corner of Wolf and Palatine roads and zoned it B-5 office district. The parcel became available for annexation last month after the city of Prospect Heights approved an ordinance allowing disannexation of the site.

•Held a public hearing on a request for a 6B property tax exemption for Clearshield National. If granted, the exemption would result in lower property taxes for the firm. Clearshield is located in Wheeling and wants to build another facility at Marquardt and Peterson in the Wheeling Center for Industry.

Once the facility is completed about 65 more employees would be hired. The company, which manufactures disposable cutlery and straws, has about 250 employees at its current location, 1175 S. Wheeling Road.

Cop pension fund loses $116,000 in interest

BY C. L. WALLER
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Wheeling Police Pension Board members want to know why they didn't get all of the interest money back from a police credit union that liquidated. Once they get a response they will ask the board attorney whether through litigation, the money can be retrieved.

The pension fund lost approximately $116,000 in interest because of the liquidation on Sept. 10 of the American Law Enforcement Credit Union, in Wheeling.

The National Credit Union Administration, which insured the pension money, mailed a check for $2,581,821 to the pension board minus the interest earned for the past nine months. The credit union credited interest annually in January and interest was lost because that annual date had not arrived, said Robert R. Fialkowski, pension board treasurer and village finance director.

The 46 pension members, mostly active police officers, had half of the roughly $5 million pension fund in the credit union.

Pension board Chairman Edward Theriault said the state Department of Financial Institutions, which liquidated the credit union, once said all the interest would be covered. "The provision they (National Credit Union Administration) took this week was they weren't paying interest on any pension money," Theriault said.

"Somehow I don't seem surprised," said board member Frank Proiletti, who abstained from a vote to inquire about the interest lost. "I'm not shocked. It was just a series of events unfolding."

The two village-appointed members of the board said the insurer's position was clearly stated in a 1985 letter which said principal and declared dividends are insured. The interest from the account would have become declared dividends after January.

"They told you what they were going to cover in the letter and you chose to ignore it," board member John Cole said.

Residents want village to fix annexation error

By Lee Ann Gill Countryside 10-8-87

Richard Smith didn't know when he moved into his home more than a year ago that he was actually living in the Village of Wheeling — and neither did thevillage.

Smith and his wife Leah Zeldes moved into their home last year with the understanding that it was in unincorporated Cook County. It wasn't until recently, when the couple paid their 1986 property tax bill, that they discovered they were actually living within the village limits.

The mix-up is the result of a typographical error in an annexation ordinance approved by the village in 1970. At the time, village officials had intended to annex a 20-acre parcel of land on Glenn Avenue, just south of Hintz Road. Because of a one-word mistake in the ordinance, however, a 20-acre parcel on the southwest corner of Wolf and Hintz Road was actually annexed into the village.

At Monday's village board meeting, board members fixed half of the problem by officially annexing into the village the 20 acres of property on Glenn Avenue.

THE OTHER HALF of the problem, however, might be a little tougher to solve.

The two homeowners and two property owners who have assumed they were living on unincorporated property would like to stay that way. But the village officials aren't sure if they can do anything to legally disconnect the residents from Wheeling. Village Attorney James Rhodes is looking into what might be done to resolve the situation.

Back in 1970 there were a more property owners on that southwest corner lot who were in the village but didn't know it. Since that time, however, all but four parcels have voluntarily annexed into the village. The owners who annexed into the village over the past 17 years didn't know that they were already there, explained Michale Klitzke, director of community development for Wheeling.

Smith and Zeldes, who live at 17 Kerry Lane, and Charolette Hallman, also a Kerry Lane resident, are the only two homeowners left on the property who would like to live outside of the village limits. Zeldes explained that Hallman and her husband had built their home and have been living on that property for the past 17 years.

THE REMAINING LAND includes a dirt farm and an undeveloped parcel. The owners of all four parcels signed a letter to the village asking that they be left outside of Wheeling.

How did this mistake go unnoticed for 17 years?

"Nobody really noted on their tax bills that they were paying Wheeling taxes," said Klitzke. "The whole 20 acres was annexed and nobody realized it. People just weren't looking at their tax bills."

Although Smith and Zeldes figured that they paid $180 additional last year

(Continued on page 23)

Annexation

(Continued from page 16)

for being in the village when in fact they did not receive village services, they say it's not worth a fight to try to get that money back.

"WE HAVE to pay for a typo that they made 17 years ago and I don't like that," said Smith. But he said, "for just $180, you're not going to fight for it."

Zeldes agrees, but she has her beefs about the situation as well.

She recalled a time when she was in need of police assistance, but a phone call to the village informed her that she was not entitled to village service and would have to call the county.

"I had occasion to call them and they wouldn't come. Everyone went along assuming it was unincorporated, including the village," said Zeldes.

KLITZKE EXPLAINED IN 1970, nobody, including Cook County, who actually annexed the parcel, questioned the difference between the wording in the ordinance and what was drawn on the plat of annexation.

"Back in 1970, they didn't question it, they wrote the legal description and that's what they annexed. The ordinance says it's annexed," explained Klitzke.

The county was quickly informed of the mistake.

"Cook County has made the determination that the ordinance overruled the plat and so the land would remained annexed to the village," said Klitzke.

NOW, OFFICIALS ARE looking into what might be done to help keep the two homeowners out of the village like they want.

"It's an unusual situation. We can't disconnect them and leave them in no man's land. But they want to be out," said Klitzke.

Smith and Zeldes were informed by village officials at Monday's meeting that if something can be done to keep their home outside of Wheeling, the village would most likely ask for a waiver to insure that the property owners did not file a claim against the village for money lost in taxes over the last 17 years.

"That's if we can do something," said Klitzke.

Straw maker asks Wheeling for tax break

A Wheeling company that wants to expand its operations in town has asked the village board for a property tax break. Company officials say without the tax incentive, the firm may move to Lake County.

By Lee Ann Mackulin Countryside 10-8-87

Clear Shield National Inc., the manufacturer of Carnival straws and plastic utensils, would like to expand its operation in Wheeling, and is asking the village for a property tax break for a new facility.

The company, which currently houses its national headquarters at 1175 S. Wheeling Road, is rapidly growing and would like to expand its production lines into the Wheeling Center for Industry on Marquardt Drive and Peterson Drive.

The proposed $3 million, 80,000-square-foot facility would house 65 additional employees, said Roger Cappello, president of Clear Shield. The present facility employs 250 workers. Cappelo said that with the company's anticipated growth, there would be a total of 85 additional employees at the new site within a year and 100 within three years.

Officials from the company say they might not expand in Wheeling, however, if they aren't granted a tax break under Cook County's 6b property tax exemption program.

BOARD MEMBERS CONSIDERED the proposal at a public hearing Monday and will vote on whether to allow construction under the tax program at the village board's Oct. 19 meeting.

The incentive program, designed to lure growing manufacturers into Cook County, offers a cut in a company's property assessment from 38 to 16 percent of the market value during the first eight years of operation. For four years after that, the assessment would stand at 30 percent. After 12 years of operation, property would be assessed at whatever the normal assessment level is for commercial property at that time.

Cappelo said the company has looked into alternative sites for the plant in Lake County, where property taxes are lower than what normal Cook County taxes would be without the 6b break. Sites the company considered are in Lincolnshire, Grayslake, Vernon Hills and Libertyville, said Cappelo.

Terry Engel, attorney for Clear Shield, explained to the board why it is so important that they be given a tax break to build in Cook County.

"THIS PARTICULAR property will cost more per square foot than in Lake County. With 6b it will bring it (the property assessment) lower so we can afford to pay a higher price per square foot for the land," said Engel.

If approved for the 6b program, officials would like to begin construction immediately for opening of the new facility next summer, said Cappello. The company has offices in Louisiana, Georgia and Massachusetts. The company has been manufacturing since 1965.

County board spends $700,000 on road work

Countryside

The Cook County Board has approved a $700,000 expenditure for the improvement of Buffalo Grove Road relocated from Hintz Road and Windsor Drive north to Dundee Road in Arlington Heights, Wheeling and Buffalo Grove.

The project will consist of reconstructing, widening and relocating the existing two-lane pavement to four lanes, including grading, drainage, curbs and gutters, traffic signals and other necessary improvements.

The board originally approved $4 million for the project in 1983. The $700,000 supplemental funding is necessary to cover construction of the widening and relocation of concrete and the channelization of the east and west legs on Hintz Road. Funding is provided by the county's share of Motor Fuel Tax revenue. Construction is set to begin in this fall.

Two members of police pension board resign

BY C. L. WALLER
Daily Herald Staff Writer

The heat over investing Wheeling police pension money into a failed credit union rose high enough for two members of the pension board to resign.

The resignations of board chairman Edward Therialt and member William Stutzman, both policemen, leaves about six months left on both terms.

Therialt, Stutzman and retired police officer Marvin O. "Syke" Horcher created the majority vote that approved investing most of the pension money into the American Law Enforcement Credit Union. Estimates show that the pension fund lost about $116,000 in interest because of the credit union's liquidation last month.

"The result is what the minority members always said would happen," said pension board member Frank Proietti. He said he is sure Therialt, Stutzman and Horcher feel bad about the lost money.

Therialt said he and Stutzman are putting their capabilities as pension board members before the pension membership.

"By resigning we give members a choice as to whether they want us to remain in our positions," he said.

Of the five-member board, two are elected by active police officers, one is elected by retired police officers and two are appointed by the Wheeling village board.

Officers in the pension fund will need to meet as soon as possible to nominate members for the two open seats, Therialt said.

"I admire them for the action they took," said village-appointed pension board member John Cole. "To me it says, 'If we've made mistakes you can put us or not put us back on the board.' "

The National Credit Union Administration, which insured the credit union, is returning $2,581,821 to the pension board. That money will be placed in certificates of deposit.

THE WEEK AHEAD

Liquor sale hours cutback discussed

Cutting back on operating hours for liquor sales in Wheeling will be discussed by trustees during a workshop meeting Tuesday.

Trustees will hold an 8 p.m. meeting at the Arlington Club development club house, Arlington Drive and Newburn Court.

Wheeling Trustee Elizabeth Hartman had suggested a review of operating hours for liquor licenses holders. While most taverns close at 2 a.m., the village currently has one 4 a.m. liquor license, held by Billy and Company Restaurant, 124 S. Milwaukee Ave.

Liquor licenses are renewed in April each year. They are separated into five general types of classifications: restaurant, tavern, package sale, beer and wine for public events and hotel.

Wheeling village attorney James Rhodes is suggesting that hours of operation for large, medium and small restaurants, taverns and hotels be 7 a.m. to 2 a.m. Currently those liquor license holders operate from 7 a.m. to 2 a.m. Sunday through Thursday and until 3 a.m. on Friday and Saturday.

On New Year's Eve, those license holders would be allowed to operate from 7 a.m. to 3 a.m.

Rhodes also is suggesting that package liquor stores and sales for special events be allowed from 9 a.m. through midnight. Package liquor sales are allowed in Wheeling now until 1 a.m. Sunday through Thursday and 2 a.m. Friday and Saturday.

Annexation gives development go-ahead

BY C. L. WALLER
Daily Herald Staff Writer

A multimillion-dollar development in Wheeling will proceed as planned, following Wheeling's annexation of property once in Prospect Heights.

Plans for the Capitol Commerce Center, northwest of Wolf and Palatine roads were stymied for a short time because the corners of two of the 22 proposed buildings would have crossed over into Prospect Heights. Wheeling plan commissioners said no building permits would be issued for two of the lots unless they were in village limits.

Prospect Heights aldermen last month allowed the 200-foot by 200-foot site to detach from the city and be annexed to Wheeling. The property previously housed the Village Pump gas station.

Formerly known as the Palwaukee West Business Park, Capitol Commerce Center plans call for 22 buildings with office and industrial development and possibly a restaurant. Four of the buildings will be three stories high, the highest any buildings there will go.

A restaurant site is in the plans, but restaurant development would still have to be approved by the village, said Dave Shaw, attorney for the developer, Joseph J. Freed and Associates. Freed also plans to move his corporate offices to the facility in Wheeling, he said.

Currently, there is one three-story building and three one-story buildings under construction. Those should be finished by spring, said Mark Posner, company spokesman.

Part of the development includes widening Wolf Road 50 feet from Palatine Road north to a new street in the development, Robin Road. Wheeling Community Development Director Michael J. Klitzke said Wolf will expand to four lanes instead of two in front of the development.

Wheeling board proposes earlier 'last call'

BY MARIS STRAUTMANIS
Daily Herald Correspondent

People going out on the town in Wheeling about a month from now will probably have to call it a night at 2 a.m., even if it is Saturday. And if they want to buy liquor to take home, they will have to do that by midnight.

Village President Sheila H. Schultz said in about a month members of the Wheeling Village Board will be ready to vote on a new uniform closing time for all businesses selling liquor.

Wheeling trustees have been considering a 2 a.m. closing time since last April, when the only class A license was narrowly renewed. A class A license allows an owner to stay open until 4 a.m.

The restaurant holding the license, Billy and Company, 124 S. Milwaukee Ave., is therefore open later than any establishment in and around Wheeling.

"I do a very nice business between that time (2 a.m. to 4 a.m.)," said William Moss, 41, owner of Billy and Company. "I need the revenue."

"Obviously, I don't want to lose the four o'clock license. If I'm the only one with a four o'clock license, I wind up the only one losing," Moss said.

A recent survey showed that Billy and Company is one of only six businesses out of 29 with liquor licenses in Wheeling which stay open as long as their license allows, according to Village Attorney James Rhodes. Most places close at 1 a.m., even if their license allows for 3 a.m., he said.

Police Chief Michael F. Haeger said eliminating the different closing times between weekdays and weekends will make the ordinance easier to enforce.

Schultz said the earlier closing time will make at least one bar owner happy. She said an owner of a bar has told her she stays open later than she wants in order to compete with other late-night establishments.

Staff Writer James P. Bozikis also contributed to the story.

Wheeling stores pull pellet guns off shelves

Local stores that had been selling plastic pellet guns have agreed to stop doing so following an incident in which a toy gun was mistaken for a real one.

Cons Trib 10-15-81

By Lee Ann Gill

Pellet guns have been removed from the shelves of Wheeling stores in wake of a recent incident in which one of the toys, carried by a 15-year-old boy, was mistaken for a .25-caliber handgun by police.

The village has an ordinance on the books that outlaws possession of the pellet guns, but not the sale of them. Following the Sept. 28 incident, however, village officials sent a letter to local store owners who sold plastic pellet guns, asking them to voluntarily remove the toys from the shelves.

The village is now looking into adopting an ordinance that would ban the sale of pellet guns, said Village President Sheila Schultz.

Wheeling isn't the only town to have a contradictory ordinance, but Schultz said village officials wants to rectify the situation. "It's an inconsistency that's not uncommon. But we saw the validity to make it consistent," she said.

Wheeling store owners have voluntarily agreed to remove plastic pellet guns from their shelves after one of the toy guns was mistaken for a real handgun by police. *(Staff photo)*

THE CONCERN OVER the pellet guns comes two weeks after police received a call about a man with a gun sitting on a brick wall in front of Arbor Court apartments on Dundee Road.

When officers arrived on the scene, they couldn't tell the gun was a toy. It was only after 15-year-old Paul Albrecht dropped the toy at gunpoint that police examined it to discover it was actually a pellet gun purchased for $2 at a local drug store.

The youth was charged with possession of a spring-loaded pellet gun and has a Nov. 2 court date.

(Continued on page 11)

Pellet guns—

(Continued from page 9)

Mary Albrecht, Paul's mother, claims her son was mistreated by police during his arrest and says she may file a lawsuit against the department. The officers responding to the call drew their weapons and kept their guns aimed at the boy until it was certain that he was unarmed. Mary Albrecht claims that seven officers responded to the call.

"OUR MAIN concern is that we feel they overreacted to the situation. Had my son overreacted and ran, he could have been shot and killed," she said. "This is my son's life we're talking about."

Village officials have steadfastly defended the way officers responded to the call. Police Chief Michael Haeger said he investigated the incident and found no wrongdoing on the part of the officers. Schultz also said the officers acted properly.

Albrecht said her son is upset because he's not sure why he's in trouble. She said he told her he was sitting on the brick wall that afternoon waiting for his friends to meet him to play "assassination tag" when police arrived.

She said her son asked her "Mom, why am I in so much trouble? Why am I going to court?"

"I DON'T have the answers for him. After all, he bought the gun for $1.98 down the street," she said. "It's just really a shame."

After the incident, village officials asked local merchants to stop selling the pellet guns. Although they're hot-selling items, the businesses agreed to comply.

"We went along with the suggestion of the village," said Robert Cole, a vice president of Sportmart, which has a store on Dundee Road. "We usually stay on top of what the local ordinances say."

Cole says he understands why the village is concerned about the toys. "A lot of the decision-making boils down to me, and I happen to be a former policeman," he said. "With these particular toys the barrel opening is larger and it causes one to wonder if it's real."

COLE SAID ONLY the Wheeling store was asked to pull the toys from the shelves, but the company, which has several stores in the Chicago area, will evaluate the sale of toy guns in all its stores.

Mitch Zoch, assistant manager of the Wheeling Kmart on Dundee Road, said the store was happy to help out even though the toy "was a good seller."

"We're just helping to comply with the village ordinance," he said.

Zoch said manufacturers of the pellet guns are considering putting a fluorescent strip on them to distinguish them from real handguns.

New building should get OK despite less parking: panel

By Freida Gad
Daily Herald Correspondent

10-15-81

An electrical components manufacturer should be allowed to construct a new facility with five fewer parking spaces than required by ordinance, the Wheeling Zoning Board of Appeals is recommending.

John Remke Inc. is building a manufacturing building at 310 Chaddick Drive and would like to landscape some of the parking area, because the company does not need all the required spaces, architect Mark Stevens said.

The new facility would need 29 parking spaces, based on village code, but the company wants to construct only 24.

The unanimous recommendation from the commission now goes to the village board.

Trustees hope to put halt on office warehouse plans

By Maris Strautmanis
Daily Herald Correspondent

10-15-81

Wheeling village trustees want to stop the building of an office warehouse just outside village limits at the northwest corner of Hintz Road and Milwaukee Avenue, because it is "incompatible with our land-use plans," said Wheeling Director of Commercial Development Michael Klitzke.

Village trustees will send a formal objection to the Cook County Zoning Board of Appeals, which held a preliminary hearing on the warehouse on Sept. 18, and, following ordinances, gave the village 30 days to object.

Although the proposed plan is out of Wheeling village limits, it is within the mile and a half limit in which the village can object to construction.

The plan for the two-acre site calls for 38,000 square feet of warehouse space, including two one-story structures and a two-story structure, to be used for office research.

Trustee Bill Rogers said he does not like the idea of another warehouse going up right across the street from where one already stands.

"For a high commercial corner such as that, it's incompatible with our land use plans," Klitzke said.

Wheeling Countryside

Wheeling eyes earlier closing times for bars

The party may be over for those who like to drink into the wee hours at Wheeling watering holes. The village is considering an amendment to its liquor ordinance that would close all taverns and restaurants in town at 2 a.m.

By Lee Ann Gill 10-15-84

Last call may soon be one hour earlier in Wheeling.

Taverns and restaurants in the village may have to close earlier as a result of an amendment to the liquor code now being considered by officials.

Studies done by village officials indicate that most of the 29 license holders are closing the bar early anyway.

"Within 29 licenses granted, only six were open as late as the village would allow," said Village Attorney James Rhodes. "The majority of restaurants stay open to 1 a.m. on the latest day."

RHODES DISCUSSED AN amendment to the liquor code with trustees at a committee-of-the-whole meeting Tuesday night. The village board isn't sure when it vote on the changes, but trustees said all license holders will be notified in advance of any meeting where the topic is on the agenda.

Under the terms of the amendment, restaurants and taverns would have the same hours of operation. If approved, the amendment would set hours for restaurants and taverns between 7 a.m. and 2 a.m. seven days a week.

Now the hours vary according to the license. A business with a Class A license, a restaurant with more than 200 seats, has a 4 a.m. closing time, while all other license holders stay open until 2 a.m. during the week and 3 a.m. on weekends.

The proposed amendment would also affect liquor stores. Retail stores can now sell liquor until 1 a.m. Sunday through Thursday and until 2 a.m. on Friday and Saturday night. The new code would close the retail stores at midnight every day.

ALTHOUGH OFFICIALS ARE considering reducing hours of all establishments, they're particularly concerned the late hours at Billy and Company, 124 S. Milwaukee Avenue. Billy and Company is the only restaurant with a Class A license, and the 4 a.m. closing time keeps things going a little too long into the night for village officials.

"Having one place open until 4 a.m. tends to get those people in another establishment that closes to come over there," said Village President Sheila Schultz. She said that by then many patrons are already "well into the evening," which adds to the problem.

In addition, studies done by the village indicate the number of police calls after 2 a.m. is substantially higher than before then, said Village Manager Thomas Markus.

"The report indicated that after 2 a.m. the number of (police) calls ballooned," he said.

PUTTING A STOP to late-night partying is just one benefit officials see in an amended liquor code. "This is part of a gradual move to have liquor licenses in the village be tied with restaurants," said Schultz. Now, restaurants with Class A and Class B (between 75 and 200 seats) licenses must take orders for meals at least up until two hours before closing time.

Keeping the hours of operation consistent across the board will also be a step forward for officials. "We should not in fact be staggering the number of hours. There should be a set time per week so it's easier to enforce," said Rhodes.

Rhodes also told trustees that the village has a more lenient liquor code than other neighboring towns.

"The majority of towns that are near or adjacent to the village of Wheelinghave more severe restrictions. Seven towns (nearby) restrict licenses at a more severe level than Wheeling," he said.

IN DEERFIELD, THE most restrictive neighboring town, all establishments close at 1 a.m. In Buffalo Grove, Arlington Heights and Mount Prospect, liquor establishments are open until 2 a.m. Northbrook has a 2:30 a.m. closing time on weekends, and Glenview and Prospect Heights taverns close at 3 a.m.

Trustees vow to fight warehouse proposal

By Lee Ann Gill Countryside 10-15-84

Wheeling trustees are objecting to a plan now pending before Cook County to build a warehouse development on unincorporated property at the northwest corner of Hintz Road and Milwaukee Avenue.

Trustees voted at a special village board meeting Tuesday night to write a letter to the Cook County Zoning Board of Appeals formally objecting the plan. Wheeling's objection to the three-building storage facility means approval of the project will now require a three-fourths vote by the zoning board.

The proposed development is similar to The Vault storage facility, 1004 S. Milwaukee Avenue, which is directly south of the property eyed for construction.

The proposal is to rezone the parcel from R-7 residential, to C-8, intensive commercial. The zoning is not compatible with the village's comprehensive plan, said Michael Klitzke, director of community development.

HE SAID THAT because the two-acre parcel is completely surrounded by Wheeling and will probably someday be annexed into the village, trustees should be concerned with what is built there.

"We have objected to other developments along Hintz Road. Our comprehensive plan goes beyond our boarders — it has to," said Village President Sheila Schultz.

The village came up with several reasons why the new warehouse should not be built.

The proposed development is "rather inappropriate" for a corner with such potential for traffic increase and commercial development, said Klitzke.

"THE PROPOSED use is inappropriate in a commercial area bounded by two major streets. The development is incompatible with our land use plan, general development plan and site plan standards," Klitzke told trustees in his report.

In addition to being incompatible, Klitzke pointed out a few other things wrong with the proposal.

"There is little setback from either Hintz Road or Milwaukee Avenue; minimal or no landscaping and a high amount of pavement," he said.

The zoning board held an initial public hearing on the plan Sept. 18, and municipalities adjacent or near the proposed development have 30 days from that date to file a formal objection. No date has been set for a vote on the rezoning request.

Liquor sales past 2 a.m. might halt

BY MARIE LUTZ
Staff Writer

Life 10-15-87

The Wheeling Village Board agreed Tuesday to consider an ordinance that will prevent restaurants and taverns from selling liquor past 2 a.m.

Currently, one establishment, Billy & Co., can stay open as late as 4 a.m.

A number of other establishments have licenses that permit liquor sales until 3 a.m., but a village survey found many do not stay open as late as allowed.

The board reviewed the hours liquor can be sold, at the request of Trustee Elizabeth Hartman. As part of the review, staff surveyed nearby municipalities and found only Des Plaines and Palatine allow liquor establishments to stay open until 4 a.m. or later.

Deerfield permits no liquor sales past 1 a.m., except on New Year's Eve when closing time is an hour later.

Arlington Heights, Buffalo Grove and Mount Prospect allow no sales past 2 a.m. Northbrook has a maximum 2:30 a.m closing time, and Glenview and Prospect Heights permit sales to 3 a.m.

Village President Sheila Schultz said the problem with allowing a tavern to stay open late is that patrons of other establishments that must close earlier move to a tavern allowed to remain open. By that time they have already had much to drink, Schultz said.

The staff has recommended a 2 a.m. closing time for all taverns and restaurants that sell liquor. Village Attorney Jim Rhodes said a uniform closing time would be easier to enforce.

The exception to the 2 a.m. limit would be New Year's Eve when establishments could stay open until 3 a.m.

Package liquor stores would have to close by midnight.

The board said it would review the recommended action at a regular board meeting after all liquor license holders are notified of the proposed revisions in the ordinance.

Also Tuesday, the board voted to object to a proposal before the Cook County Zoning Board of Appeals that would allow construction of a mini-warehouse and watchman's quarters on the northwest corner of Hintz Road and Milwaukee Avenue in unincorporated Cook County.

The objection means instead of a simple majority, a three-quarters plurality by the Cook County Board will be required to approve rezoning and a special use for the project.

Michael Klitzke, director of community development, told the Village Board on Tuesday the proposed project does not conform to Wheeling's comprehensive plan for the area. That plan calls for office and research facilities to be constructed on the Hintz-Milwaukee corner.

By Freida Gad
Daily Herald Correspondent

10-15-87

A Wheeling zoning commissioner is angry with the builder of the Capitol Commerce Center for not mentioning Wheeling in his advertisements.

Commissioner Greg Klatecki complained about the signs and brochures planned for the Capitol Commerce Center at Wolf and Palatine roads.

"It says 'at Palwaukee,'" he said. "It doesn't say Wheeling. Palwaukee is not even a community. It says to me that something is being hidden."

But other commissioners didn't think it was a slight.

"They put Palwaukee in there because everyone knows where Palwaukee is," Commissioner Arthur Kaplan said.

Zoning Administrator Thomas E. Fennell said the Palwaukee reference is logical.

"It's not very mysterious," he said. "Palwaukee was the corporate name of the development before it was changed."

Klatecki said developers sometimes avoid using their Wheeling address and suggested it was because they are ashamed of it.

"I'm proud of my community," he said, "but we have a bum rap on our name. Sometimes when they see Wheeling, they see it negatively."

Joseph J. Freed & Associates Inc. is the managing firm for the center and designer Andre King said the company would reconsider their advertising.

"I'm very sure that if that request were brought to Joseph Freed, he would agree to putting that on the advertisements," King said.

Village to subdivision: wait for traffic lights

By Maris Strautmanis
Daily Herald Correspondent

Residents of the newly-constructed Arlington Park subdivision will apparently have to wait until traffic is bad enough to get traffic lights installed at the intersection of Cobbler Street and Buffalo Grove Road.

"The only way they'll put lights in is after traffic warrants it,' said Village President Sheila H. Schultz. "Once traffic is generated and necessitates it, that's when they'll study it." "They" are state traffic officials.

"The state can't pre-plan intersections, they don't have the money to do that," said Manager Thomas M. Markus.

Schultz said that once the village detects a traffic problem, it can request a traffic study to be done by the county or state, depending on who owns the road. Although Buffalo Grove would probably naturally meet the traffic volume needed for a study, she said it remains to be seen if the same will be true for Cobbler Road.

"We have to give this intersection some time," she said.

Traffic may increase because the condominium subdivision, built by Lexington Developers, is only 55 percent full now.

Commission backs added parking lot

By Freida Gad
Daily Herald Correspondent

10-15-87

To keep truck traffic off Abbott Drive, Wheeling zoning board members agreed to recommend an additional parking lot for Orval Kent Food Company.

The company, 120 W. Palatine Road, wants to purchase a lot directly north of Abbott Drive in the Igini Subdivision for use as a truck staging area.

"We want semi-trucks and trailers to wait on the lot," Orval Kent Attorney James G. Haft said. "Currently they back up on Abbott Drive."

The company had to come before the zoning board of appeals because village ordinance requires company parking to be on the same lot as the building. Haft said the company would agree not to park trucks on Abbott Drive if the separate parking lot were approved.

Zoning Administrator Thomas E. Fennell recommended approving the lot if the company agreed not to build on the lot, but later agreed to a building if parking regulations for the building were followed.

Haft said the company may build on the lot in the future if it is needed for expansion.

No smoking

Life 10-15-87

Businesses lag behind growing opposition to smoking

Non-smokers are becoming increasingly vocal about their desire for a smoke-free environment. But despite the fanfare paid to restrictions on smoking, cigarette lovers can still light up with impunity in many places.

True, there are strict anti-smoking laws such as that passed by Skokie this year, but the laws are not typical. Skokie, starting at the end of 1987, will limit smoking in businesses with 10 or more employees and restrict smoking in most public places.

Restaurants with more than 40 seats, for example, will be required to provide smoking and non-smoking sections.

But Skokie's law is considered by some to be Illinois's toughest ordinance. Which means Skokie is not in the mainstream.

A less unusual community is Wheeling, which has shown an ambivalence about accommodating the conflicting rights of smokers and non-smokers alike.

About one or two years ago, for instance, after a resident complained to the Village Board, the village sent restaurants a request to voluntarily provide non-smoking sections.

A recent check of 14 Wheeling restaurants, however, found that none have sections for non-smokers.

Restaurant managers admit patrons sometimes request non-smoking areas, but some say their establishments are too small to have a no-smoking section. Larger restaurants have other reasons for not setting aside a no-smoking area.

Frank D'Angelo, general manager of Bob Chinn's Crabhouse, said that there is only a small demand for a no-smoking area. When a request does come up, the 400-seat establishment is so large the patron can be placed at a suitable table, D'Angelo said.

D'Angelo added that the restaurant does not allow pipe or cigar smoking.

The manager of Granny Annie's said that his 115-seat restaurant is rather small. In the future, he said,

Please turn to page 3

Continued from page 1

he hopes to install smoke eaters in the ceiling, which would draw up the smoke.

Don Roth's general manager, Bob Davis, said that the management of the 150-seat restaurant is "strongly considering" having a no-smoking area in the near future because of the demand.

"We have had a number of customers come in and say the food has been terrific, the service is great, the problem is I really would hesitate to come back because there's not a no-smoking section."

On the Wheeling business front, the rights of smokers are paramount, a spot check of 10 companies shows.

Wheeling's largest firm, Ekco Products, which has 780 employees, does not have a no-smoking policy.

Although some companies, because of concerns about fire, may ban smoking in certain areas such as a warehouse, most allow it everywhere else.

One minor exception is Wickes Companies in which the payroll department with 20 employees was declared a no-smoking area about two years ago after an employee came in with a doctor's statement that the smoke was detrimental to her health.

But smoking is allowed in the cafeteria and in the firm's other three departments. A company spokesman said that Wickes would not ban smoking in an area just because it is annoying to a non-smoker.

Two spokesmen for other companies indicated that non-smoking employees are fighting to have purer air.

E-Z Por Corp., with 250 employees, has had some complaints and is looking into installing a smoke control system.

And Commercial Cam, with almost 300 employees, began considering smoking restrictions after management was presented with a petition.

Two school districts, with schools in Wheeling, may be looking at having the most restrictive smoking regulations, however. Both are considering a complete employee smoking ban.

Oldest resident recalls earlier days

10-15-87

By C. L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Resting her thin hands on her walker, Adeline F. Schneider gets a faraway look in her eyes, remembering a girlhood in Wheeling.

Born in the village in 1890, Schneider appears frail with a thin frame and gray hair softening her features. But her mind is as lively as the girl called Adie who went to dances on Buffalo Creek farm in Wheeling.

"I have really good days and some days are a flop," she says honestly.

She will reach another landmark Thursday as the oldest resident in the village when she turns 97.

Adeline is living proof that age is just a state of mind. Some days she feels like 100 years old when she thinks of things to do around the house, but cannot physically do them.

"My secret (to a long life) is to keep busy and keep doing things," she said. Growing flowers in the backyard is a favorite hobby.

Schneider was a well-known name in Wheeling during the early years. At a time when women usually did not work outside the home, Adeline took over her father's position as village clerk.

"When he died the men said, 'Stay on, you know the work from A to Z,'" she said with a smile.

She was clerk for 25 years, until 1953.

"When the town began to grow I stepped down."

The town has sprung up around the Schneider homestead, with buildings rising above it in the rear and traffic whizzing by in the front. Adeline remembers sitting in the back yard during good weather and looking out at open space.

Adeline Schneider, 97, jokes over some fond memories she has of growing up in Wheeling.

Daily Herald Photo/Kent Kriegshauser

"I'm a rubber neck you know. I like to see everything that's going on."

Adeline and her late sister, Lucille, always had a bird house to welcome purple martins that frequented the back yard. But with all the building that went on, only sparrows visit now.

Despite the growing community, she has never been interested in moving to a quieter spot.

"I had friends here and I had a job and I enjoyed it here, so why should I move?" she asks.

When Adeline's grandfather, who was a veterinarian, first came to Wheeling, he and her father took care of the 14 acres of farm land behind their house.

"Dad had to stay home to farm that and he could never have much of a profession," she said.

Remembering how hard her father worked, Adeline said, "Dad used to repair bicycles, but I never got a decent bicycle."

It is not surprising the Schneider home has no driveway because the Schneiders did not learn how to drive.

"We thought about having a garage in the back and getting a car, but Dad got poorly and ran short of money," she said.

Adeline never attended school past the eighth grade because the only way to get to high school was going by milk train to Des Plaines. Those who did go missed some classes because they had to come and go according to the train schedule.

Adeline said her sister, who was seven years younger, learned by doing a lot of reading at home. Adeline, on the other hand, was no bookworm.

"I preferred scratching in the dirt."

A smile brightens up her face when asked why she never married.

"I liked my freedom. I had plenty of boyfriends and enjoyed their company."

Even though she has outlived her family, there is no loneliness for Adeline who is popular among a circle of friends in Wheeling.

Adeline is much like the house where she was born and lives: showing some signs of wear and tear on the outside, but warm inside and filled with a warehouse of memories.

Reinstated cop waiting for wages

10

By C. L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Wheeling police officer Burton Kaminsky has until Oct. 28 to decide whether to appeal his most recent suspension, but his attorney is still trying to recover two years' back pay out of Wheeling.

Kaminsky has been waiting a month for the wages that were accumulated during his two-year dismissal from the force, that started in March 1985.

An appellate court in March of this year overturned the dismissal and reinstated the officer to his position. The commission had fired Kaminsky on charges brought by Wheeling Police Chief Michael Haeger, alleging Kaminsky failed to respond to a fire at Plum Creek Apartment Complex. The police officer was originally hit with four other charges.

At a September hearing, after being told by the appellate court to reinstate Kaminsky, the fire and police commission reviewed two of the original charges that had not been broached by the appellate court. One alleged he had ignored a prowler call and the other alleged that he showed up late for a burglary-in-progress call. The commission then suspended him for 50 days.

Kaminsky's attorney says he has not decided yet whether to appeal, but she does say she doesn't know why the village hasn't paid the 17-year veteran the $38,475.67 in back pay he was awarded.

Estimating withholding for taxes, insurance and police pension are among the items that have to be calculated before the money is released and those things take time, said Wheeling Village Attorney James Rhodes.

Village rejects bids for towing services

10-22-87

The Wheeling Village Board Monday rejected all seven bids received from firms interested in winning the village's towing and storage contract.

One vendor was rejected because there had been complaints about his performance. The others either failed to follow the stipulations called for in the village's request for bids, or they did not meet the bid specifications.

Police Chief Michael Haeger recommended modifying the bid specifications in the future to require a list of references and to require submission of proof of liability insurance and proof of any signed agreements for storage facilities the vendor lists as part of the bid.

New bids will be requested. In the meantime, the village agreed to extend its current contract with Roadside Auto Body.

The holder of the village's towing contract is called on by the police to tow cars involved in accidents in Wheeling. The contract holder also tows official vehicles when necessary.

Village board approves bid for police pistol purchase

Herald 10-22-87

Wheeling police officers will be getting new pistols to tote with them, following village board approval of a $11,520 bid.

Trustees approved buying 31 .45-caliber pistols from Ray O'Herron Co. of Danville, Ill. The company's bid also includes holsters and magazine pouches.

Three bids were submitted and the one from the Danville company was the lowest.

Wheeling Police Chief Michael F. Haeger said that most of the handguns now carried by the department's 40 police officers are about 10 years old. Older guns will be traded in for the new and patrolmen will first be given the new guns, followed by administrative officers.

Airport commission gets new chairman — maybe

By Dan Rozek
and C.L. Waller
Daily Herald staff writers

10-22-81

Prospect Heights aldermen, without conferring with Wheeling, have appointed a new chairman to run the commission that oversees Pal-Waukee Municipal Airport.

But it appears unlikely that Wheeling officials, as co-owners of the airport, will accept that appointment and end a two-month dispute over whom will head the commission.

Instead the surprise appointment of Prospect Heights resident Carey L. Chickerneo appears to signal the start of another conflict between Wheeling and Prospect Heights.

"I frankly think they (Prospect Heights) are way off base," said Acting Chairman Anthony Altieri, of Wheeling.

Chickerneo was appointed Tuesday after the eight commission members deadlocked over whom should be appointed chairman.

Both towns are claiming the chairmanship, which has been vacant since Prospect Heights resident Ronald C. Sowatzke resigned in June.

The agreement that both towns use to govern the airport states that the chairmanship will alternate between towns.

Prospect Heights officials claim that since Sowatzke resigned before his term was completed the city should be allowed to appoint another Prospect Heights resident to replace him. Wheeling officials however say the chairmanship should pass to a Wheeling resident.

Prospect Heights Mayor John E. Gilligan said Chickerneo was appointed to resolve the chairmanship question so the commission can move on to more important business. "We've had too much deadlock and too many games," Gilligan said, adding Wheeling officials failed to answer an earlier letter from him on settling the chairmanship question. "We have a whole list of things that have got to get done. This will help I think."

See AIRPORT on Page 5

Continued from Page 1

But two of the four Wheeling members on the airport panel said they do not recognize Chickerneo's appointment as valid because it was made solely by Prospect Heights officials.

"If they (Prospect Heights) just go ahead and appoint someone I would not go along with that," said airport Commissioner Elizabeth Hartman.

Chickerneo said he "is anticipating no confrontation in assuming the chairmanship."

One Prospect Heights alderman said he fears Chickerneo's appointment will only damage the airport commission and disrupt relations between Wheeling and Prospect Heights. "It's going to do nothing to solve the problem," said 2nd Ward Alderman Warren Sunde. "All it's going to do is further tear apart the commission."

Members of police pension board who quit voted back

By C. L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer

10-28-81

Two Wheeling police pension board members who resigned earlier this month were returned to the board overwhelmingly by pension fund members.

Pension board chairman Edward Therialt and member William Stutzman, both police officers, helped make up the majority that approved investing pension money into a credit union that failed. Saying they wanted to give officers in the pension fund an opportunity to show approval or disapproval of their actions, the two resigned.

Therialt, Stutzman and retired police officer Marvin O. "Syke" Horcher made up the majority on the pension board that approved investing about half of the pension money into the American Law Enforcement Credit Union. Estimates show that the pension fund lost about $116,000 in interest because of the credit union's liquidation last month.

Therialt said that of about 40 pension fund members, 34 voted. The votes went as follows: Stutzman, 27; Therialt, 22; Officer William Hubner, 9, Deputy Chief Gary O'Rourke, 7; and Sergeant Jack Kimsey, 3.

"We feel the numbers gave us an overwhelming mandate that they approved of what we were doing," said Therialt, adding that he and Stutzman will be up for election again in April.

The National Credit Union Administration, which insured the credit union, returned $2,581,821 to the pension board. That money was placed in certificates of deposit.

Village OKs firm's plans for expansion

Clear Shield National Inc., the manufacturer of Carnival Straws and plastic utensils, will expand its facility in Wheeling and save money in the process.

The company, which now houses its national headquarters at 1175 S. Wheeling Road, was given the OK by village trustees Monday to expand its production lines in Wheeling.

Trustees also approved a property tax break for Clear Shield that will save the company $230,000 the first 12 years of operation in the new building, according to village officials.

A $3 million, 80,000-square-foot facility will be built in the Wheeling Center for Industry on Marquardt and Peterson drives. Construction will begin within the next 60 days for opening next summer, said Roger Cappello, president of Clear Shield. The new facility will be in addition to the current operation in the village and will house 65 additional employees. The present facility has 250 employees.

Cappello said the eight-acre site the new building will be constructed on will allow for any future expansion.

The company would have given second thought to expanding in the village if it weren't for the tax break it will receive under Cook County's 6b property tax exemption program.

Countryside 10-28-81

Wheeling considers membership fee for senior center

10-23-87

By C. L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Wheeling seniors may be asked to pay $8 to become a member of the year-old Pavilion senior center.

A proposal will be presented to village trustees recommending that residents pay $8 per year and nonresidents pay $10 per year to be a member.

Senior citizen coordinator Barbara Hansen said it isn't money they're after, it's a sense of pride in being a member.

"It's a matter of a sense of belonging to a center," she said. "We're going to instill pride in being a member of the senior center."

However, senior commission member Pat Walsdorf disagrees with a membership fee saying it will alienate some seniors from participating.

There are seniors from Highland Park or Deerfield who will not mind, she added. "To those people $10 a year is not much."

Expenses are not so great that fees are needed, she said, adding, "Unless someone says, 'We can't heat this building without a membership fee,' but no one says that."

Senior center activities, other than those provided by the Wheeling Park District, are paid for through fund-raising events. This year about $4,000 is expected from fund-raising.

Hansen said membership fee money would be used to pay for the monthly newsletter. More than 800 newsletters go out to Wheeling residents each month.

Those who participate in the center may be asked to pay a quarter or 50 cents for an activity to pay for paper products used and $1.75 is charged for a deli lunch, but for the most part very little money comes into the center, Hansen said.

"I don't see that $8 or $10 per year is too much to afford," she said.

Both Hansen and senior commission member Harold Miller said that the center would work out something with those who could not afford membership fees.

"It's a great expense to keep the center up and we have to get the money from somewhere," Miller said.

Wheeling fires off request: Don't sell realistic toy guns

10-21-87

By C. L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Wheeling officials say they are satisfied for now with asking store managers to voluntarily remove real-looking toy guns from store shelves.

But they are toying with a Burbank, Calif., law that prohibits selling and brandishing toy guns.

The issue of toy guns was raised in Wheeling after a 15-year-old youth caused a stir when he reportedly pointed a plastic gun across Dundee Road at a McDonald's Restaurant. Wheeling law prohibits possession of toys guns that shoot plastic pellets, but there is no ban on sales.

After talking with the Burbank police chief, Wheeling Police Chief Michael Haeger said he learned that the ordinance there was spurred by three incidents: drivers brandishing toy guns on the freeways; an incident where a person waving a laser gun was shot and killed by a police officer who believed the gun was real and one case when a toy gun was pointed at TV consumer reporter David Horowitz by a man wanting him to read a written statement during the taping of a program.

Wheeling Village Attorney James Rhodes said the Burbank law attempts to differentiate between real-looking toys and toy guns that obviously don't resemble the real thing.

But he said the California ordinance is not specific enough about what types of guns are prohibited.

Wheeling Village President Sheila Schultz said she is undecided about whether an ordinance is needed.

"If we can get voluntary compliance, we would prefer that and we don't get into any legal hangups," she said.

Trustee James Whittington said the village needs to determine whether it has the legal flexibility to pass such an ordinance. As director of student activities in Northwest Suburban High School District 214, Whittington has learned of incidents where students bring squirt guns into the schools.

"There have been incidents in the past where kids come in and threaten other kids" with toy guns, he said.

Mayor to reach out to suburbs

10-2

By Kathy Schaeffer
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Chicago Mayor Harold Washington extended his hand in friendship to Northwest suburban leaders Monday and pledged to foster closer ties so city and suburban officials can solve mutual problems.

Acknowledging that, "There has been a certain lack of diligence" on the part of city officials to encourage partnerships with the suburbs, Washington said, "That has to be done and it has to be done in a spirited sort of way. It behooves us to develop those relationships."

Washington spoke to about 50 members of the Northwest Municipal Conference at a Chicago luncheon meeting of the conference's special Trustees Institute, a year-long educational program designed to examine regional problems.

Washington said that a short reception period during which Washington mingled with local trustees and mayors reminded him that despite differences, suburban officials are worried about the same things he is.

"Every problem I have, you have the same one," Washington said. "We want to share our misery with you. We want you to share yours with us."

Washington listed the issues of garbage disposal, erosion of home rule authority, sales tax collection procedures and moving parking ticket collections out of the court system as the top priorities for cooperation.

He also said the towns and Chicago should join forces to reclaim dwindling federal and state funds.

Municipal Conference Executive Director William G. Grams said Monday's meeting gave suburban mayors and trustees the chance to meet a powerful Democratic politician who might find it more difficult to ignore them now that they've talked in person.

"What we have here is a hand reaching out," Grams said. "Now he's got to see the face behind the name (Wheeling Village President) Sheila (H.) Schultz. It's far less difficult to put up walls when you've actually met someone."

Noting that it was significant that Washington would take time out to talk to suburban officials who can't even vote for him, and that suburbanites would want to listen, Grams said, "These are Republicans who came to hear him. This was a big step for the conference."

"We know that knowing each other better is not going to produce instant accountability," Schultz said, "It's opened another avenue for communication. We know it's fruitless to blame one or the other."

However, Des Plaines Alderman James D. Heely said he still is not convinced Washington or the city of Chicago is really looking out for suburban concerns. A recent decision to put the end of the line of a "people mover" at O'Hare International Airport in Des Plaines is an example, he said.

Already clogged traffic arteries will become worse because of that, he said. "That is one of the most congested areas now as it is," he said. "Are we going to work together on this or not?" he asked.

Life - 10-29-87

Once-fired cop given back pay, suspension

The Wheeling Board of Fire and Police Commissioners has given Police Officer Burton Kaminsky a 50-day suspension and awarded him $38,475 back pay for the two years he didn't work as a Wheeling officer after he was fired from the job.

The commissioners had fired Kaminsky because they said he had failed to assist at a fire. However, an Appellate Court overturned the charge against him in February, and he was reinstated.

Even though he was 25 minutes late, he did respond, the court ruled.

The court ordered the commission to reconsider the proper disciplinary measures to be taken against Kaminsky, but said he could not be dismissed on the basis of the remaining charges against him.

In September, the commission gave Kaminsky the 50-day suspension, which he had already served during the two years he was off the job, and awarded the back pay.

Kaminsky was still deliberating this week whether to appeal the latest suspension.

The commission ordered the suspension based on the remaining charges against Kaminisky.

The charges included failing to respond to a report of a prowler despite having acknowledged receiving a dispatch order to respond; failing to respond in a timely manner to a burglar alarm call; and leaving his patrol car unattended for a period of time that exceeded his 30-minute allotted break.

The monetary award was based on the amount of money Kaminsky would have earned as an officer during the two years he was off the job minus the pay he earned while not working at Wheeling and minus the pay he would have earned during the 50-day suspension.

Boycott threatens to crash airport commission

By C.L. Waller and Dan Rozek
Daily Herald staff writers

11-2-87

Prospect Heights members of the Pal-Waukee Municipal Airport Commission are threatening to boycott the next commission meeting unless there is a new chairman.

That chairmanship now hinges on action by Prospect Heights Mayor John E. Gilligan and Wheeling Village President Sheila Schultz, who have opposing views.

The post has been vacant since June because the eight commissioners could not agree on the interpretation of an agreement, signed by Wheeling and Prospect Heights, which outlines selection of a chairman.

Prospect Heights Commissioner Carey Chickerneo said Wheeling is stalling on solving the problem and Prospect Heights commissioners may be forced to boycott, which would leave the commission without a quorum, he said.

The towns originally agreed to alternate the chairmanship, but they differ on when the post should switch from one town to the other.

Commissioners deadlocked earlier on appointing a new chairman to fill the vacancy and then agreed to let the towns solve the problem. Prospect Heights aldermen last month selected Chickerneo as the new commission chairman, without consulting Wheeling officials.

But Vice Chairman Anthony Altieri of Wheeling, who is acting chairman, refused to yield the post, leaving the commission deadlocked again.

Gilligan said airport commissioners somehow must solve the chairmanship battle themselves.

"It's resolvable," he said. "If they can't resolve it, there's a fundamental problem with the leadership."

Schultz, however, said "it's clear" that Altieri is acting chairman in the absence of a permanent chairman.

Gilligan, meanwhile, said he's not in favor of his people boycotting. "Somehow we've got to make the (commission) work," Gilligan said.

A boycott would stymie the commission, Altieri said.

Subdivision may create traffic jam

By C. L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer

11-4-87

Wheeling trustees have approved the development of the Clarewood subdivision, northeast of Hintz and Schoenbeck roads, but not without some discussion on future traffic problems by cars and children.

Sixteen houses will be built along either side of a new street called Coffaro Court, which will connect with Hintz Road on the west and end in a cul-de-sac to the east. The house currently standing at Hintz and Schoenbeck will remain.

Trustee William A. Rogers said he predicts traffic problems between the new street and the intersection of Hintz and Schoenbeck. Voting against the preliminary plans, Rogers said that drivers from the subdivision will be unable to turn south on Schoenbeck during busy times when cars stack up at the intersection.

"We seem to be allowing traffic 100 to 150 feet from the intersection," he said. "It seems to me we are creating a problem there we are going to have for a long time."

Village President Sheila H. Schultz said drivers may have to opt to turn right instead of left as many residents do while leaving their subdivisions.

Trustee James R. Whittington was among the majority voting in favor of the project, even though his suggestion to install sidewalks for Wheeling High School students from the subdivision sparked no interest among the board.

Whittington said that sidewalks could be installed in the development at the end of the cul-de-sac so students can use them to walk to Wheeling High School. Those walking from Clarewood to the high school, located east of the development, will instead have to walk to Schoenbeck Road and around the corner to Hintz Road.

Whittington said the sidewalks might deter shortcuts through residents' yards, but Trustee Joseph W. Ratajczak said sidewalks could also encourage youths to take shortcuts through yards.

Clarewood subdivision residents will be required to help maintain the Longtree subdivision detention basin next door because rainwater naturally drains from Clarewood to Longtree and then farther east on Hintz Road. The basin will be enlarged to carry added volume of runoff water from the new subdivision.

Village may set fees for senior center programs

Up until now, activities at the Wheeling Pavilion Senior Center have been free of charge. But village officials are looking at requiring seniors who want to participate in Pavilion programs to pay an annual fee.

Countryside 11-5-87

By Lee Ann Gill

Wheeling officials are considering establishing a fee for membership into the Pavilion Senior Center, despite some concerns that lower-income elderly residents might not be able to afford it.

If the concept is approved by Wheeling trustees, it would cost a senior $8 a year to become a member of the center. Now, there is no fee for participating in programs at the Pavilion. But senior coordinator Barbara Hansen said that after two years, the program is advanced enough to start requiring a fee.

The senior center provides residents with a variety of recreational, social and educational activies — ranging from exercise classes to bridge club to trips to the theater.

Aside from helping to offset some operating costs, Hansen said the fee would help give seniors a sense of real commitment and belonging to the center.

THE PAVILION, LOCATED at 199 N. First St., mails 800 newsletters each month to Wheeling seniors but has no record of who actually uses the facility, she said. And while the village finances the operating costs of the Pavilion, special events and the cost of the newsletter are funded primarily by fundraisers, and a little extra money raised by membership fees would come in handy, she said.

Hansen is planning an in-depth study on what other senior centers in the area charge their members and will present those finding to the Wheeling Village Board some time this year, she said. Hansen said she hopes trustees will approve the fee after reviewing the study.

Although Village President Sheila Schultz agrees a fee would help cut expenses and would make seniors feel more a part of an organized group, she says there could be some disadvantages to charging seniors.

"I think it (the money) is about more of a commitment (for seniors) to being a part of the center. That's definitely an advantage. What we have to see now is if there are disadvantages that outweigh the advantages," said Schultz. She said Hansen's study will help determine if other communities have problems charging membership for senior programs.

AT LEAST ONE member of the village's senior citizen advisory council, however, predicts some resistance to a membership fee in Wheeling.

"There might be some seniors with lower incomes that object to it. You might get some complaints, but no matter what you do you're going to get some complaints," said Joe Votava.

Celeste Mleko, another member of the advisory council disagrees, saying that the fee is "very reasonable."

"I don't think that's asking too much. I don't feel an $8 fee is too much," she said. "They have a lot of things available. They knock themselves out to provide us with what we want."

HANSEN SAID THAT by contributing to the cost of the program, seniors would be showing their gratitude for the services they receive.

"It would be a good faith effort on the part of the seniors to show the village that they appreciate what they have. After two years we feel it's an excellent program," said Hansen.

"Most people who come in for the first time ask 'What is your membership fee?' They are surprised to find out there isn't one," she said.

Hansen said most senior centers in the area charge fees.

"THE $8 fee is comparable to centers in the area. I really don't believe that's an unreasonable figure," she said.

In Buffalo Grove, seniors pay $5 a year to drop in at the community center three times a week.

"It's just really to cover a few of the costs," said Dawn Lemme, recreation supervisor for the Buffalo Grove Park District, which operates the senior center. Lemme said that monthly birthday parties and daily coffee provided for members adds up.

Residents ask village to maintain basin

Countryside 11-5-87

Although homeowners in the Longtree subdivision are responsible for maintaining the area around a detention basin in their neighborhood, they're not happy with the job and would like the village to take over the property.

Residents living in the subdivision have just formed a homeowners' association so that the 132 homeowners could organize the development of a passive park around the detention pond, said association president Mark Parkinson. The subdivision is located at the corner of Schoenbeck and Hintz roads.

And although homeowners were told when they purchased their homes that maintaining the detention area was their responsibility, Parkinson and other association members are determined to go before village trustees and ask them to take the property off their hands, he said. He said the group will make its request at a furture board meeting, but was uncertain when that would happen.

"Now that we're formed, we would like to go together as a group of people and say 'Hey, take this and do something with it,' " he said.

Village Manager Thomas Markus said homeowners in other subdivisions in town take care of their individual detention areas, and the village sees no reason to make an exception for the Longtree residents.

"Detention basins are normally a part of the property — maintained by the homeowners. It's a part of the overall subdivision," said Markus. "It's clearly the homeowners' responsibility. They were notified at the closing of their homes that it was."

Parkinson said he realizes the village designated the homeowners as guardians of the property, but that it doesn't make it right in his eyes.

"WE FEEL it's the obligation of the village. They are right and yes, we have to deal with it. But if someone's buying a home, the last thing on their mind is mowing a field a mile away," he said.

The homeowners' association was recently given $12,000 by Meisterneiberg Co., the developer of the subdivision, to get a start on developing a passive park around the basin.

"Our main concern is to get insurance in case something happens to someone over there. We really don't see doing much with it," he said.

Parkinson said maintaining the detention area is the associations "only function" right now. He said that perhaps, in the future, the group might use money from membership dues to have parties for neighborhood children or for other activities.

Village rezones strip

11-5-87

The Wheeling Village Board Monday rezoned 29 acres of land on the east side of Milwaukee Avenue opposite Wolf Road in order to prevent it from being developed with automobile service facilities and other similar types of commercial uses.

The property was rezoned from B-4, highway and service commercial district to B-5, office district.

In a memo to the board, Village Manager Tom Markus said the site could probably be developed immediately under B-4 zoning. But, he added, it is likely that the property will eventually be considered desirable for office development if the village is willing to wait.

Wheeling's comprehensive plan calls for the site to be developed with offices.

Markus also said the village might consider a "mixed use" development on the site if it is joined with surrounding parcels. A mixed use could include offices, hotels, commercial uses and possibly multi-family dwellings.

Markus said the site is important because if it were improperly developed under B-4 it could have an adverse impact on what goes on surrounding parcels.

In other business, the board:

- Gave preliminary approval to a plan for a single-family development slated for the northeast corner of Schoenbeck and Hintz roads.

The 3.9-acre parcel was also rezoned from R-1, single-family with 20,000- square-foot lots to R-3, single-family with 7,000 square-foot lots.

The developer plans to construct 16 single-family homes on the site. An existing home will also be part of the new subdivision.

- Approved a sign for Kinder Care Learning Center, 780 Schoenbeck Road. The sign will be able to be illuminated from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m.
- Awarded a contract for 1987 sidewalk construction work to M & A Cement Work Inc. The firm presented the low bid of $23,936. Three other bids were submitted ranging from $30,607 to $53,405.
- Approved a sign package for the Capitol Commerce Center, a 40-acre office and high tech industrial development at the northwest corner of Wolf and Palatine frontage roads.
- Agreed, without going to bid, to have Preform Traffic Control Systems Ltd. do runway and taxiway markings at Pal-Waukee Airport at a cost not to exceed $33,560.

The board decided to waive the usual requirement to go to bid because it is necessary for the work to begin early this month before the onset of winter.

EDITORIALS

Toy-gun policy badly off-target

Recently, a teen-age boy in Wheeling was arrested for possessing a spring-loaded toy gun, an instrument that looks remarkably like the real thing.

Acting under a village ordinance, police charged the boy with possession of the toy gun.

The confusion surrounding the incident stems from the fact that such look-alike guns are illegal to possess, but not to sell. This contradiction must be cleared up.

Wheeling police have contacted village stores that sell these items and suggested they stop selling the toy guns. Fortunately for everyone concerned, the business community has acted responsibly by voluntarily removing these items from their shelves.

Just weeks ago, the community of Burbank, Calif., approved the nation's first anti-toy-gun law, making it illegal to sell look-alike guns as well as possess them. Despite opposition from local toy stores, the law was passed to address a particularly dangerous situation.

When responding to calls for help, police sometimes do not have time to determine whether a gun aimed in their direction, or the direction of others, is real or not. The consequences of such a confrontation could turn out to be very real indeed.

Although the response of local store owners to stop selling the toy guns is admirable, there is no guarantee that future cooperation on this issue will be as successful. Policy on this issue must be spelled out and formalized in order to resovle the current discrepancy.

Either the possession of this type of toy gun should be made legal, or it should be illegal to sell them. You can't have it both ways.

Paint job eases fire department's blocked driveway woes

BY C. L. WALLER
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Wheeling fire department officials are delighted they finally found a way to get drivers to quit blocking the exit to the fire station on Dundee Road.

The village painted white lines across Dundee and about 40 or 50 feet east and west in front of the driveway of the fire station, to prevent cars from blocking a fire truck or ambulance's path.

Drivers have been noticing for the past week.

"It has been the difference between night and day," said Wheeling Fire Chief Berhardt O. Koeppen.

In the morning, drivers traveling east on Dundee Road back up at the Wolf Road light and those going west in the afternoon tend to back up from the railroad tracks, said Deputy Police Chief Gary D. O'Rourke. O'Rourke compiled paperwork to get permission to do the work from the Illinois Department of Transportation, which maintains Dundee Road.

Wheeling has tried all kinds of methods to prevent drivers from blocking the driveway. Signs saying "Do Not Block Driveway" have been up and a fire truck with emergency lights on parked in the driveway during rush hours to get the attention of drivers, but none of those things helped, Koeppen said.

Nobody's life was threatened because of a fire truck's inability to get out, but the whole situation was awkward, Koeppen said.

"We would just have to wait until people moved out of the way," he said.

Wheeling police tried issuing traffic tickets, drawing a $50 fine for blocking the driveway, but there were arguments when the ticket holders got to court.

"People's responses when they came to court was that they weren't sure where the driveway started and stopped," O'Rourke said, adding that some tickets were dismissed because the judge agreed with the drivers.

Now, that argument has been negated, but, "Our purpose is not to get more tickets, but to alleviate the problem," O'Rourke said.

Wheeling company accounts for 70 safety violations

By Chris Szechenyi
Daily Herald Investigative Editor

A Wheeling construction company and its partners accounted for half of the federal safety violations by the largest contractors on the Deep Tunnel project, according to a federal agency.

Kenny Construction Co. and its partners were cited for 70 safety violations between 1976 and 1986, according to data compiled by the General Accounting Office, the investigative arm of Congress.

The company's name appears on the GAO's list of contractors most frequently cited by the U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration during construction of the 131-mile tunnel system designed to control flooding and water pollution in Chicago and the suburbs.

In response, a Chicago-based safety group is renewing its call for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to stop granting federal funds to Deep Tunnel contractors with poor safety records.

"The EPA needs to bar contractors," said Joseph Kinney, executive director of the National Safe Workplace Institute, a non-profit organization. "If the agency is not willing to do that, then we will intervene with a lawsuit and seek an injunction against federal funding for Deep Tunnel."

Val Adamkus, EPA's regional administrator, said Monday that he will refrain from barring contractors until civil litigation between OSHA and Kenny Construction is resolved. The company is appealing a $17,600 fine, which OSHA levied for safety violations that it said led to the death of J.T. Smith, a 48-year-old company foreman who suffocated in a 20-foot shaft in 1985.

OSHA charged Kenny Construction failed to test the air in the shaft, ventilate the hole or instruct workers about the hazards of working in confined spaces. Last January, OSHA asked the U.S. Department of Justice to file criminal charges against the company. No criminal charges have been filed.

Company officials declined comment.

The company's appeal of the $17,600 fine in the Smith case is scheduled to begin in downtown Chicago on Nov. 18 before an administrative law judge.

Smith was one of 10 men who have died during construction of Deep Tunnel, a $3.7 billion public works project that is 17 years behind its original completion schedule.

A total of 33 workers have died nationwide during construction of EPA-funded projects from 1984 to 1986, the GAO found. Eleven of those deaths occurred in the Midwest, which had the worst record of fatalities.

PUBLIC SPEAKING

• "It has been the difference between night and day." — Wheeling Fire Chief Berhardt O. Koeppen, explaining that white lines painted by the village across Dundee and about 40 or 50 feet east and west in front of the fire-house driveway is succeeding in preventing cars from blocking a fire truck or ambulance's path.

Herald 11-10-87

BUFFALO GROVE

Ruling clears way

Buffalo Grove officials have won their second lawsuit this month, this one clearing the way for two 12-story office buildings at Milwaukee Avenue and Lake-Cook Road. The Illinois Supreme Court upheld a lower court decision denying the claim of neighboring Riverwoods, which contended that the buildings would lower nearby property values and tax revenues, and snarl traffic in the area. "We feel that the right decision was made...It was a good development when we annexed it, and we still feel that way," Buffalo Grove Village President Verna Clayton said. Plans for the two towers include a parking garage and a walkway near the Des Plaines River. The project, called Riverwalk, will include a two-story concourse connecting the two buildings, both of which will have three-floor atriums.

Village opposes warehouse

BY LINDA COOPER
Correspondent

The village is attempting to work out an agreement concerning a mini-storage warehouse proposed for the northwest corner of Hintz Road and Milwaukee Avenue.

The site is located in unincorporated Cook County, and several weeks ago the Village Board filed a formal objection to the warehouse plan Public Storage had presented to the county.

The objection means the proposal would have to obtain a two-thirds vote of the County Board in order to win approval.

On Monday, Public Storage suggested that perhaps the village and the company could come to an agreement.

The firm suggested a number of changes to its original proposal, including a reduction of the distance of the north property line by five feet, a wood-stock instead of a chain-link fence, and a change in the location of the driveway.

Jeffery Randall, the attorney for Public Storage, suggested that in return for the village's withdrawal of its objection to the building, the company would conform to county code plans and file a petition to annex into the village of Wheeling.

Randall said the property could be zoned B-4, legal non-conforming, but he would prefer that the zoning be classified as conforming.

Village Manager Thomas Markus said the village's goal is to annex the property. Markus said that a poor market for offices and the uncertainty of what will happen to Hintz Road could have an impact on whether the property could be used for purposes other than a warehouse. He admitted it would be hard to attract other, more desirable uses.

Markus said that if an accommodation can be reached with Public Storage, it will be necessary to have a pre-annexation agreement, which would result in the need for a public hearing. Markus suggested that the property be annexed "right

Please turn to page 3

Life

eek of November 12, 1987

Village opposes

Continued from page 1

up front," but Randall said time constraints would prohibit such action.

Randall said Public Storage was spending a great deal of money, and a delay in construction might not make it economically feasible to continue with the plan. "I don't feel it is necessary to have a public hearing," Randall said.

Board members agreed, however, that if Village Attorney Jim Rhodes believes a public hearing is necessary, they would request one.

LETTERS

Public safety demands 2 a.m. liquor limit

As president of the village of Wheeling, I read with interest your editorial of Oct. 22, 1987, regarding the proposed change in the hours of operation of liquor licenses within the village of Wheeling. Due to several inaccuracies and apparent misconceptions contained in that editorial, a need to clarify my position exists.

First of all, the issue of changing the hours of operation of liquor licensees is clearly one of safety, not of restraint of free trade or discrimination as your editorial suggests. Alcohol-related incidents during early morning hours have repeatedly and consistently been documented by law enforcement agencies across the country. Because the market during early morning hours is patronized exclusively and solely for the consumption of alcohol, it is reasonable to conclude that establishments which serve alcohol during such hours compound the problems and incidents directly attributable to alcohol.

To suggest that "drunken patrons refusing to leave the premises and occasional altercations in the parking lot" do not pose a threat to the general public at large is irresponsible and clearly inconsistent with law enforcement records.

Secondly, your inference that the market during early morning hours consists of "late-shift workers and players" is neither documented nor based on fact.

Lastly, a survey conducted by the village of Wheeling showed that a closing time of 2 a.m. would, in fact, match or exceed the closing times enforced on the weekends in four neighboring communities. Further, a closing time of 2 a.m. would match or exceed the closing times enforced on the weekdays in eight neighboring communities.

It is clear that it is within the purview of a municipality's general liquor control authority to provide and regulate for closing hours of its licenses. Providing a closing time of 2 a.m. will only affect 5 of the village's 29 liquor licensees. Reducing the hours of operation of those five liquor licensees merely represents the most responsible action which can be taken to combat the early morning, alcohol-related incidents currently plaguing many of our communities.

Sheila Schultz
Village President

Life 11-12-87

Photo by Tim Boyle

Jewelry for sale

Life 11-12-87

Ted Meland was one of those selling crafts at the Wheeling Senior Center's Boutique Sale held last weekend. Getting ready to purchase one of Meland's necklaces is Irene Treichke, a Wheeling resident.

Life 11-12-87 Section One-Page Ten

LIFE IN WHEELING

Jaycees celebrate 'Friends and Memories'

BY SANDY ALTIERI

■ Old Orchard Country Club was the scene last Saturday night of the Wheeling ees. "Friends and Memories" 30-year-celebration. There were 100 past Jaycees and Jills, present Jaycees, and community representatives in attendance.

ALTIERI

Tom Brice, 1961-62 president, traveled from his home in Monroe, La., and spoke on Wheeling Jaycee Pioneer Days. Other Jaycee presidents from the '60s and '70s and their wives who attended this gala event were **John and Helen Griggs** of Mt. Prospect, **Jerry and Lynda Fuller** of Villa Park, **Larry and Kathi Robertson** of Hoffman Estates, **Skip and Tilu Hedlund, Mike and Jacquie Moran, Tony and Sandy Altieri, Mike and Mary Sullivan** and **Gary and Sue Krueger**, all of Wheeling.

Several community leaders attended, including **Ed Main**, president of the Wheeling Chamber of Commerce, and his wife **Maria**, and **Thomas Murray**, trustee of the Indian Trails Library, and his wife **Pat**. Trustee Murray presented the Jaycees with a plaque in recognition of the Jaycees' efforts in starting Wheeling's first library in a small building behind the former Union Hotel; and in appreciation of the Jaycees continuing support throughout the years.

Past Jills president, **Rita Jorgensen**, presented **Tony Altieri**, Wheeling Historical Society curator, with the original Jaycees charter and the Jills banner. The Jills have not been in existence since 1984 when women were granted membership into the U.S. Jaycee organization, and the local chapter accepted this change. These items will be proudly displayed at the Society's Historical Museum.

Wheeling High School's "New Dawns" gave a magnificent performance following dinner and the evening was topped off by dancing to the music of the Jaycees own disc jockey, **Joe "Boomer" Mueller**. Commemorative mugs were given to each guest as a remembrance of a wonderful evening spent with old and dear friends.

■ Anyone driving on north Wolf Road lately has probably noticed the restoration work going on at the museum in Chamber Park. The museum is being restored to the way it looked when it was built in 1894. The building is the old village hall, which was originally located on south Milwaukee Avenue where the water tower now stands. The shutters have been removed, the many layers of paint are now being stripped, and all of the rotted boards and windows will be replaced. The museum will be closed to the public until the paint is all stripped. The date of completion cannot be determined because the work schedule depends on weather conditions, according to Curator Tony Altieri.

Society members will be working in the office at the museum each Tuesday and Thursday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Any questions, please call the museum at 537-3119 during these hours or call the curator at home at 537-5110.

■ Last Thursday evening, several Wheeling Amvets entertained some distinguished guests at the post home. The guests included **Harold Stoddard**, trustee of Amvets National Service Foundation, and his wife **Dorothy**, National Amvets Auxiliary president of Maine; **Martha Hall**, national executive officer of the Amvets National Finance Committee of Tennessee.

The Stoddards were on their way home from an 11-day trip to Taipei, Taiwan, and Seoul, Korea, where they were guests of the Republic of China government. While there, they visited many of the U.S. Army bases and greeted many of our dedicated servicemen stationed in the area. The group attended a charter meeting in Carpentersville with Wheeling Amvet **Bob Hettinger**, who is the senior vice commander of the Illinois Amvets, earlier in the evening. Hettinger recently started the new post in Carpentersville.

The national officers were very impressed with our local post, which is one of the finest in the state of Illinois.

For those who enjoyed the comedy of **Chuck Salvo** at the Amvets Summerfest last summer, you can see him once again at the Franklin House on Mannheim Road, between Grand and Belmont avenues. Salvo will be appearing there with two shows each Friday and Saturday night throughout the month of November.

■ **Marianne Fox** of Kenilworth Drive recently returned from a trip to Miami, Fla., where she met her brand new granddaughter, **Amanda Nicole**. The baby was born Sept. 27, weighed seven pounds, and is the daughter of son **Steve** and wife **Valarie**. Amanda joins a brother **Jimmy**. Grandfathers are **Ed Fox** of Kenilworth Drive and **Jim Bowman** of Cairo, Egypt.

During her three-week stay, Marianne also visited her father **Frank Levis**, her sister and brother-in-law **Peggy and Allen Zank**, and her niece and husband **Chrissy and Mike Burns**, who all live in the Miami area. Judging by her beautiful tan, she also found some time to spend at the beach.

HAPPENINGS

Life 11-12-87

Who will pilot airport panel?

After months of disagreement, the issue of who is to take over the chairmanship of the joint Pal-Waukee Airport Commission is still unresolved.

The problem arose after the Prospect Heights chairman resigned in June without completing his term of office.

Vice Chairman Tony Altieri of Wheeling, took over as acting chairman. Last month, however, the Prospect Heights City Council elected Carey Chickerneo to take over the post.

But acting chairman Altieri refused to step down, saying that Prospect Heights has no authority to unilaterally name a new chairman.

Altieri said that through an oversight the commission has no procedures through which it can fill vacancies. He said that not only the chairmanship has to be filled but also the post of secretary, which is vacant because of a resignation.

He said the commission has asked both Wheeling and Prospect Heights to give it direction.

The communities can either jointly develop procedures to fill vacancies or they can ask the commission to, Altieri said.

The intergovernmental agreement between Wheeling and Prospect Heights that established the Airport Commission states that the chairmanship should alternate between the two communities.

Wheeling Village President Sheila Schultz said Wheeling has taken no official stand on how the issue should be resolved.

"I am really confident that we will work it out," Schultz said. "We have to."

Repeated attempts to contact Prospect Heights Mayor John Gilligan were unsuccessful.

The Pal-Waukee Airport Commission consists of eight members, four from Wheeling and four from Prospect Heights.

The first chairman of the commission was Wheeling Trustee Bill Rogers, who served for two years. He was followed by Ron Sowatzke from Prospect Heights, who resigned.

The commission can make no final decisions on Pal-Waukee Airport. Rather it recommends actions to the Wheeling Village Board and the Prospect Heights City Council.

Herald 11-12-87

Flood control measure passes

The Illinois legislature approved flood control legislation Friday, but taxing bodies will not be able to raise property taxes to fund the new flood programs without first holding a referendum.

James LaBelle, assistant to the governor, said the legislation would not have passed if it had not been modified to include the referendum requirement.

As it is, he said, the House approved it by only four votes more than necessary.

The legislation, which had been recommended by the governor's task force on flooding, will enable each county, with the exception of Cook, to establish a planning committee to develop a county-wide storm-water management plan.

The counties will be able to levy up to 20 cents per $100 assessed valuation to fund the committee and its plans.

Other portions of the legislation allow municipalities and sanitary districts to also impose property tax levies for specified flood control measures.

None of the taxing bodies, however, can impose the levies without first seeking approval from voters.

LaBelle said the counties can set up planning committees without seeking property tax increases. Many counties are not taxing at their maximum rate, he said, and therefore have potential funds they can use for flood projects.

The bill also prohibits construction in the floodway (areas prone to flooding) with the exception of certain uses considered proper.

Municipalities, such as Wheeling, that straddle two counties, will be able to choose which county's flood control program they want to be under.

Herald 11-12-87

Senior fund-raiser

A reminder that the Wheeling Senior Citizen Center will be sponsoring a Jewel Shop and Share Days next Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, Nov. 16, 17, and 18. Shop and Share coupons are availabe at the village hall, Indian Trails Library, Heritage Park, Holy Family Ambulatory Care Center, and the Senior Center. Turn in your Shop and Share slip when you purachase items at any Chicagoland Jewel on the indicated dates, and 5 percent of your total purchase will be donated to the Pavilion Senior Center.

For more information, call 459-2670.

"Ideas are a lot like children — our own are wonderful." (author unknown).

Herald 11-11-87

Town, storage company firm up plans

BY C. L. WALLER
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Members of Wheeling's village staff will draw up a more specific proposal with a company wanting to construct small storage units at Hintz Road and Milwaukee Avenue.

Public Storage Inc., with a regional office in Oak Brook, wants to build about 450 storage units and a watchman's building on two acres of unincorporated property northwest of the intersection. Wheeling officials, who have objected to the plan with the Cook County Zoning Board of Appeals, are interested in annexing the land to Wheeling, giving them more control over its eventual development.

The county zoning board will vote Nov. 18 whether to allow the storage lockers to be built. The full Cook County board then needs to approve the plan.

Public Storage wants to proceed with getting approval by Cook County, but prior to construction, annex into Wheeling.

Village Manager Thomas M. Markus suggested that the company withdraw from Cook County and annex to the village, but an attorney representing the company said that would mean another 120-day wait to meet publication requirements for a pre-annexation hearing and to get plans through the village plan commission and zoning board of appeals.

Public Storage says there are time constraints on the project because the property is under contract to buy.

"Everything in the contract is contingent on us beginning to build," said Jeffrey M. Randall, attorney for Public Storage. The longer plans take, the more it costs the contract purchaser, he added.

Randall suggested that a covenant be drawn up between the village and Public Storage to avoid having to hold a pre-annexation hearing, but village attorney James Rhodes disagreed.

"No matter what you call it you are still making an agreement with the village of Wheeling prior to annexation," Rhodes said.

Without a hearing the annexation could be challenged by adjacent land owners or neighboring Prospect Heights, he said.

HERALD 11-12-87

Old village hall gets back its old look

BY C. L. WALLER
Daily Herald Staff Writer

The village hall that once stood under the water tower along Milwaukee Avenue in Wheeling is beginning to look like its old self.

Located in Chamber of Commerce Park on Wolf Road since 1978, the structure has been transformed by the historical society and park district for use as a museum. But the museum will be closed until repairs are completed.

Both the society and the park district agreed to restore the 93-year-old building to its look as a village hall at an estimated cost of $36,000.

"The building needed repair work and if it will restore it to its natural look, all the better," said Frank Schnaitmann, president of the historical society.

Besides painting and remodeling the basement, there have been no major repairs done to the building since the park district bought it from the society for $1, he said.

The restoration may be the first step toward recreating an old-time community presentation at Chamber of Commerce Park, Schnaitmann said.

Black shutters, which were not part of the original building, will be removed and wire mesh is being taken off of the windows, said Dan Seggebruch, an architect with Dixon and Associates in St. Charles. Dixon and Associates specializes in restoring old buildings, and Sebbebruch said the village hall restoration is a typical job.

Work began last month and plans are to have it completed by the end of December, he said.

The asphalt shingle roof is being replaced with wooden shingles and layers of paint are being stripped from the structure with chemicals and water, Seggebruch said. Some of the siding will be replaced and the entire structure will be repainted white while the doors and railings will be painted brown.

Ornamental wooden brackets once located under the roof eaves at the top of the building will be put back on the building and repainted.

Countryside 11-12-87

County commissioners undecided on landfill

By Susan Montgomery

Northwest Municipal Conference (NWMC) members are doing last-minute lobbying of Cook County Board commissioners to approve the conference's plan for a landfill site near Bartlett.

The board will meet at 10 a.m. Monday in the Cook County Board Room, on the fifth floor of the County Building, 118 N. Clark St., Chicago, to vote on the plan. The plan already has won the endorsement of the county's Zoning Board of Appeals.

Of the four commissioners on the 17-member board contacted this week, only one expressed concrete support for the plan. Three others said they are still mulling their votes.

The NWMC's planned 200-acre landfill must win the votes from three-fourths of the board.

THE NWMC WANTS to construct a $35 million, 200-acre "balefill" (a landfill at which garbage is compressed into bales) in an abandoned gravel pit at Ill. 25 and W. Bartlett Road. The facility would serve the conference's 31 member communities in Cook and Lake counties for about 12 years. Wheeling and Buffalo Grove are among the towns that would be served by the landfill.

Landfill opponents, most of whom live near the proposed site, also are loudly voicing their view, Commissioner Joseph D. Mathewson of Winnetka said Monday. John Stark, a Bartlett plan commissioner, has said he expects several communities near the site to sue if the county board and Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) approve the plan. Mathewson said he will support the proposal, adding he was "impressed by its care and thoroughness."

Commissioner Robert P. Gooley, of Homewood, on Monday called the plan good, but expressed concern that the balefill might contaminate a shallow aquifer that provides drinking water. And the concern was echoed by Harold L. Tyrrell, county commissioner from La Grange Park.

Under terms of its proposal, the conference will ensure drinking water supplies and property values of the few residents who live within a mile of the site.

TYRRELL SAID HE would be more likely to support the plan if conference officials agreed to ensure drinking water for all residents who use the aquifer, not just those within a one-mile vicinity.

The conference plans to set aside funds to address any problems, such as cleanup and reduced property values, so conference communities won't have to directly reimburse residents whose property values decline because of the balefill, NWMC representatives have said.

NWMC Executive Director William Grams Monday was optimistic about the proposal's passage.

Intelligencer 11-12-87

Holiday happenings

It may be hard to believe, but Christmas is just around the corner. And there were all sorts of holiday crafts and baked goods for sale at the Holiday House boutique at the Wheeling Pavilion Senior Center Saturday. At left, perspective customers check out the merchandise. Above, Ted Meland displays some of his handcrafted gem jewelry. The event raised funds for senior services and activities. *(Anthony Binder photos)*

Intelligencer 11-12-87

Restoring history

Steve Klein of Monarch Construction has his hands full Monday as he works on the renovation of the Wheeling Historical Museum at Chamber Park. The museum is being chemically clean and repainted; some of the windows and portions of the siding are also being replaced. *(Staff photo by Richard Bajjalieh)*

Countryside 11-12-87

Plastic spells profits for Wheeling company

By Lee Ann Gill

.e next time you're slurping down a large Coke at McDonald's, ask yourself this: Just where does that neatly-wrapped circular tube that so quickly takes the pop from the cup down into your throat come from?

Wheeling residents may be surprised to learn that straws with wrappers bearing the names of McDonald's, Burger King, Taco Bell and Arby's are made right in their own backyard.

Those products and others come from the same company known for the familiar clown appearing on each box of Carnival straws and plastic tableware sold in stores across the country.

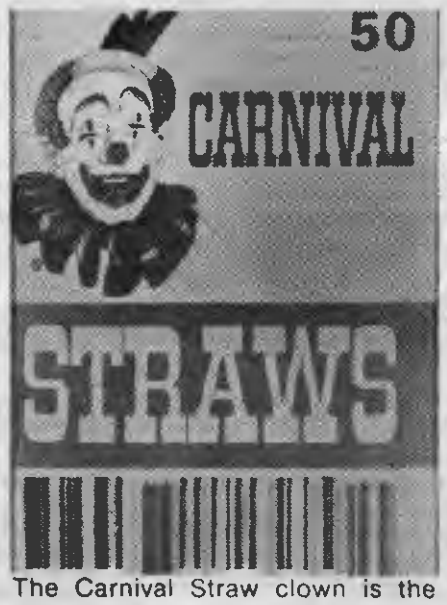
Clear Shield National Inc. located at 1175 S. Wheeling Road, is the place where every day millions of straws, plastic utensils and moist towelettes are produced for distribution to fast-food restaurants, stores and hospitals nationwide. The company, which was founded in 1965, is one of the leading distributors of straws and plastic tableware in the nation and has plants located in Massachusetts, Louisiana and Atlanta.

PRODUCTION LINES PUMP out the plastic products 24 hours a day, seven days a week to keep up with the demand, said Roger Cappello, president of Clear Shield. The skyrocketing popularity of the fast-food industry is a major factor in the $60 million in sales the company takes in each year, he said.

"People will take their kids to McDonald's no matter what. People are eating out now more than ever," said Cappello, calling the fast-food business — and his business — "almost recessionless."

To meet the demand of the fast-food generation, the company is adding another 80,000 square feet of manufacturing space at Marquardt and Peterson drives, just a few blocks from its national headquarters on Wheeling Road.

Besides keeping up with the fast-food industry, the expansion is necessary to make room for additional machinery to individually wrap plastic utensils for McDonald's restaurants. As of Jan. 1, McDonald's is requiring that all utensils be wrapped in response to concerns over the spread of Acute Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS), he said.



The Carnival Straw clown is the company's familiar trademark.

INCREASED PRODUCTION WILL mean even more melting, molding and cutting of plastic. A walk through one of the plants takes you past cylinders spitting out straws at an unbelievable rate. Hundreds of forks fall from gigantic molds onto a conveyor belt, where they are left to harden before packaging.

Every so often a machine jams, shooting reams of plastic onto the floor. But Cappello doesn't worry because nothing is ever wasted. Half-ton bins containing ground-up plastic fill a corner of the plant waiting for recycling.

What keeps Clear Shield ahead in the plastics game is low-cost production, which results in lower prices for customers, said Cappello. The faster you can make a product, the less it will cost the consumer, he said. Clear Shield is the third largest of 25 manufacturers of straws and plastic tableware in the nation, said Cappello.

Roger Cappello, president of Clear Shield National Inc., says his business is growing by leaps and bounds thanks to the fast-food industry. *(Staf photo by Richard Bajjalieh)*

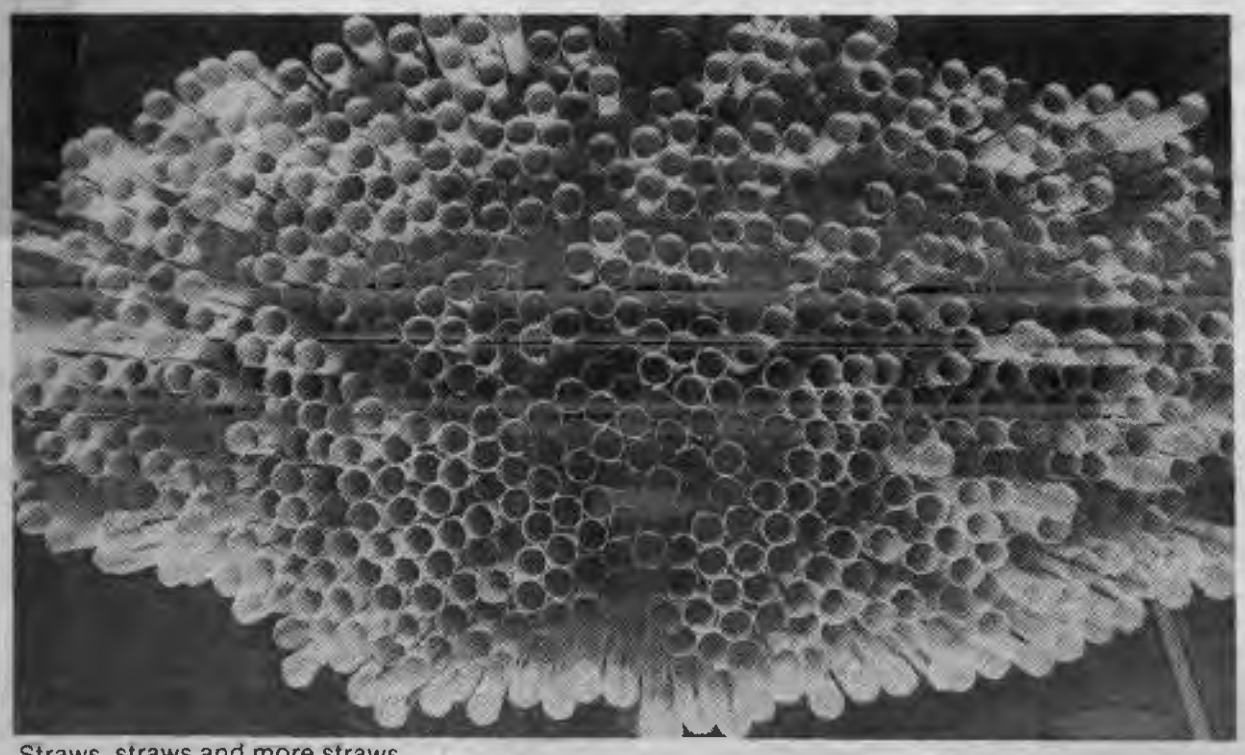
"In the industry we're considered a low-cost producer. You've got to be sharp all the time, keeping your prices as low as possible," he said.

AND ALTHOUGH IT may be hard for some to tell a Carnival Straw from another brand, Cappello said there is a difference.

"We pay an awful lot of attention to quality," he said. That quality is not only seen by Burger Kings and McDonald's across the country, but by hospitals as well.

Menu kits that include napkins, utensils and the proper condiments for specific diets for hospital patients are manufactured by Clear Shield, one of only two companies that produce such kits. The individual kits are marked by color to indicate whether they are to be used as part of a sodium-free, sugar-free or other special diet for patients.

What else can this company get into? Cappello isn't sure right now, but said Clear Shield will probably find its way to producing new products in the future. After all, one man's disposable straw is another man's fortune.


Straws, straws and more straws.

Plastic spoons roll off the conveyer belt.

HERALD 11-13-87

Wheeling plans to double its water supply

By C. L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Wheeling plans on nearly doubling its daily allocation of Lake Michigan water in another 15 years, according to an allocation permit issued by the Illinois Department of Transportation Division of Water Resources.

The division of water resources recently approved a request to boost Wheeling's daily allocation by slightly more than 1 million gallons. Beginning in 1988, Wheeling will be able to use 4.02 million gallons of water each day, and by 2020 the need is estimated at 5.4 million gallons.

The village's water permit has not been changed since it was set at 2.86 million gallons per day four or five years ago. That figure was based on existing use and growth, but Wheeling had to ask for more because there was an increase in population and industrial use, said Augie Lockefeer, village water superintendent.

Wheeling's population has grown by 3,000 since the 1980 census. Along with a general growth in the number of industries, large industries in the village use a lot of water. Ekco Products Inc., for instance, got rid of its own wells, and food industry places, such as Orval Kent Food Co., use a lot of water.

New construction in Wheeling is required to continue meeting local plumbing codes to conserve water, including installation of water efficient plumbing fixtures and equipping new or remodeled car washes with a water recycling system.

Wheeling has been exceeding its Lake Michigan water allocation by 1 million gallons of water per day and last year paid a $205,000 penalty surcharge to the Northwest Water Commission. However, the village avoided further surcharges by asking for more water.

Wheeling, Buffalo Grove, Arlington Heights and Palatine are members of the commission and each receives lake water from a reservoir in Des Plaines.

HERALD 11-14-87

Panel denies request to put up sign

By Sherry Boemmel
Daily Herald Correspondent

Wheeling plan commissioners have unanimously denied a request for the owner of an oil change business to put a sign on his building.

George Alexander, operator of The Pit Crew, 420 S. Milwaukee Ave., asked that a four-foot by eight-foot sign containing the brand name Pennzoil be attached to his business. He said the sign is essential to the business of changing oil in vehicles. Because his business is independently owned rather than part of a franchise, Alexander said 75 percent of his customers come because of the reputation of Pennzoil.

"We feel we should have product identity," Alexander said. "They don't know Pit Crew, they know Pennzoil."

However, commission Chairman Paul Eisterhold said the commission is trying to avoid approving business signs containing brand names. Oil change stores are "slightly different" from gas stations identified by the names of fuel pumped, he added.

Village planner Richard Greenwood asked if the logo could be on the pole sign at the business, but Alexander said all brand references had been removed from the pole sign at Greenwood's request prior to coming to the plan commission.

THE WEEK AHEAD

HERALD 11-15-87

Development intersections to receive three-way stops

Two intersections in the Arlington Club development will be getting three-way stops as Wheeling trustees amend a traffic ordinance for the development, located northeast of Buffalo Grove and Dundee roads.

Arlington Club residents told trustees last month they were concerned about Cobbler Lane and Arlington Drive and Arlington and Huntington Drive.

Residents were concerned about pedestrian and driver safety at the intersections because of traffic patterns being created and failure of vehicles to stop at the existing stop signs.

Wheeling police studied the intersections and found that the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices, prepared by the Illinois Department of Transportation, allows for three-way stops to hold up the greater flow of traffic in exchange for permitting others to make a left turn, according to a memo from Wheeling Police Chief Michael F. Haeger.

During rush hour times and on weekends, making a left turn at the intersections is the biggest problem, Haeger said. With only 60 percent of Arlington Club developed, that problem will just increase, he added.

Construction of the development began about two years ago. In all, 114 buildings will be constructed at the site. A total of 974 units, including apartments, condominiums and town houses, will be available.

The top meeting

Who: Wheeling village board

Where: Wheeling village hall, 255 W. Dundee Road

When: 8 p.m. Monday

HERALD 11-16-87

Repairs shut down tracks at Dundee over weekend

By C. L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Dundee Road will be closed between Wheeling and Wolf roads next weekend while the railroad tracks are repaired.

Traffic will be detoured around the crossing via Hintz, Wolf and Wheeling roads from 7 a.m. Friday to sometime Sunday.

Wisconsin Central Railroad recently purchased the tracks from the Soo Line and will replace the rubberized material at the crossing.

The crossing was last repaired in 1982. At that time the repairs were done in sections and only two lanes were closed at one time. This time, railroad officials asked the Illinois Department of Transportation for complete closure of the street.

Wheeling Police Chief Michael F. Haeger said the intersection of Wolf and Hintz, which is a four-way intersection with stop signs, will be the most congested. Police officers will be directing traffic there during morning and evening rush hours on Friday, he said.

Police will monitor all the nearby intersections all three days. If traffic begins backing up, officers will be assigned to direct traffic, Haeger added.

The railroad crossing repairs are part of a total $1.3 million project that also includes relocation of the Boehmer Avenue and Northgate Parkway intersection.

Wheeling's share is $235,000, while the state will pay $160,000 and the Federal Highway Administration will pay $950,000.

HERALD 11-10-87

Repair work may snarl Dundee Road traffic

By C. L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Traffic on Dundee Road in Wheeling could be snarled next month, next spring, or both, depending on when the Wisconsin Central Railroad fixes a crossing and the Illinois Department of Transportation fixes the road.

Wisconsin Central Railroad's purchase of the Soo Line railroad line that runs through Wheeling somewhat delayed plans to replace the rubberized crossing on Dundee Road.

An engineer for the railroad said the railroad work is slated for the second week in November. Wisconsin Central said it asked to proceed with the railroad work before winter because there have been complaints from residents about the rough ride over the crossing.

Now it is up to the Illinois Department of Transportation, which maintains the street, to agree to the railroad's request to close Dundee for three to five days.

Officials from IDOT also are concerned with their plans to widen and resurface Dundee Road and relocate the intersections of Boehmer Avenue and Northgate Parkway. Plans also include installing a new bridge on Northgate over the Wheeling Drainage Ditch.

The state is advertising for bids on Dec. 4 and work will not be started until spring, said David Vandervelde, federal aide program engineer. IDOT currently is preparing a detour route.

Closing Dundee Road twice within a few months is an option.

Total construction cost of the street and railroad repairs is $1.3 million. Wheeling's share is $235,000, while the state will pay $160,000 and the Federal Highway Administration will pay $950,000.

Generally, it takes a week to repair a single-track railroad crossing with a closed road and twice as long otherwise, Vandervelde said. Street work on Dundee could be completed in two or three days, maybe over a weekend, if the street is completely closed.

HERALD 11-17-87

Tunnel contractor hit with indictment

By Chris Szechenyi
and Kathy Schaeffer
Daily Herald staff writers

A federal grand jury Monday charged Kenny Construction Co. of Wheeling with intentionally violating federal safety laws, leading to the death of a Deep Tunnel construction worker.

The indictment, announced by U.S. Attorney Anton Valukas, charges Kenny Construction of failing to maintain safe oxygen levels and neglecting to test the air in a Deep Tunnel shaft in west suburban La Grange.

As a result, the indictment says, J.T. Smith, a 48-year-old foreman excavating the shaft, was asphyxiated on April 23, 1985.

Kenny Construction, a major contractor on the $3.7 billion flood-and-pollution control project, also is accused of failing to train employees on the use of emergency protective equipment and failing to maintain oxygen analyzers at the shaft.

If convicted, the company faces a maximum fine of $500,000. The indictment of a company for breaching occupational safety rules is a rare step. Under the Reagan Administration, sources said, the U.S. Department of Justice has pressed criminal charges against only one other business for the death of a worker. In that case in Kansas, the company paid a $10,000 fine.

John Kenny Jr., an officer of the construction company, was responsible for making sure federal safety requirements to test the shaft were followed, according to Monday's indictment.

But no company officers were charged personally in the case, Assistant U.S. Attorney William Hogan said.

Kenny Construction officials declined comment.

In announcing the decision to seek charges against the company, prosecutors noted that another worker died in a Deep Tunnel shaft in 1977 after being overcome by carbon

See TUNNEL on Page 1

HERALD 11-17-87

TUNNEL: Federal grand jury cites firm for safety violations

Continued from Page 1

monoxide. At that time, the Northwest suburban company and its partners were fined for failing to perform routine gas tests and government attorneys said the firm had exhibited "a callous disregard for the lives of its employees."

A repeated pattern of safety violations by private contractors in the the Metropolitan Sanitary District-sponsored project was revealed by the Daily Herald in a series last February. The newspaper investigation found 10 workers have died during construction of the tunnel, with the majority of fatalities associated with violations of federal safety rules.

Occupational safety experts praised the Valukas' decision to prosecute the Wheeling company, saying the case may make others more vigilant about protecting employees from workplace hazards.

"It sends a powerful message to employers across the nation," said Joseph Kinney, executive director of the National Workplace Institute, a private lobbying group in Chicago. "We hope the maximum penalties under the law will be imposed."

Mike Connors, deputy regional administrator of the U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration, declined to make an official comment about the indictment but said, "We're pleased about it."

OSHA investigated Smith's death and fined Kenny Construction $17,600 for safety violations that were cited in Monday's indictment. The company's appeal of the OSHA fine is scheduled to begin Wednesday in Chicago, but the new development may delay the hearing. Lawyers with the U.S. Department of Labor have been planning to call about a dozen witnesses to testify about what happened the day Smith died.

HERALD 11-17-87

Cook County OKs controversial 'balefill' near Bartlett

BY TED GREGORY
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Cook County commissioners Monday overwhelmingly cleared the way for construction of a $35 million landfill near Bartlett.

But the controversial proposal still must pass muster with state environmental officials and survive the threatened court challenges of landfill opponents.

The county board's zoning approval came on a 14-2 vote after barely five minutes of discussion. It means the "balefill," so named because garbage is baled before it is buried, will be reviewed by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency. The EPA's decision is the last legally-required review for the proposed balefill, which would stand on 409 unincorporated acres north of West Bartlett Road and east of Route 25.

"This is a major hurdle for the plan's success," said William Grams, executive director of the Northwest Municipal Conference, a group of 31 North and Northwest suburbs planning the balefill as a short-term solution to the burgeoning problem of waste disposal. Conference representatives proposed the balefill in December 1985, after losing an earlier bid to the county board on a planned landfill near Hoffman Estates.

Opponents, who launched a fierce fight against the balefill during nine public hearings held over the past several months, vowed to continue the battle on an environmental basis. Critics' major concern is that the balefill would contaminate an underground water channel that supplies parts of Bartlett, Elgin and South Elgin.

"We're going to continue to fight and fight all the way to the Supreme Court, if necessary," said Bartlett village board member Marvin E. White, a staunch balefill opponent. "I don't think the EPA can afford to approve it."

White, one of several opponents who has vowed to file a lawsuit aimed at blocking the landfill, added that the site stands on an earthquake-prone fault that shook as late as August. In addition, he said the 16 soil samplings taken by the conference were an inordinately low number.

"The Northwest Municipal Conference did not fully present a case that is airtight," White said. "They just presented a case and the board went for it."

Commissioner Harold L. Tyrrell, from LaGrange, voted against the balefill with Chicago Commisioner Jerry Butler. Mount Prospect Commissioner Carl Hansen, who opposes the balefill and was expected to call for another public hearing on the issue, was absent Monday.

HERALD 11-17-87

Airport firm's investors plan marketing blitz

BY C. L. WALLER
Daily Herald Staff Writer

New investors in a firm that provides airport services at Pal-Waukee Municipal Airport say they'll launch an aggressive marketing campaign next year.

Charles E. Priester, president of the investment group, said it's time for Pal-Waukee and other airport service groups to do more marketing. Airports have been "singing to the choir" and not to the public about what they have to offer, he said.

Priester said the sooner marketing gets started, the better it will be for the company. "Timing is very critical to us right now," he said.

Marketing the airport has so far been assigned to the Pal-Waukee Municipal Airport Commission, but acting-chairman Anthony Altieri says marketing could be left up to the new investors.

The airport is owned by Prospect Heights and Wheeling, and the commission is made up of representatives from both communities. The operations company is a separate, private entity.

Called Pal-Waukee Aviation Inc., the investor group includes professional golfer Arnold D. Palmer, International Management Group chairman Mark H. McCormack, managing partner James O'Neal Jr. and former United Airlines chairman Richard J. Ferris.

The investors are buying Priester Aviation's operations at Pal-Waukee and at the Aurora Municipal Airport. The Priester family is selling the aviation service, but Charles Priester became president of the new firm.

The newly formed company will sell aircraft and fuel, provide maintenance and hangars, and offer flight training and charter planes. Annual sales for Priester are about $40 million.

Priester Aviation has a contract through 1989 with Prospect Heights and Wheeling.

"Our aim: To fear God, tell the truth and make money." H.C. PADDOCK 1852

HERALD 11-18-87

EDITORIALS

Kenny indictment should spur EPA

It's rare for the Department of Justice to indict a company for breaching occupational safety rules.

That's why the department's decision to press criminal charges against a company for safety violations — just the second time during the Reagan administration — is so significant.

A federal grand jury has charged Kenny Construction Co., of Wheeling, one of the contractors on the Metropolitan Sanitary District's Deep Tunnel project, with intentionally violating federal safety laws. The result of the violation, the indictment says, was that J.T. Smith, a 48-year-old foreman excavating the shaft, was asphyxiated on April 3, 1985.

The federal government has provided 75 percent of the $3.7 billion in funds for the MSD-sponsored, $3.7 billion flood-and-pollution control project.

This rare indictment — the decision by U.S. Attorney Anton Valukas to prosecute the Kenny Construction Co. — ought to give the EPA reason to consider including safety records among the criteria for contractors to receive federal funds.

Herald 11-18-87

Residents of Arlington Club to get requested stop signs

The Arlington Club development will get two three-way stop signs, as requested by residents.

Wheeling trustees agreed to further regulate traffic in the development located near Buffalo Grove and Dundee roads.

Residents asked that three-way stop signs be installed at Cobbler and Arlington lanes and at Huntington and Arlington lanes. They said that pedestrians and drivers were in danger at those intersections because vehicles do not stop at existing stop signs and because of current traffic patterns.

Wheeling police studied the intersections to substantiate the residents' claims. Police representatives said the three-way stops were justified because the Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices, prepared by the Illinois Department of Transportation, allows signs to stop the greater flow of traffic to permit other vehicles to make left turns.

In a memo to the village board, Police Chief Michael F. Haeger said that left turns are causing the most problems at the intersections during rush hours and on weekends. He added that the problem will increase as Arlington Club develops further.

HERALD 11-19-87

Trustees drop objection to storage units

Wheeling trustees have agreed to withdraw their objection to a company building storage units at Hintz Road and Milwaukee Avenue if the lockers are annexed to the village.

Public Storage Inc., with a regional office in Oak Brook, wants to build about 450 storage units and a watchman's building on two acres of unincorporated property northwest of Hintz Road and Milwaukee Avenue.

Wheeling officials filed an objection with the Cook County Zoning Board of Appeals because they didn't like the buildings' design and because the development is incompatible with Wheeling's plans to someday have offices and research companies in that area.

Public Storage has changed the design of the development and will present the plan to the county for approval. But at the same time, company officials have agreed to the annexation, as long as it happens after the lockers are built.

Company officials estimate that the storage units will be usable for about 10 years. In the agreement with the village, if the development is damaged within the first 10 years from the time of construction, the company will be allowed to rebuild the same type of units.

Country Side 11-19-87

Rail crossing repair to close Dundee Road

By Lee Ann Gill
Staff Writer

Motorists trying to zip down Dundee Road in Wheeling this weekend or during the Monday morning rush hour might run into a little trouble.

Dundee Road will be closed between Wolf and Wheeling roads Friday through early Monday to enable workers to make repairs to the Soo Line Railroad crossing.

The crossing, which runs over Dundee Road, just east of Wheeling Road near Lynn Plaza, has deteriorated and desperately needs repair, said Terry Lee, an engineer with the Wisconsin Central Railroad, the company that bought out the Soo Line last month.

A detour for motorists will be set up beginning 7 a.m. Friday morning. The detour will use Wheeling, Hintz and Wolf roads, but Wheeling Police Chief Michael Haeger said motorists should try to avoid altogether the inevitable "mess" on Dundee Road over the next few days.

"WE ARE definitely encouraging people to seek alternate routes," he said. "We're notifying radio stations to ask people to make alternate plans."

For motorists finding themselves driving east on Dundee Road during the repair period, the detour will take them south on Wheeling Road, east on Hintz Road and north on Wolf Road back onto Dundee Road. For westbound drivers, the detour will run south on Wolf Road, west on Hintz Road and north on Wheeling Road to Dundee Road.

(Continued on page 11)

HERALD 11-19-87

This is the portion of Dundee Road that wil
struction and closed to traffic through Mond

Traffic will be detoured along this route du

e no
pro-
orn-
work
the
g on
on
ight
ithout
from the
ransportation
Central agreed
done as well or as
cars trying to maneuver
workers.
we don't allow them to close the
road the work won't be done as well," said Feroz Nathani, program and office engineer for IDOT. Nathani said that without the road closing, the work would take twice as long to finish.

"WE HAVE to have closure due to the type of work we're doing," Lee added.

He said the repairs to the crossing are necessary and long overdue.

"They haven't held up probably like they should have. We have received several complaints on the crossing," said Lee.

Federal funding will cover 70 percent of the $25,000 project, with the state paying for the rest of the work.

Countryside 11-19-87

Village may withdraw objection to warehouse

Wheeling officials last month filed a formal objection to plans by an Oak Brook company to build a mini-warehouse on Milwaukee Avenue. But the village may drop the objection because the developer has agreed to make some major changes in its plans for the facility.

By Lee Ann Gill
Staff Writer

Wheeling officials have agreed to withdraw a formal objection to plans for a mini-warehouse in unincorporated Cook County if the developer agrees to annex the two-acre site into the village after the facility is built.

Public Storage Inc. of Oak Brook is planning to construct the three-building warehouse facility at the northwest corner of Hintz Road and Milwaukee Avenue, on an unincorporated parcel that's completely surrounded by Wheeling. The plan is now pending before the Cook County Zoning Board of Appeals, which will make a recommendation to the full county board.

Wheeling officials last month filed a formal objection to those plans with the county, saying the development is not compatible with the village's comprehensive plan. The formal objection would require a three-fourths vote by the county board to approve the project instead of a simple majority.

However, Wheeling officials now say they will drop their objection if Public Storage agrees to bring the project more in line with what the village wants and also agrees to annex the facility into Wheeling once it's constructed.

AT MONDAY'S VILLAGE board meeting, trustees approved an annexation agreement with the developer and an agreement to rescind the objection if the Public Storage follows through with plans to make some changes to its original proposal.

Under the terms of the annexation agreement, the warehouse will be built in unincorporated Cook County under county zoning ordinances, which are generally less stringent than Wheeling's ordinances. After construction is completed, Public Storage will annex to Wheeling and the village will rezone the property from C-8, intensive commercial, to B-5, business, a zoning classification that village officials say is conducive to surrounding property.

The agreement also states that for the first 10 years of operation, the company could reconstruct any damaged portions of the three-building storage facility, but after the 10 years the village would have control over any additional construction on the site.

"If the development is damaged or destroyed within the first 10 years, we'll allow them to reconstruct. But after that they'll have to comply with Wheeling codes," said Village Attorney James Rhodes.

ALSO UNDER THE terms of the annexation agreement, "the village will have the right to inspect the development to be sure it's constructed according to the plan," he said.

The annexation is the only way the village can control any future development on that site, said Village President Sheila Schultz.

"It's in anticipation of what development might be on that location in another 10 years," she said.

In return for withdrawing the objection, the developer agreed to make several changes in plans for the facility. Rhodes said changes to the original plan, agreed upon by the village and developer, include decreasing the number of storage units over what had been initially proposed. Originally, 450 units were proposed and although Rhodes didn't know exactly how many will actually be built, he said the building sizes would be scaled down.

THE PROPOSED ACCESS into the site has also changed, Rhodes said. Initially, the developer wanted the access off Milwaukee Avenue, but Wheeling officials asked for a Hintz Road entrance instead.

Other changes include additional landscaping and more green space fronting the building. "A ton of different things are changed from the original plan," said Rhodes.

The Cook County Zoning Board of Appeals held the initial hearing on the plan Sept. 18.

HERALD 11-19-87

Firm asks for tax reduction from village

Waldmann Lighting Co. Inc., 1714 S. Wolf Road, wants to relocate in Wheeling, but only if the village approves a property tax break for the business.

The company wants to move from its present location to a 100,000-square-foot site in the Palwaukee Business Center on Chaddick Drive. Although the business is planning to construct just a 12,000-square-foot building now, Waldmann officials say it would only be a matter of time before the building would be expanded to make room for additional production lines.

Before it relocates, however, Waldmann wants the village to approve a 6b property tax exemption that would save the company about $8,000 annually during the first eight years of the 12-year program. And company officials say they'll move out of Wheeling if the tax break isn't approved.

Village trustees heard the proposal at a public hearing Monday and will vote on it sometime next month.

UNDER THE TERMS of the 6b program, a company is granted a reduction in its property assessment level from 38 to 16 percent of the market value during the first eight years of operation. For four years after that, the assessment would stand at 30 percent. After 12 years of operation, the property would be assessed at whatever the normal level for commercial property is at that time.

At Monday's meeting, village officials were unsure whether any addition Waldmann makes to the new building would also receive the tax break. "We would want to review, from a tax exemption standpoint, subsequent additions," Village Manager Tom Markus told Waldmann officials Monday.

If the company receives the 6b tax exemption program and decides to add onto the proposed building in a few years, it would have to reapply for the exemption for the addition, said Dick Vanecko, a spokesman for the Cook County Assessor's office. Vanecko said if an addition is approved, it would be treated as a "brand new" construction and the tax exemption for that portion of the building would last for 12 years.

"They would follow the same guidelines for application as if it were brand new. It would be on its own time table," he said.

ONLY GROWING, manufacturing companies are considered for the program, which was designed by Cook County to lure companies to the suburbs.

"The 6b is the condition on which they would relocate in Wheeling," said Robert DiLeonardi, the attorney representing the company. "Without it they will not relocate here. They want to stay in Wheeling, they don't want to move out."

The company, which has been in the village since 1982, manufactures, sells and distributes lighting equipment for industrial and commercial use. If the tax break is approved, the company will break ground soon and will plan to complete the building by next June.

Wheeling officials agree to back 5 suburbs in fight against AT&T

Wheeling trustees are supporting the efforts of five northwest suburbs that are attempting to collect a tax from the American Telephone and Telegraph Co. (AT&T) for a cable project planned for installation in those towns.

Officials from Crystal Lake, Barrington, Lake Barrington, Arlington Heights and Palatine are saying that if AT&T wants to complete a $6.5 million fiber-optic cable project, which is scheduled for installation in towns from Glenview to Rockford, the company must first enter into a franchise agreement and pay a fee to each of the five towns.

AT&T filed suit in Cook County Circuit Court Oct. 6, naming the five municipalities as defendants and claiming the cable project is jeopardized because of the municipalities' demands

AT&T's request to go forward with the project was upheld by Cook County Circuit Court Judge Robert Sklodowski Nov. 2. But the defendants immediately appealed the ruling and Sklodowski placed a temporary injunction on the work.

ALTHOUGH THE CABLE project doesn't run through Wheeling, village officials think it's an important cause and agreed to donate $500 to help pay for legal fees incurred by their neighbors to fight AT&T's lawsuit.

"The feeling is that if decisions like these are upheld, it's going to affect all of us in all kinds of franchise agreements," said Wheeling Village President Sheila Schultz.

Village Attorney James Rhodes agrees the issue deserves Wheeling's support.

"It's an important issue. AT&T has basically taken a stand that they don't have to pay for (being on) public property. There ought to be something paid for having equipment on public property," he said.

The original lawsuit was filed by AT&T the same day Arlington Heights officials ordered work on the project stopped.

AT&T says the project is complete except for 17 crossings at village- and city-owned streets in the five towns. While Arlington Heights officials ordered work on the project stopped, the other communities refused to issue permits for the work.

Thursday, November 19, 1987 HERALD

HERALD 11-19-87

Lerner plans to fold Wheeling newspaper

By Jan Lewis
Staff Writer

Pulitzer-Lerner Community Newspapers announced last week that the company will eliminate the Life newspapers serving the communities of Wheeling, Deerfield, Northbrook and Glenview.

According to publisher Nicholaas Van Hevelingen, the four newspapers were started in about 1972 and have a combined circulation of 17,000. They will publish their last issues Dec. 31, or by Jan. 7 at the latest, he said.

The reason for eliminating the newspapers is the company's plan to "target resources in other groups in 1988," said Van Hevelingen, who has been publisher since January, 1986, shortly after the St. Louis-based Pulitzer Publishing Co. bought the family-owned Lerner chain.

He cited Chicago's north-side Booster newspapers and the Times papers, on Chicago's northwest side and near northwest suburbs, among the groups that will benefit from a "rededication of resources." The Skokie, Lincolnwood, Morton Grove and Niles Life papers will also remain strong, he said.

VAN HEVELINGEN SAID the elimination of the north suburban newspapers was foreshadowed in 1980, when then-publisher Louis Lerner decided to close the Deerfield office and combine operations in the company's Skokie facility.

"When we closed the office," he said, "it was the beginning of a process that we're bringing to conclusion. It's a tough decision to make, but we'll have the use of those resources and those people elsewhere."

According to Van Hevelingen, plans are underway to "increase the number of products" in the existing publication areas. Personnel from the editorial staffs of the four eliminated papers will be employed to strengthen the "other markets," he said.

"We want to use everyone we can elsewhere in the company. There will be no layoffs in editorial and minimal layoffs elsewhere," he noted.

According to Van Hevelingen, there are no plans to eliminate any of the other 53 Chicago-area Pulitzer mastheads. In addition to the Life, Booster and Times papers, they include the Skyline and Myers newspapers, covering Chicago's north side; the Voice newspapers in the far northwest suburbs, and the Market Journal shopper in Lake County. Pulitzer also owns the Southtown Economist and the Daily Calumet.

EDITORIALS

COUNTRYSIDE 11-18-87

Stop squawking

There are several major issues facing Wheeling and Prospect Heights as they struggle with the new responsibilities that come with joint ownership of Pal-Waukee Airport.

The airport is about to undergo some major changes to meet federal standards, a group of private pilots who use Pal-Waukee are concerned about the way the airport is being managed and after nearly a year of ownership, the two towns are still wrestling with trying to find a manager to take over the day-to-day operation of the facility.

These are important issues that need to be addressed. But there's one petty dispute between the two towns that appears to be standing in the way of resolving the other problems at Pal-Waukee: Who should be the chairman of a commission that oversees the airport?

When the eight-member Pal-Waukee Airport Commission was created by Wheeling and Prospect Heights, both municipalities agreed the chairmen would serve on a rotating basis — a member from Wheeling would serve for two years; when his term expired, a Prospect Heights member would replace him for the next two years.

The problem arose when the Prospect Heights member who served as chairman resigned in the middle of his term. When he stepped down in June, the vice chairman, who's from Wheeling, filled in for him. The dispute hinges on whether the Prospect Heights City Council can appoint a permanent chairman or whether only the commission itself is should select its own chairman.

The Prospect Heights City Council says it has the right to appoint a chairman and actually went ahead and did so, even though Wheeling contends only the commission can vote on who should lead it.

With all the other issues facing Pal-Waukee, we're dumbfounded that after four months the two municipalities have still been unable to resolve this issue. In fact, although Wheeling and Prospect Heights officials say they're willing to work this out, no one has made any effort to do so.

Officials from the two towns have to realize that they're partners now, and while they may not see eye-to-eye on everything, they have to work together. If Reagan and Gorbachev can find the time to sit down and work out their differences over the arms race, there's no reason that Prospect and Wheeling officials can't have their own summit meeting. The two sides should meet as soon as possible to resolve this issue and then get on with the business of running the airport.

HERALD 11-19-87

2 towns feuding over commission chairman

By Lee Ann Gill
Staff Writer

The Pal-Waukee Airport Commission is still without a chairman — despite a move by the Prospect Heights City Council to appoint someone to fill the vacancy left by Ron Sowatzke in June.

When Sowatzke, a Prospect Heights resident, resigned from the commission four months ago, Wheeling and Prospect Heights officials discovered the intergovernmental agreement between the two towns that own the airport did not include a method for filling vacancies.

Although the vacancy has been temporarily filled by Vice Chairman Tony Altieri of Wheeling, the Prospect Heights City Council, with the blessing of Mayor John Gilligan, last month decided to go on its own and appoint Carey Chickerneo, another city resident, to the post.

The agreement between the two towns states that every two years a new chairman will be appointed to the commission and that Wheeling and Prospect Heights residents will alternate terms.

AND BECAUSE SOWATZKE only filled six months of the two-year term that was designated for a Prospect Heights resident, Gilligan said it's only right that another city resident is appointed to chair for the remainder of Sowatzke's term.

Wheeling officials don't necessarily disagree that a Prospect Heights resident should serve as chairman, but they say Chickerneo's appointment is invalid because the airport commission didn't vote on it, an action that is mandated in the agreement.

"The intergovernmental agreement does not possess a manner in which to elect someone to a position after a resignation," said Wheeling Village Attorney James Rhodes. "The agreement does say that the chairman is elected by the commission. The vice chairman serves in place of the chairman until a new one is elected. It is not a situation where no one is running the commission."

Officials from both towns are talking of having a meeting to resolve the issue, but no date has been scheduled for such a meeting.

IN THE MEANTIME, Prospect Heights officials consider Chickerneo to be chairman, while Wheeling officials maintain Altieri holds that post.

At a recent airport commission meeting, Altieri was asked by Chickerneo to step down from his acting chairman's post, but he refused to do so, said Tom Markus, Wheeling village manager. The panel was scheduled to meet again last night.

"We consider him (Chickerneo) to be the chairman, according to the way we read this," said Gilligan. "He was appointed by the mayor with the concurrence of the city council."

Gilligan said the agreement doesn't "adequately" outline the procedures for filling vacancies and it all depends upon individual interpretation. "The language is such that there is a little ambiguity," he said.

MARKUS SAID AS far as Wheeling is concerned, Chickerneo is not legally chairman of the commission. "Nor will he be until there's a meeting between the two cities," said Markus.

Another Pal-Waukee post that is vacant is that of airport manager.

Pal-Waukee has been without a manager since the two communities took over the airport last December. A Dec. 31 deadline to fill the position has been imposed by city and village officials. The five candidates vying for the post will be interviewed by Markus and Robert Kiely, Prospect Heights city administrator.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

HERALD 11-23-87

Garbage pickups on holiday schedule

Garbage pickup for Wheeling residents who normally have pickups on Mondays and Thursdays will be Monday and Wednesday, according to a holiday schedule from Buffalo Grove/Wheeling Disposal. Those who normally have their garbage picked up on Tuesdays and Fridays will have pickups as usual during the week of Thanksgiving.

Village purchases firemen's clothing

Wheeling trustees approved buying 15 sets of protective clothing for village firefighters at a cost of $7,575. Four bids were submitted for the clothing and two were lower than the bid accepted, but those two bids did not meet specifications. The bid was awarded to Great Lakes Fire and Safety Equipment of Barrington.

HERALD 11-24-87

Pal-Waukee service award to be given

The Pal-Waukee Municipal Airport Pilots Association is establishing a distinguished service award that will be given to an organization or individual that has helped better the airport. Safety, promotion of aviation and airport growth will be considered. Those who are eligible include members of the pilots association, airport personnel, airport users and community members. The award will be given next spring. An award committee has been selected and anyone interested in helping the committee should contact Barry Axelrod at 692-4300.

COUNTRYSIDE 11-19-87

Wheeling firm denies wrongdoing in death

By Lee Ann Gill
Staff Writer

The attorney representing Kenny Construction Co., a Wheeling-based firm contracted for the Deep Tunnel flood-control project, says the company denies any charges of neglect in connection with the 1985 death of an employee.

An indictment announced Monday by U.S. Attorney Anton Valukas charges the company with failing to adhere to proper safety standards. The indictment was made in connection with the the asphyxiation of foreman J.T. Smith by carbon monoxide gas. Smith was doing tunnel excavation work on the Metropolitan Sanitary District project in La Grange when he was overcome by fumes. He was working in a 16-by-16-foot wide hole, said Gene Callahan, the Oak Brook attorney representing Kenney.

The company, located at 250 N. 12th St., is charged with a criminal misdemeanor under the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) laws. The indictment charges that the hole Smith was working in was not properly ventilated and that the company failed to test the air before Smith began working. If convicted of the charges, company officials face a maximum penalty of $500,000 and six months in jail.

The indictment charges that Kenny showed willful failure to follow safety regulations. "The safety of workers is and will remain a priority for the Department of Justice and the Department of Labor," Valukas said in a statement.

THE INCIDENT COMES after a two-year investigation by the U.S. Department of Labor, OSHA and the U.S. Attorney's office.

In responding to the allegation that the hole was not properly ventilated, Callahan insisted that "there's no requirements that you ventilate at that depth (of 16 feet). That's what the experts have told us. We have denied all along the allegations of willful violation of safety."

"We are not responsible and will not plead guilty," said Callahan.

He said the death was an accident that happened under an "extremely unusual condition related to that excavation work. Carbon monoxide, unbeknown to anybody, was laying at the bottom," he said. "As we speak, we still don't know where it came from."

WHILE THE INDICTMENT claims Kenny failed to abide by safety standards provided by in the OSHA act, Callahan said the company has "a very extensive safety program" and that all of the employees he interviewed said the company was "one of the safest companies" they've ever worked for.

The indictment charged that the company did not follow regulations for properly training employees and maintaining safe oxygen levels.

William Hogan, assistant U.S. Attorney handling the case, said the case should come to trial "fairly rapidly," at least by the end of the year.

HERALD 11-23-87

Police pension board finds check interesting

BY C. L. WALLER
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Police representatives of the Wheeling police pension board say a check for $111,000 proves they knew what they were talking about.

Pension board chairman Edward Therialt and member William Stutzman, both police officers, and retired police officer Marvin O. "Syke" Horcher have said for months that the pension fund's principal and interest were refundable even though the money was in a failed police credit union.

The three men made up the majority on the pension board that approved investing about half of the pension money into the American Law Enforcement Credit Union.

Last month, the pension board received $2,581,821 in principal from the National Credit Union Administration, which insured the pension money. This week a check for $111,978.45 was deposited into a money market account for the pension fund.

"We're pleased we got it and it showed we were right all along that the principal and interest was insured," Therialt said.

Village-appointed board member John Cole said he is glad interest on the account was returned, but money was still lost from the time the credit union was liquidated Sept. 10 to the time the principal amount was released.

The credit union credits interest annually in January and interest was thought to be lost because the annual date had not arrived.

Nevertheless, in a 4-1 vote, with village-appointed member Frank Proietti abstaining, Wheeling police pension board members voted to pursue interest earned.

Cole said he is waiting for an explanation that can justify the insurer releasing interest earned on the account.

Maywood police had $1.9 million in the American Law Enforcement Credit Union and a member of the pension board said there was no problem in getting the entire amount, principal and interest.

PUBLIC SPEAKING

• "No matter what goes through the trustees, it (should) first be filtered through the senior commission. Some things come through and some thing don't. It has to be straightened out once and for all." — Wheeling Senior Commissioner Harold Miller, explaining that the organization wants the village board to give it more control over operations at the Pavillion senior center.

HERALD 11-23-87

HERALD 11-22-87

Pavilion membership fee proposed

BY C. L. WALLER
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Members of the Wheeling senior commission are worried that seniors in town won't react well to a proposed annual membership fee for the Pavilion senior center.

On the table before Wheeling village trustees is a proposal recommending residents pay $8 per year and non-residents pay $10 per year to be a member. The issue came up already last month, but trustees chose not to act on it until they had more information.

Senior commissioners in April voted 5-1 in favor of a fee. Commissioner Pat Walsdorf cast the lone dissenting vote.

"I have had a number of negative reports on this," said commissioner Maurice Schrote. "People have asked me 'What are they going to do, put a security guard at the door and check for memberships?'" he said.

The proposal says money from fee collections would be used to pay for the monthly newsletter available to seniors. More than 800 newsletters reportedly go out to Wheeling residents each month.

Senior center activities, other than those provided by the Wheeling Park District, are paid for through fund-raising events. This year about $4,000 is expected to be collected through fund-raising.

Commissioner Pat Walsdorf said some seniors have been asking her whether they can participate in park district programs without having to pay the annual fee. Some seniors sign up occasionally for trips the park district provides, but are not active in regular senior center activities, she said.

Walsdorf said she talked to the park district manager, who told her seniors would not have to pay the fee to participate in park programs.

Commissioner Bernard Nathan said the village told commissioners several months ago that sooner or later a membership fee must go into effect because it is too much of a burden for taxpayers to subsidize such a small portion of the population. Commissioner Pat Walsdorf said there are about 3,000 seniors in the village.

HERALD 11-24-87

Wheeling to meet new funding form rules

BY C. L. WALLER
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Wheeling village trustees Monday night agreed to bring the application for social service agency funding in line with a new funding request form by Wheeling Township.

Wheeling Township, which funds about 20 social service agencies, has set up a new form that includes questions about plans for future funding and use of the agency in the past by residence.

"If we are going to fund, we have to determine there is a local need for it," Village Manager Thomas Markus said.

Revenue-sharing funds, an important income source for agencies, ended in 1986, leaving villages like Wheeling with the need to use local tax dollars for social service agencies.

Last year, Wheeling had requests totalling $89,420 in funding from five agencies, Shelter, Inc., Horizon Children's Center, The Salvation Army Community Counseling Center, Omni Youth Services and Northwest Service Coordination for the Health Impaired Elderly of Cook County.

The village granted funding to two agencies with $56,000 to Omni Youth Services and $4,400 to Shelter, Inc. Omni Youth Services, which has its home office in Wheeling, counsels youth and their families. Shelter, Inc. is in Arlington Heights and provides emergency temporary housing for children up to 18 years old.

Village trustees said the township should eventually take over social service funding because the township is better equipped to track the efficiency of the agencies and fairly distribute money to them.

Daily Herald

HERALD 11-22-87

...or safety grows

Chronology of the Kenny case

April 23, 1985: J.T. Smith, a foreman for Kenny Construction Co., suffocates to death in a 20-foot Deep Tunnel shaft in LaGrange.

Aug. 16, 1985: OSHA charges Kenny with failure to conduct gas tests, ventilate the shaft, instruct workers on hazards or provide them with breathing devices.

Jan. 15, 1987: The U.S. Labor Department urges the U.S. Justice Department to file criminal charges against Kenny for violations leading to Smith's death.

March 26, 1987: Rep. John Porter at a Capitol Hill hearing puts [illegible] to advance public safety in the Deep Tunnel project.

Postal facility is bad news

GUEST VIEW

By Carol A. Pape
Daily Herald guest columnist

Sunday, November 22, 1987

Moreover, the relevant feature of Reagan's twilight year is not collapse but compromise — compromise forced upon a president who lost his political clout in last year's Senate elections and his moral authority shortly thereafter in the Iran-contra affair. Reagan can no longer roll over his opponents. He is being forced to compromise. But a president forced to deal rather than rule is a return to post-Watergate normality. It is mere melodrama to call it collapse.

The medical world is another fruitful source of drama. Today, of course, the cosmology game is [illegible] where. In fantasy, for example, During the debate on the Persian Gulf, it was argued, correctly, that Americans sailors are in a situation of possible danger. But that was not quite enough for some congressmen. Last month, one Democrat took to the floor of the House to declare: "Today we are at war in all but name." If so, then we need a new word for what happened at Guadalcanal.

Excitement is not one of them. Now, many things to recommend them. [illegible] Reagan's twilight year is not collapse but compromise — compromise forced upon a president who lost his political clout in last year's Senate elections and his moral authority shortly thereafter in the Iran-contra affair. Reagan can no longer roll over his opponents. He is being forced to compromise. But a president forced to deal rather than rule is a return to post-Watergate normality. It is mere melodrama to call it collapse.

The medical world is another fruitful source of drama. Today, of course, the cosmology game away is the breezy, self-congratulatory tone in which it is offered: By God, the ozone hole — another crisis we must overcome! Last week a visitor from Chile expressed fascination with the amazing appeal of the movie, "Fatal Attraction." Where my friend comes from, a midnight knock on the door means secret police, not discarded lover. To live in a place where the national nightmare is the revenge of the one-night stand is an idea he found rather appealing.

The Washington Post Co.

HERALD 11-22-87

High-stakes battle looms over Tunnel safety

By Chris Szechenyi
Daily Herald Investigative Editor

The quest for safety in Deep Tunnel is heading inexorably into the courts, where a bitter clash between powerful forces is taking shape — and millions of dollars as well as the welfare of workers will be at stake.

On one side, government agencies, a lobbying group and the U.S. Department of Justice are scrutinizing construction companies and taking severe punitive action against those accused of breaching fundamental safety rules in Chicago's controversial $3.7 billion flood-and-pollution control project.

On the other, Kenny Construction Co. of Wheeling and other businesses are fighting allegations of violations such as failing to ventilate tunnels and provide workers with such vital emergency equipment as oxygen masks.

The battle is growing increasingly costly and time consuming, especially for the family-run Northwest suburban business. Kenny Construction has spent at least $100,000 defending itself against allegations that its safety violations led to the 1985 death of a worker.

Just last week, Kenny's appeal of a $17,600 federal fine in that case reached a heated turning point when company attorneys vehemently protested postponement of a hearing where it could have voiced its defenses for the first time. "We demand a hearing today," a Kenny attorney said.

But government lawyers, preparing a more important criminal prosecution of the company, persuaded a judge to delay the civil case for at least 20 days and probably until after Christmas. Dozens of witnesses, including Deep Tunnel workers and federal safety inspectors, are lining up to testify on behalf of Kenny and its main accuser, the U.S. Occupa-

See TUNNEL on Page 11

HERALD 11-22-87

TUNNEL: Battle over safety grows

Continued from Page 1

tional Safety and Health Administration.

At stake in the overall debate is the safety of workers from Chicago and the suburbs who are excavating the tunnel 200 to 300 feet below the ground. During the past decade on the project, ten workers have been killed, including six as a result of alleged safety violations.

Also at stake are tens of millions of dollars that Kenny Construction and other major Deep Tunnel contractors hope to win to finish the 131-mile-long tunnel system, which is one third built and 17 years behind schedule.

Several developments may threaten that funding:

- A federal grand jury in Chicago last week returned a criminal indictment against Kenny Construction for safety violations that allegedly caused the suffocation death of foreman J.T. Smith of Hammond, Ind. The company faces a fine of as much as $500,000.
- As a result of the rare indictment, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, which has paid 75 percent of Deep Tunnel's cost, is evaluating the potential of barring unsafe contractors from obtaining federal funds for the project.
- In case the EPA declines to take that precedent-setting step, the National Safe Workplace Institute, a Chicago-based lobbying group backed by U.S. Sen. Paul Simon, is preparing to sue the agency to block it from awarding federal funds to questionable contractors.
- The Metropolitan Sanitary District, Chicago's agency overseeing the tunnel project, is considering whether to use historical criteria to weed out unsafe contractors.

The next phase of Deep Tunnel construction — a $150 million extension between south suburban Hodgkins and Maywood — is on hold for now, pending federal funding. Sanitary district officials had hoped to seek bids on the 7.9-mile leg several months ago, but the money has been caught in a bottleneck in Congress.

The MSD is confident it will proceed with the project, despite the escalating controversy over safety and past criticism by former U.S. Sen. Charles Percy and others who have said Deep Tunnel is an expensive, ineffective solution to regional flooding and water pollution.

The Deep Tunnel, officially called the Tunnel and Reservoir Project, is a subterranean system designed to prevent basement flooding and to keep area waterways clean by capturing excess wastewater from local combined sewers. MSD officials said the tunnel alleviated flooding during the unusually heavy rains of 1986 and 1987.

The sanitary district, responding to a six-month investigation by the Daily Herald, recently decided to incorporate safety-related specifications in its next round of Deep Tunnel contracts. In the past, the agency had washed its hands of the safety issue for fear of increasing its liability for accidents.

Last winter, when the newspaper published the investigation, sanitary district officials resisted such reforms, saying private contractors are soley responsible for protecting workers. MSD Superintendent Frank Dalton was strongly opposed to changing agency safety procedures. But those positions drew criticism from one of the agency's own publicly elected commissioners, Joanne Alter, and from the safety institute's director, Joseph Kinney, a former Congressional staff member.

Reacting to publicity and Kinney's relentless lobbying, U.S. Rep. John Porter and U.S. Sen. Quentin Burdick urged OSHA and EPA to take action to prevent more accidents and deaths on the Deep Tunnel project. Two months ago, the agencies announced a joint safety surveillance program, concentrating on the tunnel work in Chicago and 400 other federally funded construction sites in the Midwest.

The General Accounting Office, Congress' investigative arm, also stepped into the fray two weeks ago by releasing data showing Kenny Construction and its partners were among the most frequent violators on the Deep Tunnel project. Requested by Burdick, a North Dakota Democrat who oversees EPA funding, the GAO analysis showed there have been 192 violations by all Deep Tunnel contractors since 1976.

While moves have been made to prevent more violations, some critics said recent steps by MSD and federal agencies represent little more than a public relations ploy to diminish the outcry over the safety issue. An aide to one commissioner said MSD's safety-related contract provisions will accomplish little since the MSD did not adopt any method of enforcing the new rules, a step sought by Commissioner Aurelia Pucinski.

Among others still pushing for more substantial changes is safety institute director Kinney, an agricultural consultant who founded the non-profit organization after the death of his younger brother last year in an avoidable construction accident in Denver.

Armed with the Daily Herald series, Kinney has brought occupational safety issues to the attention of Congress, the EPA and the national news media, including Time Magazine, the New York Times, the Chicago Tribune and Christian Science Monitor. He has concentrated most of his attention on Deep Tunnel safety, traveling to Washington to talk to Burdick and other lawmakers and firing off scathing letters to leaders of the MSD and EPA.

Now Kinney is urging the MSD to appoint a full-time safety director and to adopt a method of screening the safety performance of future Deep Tunnel contractors. He believes MSD should include safety as one of the criteria in awarding future contracts, but some commissioners oppose that move.

The MSD's purchasing agent, George Wahl, said the safety screening process cannot be done objectively, a conclusion that sharply contradicts a consultant's report that describes two fair screening methods. MSD commissioners on Thursday tabled discussion of screening until Dec. 3.

Kinney also is pressing the EPA to bar unsafe contractors from the project, a step the agency has taken only when companies were accused or convicted of fraud.

But EPA officials are studying the possibility of barring contractors in light of the Kenny Construction indictment, which might strengthen a case to ban the company from receiving federal funds. The EPA's regional administrator, Valdus Adamkus, is proceeding carefully. He fears that taking on large contractors may lead to a prolonged and costly legal battle which the agency might lose.

In any case, the Deep Tunnel safety issue is likely to continue to make news well into the new year, as different sides maneuver in court and try to negotiate settlements behind closed doors. The remaining question, as MSD President Nicholas Melas said, is: "What do we do to tighten up procedures and incorporate the most important safeguards in our future construction?"

workers with such vital ergency equipment as oxygen sks.

The battle is growing increasingly costly and time consuming, especial-

a $17,600 federal fine in that case reached a heated turning point when company attorneys vehemently protested postponement of a hearing where it could have voiced its defenses for the first time. "We de-

Chronology of the Kenny case

April 23, 1985: J.T. Smith, a foreman for Kenny Construction Co., suffocates to death in a 20-foot Deep Tunnel shaft in LaGrange.

Aug. 16, 1985: OSHA charges Kenny with failure to conduct gas tests, ventilate the shaft, instruct workers on hazards or provide them with breathing devices.

Jan. 15, 1987: The U.S. Labor Department urges the U.S. Justice Department to file criminal charges against Kenny for violations leading to Smith's death.

March 26, 1987: Rep. John Porter at a Capitol Hill hearing puts pressure on OSHA to improve vigilance on Deep Tunnel project.

May 11, 1987: U.S. Sen. Quentin Burdick tells the EPA to stop giving federal funds to unsafe Deep Tunnel contractors and orders the GAO to conduct a probe.

Sept. 25, 1987: The EPA and OSHA announce a joint program to improve oversight of safety practices on Deep Tunnel and 400 other federally funded projects.

Oct. 8, 1987: The MSD decides to incorporate new safety specifications in future Deep Tunnel contracts.

Nov. 16, 1987: A federal grand jury in Chicago indicts Kenny for alleged violations associated with the death of Smith.

er Tunnel safety

nand a hearing today," a Kenny attorney said.

But government lawyers, preparing a more important criminal prosecution of the company, persuaded a judge to delay the civil case for at least 20 days and probably until after Christmas. Dozens of witnesses, including Deep Tunnel workers and federal safety inspectors, are lining up to testify on behalf of Kenny and its main accuser, the U.S. Occupa-

See TUNNEL on Page 11

HERALD 11-25-87

'Experienced' manager gets nod at Pal-Waukee

By C. L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer

"Experience" and "an understanding" of Wheeling and Prospect Heights is the explanation Wheeling trustees give as to why they unanimously voted to confirm Fred Stewart as manager of the Pal-Waukee Municipal Airport.

Prospect Heights City Administrator Robert Kiely and Wheeling Village Manager Thomas Markus selected Stewart, 52, of Ponca City, Okla., to manage the airport owned by the two communities. The two were working under a Dec. 31 deadline to find a qualified person for the top job.

Wheeling trustees confirmed the selection. Prospect Heights aldermen were expected to vote on the confirmation late Tuesday.

The three-year contract, which begins Dec. 14, will pay Stewart $49,000 annually.

"He has experience in those fields where we need expertise and a good understanding of both communities," village President Sheila H. Schultz said.

Stewart, a retired lieutenant colonel in the U.S. Army, has managed the municipal airport in Ponca City since 1974. He also was an operations and safety officer at the Houston Intercontinental Airport.

Pal-Waukee airport Commissioner Anthony Altieri said that the length of time Stewart stayed at Ponca City impressed him. Wheeling and Prosepct Heights didn't want a manager who would use the job as a stepping stone and not stay long, Altieri said.

Markus said the Tulsa native stood out among the five candidates interviewed because he appeared to be calm and have the ability to work with both communities. The co-owners haven't always agreed on how the airport should be run.

"He will be able to work the middle of the road," Markus said.

One of Stewart's references called Stewart a stickler for safety, Markus said. Another said Stewart is dedicated enough to get up in the middle of the night to check on things.

HERALD 11-20-87

Senior panel wants more control of senior center

By C. L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer

The Wheeling Senior Commission wants the village board to give it more control over operations at the Pavilion senior center.

Currently, senior center Coordinator Barbara Hansen and an advisory committee chosen from Pavilion users set up programs for seniors and make recommendations for large expenditures. Village trustees give final approval to those expenditures.

A 1980 ordinance establishing the senior commission was formed prior to construction of the Pavilion two years ago and, therefore, no provision was made for the commission's duties in connection with senior center operations.

"No matter what goes through the trustees, it (should) first be filtered through the senior commission," said Commissioner Harold Miller. Since the senior center opened, Miller said, "Some things come through and some things don't. It has to be straightened out once and for all."

Some commissioners questioned the purchase of a television and the proposed purchase of a piano at the center.

"When Barbara Hansen wanted something she went out and bought it with money we earned," said Chairman Bernard Nathan. Hansen was out of town and not at Thursday's meeting.

"When you get up to items that cost $5,000 or $7,000, they should be brought to the commission," Miller said.

Newly elected commission Chairman Donald Hammer will appoint a committee of senior commissioners next month to form an outline of what the commission wants the village board to approve.

Senior Commissioner Mel Hoffman said commissioners should present a written request to trustees.

Wheeling Village President Sheila H. Schultz said she is "open to suggestions" concerning expanding the role of the senior commission. She said the senior commission is appointed by the village board to view senior needs throughout Wheeling.

HERALD 11-20-87

Portion of Dundee Road closed until Monday

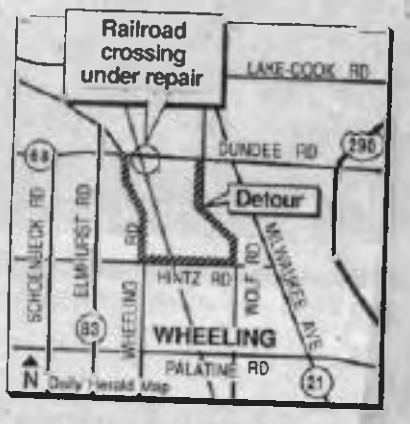
Dundee Road will be closed between Wheeling and Wolf roads from 7 a.m. today through Monday morning for railroad track repairs.

The road was originally scheduled to reopen Sunday, but more time is needed to replace asphalt that will be cut away from the railroad ties, said Terry Lee, a spokesman with the Wisconsin Central Railroad.

Traffic will be detoured around the railroad crossing.

The contractor will buy the asphalt from a local company, but the plant is closed Sundays, necessitating the delay, Lee said. Hauling asphalt long distances in cold weather is not a good idea, he added.

When the railroad originally asked the Illinois Department of Transportation to close the road, it did not anticipate a problem with getting asphalt on a Sunday, he said.



PUBLIC SPEAKING

HERALD

• "We're pleased we got it and it showed we were right all along that the principal and interest was insured." — Wheeling Police Pension Board Chairman Edward Therialt, commenting on a check received from the National Credit Union Administration which insured pension money and interest some felt were lost when the credit union in which the funds were originally deposited failed.

11-25-87

Warehouse to be built

11-27-87

An agreement was reached Monday between the village of Wheeling and Public Storage Inc., which will allow a mini-storage warehouse to be constructed on the northwest corner of Hintz Road and Milwaukee Avenue. The site of the proposed warehouse is located in unincorporated Cook County. The board agreed to withdraw its objection to the building, filed with the Cook County Zoning Board of Appeals, and Public Storage agreed to have the property annexed into Wheeling. An objection to the plan from Wheeling would mean the proposal would have to be approved by a three-quarter majority of the County Board.

Village Attorney James Rhodes said negotiations accomplished what the developer wanted while protecting the needs of the village. The board is agreeing to drop its objections in exchange for the annexation and a revised site plan, which includes such changes as a reduction of the north property line by five feet, moving the location of the driveway and the use of a wood-stock rather than a chain-link fence. Public Storage will develop the property under the terms of the Cook County Zoning Ordinance and then will be annexed. The property in Wheeling will be zoned B-5 for

HERALD 11-26-87

Towns' quarrel stalls hiring of airport chief

By Dan Rozek
and C. L. Waller
Daily Herald staff writers

A dispute over wording has stalled the hiring of a manager for Pal-Waukee Municipal Airport and re-ignited an old disagreement between Prospect Heights and Wheeling, which co-own the airport.

Wheeling trustees voted Monday to hire Fred E. Stewart of Ponca City, Okla., to the $49,000-a-year airport post.

Prospect Heights aldermen, however, delayed their vote on Stewart until they resolve a disagreement with Wheeling over who will supervise the manager.

The aldermen want Stewart to report to the Pal-Waukee Municipal Airport Commission, while Wheeling officials generally favor having him report to the chief administrators of each town.

The wording in the proposed contract calls for Stewart, 52, to report to the chief administrators.

"He's got to be an employee of the commission and report to them," Prospect Heights Mayor John E. Gilligan says. "The commission acts as a board of directors to which the manager reports — that's how we envision running the airport."

Prospect Heights officials say they want to clarify the contract to ensure that Stewart may work or meet with the towns' administrators, but that the administrators do not directly supervise Stewart.

Wheeling Village Manager Thomas M. Markus charged that Prospect Heights has gone back on a tentative agreement the towns reached earlier.

"I don't know how you can agree on something and then not agree," Markus said. But Gilligan said the terms of the tentative agreement were not included in the proposed contract.

"We're surprised they passed that knowing the language changes we wanted weren't in it," Gilligan said.

Markus and Gilligan said they believe the problem can be resolved. Markus, however, complained the delay in Prospect Heights leaves Stewart "hanging by his thumbs."

HERALD 11-20-87

Portion of Dundee Road closed until Monday

Dundee Road will be closed between Wheeling and Wolf roads from 7 a.m. today through Monday morning for railroad track repairs.

The road was originally scheduled to reopen Sunday, but more time is needed to replace asphalt that will be cut away from the railroad ties, said Terry Lee, a spokesman with the Wisconsin Central Railroad.

Traffic will be detoured around the railroad crossing.

The contractor will buy the asphalt from a local company, but the plant is closed Sundays, necessitating the delay, Lee said. Hauling asphalt long distances in cold weather is not a good idea, he added.

When the railroad originally asked the Illinois Department of Transportation to close the road, it did not anticipate a problem with getting asphalt on a Sunday, he said.

PUBLIC SPEAKING

HERALD

• "We're pleased we got it and it showed we were right all along that the principal and interest was insured." — Wheeling Police Pension Board Chairman Edward Therialt, commenting on a check received from the National Credit Union Administration which insured pension money and interest some felt were lost when the credit union in which the funds were originally deposited failed.

11-25-87

HERALD 11-26-87

Towns' quarrel stalls hiring of airport chief

By Dan Rozek
and C. L. Waller
Daily Herald staff writers

A dispute over wording has stalled the hiring of a manager for Pal-Waukee Municipal Airport and re-ignited an old disagreement between Prospect Heights and Wheeling, which co-own the airport.

Wheeling trustees voted Monday to hire Fred E. Stewart of Ponca City, Okla., to the $49,000-a-year airport post.

Prospect Heights aldermen, however, delayed their vote on Stewart until they resolve a disagreement with Wheeling over who will supervise the manager.

The aldermen want Stewart to report to the Pal-Waukee Municipal Airport Commission, while Wheeling officials generally favor having him report to the chief administrators of each town.

The wording in the proposed contract calls for Stewart, 52, to report to the chief administrators.

"He's got to be an employee of the commission and report to them," Prospect Heights Mayor John E. Gilligan says. "The commission acts as a board of directors to which the manager reports — that's how we envision running the airport."

Prospect Heights officials say they want to clarify the contract to ensure that Stewart may work or meet with the towns' administrators, but that the administrators do not directly supervise Stewart.

Wheeling Village Manager Thomas M. Markus charged that Prospect Heights has gone back on a tentative agreement the towns reached earlier.

"I don't know how you can agree on something and then not agree," Markus said. But Gilligan said the terms of the tentative agreement were not included in the proposed contract.

"We're surprised they passed that knowing the language changes we wanted weren't in it," Gilligan said.

Markus and Gilligan said they believe the problem can be resolved. Markus, however, complained the delay in Prospect Heights leaves Stewart "hanging by his thumbs."

Warehouse to be built

11-27-87

An agreement was reached Monday between the village of Wheeling and Public Storage Inc., which will allow a mini-storage warehouse to be constructed on the northwest corner of Hintz Road and Milwaukee Avenue. The site of the proposed warehouse is located in unincorporated Cook County. The board agreed to withdraw its objection to the building, filed with the Cook County Zoning Board of Appeals, and Public Storage agreed to have the property annexed into Wheeling. An objection to the plan from Wheeling would mean the proposal would have to be approved by a three-quarter majority of the County Board.

Village Attorney James Rhodes said negotiations accomplished what the developer wanted while protecting the needs of the village. The board is agreeing to drop its objections in exchange for the annexation and a revised site plan, which includes such changes as a reduction of the north property line by five feet, moving the location of the driveway and the use of a wood-stock rather than a chain-link fence. Public Storage will develop the property under the terms of the Cook County Zoning Ordinance and then will be annexed. The property in Wheeling will be zoned B-5 for office use. Rhodes said a stipulation to the agreement is that the village will have the right to ensure that the building is being constructed as planned.

The village will withdraw its objection only after the annexation agreement has been accepted.

In other business Monday, a public hearing was held regarding an application for a Class 6B Cook County Property tax emption for Waldmann Lighting. The company, which is located on Wolf Road in Wheeling, is seeking to expand and relocate to the Palwaukee Business Center if its application is approved.

Waldmann Lighting sells, distributes and manufactures lighting equipment for industrial and commercial use. The proposed location consists of 101,205 square feet of land, and the cost of building was estimated at about $500,000. June of 1988 was viewed as a target date for completion.

Waldmann Lighting officials said they are considering building on other sites in Lake County if the exemption is not approved.

Waldmann attorney, Robert DiLeonardi, said that with the exemption the company would save $8,000 annually for the first eight years.

Village Manager Thomas Markus said that any additions built on the property would have to be taxed under the 6B exemption.

HERALD 11-26-87

Liquor license OKd after background check

Pending a criminal background check of the new owners, Wheeling liquor commissioners approved a liquor license for the owners of a packaged liquor store in the Lexington Commons shopping area along Lake-Cook Road.

George Thomas, a partner in J and C Liquors, 1061-63 Lake Cook Road, appeared before the commission and pledged that his employees will not sell liquor to underaged youth or those who have already had too much to drink.

When asked by trustee Judy Abruscato about allowing minors into the store, Thomas said that underaged people will not be allowed into the store unless they are with a guardian.

COUNTRYSIDE 11-26-87

Pal-Waukee pilots to voice views

When a group of pilots who use Pal-Waukee Airport formed an association some six months ago, one of its goals was to give input to the commission that oversees the airport. Next week, the two groups are finally getting together to hash out some of the pilots' concerns.

By Lee Ann Gill
Staff Writer

Pilots who use Pal-Waukee Airport will meet next month with the commission that oversees the airport to voice their concerns about the operation of the facility.

The informational meeting between the Pal-Waukee Airport Pilots' Association and the Pal-Waukee Airport Commission will be the first between the two groups since the pilots' organization was formed six months ago.

The meeting is open to the public and will be held at 7:30 p.m. Dec. 2 at the Pal-Waukee Motor Inn, 1090 S. Milwaukee Ave., Wheeling.

Barry Axelrod, director of the pilots' association, said the meeting is important "to get dialogue going" between the commission and some of the 1,300 pilots who use the airport.

AXELROD SAID PILOTS have several concerns that need to be addressed, including the level of security at the airport and the fate of 80 hangars that sit too close to the runways for Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) standards and will have to be demolished.

Commission members are also hopeful the meeting will open the lines of communication between the two groups.

"Hopefully, we can open up some channels. We'll try to address whatever can be dealt with," said Anthony Altieri, acting chairman of the airport commission.

Commissioners will take those attending the meeting through an overview of long-range plans for the airport "so people can understand what we're looking at in the future," said Altieri.

ALTIERI ANTICIPATES THE commission will hear a lot of concerns from the pilots, but he's confident the meeting will help ease their minds about several topics.

"There seems to be a lot of misconceptions. There's certainly going to be a lot of interest from the users of the airport (in the meeting)," he said.

Axelrod, for one, is interested in discussing his concerns about the airport. "I think that a meeting like this could be very helpful. It's good to get dialogue going," he said.

The pilots' association was formed in May to help give users of the airport a voice in its operation. More than 100 pilots belong to the organization, which hopes to give the commission a user's perspective of some of the issues facing the airport.

THE PILOTS DECIDED to form the organization shortly after Pal-Waukee switched from a private airport to a municipal one. Wheeling and Prospect Heights, with the help of federal and state grants, purchased Pal-Waukee from Preister Aviation Services in December 1986. The airport commission, made up of officials appointed by the Wheeling Village Board and the Prospect Heights City Council, is charged with overseeing the operation of Pal-Waukee.

Topping the list of conversation during the meeting will likely be the 80 orange-and-white T-hangars that will come

(Continued on page 14)

COUNTRYSIDE 11-26-87

Pal-Waukee pilots—

(Continued from page 5)

down probably within the next year to meet FAA standards, said Axelrod. The hangars, which sit on the southwest corner of the airport, are too close to the runways and do not meet FAA safety standards, he said.

"As a private airport, they were fine; as a public airport, it has to have clear zones. The FAA is saying they have to come down because they're too close. They don't meet the guidelines," he said.

A parcel of property on the northeast side of Pal-Waukee is being eyed by officials as a site to anchor the planes that would be dislocated if the hangars are removed, but under that plan the aircraft wouldn't be housed in hangars.

BUT PILOTS WANT to keep their planes under shelter, said Axelrod. And he fears that once the hangars are taken down, pilots will go elsewhere to store their planes.

"The airport could then lose tenants and revenue," said **Axelrod.** "We'd obviously like to see them build something similar," he said.

Sheila Schultz, Wheeling village president, said officials are aware the hangars must come down, but said they haven't decided what kind of new facilities — sheltered or unsheltered — to provide pilots with.

Schultz said the pilots' association has asked that new hangars be provided at a different location, but she's not sure that will happen.

ANOTHER TOPIC LIKELY to be brought up at next week's meeting is that of security at the airport, which Axelrod says is insufficient for a public facility.

Although the ideal solution would be to construct a security fence around the airport, Axelrod said he realizes that would be too costly and time-consuming. Instead, the pilots are asking that a security guard be hired to protect the planes.

"They'll probably get questions about security. We've already suggested some type of roaming security guard," he said.

PUBLIC SPEAKING

HERALD 11-30-87

• I don't know how you can agree on something and then not agree." — Wheeling Village Manager Thomas M. Markus, contending that Prospect Heights has gone back on a tentative agreement the towns reached earlier over who will supervise the new Pal-Waukee Airport manager.

Countryside 11-26-87

OPINION

Misses point

To the Editor:

The Village of Wheeling is indeed a leader in addressing senior citizen needs as so well stated in the *Wheeling Countryside's* recent editorial along with the recognition of Wheeling's outstanding "track record." There are, however, some statements in this editorial and the accompanying article that need clarification.

I find the editor's disappointment in a proposed membership fee at Pavilion Senior Center hard to understand as only 1 out of 11 area senior centers polled do not ask a "member" or "sponsor" contribution. Since opening in 1985, most newcomers to Pavilion have asked "What is the member's fee?" and have been surprised to hear our response "We have none yet but probably will establish membership after our program is developed." After two years of service we proudly offer an excellent program of services and activities to area 55+ citizens. Our philosophy is to utilize the talents of citizens as volunteer leaders thereby using community resources to enrich program and participants. We continually look for ways our older citizens can contribute to the community, i.e. Pavilion-Aires Chorus performances at nursing homes, intergenerational activities with Whitman School students, aluminum can recycling.

The idea of a member's fee is not new. It was discussed early in 1987 with the Advisory Council and the Senior Commission. The senior commissioners voted overwhelmingly in favor of recommending a member's fee to the village board with only one commissioner abstaining.

The recent editorial misses the point in suggesting that the need for additional revenue has not been shown. Membership has been recommended primarily to demonstrate to the community that senior citizens can contribute to their own program. This may help dispel the prevalent myth that older people want "something for nothing." The Wheeling taxpayer supports the senior center. Proposed fees can be used to offset the cost of postage and printing the Senior Spokesman Newsletter, thereby reducing the village budget. Another important reason for membership is for seniors to take pride in Pavilion — have a sense of belonging. In the words of one senior, "Membership will solidify the Center." Pavilion seniors are seen as "family" by another, the center a "home away from home." Pavilion has been, is now, and will continue to be a "family" oriented center rather than the "private club" stated in the editorial. Our friendliness will continue as staff treats each senior who enters Pavilion with a warm greeting and friendly smile. No citizen will be denied service nor access to "drop-in" activities providing space is available. All area 55+ seniors may take advantage of blood pressure screenings, social worker, energy assistance, carrier watch, rules of the road, information and referral, and other services offered.

Membership benefits will include registration in scheduled programs and Wheeling Park District events; mailing of the Senior Spokesman to all area seniors; and eliminating of current resident/nonresident fees for Park District parties, classes, and special events held at Pavilion. Programs offered by local organizations can be offered members at no cost. Registration card information will provide staff access to family members and personnel to call in case of emergency as well as help in planning programs of interest.

The proposed $10 annual fee offers a 20 percent discount to Village of Wheeling residents to allow a differentiation to the Wheeling taxpayer. This rate is lower than all centers polled except for those senior programs offering limited services. Persons in need may request assistance of our counselor as is done in other centers.

I believe membership is an effective way to foster a sense of family and pride in Pavilion and contributes to the growth of the center in our community. I hope that the press can share this wider view of the senior program than was previously reported.

Barbara J. Hansen
Senior Coordinator
Village of Wheeling

Herald 12-1-87

AAA pushes Route 53 extension

By Dave Urbanek
Daily Herald Staff Writer

SPRINGFIELD — The AAA-Chicago Motor Club will tell state transportation officials today that Route 53 should be extended north to Volo to help traffic flow in the Northwest suburbs.

But the long-proposed extention north through the center of Lake County continues to split communities near the suggested route: Some say it is needed, others say existing roads can carry the growing increase in traffic.

Motor club officials will back the project today at a long-range planning hearing called by the Illinois Department of Transportation to look at state highway needs over the next 30 years.

Stephen J. Daggers, spokesman for the motor club, said because the interstate highway system is near completion after nearly 40 years, state officials should turn their attention to "secondary" routes that relieve the interstates, such as Route 53.

In the Chicago area, Daggers said, secondary routes carry heavy traffic volumes and should be improved and expanded to reach growing areas such as central Lake County.

"Basically, you've got more traffic going from suburb to suburb than from the suburbs to Chicago or from Chicago to the suburbs," Daggers added.

Indeed, the average daily traffic on Route 53 in 1986 as measured by the Chicago Area Transportation Study was 142,200 vehicles, a "real high" volume according to Edward J. Christopher, director of systems surveillance for CATS. This summer, construction began on the $10 million extension of Route 53 from Dundee Road north to Lake-Cook Road. The motor club wants it to be extended further, eventually angling to the northwest toward Volo north of Wauconda.

Village officials in Long Grove said they will oppose any further extension of Route 53. "We will remain opposed to it until doomsday," Village Administrator D.M. "Cal" Doughty said. But Donald P. Klein, executive director of the Barrington Area Council of Governments, said BACOG member towns would welcome the road.

"We have always felt that central Lake County needs a north-south route," Klein said. "We would be very happy to see that plan go through."

As originally envisioned, Route 53 was supposed to run to the Wisconsin border.

Herald 12-1-87

Wheeling wants $2,500 a mile to plow snow

By C. L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer

The village of Wheeling will charge Wheeling Township $2,500 per mile this winter to keep snow and ice off of township roads within Wheeling, even though it will cost Wheeling an estimated $1,325 to do the work.

Village Manager Thomas M. Markus said Wheeling isn't trying to gouge the township, but wants only what neighboring Prospect Heights is getting. Prospect Heights, which has a contract to maintain .95 miles of township roadway within Prospect Heights, got $2,500 a mile last season.

With last year's mild winter, Prospect Heights made money off the township contract, City Administrator Robert Kiely said.

The village of Buffalo Grove covers more township roadway than either community but its charge per mile of $1,711 is less than either Prospect Heights or Wheeling.

Buffalo Grove Public Works Director Greg Boysen said he didn't know why Prospect Heights and Wheeling were charging more than Buffalo Grove.

Wheeling, Buffalo Grove, Prospect Heights and Arlington Heights each remove snow and ice from about a third of the eight total miles of roadway in the township. Since there is no standardized rate of reimbursement, the towns negotiate separately with township officials on payback contracts.

This year Wheeling is upping its contract with the township to match that of Prospect Heights.

"We want the highest rate they're giving anybody," Markus said. Wheeling, which covers 1.11 miles, increased its cost per mile by $500 to match that of Prospect Heights.

A township official said Wheeling and Prospect Heights go more out of their way to plow township streets that Buffalo Grove and Arlington Heights.

He added that having the towns plow snow and salt streets is still less expensive for the township than hiring a private contractor.

Panel members' meeting illegal: Wheeling

HERALD 11-30-87

By C. L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Wheeling officials are angry over what they say was an illegal private meeting held by two Prospect Heights airport commission members with the Pal-Waukee Airport Pilots Association.

But both communities, who own the airport, will have a chance to tell their side to pilots at a meeting Wednesday of the full Pal-Waukee Municipal Airport Commission and the users of the airport.

The meeting will be held at 7:30 p.m. at the Pal-Waukee Motor Inn, 1090 S. Milwaukee Ave., Prospect Heights.

Wheeling officials claim that at the private meeting, held Nov. 3, Prospect Heights airport commissioners Carey Chickerneo and James Nickel misled pilots into believing that Wheeling is dragging its feet on the proposed relocation of the Hintz-Wolf Road intersection.

Engineers have devised a plan to move the intersection farther away from a 5,000-foot runway at the airport in order to comply with Federal Aviation Administration safety standards.

Airport commission Chairman Anthony Altieri, also a Wheeling representative, said Wheeling officials have asked engineers to come back with definite alternatives to moving the intersection.

"There are some grave consequences of this whole thing and we just want to make sure we know what we're doing," he said.

Meanwhile, Wheeling commissioners say Chickerneo and Nickel, who made up the airport commission's public relations committee, violated the Illinois Open Meetings Act by meeting with the pilots. The act requires a 24-hour notice of a meeting where a majority of the body will attend. In this case, both members of a two-member committee were in attendance.

Commission attorney Stephen Moore agreed that the meeting was a violation. The eight-member airport commission is made up of four representatives from Wheeling and four from Prospect Heights.

Altieri said other members of the commission did not know about the meeting until he received a letter from the pilots association thanking the commission for the meeting.

"They (Prospect Heights commissioners) think they can do anything they want," Altieri said.

Chickerneo, who has since resigned from the public relations committee to make room on it for a Wheeling member, said he did not believe the committee was subject to the open meetings act.

"I can appreciate their (Wheeling's) reprimand, but I am disturbed that they are trying to make an issue out of it," he said.

Chickerneo, Nickel and the pilots discussed security at the airport, the need for more hangars and the Hintz-Wolf Road relocation project.

"If there was anything improper at that meeting, there wouldn't have been a letter made public," Chickerneo added.

Chickerneo said alternatives of raising the runway or lowering the road have already been presented by engineers. He said he disagrees with Wheeling's hesitancy on the project, and telling the pilots that was something he had already said publicly.

"They certainly did a lot of damage for Wheeling," Altieri said. Wheeling Village President Sheila H. Schultz said the private meeting does not help Wheeling's credibility.

"If statements were made that were erroneous, there was no one there to correct them," she said.

Wheeling airport commissioner Elizabeth Hartman is now on the public relations committee with Nickel.

COUNTRYSIDE 11-26-87

Strickland trial delayed again; key witness remains hospitalized

The trial date for Tyrone Strickland, charged in the November 1985 murder of Wheeling police officer Kenneth Dawson, has been postponed again.

The trial was scheduled to begin Monday, but has been delayed to give Wheeling police officer William Stutzman, a key witness in the case, a chance to recover from an automobile accident he was involved in last month, said Cook County public defender John Lanahan.

Stutzman was seriously injured in an Oct. 13 two-car accident while off duty. The accident occured when his car was cut off on Milwaukee Avenue near Glenview, forcing him to leave the road and strike a utility pole, according to the Cook County Sheriff's Department.

The trial was originally set for Oct. 30, but Stutzman's accident postponed it a month. Stutzman is considered in good condition, but needs time to recover before testifying in the trial, said Lanahan.

A status hearing is scheduled for Monday, however, to discuss when the trial is likely to begin, said Lanahan.

"It will probably be after Christmas sometime," he said. Lanahan and public defender Bernie Sarley have taken over the case from public defender Andrea Lyon, who had originally been assigned to defend him. Lyon would not comment on why she resigned from the case.

Strickland and his brother Larry are both charged in Dawson's murder. The killing occured two years ago when Stutzman and Dawson were called to the Cedar Run subdivision near Cleo Court to investigate a call that a prowler was in the area.

Stutzman sustained injuries from the incident. A second charge of attempted murder has been brought against the Stricklands for those injuries.

Because Stutzman is a key witness to the case, Dave Erickson, who's prosecuting the case for the Cook County State's Attorney's office, said circumstances would have to be "drastic" before he would go to trial without him.

The trial of Larry Strickland won't begin until the Illinois Appellate Court rules whether a confession he made immediately after Dawson's death is admissible evidence in court.

PUBLIC SPEAKING

HERALD 12-2-87

• "They (Prospect Heights Commissioners) think they can do anything they want." --Airport commission Chairman Anthony Alteri, also a Wheeling representative, commenting on what Wheeling officials said was an illegal private meeting held by two Prospect Heights airport commission members with the Pal-Waukee Airport Association.

HERALD 12-2-87

City agrees to hire Oklahoma man manager for Pal-Waukee

By Dan Rozek
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Prospect Heights aldermen Tuesday agreed to hire a manager for Pal-Waukee Municipal Airport although parts of the agreement may have to be approved by Wheeling, the airport's co-owner.

After balking at hiring a manager last week, aldermen agreed to hire Fred E. Stewart, 52, of Ponca City, Okla., to the $49,000-a-year airport post.

Wheeling trustees voted last week to hire Stewart.

In approving the contract, Prospect Heights unilaterally amended some parts dealing with who will supervise the airport manager, which had been a source of disagreement with Wheeling. Wheeling officials probably will need to approve those changes, City Administrator Robert R. Kiely said.

Wheeling wants Stewart to report to the chief administrator of both towns, while Prospect Height officials want him to report to the Pal-Waukee Municipal Airport Commission that is made up of members from both towns.

In what they call a compromise, Prospect Heights left intact a clause requiring Stewart to report to the town administrators, although city officials originally objected to it.

City officials, however, also added a clause saying town administrators will not get actively involved in running the airport and will leave that to the airport manager.

"I'm hoping the changes made by Prospect Heights are acceptable to Wheeling," Kiely said. "I think there's protection in there for all parties."

Second Ward Alderman Charles Lutzow cast the only vote against hiring Stewart, but said he objected only to parts of the contract that were not clear.

"I don't think the airport manager even knows who his boss is."

HERALD 12-3-87

Confession thrown out in Wheeling cop killing

By Diane Dungey
Daily Herald Staff Writer

The confession of a man accused of killing Wheeling police officer Kenneth R. Dawson cannot be used as evidence because it was obtained before the wounded suspect received medical care, an appellate court ruled Wednesday.

Prosecutors, however, said the decision will not sidetrack their case against Larry Strickland of East Chicago Heights.

Strickland, along with his brother Tyrone, is charged with shooting Dawson in November 1985 after the officer was called to investigate a disturbance near Cleo Court in the Cedar Run area of Wheeling. Dawson, of Kildeer, died within minutes.

"This is not the only evidence against him," said assistant state's attorney Marie Quinliven Czech, who handled the appeal. The appellate court had been asked to review a decision by Cook County Circuit Judge Fred G. Suria that the confession cannot be used when Larry Strickland goes to trial.

Other evidence collected by investigators and likely to be introduced in the murder trial includes two guns carried by the Stricklands at the time of their arrest, empty shells found at the scene of the shooting and debris left near Cleo Court and linked to the Stricklands' auto, investigators said. Several witnesses, including other Wheeling police officers, are expected to testify.

The three-judge appellate panel unanimously agreed that Chicago police coerced Larry Strickland into confessing by withholding medical care for a gunshot wound on his finger.

He was questioned overnight before being taken to the hospital.

Police officers said Strickland repeatedly told them he was not in pain and rejected their offers to summon medical help.

The Stricklands allegedly shot Dawson, then kidnapped three members of a Buffalo Grove family and commandeered their car in a getaway attempt. The kidnapped driver, Donald Hamburg, drove erratically to attract the attention of Chicago police officers, who arrested the Stricklands.

Urol
Orth
Podi
2655 W. Pe
Chicago, IL
(312) 271-8
6222 S. We
Chicago, IL
(312) 434-1
1411 S. Fit
Maywood, I
(312) 344-0
ers:
The North Shore
An Evanston Landmark
nerican Plan Resort Hotel
For Retirement Living
NSTON, ILLINOIS
ine, 864-6400
EXTRA EXTRA EX
Extra Value...Extra Qual
Extraordinary location
and
Extra incentives if you
sign your new lease before
November 30, 1987
• 1 & 2 bedroom apartments
• Convenient location near O'Hare
expressways, shopping, entertai

HERALD 12-7-87

Why not revive Rt. 53 extension?

What happens when you turn on the water and there's a kink in the hose? Very little, if any, water sprays through. And if the kink is strong enough, the hose bulges or bursts.

Sometimes trying to move traffic north and south through the Northwest suburbs is like getting water through that kinked hose — it doesn't flow freely.

Extending Route 53 north to the Wisconsin border was a good idea when it was proposed more than 15 years ago. It's still a good idea — one that deserves to be resurrected. And this week, that's exactly what transportation officials in Wisconsin and Illinois did when they said they are seriously considering extending Route 53 through Lake County to the Wisconsin line.

Although Routes 83 and 45 provide north-south access, they are not continuous and are nearly saturated with traffic. Route 12 provides some relief, but it cannot alleviate the congestion in the Mundelein, Libertyville and Vernon Hills area because it angles northwest after crossing Lake-Cook Road.

"It (the long-proposed extension of Route 53) is one we're taking a look at," said Illinois Transporation Secretary Gregory W. Baise, adding that population shifts in central Lake County would make the improvement and expansion of Route 53 likely.

Years ago Wisconsin recognized that Route 53 was a natural corridor and one it wanted to see Illinois develop.

State Rep. William E. Peterson, R-Buffalo Grove said that because of the delays in pushing Route 53 north, houses already have been built in the road's path and the money would be better spent expanding and improving Route 12.

Of course it's going to be more difficult and more expensive to plan, locate and execute the road now than when it was first proposed. More people live in Lake County now.

However, "delay would only exacerbate the difficulty of the project." said Donald P. Klein, director of the Barrington Area of Governments. We have always felt that central Lake County needs a north-south route." said Donald P. Klein, director of the Barrington Area Council of Governments.

Preferably, Klein said, the road should be extended to the Wisconsin border. If that's not possible, then it should extend to Route 22, which runs east-west just north of Long Grove.

If the Northwest suburbs hope to relieve traffic congestion in the future, extending Route 53 north beyond Lake-Cook Road deserves approval.

COUNTRYSIDE 12-3-87

Group pushes plan to extend Ill. Route 53

By Jeff Graunke
Staff Writer

Extending Route 53 north of Lake-Cook Road to Route 120 near Volo is one

THE EXTENSION TO Lake-Cook Road is part of a statewide program of highway improvements that will be completed in the next several years. The Route 53 extension, which was the subject of studies and hearings for several years, is one of more than $55 million worth of improvements to northwest suburban highways and intersections included in the program, unveiled last year.

Construction on the northern extension of Route 53 to Lake-Cook Road is scheduled for completion in late 1989, Swieca said.

While IDOT doesn't have any concrete plans to extend Route 53 north of Lake-Cook Road, supporters of the extension haven't given up hope that the highway will ultimately extend past the county line.

Not only do plans for the extension have the support of the 500,000-member Chicago Motor Club, but the project is also being backed by the Northwest Municipal Conference, a consortium of more than two dozen municipalities and townships in the north and northwest suburbs that has also been studying traffic problems in the area.

Bill Duggan, a spokesman for the Northwest Municipal Conference, said the conference favors the extension because it believes the highway will alleviate congestion on smaller northwest suburban thoroughfares.

because of the delays in pushing Route 53 north, houses already have been built in the road's path and the money would be better spent expanding and improving Route 12.

Of course it's going to be more difficult and more expensive to plan, locate and execute the road now than when it was first proposed. More people live in Lake County now.

However, "delay would only exacerbate the difficulty of the project." said Donald P. Klein, director of the Barrington Area of Governments. We have always felt that central Lake County needs a north-south route." said Donald P. Klein, director of the Barrington Area Council of Governments.

Preferably, Klein said, the road should be extended to the Wisconsin border. If that's not possible, then it should extend to Route 22, which runs east-west just north of Long Grove.

If the Northwest suburbs hope to relieve traffic congestion in the future, extending Route 53 north beyond Lake-Cook Road deserves approval.

HERALD 12-3-87

Confession thrown out in Wheeling cop killing

By Diane Dungey
Daily Herald Staff Writer

The confession of a man accused of killing Wheeling police officer Kenneth R. Dawson cannot be used as evidence because it was obtained before the wounded suspect received medical care, an appellate court ruled Wednesday.

Prosecutors, however, said the decision will not sidetrack their case against Larry Strickland of East Chicago Heights.

Strickland, along with his brother Tyrone, is charged with shooting Dawson in November 1985 after the officer was called to investigate a disturbance near Cleo Court in the Cedar Run area of Wheeling. Dawson, of Kildeer, died within minutes.

"This is not the only evidence against him," said assistant state's attorney Marie Quinliven Czech, who handled the appeal. The appellate court had been asked to review a decision by Cook County Circuit Judge Fred G. Suria that the confession cannot be used when Larry Strickland goes to trial.

Other evidence collected by investigators and likely to be introduced in the murder trial includes two guns carried by the Stricklands at the time of their arrest, empty shells found at the scene of the shooting and debris left near Cleo Court and linked to the Stricklands' auto, investigators said. Several witnesses, including other Wheeling police officers, are expected to testify.

The three-judge appellate panel unanimously agreed that Chicago police coerced Larry Strickland into confessing by withholding medical care for a gunshot wound on his finger.

He was questioned overnight before being taken to the hospital.

Police officers said Strickland repeatedly told them he was not in pain and rejected their offers to summon medical help.

The Stricklands allegedly shot Dawson, then kidnapped three members of a Buffalo Grove family and commandeered their car in a getaway attempt. The kidnapped driver, Donald Hamburg, drove erratically to attract the attention of Chicago police officers, who arrested the Stricklands.

Urol
Orth
Podi
ers:
2655 W. Pe
Chicago, IL
(312) 271-8
6222 S. We
Chicago, IL
(312) 434-1
1411 S. Fift
Maywood, I
(312) 344-0
The North Shore
An Evanston Landmark
American Plan Resort Hotel
For Retirement Living
NSTON, ILLINOIS
ine, 864-6400
EXTRA EXTRA EX
Extra Value...Extra Qual
Extraordinary location
and
Extra incentives if you
sign your new lease before
November 30, 1987
• 1 & 2 bedroom apartments
• Convenient location near O'Hare
expressways, shopping, enterta

Courier-News 12-3-87

Group pushes plan to extend Ill. Route 53

By Jeff Graunke
Staff Writer

Extending Route 53 north of Lake-Cook Road to Route 120 near Volo is one of a dozen proposals being studied by a state panel that's taking look at the projected transportation needs of Illinois between now and the Year 2020.

The recommendation to extend Route 53 was made Tuesday by the AAA-Chicago Motor Club at a public hearing in Springfield sponsored by the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) and the Illinois Highway Users Conference.

The "Transportation 2020" hearing was one of 50 scheduled across the country during the next year. Tuesday's testimony will become part of a national report being compiled by the Advisory Committee on Highway Policy.

The extension is needed to take the strain off of area roads and to provide a highway into the lake regions and Wisconsin, according to Matt Sielski, a traffic consultant for the motor club.

"WE'RE VERY much interested in this project. We're talking about gridlock in that whole suburban area and we need roads like this," Sielski said.

Plans to extend Route 53 have been on the drawing the board for years, said Les Swieca, an area programmer for IDOT, and the extension continues to be a long-range objective of the department.

One of the obstacles that has prevented plans from moving forward is the strong opposition from municipalities along the right-of-way that would be needed to extend Route 53. Those communities, including Long Grove, have continually objected to any plans to extend the highway past the Lake/Cook county border.

Route 53 now terminates at Dundee Road, however IDOT decided last year to extend the highway to Lake-Cook Road, a move that pleased opponents of the extension.

THE EXTENSION TO Lake-Cook Road is part of a statewide program of highway improvements that will be completed in the next several years. The Route 53 extension, which was the subject of studies and hearings for several years, is one of more than $55 million worth of improvements to northwest suburban highways and intersections included in the program, unveiled last year.

Construction on the northern extension of Route 53 to Lake-Cook Road is scheduled for completion in late 1989, Swieca said.

While IDOT doesn't have any concrete plans to extend Route 53 north of Lake-Cook Road, supporters of the extension haven't given up hope that the highway will ultimately extend past the county line.

Not only do plans for the extension have the support of the 500,000-member Chicago Motor Club, but the project is also being backed by the Northwest Municipal Conference, a consortium of more than two dozen municipalities and townships in the north and northwest suburbs that has also been studying traffic problems in the area.

Bill Duggan, a spokesman for the Northwest Municipal Conference, said the conference favors the extension because it believes the highway will alleviate congestion on smaller northwest suburban thoroughfares.

COUNTRYSIDE 12-3-87

Village retrieves pension funds from institution

By Lee Ann Gill
Staff Writer

Wheeling officials are resting easier now that police pension funds have been safely re-invested into various securities.

Village officials had feared that some of those funds were in jeopardy when the American Law Enforcement Credit Union was closed earlier this year by the state's Department of Financial Institutions. More than half of the department's pension fund money — $2.5 million — was invested in the credit union, which the state shut down because of improper management practices.

After the institution was dissolved, there were some questions about whether interest earned on money in the pension fund would be lost. The principal in the pension fund was protected by the National Credit Union Association, but not the interest.

But five months later, the money has been returned to the pension board without any loss in interest, and the $2.5 million is secure in various banks and savings and loans institutions.

"I'M COMFORTABLE with where the money is invested now," said Robert Fialkowski, Wheeling finance director. He said the pension board received a check last week for the amount of money the pension fund earned in interest under defunct credit union.

Village officials had criticized the pension board for investing too much of its money in the credit union. Now that the funds have been re-invested in different institutions, it should alleviate the fear of losing interest on such a large amount of money in the future.

"Now there isn't any tension in having so much money invested in one place," said Fialkowski.

Even so, pension board member Frank Proietti isn't satisfied with the way the issue has been handled.

PROIETTI, ALONG WITH pension board member John Cole, were the only two members who continually fought to remove half of the pension fund from American Law Enforcement, long before the credit union was investigated by state officials. While Cole and Proietti continually voted to re-invest the funds, the other three pension board members voted to keep it in the credit union.

"I think we're all missing the message here. That investment (with American Law Enforcement) by any standard was imprudent," he said.

"Whether we got the money back or not — let that not cloud the issue," said Proietti. He said although he is satisfied that the pension fund is safely invested he can not overlook what happened.

"We had to go through a somewhat traumatic experience to achieve a certain level of stability," said Proietti. "And it's still a 3-2 board."

THE STATE INVESTIGATED American Law Enforcement for two years before shutting down its operation. The state discovered problems with the union's overall operation and organization, and with its lending and collecting policies. The credit union held funds for several suburban police departments.

HERALD 12-5-87

Parks eye limits on use of Chevy Chase

By C. L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer

The Wheeling Park District will start limiting free use of the Chevy Chase clubhouse, the park board and superintendent of clubhouse services are pledging.

In 1978, the park board approved a policy that allows Northwest Suburban High School District 214, Wheeling Township Elementary District 21, Wheeling High School and the village of Wheeling to hold three functions per year at any park facility for free, except for fund-raising activities. The policy also allows free non-fund-raising use to organizations that can reciprocate in benefits to the park district.

The policy has since been compromised to where there are five annual activities and only one is not a fund-raiser, said Roger Christensen, superintendent of club house services.

Plus, most of the dates booked for free are at prime times for paying customers.

"If you give free time all the time, then you have nothing left," Commissioner Donald Lark said.

Park commissioners directed Christensen to come up with a new policy for current users as well as those who ask to use a park district facility for free. He plans to present the policy for a vote at the next park board meeting Dec. 17.

"I have no problem as long as it's not prime time and we cover our costs," Christensen said, adding that he does not want to cancel any of the annual events that are regularly held.

Any Saturday of the year is a prime time for paying customers while the most open dates are Fridays and Sundays during January, February and November, he said.

Christensen said he will probably suggest that free users of a room pay a service charge of about $30 for cleaning up after the event. If the bar is used at Chevy Chase, the user should guarantee sales on the bar to cover costs, Christensen added.

A couple of activities annually held at Chevy Chase may be asked to move to a less active time during the week, he said.

PUBLIC SPEAKING

HERALD 12-7-87

• "We do not wish our (village) manager to take part day by day in running the airport. He's got better things to do." — Wheeling Village President Sheila H. Schultz, on an agreement by Prospect Heights aldermen to allow the Pal-Waukee Airport manager report to each town's administrators but not have them be responsible for the day to day running of the airport owned by both villages.

HERALD 12-7-87

Towns may work together on road plan

By Kris Kopp
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Buffalo Grove, Wheeling and Arlington Heights may band together to address traffic demands along Lake-Cook Road.

Transpart, a new regional organization created by the Northwest Municipal Conference, bands local communities into Local Corridor Agencies to address a particular area.

Buffalo Grove President Verna Clayton and Wheeling President Sheila H. Schultz said they would like to set up such a corridor along Lake-Cook Road, which passes along the northern edge of Wheeling, bisects Buffalo Grove and extends on through part of Arlington Heights.

"It's a new concept and we think we can accomplish something by creating one (an LCA)," said Clayton. "We would be working together to determine what improvements to the road should be done and how to do them."

Clayton said that Cook County officials would also be involved because it is a county road.

Schultz said that the LCA's were created to facilitate coordinated efforts to solve traffic congestion that affects more than one community.

"Lake-Cook Road is a good example of a traffic problem," Schultz said.

Schultz and Clayton said they have discussed forming the LCA together and hope that Arlington Heights officials will be eager to join also.

HERALD 12-5-87

Pal-Waukee faces critical changes

By Freida Gad
Daily Herald Correspondent

The next five years could be critical for Pal-Waukee Municipal Airport as Wheeling and Prospect Heights plan to seek $49 million in state and federal grants to make changes at the airport.

The changes proposed for the airport include relocating Hintz and Wolf roads, elevating part of the airport's longest runway, relocating aircraft tie-down areas, demolishing small "T-hangars" used primarily by propeller aircraft and buying more land north and west of the airport.

Consulting Engineer Stephen W. Moulton told airport users that major changes are necessary to comply with Federal Aviation Administration regulations.

"The primary basis for all the design and planning is safety," Moulton said. "We must conform to new FAA safety standards. This is not to say the airport is unsafe now, but there are new requirements."

A key decision still facing airport co-owners Wheeling and Prospect Heights is whether to relocate the intersection of Wolf and Hintz roads, which lies just at the end of the airport's longest runway.

The intersection now lies too close to the end of the 5,000-foot runway for federal safety regulations. The intersection either must be moved, or the runway shortened.

Some airport users say shortening the runway would make it too short to accommodate corporate jets, which could doom the airport.

"If you shorten this runway, a lot of people will pull out," said Tracy Gilman, an organizer of a users' group, the Pal-Waukee Corporate Operators. "Corporate jets will not be able to use it. You will end up with a small neighborhood airport."

Currently at least 50 corporations house planes at the airport and those users account for most of the airport's revenues, airport consultant John Kennedy said.

Moulton, manager of Crawford, Murphy and Tilly Inc. said the engineering consultants propose moving and redesigning Hintz and Wolf Roads. Tentative plans call for arcing Hintz Road 350 feet to the north and moving Wolf Road 600 feet west.

The Pal-Waukee Municipal Airport Commission and both towns still must approve that plan.

FAA regulations also require safety borders along each runway which are clear of any fixed structures. That would mean demolishing one large hangar and approximately 50 T-hangars at the south side of the airfield.

To accomodate new T-hangars and provide tie-down, outdoor storage areas for 100 other aircraft, the towns purchased 20 acres north of the airport on Milwaukee Avenue for $2 million.

"The acquisition of this land was a critical step," airport commission attorney Stephen Moore said. "If we hadn't been able to acquire it we would have very bad news."

To those who presently use the T-hangars it may still be bad news, said aircraft owner A. Richard Goldman.

"Most of us who rent T-hangars will move our planes to another airport until there are hangars," he said.

The FAA timetable calls for demolishing 12 of the T-hangars now and most of the rest by December 1988.

Finding someone to build and lease new hangars in one year may be a problem, said Charles Priester, president of Pal-Waukee Aviation Inc. That company is expected to win approval soon to sell fuel and maintain airport facilities under contract with the towns.

"We will build new hangars for those who need hangars," he said. "We are having problems with the timing."

To move the roadways, make room for more parking areas and possibly another private operator selling fuel and supplies, the towns must acquire more land, Moulton said. Funds for that are included in the five-year request.

The airport must also purchase air rights at the ends of all runways to comply with FAA regulations. This would allow airport officials to remove any obstructions such as trees or antennas from flight paths.

"We hope to talk with forest preserve officials next month about the trees (along Milwaukee Avenue east of the airport)," Moulton said.

Other projects in the plan include security fencing around the airport, relocating the access road to the 94th Aero Squadron restaurant, elevating the northwest end of the 5,000-foot runway by up to 11 feet, constructing aprons and taxiways and demolishing the buildings at the southeast corner, including the Hangar Restaurant.

"This is an ambitious plan," Moulton said. "If we don't ask for it, we won't get it, (but) we would be very fortunate to obtain all that money."

HERALD 12-6-87

Senior vet recalls how Wheeling used to be

Lisa Schab
Wheeling

"I don't think I'm old — but I must be if I've been here 41 years."

Dr. Ian Taylor, Wheeling veterinarian, gives his age as "old enough to know better." With the recent retirement of a veterinarian in Glencoe, Taylor has become the "oldest surviving veterinarian from Howard Street to Wisconsin and Lake Michigan to the Fox River."

Taylor is also the second oldest businessman in our village, second to Mr. Drieske of Drieske's Flowers.

"When I first came to Wheeling," Taylor remembers, "There were only like 4,000 people, and Dunhurst was just being built... I used to take care of the stray dogs for the Buffalo Grove police. Buffalo Grove had only about 500 people then."

Taylor opened the North Suburban Animal Hospital at 769 S. Milwaukee Ave. in Wheeling on June 1, 1957.

"When I first came here, this was just a big, empty farmhouse owned by a farmer. He was the postmaster of Wheeling at the time. I bought it and remodeled it bit by bit, and I was very fortunate to get a very good handyman. He made my waiting room, surgery, kennels.

"By pure chance, I had saved his dog once in the middle of the night. He pounded on the door one night and I managed to save his dog that had been hit by a car. After that, there wasn't anything that he wouldn't do for me...in fact, I used to go over to their place to have supper once in a while, and the dog thought that I was God or something..."

Taylor feels that it's a rather extraordinary feat that he has remained a veterinarian as long as he has. He thinks that Will Rogers pretty much hit the nail on the head when he said one day, "Personally, I've always felt that the best doctor in the world is a veterinarian. He can't ask his patients what's the matter, he's just got to know."

Taylor likens a vet to a pediatrician in some ways, in that both doctors find themselves having to rely on the opinion of a third party to help determine what is the matter with their patient. Just as a small child can't always communicate with the doctor, neither, obviously, can an animal.

"You can't ask the patient what's wrong," says Taylor. "You can't ask, 'Where do you hurt?' The average person in the medical field would throw up his hands in horror if he couldn't ask his patient questions. That's what happens to a veterinarian."

Taylor has seen some changes in his field since 1957, and in the North suburban area as well. The number of animal hospitals themselves have grown from about 15 in 1957 to more than 100 today. There has also been the introduction of the emergency animal hospital facility.

"These would have eliminated a lot of problems for me if they'd been around earlier," days Taylor. "I live above my own place, and there were plenty of times when I'd be awakened at 3 in the morning to come down for an emergency. Now there are places that are open all night and on weekends just for emergencies like that."

Although Taylor has done most of his practical work with dogs and cats and a few birds, he also has put a great amount of time into lions. The International Lions Club, that is. He recently received a certificate from the president of that club for outstanding work in international relations activities.

Taylor has visited and attended meetings at over 50 Lions clubs throughout the world, including Morocco, Turkey, India and Scandinavia. He also has 29 years of perfect attendance under his belt. Not surprisingly, Wheeling Village President Sheila Schultz at one time named Taylor Ambassador of Wheeling."

Congratulations to Taylor on his 30 years of service to our community.

"Animals have these advantages over man: they never hear the clock strike; they die without any idea of death; they have no theologians to instruct them; their last moments are not disturbed by unwelcome and unpleasant ceremonies; their funerals cost them nothing and no one starts lawsuits over their wills." — Voltaire

HERALD 12-6-87

Restaurant, tavern closing time to be eyed

Wheeling trustees will consider requiring a 2 a.m. closing time for all restaurants and taverns in the village when they meet Monday night.

The village board will meet at 8 p.m. in village hall, 255 W. Dundee Road.

Proposed hours of operation for restaurants, taverns and bars are 7 a.m. to 2 a.m. each day of the week while package liquor businesses would be able to be open 9 a.m. to midnight each day of the week. On New Year's Eve, restaurants, taverns or bars would be allowed to serve liquor until 3 a.m. New Year's Day.

Wheeling trustees have been considering a 2 a.m. closing time since last April when the only class A license was renewed with reservations by trustees. A class A license allows an owner to stay open until 4 a.m.

The restaurant holding the license, Billy and Company, 124 S. Milwaukee Ave., is open later than any establishment in Wheeling.

There are currently 30 liquor license holders in Wheeling and each reportedly was sent a letter from the village notifying them of the meeting on Monday.

The village conducted a survey of surrounding communities and hours of operation allowed in liquor establishments during the week.

Village attorney James A. Rhodes and Village Manager Thomas M. Markus are both recommending that the village change the hours for liquor sales to be compatible with neighboring communities.

Arlington Heights, Buffalo Grove and Mount Prospect allow liquor establishments to be open until 2 a.m. on weekends. Northbrook allows for a 2:30 a.m. closing time on weekends while Glenview and Prospect Heights provide for 3 a.m. closings.

Of the communities surveyed, only Des Plaines and Palatine allow for special late closings, with an additional fee. Des Plaines has 4 a.m. closings and Palatine has 5 a.m. closings.

HERALD 12-7-87

Liquor license holder backs shorter hours

By C. L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer

A Wheeling liquor license holder who has the most to lose is nevertheless throwing his support behind a proposed ordinance to make the "last call" earlier.

William Moss, owner of Billy and Company on Milwaukee Avenue, has the only village license allowing him to sell liquor until 4 a.m. in Wheeling. But he will voice his support to end restaurant and tavern liquor sales at 2 a.m. during a village board meeting Monday.

"I want to go on the other side and continue awareness of drunk driving," Moss said.

Moss has operated the restaurant in Wheeling for eight years and he wants a reputation for his food, not the bar.

"I want to be known for my ribs," he says.

After failed attempts to meet for two weeks, Moss and Village President Sheila H. Schultz got together this week to discuss his intentions. Schultz said Moss' attitude is a nice surprise and will most likely thwart criticism from other liquor license holders.

"His establishment is certainly most strongly affected," Schultz said.

Currently, the village allows most restaurants and taverns to stay open until 2 a.m. during the week and until 3 a.m. on Fridays and Saturdays. Billy and Company has been allowed to stay open until 4 a.m. each day.

Under the proposed ordinance, all restaurants and taverns will close at 2 a.m., except for New Year's Eve when they will be allowed to remain open until 3 a.m.

Packaged liquor stores may now stay open until 1 a.m. during the week and until 2 a.m. on Fridays and Saturdays. The new ordinance would require midnight closings every day.

Moss admits he will miss business at the bar between 2 and 4 a.m. if the ordinance is passed by village trustees.

HERALD 12-8-87

Wheeling trustees reach compromise over pub

By C. L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Rather than be subject to litigation, Wheeling trustees Monday night allowed a Milwaukee Avenue businessman to continue operating his business for three more years.

The business in question, Hein's/Hatfield's Pub and Liquor Store has been for sale, which brought the zoning of the property to the attention of village officials.

Howard Kagay of Arlington Heights originally agreed to buy a shopping center containing Hein's/Hatfield's Pub and Liquor Store with the understanding that the property would operate as is for five years. At the end of those five years, only a package liquor store would be allowed to operate rather than a restaurant/bar.

Kagay said he would have to consult with his bank about the approved three-year agreement by village trustees.

Village manager Thomas M. Markus told village trustees that if they did not approve the ag[illegible] the village would have to take legal action to get the property to conform with zoning codes.

Making zoning allowances for businesses along Milwaukee Avenue surfaced about six months ago when Ida Hein, the owner of Hein's/Hatfield's Pub and Liquor Store tried selling the business at 141 S. Milwaukee Ave. The compromise would allow Kagay to own and Hein to continue operating the pub without conforming to zoning codes.

The [illegible]

1973. Even though the businesses are not in compliance with existing village code, they have been allowed to remain as they are.

The store has fewer parking spaces than village code allows; also, it is too close to the property lines.

Community development director Michael J. Klitzke said the shopping center was not built according to village codes.

Markus sa[illegible] candidates. [illegible]t does [illegible]r busi-

HERALD 12-4-87

City, village bicker over airport manager contract

By Dan Rozek
and C. L. Waller
Daily Herald staff writers

Prospect Heights and Wheeling may have both agreed to hire a manager for Pal-Waukee Municipal Airport, but since each town approved a different version of a contract, the issue isn't settled.

What the airport co-owners do agree on is that Fred Stewart, 52, the former manager of the Ponca City, Okla. municipal airport, should become the $49,000-a-year Pal-Waukee manager.

The difficulty now lies in wording a compromise agreement acceptable to both towns. Wheeling Village Manager Thomas M. Markus and Prospect Heights City Administrator Robert R. Kiely are expected to meet today to resolve the differences.

Wheeling trustees approved the contract with Stewart Nov. 23. Their version said that Stewart would report to Kiely and Markus, who are the chief administrators of each town.

Prospect Heights aldermen have favored having the airport manager report to the volunteer Pal-Waukee Airport Commission, which contains members from both towns.

The aldermen, in approving the agreement, reluctantly agreed to have Stewart report to the town administrators. But they added clauses prohibiting the administrators from running the airport on a daily basis or from unilaterally giving orders to the airport manager.

Wheeling Village President Sheila H. Schultz said Wheeling officials do not object to those changes.

"We do not wish our (village) man[illegible]ager to take part day to day in r[illegible]ning the airport," she said. "He's [illegible] better things to do."

Markus said he hopes to work with Prospect Heights officials to eliminate the language differences in the two agreements. Each town then could re-approve an identical agreement next week, he said.

"I don't see it as a major impediment to the agreement," he said.

PUBLIC SPEAKING

HERALD 12-8-87

• "The primary basis for all the design and planning is safety. We must conform to new FAA standards safety standards. This is not to say that the airport is unsafe now, but there are new requirements." — consulting engineer Stephen W. Moulton, commenting on a plan by Wheeling and Prospect Heights to seek $49 million in state and federal grants to make changes at the Pal-Waukee Municipal Airport.

HERALD 12-4-87

Main appointed to township board

By C. L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer

A politically active Wheeling resident has been appointed to fill a vacancy on the Wheeling Township board of trustees.

Edward H. Main, manager of Striker Lanes in Buffalo Grove, will take his seat on the board Dec. 16. He will complete the four-year term of Laurence P. Hagan, which ends in 1989. Hagan, formerly of Prospect Heights, moved to California.

Township Supervisor Ruth Grundberg said township trustees approved of Main's appointment after interviewing three candidates.

Main was appointed to serve on the township human services citizen advisory committee last year and he will be the only Wheeling resident on the board.

Main currently serves on the fire and police commission in the village of Wheeling and he had previously been on the appearance commission in Wheeling. He was among three candidates who challenged incumbent Sheila H. Schultz for the village president's spot in 1985.

While each township trustee represents the entire township, the board was anxious to have someone from the Wheeling area on the board, Grundberg said.

"It's nice for the communities to have someone representing them," she added.

Main said that since not many people are active in township government, he is willing to take the responsibility.

"When you look out and see the number of people who vote is less than 10 percent, you have to give something back to the community," he said.

Main said he will represent the village of Wheeling and the township with this appointment.

The most pressing issue currently before both townships and villages is funding social service agencies, Main said. Townships have taken an increasingly greater role in providing funding to social service agencies, but since federal revenue sharing was cut last year, townships are digging into their own pockets for money which is not abundant. More agencies are, in turn, asking villages for money.

Main believes that villages need to lean more on the township to provide funding to the agencies. Eventually, he said, townships should have sole control over funding social services.

HERALD 12-9-87

Wheeling divided over who'll pilot airport

By C. L. Waller
and Dan Rozek
Daily Herald staff writers

Prospect Heights and Wheeling settled the question of who will manage Pal-Waukee Municipal Airport, but the question of who will operate it remains unresolved.

Wheeling has delayed the answer with questions about the new investors who want to buy Priester Aviation, the current airport operator, and assume its duties at the airport.

Wheeling is pondering whether a $1.75 million cash guarantee is needed from Pal-Waukee Aviation Inc., the new corporation which will be selling fuel and planes, operating the flight school and maintaining the airport.

Prospect Heights approved an agreement that says the guarantee can be divided between cash and assets. But Wheeling Village Manager Thomas M. Markus and a consultant with Speer Financial Inc. want the guarantee in cash only, and Wheeling's elected officials are split.

"The question is, 'Do we have confidence they can operate that airport?'" Wheeling Trustee James R. Whittington said, adding that a cash balance does not indicate how well the company will conduct business.

But Wheeling Trustee Joseph P. Ratajczak said, "I don't want to see them come in and walk away with proceeds without some cash left behind."

Pal-Waukee Aviation includes pro golfer Arnold Palmer and former Allegis Corp. Chairman Richard J. Ferris, as well as Charles E. Priester as president. The corporation wants to operate the airport, as Priester Aviation did, with a cash balance of about $225,000.

Meanwhile, the manager issue has been settled with the hiring of Fred E. Stewart, a former airport manager in Ponca City, Okla. Wheeling and Prospect Heights nailed down a compromise agreement that calls for the $49,000-a-year manager to report to the chief administrator in each town and the Pal-Waukee Municipal Airport Commission, a board of volunteers appointed by both towns.

HERALD 12-10-87

A home at last

The last of several hurdles has been cleared, and Northwest Municipal Conference may now join Oakton Community College in building a facility on Oakton's campus that will benefit both.

The Illinois Community College Board has approved the plan, which means construction could begin soon and workers might finish the job by next summer. Oakton and the Municipal Conference will share the building with the college using the first floor and the conference housing its offices and federal document library on the second.

The project has not come together easily. During early planning stages, critics said the Municipal Conference wanted a facility that was too elaborate and too expensive. Conference officials scaled back their plans but failed to win over all their critics. Two Oakton trustees voted against the proposal, with one voicing fears that the college would be stuck with large payments if the conference were to disband or default. At least one representative to the municipal group initially opposed the Oakton site.

Nonetheless, the majority of those involved in the plan managed to strike a deal that should prove satisfactory to Oakton and the Municipal Conference alike. The two will split both costs and benefits. The Municipal Conference will have a permanent home and the visibility that goes with it. It also will have access to the school's research expertise. Oakton, meanwhile, will have access to the conference's document library and training programs. This should prove to be a case in which perseverance and compromise will pay dividends for everyone involved.

HERALD 12-10-87

Helping Hands give aid to homebound

By C. L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Did you ever wonder how long it would take for someone to miss you?

Wheeling residents who need to be needed are reaching out to seniors by offering them a ride or a phone call. The program is called Helping Hands and it's sponsored by the senior center in Wheeling and Our Lady of the Brook Catholic Church in Northbrook.

The program is now serving mostly seniors, but it is not limited to seniors, said Joey Buck, program coordinator. For instance, a homebound person could be unable to get to the grocery or someone might not know how to drive, she said.

"A lot of people moved out of a city situation and are now dependent on cars," she said. Plus, people are working more and do not have extended families, Buck said.

About 10 to 12 calls come in for assistance each month and about 100 people have been helped so far, Buck said. Volunteers, totalling about 15, are a combination of seniors and homemakers not in the work force, she said.

Helping Hands needs volunteers, but it is also on the lookout for people who need assistance or someone to call and say hello.

"There's a real reluctance on the part of seniors to say they are lonely," Buck said.

"To be lonely is to admit failure," said Barbara Hansen, senior center coordinator and facilitator of the Helping Hands program. "Asking for a cheery note or a phone call can be too much to ask."

"We like to think of it as a give and take situation," Buck said. "Often volunteers are just as fulfilled."

She said volunteers develop a rapport with those they befriend. One volunteer mailed out about a half dozen Thanksgiving cards to people she had driven places, Buck said.

Helping Hands got enough volunteers to begin a new Meals on Wheels route in Wheeling after the first of the year. There are 40 to 50 people on the Wheeling Township waiting list for meals and the new route will take in about a dozen people, Hansen said.

Volunteers make a one-year commitment to drive every other week for two hours.

"We hope to reward them with little goodies or perks," Hansen said.

Countryside 12-10-87

Wheeling taverns to close earlier

In an effort to curb the problems that arise from late-night drinking, Wheeling trustees voted Monday to shorten the hours of operation at taverns and restaurants. The move is apparently being supported by local bar owners.

By Lee Ann Gill
Staff Writer

Wheeling taverns will be closing their doors early beginning next spring.

Trustees Monday night approved an amendment to the village's liquor code that requires license holders to stop selling liquor at 2 a.m. daily.

Under the current law, most restaurants and taverns stop selling liquor at 2 a.m. on weekdays and 3 a.m. on Friday and Saturday nights. One establishment, Billy and Company, 124 S. Dundee Road, has a license that allows it to stay open until 4 a.m. daily. The new hours will take effect May 1, 1988.

But to at least some of the 29 license holders in town, the news did not come as a shock. In fact, those who attended Monday's meeting were happy about the change.

WILLIAM MOSS, OWNER of Billy and Company, told trustees that he'll be happy to cut back his hours. "I'm voluntarily here this evening to relinquish my 4 a.m. license," he said.

"Will I lose revenue from 2 a.m. to 4 a.m.? Sure, I may do that," he said. "(But) I want to contribute and uphold what I feel is a social change. We must all be concerned and pay attention to the use and abuse of alcohol."

"And at the same time, I'm going to get a good night's sleep," he joked.

Village President Sheila Schultz commended Moss for his stand on liquor control, which she said goes along with the village's efforts to curb drinking and driving. The amendment to the liquor code was prompted by concerns over the late hours kept by patrons of Billy and Company.

JIM MASTERSON, MANAGER of Hackney's Restaurant, 241 S. Milwaukee Ave., said he isn't bothered by the news either, and doesn't see a problem with the new hours. "I'm closed by the time three o'clock rolls around in most cases anyway. I think it's fair," he said.

When notices go out for license renewals in May, all license holders will be notified of their new hours. What they'll discover is that they will all have the same hours of operation — from 7:30 a.m. to 2 a.m. every day except New Year's Eve, when they'll be allowed to serve liquor until 3 a.m.

Under the current code, the hours an establishment may serve alcohol varies according to the type of license. A business with a Class A license, such Billy and Company, which has more than 200 seats, closes at 4 a.m. All other license holders stay open until 2 a.m. during the week and until 3 a.m. on weekends.

Liquor stores will also have to cut back on their hours.

RETAIL STORES NOW sell liquor until 2 a.m. on Friday and Saturday nights. Under the new code, liquor stores will close at midnight seven days a week.

Studies done by the village earlier this year indicate that the number of police calls after 2 a.m. is substantially higher than before that time. The village took the results of the study as well as the hours of operation in neighboring towns into consideration before approving the amendment.

In Deerfield, the most restrictive neighboring town, all establishments close at 1 a.m. In Buffalo Grove, Arlington Heights and Mount Prospect, liquor establishments are open until 2 a.m. on weekends. Northbrook has a 2:30 a.m. closing time on weekends, and Glenview and Prospect Heights taverns close at 3 a.m.

Countryside 12-10-87

New airport manager ready to earn his wings

By Lee Ann Gill
Staff Writer

Serving as manager of Pal-Waukee Municipal Airport is just the challenge Fred Stuart was looking for.

He and his wife will leave Ponca City, Okla. this week to move to a home in Prospect Heights so Stuart will be settled and ready to start his new job on Monday.

"I was interested in going to a place that has more of a challenge to me professionally, and Pal-Waukee appeared to be the most interesting," said Stuart.

Pal-Waukee been without an airport manager since Wheeling and Prospect Heights purchased the facility nearly a year ago. Since the purchase, there have been disagreements between the two towns on many aspects of operating the airport, and officials from both towns hope the new manager will help eliminate some of the conflicts between the municipalities.

AND STUART, SELECTED by officials from both towns out of a field of 50 candidates, knows he has his work cut out for him. Wheeling and Prospect Heights officials formally adopted ordinances hiring Stuart on Monday. The Wheeling Village Board and Prospect Heights City Council approveda three-year contract with Stuart that calls for an annual salary of $49,000.

As manager, he will have an office at the airport where he will oversee day-to-day operations of the facility. Stuart will be charged with ensuring the airport lives up to its obligations to tenants and to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA).

"My first priority will be to determine contractual obligations the cities have entered into with the FAA, the state and the tenants," said the 55-year-old Stuart. "We have to find out exactly what our obligations are and make sure we're capable of meeting those obligations now and in the future."

Next, he will develop a recommendation for any changes in airport operations, which he will present to the managers of Prospect Heights and Wheeling for review. He will be responsible for reporting to both Tom Markus, Wheeling village manager and Robert Kiely, Prospect Heights city manager.

STUART IS NO stranger to running an airport.

He was the airport manager for Ponca City Municipal Airport for 13 years. And he said if he learned one thing during that time, it was that the most important aspect of operating an airport is to make sure it's run safely.

"The key factor is that, regardless of differences of opinions, the important thing is the airport and that it's run effectively and safely," he said.

"I'm anxious to see him get started so we can hopefully get things organized," said Markus. "As the two communities begin to trust his capability and judgment, operations will begin to improve."

Countryside 12-10-87

Trustees, firm at odds over Pal-Waukee job

By Lee Ann Gill
Staff Writer

Plans to turn the operations of Pal-Waukee Municipal Airport over to a new company were grounded Monday after Wheeling trustees said they wanted more time to evaluate the proposal.

Trustees and representatives of Pal-Waukee Aviation Inc., the firm that has been preparing for months to take over as fixed base operator of the airport haggled until well past midnight over the financial security of the firm.

As fixed based operator, the company handles the fuel sales, mechanical service to airplanes, chartering of planes and helps to schedule flights.

James O'Neal, managing partner of Pal-Waukee Aviation walked out of Monday's village board meeting, saying he would not be around for a Dec. 21 board meeting when the proposal is slated to be discussed again.

THE MEETING ALSO left O'Neal uncertain whether the firm even wanted to take over operations at Pal-Waukee.

But a meeting held Tuesday between O'Neal and village officials ended in a tentative agreement between the aviation firm and the village, said Village Manager Tom Markus.

The meeting brought together O'Neal, village officials and Prospect Heights officials, who co-own the airport, and Charles Priester of George Priester Aviation, which currently runs operations at Pal-Waukee.

Although he would not give details of the new agreement, Markus said it will be considered for approval by the village board on Dec. 21.

"HE (O'NEAL) agreed that based on the new terms that we worked out we would complete passage of the agreement," said Markus.

Wheeling and Prospect Heights purchased the airport almost one year ago, turning it from private to public. Since that time, officials from Priester Aviation, the previous owner of Pal-Waukee, have been looking for a new fixed based operator to take over operations — one that could bring in more money and supplies to expand operations at the airport.

In the meantime, Prospect Heights officials approved the transfer to the new aviation company by a 6-1 city council vote Monday night.

Wheeling trustees were expected to approve the deal then, too, but they didn't because they weren't satisfied with the minimal cash balance the proposed aviation company was keeping in its bank account. "This is a new corporation we're dealing with. that's why I wanted to see some minimum balance established," said Markus.

THE COMPANY SHOWED a balance of $225,000 in its account to start operations. And although that probably wouldn't even cover a month's worth of bills at the airport, O'Neal told village

(Continued on page 17)

Countryside 12-10-87

Pal-Waukee—

(Continued from page 5)

officials that it isn't a standard practice for aviation companies to keep a large sum of money in an account. He tried to assure trustees that the company would not have trouble paying the bills.

"We could sell some parts and have $1 million in cash, but cash would not be a profitable inventory," O'Neal said.

But trustees wanted assurance before voting that a substantial cash balance would be kept in the company's savings on a monthly basis. Elwood Barce, chairman of Speer Financial Inc., Chicago, advised the board that a minimum of $1.7 million — enough to pay three months worth of bills — would be a sufficient balance to begin operations.

"I don't think our request is overburdening. I would like to see something along the lines of what Mr. Barce is asking," said Markus.

MARKUS WOULD NOT say what, if any, minimum cash balance was established during Tuesday's meeting.

O'Neal said on Monday that the company was not willing to let that much money sit in an account and that the company's equity and continual income should satisfy the village's need for security. "We're arguing cash here when we should be arguing equity," O'Neal told the board.

Prospect Heights aldermen agreed.

"The consideration on the part of Prospect Heights was that maintaining (cash) is not as important as their contribution of equity, which is far more important," said Robert Kiely, Prospect Heights city administrator.

"PROSPECT HEIGHTS just felt that wasn't a significant issue to hold up passage of the transfer," said Kiely.

O'Neal said the company would be operating with around $1.8 million in net working capital.

Prospect Heights officials were also swayed by the fact that Priester Aviation is guaranteeing that Pal-Waukee Aviation will fulfill the terms of the agreement for two years. This guarantee is baked up by airport stockholders, Charlie Priester told trustees Monday. Priester is the son of owner of George Priester Aviation Inc..

"If they walk, (in the next two years) Mr. Priester will be responsible for the bills," said Kiely.

ALTHOUGH EARLY TUESDAY O'Neal said that we wasn't certain what his future was with Pal-Waukee, attempts to reach him after his meeting with village officials late Tuesday were unsuccessful.

"There are other operations we're looking at around the country." said O'Neal. He and three partners operate three airports across the country and are based in Charlotte, N.C.

"In all our airport operations we've never had this kind of conversation. We don't quite understand — it's a little bit frustrating. We're up here to do something positive," he said. "If this is indicative of our situation here, we're not thrilled about it. It makes it very difficult for us to come in and go ahead and make improvements."

Despite their differences, however, O'Neal said he understands the trustees were only doing their jobs. "These are board members that are conscientious. This is their responsibility," he said.

Countryside 12-10-87

Wheeling, BG, Arlington Heights team up to fight traffic problems

Wheeling, Buffalo Grove and Arlington Heights officials are determined to tackle traffic problems in their towns.

Officials from the three communities have become members of a newly-formed agency that will work on improving traffic congestion on Lake-Cook Road, Dundee Road and other traffic-congested highways.

The Northwest Municipal Conference, in an effort to find a way to ease local traffic congestion, developed Transpart, which is a new regional organization that draws communities with similar traffic concerns together to form local corridor agencies.

The local corridor agency involving these three northwest suburbs is the first one formed out of the new organization, said Bill Grams, director of the municipal conference.

"THIS IS the first one that will have some structure," said Grams "It's a logical grouping of communities that come together to try and deal with traffic problems."

The mayors of the three towns will serve on the board of the local agency, which will meet for the first time Monday.

Wheeling officials are most concerned with traffic problems at the Milwaukee Avenue and Lake-Cook Road and with congestion on Dundee Road. Increased traffic flow along Hintz and Palatine roads also concerns officials, said Village President Sheila Schultz.

Schultz said she realizes the traffic that runs through the village is not Wheeling's alone. "It's obvious that the congestion on one corner is the combination of everyones problems," she said.

SCHULTZ SAID THE agency will help to control traffic best by pooling resources to implement road improvements such as new traffic signals, additional turn lanes and any other projects that might ease traffic flow.

Officials from the three towns will also discuss potential development that could lead to increased traffic.

"We don't want it to become the biggest problem in the area," said Buffalo Grove Village President Verna Clayton.

Clayton said the new agency will be a vehicle to find the solution for traffic problems on Lake-Cook Road, which she is most concerned with.

Countryside 12-10-87

Wheeling's Heins Pub has uncertain future

By Lee Ann Gill
Staff Writer

Heins Pub could soon make its last call.

After 14 years of operation, the Wheeling bar, located at 141 S. Milwaukee Ave., may be forced to close its doors in three years.

If the bar and liquor store are sold, which owner Ida Hein is attempting to do, the building would have to be brought up to date on building and parking codes to stay in business.

But the village says the tavern attracts too many cars at its location along Milwaukee Avenue. And if it is sold, it would only receive the necessary parking and setback variations for three years, after which time only the package liquor store could operate. The village approved an ordinance to that effect Monday night.

IF HEIN DOES not sell the tavern, operations will continue as usual. But the 67-year-old Hein said she is tired of managing the bar and had hopes of selling it. Because the tavern was built before village's zoning codes where revised, the building doesn't have to meet current requirements for parking and setbacks.

Although Hein has someone interested in buying the property, he is not sure he can get a bank loan in light of the village's decision Monday. Howard Kagay of Arlington Heights, the prospective buyer, had originally asked village officials to allow the bar to remain open another five years, a request that trustees would not consider.

Because Kagay's bank loan to buy the business was approved on the premise that the bar would be open for five years, he said he's not sure what will happen now.

Kagay and attorney Rickey Ament, who represented Hein, presented their case to trustees Monday night. "I don't want to fight city hall. I just want to improve that building and that takes money, and I needed five years to make it," Kagay told trustees.

"IF THE flow of income is not there, they're not going to give me that loan," he said.

Village officials explained to Kagay that as a tavern, the building attracts too many cars for that strip of businesses along Milwaukee Avenue.

"We're trying to get uses out of that center that are high parking demand type of uses," said Village Manager Tom Markus. Currently, the tavern has 33 parking spaces, which is 50 less than what's required under existing zoning ordinances.

"I've recommended a three-year provision be included. I can understand the economics of the situation in allowing someone a transition period," said Markus.

THE VILLAGE'S PLAN commission voted this summer to recommend that the village board reject of Heins' request for parking variations and variances to the village's sign code. Commissioners did recommend approval of the yard requirement and access variances.

Village officials also say the building does not meet proper yard requirements and that it is set too close to the street.

Ament told trustees that litigation to "force the village to make it (the pub) a salable property" is a possibility, but said he is confident that the proposed compromise will work out.

"The village did a good job in working out a compromise," he said Tuesday.

WE'RE FIGHTING FOR YOUR LIFE
American Heart Association

WHEELING
HERALD 12-12-87

Center moves ahead

A proposal to build a small shopping center southwest of Dundee and Wolf roads has been approved by the Wheeling Plan Commission. Negotiations with prospective tenants are underway for the 10,480-square-foot center, said Deano Vass, who represents the property owners Sung H. Song and his wife. As many as eight stores could be housed in the center and a major convenience store may be the center's anchor, Vass said. The shopping center is being developed to coordinate with the reconstruction of the Four Stars restaurant next door at 43 W. Dundee Road, Village Planner Richard Greenwood said.

...more offenders will pay up if they don't have to make a court appearance.

HERALD 12-12-87

Laurels to Wheeling restaurateur William Moss for possibly sacrificing extra business in order to support a proposed ordinance aimed at curbing drunken driving. Moss owns Billy and Company and has the only village liquor license that permits liquor sales until 4 a.m. Nonetheless, he says he supports a new ordinance that would close restaurants and taverns at 2 a.m. "I want to go on the other side and continue awareness of drunk driving," Moss said. "I want to be known for my ribs."

HERALD 12-12-87

Wheeling panel OKs Jiffy Lube; with park

BY SHERRY BOEMMEL
Daily Herald Correspondent

The Wheeling Plan Commission approved construction of a Jiffy Lube northeast of Dundee and Wolf roads with the stipulation that the developer build a small park nearby.

The village is trying to have small parks at each major intersection, Village Planner Richard Greenwood said. The new one would be part of the oil-change business site, which now is occupied by a vacant gas station.

Jiffy Lube Inc. will have to grant an easement to the village for the park and that is not possible until the village specifies the size of park it wants, said Robert DiLeonardi, representing Car Care Enterprises, owner of 16 area Jiffy Lube franchises.

DiLeonardi said he sees no problem with a 10- by 10-foot easement suggested by village planners.

The lot size is half the required 40,000 square feet in area that village code requires, but Greenwood is pleased with the overall plan.

"It conforms to all standards except that it's 20,000 square feet," Greenwood said. "We think it's a good project."

DiLeonardi said he is happy with the plan which has 38 percent of the Jiffy Lube landscaped, probably more than any other Jiffy Lube in the country, he said.

The developer also plans on camouflaging a Federal Aviation Administration runway marker with an 8-foot wooden fence. The marker has become an eyesore on the property because it needs paint and weeds have grown up around it, but Greenwood said only the FAA can do something to the marker.

WHEELING LIFE 12-10-87

Hein's Pub sale suffers setback

Building never met village codes

The sale of Hein's Pub and Liquor Store has hit a snag. The village is charging that the 14-year-old building was not constructed according to village codes and that the pub/restaurant was never given a special use permit.

As a result of the problems with the village, the woman who intended to buy the liquor store/restaurant business has backed out of the deal. Although the property may still have a buyer, he has negotiated a lower price than was originally agreed upon.

The village staff says that the Village Board never granted a special use for the restaurant/liquor store combination. Furthermore, the staff says, the building, at 141-149 S. Milwaukee Ave., did not meet front and side yard setback requirements even though a building permit was issued in 1973.

Also, said the staff, the establishment has only 33 parking spaces even though 1973 village codes demanded between 68 and 86 spaces. Current codes require 54 parking spaces if the building is used as a general business.

The alleged failure of the property to conform to codes in existence at the time the restaurant/liquor store was built was discovered after Ida, William and Gordon Hein attempted to sell the property and business, and the prospective buyers sought variations and special use permits to allow the building to come into conformance with current codes.

Rickey Ament, the Heins' attorney, said that without variations the property would be virtually unsellable and his clients would be forced to take the village to court.

After weeks of negotiations with Ament, Village Manager Tom Markus recommended that the Village Board grant a special use permit for the restaurant/pub for three years after which only the package liquor store would be permitted to continue.

On Monday, the board granted the three-year special use, along with parking and setback variations, as part of an agreement and restrictive covenant with the Heins.

The prospective buyer of the property, however, said he wants a special use for at least four years.

Please turn to page 3

LIFE 12-10-87

Hein's pub

Continued from page 1

Markus said the village will continue discussions with the Heins.

Markus indicated that although some people might have wanted to take a tougher stance over what to do with the Heins' property, the compromise he recommended might be in the best interests of the village.

He said the building is structurally sound and although it did not meet original codes, it was given a building permit and the establishment's liquor licenses were renewed each year.

These facts might make it difficult to take action against the building, Markus said.

Village curtails liquor sales

LIFE 12-10-87

Restaurants, pubs and stores selling liquor will have to close earlier under a new liquor ordinance approved Monday by the Village Board.

Under the ordinance all restaurants and pubs will have to stop selling liquor at 2 a.m. Currently, one establishment, Billy & Co., can stay open till 4 a.m. and the others can stay open to 2 a.m. Sunday through Thursday and 3 a.m. on Friday and Saturday.

The only exemption to the 2 a.m. closing will be New Year's Eve when restaurants and taverns can stay open till 3 a.m.

Package liquor stores will have to close at midnight. Current hours are 1 a.m. Sunday through Thursday and 2 a.m. on Friday and Saturday.

The new ordinance becomes effective May 1 when liquor licenses expire.

The ordinance change was supported by Billy Moss, owner of Billy & Co. Speaking to the board, Moss said he supports the earlier

Please turn to page 3

Villages agree on manager

The city of Prospect Heights and the village of Wheeling have finally approved an agreement to hire a manager of Pal-Waukee Airport.

Both communities had earlier agreed that they wanted to hire Fred Stewart, 52, to manage Pal-Waukee, the airport jointly run by the two municipalities.

There were delays, however, over how to word the employment agreement that would delineate such things as Stewart's responsibilities and the responsibilities of the two municipal managers in relation to him.

Prospect Heights insisted on a number of stipulations, including that neither municipal manager will be actively involved in the day-to-day operations of the airport; that the airport manager will report at least once monthly to the municipalities, and that neither municipal manager will issue orders to Stewart unilaterally.

Please turn to page 3

Liquor sales

Continued from page 1

closing time as a parent and as a responsible member of the community. He said that there has been a social change in society's attitude toward liquor.

Also, he said, he is interested in concentrating more on food service rather than liquor sales.

No liquor license holder spoke out against the ordinance.

A village survey of nearby communities showed that Palatine allows sales of liquor till 5 a.m. on weekends and Des Plaines till 4 a.m. Weekend closing hours for Glenview and Prospect Heights is 3 a.m. while it is 2 a.m. for Buffalo Grove and Mount Prospect. Deerfield has a 1 a.m. closing time every day except New Year's Eve when it is 2 a.m.

Villages agree on airport manager

LIFE 12-10-87

Continued from page 1

Wheeling Village Manager Tom Markus recommended that the Wheeling Board approve the agreement with the stipulations made by the Prospect Heights City Council.

"I do not believe that the changes to the job description are of a serious nature and I believe the majority of the agreement is still intact," Markus said in a memo to the board. The Wheeling Board unanimously approved the agreement on

Monday. Stewart is scheduled to start his new job at Pal-Waukee on Dec. 14 at a starting salary of $49,000 a year. His contract with the communities runs for three years.

Stewart is currently manager of the municipal airport in Ponca City, Oklahoma, a position he has held since 1974.

Laurels only

HERALD 12-14-87

Laurels to officials in Buffalo Grove and **Wheeling** who say they may band together to resolve traffic problems along Lake-Cook Road. Buffalo Grove Village President Verna Clayton and Wheeling Village President Sheila H. Schultz said they would like to set up a local corridor agency along Lake-Cook. They'd get help on this project from Transpart, a new regional organization created by the Northwest Municipal Conference to band communities together to tackle local traffic problems. "It's a new concept and we think we can accomplish something by creating one (and LCA)," said Clayton. "We would be working together to determine what improvements to the road should be done and how to do them." Lake-Cook Road passes along the northern edge of Wheeling, bisects Buffalo Grove and extends into part of Arlington Heights. Shultz and Clayton hope that Arlington Heights officials also will want to participate.

HERALD 12-14-87

Wheeling's toy gun ban closes in on January

By C. L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Wheeling Village President Sheila Schultz says the village hasn't dropped consideration of an outright ban on toy gun sales in Wheeling, but it is "slow in coming."

Schultz accepted an award Friday for the village's program of asking store owners to voluntarily remove toy guns that shoot plastic pellets from their shelves. She said Wheeling trustees will probably discuss an ordinance after the first of the year.

The issue of toy guns was first raised in Wheeling a couple of months ago after a 15-year-old youth caused a stir when he reportedly pointed a plastic gun across Dundee Road at a McDonald's Restaurant.

The village responded by asking store owners to voluntarily remove toy guns that shoot plastic pellets from the shelves. Village law prohibits possession of toy guns, but allows sales.

The police chief and village attorney started investigating a Burbank ordinance prohibiting the sale or brandishment of toy guns.

Schultz said she talked with Police Chief Michael F. Haeger Friday after getting the award from the Illinois Council Against Handgun Violence. He said he is asking Los Angeles for a copy of its toy gun ordinance.

"The issue is not dead. It's just slow in coming," Schultz said.

But the father of the youth believes Wheeling does not want to pursue a local law. His son received three months court supervision and was fined.

"Now that the court case is over, they want to forget about it," William Albrecht said.

Stores in Wheeling that yanked some types of toy guns off shelves about two months ago are still complying with the village's request not to sell the guns.

About 15 people have asked about the guns, but they are receptive to why the store quit selling them, Kmart assistant manager Mitch Zoch said. The holiday season has not brought about a greater demand either, he said.

HERALD 12-15-87

Court rules against land owners

The village of Wheeling got a leg up on a tax-financed redevelopment project with a recent court ruling against property owners fighting condemnation of their land.

A judge ruled that a state statute allowing tax increment financing is constitutional and that the village followed the statute by creating a redevelopment project prior to designation of the area as a tax increment district.

Wheeling's tax increment financing district stretches north and south on Milwaukee Avenue, east to the Des Plaines River and west to First Street.

Tax increment financing means that any incremental increases in property taxes generated by the upgrade are used to repay loans taken out for the project.

Attorneys for Dunkin' Donuts, Tien Tsin Restaurant and Wheeling Auto Repair disagree with the village's move to condemn the properties, saying there was no law allowing the village to condemn the properties, northwest of Dundee Road and Milwaukee Avenue, in order to build an $8.9 million retail center.

As for the judge's ruling, the property owners' attorneys are looking ahead. "It's a major loss for us, but it's not fatal," said Kenneth Siegan, attorney for the Dunkin' Donuts franchise owner.

At this stage, the judge is saying that the statute is constitutional, but that there is a difference between what the law states and how it is carried out, said Robert Wiss, attorney for Wheeling Auto Parts.

The next step is for attorneys to try to prove that the village did not conduct a survey properly to determine the area is dilapidated, Siegan said. Another major argument will be that no public purpose is served by renovating the area into a shopping center.

The next hearing date will be set in January.

HERALD 12-16-87

Board members are honored for service

Members of boards and commissions in Wheeling recently were recognized for their service with pins.

One year pins were given to George Hieber, appearance commission; Mary Ellen Joseph, board of health; Patricia Drewes, ethics board; Lois Gaffke, plan commission; and Patricia Walsdorf and Annette McGrath, senior citizen commission members.

Ethics board member Richard Spriegel was recognized for 10 years on the same board and Theodore Johnson received a pin for five years on the village plan commission.

Board and commission members are recognized annually for one, five, 10 or 15 years of service. Board members and commissioners are appointed by the village administration.

HERALD 12-17-87

Hintz Road construction to last two years

By C. L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Travelers on Hintz Road in Wheeling will be cruising through or around construction for the next two years amid a $7.1-million street-widening project.

The Cook County Highway Department is installing storm sewers and widening Hintz Road from two lanes to four between Elmhurst and Arlington Heights roads. That portion will cost $4.5 million.

Making sure traffic can get through is a high priority, said John Biesell, one of the engineers on the project.

"It's always inconvenient now, but the finished product will always be worth it," he said.

Installation of a new storm sewer to handle rain water from the new pavement has been under way for about a week near Wheeling High School, Biesell said.

About 600 feet of storm sewer line will be installed along Hintz Road between Arlington Heights and Elmhurst roads over the next couple of months, Biesell said.

With a couple more dry days, work will be finished on a temporary road north of Hintz that will allow two lanes of travel while work is being done, he said.

In March, a $2.6-million county highway project is expected to begin on Hintz Road between Wolf and Wheeling roads.

New storm sewers will be installed along Hintz from just east of Wheeling Road to the Wheeling Drainage Ditch, said Merlyn Johnson, engineer for that portion of the project.

The road work, which includes construction of a four-lane concrete pavement, will probably start this summer, Johnson said. A temporary road will be installed to handle traffic through the project, expected to be completed in late fall of 1989, he said.

A less expensive asphalt pavement will be used for a section of Hintz Road west of Wolf Road, should the intersection be moved.

HERALD 12-16-87

Storm snows under towns, leaves 2 hurt

BY C L. WALLER
and GAIL KAHOVER
Daily Herald staff writers

Residents in Buffalo Grove, Long Grove and Wheeling slid and scraped their way through the first snowstorm of the season Tuesday, which left one resident injured and one heart attack victim.

Wheeling police said a resident of Shadowbend subdivision was taken to Glenbrook Hospital for stitches after cutting four of his fingers on snowblower blades. Paramedics attempted to take him to Holy Family Ambulatory Center in Wheeling, but it was closed because of the weather.

A resident of Pacific Court in Wheeling was treated by paramedics for a heart attack suffered while shoveling snow in his driveway, police said.

In Wheeling, 15 trucks hit the streets late Monday, set on staying out until streets were clear, Village Manager Thomas M. Markus said.

Vehicles parked along streets in Wheeling were ticketed or towed away because parking is not allowed on any village-maintained street after 2 or more inches of snow and until the street is cleared.

Buffalo Grove had 13 snow removal trucks on the streets, Public Works Director Gregory Boysen said. Most streets were passable, he said.

Buffalo Grove apparently was hardest hit by power outages, mostly in spots north of Lake-Cook Road. Power was expected to be restored to the rest of the village by late Tuesday.

Without power and telephone service for most of the morning at Buffalo Grove Village Hall, residents could call in, but employees could not hear telephones ringing. Nevertheless, staff continued picking up receivers and "nine times out of 10 it was residents expressing concerns about the snow," Village Manager William Balling said.

Long Grove residents were angry about the snow, but were pleased to hear a real person answer the telephone rather than a machine, said Lee Athans, village administrative assistant.

Schools in the area, except Stevenson High School, were closed all day. Stevenson was open for about an hour before officials decided to shut down, with a small percentage of the student population showing up.

Crews worked through the night at Pal-Waukee Municipal Airport, allowing it to open Tuesday morning. About a dozen flights arrived at or departed from the airport, an airport official said.

Strong wind and heavy snow slightly damaged the roof of one hangar at the airport, which is jointly owned by Prospect Heights and Wheeling.

HERALD 12-17-87

Wheeling residents move to aid needy

By Sherry Boemmel
Daily Herald correspondent

Wheeling residents are getting in the holiday spirit, pitching in on projects to help the needy.

Some local groups, however, still need food, toys, and money as deadlines for collections approach.

Following, then is a list of how you can help.

Toys

The Northern Illinois Motorcycle Association is collecting unwrapped toys until Dec. 20 for the U.S. Marine Corps Toys for Tots program in Wheeling.

Toys may be dropped off at the barrel at Wheeling Fire Department, 255 W. Dundee Rd., between 8:30 a.m. and 4 p.m. weekdays, Whippletree Village Clubhouse, 525 N. McHenry Rd. from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday.

The main drop-off is at Suburban Harley-Davidson, 2200 N. Rand Rd., Palatine between 11 a.m. and 7 p.m. Monday through Friday and Saturdays 10 a.m. to 4p.m. The phone number there is 358-2112.

Food

The Wheeling Jaycees are collecting food at their Christmas tree lot, Dundee Road and Northgate Parkway, until Tuesday from 6 to 9 p.m. weekdays and 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. weekends. Jaycees also will be out collecting door-to door Saturday.

The Wheeling Rotary Club and the Wheeling High School Student Council are the main forces behind a food drive organized by Wheeling Principal Thomas Shirley and local groups. The goal is 250 baskets. The baskets will be assembled Saturday and the deadline for donations of food and money (checks made out to Wheeling High School) Friday. Donations can be dropped off at Room 91 at the school, 900 S. Elmhurst Rd., between 7 a.m. and 4 p.m. The phone number is 537-6500.

AMVETS is collecting food at its Phillip Carpenter Post 66, 700 Old McHenry Rd., between the hours of 11 a.m. and 2 a.m. Their baskets will be assembled Saturday.

HERALD 12-19-87

Board mulls changing test for sergeants

By Sherry Boemmel
Daily Herald Correspondent

The Wheeling Board of Fire and Police Commissioners is considering giving more weight to some portions of a series of tests taken by sergeant candidates.

Proposed changes have come up as the board prepares to establish a new list of police officers eligible to become sergeants. The department has one sergeant vacancy and a list of police officers eligible for sergeant rank needs to be compiled, commission Chairman Maurice Weitlauf said.

The list is based on scores earned on a series of tests and interviews, as well as psychological and polygraph tests. The commission is considering changing the relative weight of some parts.

Currently, the written test represents 40 percent of the total score and the oral interview conducted by commissioners is 10 percent. The score from a role-playing exam is 40 percent and the department numerical rating is 10 percent.

Commissioner Edward Main suggested increasing the department rating and decreasing the role-playing test because some officers do not test well.

But Chief Michael Haeger disagreed, saying that deputy chiefs and sergeants who give the ratings tend to judge all applicants very closely.

"I don't think anybody wanted to pull anybody down," Haeger said.

Haeger said the assessment center score, which is based on role playing and judged by other police chiefs with employee evaluation experience, is a "fairly good independent assessment."

Before the board decides what changes should be made, Haeger will present information about how other departments of similar size evaluate sergeant candidates.

Laurels only

HERALD 12-19-87

Laurels to the Wauconda Township Library board for its "Adopt-a-Magazine" program that allows residents to subscribe to a magazine for the library. "We have adopt-a-pet, adopt-a-rock. I think it's a very nice way for the community to contribute to the library," Carol A. Kapheim, a library board member, said. Residents may contribute the cost of a magazine to the library, which will buy the subscription. For another $6, the library will put a plastic cover on the magazine and insert a card identifying the donor. Money saved from buying subscriptions will be used for other costs, such as buying books.

Laurels to the organizers of the Helping Hands program, sponsored by the senior center in Wheeling and Our Lady of the Brook Catholic Church in Northbrook. The program reaches out to senior citizens and other residents who are homebound by offering them a ride or giving them a call on the telephone. "A lot of people moved out of a city situation and are now dependent on cars," said Joey Buck, program coordinator. Helping Hand is on the lookout for volunteers as well as people who need assistance. "We like to think of it as a give-and-take situation," Buck said. "Often volunteers are just as fulfilled."

Laurels to officials in Vernon and Wheeling townships for starting a program that will enable Buffalo Grove senior citizens to ride a bus from one end of town to the other. Because the village is divided between Lake and Cook counties and Vernon and Wheeling townships, transportation services also are split. During the three-month trial period that starts Jan. 1, seniors will be allowed to transfer from a Vernon Township bus to a Wheeling Township bus on a specific day each week, said Vernon Township Supervisor William E. Peterson. "It's an added benefit and it is certainly welcomed," said Jack Spellman, a member of the Buffalo Grove Transportation Commission.

HERALD 12-18-87

Planners approve 59 houses on land near Lake Arlington

By Teresa E. Karow
Daily Herald Correspondent

Arlington Heights planning officials are recommending approval of a developer's plans for 59 houses on a piece of land, which the village had sold, next to Lake Arlington.

Edward Schwartz & Company, a local real estate developer, bought the 20-acre parcel in a closed bid auction held by the village last July. Schwartz, who built many of the homes in the Ivy Hill neighborhoods north of Palatine Road, plans to name the new subdivision Ivy Hill East.

Schwartz is paying between $1.17 million and $1.44 million for the land, depending on how many houses he can ultimately build on the site after flood plain maps are revised when Lake Arlington is built.

Joseph Ash, attorney for Schwartz, said he wants the purchase price to be lowered if Schwartz is required to contribute land or money to the Prospect Heights Park District, which is the park district the residents of Ivy Hill East and two-thirds of the Lake Arlington Towne residents will reside in.

Neighbors from the Lake of the Winds condo complex in Wheeling, directly north of the new subdivision, said they approved of the developer's plans for houses, but they want four conditions imposed on Schwartz.

Howard F. Helfrich, president of the Lake of the Winds owners board, said the residents of his complex wanted Schwartz to require property owners along Lake of the Winds to put up board-on-board fencing, to widen Crabtree Lane to Cornell Avenue in Wheeling, to remove silt deposits from Lake of the Winds and contribute either cash or land to the Prospect Heights Park District.

"We're proud of our community and concerned about what's going on" said Steven P. Lankton, 1094 Creekside Court.

"We would like a park," said James R. DeVos, Director of the Prospect Heights Park District. "I know our park board has talked to Arlington's park board about joint development of a recreational area on that property. Perhaps the money could be used for that."

Ash said his client feels a half-acre parcel created by moving McDonald Creek, if approved by the Army Corps of Engineers, will suffice as open space.

Dennis Bowe, Superintendent of Public Utilities for Arlington Heights and project manager for Lake Arlington, said the developer's plan to move McDonald Creek are "consistent" with the village's plans for the area when bids were taken.

Bowe said the area was a designated wetlands area and the Army Corps of Engineers will be strict about the permit to move the creek, even requiring the developer to "recreate" the wetland environment with the appropriate plants when he moved the creek.

The parcel is located south of Hintz Road, at the southeast corner of Crabtree Lane and Waterman Avenue.

Village trustees will resolve the question of park and school donations when they consider Schwartz's plans.

Police vacancies may be filled at meeting

One of two police officer vacancies in the Wheeling Police Department may be filled when the fire and police board considers the top three candidates at a special meeting Saturday.

The meeting will be held at 10 a.m. in the fire station conference room, 255 W. Dundee Road.

"We may choose one of the three," commission Chairman Maurice Weitlauf said. He added that commissioners are not required to make a decision Saturday.

Officials expect more candidates to take psychological and polygraph tests, which are required before consideration for employment.

Read Pat Gerlach Sundays in Open House

LITTLE PANDA
CHINESE DELIVERY
A NEW CONCEPT IN HEALTHY CHINESE FOOD
(No MSG Added)
DAILY LUNCH BOX SPECIALS
AN EGG ROLL, STEAMED RICE, FORTUNE COOKIE & FREE DRINK
$3.50

459-9666
1059 LAKE COOK RD., WHEELING
In Lexington Commons Plaza
FREE
APPETIZER & DESSERT WITH ANY TWO ENTREE ORDERS
WITH THIS AD THRU DEC 29 1987
FREE DELIVERY ON ORDERS OVER $10

LIFE 12-17-87

A Pulitzer-Lerner Community Newspaper • A LIFE NEWSPAPER, Week of December 17, 1987

Balefill hits unexpected snag

BY BRENDA SCHORY
Staff Writer

Two new and unexpected wrinkles may cast doubt on the future of a proposed 200-acre balefill near Bartlett.

Although the balefill plan was approved by the Cook County Board, the Army Corps of Engineers recently decided it has jurisdiction over the use of the property, citing the land's use as a habitat for migratory birds protected by migratory-bird treaties.

The decision means the Northwest Municipal Conference, sponsors of the balefill, must obtain a permit from the corps to build the balefill.

In addition, a division of the Illinois Department of Conservation may require extensive — and expensive — hydrogeologic studies to show whether the proposed landfill will pollute an adjacent 91-acre wildlife preserve, the Bluff Spring Fen.

Thomas Burney, an attorney for the Northwest Municipal Conference, said the conference will challenge the corps' jurisdiction in the matter.

Burney said conference attorneys will begin the challenge by late winter or early spring.

The controversial balefill — a landfill that would contain garbage baled into cubes — is intended to serve the conference's 31 member communities and townships' solid-waste needs as other landfills fill up. The communities include Schaumburg, Hoffman Estates, Roselle, Elk Grove Village and Hanover Park.

It is proposed for 200 acres of a 400-acre abandoned sand-and-gravel pit in unincorporated Cook County near Bartlett, Wayne, Elgin and South Elgin — all of which are fighting the project.

The Cook County Board granted zoning approval for the balefill Nov. 16, leaving Illinois Environmental Protection Agency approval as the last step in getting final approval.

However, the corps has the power to stop the development if it will endanger or destroy geologically important wetlands, according to federal law.

Please turn to page 5

A Pulitzer-Lerner Community Newspaper LIFE 12-17-87 • A LIFE NEWSPAPER, Week c

Balefill hits new snag

Continued from page 3

Wetlands — also called marshes, fens and swamps — are important not only as wildlife habitats, but also for their ability to clean impurities from ground water and for their importance in flood control.

Although the balefill site did not qualify as a lake or wetland, the corps' district engineer, Lt. Col. Jess J. Franco, wrote in a letter Nov. 16 that the balefill qualifies as Waters of the United States, under a special designation for abandoned gravel mines.

Copies of the letter were sent to some balefill protesters, as well as the IEPA, state departments of Conservation and Transportation, and conference engineers.

Tom Slowinski, chief of the corps' regulatory-functions branch, said the site fulfills three qualifications for corps jurisdiction:

- The mining operation is no longer in progress.
- The holes and spoil sites of the mining operation developed natural vegetation.
- Water on the site is or could be used as a habitat by migratory birds.

Slowinski said his staff is anticipating the conference's application for permit and is already gathering information on the site, including a waterfowl list.

The corps is charged with protecting migratory-birds habitats under an interstate-commerce clause.

Migratory birds, Slowinski said, cross state lines and contribute to interstate commerce when hunters and bird watchers put money into the economy.

Migratory birds inventoried at the balefill site so far include the great blue heron, the green-backed heron, wood ducks, killdeer, redwing blackbirds, robins and sparrows.

Slowinski said that once the conference applies for a permit, the corps will conduct a public-interest review.

This includes an overall review of the project's impact on neighboring communities, traffic, ground-water quality, as well the effect on migratory birds.

Slowinski said the public gets 30 days to comment in writing and send it to the corps.

There is no formal board to hear the case, he said. He and staff investigate the project, but the final judgment lies with Franco.

"He (Franco) is the ultimate decision-maker," Slowinski said. If either side doesn't like the decision, "They have to sue us. We haven't been sued in four years."

Slowinski said that although the corps will conduct an independent review, it coordinates studies with the IEPA on water-quality certification.

The man who drew the corps into the balefill picture is Brian Anderson, director of the Illinois Natural Preserves Commission, an independent agency of the Department of Conservation.

Anderson said that once he asked the corps to reconsider the site as Waters of the United States, the corps agreed it had jurisdiction.

Anderson said his commission is made up of nine governor appointees, charged with oversite and management of dedicated nature preserves.

"We were concerned about the situation at Bluff Spring Fen. The situation there is hydrologically very complex," Anderson said.

The fen sustains a variety of plant and animal life, including endangered plants such as woolly milkweed, three species of wild orchid and several grasses.

Anderson said the impact of the balefill on the fen is critical, and existing reports from the conference's own consultants "confirm that the ground-water situation is extremely complex (and exists) on several layers. We can't really say without further studies (of the impact) of untested technology."

The studies may include a full-blown environmental-impact study, as well as hydrological studies.

"That's why we asked the corps to look more closely into its jurisdiction. They have the hydrologists, water is their expertise."

A new law that went into effect in July 1986, called the Endangered Species Act, requires state intervention in any act or development that may impact endangered species.

Ann Sherman, an Audubon Society bird watcher for 18 years, said the site's use as a nesting area for heron, particularly the great blue heron, is significant because the bird is endangered.

"Herons are declining everywhere," she said, "both blue and green herons suffer" because of habitat destruction of feeding and nesting areas.

HERALD 12-22-87

Rooftop robber stumps SWAT teams

By Alex Rodriguez
Daily Herald Staff Writer

A masked gunman held up a currency exchange at gunpoint Monday, fleeing with $50,000 as SWAT teams and police combed the rafters of a Wheeling shopping center for seven hours in an unsuccessful search.

Store owners and onlookers watched police from 11 police departments sweep through the Dunhurst Shopping Center at Route 83 and Dundee Road. But police could only turn up a .45 caliber handgun, a ski mask and a blue jacket, apparently left behind by the gunman.

Police say they think the man cut through the roof of the shopping center into an attic above the stores. Police found a bag of food near the hole, and believe the man had been camped out waiting for the currency exchange to open.

"He knew exactly what he was doing," said Wheeling Deputy Chief Michael Hermes.

At about 8:52 a.m., the gunman broke through the suspended ceiling of the currency exchange and confronted the clerk, who was in the vault getting ready to open the store, Hermes said.

"She told him, 'You better hurry up because there will be people here soon.' And he said, 'I know, I've been watching,'" Hermes said.

The man took $50,000 from the vault and fled through the hole in the ceiling, Hermes said. The clerk described the offender as a white man, about 5 feet tall with a slim build, wearing blue jeans and black boots.

Police were alerted by a silent alarm that went off when the man broke through the ceiling. Squad cars surrounded the shopping center, and the area was evacuated.

At about 11:45 a.m., SWAT teams armed with automatic rifles positioned themselves on the roof and at the corners of the shopping center. About 15 minutes later, Northbrook police officer Fran Enright and a police dog entered the attic to see if the man was hiding in the rafters.

Enright found the robber's handgun and clothes. That search also turned up the paper bag containing the remains of a bologna sandwich, said one officer at the scene.

Enright said the man had to have had a small frame to be able to fit through the hole he cut in the roof.

A SWAT team continues its search at the Wheeling shopping center for the armed gunman.
Daily Herald Photo/Gilbert Boucher

A policeman checks the roof, the gunman's point of entry.
Daily Herald Photo/Gilbert Boucher

"He's a small guy. I had a hard time getting through that hole," Enright said.

For the rest of the afternoon, police searched the roof, the attic and each of the stores in search of the man. The search was called off at 3:45 p.m.

Hermes said no one saw the gunman leave the shopping center, so they are unsure if he was on foot or in a car. Police theorize that he was able to climb up on the roof by using dumpsters and gutters at the rear of the seven-store shopping center.

Police also plan to dust the items left behind for fingerprints, he added.

Tami Klatt, manager of Foxie's Restaurant in the center, said she stayed in the restaurant during the incident because she thought she might be able to open for business later in the day.

"We were just hoping they would catch him so we could open," Klatt said.

Wheeling heist nets $50,000

- Masked gunman waits on roof of Dunhurst shopping center in Wheeling.
- After sawing hole in roof, he drops into an attic then jumps through a suspended tile ceiling of the currency exchange at 8:52 a.m.
- Holding clerk at gunpoint, he takes $50,000 from the currency exchange vault.
- He flees through the ceiling, leaving behind the gun, mask and his jacket.

WHEELING

HERALD 12-23-87

Village manager raised

Wheeling Village Manager Thomas M. Markus has a new two-year contract and a 10 percent salary increase. Markus, who was making $59,000, will get $62,000 retroactive to Nov. 1. In the second year of the contract his salary will rise to $65,000. Wheeling Village President Sheila H. Schultz said the raise was "appropriate" because it combined the going market rate for village managers with the financial status of the village. She said the new salary falls in line with the village's general policy of keeping employee salaries average or above those in the area. Wheeling manager's salary is in the middle of manager salaries in the area, Schultz said.

HERALD 12-23-87

/illage manager gets new contract, pay hike

By C. L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Wheeling Village Manager Thomas M. Markus has a new two-year contract and a 10 percent salary increase.

Markus, who was making $59,000, will get $62,000 retroactive to Nov. 1. In the second year of the contract his salary will rise to $65,000.

Village President Sheila H. Schultz said the raise was "appropriate" because it combined the going market rate for village managers with the financial status of the village.

She said the new salary falls in line with the village's general policy of keeping employee salaries average or above those in the area. The Wheeling manager's salary is in the middle of manager salaries in the area, Schultz said.

In comparison, the Arlington Heights village manager makes $68,004 annually. Buffalo Grove's village manager makes $67,068, while Northbrook's manager makes $69,516 and Deerfield's manager is paid $71,352.

Markus has been village manager for seven and a half years. He worked as assistant village manager in Wheeling from 1974 to 1977 and then left to work as a city administrator in Minnesota.

Because he was familiar with the village, Markus returned to Wheeling when the village manager spot opened up.

"I think the community has come a long way in the time I've been here," Markus said.

He says he wants to continue seeing changes in the Crossroads redevelopment area which extends from Milwaukee Avenue to Dundee Road. The Crossroads began in 1985 when Wheeling formed a tax increment financing district.

As village manager, Markus said he wants to see the village continue improving its appearance.

"The biggest problem is the Milwaukee Avenue corridor," he said.

Constructing offices along Lake-Cook Road and Milwaukee Avenue is also needed, he said.

LIFE 12-24-87

eek of December 24, 1987

A Pulitzer-Lerner Community Newspape

Heist nets $50,000

Blotter

■ WHEELING — Police were still searching Monday, Dec. 21, for a man who robbed the Dunhurst Currency Exchange in Wheeling of $50,000 early that day after apparently cutting through the roof and ceiling of the one-story structure at 851 W. Dundee Road and dropping into the store below.

Police said the man grabbed an employee at the currency exchange and forced her to open the safe by brandishing what she called a "dark-colored automatic" firearm. Police said the woman was shaken but unhurt.

After the robbery, police dispatched about 35 officers to the area and closed the Dunhurst Shopping Center, where the currency exchange is located, to search for the robber. A dog from the police canine unit was being used in the search. Police found a ski mask and the weapon apparently used in the robbery near the currency exchange, the spokesman said.

Robber escapes

A masked gunman held up a Wheeling currency exchange Monday and fled with $50,000. He made his escape as SWAT teams and police combed the rafters of the shopping center. Store owners and onlookers watched police from 11 police departments sweep through the Dunhurst Shopping Center, Route 83 and Dundee Road. Police found a .45 caliber handgun, a ski mask, and a blue jacket, apparently left behind by the gunman. Police say they think the man used a saw to cut through the roof of the shopping center, which led to an attic above the stores. Police also found a bag of food near the hole, and believe the man had been camped out waiting for the currency exchange to open. "He knew exactly what he was doing," said Wheeling Deputy Chief Michael Hermes.

A SWAT team member checks out the roof of a Wheeling currency exchange which was robbed last week.

Daily Herald Photo/Gilbert Boucher

HERALD 12-27-87

LIFE 12-24-87

Toy guns create real-life woes

BY MARIE LUTZ
Staff Writer

On Sept. 28, a 15-year-old Wheeling boy was arrested by seven police officers who had responded to a call of a man brandishing a gun along Dundee Road.

The boy's mother was outraged.

"When I saw my son being held at gunpoint and handcuffed, I said, 'That is my son, what is going on here?'"

The police were also upset because at first, they thought the boy was a genuine menace. They soon found out, however, that the gun the kid appeared to be holding was only a toy.

Police Chief Michael Haeger defended the actions of his men.

"It's often difficult to distinguish a toy weapon from the real thing," Haeger said.

The youth's mother countered that "all boys play with guns" and that the toy her son had was freely sold at Wheeling stores — so why should the police harass him about it?

She worried that her son could have been killed by officers mistaking him for a gunman.

Some people say that was indeed a possibility, and the Wheeling incident points out the danger of allowing realistic toy guns to be sold. The toys should be banned, they argue.

Arthur Smith, executive director of the Illinois Council Against Handgun Violence, said that there have been two deaths in California related to police officers confusing a toy handgun with the real thing.

As a result of those deaths and other incidents, five California municipalities have made it illegal to brandish toy guns in a menacing way and two California municipalities have banned the sale of the look-alike toys.

"The problem with the incident in Wheeling and the incidents in California is that the officer has only a fraction of a second to make the decision as to whether to use his own gun in the situation," Smith said.

The Council Against Handgun Violence would like to see laws prohibiting sales of the look-alikes in Illinois, and State Sen. Bob Kustra (R-28th) said he is researching the matter to see if it is practical to draft some type of legislation.

In the meantime, most municipalities have had no bad experiences with toy guns and police in those towns appear only vaguely aware that there might be a difficulty.

"I can't recall any situation we have run into where we have had a problem with these replicas," said Niles Police Lt. Ray Giovannelli in a typical statement.

Whether there has been a problem or not, the issue of realistic toy guns may soon be moot, according to Jodi Levin, communications director for the Toy Manufacturers of America.

"After the first of the year it will be very hard to get hold of a realistic toy gun," Levin said.

Photo by Tim Boyle

Toy guns can sometimes look uncomfortably real, as Wheeling police found when they recently had to deal with a 15-year-old youth aiming a mock gun at traffic in the village.

The reason is not that the Toy Manufacturers of America believes that the guns are a menace. They are physically safe, Levin said.

But there is pressure on the manufactures to discontinue making such realistic guns, she added. And Toys R Us, one of the largest toy-store chains in the country, has announced that it will no longer buy these look-alike guns after Jan. 1

As a result, some manufacturers are working with Toys R Us to make certain the toy guns have distinguishing colors or marks so that no one can mistake them for the real thing.

Angela Bourdon, a spokeswoman for Toys R Us, said the chain became concerned about the toy guns after when consumer reporter David Horowitz California television reporter was held up on the air in Los Angeles by a man with a look-alike gun.

The toy chain will not purchase any toy gun that looks realistic either close up or from a distance, Bourdon said.

HERALD 12-24-87

Milwaukee Avenue widening, median eyed

By C. L. WALLER
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Sometime in February, Wheeling and Prospect Heights residents will be able to attend a public meeting on the planned widening of Milwaukee Avenue.

Preliminary plans drawn up by the Illinois Department of Transportation for Milwaukee Avenue show the four lanes widened and an additional median built between Lake-Cook and Palatine roads.

Blueprints show that the state also wants to install dual right-turn lanes on Milwaukee Avenue at Dundee Road. Dual right-turn lanes from Milwaukee Avenue onto Lake-Cook Road are also in the plans. Those lanes are designed to expand into three lanes after the turn onto Lake-Cook Road and then taper back to two lanes.

The state expects construction to begin in 1992, but plans are currently being reviewed by departments in the village.

In February, the public will have a chance to hear the state's plans for improvements. No date has been set yet and no cost estimates are available.

"It's a great improvement because Milwaukee Avenue is scary," said village engineer Jim Edgmond.

Edgmond said the major improvement to the street will be construction of a median.

"The real hazard on Milwaukee is the two sets of lanes are a foot apart," he said.

Currently the double yellow lines are all that separates the two directions of traffic

The state's plans show that making room for the median means buying right-of-way in some areas. That means an additional 17 feet on either side of some portions of the street.

A couple office buildings just south of Dundee Road may have to be razed because they are too close to the street.

On some property, the village already has right-of-way easements because property owners would grant the easement in return for being granted zoning or sign variations from the village.

HERALD 12-29-87

Villages move to beef up the fight against drunken driving

By C.L. Waller
and Kris Kopp
Daily Herald staff writers

Street signs and extra patrols are being added to Wheeling and Buffalo Grove's arsenals to fight drunken driving.

The measures will be in place by New Year's Eve, although representatives from both towns say the holiday did not prompt the crackdown.

Buffalo Grove police this week posted eight signs throughout the village that say, "Buffalo Grove arrests drunken drivers," but officials here say they will not beef up traffic patrol on New Year's Eve.

"Typically, it's not our busiest evening for drunk driving," Commander Gary Del Re said.

Wheeling, meanwhile, is adding special patrols for New Year's Eve, something it has done periodically over the past two years.

"You can be assured we will have additional manpower out there," said Wheeling Police Chief Michael Haeger.

A special patrol will be on the streets between 6 p.m. and 6 a.m., specifically looking for drunken drivers.

Del Re said the Buffalo Grove department will keep up its usual "rigid" enforcement against drunken driving, which he said prompted city officials to buy the signs.

Haeger said his department considered purchasing the signs a couple of years ago, but discarded the idea because the price was too high and there were questions about the effectiveness of the signs.

Wheeling's special patrols for drunken driving have become more sporadic since they started two years ago, but Haeger said the patrols are being proposed again.

Wheeling Village President Sheila Schultz was encouraging, saying the Wheeling village board's "general attitude, even in its role as liquor commission, is (to be) very supportive of special patrols."

Last year Buffalo Grove police made 544 drunk driving arrests, down 36 percent from 1985 figures. Wheeling made 235 arrests in 1986, down 8 percent.

HERALD 12-30-87

Wheeling senior panel OKs 52 percent boost in budget

Wheeling senior commission has approved a proposed programs budget 52 percent higher than last year's proposal.

The budget, which only uses money from fund-raisers, is set at $11,385, up from last year's budget of $7,485.

Included in this year's budget is the purchase of a float for the Wheeling Fourth of July parade and a piano and an overhead projector for the senior center.

Senior coordinator Barbara Hansen said the senior center has been borrowing a a flatbed from the village to use for its float, but if the village needs it, the seniors are out of a float. The commission decided that buying a float would be easier.

The overhead projector and piano are items the commission has discussed purchasing for the senior center, Hansen said. The purchases are estimated to bring the special equipment fund up from $2,500 to $4,300.

The miscellaneous fund is estimated to increase from $2,560 to $4,160. Hansen said the senior commission upped that amount to cover any goals it has in mind for the coming budget year. Commissioners will discuss their goals at a 1 p.m. Jan. 7 at the senior center.

Hansen said fund-raisers are projected to bring in $6,000 for 1988-89 and there is currently about $25,000 on hand from funds raised.

Daily Herald Photo/Rich Chapman

HERALD 12-30-87

Intersection crowds airport — engineers

By C.L. Waller
and Dan Rozek
Daily Herald staff writers

Engineers say moving the intersection of Hintz and Wolf roads farther away from the main runway at Pal-Waukee Municipal Airport is the only logical way to meet federal regulations.

But Wheeling officials say the airport is moving too close to the village.

Revised engineering plans outlining the intersection relocation will be presented in February to Wheeling and Prospect Heights, which own the municipal airport.

The main runway that stretches from Milwaukee Avenue and Palatine Road north to Hintz and Wolf roads is now 5,200 feet long. The Federal Aviation Administration requires planes using the runway to clear the roadway by 15 feet to avoid hitting vehicles such as large trucks, said Stephen W. Moulton, engineer for the relocation project.

Without moving the intersection, the runway will have to be limited to 3,500 feet to achieve those standards, he said. But pilots worry about using a runway shorter than 5,000 feet.

"There's only about one way to go and that's the alternative we've chosen," Moulton said.

Prospect Heights agrees. A 5,000-foot-runway is needed to keep the airport operating, Mayor John E. Gilligan said.

"We need that for the jet traffic," he said. "(The airport) can't possibly survive without an effective 5,000-foot runway."

Wheeling trustee and airport commissioner Anthony Altieri said Wheeling doesn't want to jeopardize the aiport's operation, but his understanding is pilots don't always need 5,000 feet for a safe landing.

"The village is concerned there's a push to make the airport closer to Wheeling," said William Rogers, Wheeling trustee and Pal-Waukee Airport commissioner.

HERALD 12-30-87

Airport forced to fence 25 acres

By Freida Gad
Daily Herald Correspondent

Vacant land at Pal-Waukee Municipal Airport has become a dumping ground, forcing the airport commission to fence 25 acres west of Milwaukee Avenue and south of Hintz Road.

The commission purchased the property from Advance Transportation, but will not develop it until late 1988 or early 1989, airport consultant John Kennedy said.

"It's becoming a dumping ground," Kennedy said. "What we should learn from this is that when we acquire property we need to secure it."

It will cost the commission $6,700 to fence the south, east and north sides of the property, Kennedy said. The west side will not be fenced because it is bordered by a creek.

A portion of the property at 1066 S. Milwaukee Ave. is currently leased to Glenn Busse, who maintains a vegetable stand and a used car lot on the site.

The commissioners will allow Busse to remain until June 1, to give him time to relocate and to continue collecting rent for the land.

"If we can ensure ourselves that we can recover from waste disposal, we should let them stay there so we can continue to receive $500 per month," airport commissioner Carey L. Chickerneo said.

Commission attorney Stephen Moore said the businesses have generated "a good deal of debris," and warned that the commission should require Busse to clean the leased portion before he leaves.

Concerned that a security fence along Milwaukee Avenue would interfere with Busse's businesses, the commission agreed to fence around the site.

But Kennedy said he is concerned that the vacant parcel — even if it's fenced — still will be used for dumping garbage or chemicals. The airport commission then could be stuck with an expensive cleanup of the site, he said.

"The fence will be a deterrent," he said, "but there is nothing to prevent someone from coming in the middle of the night and dumping 55 gallon drums of toxic chemicals there, and then it would cost more than the rent to clean it up."

HERALD 12-30-87

Restaurant has to close in 3 years due to zoning

By C. L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer

The new owner of Hein's/Hatfield's Pub on Milwaukee Avenue will be closing the restaurant in three years in order to conform with Wheeling zoning codes.

Wheeling trustees approved an agreement that requires the owner of the building and property to operate only a liquor store by 1990. The liquor store, restaurant/pub, an empty store and an auto parts business are currently in the shopping center.

The property owned by Ida Hein became subject to current zoning codes when she tried to sell it. The area at 141-149 S. Milwaukee Ave. was built before current zoning laws went into effect, and has fewer parking spaces than village code allows, it is too close to property lines and the street access is not up to standard.

Hein asked the village to wipe away the requirements and approve the building as it is for the next owner.

The plan commission voted not to recommend the variations, but trustees approved the allowances in conjunction with the three-year limit.

A directory sign, listing businesses in the shopping center, will not be allowed on the property because village trustees denied granting a variation for the sign.

Sign options are an address sign or a sign identifying the name of the center, said Community Development Director Michael J. Klitzke.

Howard Kagay, who owns other suburban shopping centers, is buying the property and Hein will be allowed to continue running the business for three years.

After three years, the liquor license for the restaurant and pub will end and a liquor license for only packaged liquor will be allowed.

HERALD 12-31-87

Plenty of salt, spirit left to combat winter

By C. L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer

The two snowstorms that blanketed Wheeling this month were apparently not enough to kill the drift-battling spirit of workers at the operations and maintenance department.

And despite the nastiness of December, they still have plenty of salt and overtime budgeted for 1988.

Of the 500 tons of salt on hand in the village, only 180 have been used so far, said Robert Gray, director of operations and maintenance.

In a typical winter, 700 to 900 tons of salt are used in the village while the worst winter might call for as much as 1,400 tons of salt, he said.

Wheeling joins with other communities in the Northwest Municipal Conference to make a bulk purchase of salt. With the purchase, the village must buy at least 75 percent of its request, he said.

"If Mother Nature doesn't come through, we could end up with a stockpile," Gray said.

Wheeling uses its 10 pickup trucks and eight large trucks to clear 17 snow routes, or 250 plow miles, in the village. When two inches of snow accumulate, trucks are sent out to first clear main thoroughfares such as Northgate Parkway and Wheeling Avenue, he said.

Village plows are also dropped on state routes like Dundee Road as trucks make their way to village-maintained streets.

There are 197 cul-de-sacs and dead-end streets in Wheeling, but those are done last because it takes more time, Gray said. Subdivisions with the most cul-de-sacs are Tahoe Village and Lexington.

Public works overtime pay is being spent at a normal level, Gray said, adding that overspending is not a concern with only four months left in the budget year.

Excluding work done in December, about 42 percent of overtime money budgeted in public works has been used.

JOURNAL TIMES 12-31-87

Elgin To Fight Landfill During Permit Process

Elgin plans to become involved in the Northwest Municipal Conference's efforts to obtain a permit to open a landfill near that western Cook County community, an Elgin official said.

Although the conference hadn't yet filed for a permit, Assistant Corporate Counsel for Elgin Dan Blondin said recently Elgin certainly will participate in the process.

"When they do (file), we will obviously be participating," he said.

In addition, he said Elgin may also file a lawsuit in Circuit Court in an effort to stop the controversial landfill, which would be located in far western Cook County near Elgin and Bartlett.

Elgin hasn't yet determined whether a lawsuit would be filed, Blondin said. But he said a decision would be made after Jan. 1.

A Bartlett Plan Commission member already has requested the Illinois Pollution Control Board to overturn the Cook County Board's decision allowing the landfill.

But the board on Dec. 14 dismissed the request after determining the board lacks jurisdiction, said Daniel Siegfried, assistant to the chairman of the board.

The request was made under a state statute which allows the board to review similar cases in counties with less than 3 million people, he said.

"It was like an internal inconsistency," Siegfried said of the situation.

But the board, which has both quasi-legislative and quasi-judicial powers of review, decided it doesn't have jurisdiction because Cook County has more than 3 million people, Siegfried said.

Bartlett Village Administrator Valerie Salmons, and William Grams, the Northwest Municipal Conference's executive director, could not be reached immediately for comment.

The conference is preparing to construct the landfill, which would serve all of the conference's 31 members, including Mt. Prospect, to deal with the problem of declining landfill space.

Communities near the proposed site of the proposed landfill, which is called a "balefill" because garbage will be baled before burial, have objected, though.

HERALD 12-31-87

Vehicle stickers

The village of Wheeling sends an early reminder to purchase your vehicle stickers for passenger cars, recreational vehicles, recreational trailers, and motorcycles or bikes.

New stickers for 1988 must be displayed on vehicles by February 1, with a $15 penalty being charged for stickers which are purchased after January 31.

If you have not received a sticker application, you may pick one up at the Village Hall, 255 W. Dundee Road, or call 459-2600 to have one mailed to you.

Complete applications may be mailed to the village of Wheeling, P.O. Box V, Wheeling, 60090, or you may drop them in the night deposit slot in front of the municipal building.

The Village Hall is open from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, and from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. Wednesdays.

For information, call 459-2600.

Be sure to put your car into Safe Gear tonight if you're planning to go out and celebrate the New Year. Drive carefully, and best wishes for 1988.

If you doubt you can accomplish something, then you can't accomplish it. You have to have confidence in your daily ability, and then be tough enough to follow through. — Rosalynn Carter

LIFE 12-31-87

Business as usual in Wheeling

Continued from page 1

size to seven. The increase will take place in 1989, when the next elections are held.

May

District 214 continues its efforts to get support for Outcomes Based Education.

At a meeting attended by parents

Year in Review

and teachers, speakers explain what OBE is expected to accomplish. OBE involves establishing for each class specific outcomes that students are expected to achieve.

Students are tested on the objectives regularly. If they know the work, they may be given enrichment materials. If they don't, they go over the material one more time and then are retested.

June

The Village Board listens to two consultant reports concerning Pal-Waukee Airport. In one report, consultants make noise-reduction recommendations that they say would cut in half the area in Wheeling most impacted by airport noise.

The second report concerns preliminary plans for the relocation of Wolf and Hintz roads. The relocation plan is necessary for Pal-Waukee to meet the stringent requirements of a public airport. Village President Sheila Schultz, however, told the consultants that they should look at other ways of meeting federal guidelines besides moving the roads.

July

Candidates prepare for School Board elections in District 21. Board Member Tom Helfers said he is not planning to seek re-election, but Board Members Helene Kahn and Bill Rice will.

A little later, newcomer Janice Moore announces that she will make a second attempt at winning a District 21 board seat.

August

Ten candidates announce that they will run for District 214 board seats. Board members John Holub and Sandra Byrnes, however, will retire. David Wiltse will try to retain his seat.

Later, two of the candidates drop out of the race.

September

District 21 teachers approve a new three-year contract with the School Board, but dissatisfaction is evident in that one-third vote against the pact.

The teachers receive a 7.68 percent pay raise (including step increases for longevity) during the first year. Top salary is thus $41,377. Teachers are slated for a 7.85 percent pay raise the second year and 7.45 percent the third. Some teachers complain that the increase is not enough.

October

District 214 develops a program to teach students about AIDS. Although the district policy is to support sexual abstinence for its students, the schools cannot ignore the fact that some students are sexually active, said Supt. Stephen Berry.

November

Incumbent David Wiltse is the big vote-getter in the District 214 School Board election. Other winners are Dale Coventry and Robert Zimmanck.

Coventry, 43, is an attorney who was a member of the District 57 School Board for six years. Zimmanck, 59, is director of human relations for Teledyne Post in Des Plaines.

The District 21 School Board race is uncontested.

December

The village of Wheeling and city of Prospect Heights agree on a new manager for Pal-Waukee Airport.

Fred Steward, 52, is hired to take over management of the facility at a starting salary of $49,000. Steward was manager of the municipal airport in Ponca city Oklahoma since 1974.

LIFE 12-31-87

Business as usual in Wheeling review

There were no major issues in Wheeling last year. Instead the village dealt with the fairly everyday problems that crop up in a growing municipality and managed the difficulties surrounding its newest acquisition, Pal-Waukee Airport.

January

As the year begins Wheeling and Prospect Heights, new owners of a municipal airport, get down to the nitty gritty details of managing Pal-Waukee. The two communities had purchased the airport at the end of last year.

One major accomplishment is the finalization of relocation plans for homes and businesses on and surrounding the airport.

In the meantime, Northbrook and Wheeling become embroiled in a fight over who has the right to annex 26 acres of property located just off Lake-Cook Road near Sanders Road. The two municipalities each annex the property and the dispute is headed to the courts.

February

School District 214 forms a blue ribbon task force to study and make recommendations on the district's grading system.

The task force was set up to look into various issues, including whether weighted grades should continue. Under the weighted grade system a grade in some classes is worth more points than the same grade in others.

Also this month, a report commissioned by the mayors of communities served by NORTRAN cri-

Year in Review

ticizes the suburban bus company for failing to adequately maintain its vehicles. The report was the third that criticized the company. Earlier a Pace audit said NORTRAN needed better financial controls and a federal review said that the company had not complied with manufacturer's recommendations resulting in six- to seven-year-old buses being in poor operating condition.

March

High School District 214 officials disclose an ambitious five-year plan that aims to increase the number of successful students by improving the average ACT score and cutting the drop-out rate in half.

Also this month, police officer Burton Kaminsky, who was fired from the Police Department two years ago after being found quilty of official misconduct, is reinstated. The rehiring of the officer occurs because an Appellate Court overturns the chief charge against him.

April

It's time for municipal elections and incumbents Jim Whittington and Tony Altieri retain their seats. Cliff Bird, however, who ran on the same ticket as Altieri and Whittington, loses to independent Judy Abruscato.

Also this month, the five-member Park Board agrees to increase its

Please turn to page 3

HERALD 1-4-88

No easy answers to traffic gridlock

The subject? Traffic congestion. As a discussion topic, it's a route we often traveled.

And as anyone who lives in the Northwest suburbs knows, there are times when getting there from here is a feat that's just short of being miraculous.

It's a problem, which left unchecked, could impede the area's continued growth. If people can't get around they won't want to live and/or work here.

Echoing a theme he introduced at the Northwest 2001 Conference in May, Louis H. Masotti said that once office buildings — especially in the Schaumburg area — are fully leased, the Northwest suburbs could be strangled by gridlock. Masotti is director of the Real Estate Research Center at Northwestern University's Kellogg Graduate School of Management in Evanston.

Ten years ago the Northwest suburbs were home to 2 percent of the Chicago area's office space; today the market share has ballooned to about 40 percent. Let's face it — there was no way the suburbs could keep up with that kind of growth. Development clearly spawns traffic.

Unlike other suburban concerns such as finding landfill space or ensuring an ample water supply — traffic congestion is highly visible — many of us experience it firsthand.

"We're not denying that we have problems," said William G. Grams, executive director of the Northwest Municipal Conference. Instead, the NWMC hopes to appeal to suburban motorists by offering public transportation that is convenient, fast and comfortable. "Suburban residents aren't going to spend half an hour waiting on a street corner to catch a ride on what looks like a school bus," Grams said.

"There are no easy solutions," Masotti said. He suggests that more roads, better traffic controls and coordinating work time tables are among the tactics local municipalities can use to relieve traffic congestion.

Many Northwest suburban towns already are working with the NWMC to find solutions. Traffic isn't going to disappear. But through careful planning and management local officials can ensure that the problem doesn't get worse.

HERALD 1-4-88

Village mulls Pal-Waukee budget

By C. L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer

An operating budget estimated at $585,314 for Pal-Waukee Municipal Airport is being considered by Wheeling trustees, although the budget year is already technically half over.

The delay is blamed on the hurry with which Wheeling and Prospect Heights moved to buy the airport at the end of 1986.

More than two thirds of the airport revenue is expected to come from land and hangar rent and fuel flowage fees. The airport is expected to make $1.16 million from operations this budget year, leaving a profit of $488,525.

Pal-Waukee is designed to operate on its own, without using tax dollars.

When asked about his confidence in the budget, Wheeling trustee and airport commissioner Anthony Altieri said, "The numbers don't frighten me."

Should the numbers come up short, the two communities will have to either cut back on expenses or consider setting new priorities for budget items, Altieri said.

Airport Corporation of America, a New-Jersey-based consulting firm that devised the budget, is recommending that rent payments be collected directly from plane owners who lease T-hangars at the airport, rather than having Priester Aviation lease the buildings from the owners.

The budget shows that this could occur in March with an estimated $71,215 generated.

An airport manager was hired in November. His $49,000 salary started in mid-December. The budget also provides him with an $18,000-a-year secretary starting in February.

If the budget is approved by both Wheeling and Prospect Heights, airport manager Fred Stewart also will have $15,000 available to purchase a vehicle and install communication equipment in the vehicle.

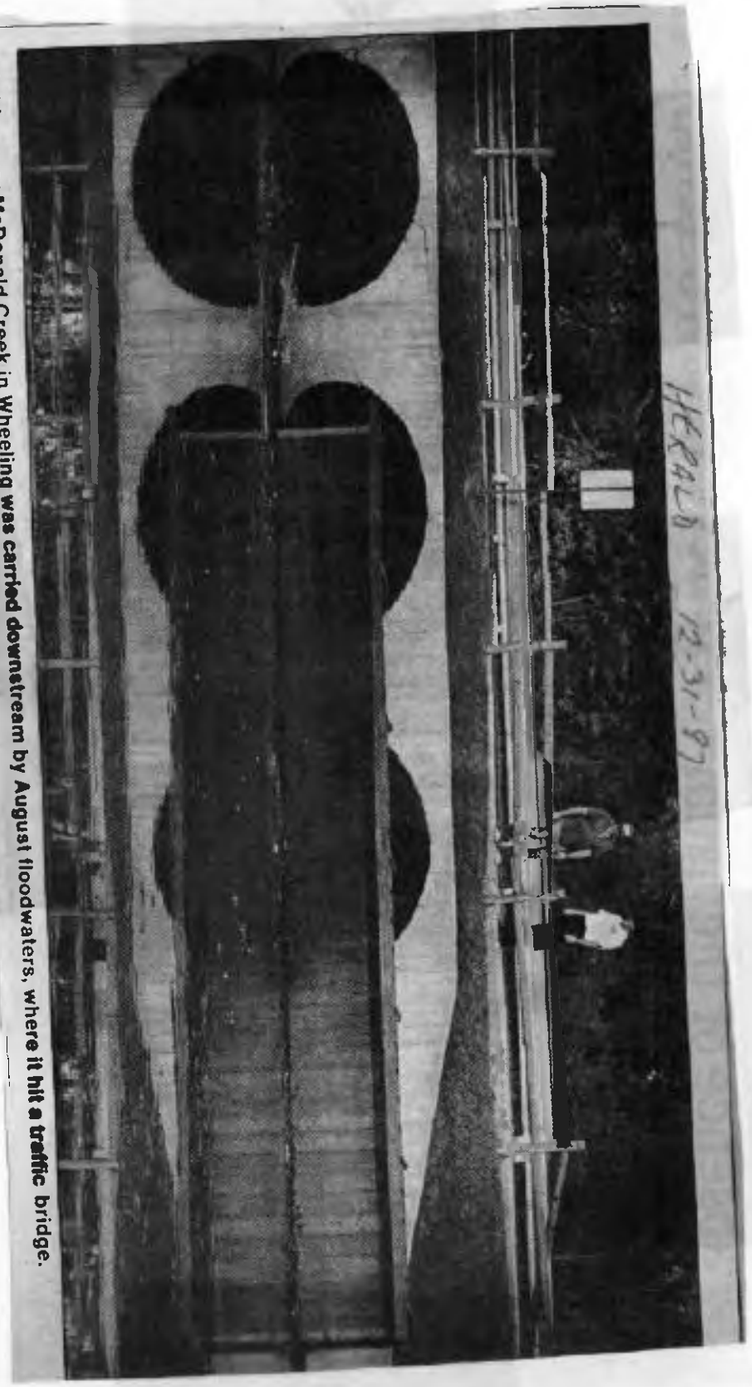
Stewart indicated he would prefer to have a four-wheel drive vehicle so he could travel all over the airport, no matter what the weather conditions, said airport commissioner Henry Levin of Prospect Heights.

HERALD 1-4-88

rush hours

Laurels to the villages of Wheeling and Buffalo Grove for adding street signs and extra patrols in their arsenals to fight drunken driving. The measures were in place New Year's Eve and last week the Buffalo Grove police department posted eight signs that say, "Buffalo Grove arrests drunken drivers." Wheeling may soon reinstate its special patrols for drunken driving, said Police Chief Michael Haeger.

HERALD 12-31-87



A bridge over McDonald Creek in Wheeling was carried downstream by August floodwaters, where it hit a traffic bridge.

HERALD 1-1-88

Suburbs lead manufacturing boom

The falling dollar and lower energy costs are enabling Illinois to increase its industrial base and rebound from the Rust Belt recession, a new statewide survey of manufacturing suggests.

And benefitting the most from the rejuvenation are the Northwest suburbs, which have become the hottest communities in the state for manufacturing growth, the survey indicates.

The new 1988 Illinois Manufacturers Directory, a comprehensive listing of manufacturing companies in the state, shows Illinois adding 140 companies to its industrial base over the past year, bringing the total to 20,930.

Registering the first increase in several years, Illinois is showing signs of shaking off the effects of a recession earlier in the decade that plagued Midwest industrial states.

More encouraging to the local economy, much of the activity is taking place in the Northwest suburbs. Consider the following statistics from the computer-generated survey:

- DuPage County experienced the biggest manufacturing boom in the Chicago area, adding 289 companies. Addison led the way, attracting 69 plants to bring its total to 521. Bensenville followed, adding 30 companies to increase its total to 331. Both Itasca and Roselle welcomed 10 new companies.
- Lake County added 30 new companies, bringing its total to 812. Lake Zurich opened six new plants with Vernon Hills and Wauconda each attracting two new companies. Mundelein lost eight plants while Libertyville's industrial base was unchanged.
- Chicago lost 451 plants, falling to a total of 5,013. But Cook County, aided by substantial growth in the suburbs, added 75 companies, bringing its total to 11,096.
- Elk Grove Village and Arlington Heights led the way in the Northwest suburbs. Elk Grove Village tacked on 38 new companies, bringing its total to 688, while Arlington Heights added 36, boosting its base to 194. Barrington and Schaumburg each added 12, Wheeling and Des Plaines both rose by 10 and Buffalo Grove added 9.

The source of growth of the suburban manufacturing base actually can be traced to national economic trends that are improving the fortunes of Midwest industrial states, said Robert Roy, president of R.O.I Economic Consulting in Buffalo Grove.

Roy, an economist, said the falling dollar and lower oil prices are enabling manufacturers to stage a comeback. The cheaper dollar has boosted exports and lower energy costs increase manufacturer's profits, he said.

"We've gone through a long period of losing manufacturing jobs. I think that's ended," Roy said. "Whatever hard times are ahead (for the nation's economy), I think Midwest manufacturing companies will do fairly well."

Louise West, editor of the Illinois Manufacturers Directory, said most of manufacturing increase in Illinois can be attributed to activity in Chicago's suburbs.

"DuPage County and the Chicago suburbs are carrying the state. It's the hottest growth area," West said from her office in Chicago.

Within the metropolitan area, there is an intriguing pattern of companies moving further away from the city of Chicago, historically regarded the hub of manufacturing. Companies are moving from the city to the Cook County suburbs. Companies are also moving from the Cook County suburbs to DuPage and Lake counties.

This "double exodus" likely results from geographical and political shortcomings, suggests Howard S. Dubin, publisher of the directory.

Companies are moving out of Chicago because of transportation and parking difficulties and lack of property for expansion, Dubin said. And more plants are opening in DuPage and Lake counties because of lower property tax rates, Dubin said.

While Cook County taxes industrial properties at 40 percent, DuPage and Lake counties tax similar real estate at 33 percent. A 100,000-square-foot industrial plant in Cook County, for example, pays $200,000 to $300,000 a year in property taxes while a comparable plant in DuPage or Lake counties pays only $150,000 to $200,000, according to one estimate.

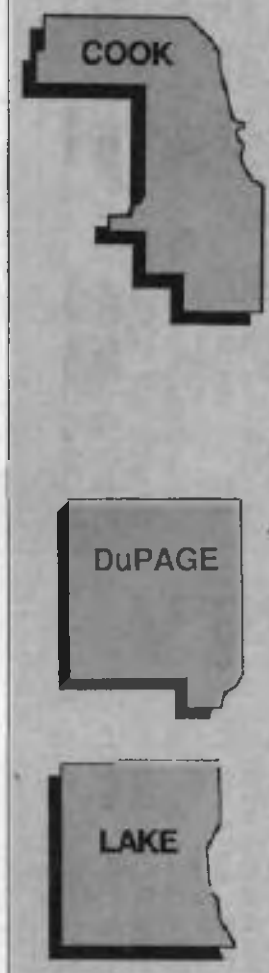
This could partially explain the growth of manufacturing in Lake County communities such as Buffalo Grove and Lake Zurich and DuPage County towns of Itasca and Roselle, all which border on Cook County. Companies can simply cross Lake-Cook Road into Lake County or Thorndale Avenue into DuPage County and pay lower taxes.

Development officials in Lake and DuPage counties aggressively promote the financial advantages, but insist there are other factors that influence a move.

John Slania
Business editor

Changes in Northwest suburban manufacturing

NUMBER OF FIRMS



	January '87	January '88	Change
Cook County	**11,021**	**11,096**	**+ 75**
Arlington Heights	158	194	+ 36
Barrington	72	84	+ 12
Bartlett	17	14	- 3
Buffalo Grove	13	22	+ 9
Des Plaines	207	217	+ 10
Elk Grove Village	650	688	+ 38
Hanover Park	5	5	0
Hoffman Estates	20	27	+ 7
Mount Prospect	58	61	+ 3
Palatine	94	91	- 3
Prospect Heights	19	18	- 1
Rolling Meadows	54	53	- 1
Schaumburg	196	208	+ 12
Streamwood	27	28	+ 1
Wheeling	198	208	+ 10
DuPage County	**1,840**	**2,129**	**+ 289**
Bloomingdale	9	11	+ 2
Itasca	62	72	+ 10
Medinah	2	1	- 1
Roselle	34	44	- 10
Lake County	**782**	**812**	**+ 30**
Lake Zurich	29	35	+ 6
Libertyville	59	59	0
Mundelein	88	80	- 8
Vernon Hills	2	4	+ 2
Wauconda	53	55	+ 2
Illinois	**20,790**	**20,930**	**+ 140**

Source: Illinois Manufacturers Directory

HERALD 1-4-88

Relocation of intersection is questioned

BY DAN ROZEK
Daily Herald Staff Writer

A Prospect Heights alderman is joining Wheeling in questioning whether it is necessary to move the intersection of Hintz and Wolf roads farther away from a Pal-Waukee Municipal Airport runway.

Second Ward Alderman Warren Sunde says airport co-owners Wheeling and Prospect Heights should look at other options for the runway, possibly including reducing its length.

Engineers hired by the towns say the intersection should be moved north and west in an effort to make the airport comply with federal regulations and allow the runway to be a full 5,000 feet long.

The future of the intersection is expected to be one of the topics of a public meeting on the airport, scheduled for 7:30 p.m. Wednesday in Prospect Heights. The meeting will be held at the Gary Morava Recreation Center, 110 W. Camp McDonald Road.

The airport's main runway, which is 5,200 feet long, now lies too close to the intersection to meet federal regulations which require planes using the runway to clear the roads by at least 15 feet.

Without moving the intersection, the runway must be limited to 3,500 feet to achieve those standards, said Stephen W. Moulton, the engineer for the project.

Relocating the intersection is the only workable option, Moulton said.

Although most Prospect Heights officials agree, Sunde disputes that, saying two other options should be considered.

One is raising the end of the runway to raise clearance over the road, while the other option is cutting the length of the runway to 5,000 feet.

HERALD 12-31-87

1987: The year of fixing things

Continued from Page 1
court where they are suing owners to obtain the rent they paid for apartments they thought had air conditioning but didn't.

Who's in charge?

The newest face around town in 1987 was Fred Stewart, the first airport manager at Pal-Waukee Municipal Airport hired by Wheeling and Prospect Heights. Stewart, 52, is a former airport manager in Ponca City, Okla.

Prospect Heights City Administrator Robert Kiely and Wheeling Village Manager Thomas Markus interviewed five candidates from across the country and recommended Stewart.

The two communities accepted the recommendation, but disagreed for a time on who he should report to.

Making his home in Prospect Heights, the $49,000-a-year manager said he looks forward to the challenge of managing the airport. And challenge it will be, since Wheeling and Prospect Heights have disagreed on matters concerning they airport since they jointly bought it in 1985.

A story of courage

In 1987 we learned about Wheeling resident Linda Mueller, an expert on Sudden Infant Death Syndrome who has lost five children to the disease.

Her heartbreaking story of 13 pregnancies includes six miscarriages and a tubular pregnancy. Five other children have died from SIDS. Since her children were fathered by two different husbands, Mueller knows she is the carrier of whatever mysterious element is doing the damage.

Now, daughter Angela is the only one left, and a cherished daughter she is.

Doctors say the mysterious syndrome kills 7,000 children each year in the United States, usually attacking children 2 to 6 months old.

But rather than mull over the tragedies of losing so many children, Mueller has become a counselor for parents who have undergone the same trauma. She and her family have also become involved in a telethon for Children's Memorial Medical Center.

their homes in August when owners compl... patrons were parking in their lots.

Pinochle among senior citizen cen

A ... ines

SENIOR DOINGS

Some things got fixed; others stayed broken

By C. L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer

1987 was the Year of Fixing Things in Wheeling.

Residents of Lakeside Villas were trying to repair their flood-ravaged houses while the village was trying to replace a tired part of town with a new shopping center.

A new manager at Pal-Waukee Municipal Airport and a family climbing out of poverty and into a home of their own, were things that did get fixed.

On the other hand, there was no fixing the failure of the police credit union or a lawsuit against Wheeling by Northbrook.

Over the river...

More than 100 people were driven out of their homes in August when nine inches of rain was dumped on Wheeling, constituting this year's biggest story.

Man-made ponds and storm sewers overflowed. Lakeside Villas on the west side of town was the hardest hit. Residents waded through waist-high water and rode in boats to get away from their soaking condominiums where floodwaters broke through windows in furnished basements.

The village of Wheeling set up a command post at the complex and houses on higher ground took in neighbors. Wheeling High School also served as a shelter for the homeless.

Meanwhile, drivers were avoiding sections of Milwaukee Avenue, Wolf, Hintz and Elmhurst roads because of the flooded roadways.

We're still waiting

In the "Story That Never Happened" category, a legal fight threw a wrench into plans to redevelop property northwest of Dundee Road and Milwaukee Avenue.

Initially, the plan was for the village to buy up businesses and residences in the area and level them all at once to make way for an $8.9 million shopping center called Village Square. The plan changed, however, when a handful of businessmen decided they were not leaving.

The village obtained some properties and demolished buildings in a piecemeal fashion. Eight parcels are now owned by the village, but the others are tied up in condemnation proceedings.

Prices for the remaining parcels — Dunkin' Donuts, Tien Tsin Restaurant, Wheeling Auto Repair, Dreiske's Florist and a vacant lot next to the doughnut shop — will probably be derived in court next year.

It'll never be the same

Classic car buffs no longer park their beloveds at Skipper's drive-in restaurant on Friday nights after complaints escalated about noise and traffic.

On a warm weekend night, driving by Skipper's on Elmhurst Road was like stepping back into the 1950s, with people showing off their spotless chariots. Restaurant owners said the Chevy Club started coming to the restaurant three years ago and other groups and individuals followed.

But the noise and congestion got to neighbors, and neighboring business owners complained that Skipper's patrons were parking in their lots. All of whch ended the party roughly three years after it started.

Top business story

Wheeling drew new businesses to the village's industrial parks in 1987 with the help of a 12-year property tax break.

Since the tax break went into effect about a year and a half ago, 14 businesses have been granted breaks that reduce the business's property taxes by 60 percent for eight years and 25 percent for four years after that.

Rather than give blanket approvals of tax exemptions to an industrial area, Wheeling studies each case individually, turning down requests from firms that have already started to build their plants in the village.

Village officials reviewed the number of tax breaks given to businesses, most of which are in the Palwaukee Business Center, and agreed that there are not too many.

The village offers the tax incentive to manufacturers to entice them to locate in Wheeling and to prevent existing industries from moving to Lake or DuPage counties where property taxes are lower.

Movin' on up

• People in Wheeling breathed a sigh of relief in 1986 with the demise of Wildwood apartments. Known for its trashy appearance, the Dundee Road complex had been an eyesore for years.

But it had been home for the Bustamante family.

The family of seven had lived in Wildwood for six years before a developer bought the complex and forced most of the current residents to move.

So, earlier this year, the family was seeking another apartment but was being rejected because it was so large. There was only one alternative.

The Bustamantes turned a devastating experience into a success story because, with help from Northwest Community Services, the family was able to buy a house in Wheeling.

The family was the only one of 20 cases handled by the agency that were able to buy their own house.

• In other happy news, people in Wheeling had reason to throw out their chests this year as Wheeling High School and Holmes Junior High were recognized by the U.S. Department of Education.

Both schools received an Excellence in Education Award in the National Secondary School Recognition Program. Schools were judged on student achievement, community support and curriculum.

The awards provided an opportunity for local schools to say "I told you so," to other districts that don't think Wheeling schools, with non-English speaking and lower income students, are as good.

Nationwide, only 217 schools received the award.

Linda Mueller and daughter Angela share a quiet moment.

Death of a credit union

Illegal loans, mismanagement of funds and "financial irregularities" were the reasons cited by state officials for the closing of a police credit union based in Wheeling.

The American Law Enforcement Credit Union, closely associated with the Combined Counties Police Association, opened in 1973 and had about 4,000 members in suburban Chicago and Las Vegas-area police departments when it was liquidated by the Illinois Department of Financial Institutions.

Wheeling police had one of the largest single investments in the credit union, about $2.5 million. A big argument erupted on the Wheeling pension board as the group haggled over whether to keep money in the credit union.

Seeing the ax fal on the credit union, Barrington and St. Charles took out their pension money. But Wheeling stayed in with a 3-2 vote, the majority votes coming from a retired police officer and two police officers.

A federal grand jury was called in to investigate loans and village-appointed pension board members were concerned that the pension money would never be returned. But all the money, including interest, was returned to the police department for investment elsewhere.

Most predictable

It's not easy trying to build something along Lake-Cook Road these days. So when Wheeling went through a county forest preserve to annex land along Lake-Cook Road, nobody was surprised when somebody sued.

In this case the somebody was Northbrook and Riverwoods, which said that Wheeling's annexation was illegal since Portwine Road broke up the continuity of the annexation.

Wheeling, which also annexed a portion of Portwine Road, annexed the property which housed the Grand Champion Stables and has plans for offices. The stable buildings now stand idle and control rests with the courts.

A story that didn't die

We thought we had heard the last of the Wildwood apartments when three partners bought the buildings and vowed to change the reputation. The goal: to change the name to Arbor Court and bring back luxury apartments at Wheeling Avenue and Dundee Road. Screens returned to the windows and junk cars were out of the parking lots and the apartments were rehabbed.

But when the temperatures shot up during the summer, tempers flared because the air conditioning did not work in some of the buildings. And when tenants met, complaints about no heat, too many people living in some of the apartments and mold growing on walls surfaced.

Meanwhile, the village of Wheeling has already invested $190,000 in the project through a loan to the developer from the tax increment financing fund.

Tenants took their complaints to

See 1987 on Page 3

Wheeling Trustee Anthony Altieri, right, was re-elected in April,but not Clifford Bird, seated, Altieri's running mate.

1987 THE YEAR

COUNTRYSIDE 12-31-87

JANUARY

Two incumbents and four challengers file petitions for three seats on the village board in the April election. Trustee Nicholas Fanella decides not to seek another term.

A black man from Chicago who attempted unsuccessfully to rent an apartment at the Town Square Apartments on Wolf Road files a $260,000 discrimination lawsuit against the owners and manager of the complex.

The Wheeling Plan Commission OKs plans and the rezoning of the Grand Champion stable property on Lake-Cook Road. However, the Village of Northbrook also annexes the property the same and the two towns will go to court to see who has the rights to annex the property.

Wheeling police report that the number of driving under the influence arrests made in 1986 was down 7.5% over the previous years. Police say the decrease in arrests isn't do to less enforcement, but to there being fewer drunk drivers on the road.

A Chicago resident files a discrimination lawsuit against the owner and manager of the Town Square apartments.

FEBRUARY

More than 25 residents living in the Tahoe Village subdivision attend a village board meeting to ask for more police protection in their neighborhood. Residents say police aren't doing enough to stop underage drinking that's going on and also complain that police are slow in responding to calls.

Village officials threaten to condemn several businesses to make way for the $9 million Crossroads shopping mall at the intersection of Dundee Road and Milwaukee Avenue.

A former Wheeling resident files suit in Cook County Circuit Court alleging that he was physically assaulted by a Wheeling police officer during a 1985 arrest.

Wheeling officials say they will go to court to overturn a ruling by the state labor relations board that allows six lieutenants on the fire department to be represented by the firefighters' union.

Wheeling High School and Holmes Junior High School are named finalists in the U.S. Department of Education's Excellence in Education Awards.

Florist Erwin Dreiske may lose his business to make way for a new shopping center.

MARCH

High School District 214 terminates 139 teachers after enrollment projections reveal that the district will lose some 900 students next school year. About half of those teachers are rehired at before the start of the school year.

The village's 1987-88 budget is up 22 percent over the previous year. The $20 million spending plan includes hiring an additional police officer and firefighter and other personnel.

High School District 214 sets long-term goals for the district, including raising ACT scores by two points and cutting the dropout rate in half.

A Wheeling man, Joseph "Joe Pooch" Pascucci, is accused by federal officials of heading an operation that handled millions of dollars in sports betting since 1982.

Dressed up for St. Patty's Day.

APRIL

Incumbents James Whittington and Anthony Altieri win re-election to the Wheeling Village Board, while newcomer Judy Abruscato beats out three other challengers for the third seat on the board.

Nearly half of the teachers in High School District 214 do not believe the district's shift toward Outcomes Based Education is a worthwhile goal, according to a survey by the teachers' association.

Wheeling Police Chief Michael Haeger files formal charges against an officer involved in a two-squad car accident. The officer, the only black on the force, claims he's being harassed because he's black.

The District 21 School Board names "Bud" DesCarpentrie as new superintendent. He will replace John Barger, who will retire in July.

The Wheeling Park Board agrees to spend $100,000 to improve an undeveloped park site near Polo Run subdivision and to make improvements at Heritage and Childerley parks.

Firefighters work to extinguish a blaze after a car explodes on Hintz Road.

MAY

Dana Miroballi

Wheeling High School student Dana Miroballi captures first place in two races during the Class AA state track championships.

About 100 residents turn out to clean up village streets and roadsides during "Up With Wheeling Day."

Holmes Junior High School and Wheeling High School win the Excellence in Education awards in the U.S. Department of Education's Secondary School Recognition Program.

District 21 names Wendy Billington as principal of Cooper Junior High School in Buffalo Grove. Billington is the former assistant principal at Holmes Junior High School in Wheeling and was a teacher at Cooper before taking the job at Holmes. She replaces former Cooper principal Greg Crocker, who resigned at the end of the school year.

JUNE

Skippers restaurant on Elmhurst Road attracts hundreds of classic car owners and car buffs to its parking lot while attracting negative attention from village officials, who say they may yank the owner's business license if traffic problems are resolved.

The Wheeling Park Board proposes a $4.8 million 1987 budget, which reflects a 6.5 percent increase over the previous year. The budget proposal comes more than six months into the 1987 fiscal year.

Wheeling Police officer Robert Pressley is suspended for three days without pay after pleading guilty to a charge of reckless driving during a Feb. 25 car chase.

District 21 Supt. John Barger retires after 24 years in the district to live on a farm in Bellview, Mo.

Car buffs check out a 1950 Mercury at Skippers restaurant on Elmhurst Road. Neighboring residents complain that the impromptu car shows create traffic and noise problems in the area.

IN REVIEW 1987

COUNTRY SIDE 12-31-87

JULY

The credit union where half of the Wheeling Police Department's pension fund is invested is investigated by the Illinois Department of Financial Institutions for improper management practices. The credit union is ultimately shut down by the state.

Addolorata Villa home for the aged proposes a $17 million expansion plan that includes meeting the needs of more dependent and semi-dependent seniors.

Wheeling residents feel the effects of a 4.63 percent tax hike in their property tax bills.

District 21 teachers and board members call in a federal mediator to help iron out the many issues keeping the two sides from reaching a contract settlement.

The sixth annual Familyfest draws a record crowd of between 150,000 and 180,000 people.

Sha Na Na entertains at Familyfest.

AUGUST

Wheeling residents are driven from their homes by flood waters. Hundreds of homes were damaged by the torrential downpour, which dumped more than nine inches of rain on the area. Residents living in the Lakeside Villa condominiums are hit the hardest.

The Aldi store in Wheeling is given a clean bill of health after reports of food contamination at other stores in the chain.

An Air Canada Boeing 727 passenger jet and a company jet owned by Quaker Oats nearly collide about 1.5 miles south of Pal-Waukee Municipal Airport.

A Wheeling resident is one of 40 persons indicted for bank fraud. The indictments came after an investigation by U.S. Attorney Anton Valukas.

Wheeling is named a Certified City by the state. It is only the 29th municipality to achieve the honor.

Roads throughout the village were flooded after nine inches fell on Wheeling.

SEPTEMBER

District 21 teachers discuss plans to go on strike just days before they agree to a new contract.

Teachers and board negotiators in Elementary District 21 reach a settlement on a new two-year teacher contract. The agreement comes after teachers file a letter of intent to strike with the state's labor relations board.

Teachers in Prospect Heights Elementary District 23 agree to a wage freeze to help out the financially-strapped district.

High School District 214 board members discuss a policy that would prohibit teachers from smoking in the six district schools.

Wheeling Police officer Burton Kaminsky is suspended without pay for 50 days on charges that he did not respond to two calls while on duty in 1985.

OCTOBER

A worker on the Horcher family farm unloads a pumpkin for Halloween.

Wheeling officials crack down on the sale of pellet guns in local stores following an incident in which a police drew there weapons on a teenager brandishing a toy gun in a parking lot. The village asks merchants to voluntarily pull them from the shelves as board members consider legislation to outlaw the toys.

District 21 officials hold an informational meeting to discuss the possibility of a tax rate referendum in the spring of 1989.

The Wheeling Park District approves a money back guarantee for customers dissatisfied with its programs. The programs goes into effect during the 1987-88 winter program schedule.

Addolorata Villa opens up the Sister Thrift Shop to raise money for the senior care facility.

NOVEMBER

After a property tax referendum is rejected by voters in April, Prospect Heights Elementary School District 23 is able to successfully get a referendum passed that will hike the district's education fund tax rate.

Dave Wiltse, Robert Zimmanck and Dale Coventry are elected to the High School District 214 board for four-year terms.

Kenny Construction Co. in Wheeling is indicted on charges that it failed to adhere to federal safety standards in construction of the Deep Tunnel project in Chicago. The charge came in connection with the death of an employee in 1985.

Wheeling and Prospect Heights feud over who will chair the Pal-Waukee Airport Commission after former chairman Ron Sowatzke resigns.

The state report cards give high marks to both Elementary District 21 and High School District 214.

District 23 officials are all smiles after voters approve a referendum to hike the district's property tax rate.

DECEMBER

Mother Nature dumps nine inches of snow on Wheeling and the rest of the Chicago area. Residents shoveled and plowed there way through the storm, marking the first and maybe the hardest hitting snow storm of the 1987-88 winter season.

Wheeling trustees approve a 2 a.m. closing time for all village taverns and restaurants effective May 1, 1988. Some bars are now licensed to stay open until 3 a.m. and 4 a.m.

Fred Stuart is hired as manager of Pal-Waukee Municipal Airport.

Prospect Heights Elementary District 23 lifted a wage freeze for employees and granted them a 4 percent pay hike. The freeze was put in place this fall as a cost-containment measure when a tax rate referendum for increased revenue failed in April. But a successful November referendum will bring more revenue into the district.

A Wheeling resident digs out from under.

HERALD 1-6-88

Businesses seek tax breaks from Wheeling

By C. L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer

A candy wrapping company and a steel coil manufacturer are telling Wheeling trustees that they will open businesses in the village if they can get property tax breaks.

The village has granted 13 tax breaks so far to manufacturers as a means to keep or attract businesses to Wheeling. The two new requests will be considered at the next village board meeting Jan. 21

The exemption gives property tax reductions of 60 percent for eight years and 25 percent for the next four years. Manufacturers must first apply for the tax break first with the Cook County Assessor's office and then with the village. Once the village gives its approval, county approval usually follows.

Ron Lemmon/Cano Assembly, is currently located in Chicago, but the company owner wants to relocate to Wheeling. The Chicago plant is 6,000 square feet, but the new building will be 18,000 square feet on Alderman Avenue in Wheeling.

Lemmon told village trustees the plant does hand assembly in shrink wrapping and bagging confections. He said there are 20 employees now, but plans are to hire 10 more employees after the first year in Wheeling.

Tool King Inc., at 275 Larkin Ave., Wheeling, requested a property tax break because it wants to expand its business.

With the exemption, $148,000 in property taxes will be paid and without the tax break another $66,792 would be added, said Robert DiLeonardi, an attorney representing the company.

The company, which manufactures steel coils and strips from raw materials, plans to employ 20 to 25 more people in the next 10 to 15 years, he said.

HERALD 1-6-88

WHEELING

Lower speed limit

Drivers on Wolf Road in Wheeling will have to keep the needle at 35 miles per hour between Hintz Road and Manchester Drive as state transportation officials agreed to lower the speed limit there. Illinois Department of Transportation officials say new speed limit signs, with 35 instead of 40 miles per hour, will probably be posted within three weeks along Wolf Road. Once signs go up, Wheeling police will begin issuing warning tickets for seven to 10 days. "This is a step in the right direction," Wheeling Police Chief Michael Haeger said. North of Manchester, the area is primarily residential and south of Manchester there is heavy industrial traffic and Pal-Waukee Municipal Airport traffic, he said. "When we run radar out there, we get people going 15 to 20 miles per hour over the speed limit," Haeger said.

HERALD 1-6-88

Meeting on Pal-Waukee Airport is tonight

A public meeting to discuss upcoming projects at Pal-Waukee Municipal Airport is scheduled for 7:30 p.m. tonight in the Gary Morava Recreation Center, 110 W. Camp McDonald Road, Prospect Heights.

The airport commission, airport manager Fred Stewart, several consultants and the Prospect Heights City Council will discuss proposed changes at the airport, including relocating the intersection of Hintz and Wolf roads and buying more land around the airport.

Officials also will discuss changes made at the airport since Prospect Heights and Wheeling bought the airport in December 1986.

District 116 wins 2 more...

HERALD 1-6-88

$3-5 million more sought for 'balefill'

By Vicki Speer
Daily Herald Staff Writer

As much as $5 million in additional money is being sought for a controversial landfill, and an agency to oversee it is in formation, but officials of Bartlett and Streamwood remain steadfastly opposed to the plan.

The Northwest Municipal Conference plans to raise $3 million to $5 million by March to pay for the design and building permits necessary to build the high-tech landfill, called a balefill, slated for 409 acres at Route 25 and West Bartlett Road near Bartlett, said William F. Abolt, NWMC's project coordinator.

Cook County commissioners last month approved zoning for the $35 million project, which would be located nearest Bartlett and Streamwood — the only two communities within the 38-member municipal conference that still do not support the balefill.

Abolt said it has not yet been established how much money each conference member will be asked to contribute, although the figure is to be based on population. Each of the towns backing the balefill — including Hanover Park — already has been asked to put in $15,500 towards balefill expenses.

The balefill, so-called because garbage is compacted into bales before it is buried, still must be approved by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency.

Hanover Park Trustee David A. Berkey predicts village board members, who twice approved resolutions backing the proposal, will continue their support.

But Bartlett village board members, refusing to admit defeat in their months-long fight against the balefill, say they will not join an agency being created to run the landfill at their borders.

"I think at this point I don't even want to look at that aspect of it," Trustee Marge Fostiak said."

HERALD 1-6-88

Drivers must hit the brakes on Wolf Road

By C. L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Drivers on Wolf Road in Wheeling will have to keep the needle at 35 mph between Hintz Road and Manchester Drive as state transportation officials agreed to lower the speed limit there.

Illinois Department of Transportation officials said new speed limit signs, with 35 mph instead of 40 mph will probably be posted within three weeks along Wolf Road. Once signs go up, Wheeling police will begin issuing warning tickets for a grade period of seven to 10 days.

"This is a step in the right direction," Wheeling Police Chief Michael Haeger said.

Haeger said he ideally wants a speed limit of 30 mph on all of Wolf Road. North of Manchester, the area is primarily residential and south of Manchester there is heavy industrial traffic and Pal-Waukee Municipal Airport traffic, he said.

"When we run radar out there, we get people going 15 to 20 mph over the speed limit," Haeger said.

Traffic and engineering speed studies were completed in December. Those figures combined with a formula that includes the number of driveways along Wolf Road show the prevailing speed is 35.6 mph, said Benjamin G. La'O, state programs engineer.

The speed limit south of Hintz Road, now 40 mph, is now being studied, La'O said.

Neighbor

Wheeling

HERALD 1-5-88

Vehicles without stickers ticketed

Wheeling residents have until Feb. 1 to display 1988 vehicle stickers, or else face paying $30 extra.

Residents have been steadily buying stickers with about 8,000 sold so far, said Irene Rivera, village finance clerk.

People started buying the stickers in November, she said.

Wheeling stickers cost $10, but seniors are charged $3. A $15 penalty is charged for vehicle stickers purchased after Jan. 31.

Police will issue tickets, carrying $15 charges, to residents whose cars do not have village stickers. Those ticketed will also be charged the $15 penalty in addition to the $10 fee for the sticker.

Applications for vehicle stickers are available at village hall, 255 W. Dundee Road. Village hall is open from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday and from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. Wednesdays. Checks may be made payable to the Village of Wheeling.

Residents may also have stickers mailed to them by completing applications and dropping them in the night deposit slot between the double doors in front of village hall.

HERALD 1-5-88

Wheeling, Prospect Heights eye $488,525 airport profit

By C. L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer

With the first year of ownership, Wheeling and Prospect Heights expect to end up with a profit of $488,525 from Pal-Waukee Municipal Airport.

Pal-Waukee Airport is designed to operate on its own, without using tax dollars. Profits go back into airport operations.

Wheeling trustees on Monday approved a budget for airport operations estimated at $585,314.

"Whatever excess there is will be used for equipment," said Wheeling trustee Anthony Altieri, also acting chairman of the Pal-Waukee Airport Commission. He added that snow removal equipment for the airport must be purchased in a few years.

More than 2/3 of the airport revenue is expecting to come from land and hangar rent and fuel flowage fees. The airport is expected to make $1.16 million from operations this budget year, leaving a profit of $488,525.

The larger airport expenses include $78,057 in payments to Airport Corporation of America, a New Jersey-based consulting firm that prepared federal grant applications and this year's budget. Another large expense will be payments of $69,830 to Crawford, Murphy and Tilly, an Aurora engineering firm. Among that firm's projects is a study and design for the relocation of Hintz and Wolf roads.

Estimates in the budget also indicate that enough airport revenue will be available to pay back $25,500 advanced to the two communities by the Illinois Division of Aeronautics.

Legal fees from attorneys in Wheeling and Prospect Heights will be paid back to the communities. Wheeling has $38,234 in the budget while Prospect Heights has $44,098.

"We're going to pay back the village. We're going to pay back the state. I am very pleased with the budget," said Wheeling trustee William Rogers, who is also a member of the Pal-Waukee Aiport Commission.

Parking limits

The Village of Wheeling reminds us that parking is not permitted on any village maintained street following a snowfall of two or more inches. Illegally parked vehicles impeding snow removal efforts will be ticketed, and may be towed at the owner's expense. Parking is again legal after the street has been plowed and the snowfall has ceased.

The North Suburban YMCA still offering discounts on all new memberships through Friday only. This offer is good on corporate memberships also. For more information, call the 'Y' at 272-7250.

The height of cleverness is to be able to conceal it. —Duc De La Rochefoucauld.

HERALD 1-7-88

HERALD 1-7-88

Widening of Wheeling Road part of $2.75 million project

By C. L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer

A $2.75 million road construction project that includes widening Wheeling Road to four lanes will get under way in spring, a Cook County highway spokesman said.

The Federal Highway Administration is funding 70 percent of the project, and the Cook County Highway Department is paying for 30 percent with motor fuel tax revenue, said Bob Hedrick, transportation and planning chief for the Cook County Highway Department.

The improvements call for widening two lanes to four lanes, resurfacing the pavement, installing curbs, gutters, storm sewers, and landscaping. Plus, new traffic signals will be put at Wheeling and Palatine roads.

Hedrick said construction probably will be completed by late fall. With construction completed, that section of the roadway will be maintained and plowed by the village of Wheeling.

Wheeling Community Development Director Michael Klitzke said the village applied for federal funding to get improvements on Wheeling Road and encouraged the county to move on the project.

The county does not work toward transferring roadways in conjunction with improvements, but this particular stretch of roadway is not part of the future county system of roadways, Hedrick said.

Before transferring the care of roadways to another jurisdiction, the county reviews the volume of traffic and whether it is contiguous to a village, he said.

POLICE NOTEBOOK

HERALD 1-7-88

Holiday thieves favor the radar detectors

Thieves were busy in Wheeling during the holidays. Cash and radar detectors were favorite targets.

The only clues that some one had been in a residence on the 400 block of Maple in Harmony Village were some open doors, the loss of cash and a puddle by the door after the Christmas Eve burglary.

The residents lost $300 from a wallet and $50 from a purse that was later recovered under the wheel of a car on Honey Locust.

Among the smash-and-grab type car burglaries were three reportedly with the same modus operandi. All of the Dec. 27 burglaries had a window broken with a punch-type instrument and the radar detector was stolen.

A $150 detector was stolen and a $150 window was broken in a 1986 Datsun at 400 Manda Lane. A $240 detector and $125 for the broken window were the losses reported for a 1980 van on the 200 block of London Place. A $240 detector and a $125 screwdriver were stolen from a 1986 Ford van and a $125 window was broken at 1152 Silverwood Drive.

A week earlier, a car was stolen and recovered. The owner of a 1987 Chevrolet reported he had left his car warming on the 400 block of East Merle Dec. 21 when the keys were stolen. He said he saw two youths near the car. Later the man reported he heard banging as someone was trying to get the car out from between two friends' cars who had parked close because of the key theft. The thief was located and chased by three officers before he ran into a fourth officer's car. The driver stayed in the car with the doors locked for a while. Meanwhile the 15-year-old passenger ran away before he was caught. The driver, 15, was charged with fleeing and eluding police, speeding 40 m.p.h. in a 25 m.p.h. zone, unlicensed driving and improper lane use. He has a Jan. 21 court date.

The owner of a 1986 Ford repoorted she found her car door open and some ignition wires pulled Dec. 22. A pink teddy bear, a grease gun and a set of jumper cables were left in the car, which was parked in the lot at 77 Strong St.

FIRE CALLS

HERALD 1-7-81

Firefighters called to extinguish three car fires

Three car fires were in the Wheeling Fire Department news last week.

The newest of the cars was a 1986 Dodge Charger which reportedly had $3,000 damage after a fire Dec. 29. The owner smelled electrical-type burning so she drove home to let her husband look at it. When he opened the hood, he saw an engine fire. Electrical malfunction is blamed for the fire which damaged the engine compartment and the fire wall.

A wiring problem was also blamed for an engine fire in a 1976 Ford which reportedly caused $850 damage Dec. 25.

The third fire was reportedly blamed on a match. Youths were seen at the scene just before the fire was noticed at Hintz and Buffalo Grove roads Dec. 30. Owner of the 1974 Dodge was unknown. Damage was estimated at $200.

A week earlier, an elderly man with no vital signs was revived. The daughter of the 85-year-old man reportedly said the man complained of dizziness and gas before he lost consciousness in front of her Dec. 19. When paramedics arrived the man was in a chair. He was not breathing and had no pulse. After he was put on the floor and cardio-pulmonary resuscitation started, he began to breathe and his pulse was back before he reached the hospital.

An 27-year-old man reportedly had his left hand crushed in the dies of a press machine at Anderson Die Casting, 1720 S. Wolf Rd., Dec. 18. The man could move all his fingers and had sensation in them when he was evaluated. He was taken to the hospital for treatment.

A 1983 Chevrolet van reportedly overheated before the fire Dec. 17. It burned through from the engine compartment into the passenger compartment before the fire was put out at 606 Milwaukee Avenue.

HERALD 1-7-88

Two new officers will bring police force back to capacity

By C. L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer

The number of police officers in Wheeling will return to capacity Friday with the swearing in of two new officers.

Members of the Wheeling Fire and Police Commission have approved hiring two new officers, who will begin work pending their medical exams.

Randall Ohlsberg, a graduate of the Cook County Sheriff's Academy, will become a field training officer. Jerome Hermes will be assigned to the Chicago Police Department Training Academy when he begins in Wheeling.

"They will be welcomed editions to the department," Wheeling Police Chief Michael Haeger said.

Wheeling's police department has 42 sworn positions, which include a chief, two deputy chiefs, six sergeants and 33 police officers.

The department reached its maximum authorized number about a year ago, but since then has been short, Haeger said.

Wheeling trustees last month approved hiring a 34th police officer because an officer in the department will be promoted to sergeant later this year, therefore bringing the number of officers back to 33.

Haeger suggested bringing in an additional officer, so both new people would be well into their training in the department by the time a new sergeant is hired.

A sergeant's position opened in June with the resignation of Wheeling Sergeant Stephen Weber.

Haeger would not say whether he will request additional officers for the upcoming budget year.

new year.

1-7-88

Village of Wheeling

Village officials say 1988 will be a year of looking at traffic problems and at the problem of acquiring the necessary land to revamp Wheeling's Crossroad's intersection at Milwaukee Avenue and Dundee Road.

Several private landowners are unwilling to give up their property for the redevelopment of the downtown area, and 1988 will mark the second straight year of the village's fight to acquire that land through condemnation proceedings.

If the necessary land is acquired, the village will go ahead with plans for a $9 million, 121,000-square-foot shopping center. The project is being financed by revenue generated through a the village's Tax Increment Financing District.

Wheeling officials will also enter into a intergovernmental agreement with Buffalo Grove to examine the problem of traffic congestion in the Lake-Cook corridor.

"We'll try to come to grips with the traffic problem there," said Village President Sheila Schultz. Officials from the two towns will meet to discuss signalization, turn lanes and other projects that could minimize traffic flow on Lake-Cook Road. Schultz said officials from the villages haven't yet formally met, but plan to do so soon.

Capital improvements, such as street repairs and sewer projects, will also continue to be a priority in 1988, Schultz said.

COUNTRYSIDE

Countryside 1-7-88

Despite lawsuit, firefighters say contract negotiations may resume

Wheeling firefighters are hopeful that contract negotiations will soon resume with the village — despite an ongoing court battle that has delayed talks for nearly two years.

What's holding up a contract settlement is a dispute over the bargaining rights of the fire department's six lieutenants.

The Illinois Appellate Court has yet to decide whether the lieutenants should be included as part of the firefighters' bargaining unit. Village officials brought the issue to the appellate court last May in hopes of having a ruling by the Illinois Labor Relations Board (ILRB), which favored bargaining rights for lieutenants, overturned.

The village is fighting the ILRB decision, saying that including lieutenants in the bargaining process would threaten the village's right to manage the Wheeling Firefighters' Association.

In the meantime, firefighters would like to begin negotiating with the village over other contract items while the appellate court considers the ILRB decision. Bart Burns, president of the 37-member association, said he is confident the village will agree to begin negotiating sometime soon.

"Because of our predicament, we haven't started negotiating for a contract yet," said Burns. "We're trying to negotiate some kind of agreement with the village during the interim of this appeal. We're hopeful that we're going to get this agreement to negotiate soon."

Wheeling Village President Sheila Schultz would not comment on negotiations.

The decision of the appellate court is of interest to other area fire departments as well, said Burns. He said other suburban bargaining units want to include officers at the bargaining table as well. Some departments have even stated in their contracts that lieutenants' bargaining rights would depend on the pending appellate court decision, said Burns.

Until the state adopted a new collective bargaining law in January 1986, firefighters had few bargaining rights, said Burns. Since the law passed, however, the bargaining rights have increased, but the rights of the six lieutenants is still uncertain, he said.

Negotiations have cost the firefighter's association at least $17,000 in legal fees so far, all of which has come out of the pockets of its members, said Burns.

Countryside 1-7-88

State agrees to lower Wolf Road speed limit

By Lee Ann Gill
Staff Writer

Motorists driving along Wolf Road will soon be asked to slow down between Manchester Drive and Hintz Road.

A reduction in the speed limit along that stretch of roadway — from the current 40 mph to 35 mph — will take effect sometime within the next few weeks, said Ralph Wehner, an engineer for the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT).

The change in the speed limit comes after years of requests by Wheeling Police Chief Michael Haeger for IDOT to reduce the speed all along Wolf Road in what he considers a "predominantly residential area."

And although Haeger is happy with IDOT's recent decision to lower the speed on part of Wolf Road, he said it is only the first step toward making the area safer.

"I THINK it's good, but it's just a start," he said. What would be ideal, according to Haeger, is to have the speed reduced from Manchester Drive north along Wolf Road all the way through the residential area to Dundee Road.

The traffic flow on Wolf Road is largely truck traffic that comes from a nearby industrial area, he explained. "You're coming out of a 40 mph zone (in the industrial area) into a predominantly residential area," said Haeger.

IDOT has studied the traffic flow on Wolf Road "on three separate occasions in the last couple years," said Wehner. And although the traffic flow along the road was studied all the way to Dundee Road, IDOT's engineering study didn't show a need for reductions at in other portions of the road, said Wehner.

Haeger said he will continue to ask for further studies on the remainder of Wolf.

THE LAST STUDY performed by IDOT showed that 85 percent of the traffic between Manchester Drive and Hintz Road was traveling at a rate of 44.5 mph.

With that figure as a starting point, IDOT officials looked at "hidden hazards" that gave a more accurate picture of what the average speed should be along that stretch of Wolf Road.

IDOT engineers looked at hazards such as the number of driveways and intersections that exist along that section of road as well as the number of accidents that occur on the average at that location to come up with the new speed limit. The hidden factors dropped the preferred average speed down to 35.5 mph, said Wehner, giving IDOT justification to set the new 35 mph limit.

Countryside 1-7-88

Village, aviation firm iron out differences

By Lee Ann Gill
Staff Writer

After a month of discussion and debate with Wheeling trustees, Pal-Waukee Aviation Inc. will soon take over operations at the municipal airport.

The firm will take over as the fixed-base operator of the airport from George Priester Aviation, Inc. The fixed-base operator is in charge of fuel sales, mechanical service to airplanes and chartering of planes, and helps to schedule flights.

The new aviation company, which is larger than Priester Aviation, should be able to improve operations at the airport, said Charles Priester, son of owner George Priester.

Wheeling trustees unanimously approved the takeover at last month, despite previous concerns about the financial security of the Charlotte, N.C.-based firm.

BUT GEORGE PRIESTER has guaranteed trustees that Pal-Waukee Aviation Inc. will fulfill the terms of its agreement to operate the airport for three years — one year longer than Priester originally offered, said Sheila Schultz, Wheeling village president. And that guarantee persuaded trustees to approve the agreement with the new aviation firm.

Charles Priester said the transfer should be complete by Feb. 1.

The transfer of operations will mean the airport will be able to "take better care of the customers we already have," said Charles Priester, who will stay on as president of the new aviation company.

The arrival of Pal-Waukee Aviation Inc. could bring with it new customer lounges and other improvements at the airport, said Priester. But the new and improved services probably won't mean an immediate increase in customer traffic at the airport, he added.

WHEELING AND PROSPECT Heights purchased the airport one year ago, converting it from a private to public facility. The purchase agreement gives the two communities final approval of any change in operations at the airport.

Prospect Heights aldermen approved the transfer to the new aviation company by a 6-1 city council vote on Dec. 7. Wheeling trustees were originally scheduled to approve the transfer the same day, but the vote was delayed because village officials questioned the minimum cash balance the aviation firm was keeping in its bank account.

While trustees wanted a $1.7 million cash balance maintained in the account — enough to cover the firm's expenses for three months — Pal-Waukee Aviation officials refused to keep that much money sitting in an account. Company officials said the firm's equity and continued income should be enough to prove to the village that it is financially secure.

And although the aviation company showed only a $225,000 balance in its account, managing partner James O'Neal said the firm would operate with around $1.8 million in net working capital.

AN AGREEMENT WAS not reached at the Dec. 7 board meeting, but a informal meeting held the next day brought the new aviation firm and the village to a tentative agreement.

Under the terms of the agreement approved by trustees Dec. 21, the new firm will take over at Pal-Waukee with a $1.7 million cash balance in its account, but village officials agreed that the balance would not have to be maintained on a monthly basis. The additional one year guarantee by Priester was enough to satisfy the village, said Schultz.

O'Neal and three partners operate three other airports across the country, including one in Charlotte, N.C.

COUNTRYSIDE 1-7-88

Village manager receives new 2-year contract

Wheeling trustees have approved a new two-year contract for Village Manager Tom Markus that includes annual salary increases of 5 percent.

Markus, who has been village manager for seven years, will receive $62,000 annually — a 5.1 percent increase from his old salary of $59,000. Markus will earn $65,000 in the second year of the pact, which was approved last month.

Although the salary isn't as much as some area village managers are making, the pay raise brings Markus more in line with what most area municipal administrators are earning, said Sheila Schultz, Wheeling village president.

The village has a policy of keeping employee salaries in line with those in the surrounding suburbs, said Schultz. "Unfortunately, you can't always make the increases commensurate with the quality of the work but we do the best we can," she said.

Buffalo Grove Village Manager William Balling earns $67,068 annually. In Northbrook, Robert Weidaw earns $69,516 and Deerfield Village Manager Robert Franz is paid $71,352.

The hike in Markus' pay is a direct reflection on his value to the village, said Schultz. "We're just very happy with his performance. We're very fortunate to have him on as our village manager," she said.

As manager "much of the work falls on his shoulders," said Schultz. Another way Markus has helped the village is by "attracting and retaining an excellent staff," she said.

HERALD 1-7-88

An arctic blast makes big snow seem easy

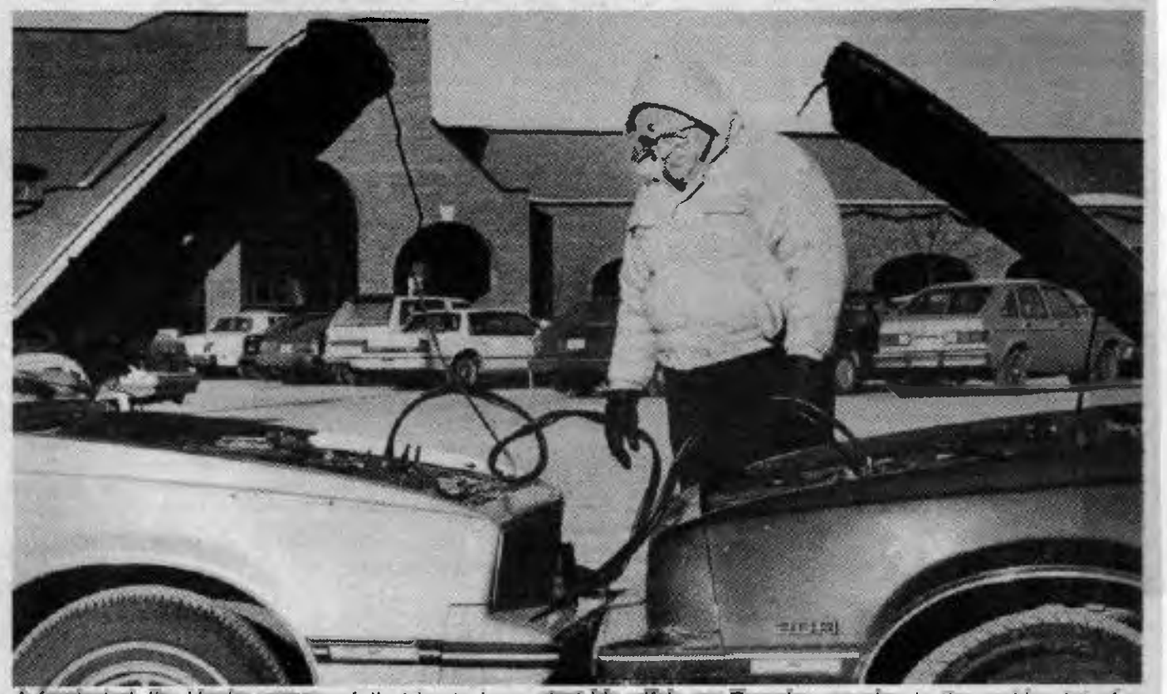
Staff Report

Don't blame the weather, you say? No, blame it for everything. Creaking houses, dead cars, nipped ears, tiptoing pets, the works. It was so cold this week that Wheeling looked like a ghost town at midday.

Most folks stayed indoors as much as possible, which kept the numbers of weather-related injuries down. Still, most had to get to work or to school. And the pets still had to get out.

The sub-zero temperatures didn't stop Wheeling residents from their appointed duties, however.

Despite the frigid weather, children went to school, most adults went to work and most were eventually able to overcome weather-related problems such as broken furnaces or cars that wouldn't start.



A frustrated Jim Hanks unsucessfully tries to jump-start his wife's car Tuesday morning in the parking lot of a grocery store on Lake-Cook Road. *(Staff photo by Richard Bajjalieh)*

CAROL TRESS, AN employee in the village's water department, said she received only two calls from residents regarding frozen pipes as of Tuesday morning. And aside from a few water main breaks, the village braved the cold temperatures rather well as of Tuesday.

"For the situation that we're in, the village has weathered it very well," said Tress.

High School District 214 and Elementary District 21 opened their doors promptly Tuesday morning, while neighboring districts were forced to close schools due to weather-related problems. Aside from a few cold feet, Thomas Cosgrove, director of building and grounds at District 214, said everything went smoothly.

And aside from a broken water main near Holmes Junior High School on Wolf Road, everything was status quo in District 21 on Tuesday morning, said William Senne, director of operations of the eleven-school district. The water main break caused only minimal inconvenience, he said. "Everything went very smoothly," he said.

MEANWHILE, COUNTLESS residents had to cope with inconveniences such as getting the car started after temperatures dipped below zero.

At The Chicago AAA Motor Club, business was jumping.

An "extreme call load" for jumps to car batteries on Tuesday morning had employees at the motor club hopping, said Ed Scholar, administrative manager at the club.

"We're receiving many more calls than is normal for the winter," said Scholar, who said he had no way of telling exactly how many calls the club received this week.

(Continued on page 14)

Wheeling Countryside

COUNTRYSIDE 1-7-88

Village socked with $67,000 premium penalty

By Lee Ann Gill
Staff Writer

The insurance pool that provides liability coverage to Wheeling has hit the village with a $67,000 penalty for having higher than average insurance claims.

However, village officials say the increase in premiums has nothing to do with the safety practices of the town, and that the overall number of claims filed by the village is actually on the decline.

Wheeling will pay an additional $67,597 this year to the municipal insurance pool it belongs to because of "one year of abnormally high claims," explained Robert Fialkowski, Wheeling finance director.

The village will pay the Intergovernmental Risk Management Agency (IRMA) $337,984 in premiums this year. The 1988 bill was supposed to have been $270,387, but IRMA assessed Wheeling a 25 percent penalty because of two major claims that were filed in 1985.

IRMA USES A three-year average of each of its member's claims to determine how much each town will get back or pay additional every year. This year, IRMA averaged claims for 1984, 1985 and 1986. If a town had a good track record with claims during that period, chances are it will get back some money. But if a town had a large number of claims, it will most likely pay more than its normal insurance bill, Fialkowski said.

And in 1985, two incidents occurred in Wheeling that shot up the average.

In November 1985, Wheeling police officer Kenneth Dawson was killed while on duty. Immediately, as is required by workman's compensation laws, $500,000 was put into reserve to pay any claims that may come as a result of the death, said Fialkowski.

"There's no safety program in the world that would have prevented that from happening that night," he said.

ALSO IN 1985, a civil suit with a rather "high reserve" was filed against the village. Fialkowski would not discuss details of the suit, but said that both incidents hiked the total amount of claims that year to $765,000.

In 1984 and 1986, the other two years used to determine the average dollar amount of claims filed by Wheeling, the village did not have an abnormal amount of claims. In 1984, the village filed $30,745 in claims, and in 1986 it filed claims totaling $77,936, said Fialkowski.

"There are two claims which just totally blow up the situation. This has absolutely nothing to do with the way we run our safety programs," he said. "It's very unfair to categorize towns as having poor safety practices when that's not the case at all."

Fialkowski said that annual reviews of the village's safety program by IRMA show consistently excellent ratings. "Our number of claims have gone down on an overall basis," he said.

DESPITE GOOD REVIEWS, Wheeling will most likely be penalized again next year because the three-year claim period will include 1985, 1986 and 1987.

The village will pay for the penalty through its liability fund, which will most likely go over what has already been budgeted for, said Fialkowski. But by temporarily borrowing money from another fund, the village expects to pay back the money next year without having to increase revenues, he said.

Stan Moy, assistant risk manager at IRMA, agreed a few large claims should not stigmatize a town as having poor safety practices.

"There are going to be times when someone will be hit with a bad loss. Eventually, the towns that have been paying (additional) will get better," he said.

"ALL IT takes is one bad case to really give the town a bad debit. You can't really crucify a village because of that," said Moy. "We do the best we can to improve their losses. If a village is trying hard eventually it will improve."

Moy said the number of towns that are hit with a penalty each year is decreasing. "There are more being credited than ever before," he said.

While Wheeling is being penalized for higher than average claims, Buffalo Grove will receive a premium credit of $88,706, which reduces the village's 1988 insurance bill from $266,144 to $177,438.

Palatine will be credited $136,026, lowering its insurance bill to $272,094 from $408,120.

ON THE OTHER end of the spectrum, Downers Grove will pay an additional $97,196 this year to IRMA, the largest penalty felt by an IRMA member this year. The penalty will hike that town's insurance bill to $485,981.

Because of the severe penalty, Downers Grove has opted to drop out of the insurance pool next year and will become self-insured.

"I think that's real unfair. There's nothing wrong with the management in Downers Grove," said Fialkowski.

HERALD 1-8-88

Hangars will face wrecking ball during '88

By C. L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Demolition of 25 to 30 small hangars at Pal-Waukee Municipal Airport will probably be done this year, airport commissioners say.

The Federal Aviation Administration, which is funding most of the changes at Pal-Waukee, told airport owners Prospect Heights and Wheeling that the hangars should have come down in December because they are too close to the runway.

However, that plan was delayed because the communities were unable to buy a section of property to build some replacement hangars.

However, airport commissioners say they are willing to apply a $960,000 grant toward demolishing the garage-like hangars in the so-called "safety zone." This will appease the FAA and they will accommodate the plane owners by building a hard-surface, tie-down area.

Relocating the Wheeling Drainage Ditch farther from the main runway, building a retention pond and constructing a holding area and taxiway near a proposed new T-hangar facility southwest of Milwaukee Avenue and Sumac also are in the alternate plan.

"If we don't move quickly, construction this year will be off," said Stephen Moulton, an engineering consultant with Crawford, Murphy and Tilly Inc. in Aurora.

"To me the plan accommodates everybody," said airport Commissioner Henry Levin of Prospect Heights.

There is room for the 25 to 30 planes to join 45 already in the tie-down area by removing drive-through areas, said John P. Kennedy, a New-Jersey-based consultant.

Kennedy said he will ask the hangar leasers if they are willing to move to a tie-down area if a new hard surface is constructed for them.

He said the key to constructing new small hangars is acquiring the rest of the property needed southwest of Milwaukee and Sumac.

HERALD 1-8-88

'Pal-Waukee traffic won't increase'

By Freida Gad
Daily Herald Correspondent

Air traffic at Pal-Waukee Municipal Airport is not expected to increase as a result of Prospect Heights and Wheeling buying the airport, city and airport officials say.

Nor do the towns plan to lengthen or improve runways as part of their airport renovation project, the officials say.

Despite the assurances, some Prospect Heights residents are not convinced that planned changes at the airport will not mean more aircraft and noise.

Airport Manager Fred E. Stewart told 30 residents this week that there are no plans to lengthen or improve runways to attract larger aircraft or to increase air traffic.

"The intergovernmental agreement (between Wheeling and Prospect Heights) states that there can be no enlargement of any runways," he said. "Nothing in our plans will increase the number of aircraft or change traffic patterns."

Co-owners Prospect Heights and Wheeling are planning to renovate parts of the airport and buy more land around the airport. Central to the renovation plan is the relocation of the Wolf and Hintz Road intersection, which is needed to provide adequate clearance for the airport's main runway.

If the change is not made, the useable length of the runway would have to be reduced — possibly to as short as 3,500 feet. A reduction would hurt the airport because most corporate jets cannot land on less than 5,000 feet, Stewart said.

Airport consultant John Kennedy said even with the proposed changes the airport could not handle a significant increase in traffic and he does not foresee that happening.

"There are 235,000 take-offs and landings now," he said, "and it is my professional opinion that it will stay about the same."

However, some residents find that hard to believe.

"I'm concerned that the airport is going to get too big," said Prospect Heights resident Ken Kozil. "Most people believe that relocating the intersection will increase airport traffic."

Noting that a new operations group, headed by former Allegis Corp. Chairman Richard J. Ferris and golfer Arnold Palmer, will replace Priester Aviation at the airport, Kozil questioned whether the new investors will be content with keeping the status quo.

"You go into business to make money," he said. "The only way to make money is to increase the number of flights."

If the airport grows, it will attract more corporate jets, Kozil contends, which will increase noise and decrease property values, but Kennedy disagreed.

"We have not seen property values drop around comparable airports," he said. "Property values may have not escalated as much as in other areas, but they have not dropped."

He also told residents that the newer jets have shown a "30 to 50 percent reduction in noise" over earlier models.

An extensive noise compatibility study has been done for the airport and the commission will discuss it Jan. 20 in the Prospect Heights City Hall, 4 E. Camp McDonald Road.

HERALD 1-10-88

Senior center user fee up for discussion

Charging seniors to use the Pavilion senior center in Wheeling will be among topics discussed by village trustees during a board workshop meeting Monday.

The meeting begins at 8 p.m. in village hall, 255 W. Dundee Road.

The senior center, located at 199 N. First St., was constructed a little more than a year ago with a federal grant.

A proposal requiring annual fees of $8 for residents and $10 for non-residents is currently before the village board. Trustees previously postponed adopting the charges in lieu of further discussion.

THE WEEK AHEAD

Senior citizen coordinator Barbara Hansen said money collected from fees would be used to pay for the monthly newsletter that goes out to more than 800 Wheeling residents each month.

She also believes that fees will instill a sense of belonging and pride in being a member of the senior center.

However, senior commission member Pat Walsdorf disagrees with a membership fee, saying it will offend some seniors and prevent them from participating in senior center activities.

Senior center activities, other than those provided by the Wheeling Park District, are paid for through fund-raising events. About $6,000 is expected from fund-raising in the coming budget year.

Hansen said something would be worked out for seniors who cannot afford the fees.

The top meeting

Who: Wheeling village board

Where: Wheeling village hall, 255 W. Dundee Road

When: 8 p.m. Monday

HERALD 1-10-88

Soup kitchen eyed to aid needy seniors

By C. L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Members of the Wheeling senior commission are looking for ways to reach out to needy seniors, including opening a soup kitchen in the village.

Helping the needy is one of the goals the commission has for the coming year. Commissioner Pat Walsdorf said the commission should divorce itself from the senior center building in setting up a soup kitchen.

"This location is self-defeating," she said.

Walsdorf stressed that there are several needy seniors living in the Foxpoint mobile home park on Milwaukee Avenue, rather than near the senior center.

"There is a nucleus of poverty in this village and it is not in this area," Waldsorf said.

Location is important for a needy person to pursue getting help, she said. "If you're cold and hungry, you're not going to walk two miles up Milwaukee Avenue for a lousy bowl of soup," she said.

A location near the intersection of Wolf and Dundee roads is a possibility for feeding the needy, Walsdorf suggested, adding that a restaurant near there often feeds needy.

Commissioner Maurice Schrote said the commission should not limit help to seniors and other commissioners agreed it would be difficult to turn younger people away if they were hungry.

Commission Chairman Donald Hammer said he will contact professional social workers in Wheeling to see how the senior commission can help the needy. Walsdorf also suggested contacting the nuns who work at the thrift shop sponsored by Addolorata Villa Home for Aged Men and Women.

He also said that commissioners need to look at financing for the project.

There is $2,500 available in the new programs budget for use by the senior commission, but others financial sources will also be needed, Hammer said.

Commissioners also suggested seasonal help for the needy, such as food baskets or a care Christmas tree.

HERALD 1-10-88

Murder case appeal

Cook County prosecutors are asking the Illinois Supreme Court to consider the murder case involving a Wheeling Police Officer. The U.S. Supreme Court is expected to decide within two months whether to hear the case, said Assistant State's Attorney Marie Quinliven Czech, who filed the appeal Wednesday. A three-judge appellate panel unanimously agreed in December that Larry Strickland of East Chicago Heights believed he would not receive medical treatment for a gunshot wound to his finger unless he confessed to shooting Wheeling Police Officer Kenneth R. Dawson of Kildeer. The appellate court was reviewing a decision by Cook County Circuit Judge Fred G. Suria, who also ruled the confession couldn't be used as evidence in Strickland's trial. Strickland and his brother, Tyrone, are charged with murdering Dawson after the officer was called to investigate a disturbance near Cleo Court in the Cedar Run area of Wheeling. The Stricklands then allegedly kidnapped Donald Hamburg of Buffalo Grove, Hamburg's nephew and his step-grandson and commandeered their car in a getaway attempt.

PUBLIC SPEAKING

• "It's not like we're taking money away from somebody. The money was generated here, (but) at this point it's very difficult to plan on that money." Wheeling Finance Director Robert Fialkowski, commenting on the state's tax-increment financing program.

HERALD 1-14-88

HERALD 1-12-88

Trustees say $8 senior center fee needed

By C. L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Wheeling trustees agreed Monday that an $8 membership fee for Wheeling seniors using the senior center is needed.

Senior Center Coordinator Barbara Hansen and the Senior Commission are recommending that a fee be imposed with proceeds to offset costs for printing a monthly newsletter.

Trustees will likely vote on the fee at a later date.

Hansen recommended that the fee go into effect May 1. She said about $2,100 would be generated from the charge, which would be $10 for non-residents of the village or Wheeling Park District.

"Since we opened in 1985, most people come in and ask, 'What is the membership fee' and they are surprised we don't have one," Hansen said.

Memberships in the senior center will promote cooperation among seniors and a sense of belonging, she said.

With the fee, seniors will be showing an appreciation of the senior center building and that seniors are willing to pay, Hansen added.

Individuals will receive a membership card when they pay the fee and complete a registration form.

Along with receiving the newsletter, members may register for parties, special events, classes, meals and trips. Only members would be allowed to sign up on a "first-come" basis for free events offered by area organizations.

Fees will also allow non-resident members to receive the newsletter through the mail.

Trustee James Whittington suggested that legislation not limit the use of fees to offsetting an estimated $3,700 annual cost for the newsletters.

"If we are going to maintain what we already have, we're cutting ourselves off at both ends," Whitting said.

Senior Commissioner Pat Walfdorf said the village may be disappointed in the amount of money that would come from fees.

Waldorf, who voted against the fee, said too few people participate in programs at the senior center.

HERALD 1-11-88

Unpredictable sales tax returns are welcome

By C. L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer

The village of Wheeling ranks ninth on a list of Illinois communities to get money from the the state's tax increment financing program in 1986.

But Wheeling Finance Director Robert Fialkowski says there's no way the village can count on $258,890 every year.

Highland Park topped the list with more than $2 million in sales taxes. The North Shore suburb along with Belleville, DeKalb, Rockford, Kankakee and Granite City got more than half of the $9.8 million allocated.

Tax increment financing is a method that freezes property taxes in a designated area for a number of years, then takes the incremental increases in property tax and funnels them into the area's redevelopment.

State legislators in 1986 began appropriating sales tax as well as property taxes back to the communities.

Last year Wheeling got $30,000 back in sales tax. In 1986, an estimated $60,000 was generated after the frozen level of property taxes.

The bulk of the money returned to the communities is the state's share of sales tax, Fialkowski said. In Wheeling's case, the $258,890 will go toward construction of an $8.9 million shopping center in the Crossroads Redevelopment area, he said.

A report from the Taxpayers Federation of Illinois criticizes the program saying money is indiscriminately being given back to communities without determining which projects are worthwhile and have the greatest potential.

Fialkowski disagrees. "It's not like we're taking money away from somebody," he said. "The money was generated here."

State law says that communities should get back all of the sales tax generated above the frozen level, Fialkowski said. However, how much money each community gets hinges on the unpredictability of what the legislature releases, Fialkowski said.

"At this point it's very difficult to plan on that money," he said, adding that the village cannot sell bonds based on sales taxes from the Crossroads Revelopment area.

Though it's not predictable, sales tax returns are welcomed. New projects will spring up in redevelopment districts or bonds will be retired earlier with sales tax coming back, Fialkowski said.

"There's definite good involved in the thing," he said.

HERALD 1-11-88

Population growth forecast for two villages

By Gail Kahover
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Experts say both Wheeling and Buffalo Grove could experience hefty population growth in the next 22 years, estimates that local officials say are realistic.

Buffalo Grove's population is expected to increase to 39,729 by the year 2010, up about 28 percent from the approximately 31,000 residents now living in the village. In Wheeling, about 38 percent more growth is expected in the next 22 years, to a population of 40,027 from about 29,000.

The estimates were made by the Northern Illinois Planning Commission, which prepared similar projections for 261 communities in the Chicago area. Overall, the agency found the population in Lake, Cook and DuPage counties will grow to 815,330 in the year 2010, up about 43 percent from the 569,947 people accounted for in 1980.

Buffalo Grove Village Planner Robert E. Pfeil said the agency's projections are probably low. He said the village's population could reach 39,729 before the year 2010.

Pfeil said officials have been planning for the increased growth and included a network of roads, sewers and other improvements in the village's comprehensive plan.

"We think we have a good comprehensive plan and development process," he said. "It's a controlled type of development."

Much of the residential growth will occur to the north, he added. For example, the 450-acre Zale-Fiore development will bring as many as 850 residential units into the village. Buffalo Grove Road will be extended from Route 83 to Route 22 to service the property within three years.

Wheeling officials say they do not have much additional land to expand the village's borders.

However, Wheeling Village Manager Thomas M. Markus said there is available land within the village for single- and multiple-family housing.

New airport chief tackles obstacles

HERALD 1-14-88

By Dan Rozek
and C.L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writers

Fred E. Stewart can lean back in his new office chair, run his thumbs along the suspenders that frame his monogrammed shirt and know he is in the thick of things at Pal-Waukee Municipal Airport.

Airplanes — some only a few feet away — frequently taxi past the new airport manager's office windows, which overlook the busy runways.

In another sense, the manager is settling into a job he knows puts him squarely in the middle of Pal-Waukee's often stormy transition from private to public airport.

Stewart will have to balance the sometimes conflicting interests of co-owners Wheeling and Prospect Heights, of airplane owners and users, and neighbors.

"I'm in the middle from the word go," Stewart says simply. "But I don't mind it."

The 56-year-old retired Army pilot is used to being in that situation. Before coming to Pal-Waukee last month, he managed the Ponca City, Okla., airport for 13 years. Before that, the Oklahoma native worked as safety officer at Houston Intercontinental Airport.

"In any airport situation you're going to have more than one master to serve," Stewart said.

Fred E. Stewart will try to keep Pal-Waukee Municipal Airport flying high.

Daily Herald Photo/Bob Chwedyk

Busier airport

Compared to the Ponca City airport, which serves an oil company town of about 27,000 people, Pal-Waukee is a busier, more active airport serving a much larger, more populated area.

There are five times as many planes based at Pal-Waukee and "10 times" as much air traffic, Stewart says.

The larger operation does not overwhelm Stewart, who still is settling in a new office in a hangar off Milwaukee Avenue.

His office is equipped with a copier, a computer and a desk already strewn with mail and reports, while boxes of files are stacked in a corner. A tool box sits in another corner.

It is clear a lot of work lies ahead for the two communities, the airport commission and Stewart as they work together on making the previously private airport comply with federal standards.

"My goal . . . is to make those improvements to the Pal-Waukee Airport that will improve the safety and convenience of the airports tenants and at the same time be a good neighbor to the surrounding communities," he said. "I could see me busy for years down the road."

For Stewart, who will make $49,000 annually, the top priority is improving safety at the airport.

Promotes safety

Removing obstacles in flight approach zones, widening runways, changing contours of the main runway, and building a taxiway parallel to the main runway are all changes needed at Pal-Waukee to promote safety, Stewart said.

Other safety plans call for adding fencing, first around parts of the airport, then eventually around all of it, to better control access to runways, hangars and taxiways.

Stewart also expects to back a controversial proposal to relocate Wolf and Hintz roads away from the end of the airport's longest runway as a safety precaution.

"I'm leaning toward relocating the intersection," he said.

Engineers are expected to make a firm proposal next month to move the intersection and raise the end of the runway by more than 10 feet in an effort to comply with federal safety regulations.

That move also is required by economics, he said.

Unless changes are made to move the intersection farther from the end of the runway, the useable length of the runway will be cut from 5,200 feet to about 3,500 feet.

Without a 5,000-foot runway, many corporate jets now based at Pal-Waukee will not be able to continue using the airport, he said. Those jets generate much of the revenue needed to operate the airport, which will not use any local funds from the two towns.

"You'll live and die on revenues generated at the airport," he said.

Need convincing

While Prospect Heights officials generally support the relocation, some Wheeling officials — and at least one Prospect Heights alderman — still are not fully convinced of the need to move the intersection.

Pilots and corporate clients generally favor the change as necessary to keep a 5,000 foot runway. But some neighbors fear the relocation might lengthen the runway, bringing more air traffic — and noise — into their neighborhoods.

Stewart and other airport officials insist the move would not increase the runway length and say their projections indicate the volume of air traffic will remain about the same.

But the intersection relocation is one key example of how Stewart may be caught in a crossfire between the co-owners, the autonomous airport commission, pilots and neighbors, all of whom may differ on what they want done.

That is common at most airports, which often have at least two governing bodies, such as a municipal agency and a special airport authority, he said.

An advantage at Pal-Waukee is that the operating agreement between Wheeling and Prospect Heights requires the towns to agree on whatever action is taken.

Mutual decisions

"As far as the policy and development of the airport, none of that is going to happen with one community arbitrarily deciding anything," he said. "It's got to be mutually agreed on or it's not going to happen."

Stewart sees his role as giving recommendations and then carrying out the policies ultimately approved by the airport commission and the towns.

"I can give my best recommendation. If they don't take it, that's their prerogative," he said. "If they can't reach an agreement, there's nothing I can do."

Stewart also sees no irreconcilable conflict between the need to generate enough revenues to operate the airport and at the same time protect neighbors and keep jet noise down.

"They're very compatible with each other," he said, adding that the towns will not lengthen runways and do not project increased air traffic.

As the towns make safety improvements, which must wait for federal funding, those changes will benefit neighbors and users.

See AIRPORT *on Page 3*

HERALD 1-14-88

AIRPORT: New Pal-Waukee manager revved up for duties

Continued from Page 1

"When you increase safety, everyone benefits," he said. "All we're doing is improving the safety of the thing."

As for jet noise, Stewart still is studying a noise report done by consultants and is uncertain how large a problem it is.

There appears to be little need for a curfew on night flights, however, he said.

"I don't know if there are a lot of night operations, but that doesn't appear to be a problem," Stewart said, adding it probably would be difficult to enforce such a ban.

But that possibly could prove no more difficult than the task Stewart faces in serving as point man for the airport's transition from a private to a public airfield.

Wheeling Countryside

COUNTRYSIDE 1-14-88

Village hall sign causing headaches for officials

By Lee Ann Gill
Staff Writer

The sign in front of the Wheeling municipal center has become a hot spot for community groups — in and around the village — to promote their events.

The huge sign with interchangeable letters that stands in front of village hall on Dundee Road seems to be *the* place for dozens of organizations to display messages on everything from candy sales to meeting dates.

But the number of requests by groups that want to use the sign is so great that officials are considering putting a limit on who should be allowed to use it. In fact, the waiting list of groups seeking to promote their events on the sign is so long that the village can't even get its own messages on the board.

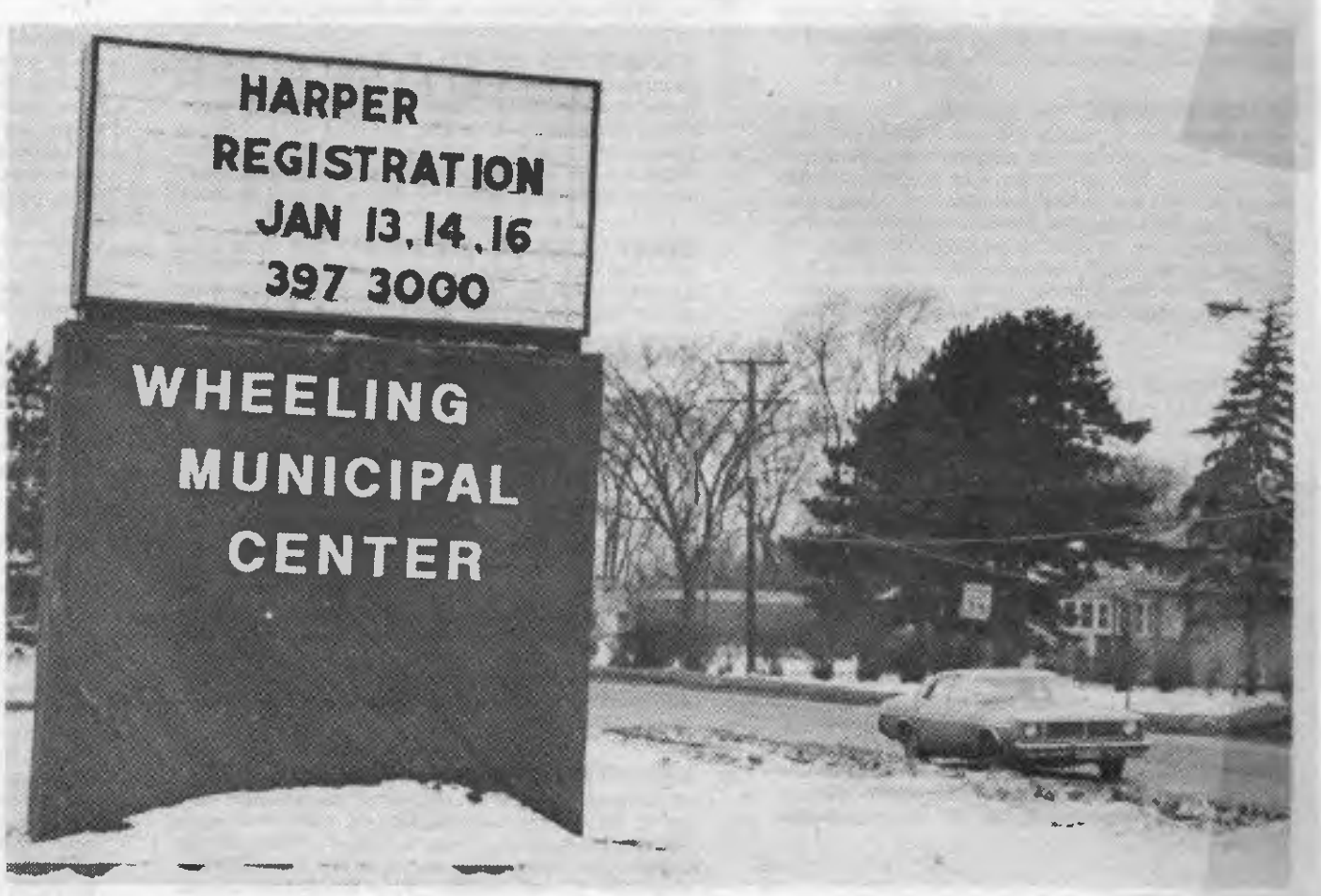
Deciding which groups can use the sign — and when they can use it — is starting to cause some headaches for village officials. And trustees are now eyeing a proposal would allow only governmental agencies that serve Wheeling residents to put messages on the sign.

BUT THE IDEA of prohibiting non-governmental organizations from using the sign doesn't sit too well with those community groups that rely on it as a way to promote their events.

The popularity of the sign stems from its location on Dundee Road. Motorists traveling down the busy highway can't help but notice the messages n huge black block letters on their way .o and from work.

Until now, the village has allowed anyone, even organizations located outside of Wheeling, to publicize their events on the sign free of charge. The only restriction has been that it can't be used for commercial messages by local business or companies, said David Kowal, administrative assistant for the village.

But the rush of requests to publicize events on the sign has forced officials to look at allowing only governmental agencies to use it. The restrictions were discussed by trustees Monday night and will be voted on at the Feb. 1 village board meeting.



Wheeling trustees are debating just who should be allowed to put messages on the sign in front of village hall. Under a proposal now before the village board, Harper College and other governmental institutions would be allowed to promote their events, but organizations such as the Jaycees or Lions Club wouldn't. *(Staff photo by Kathy Tray)*

IF AN ORDINANCE limiting the marquee's use is approved, groups such as the Lions and Jaycees and other civic organizations may have to find a place other than the Wheeling village hall to advertise their fundraisers and programs.

"We're booked for the next three months," said Village Manager Tom Markus. "The Village of Wheeling would like to use it, but we can't.

"We're getting to the point with the marquee where we're placed in the middle constantly — deciding what's going to go up and what's not," he added. "It's almost like we're contracting for people and advertising for them. We advertise anything from Sunday school to Bible camps — all different announcements."

If the board votes to restrict the use of the sign, the village, park district, local school districts, township and state and federal governments would be the only agencies allowed to use it. Events such as the Jaycees' Easter egg hunt or the Girl Scouts' annual cookie sale would no longer be promoted on the sign.

MIKE LYNCH, PRESIDENT of the Wheeling Jaycees, said his organization plans to fight the proposed ordinance, which he says would have a

(Continued on page 11)

COUNTRYSIDE 1-14-88

Headache—

(Continued from page 5)

"severe impact" on the group. The Jaycees use the sign about a half dozen times a year to publicize various events.

"At the Feb. 1 board meeting, they're going to have a Wheeling Jaycee president jumping up and down and screaming about this," Lynch said. "I can see where this gets to be a hassle, but I would not be pleased with a decision to stop us from using the sign. We do benefit from it; the entire community benefits from it."

Lynch said it's ironic to note that the Jaycees donated the original sign in front of village hall about 20 years ago, and now the group faces the prospect of not being allowed to use the sign. "I think the village should go back a few years and remember where that first sign came from," he said. "The Jaycees put up the original sign. We paid for it and installed it."

Village President Sheila Schultz is also opposed to allowing just governmental entities to use the sign.

"I'M NOT sure this is the way we want to go," she said. "I agree it has to be restricted, but I'm not sure these are the restrictions I'd like to see. . .The governmental definition maybe isn't doing what we want it to do."

She said it would be difficult to turn away non-profit civic organizations advertising free eye exams or blood screening for residents of the village. However, she said fundraisers held by any organization or governmental agency should not be publicized on the sign.

Despite Schultz's objections, Kowal said Tuesday that the village staff, which has to deal with the hassle of scheduling the use of the sign, still backs the proposal to limit its use to governmental agencies. But he stressed that the village board — and not the staff — has the final say on the issue.

One thing that most village officials agree on is that some restrictions must be placed on the messages being put up outside village hall.

"We're getting so many requests it's difficult to decide what should go up and what should not. We're constantly making judgment calls," said Village Attorney James Rhodes. "The problem is we don't have any guidelines right now in black and white. . .We're putting up everything — really — right now."

COUNTRYSIDE 1-14-89

Sign of the times

The Wheeling Jaycees some years ago raised money for and installed a sign in front of village hall that was supposed to act as a type of "community bulletin board" to inform residents of activities and events planned by the Jaycees and other local organizations.

That sign was eventually replaced with the one that stands in front village hall today, but it remains more popular than ever with a multitude of clubs, schools, churches and other groups that want to get their messages out to motorists traveling along Dundee Road.

The sign is so popular, however, that it's causing a few problems for the folks at village hall who are in charge of deciding what messages can be placed on it and scheduling when those messages should appear. And the Village of Wheeling is having trouble getting its own messages on the board at times because it has already committed the space to other organizations two or three months ahead of time.

Because of the hassles of scheduling when the messages should run and which organizations should or shouldn't be allowed to use the board, village officials are considering putting some restrictions on the use of the sign. A proposal now pending before the village board would prohibit organizations like the Wheeling Jaycees — the ones who provided the first message sign — from using it to promote their activities. Instead, only governmental organizations, such as the schools or township, would be allowed to use the sign.

We don't think it's right that local organizations be shut out from using the board, and we urge trustees to vote against such restrictions when the issue comes up at their Feb. 1 meeting.

If there's a problem with scheduling or deciding just who should use the signs, then maybe some restrictions are in order. But many local groups rely on the sign as a way to promote their major events of the year, and the village shouldn't just arbitrarily prevent them from continuing to do so.

Instead of prohibiting the groups from using the sign altogether, perhaps the village can put a limit on how many times each year one organization can get its message on the board. The Jaycees, for example, use the sign six or seven times a year. Maybe that group and others should only be allowed to publicize their two most important functions of the year.

The village could also limit use of the board to organizations, schools and churches that are actually based in Wheeling instead of ones that are located in other towns, but serve Wheeling residents.

COUNTRYSIDE 1-14-89

State makes plans to widen Milwaukee Ave.

By Lee Ann Gill
Staff Writer

The drive down Milwaukee Avenue in Wheeling during rush hour is anything but pleasant. But improvements to the state road being proposed by the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) may change all that.

IDOT is considering a plan that would widen existing lanes, provide a median strip, construct turn lanes and auxiliary lanes, install new sewer lines, and replace curbs and gutters along the stretch of Milwaukee Avenue between Palatine Road and Lake-Cook Road.

"It would totally rehabilitate that section of Milwaukee Avenue," said Tony Osnacc, project studies unit engineer for IDOT.

A public hearing on the improvements has been set for 7:30 p.m. Feb. 10. at the Wheeling Village Hall, 255 W. Dundee Road. The meeting will introduce the project to the public and to officials of surrounding communities, said Osnacc.

THE PROJECT COULD be authorized by IDOT sometime this summer, but funding for the improvements will not be awarded until at least 1991, Osnacc said.

Although there is now $1 million set aside for improvements along that stretch of Milwaukee Avenue, Osnacc said that money is only enough to do work on a small section of the road. The total cost of the project has not been determined, he said.

The public hearing will only be the start of what is sure to be a lengthy process, said Osnacc. "We want to show it to the public to get their input. We want it to be compatible with the desires of the community," he said.

Residents and village officials will likely be anxious to see the project become a reality. Improvements to Milwaukee Avenue have already been made to the north and south of Wheeling, said Village President Sheila Schultz, but the stretch through the village has remained in its present condition for years.

"WE'VE DONE general maintenance and safety work, but there has never been general overall improvements," said Osnacc.

"We have the squeeze effect here," Schultz said. "When you look at the improvements north and south, this doesn't measure up to standards. We're anxious to see these improvements."

Included in the improvement plan is the widening of existing lanes from 10 feet to either 11 or 12 feet, which would bring them in line with what IDOT considers a "proper lane width," said Osnacc.

If the project is approved, the $1 million already budgeted for Milwaukee Avenue improvements will be used immediately to repair "the most critical intersection," he said.

HERALD 1-17-89

Trustees consider marquee policy

By C. L. Waller
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Because of increasing requests to use the village marquee on Dundee Road, trustees are considering a policy outlining its use.

"The problem is we have no guidelines now to govern," Wheeling village attorney James Rhodes said. "We're putting up everything."

Trustees will vote on a marquee policy Feb. 1.

Administrative Assistant David Kowal drew up a proposal that says announcements of village functions will be top priority and applications by other groups to use the marquee for an announcement must be made no less than four weeks or more than 12 weeks in advance.

The marquee has become so popular that people book a spot a year in advance and the calendar is filled for two or three months ahead of time, Kowal said.

By considering a marquee policy, Wheeling is apparently making a first in the Northwest Municipal Conference. Kowal said none of the member communities with marquees have a policy in place.

Village Manager Thomas Markus said the problem with the marquee is telling groups what messages are or are not appropriate.

Kowal is forming a statement for the policy that identifies what types of messages are appropriate. Solicitation will not be allowed, he said.

"It seems to me the purpose of the sign is as a public service message board," Markus said.

The proposed policy says the village has the right to approve, reject or edit any messages proposed for the marquee and that any message on the marquee for a governmental body is not an endorsement by the village.

There is no fee for using the marquee and an application does not guarantee approval or create a binding contract with the village, the proposal says.

Applications for use of the marquee must be made to the Department of Finance and Administrative Services.

Countryside 1-14-88

Trustees lean toward fee for senior center

Wheeling trustees will vote next month on whether to establish a membership fee for the village's senior center to offset the cost of operating the facility.

By Lee Ann Gill
Staff Writer

Seniors who use the Wheeling Pavilion Senior Center will likely have to pay a membership fee beginning in May.

The question of whether to charge a yearly $10 fee has been a topic of debate between some seniors and village officials for several months. Some say the fee is unfair, while proponents of the charge say it will help the center grow.

But village trustees Monday seemed to agree that a membership fee would benefit the center's operations. Trustees will vote on establishing a fee next month.

The proposed fee also has the backing of the Wheeling Senior Commission, which acts as an advisory group to the village board. The commission voted 5-1 last spring to recommend establishment of the fee.

IF APPROVED, MONEY collected in fees each year will be included in the senior budget, with no restrictions on how the money is spent at the center. The $10 fee would be charged to non-residents, while residents would be charged only $8, said Pavilion Director Barbara Hansen.

Hansen told trustees the fee would not only help the village pay for operations, but would also give its members "a sense of belonging" to the center.

"Membership at the senior center is beneficial. It promotes cooperation through a sense of belonging," said Hansen. She stressed that a senior who is not a member will not be denied necessary assistance. "People who are not members will not be denied assistance. If there is a financial need, that person will be directed through the social worker," she said.

Hansen said the fee is a way for seniors to feel as though they are paying their own way at the center. "There's a great deal of respect that the seniors have in wanting to pay," she said.

A HANDFUL OF senior citizens were in the audience at Monday's village board meeting, some pushing for the fee and others arguing against it.

Senior commission member Pat Walsdorf cast the only vote opposing the fee when the group voted on the issue last year. "I was the one that voted against it. I will be very interested to see what happens," she said.

(Continued on page 62)

fee should not be charged."

GERTRUDE TRUNDA, ANOTHER senior, said she's tired of not belonging to a group.

"When people ask me I say, 'I really don't belong, but I do attend the senior center,' " she said.

Trustee William Rogers said the seniors should be commended for offering to contribute to the cost of operating the Pavilion. "A vote of gratitude should go to the seniors. I don't think we've ever had an organization come to us and say 'We'd like to pick up some of the tab,' " he said.

And although Trustee Anthony Altieri has doubts about charging seniors, he said as long as most of them favor the idea, so does he.

"REALLY, I have mixed emotions, but in reading the report, I'll defer to their (senior commission members) judgment. If they feel there are benefits, I'd tend to go along with that," said Altieri.

Aside from the use of the senior center and participation in activities there, members of the center will receive the first chance to sign up for programs sponsored by the Indian Trails Library, the Rotary Club and other groups. Seniors now sign up for activities, including trips and parties, on a first-come, first-served basis. Hansen polled 11 area senior centers and discovered that 10 of those chargedfees. Five of the centers, including those in Arlington Heights, Northbrook and Lake Forest, charged higher fees than what Wheeling is proposing. Centers in Deerfield.

THE WEEK AHEAD

Herald 1-17-88

Oil-change site up for trustee OK

The top meeting

Who: Wheeling village board

Where: Wheeling village hall, 255 W. Dundee Road

When: 8 p.m. Monday

A Jiffy Lube could be going up in Wheeling, if village trustees approve site plans for the development.

Trustees will discuss the development at 8 p.m. Monday when they meet at village hall, 255 W. Dundee Road.

The village plan commission is recommending construction of the oil-change business at Dundee and Wolf roads with the stipulation that the developer build a small park nearby.

Called a "vest pocket" park, the area will be landscaped, similar to a landscaped area at Milwaukee Avenue and Dundee Road.

Currently, the site is occupied by a vacant gas station.

Village planners are suggesting that a 10-by-10-foot easement be granted to the village for the small park, but the size is still being negotiated.

Car Care Enterprises, which owns 16 area Jiffy Lube franchises, is developing the property with plans on camouflaging a Federal Aviation Administration runway marker with an eight-foot wooden fence. The marker has become an eyesore on the property because it needs paint and weeds have grown up around it.

The development is half the 40,000 square feet required by village code, but plan commissioners approved of it because it conforms to other standards. Plus, 38 percent of the Jiffy Lube is landscaped. The developer's attorney said the landscaping may be more than any other Jiffy Lube in the country.

In December, plan commissioners turned down a proposal for a joint development with Jiffy Lube and Merlin Muffler. That development was to replace the Martin gasoline station at 621 W. Dundee Road.

Countryside 1-14-88

Board eyes restrictions on use of village hall

Organizations that want to meet in the Wheeling Village Hall may soon have to meet certain criteria to do so.

Although the conference room at village hall has always been open to non-profit groups that need a place to meet, the Wheeling officials have never had any guidelines for the use of the facility.

But if a proposed ordinance now pending before the village board is adopted next month, any group wanting to use the village hall will be required to put down $100 deposit, to pay for any custodial work necessary after the meeting and to carry at least $1 million in liability insurance.

Trustees discussed the proposal at Monday night's village board meeting. Although the number of requests to use the conference room is not that great, officials said it is necessary to have a policy.

"AT SOME point, we need to have a policy that deals with people fairly. I don't want to be in a situation where we say 'It's OK for them, but it's not OK for them,' " said Village Manager Tom Markus.

Initially, village officials were considering opening up the Pavilion Senior Center to outside organizations, but that idea was quickly dismissed. Pavilion Director Barbara Hansen told trustees that there is not a janitor at the Pavilion who could be there during a night meeting and that there are too many valuable items sitting out for the room to be left unattended.

Trustees agreed that it would not be appropriate for outside groups to use the Pavilion Center.

Village President Sheila Schultz said although there are few nights when the village hall conference room is open, it's important to offer it to outside groups.

"THE LACK of meeting rooms (in the village) is a problem. These are public buildings and I think having restrictions is appropriate," said Schultz.Included in the proposed regulations are provisions that call for all meetings be open to the public. Smoking and consuming alcohol would be prohibited, and all groups meeting in village facilities must be covered by liability insurance.

One resident argued that not all groups are large enough to carry insurance. "You're restricting it to organizations that are large enough to have insurance," said Wheeling resident Bob McIntyre. But Markus explained that without insurance, the village is open to potential lawsuits.

And most of the national service organizations, such as the Jaycees and the Lions and Rotary clubs, probably carry insurance, he added.

HERALD 1-19-88

Police stand trial for 'hypnotizing' suspect

By Diane Dungey
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Seven years ago, William Boyd Jr. was accused by the Wheeling Police Department of killing a teenage girl in his back yard.

This week, the Bible college student will accuse the police department of hypnotizing and brainwashing him into confessing to a murder he did not commit.

At stake is a $23 million federal suit against Wheeling police, a Palatine hypnotist hired by the department and four current or former police officers.

The civil case is expected to begin Wednesday before U.S. District Judge William T. Hart.

The hearing, which is expected to continue for a month, will bring back memories of the summer murder of 14-year-old Mary Kosinski — a murder that remains unsolved after charges were dropped against Boyd when a judge ruled the "confession" was inadmissible.

Kosinski's partially-clad body was discovered July 18, 1981 in a storage shed behind Boyd's home that was carpeted and called "the fort" by neighborhood children. She had spent the night there alone after Boyd's father broke up a noisy slumber party that included Boyd, then 14, his 12-year-old sister and another friend.

At the time of Boyd's arrest, police theorized the teenager had a crush on the girl, sneaked back to the shed and murdered her when she fended off his sexual advances. Kosinski was strangled, an eye was blackened and there were bruises and bite marks on her body.

Boyd was questioned for six hours at the Wheeling police station, until he was "dazed, bewildered and physically and mentally exhausted," according to the suit, which was filed in 1983. Police then called in Clarence Trausch, a psychotherapist and former Wheeling police officer.

The lawsuit says Trausch hypnotized the boy and used "brainwashing techniques" to obtain a confession that led a Cook County grand jury to indict Boyd. Boyd confessed to suffocating the girl with a pillow, a story that differed from the coroner's finding that she had been strangled.

Boyd's attorney, Michael Norris, also said the police illegally detained Boyd in the hours before his confession by leading him to believe he could not leave their custody.

Norris' arguments persuaded a circuit court judge to rule that Boyd's confession could not be used against him. Left with little other evidence, prosecutors dropped charges in 1983 against Boyd, who now is a student at the Moody Bible Institute in Chicago.

Attorneys for the Wheeling Police Department and for Trausch declined comment on the eve of the hearing but previously argued Trausch used "guided relaxation."

HERALD 1-19-88

Village, union negotiate on negotiations

By Keri Wyatt
Daily Herald Staff Writer

The Wheeling firefighters' union and the village administration are working on an agreement to continue contract negotiations after staying away from the bargaining table for nine months.

Negotiations broke down last spring when the village appealed an Illinois Labor Relations Board decision that said lieutenants should be included in the Wheeling Firefighters Association. However, both sides say that despite the unresolved legal appeal, they are negotiating over whether they'll negotiate before the appeal is decided.

"We hope we're close to reaching an agreement," said Bart Burns, union president. "We're trying to agree about whether we can negotiate during the interim of the appeal in court." He noted that the appeal could take "six months, a year, or longer" to get through court.

Negotiations between the firefighters union and the village began in January 1986. At that time, the union included only rank-and-file firefighters, not lieutenants. The union's request to include six lieutenants in the bargaining unit was rejected by the village but upheld by the Illinois Labor Relations Board in November 1986. The village contested that ruling last March, and contract negotiations — and salaries — have since been at a standstill.

"Our pay schedule is the same as it was on May 1, 1985," Burns said. Although that schedule includes annual step increases, "most of the guys are at the top step, so it doesn't affect them."

James A. Rhodes, Wheeling village attorney, said attorney James Barid is currently handling the case, and "has been talking to them," about reopening negotiations. He noted that as long as the appeal is pending, the village's position is that any contract negotiations would not include the lieutenants.

"Lieutenants are supervisors, and exempt from the union," Rhodes said. "There have been talks to get the two sides back to the bargaining table, but I'm unsure of the status. I know it can't be with the lieutenants."

HERALD 1-20-88

Wheeling approves oil change shop

By Keri Wyatt
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Wheeling trustees approved construction of a quick oil change shop for the corner of Wolf and Dundee roads, which currently houses an abandoned gas station.

Trustees said they were enthusiastic about the shop's plans, which include grass, trees and bushes over most of the front corner of the site. Since the shop, Jiffy Lube, is a drive-through facility, less space is needed for parking.

"Parking spaces were not as necessary as greening," Richard DiBernardo, real estate representative for Jiffy Lube, told the trustees. DiBernardo explained that the company plans to landscape one-third of the 20,000-square-foot lot, and put in just seven parking spaces, to be used mostly by employees. There will be room for about 10 cars to wait behind the building for oil changes.

The oil drained from cars will be stored in EPA-approved underground tanks and picked up by trucks and taken to approved disposal facilities. The new Jiffy Lube will have three bays where oil changes, transmission fluid changes and other routine maintenance will be done.

Customers will enter from Wolf Road, and exit onto Dundee. DiBernardo estimates that the garage will serve about 40 customers a day.

"That's a lot less traffic than a gas station or a restaurant, which is good," Trustee Elizabeth A. Hartman said.

Construction is expected to begin in March, and Jiffy Lube should be open for business by June.

Thursday, January 21, 1988 Daily He

HERALD 1-21-88

Suspect in teen's death sues cops

By Kathy Schaeffer
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Wheeling police used "a manufactured product of the fright and despair of a young boy" to wrongly accuse William Boyd Jr. of killing a 14-year-old girl in his backyard seven years ago, Boyd's attorney told a federal court jury Wednesday.

But lawyers for Wheeling said they had good cause to suspect Boyd in the still-unsolved murder case.

Boyd, 21, a student and employee at The Moody Bible Institute in Chicago, is suing the Wheeling Police Department, four current or former police officers and a psychotherapist.

He claims they violated his civil rights by hypnotizing him so he would confess to the July 18, 1981 murder of Mary Kosinski. He charges the police told his mother, Carol, that her son would not need an attorney, and said that he would not be prosecuted and sent to jail, but sent to a hospital, instead.

Boyd and his mother are seeking $23 million in damages in the civil suit.

"They didn't have the facts to hold him and he denied the crime," his attorney, Anthony Pinelli, said. Then, he said, after countless hours of interrogation at the police station, "They not only told Bill Boyd he killed Mary Kosinski, they told him how he killed Mary Kosinski."

But Wheeling's attorney, Elizabeth Brown, said police had several facts to make them suspicious.

Not long after discovering Kosinski's body in the shed, "Bill was cordial and hospitable with the officers. He brought them lemonade in the backyard," Brown said, and showed little emotional reaction to the grisly scene he had found, she said.

"As the police gathered more and more information," Brown said, "they believed they had a motive to arrest him."

She said police read Boyd his Miranda rights four times and Boyd understood them. "Bill will testify that when (an officer) read him his rights he understood them," Brown told jurors.

Brown said his actions the morning Kosinski's body was discovered in a shed behind the Boyd's Wheeling home made police suspect him, so they immediately told him he had the right to remain silent.

On the night of the murder, Boyd, Kosinski, Boyd's sister and another teen-ager were playing strip poker in the shed, but Kosinski rebuffed Boyd's advances, said attorney Robert Shuftan, who represents Clarence Trausch, the psychotherapist and former Wheeling police officer who is accused of hypnotizing Boyd.

"Bill Boyd left the fort that night both emotionally and sexually frustrated," Shuftan said.

"He looks up and says, 'She's done it once too many times. She's done it once too often,'" Shuftan said Boyd told police.

Shuftan said Trausch's only aim was to help a troubled young man remember what he couldn't, and did not hypnotize him.

The trial resumes today in the courtroom of U.S. District Judge William T. Hart.

HERALD 1-21-88

Gas tax makes rounds

The Northwest Municipal Conference's transportation committee Wednesday sent a proposal for a 3-cent-a-gallon gasoline tax to its legislative committee to determine if it should be part of legislation sent to the Illinois General Assembly this spring. A final decision will be made by the full conference board next month. Officials said the tax would generate about $66 million annually to pay for mass transit and road projects in Cook, Lake, DuPage, McHenry, Will and Kane counties.

Trimming the tree

Worker Joe Delagraz sends a tree through a wood chipper as part of the Wheeling's tree trimming program along Hintz Road Monday. Crews were out cutting branches and making wood chips out of trees on parkways throughout the village. *(Staff photo by Daniel White)*

Two businesses get tax breaks

Wheeling trustees approved property tax breaks for two companies that will expand their manufacturing lines in the village.

Ron Lemmon/Cano Assembly of Chicago and Tool King Inc. of Wheeling were approved for Class 6b property tax exemptions which will save both companies money during the first 12 years of operation in the new facilities.

Trustees unanimously approved both companies for the tax exemption program on Monday. Ron Lemmon/Cano, which packages candy for different confectionary companies, will save $95,000 in property taxes over the 12 years in the 6b program. The company will construct an 18,000 square-foot building on Alderman Avenue.

Tool King Inc., located at 275 Larkin Avenue in Wheeling, will expand its production lines by doubling the size of the current building. The tool company will save around $66,000 in property taxes over the 12 years in the program.

The 6b program was designed by Cook County to attract new and growing manufacturing firms to the suburbs. The tax incentive program offers a cut in a company's property assessment from 38 to 16 percent of the market value during the first eight years of operation. For four years after that, the assessment stands at 30 percent. After 12 years of operation the property assessment level returns to the normal market value for that property in the county.

Countryside 1-21-88

No squeaks heard over Jiffy Lube proposal

By Lee Ann Gill
Staff Writer

A Jiffy Lube car care facility will soon be available to motorists driving through Wheeling.

Village trustees unanimously approved construction of the business on the northeast corner of Dundee and Wolf roads. The 20,000 square foot parcel eyed for development is where a service station was located. Jiffy Lube officials were granted a special use to the existing B-4 zoning to develop on that property.

The facility will be constructed this spring, said Richard DiBernardo, real estate investor representing the company.

DiBernardo answered a string of questions by trustees on everything from what parking will be available to where the company will store its oil on the site.

ASIDE FROM A few stalls constructed for employees, parking will be non-existent, said DiBernardo. "There is no customer parking," he explained to trustees. Jiffy Lube customers wait in their cars until it's time for the cars to be serviced. And while the work is being done — which generally takes around 10 minutes — customers wait in the lounge area.

"That's the Jiffy Lube way of operating," said DiBernardo. He estimated between 30 and 40 cars would be worked on at the new facility in a ten hour period. The peak hours for customers will be between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. — "shoppers hours," said DiBernardo.

Customers will enter the facility off of an already existing drive along Wolf Road and exit from an existing drive onto Dundee Road.

DiBernardo assured trustees the operation was safe to the environment. The company offers a 14-point service, said DiBernardo. But, he said, "there are no mechanical functions performed accept the draining of fluid. It's all done below ground level. The oil is stored under ground in tanks approved by the IEPA (Illinois Environmental Protection Agency)." The oil is then pumped out of the tanks and taken away every two or three weeks, he said.

AN EXTENSIVE LANDSCAPING plan, including shrubs, flowering trees and evergreens, pleased trustees. "This is a very attractive landscaping plan," said trustee Elizabeth Hartman. "There's lots of greenery. It's a very, very well thought out plan," agreed Trustee William Rogers.

A corner of the lot will remain open and landscaped in the event of future development, said DiBernardo.

Village Manager Tom Markus said the board could not have considered a restaurant or other "high demand parking" use on that property and that the Jiffy Lube served as a good alternative.

Herald 1-23-88

Pal-Waukee urges noise reduction

By James P. Bozikis
and Dan Rozek
Daily Herald Staff Writers

Prospect Heights and Wheeling should change take-off procedures and limit night use of Pal-Waukee Municipal Airport to reduce jet noise, airport commissioners are recommending.

The plan approved by the airport commission also recommends rezoning some land surrounding the airport from residential use to commercial or industrial use.

Under the plan, jet pilots would have to reduce the thrust of their engines immediately following takeoff, cutting engine noise, consultant Max A. Wolfe said.

Another change calls for pilots taking off from the main runway to turn left immediately after takeoff to avoid flying over a residential neighborhood in Wheeling. The turn will route planes mostly over vacant or commercial areas.

Commissioner Carey L. Chickerneo said those changes in procedures should cause a "perceptible" drop in noise near the airport, although not for property bordering it.

"Farther away (the drop) will be perceptible," said Chickerneo, a Prospect Heights resident. "For people right on top of the airport, perceptibly it will not make a great deal of difference."

The plan being recommended prohibits the noisiest aircraft — those that exceed certain decibel levels — from using the airport between 10 p.m. and 7 a.m.

It also bans routine engine "runups" — maintenance tests, which are very noisy — during those hours.

A representative of the Pal-Waukee Airport Pilots Association said he is concerned the restriction might disrupt some customers who use the airport at night, or at least work on planes at night.

"At night is when they're not flying, so that's when they're doing maintenance," said Barry Axelrod, an association board member. But Axelrod said he is not convinced those restrictions would be a major problem.

Airport manager Fred E. Stewart said he is uncertain that the towns could enforce a ban on noisy planes at night.

"But I'm willing to attempt it," he said.

Other parts of the plan call for Wheeling and Prospect Heights to rezone land near the airport from residential use to commercial or industrial use, to lessen the noise impact on residents.

Both towns must approve the noise plan before it will go into effect.

Countryside 1-21-89

$23 million suit vs. village ready to begin

A $23 million civil suit brought against the Village of Wheeling and its police department in connection with the handling of a 1981 murder investigation was set for jury selection yesterday.

William Boyd, now 21, of Wheeling was charged but not convicted by a circuit court of murdering and sexually assaulting 14-year old Mary Kosinski in July, 1981 in his own back yard. Boyd filed a lawsuit in 1983 charging that village police mistreated him during a lengthy interrogation shortly after the murder.

Defendants named in the case are the Village of Wheeling and its police department; three Wheeling police officers; Ronald Nelson, then acting police chief; Clarence Trausch, a former Wheeling policeman and psychotherapist and Jeffrey Zehe, then an assistant Cook County state's attorney.

BOYD IS SEEKING $5 million in damages from the village and $3 million from each of the other defendants.

Boyd, now a student at Moody Bible Institute, charges he was coerced into making a false confes-

(Continued on page 11)

Countryside 1-21-89

Lawsuit—

(Continued from page 5)

sion by Trausch, who he said brainwashed him. Boyd's attorney, Michael Norris said Wheeling police kept Boyd against his will during the time before his confession, telling him that he could not leave. Norris was successful in convincing a circuit court judge that Boyd's confession was not admissible evidence and in 1983 the charges were dropped.

Now, said Norris, it's "Bill's chance to let everybody really know what happened that night. It's been eight years. There has been a lot of incredible evidence found." Norris would not give details of that evidence. No other suspects have ever been arrested in connection with the case.

On the night of July 17, 1981, Boyd, then a 14-year old Wheeling High School freshman, his sister Barbara, another boy and Kosinski were playing in the shed behind Boyd's home. After Boyd's father reportedly broke up the gathering, Kosinski spent the night there alone.

SHE WAS FOUND the next day, dead of strangulation. She had a blackened eye and bite marks and scratches on her body. Police charged that Boyd returned to the shed around 2 a.m. and killed her — theorizing that he had a crush on her and was angry because she would not respond to his sexual advances.

However, the cause of death as reported by the coroner did not match the "confession" Boyd made while under hypnosis which was that he suffocated her with a pillow.

But the civil suit trial which Norris expects to last for at least a month, will bring out new evidence about that night, he said. "An incredible amount — you have to hear it."

The case will be tried in front of U.S. District Court Judge William Hart.

NORRIS SAID HE is confident that he can win the case for his client. "I am confident. I was confident when I defened him at the criminal trial," he said. "The jury will tell us if I'm right or if I'm wrong."

Attorneys representing the village could not be reached for comment on the trial.

Countryside 1-21-89

Conference asks for more cash for landfill

By Susan Montgomery
Staff Writer

As Chicago-area landfills near their capacity, a consortium of northwest and north suburban communities is still striving to build a $35 million landfill facility near Bartlett.

In the next several weeks, the Northwest Municipal Conference plans to ask its 31 member communities, including Buffalo Grove and Wheeling, to pledge funds to raise some $5.5 million to help finance the project.

Those are only the start-up costs involved in building the conference's proposed 200-acre landfill, at Ill. 25 and W. Bartlett Rd., west of Bartlett. A long-term financing plan for the balefill will take a few years to develop, according to project planners.

NWMC OFFICIALS are confident that most of the conference's municipal members will agree to commit funds, because members already have spent several thousand dollars to plan and legally buttress the project. Said Clarene Hall, the conference's president and the village president of Winnetka, "Over the past seven years, we've all been so supportive of this plan. My hope is that the momentum will continue."

The landfill, dubbed a "balefill" because trash would be compressed into bales before being buried, was planned to serve the conference's 31 member towns and seven townships in Cook and Lake counties.

Plans for it have won the Cook County Board's approval, but still must be approved by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency.

Conference officials expect an IEPA permit will be applied for by late summer, and the facility will be operating by early 1989.

The conference, which has coordinated all the advance planning and design for the project, will bow out of implementation and administration of the balefill plan once the intergovernmental agency is formed.

CONFERENCE MEMBERS ARE now reviewing draft agreements that will create the intergovernmental agency to oversee the landfill and set initial financing arrangements.

Being able to have input into policy decisions for the landfill is one reason NWMC members might want to join the agency, said Hall.

The agency will set users' rates for the landfill, and decide whether nonmember towns will have access to it, said Buffalo Grove Village Mgr. William Balling, who co-chairs an NWMC subcommittee on solid waste management. Also yet to be decided are locations for transfer stations.

The conference is hoping at least 10 member municipalities will approve both measures by March 15.

In the unlikely event that fewer than 10 towns pledge financial support, conference officials would likely lobby their other member towns for support, said conference president Hall.

Herald 1-21-89

Firefighters court case set

Lawyers for the Wheeling Firefighters Association and the village of Wheeling will argue their case Thursday before an appellate court in Chicago.

Last spring, the village appealed an Illinois Labor Relations Board decision that allowed lieutenants to be part of the union's bargaining unit.

Since then, negotiations on a contract have virtually stood still. When the contract talks began in January 1986, the firefighters union included only firefighters, not lieutenants. The union's request to include six lieutenants in the bargaining unit was rejected by the village but upheld by the Illinois Labor Relations Board in November 1986.

The village contends that lieutenants, because of their supervisory duties, should not be part of the union. The firefighters voted to include them after the lieutenants requested it in February 1986.

HERALD 1-26-88

Credit union: exec pocketed 'service fees'

By Chris Szechenyi
Daily Herald Investigative Editor

A former vice president of a now-defunct credit union in Wheeling is under investigation on allegations he fraudulently authorized bad loans and pocketed service fees that shouldn't have been charged to customers.

The FBI has turned evidence against Thomas Nars, 31, over to the U.S. attorney's office in Chicago.

Steve Lindberg and Michael Mann, attorneys for Nars, declined comment. Nars also refused to discuss the matter.

The FBI has issued subpoenas and taken statements from witnesses, a credit union document says, and a federal grand jury has been assigned the case. Steve Miller, the assistant U.S. Attorney handling the case, declined comment.

Nars, of 290 South Willie Ave., Wheeling, worked at the American Law Enforcement Credit Union until April 23, 1984, when he resigned as vice president of mortgage lending to take another job. A month later, allegations arose about his loan practices, a report filed by the credit union with its insurer says.

The credit union, once affiliated with the Combined Counties Police Asssociation, one of the largest unions in Illinois representing police officers, went out of business last year amid allegations of mismanagement. The State Department of Financial Institutions took over operation of the credit union and eventually liquidated it.

Until now, however, details of the financial institution's problems never have emerged. The credit union's report to its insurer, Wisconsin-based Cumis Insurance Society Inc., blames $769,889 in losses on Nars' alleged activities between June 30, 1983 and the date of his departure.

Brenda Seipel, supervisor of the credit union division of the state regulatory department, said Nars' alleged loan practices helped pushed the credit union toward insolvency.

"That definitely contributed to it," she said. "The delinquency problem and bad lending practices contributed to the credit union's demise."

The organization's report says Nars charged 75 credit union members a total of $9,825 in various improper fees during a 10-month period. In violation of the credit union's policy, Nars charged borrowers for his services, collected the money and

See FRAUD on Page 3

HERALD 1-26-88

FRAUD: Feds investigate former credit union exec

Continued from Page 1

deposited those checks into his account, the 19-page report claims.

The charges he allegedly made to mortgagers included documentation preparation expenses, travel expenses and inspection fees, the report says. It also says he made loans to two people he claimed to be his relatives, but who were discovered to be unrelated.

"The credit union's policy has always been to make loans only to credit union members or their relatives, and to charge borrowers only for points and for charges by outside professionals or agencies," the report says.

"Although these fees were charged to and paid by borrowers, none were ever reflected as income to the credit union," the report says.

The allegedly illicit charges came to light May 9, 1984, when a customer contacted Nars' assistant with questions about entries on his mortgage loan settlement sheet. The sheet prepared by Nars listed a $200 document preparation expense and a $45 travel expense.

Afterward, the credit union's president, Edwin R. Uhrik, inspected other loan files handled by Nars and discovered that similar charges had been made to other members, the report says. When confronted with the findings, Nars defended his actions, saying the customers should have paid fees for his services.

The credit union's auditors subsequently reviewed the loan files and found a dozen loans that Nars had made and were later defaulted upon.

HERALD 1-27-88

Police dog's career over before it started

By Keri Wyatt
Daily Herald Staff Writer

The crime-fighting career of a young rookie with the Wheeling Police Department was cut short by illness this week, even before he officially started.

Max, who was to be Wheeling Police Department's first police dog and encompass the entire canine unit, was diagnosed as having epilepsy early this week.

Police chief Michael Haeger said the dog's handler noticed the German Shepherd having a spasm when he went to pick him up last Friday. Extensive medical tests revealed an epileptic condition this week, Haeger said, which means, "he'd be fine as a pet, but not as a police dog," he said.

Haeger noted that the dog is guaranteed, so another dog, currently in training, may take Max's place.

"We also have another dog we're looking at, so we have a choice of two," he said.

Although epilepsy is not uncommon in German Shepherds, because of generations of cross-breeding, Haeger said Max's line did not have a history of the illness.

He said the dog's handler, Officer Jim Benson, is disappointed because he and his family have become attached to Max, who was living with them.

HERALD 1-27-88

Hearing held on repair project

By Keri Wyatt
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Residents and business owners who will be most affected by the $14 million construction of Milwaukee Avenue are invited to a Feb. 10 public hearing to discuss the project.

Starting at 7:30 p.m. in the Wheeling Village Hall, 255 W. Dundee Road, Illinois Department of Transportation representatives will discuss plans to repair Milwaukee Avenue between Lake-Cook Road and Palatine Road.

Construction could begin as early as the summer of 1990 but will require the acquisition of several pieces of property, said Tony Osnacz, IDOT project studies unit engineer.

"Some buildings will have to be taken down completely, and others we may take the front four or five feet and put up a new front," Osnacz said.

Wheeling Village Manager Thomas M. Markus also said that although the project is funded by the state, "we may get involved in land acquisition if necessary." Land that may be needed will be identified at the Feb. 10 meeting.

Since Milwaukee Avenue is a state route, the project will be funded entirely by road funds controlled by the state of Illinois. However, Markus said that it may be a while before the state actually has the money to complete the project.

"They hold the public hearing so they can go ahead with the project when they get the funding," Markus said. Osnacz said the agency has about $1 million in federal and state funds available for the work.

The work is scheduled to begin sometime between July 1, 1990 and June 30, 1993.

The Milwaukee Avenue project includes adding a middle turn lane, widening lanes that are too narrow, reconstructing some parts of the road and resurfacing others. A more modern closed drainage system will also be installed, Osnacz added.

Although it is not related to the village downtown redevelopment plan, Marcus said, "Overall, whatever the final plan is, it will add to the appearance in the area."

HERALD 1-26-88

Town remembers trustee Donald Welflin

By Keri Wyatt
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Services will be held Wednesday for former Wheeling trustee Donald E. Welflin, a member of one of Wheeling's first families.

Welflin, 67, served as a trustee from 1949 to 1953, according to his brother Edward C. Welflin, who currently resides in Rolling Meadows. Edward was also a Wheeling trustee a few years later.

Services will begin at 2 p.m. at Kolssak Golden Rule Funeral Home, 189 S. Milwaukee Ave., Wheeling.

Welflin served as a captain in the U.S. Army during World War II. His father ran a general store in Wheeling, which he opened about 1916. Donald and Edward Welflin took over the store after their father died, and ran it "until the Jewel grocery store opened, then he converted it to a sporting goods store," Edward remembers.

Marshall Balling, first cousin to the Welflins, grew up with Donald and remembers him as a sports enthusiast.

"He played golf, and baseball. I guess he was a pretty good softball player while he was in the Army. He was their star pitcher."

Welflin was married twice. He met his first wife while stationed in New York. They had just one child, John, who is a music teacher in Higginsville, Mo.

Edward Welflin said a favorite family story about his brother involved his Army training, when he was an officer's candidate alongside none other than Clark Gable.

Edward said he and his brother got into politics because "the town was quite small then, and we were an old-time family, so we knew the town." Their grandfather, Chris Welflin, was one of the first settlers in Wheeling. A harness maker, he came to the United States from the Alsace-Lorraine region in France during the mid-1800's.

Donald Welflin was a widower living in Higginsville with his son when he died last week. He came back up to Chicago last year to attend a class reunion of classmates from the old Arlington High School.

Former Wheeling Mayor A. R. McIntyre said Welflin was a "nice guy. They used to have a carnival in Wheeling every year, it was a big thing here. He had a booth there."

HERALD 1-27-88

Village gas taxes not expected

By Pete Nenni
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Area leaders say they don't expect home-rule suburbs to enact their own gasoline taxes to pay for road improvements, despite predictions from gasoline dealers that more communities will use the power to generate revenue.

William Grams, executive director of the Northwest Municipal Conference, said conference members prefer to raise money to combat traffic problems by pushing for a legislative increase in the state's gas tax that would cover all towns in Cook County and the five collar counties, not just those with home-rule powers.

The "spotiness" of enacting gas taxes on a town-by-town basis would cause an economic problem for gas stations bordering suburbs without the tax and be a collection and enforcement headache for municipalities with the tax, he said.

Home-rule authority — to exercise powers pertaining to its government, including to license, tax and incur debt — is granted to municipalities with populations of more than 25,000 or any county that elects a chief executive officer (currently, only Cook County).

Of the 31 towns in the Northwest Municipal Conference, 21 are home rule. And a majority of the 267 communities in the six county region do not have home-rule powers, Grams said.

After the Illinois Supreme Court ruled Monday to uphold a 5-cent-a-gallon gas tax for the city of Chicago to generate money for property tax abatements, leaders of the Illinois Gasoline Dealers Association said the decision encourages every home-rule community to pass a similar tax.

The dealers had challenged Chicago's tax and argued that it violated the city's home-rule taxing powers because the anticipated revenue would be used to abate city property taxes.

Grams said home-rule towns had the power to enact gas taxes for highway purposes even before Monday's ruling.

But conference officials have decided to pursue a regional gas tax proposal, which could be sent to the Illinois General Assembly this spring. If approved, the increase would be tacked onto the state tax and collected by the state.

Conference members are considering a 3-cent-a-gallon gas tax increase, but Grams said the amount may change. The conference will hold its annual legislative breakfast in February and members probably will urge area legislators to hold a bi-partisan summit to address the region's transportation needs.

A 3-cent per gallon gas tax would generate about $66 million annually for mass transit and road projects in Cook, Lake, DuPage, McHenry, Will and Kane counties. It is one of several ideas being considered to help reduce traffic congestion in the region.

HERALD 1-27-88

Pilots group seeks nominations

The Pal-Waukee Airport Pilots Association (PAPA), is looking for nominations for its recently established distinguished service award. The award will be given to "the person or persons who have made a significant contribution to the Pal-Waukee Airport community in recent years," according to Barry Axelrod, chairman of the award committee. Names should be submitted to Axelrod, PAPA, P.O. Box 1611, Northbrook, IL 60065. Include nominees name, address, phone number and reasons for consideration. Also include your own name, address and phone number. The award will be presented at a general meeting of PAPA this spring.

HERALD 1-30-88

Wheeling: Milwaukee plan full of potholes

By Keri Wyatt
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Wheeling plan commissioners say the proposed improvements to Milwaukee Avenue may not be sufficient to handle the traffic.

After reviewing Illinois Department of Transportation plans for a $14 million widening and resurfacing project, commission chairman Paul Eisterhold said he was "disappointed."

"I think the state comes in with the base minimum," he said, "And they expect the villages to fight a bit to get more. I'm a little disappointed in what the state has proposed."

Tony Osnacz, IDOT project studies unit engineer, said IDOT isn't planning a complete reconstruction of Milwaukee Avenue.

"We are trying to rehabilitate the existing road, enhance its safety," he said. "What we have planned is to merely upgrade. We want to protect what we have there, and make the road usable for another 20 years."

The commission reviewed the plans in preparation for a public meeting on the project scheduled for Feb. 10. The plans, which will be presented to the public at 7:30 p.m. at village hall, call for the addition of a middle turning lane, widening some lanes, reconstruction of parts of the road and resurfacing of others.

Eisterhold urged residents to attend the meeting. "Public input is needed to push the state into doing more," he said. "Not just people who live or work on Milwaukee, but people who drive on it. This is going to affect the interchanges at Dundee, Lake Cook and Hintz roads.

That property will be identified at the Feb. 10 meeting.

HERALD 1-31-88

Plan commission OKs sign at bank

By Keri Wyatt
Daily Herald Staff Writer

The Cole-Taylor Bank in Wheeling will have a new sign soon, after the Wheeling Plan Commission approved the change by a narrow margin.

Paul Eisterhold, commission chairman, said the commission is trying to "minimize trade advertisements on signs," so when the bank, located at 350 E. Dundee Road, wanted to add a "Cash Station" sign to its directional sign, he and commissioner Tery Steilen opposed it.

"They wanted to add the Cash Station sign to let people know it's there. Not every bank has this 24-hour service," Eisterhold said. "We had a split on whether it is directional or advertising."

The commission finally voted 3-2 in favor of the new sign, but specified it had to be designed in a similar way to the existing "Enter Here" sign.

Commissioners also gave final approval to two new developments, both located near Wheeling High School.

The subdivisions Eastchester of Wheeling and Clarewood were unanimously approved.

Clarewood subdivision, located at the northeast corner or Schoenbeck and Hintz roads, is located on what was formerly known as the Schwind property.

The new houses will use the detention basin in the adjacent Long Tree subdivision, and also be part of the Long Tree homeowners association.

The Eastchester subdivision is the second phase of that development, located east of Elmhurst Road, north of Kristy Lane. It is surrounded on three sides by other single family homes.

Construction of both new developments is expected to begin this spring.

1-28-88 HERALD

Questions raised over murder investigation

Federal jurors this week began hearing testimony in the trial of a $23 million lawsuit filed against the Village of Wheelin by William Boyd, who claims police coerced him into co 1981 murder.

By Lee Ann Gill
Staff Writer

A former Wheeling police official in charge of a 1981 murder investigation told a federal jury this week he had concerns about the techniques used to elicit a murder confession from the man suspected of the crime.

Ronald Nelson, who was acting police chief at the time, testified during the first week of a trial in U.S. District Court in a $23 million lawsuit filed by William Boyd against the Village of Wheeling and its police department. The suit was filed in connection with the handling of the murder of Wheeling teenager Mary Kosinski. Boyd, who filed the suit in 1983, was charged, but not convicted of killing Kosinski in his backyard.

Boyd, now 21 and a student at the Moody Bible Institute in Chicago, filed the suit against the department and individuals involved in the murder investigation, claiming police coerced him into making a false confession on the night following the murder. The suit also alleges that Boyd's civil rights were violated during the investigation. The trial is expected to last about a month.

In Nelson's testimony on Tuesday, he recalled his concerns during the investigation that former Wheeling police investigator William Hoos was "programming" Boyd with his repetitive techniques. Nelson remembers a conversation with Hoos during the investigation when Hoos told him, "I feel we may be programming the boy."

NELSON EXPLAINED TO the jury that programming occurs when questions begin to become too repetitious. "To avoid the possibility of projecting your thoughts into his, as opposed to his thoughts coming out to you," the process should not continue for a long time, said Nelson. "You're not going to get a true statement of the facts if you do that."

Testimony from other witness this week also raised questions about the police department's investigation into the murder. Other points brought up at Tuesday's trial included:

● Hoos testified that although he was not trying to get Boyd to confess to the murder, he repeated, several times, "Billy, you killed Mary." Hoos was inconsistent, however, when recalling whether Boyd denied his accusations. According to Boyd's attorney, Tony Pinelli, Hoos testified during the 1983 murder trial that Boyd denied killing her during the investigation. But on Tuesday, Hoos said he could not recall Boyd denying the murder.

● Clarence Trausch, a trained psychotherapist and former Wheeling police youth officer, told the jury he did not come to the police station the night of the investigation to ge from Boyd, but only to h what happened the night Trausch did in fact get B on July 18, around 3:20 a.n

● Loraine Taylor, a frie family, testified that Wh convinced Boyd's mother attorney present during because it would only "s investigation."

The murder occurred July 17, 1981. Boyd, the High School freshmar Barbara, another boy, a Kosinski were playing st shed in Boyd's backyard, testimony made by Hoo Tuesday. After the gather Kosinski spent the night bag in the shed. Her partia was discovered the next m

When Boyd was first br station around 2 p.m. the murder, Hoos said he ha Boyd was involved in the n wasn't until after about investigation that he w Boyd should be a suspect.

HOOS, JOHN STONE Theriault, all former Wh investigators, interviewe youths who were with night before her death. The at least four times the discuss possible suspects.

Once the department pursue an investigation wi used "repetitive tech questioning him, recalle repeated details as he re We looked for inconsisten time to the next," Hoos sai

Pinelli said that althou Hoos he was telling the t denied killing Kosinski, repeating — about 20 tim want is the truth."

Hoos testified that he al at least six times, tha remember" what happene although Boyd's memory Hoos said the last remembered after going getting up to go to the kit lemonade and looking window into the yard.

ASIDE FROM INTE with Hoos, Boyd was int investigator Stone and wa by Trausch. Trausch to investigation where Hoos

"It seemed to me th probably be the best perso and interview Mr. Boyd," said Nelson. It was after Trausch used what he called "guided relaxation techniques," that Boyd made a confession.

Trausch said he didn't even know all of the details of the murder, and that he didn't want to know them. "I told him I

(Continued on page 11)

HERALD 1-28-88

Questions raised—

(Continued from page 5)

didn't want to know any more than I had already known," he said. "None of that was important. I was down there in regards to loss of memory."

Throughout the lengthy investigation, Boyd's mother was asked by police not to be present during interviews with her son, said Pinelli. Police interrogated Boyd continuously from early afternoon until he signed a confession at 3:20 a.m.

AND ALTHOUGH BOYD'S attorneys claim their client was not told he could leave the station during the hours before he was named a suspect, Hoos said he could have left at any time.

Pinelli questioned the length of the interrogation and recalled for the jury reports that depicted Boyd wrapped in a blanket, shivering and crying intermittently during the investigation.

"Was it necessary for him to recover his memory that night?" Pinelliasked Nelson. "Was it your intent to obtain a confession before Boyd had a lawyer?" Nelson said that was not the police department's intention that night.

In continued testimony, Taylor recalled trying to convince Carol Boyd to get an attorney long before her son signed the confession.

SHE TOLD THE jury that investigator Theriault "yelled at her" for trying to get involved that night. Taylor drove Carol Boyd to the police station the day after the murder to be with her son who was taken there for questioning a few hours earlier.

When Taylor realized the extent of the interrogation, she suggested to her friend that it might be best to get a lawyer.

"The police told her they weren't there to hurt Billy, they were only there to help him and he didn't need an attorney," recalled Taylor. "He said an attorney was not necessary at that time, an attorney would only slow down the investigation."

When they first arrived at the station, Taylor said Boyd asked to see her son, but she was told to sit down and wait for somebody to come out to talk with her. A while later, Nelson came in the room and brought Carol Boyd to see her son, said Taylor.

her testimony saying he was a "very outgoing boy — very conscientious, very polite and fun to be around."

Taylor said her son Scott has been friends with Boyd since they were young. She was the den mother for their scout troop for three years.

"He doesn't really come over to our house anymore," said Taylor.

Elizabeth Brown and Byron Knight are the attorneys representing the village, the police department, the three former investigators and Nelson. Pinelli long with Michael Norris are representing Boyd and his mother. Attorney Bob Shufton is **representing Trausch.**

TAYLOR THEN LEFT the station because police told Carol Boyd that they would give her and her son a ride home. Taylor came back to the station a few hours later, however, out of concern for her friend.

"She was coming apart at the seams. She wasn't the same person I had brought over there at 6:30 p.m.," she said.

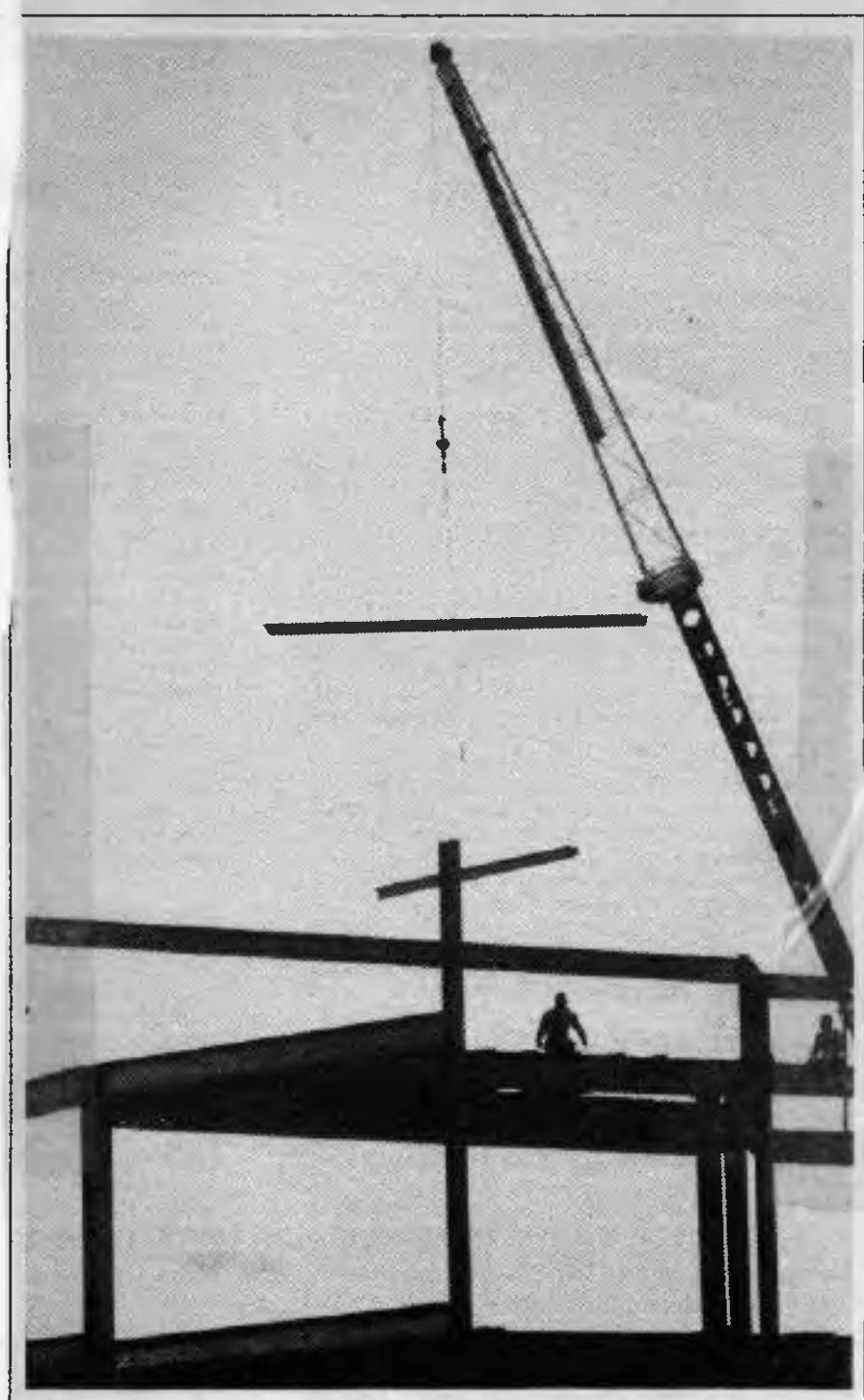
Taylor said she suggested to the investigators that they let William Boyd go home and get some rest, but they told her they were not finished talking with him.

And Taylor said police assured her that whatever they had done so far was with the permission of Carol and William Boyd.

BUT TAYLOR SAID her friend was in no condition to know what was right and what wrong. "She was like in a daze. She really didn't even know what was going on, let alone comprehend what was going on. She was upset; she was nervous," recalled Taylor.

Taylor praised William Boyd during

1-28-88 HERALD



Going up

Despite the snow and chilly temperatures, work continues on the construction of a new regional facility for Federal Express on Lake-Cook Road Friday. The building, which will house company executives and operators who will man the switchboards for the company, is expected to be completed this year. *(Staff photo by Daniel White)*

HERALD 1-28-88

Meals program grows thanks to volunteers

By Lee Ann Gill
Staff Writer

More Wheeling seniors are having hot meals delivered to them thanks to a new volunteer program co-sponsored by the Pavilion Senior Center.

A Meals on Wheels program, which is already delivering food on a daily basis to six Wheeling residents, is being run by volunteers from the Helping Hands program, which is co-sponsored by the Pavilion Center and Our Lady of the Brook Church in Northbrook.

In the past, Helping Hands volunteers have reached out to homebound seniors by giving them rides to doctors, paying them visits or helping with grocery shopping. The program began last year to help meet the various needs of area seniors.

But the latest volunteer endeavor will help seniors eat balanced, hot meals every day without having to cook or leave their homes. Seniors served by the program either pay $2.75 for one hot meal each day, which is served around noon, or $4.75 per day for a hot and a cold meal delivered together at noon.

ALTHOUGH WHEELING Township also sponsors a similar program, the township is limited in how residents it can serve, said Pat Piotrowski, coordinator of the township's Meals on Wheels program. Before Helping Hands intervened, only 12 Wheeling residents received the service, she said.

A total of 18 residents are now being helped by both programs, and officials hope to boost that number to 24 before too long, said Piotrowski. Helping Hands volunteers began delivering meals last week.

"If this route works out fine, they're going to start another route," said Piotrowski, who added that it's rare for volunteers start a program such as this "with the aggressiveness that they have."

Piotrowski said the program is geared toward helping the elderly, but there are also a few disabled residents on the list. People who have just come home from the hospital and require special diet also benefit from the program. The Lutheran Home for the Aged in Arlington Heights prepares the food for volunteers to pick up each day.

Linda Weinberg, a volunteer and coordinator of the new meals route, said delivering food to the elderly is a rewarding experience. "It's keeping so many people out of nursing homes," she said. Weinberg said the program is also a way to make sure the homebound are not sick or injured.

HERALD 1-28-88

Appeals court to hear arguments in firefighter contract dispute

The Illinois Appellate Court is set to hear arguments today in a dispute between the village and the Wheeling Firefighters' Association over whether six fire department lieutenants should have bargaining rights.

Although the Illinois Labor Relations Board (ILRB) ruled that the lieutenants should be included in the bargaining unit, Wheeling officials appealed that decision, saying such a move would threaten the village's right to manage the firefighters.

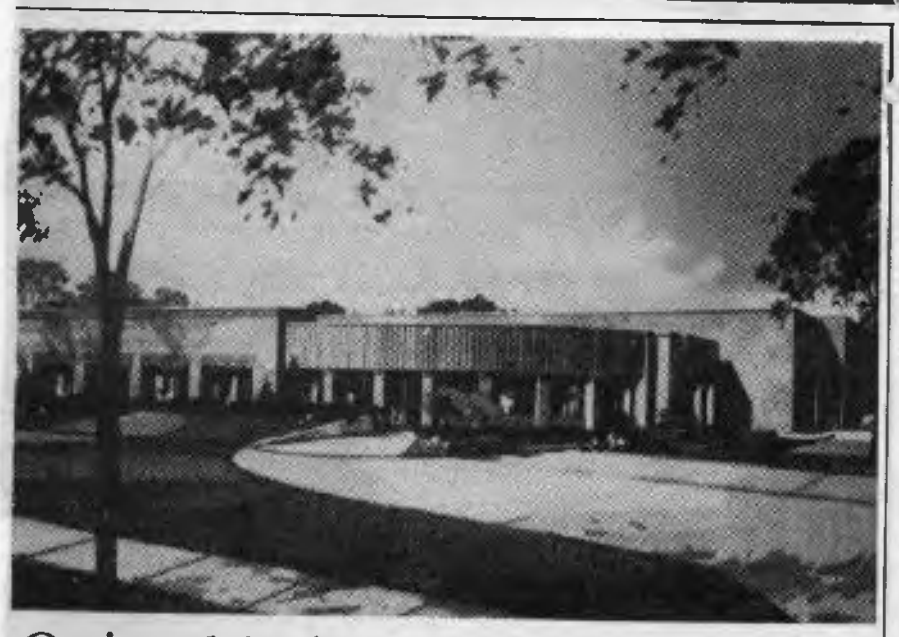
The debate has delayed contract negotiatons between the two sides for nearly two years, leaving the firefighters without a new contract.

The appellate court's decision will be of interest to other area firefighters as well as those in Wheeling, said Bart Burns, president of the 37-member Wheeling Firefighters' Association. He said other suburban bargaining units want to include officers at the bargaining table as well, and some departments have even stated in their contracts that lieutenants' bargaining rights would depend on the outcome of the Wheeling case.

Village officials so far have refused to negotiate any contract items until the dispute over the lieutenants' bargaining rights is resolved. However, Burns said he is confident negotiations could begin soon even though the case is still pending before the appellate court.

Village Manager Tom Markus had no comment on the status of negotiations.

COURIER-NEWS 1-28-88



Quintel building in Wheeling

Construction has been completed on a new headquarters, warehouse and manufacturing facility for Quintel/Consort, 41 Century Drive in the Palwaukee Business Center in Wheeling. This single-story, high-finish building features curved-wall architecture with high ceilings and many skylights. The 35,000-square-foot structure lies on a 82,500-square-foot lot. Overall cost of the project is in excess of $1.6 million. The company, which manufactures and distributes the Quintel/Consort watch line, was previously located in Chicago.

Countryside Herald 1-28-88

Park board's attendance record is the poorest

Which elected officials have the best attendance records at board meetings? Which ones have the worst? A Wheeling Countryside study of attendance at village, park district and school board meetings provides the answers.

By Lee Ann Gill
Staff Writer

What's it like to juggle a full-time career, raise a family and hold a public office? Some Wheeling public officials found it easier than others in 1987.

The attendance records of elected officials in Wheeling and Buffalo Grove were studied by the *Wheeling Countryside* to determine how well-attended village, park and school district meetings were last year.

Of the nine major public governing bodies studied, the Wheeling Park Board had the worst attendance record with an 84 percent average. That means the typical park board member missed 16 percent of the regular and special meetings in which votes were taken on public matters.

The Stevenson High School District 125 board had the best record of all public bodies serving Wheeling and Buffalo Grove with a 97 percent overall average.

FOUR OF THE boards studied had an average attendance records of 90 percent or above. The Wheeling and Buffalo Grove park boards were the only ones with attendance records below 85 percent.

"It's just a matter of setting your own priorities. It's really not that big of a thing. If you accept the responsibility of being a board member, you accept the responsibility of being there. . . They're only asking that you attend two meetings a month."

— Lori Ratajczak
Board member
School District 21

The attendance records are based on a study of the official minutes of regular and special board meetings of the nine major public boards in Wheeling and Buffalo Grove during 1987. Attendance records of informal workshop or committee meetings were not included in the study.

Of the 66 officials whose records were studied, 11 had perfect attendance records for the entire year. Seven board members who were elected in either April or November — and did not serve the entire year — also had attendance records of 100 percent.

Nine of the officials attended less than 80 percent of their board meetings in 1987. Kildeer Countryside School District 96 board member Irving Shainberg had the worst attendance record — 65 percent — of all officials in Wheeling or Buffalo Grove. Former School District 21 board member Tom Helfers, who did not seek re-election in November, was the Wheeling official with the lowest attendance record — 75 percent. Other Wheeling officials with the poorest attendance records are park board President Tony Abruscato and park commissioner Edward Klocke, both of whom attended 79 percent of the regular and special park board meetings in 1987.

WHEELING OFFICIALS WITH perfect attendance records include High School District 214 board member David Wiltse, Wheeling village board members Judy Abruscato and Anthony Altieri, and District 21 board President Barrett Peterson and board member Barbara Weidner.

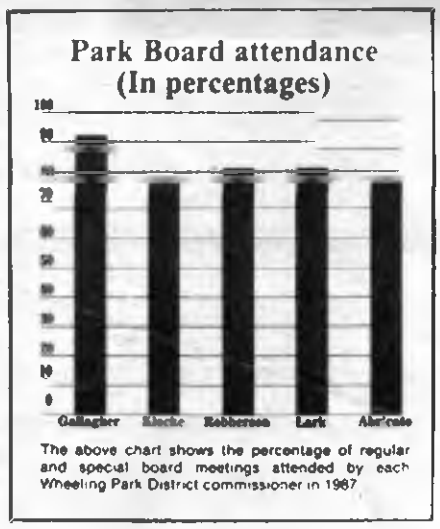
The District 214 board placed second in overall attendance with a 94 percent average; the Wheeling Village Board placed third with a 92 percent record and the District 21 board finished fourth with an average attendance record of 90 percent.

While most Wheeling boards placed near the top in attendance, the park board had the lowest overall rate of attendance among the government bodies studied.

Of the five park commissioners, James Gallagher attended the most meetings — 95 percent. Commissioners Julia Robberson and Donald Lark attended 84 percent of the voting meetings in 1987.

ABRUSCATO SAID PART of the reason for the park board's poor attendance record may be the length of the term that a commissioner serves. Committing to a six-year term isn't

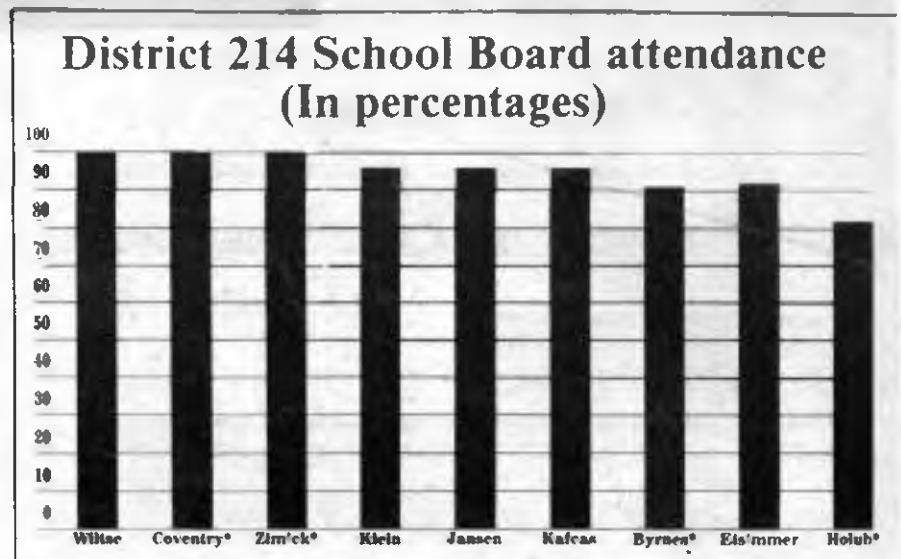
COUNTRYSIDE 1-28-88



The above chart shows the percentage of regular and special board meetings attended by each Wheeling Park District commissioner in 1987

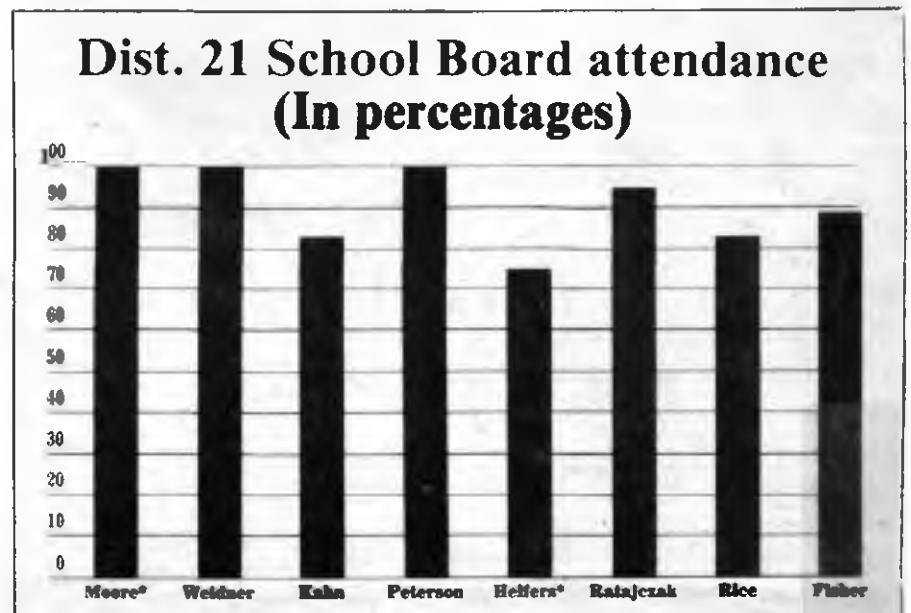
Attendance records

Board	Attendance rate
District 125	97.4%
District 214	93.2%
Wheeling Village Board	92.3%
District 21	90.0%
BG Village Board	89.4%
District 102	88.8%
District 96	86.0%
BG Park District	84.2%
Wheeling Park District	84.0%



The above chart shows the percentage of regular and special board meetings attended by each High School District 214 board member in 1987

(* The attendance records of Dale Coventry and Robert Zimmanck are for November and December only; the records of John Holub and Sandra Byrnes area for January through November)



The above chart shows the percentage of regular and special board meetings attended by each School District 21 board member in 1987.

(* Janet Moore's attendance record is for November and December only. Thomas Helfers' record is for January through November)

easy, he said. "I'm in the middle of a six-year term. The commitments I had in 1983 are not the same now," Abruscato said. "Usually, I don't run into too much of a problem."

While he trys to attend as many meetings as possible, "sometimes it's a real effort," Abruscato said. When he does miss a meeting, Abruscato said he spells out to a fellow board member "exactly" what his postion is on a subject to be voted on prior to the meeting. That way, even if he's not there to vote, the board will still know where he stands.

Vacations and prior work commitments account for about 95 percent of the absences on the park board, he said. "If I'm required to stay at my job, that's where I am," said Abruscato, who is office manager of the First Security Bank of Chicago. "This (the park board) isn't where our bread is buttered."

While some say their careers take precedence over their duties as elected officials, others make continual adjustments in their personal and professional schedules to ensure that they make it to their board meetings.

GALLAGHER, WHO ATTENDED all but one of the 19 park board meetings last year, said the meetings sometimes interfere with his job so much that he has to put in some extra hours at work.

"Sometimes when I make a park board meeting on time it means I work on Saturday or work when I get home that night," said Gallagher, who is a data processor.

"I usually miss one day for vacation a year," he said. Other absences in Gallagher's three-year career as a board member have been because of conflicts with other park district-related activities, he said.

Gallagher isn't the only one who shuffles his schedule to make it to virtually all board meetings. As an account executive for a brokerage firm and the mother of three, Lori Ratajczak also has to work her schedule around her Thursday night District 21 board meetings. And she only missed one of 19 meetings last year.

"IT'S NOT easy to juggle my schedule. But I've just made a commitment not to accept other things on Thursday," said Ratajczak. "I just try to adjust my schedule."

"It's just a matter of setting your own priorities. It's really not that big of a thing. If you accept the responsibility of being a board member, you accept the responsibility of being there," she said.

Ratajczak said the board is not asking that much of its members. "I just leave my Thursday nights free. They're only asking that you attend two meetings a month."

Ratajczak's husband, Joseph, is a Wheeling village board member. Although he has meetings on Monday nights and his wife has meetings on Thursday nights, Joseph Ratajczak said it doesn't interfere too much with family life.

BUT AS A computer programmer, Ratajczak finds himself working late quite often. "I put the board meeting on a fairly high rating, but work does come first," he said.

"On Mondays, I try not to have myself committed to work. There are going to be some conflicts," he said. His attendance record last year, 79 percent, was the lowest on the village board.

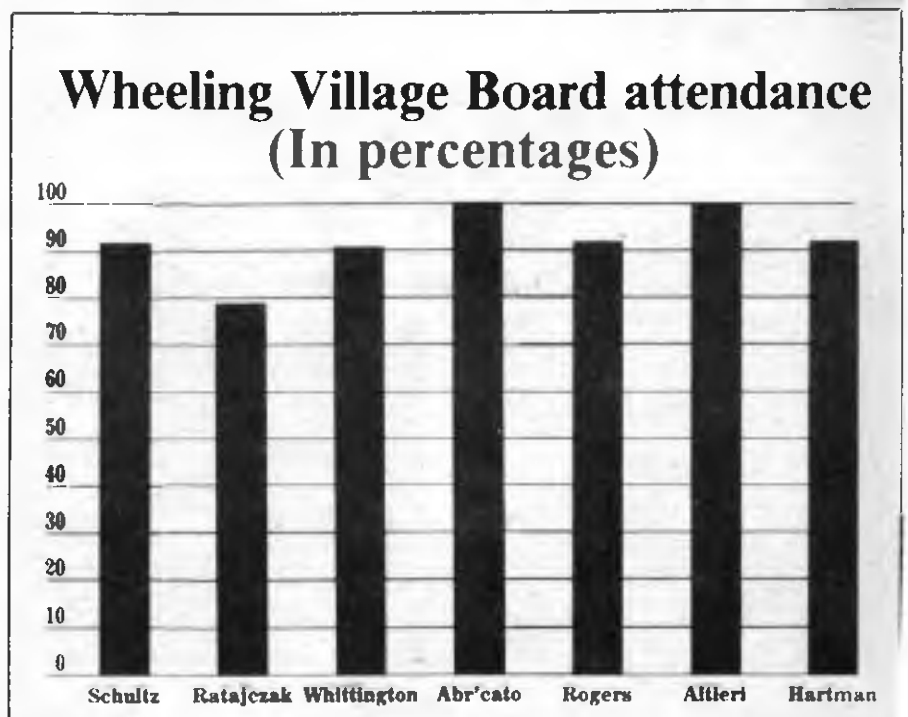
But the information packets provided to trustees are so comprehensive that Ratajczak said he is well informed on what has been discussed or voted on during his absence.

Wheeling Village President Sheila Schultz, who attended 92 percent of the regular board meetings last year, said overall the village board is "very conscientious. The absences we do have are often due to village-related business."

AFTER MORE THAN four years on the District 214 board, Wiltse has only missed four meetings. And last year he had a perfect attendance record.

The times he did miss were due to a family emergency, he said. "I've never missed one for a frivolous reason."

"It does require a lot of sacrifice, no doubt about it. I block out every night that those meetings are scheduled," said Wiltse. "It really is a tribute to the people that stick to it."



The above chart shows the percentage of regular and special board meetings attended by each Wheeling Village Board member in 1987.

HERALD 1-31-88

Strickland trial starts next week

Tyrone Strickland, accused along with his brother Larry of killing Wheeling police officer Kenneth Dawson, is scheduled to go to trial next week.

After months of postponement, the trial is expected to begin Feb. 4, said Cook County Assistant State's Attorney John Lanahan.

The Stricklands are charged with shooting Dawson after he reported to Cleo Court to investigate a burglary in November 1985.

The Strickland brothers allegedly left their car in Buffalo Grove and hijacked a car driven by Donald Hamburg of Buffalo Grove. Chicago police stopped Hamburg's car after he began driving erratically.

Wheeling police officer William Stutzman was also injured at the Cleo Court scene and Larry Strickland received a wound to his hand.

Recently, an appellate court ruled that testimony given by Larry Strickland was not admissible evidence because medical attention was withheld until after his testimony. However, Lanahan said there's other evidence obtained in the case linking the Stricklands to the shooting. Evidence in the case includes two guns discovered on the Stricklands and empty bullet shells found at the murder scene.

Tyrone Strickland's case was postponed for several months because Stutzman, a key witness in the case, according to Lanahan, was seriously injured in a one car accident that left him in the hospital and then at home for months.

HERALD 2-2-88

Membership fee OK'd for senior center

By Keri Wyatt
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Senior citizens who want to participate in activities at the Pavilion Senior Center in Wheeling will have to pay an annual membership fee starting May 1.

Wheeling trustees voted 5-1 in favor of the annual fee at Monday's village board meeting. Trustee Judy Abruscato opposed the ordinance. She said she had received "quite a few calls" from seniors who questioned the fee.

The annual membership fee will be $8 for Wheeling residents, and $10 for nonresidents. Membership will not be required for senior citizens who want to come into the center for health care advice, help with their taxes or any other social services available there. Also, seniors who just want to visit friends at the center will not have to become members.

"We have to make very clear the difference between what members can do and what all seniors can do," Sheila Schultz, village president, said. "We must be sure that the openness and availability of the senior center is not restricted in any way."

According to the policy, membership entitles seniors to a subscription to the Senior Spokesman newsletter and "to register for membership parties, classes, trips and meals at publicized fees, as well as to participate in sponsored groups."

Schultz said the membership fee was imposed because, "Barb Hansen (senior center coordinator) wanted to create a different atmosphere there."

Hansen said she recommended the $8 annual fee to "promote a sense of family, to give the seniors a sense of belonging."

The new fee ordinance includes a waiver for those "demonstrating financial hardship." Village Manager Thomas Markus said that Hansen has been asked to set up membership guidelines for those who can't afford the $8 fee.

HERALD 2-3-88

Officer suspended over paperwork dispute

By Keri Wyatt
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Wheeling police officer Robert Pressley will be suspended for two days without pay on "insubordination" charges stemming from an incident in which he allegedly wrote two reports with a marker, then disobeyed orders to rewrite them.

The Wheeling Fire and Police Commission upheld the suspension after Pressley appealed it. At a hearing held Tuesday night Pressley's lawyer Noel Wroblewski, of the Combined Counties Police Association, argued that Pressley could not follow the orders to rewrite the reports because his sergeant took them.

That sergeant, Juan Rivera said he did not take the reports from Pressley. Deputy Chief Gary O'Rourke, who investigated the incident for the department, also contended that Rivera did not take away the reports.

Stephen Culliton, the attorney representing Police Chief Michael Haeger, said that Haeger had not abused his discretion and authority by ordering the suspension.

During the hearing, which was riddled with objections from both sides, Sgt. Michael Staufenbiel testified that during a staff meeting a few months earlier, Rivera had requested that Pressley not be on his shift.

Wroblewski grilled Rivera about the incident, which occurred Nov. 4. At one point, he asked him, "Is is correct that you don't want Officer Pressley on your shift because he is a black man?"

When Culliton objected, board attorney John Broihier warned Wroblewski not to "harass the witness."

Pressley, a Wheeling police officer since 1978, is the only black policeman in the history of the village.

In 1983, Pressley filed a racial discrimination suit against the department in federal court. That lawsuit is still pending.

Wroblewski said he would appeal the commission's decision as a civil matter in circuit court.

HERALD 2-4-88

Squabble rises over flooded street

By Keri Wyatt
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Residents in an unincorporated area near Wheeling are drowning in confusion over who to complain to about their flooding problem.

Last weekend a river of water collected on Jackson Drive, a street located just west of Schoenbeck Road and north of Hintz Road. It was the worst flooding situation yet, homeowners said.

Residents complained to Wheeling, but village officials blame part of the flooding problem on construction by the Prospect Heights Old Town Sanitary District. In turn, Old Town officials say Wheeling housing developments have created additional runoff that flows into the unincorporated neighborhood.

Wheeling Community Development Director Michael Klitzke said water naturally flows from the Lakeside Villas condominium complex to Jackson Drive. A new storm sewer has been designed to handle the runoff, he said, but the village is still fighting in court for access to the land to build it.

Currently, Klitzke said, drainage is handled by old field tile that farmers put in around the turn of the century. The main tile is either broken or blocked, he said, causing water to flow over the street.

The Old Town district built a sanitary sewer along the west side of Jackson Drive last October. When the district was installing the sanitary sewer, workers accidentally cut into a feeder line to the old field tile, said Jim Deal, superintendent for the Old Town district.

"We cut one of the feeder lines, and then repaired it," he said.

Robin Kathrein, a resident on Jackson Drive, said they've never had water like this in the winter.

"Saturday I got stuck in my driveway because the water was halfway up the tires on my car," she said.

Klitzke said the main tile also could have been damaged during the Old Town district's work but Deal says no.

"We haven't aggravated the situation at all," Deal said. "This area has always flooded, it's a permanent problem."

Boyd describes 'hypnosis' that led to confession

HERALD 2-4-88

By Kathy Schaeffer
Daily Herald Staff Writer

It was only after intense, repetitive questioning by Wheeling police and a relaxation session that ended in the words, "Come awake," that William Boyd confessed to murdering 14-year-old Mary Kosinski in his backyard in 1981, Boyd testified Wednesday.

In a $23 million federal civil rights lawsuit against the village of Wheeling, its police and a psychotherapist, Boyd claims he was hypnotized so the confession could be planted in his mind.

On Wednesday, Boyd, 21, took the witness stand to tell the U.S. District Court jury his version of the events of July 18 and 19, 1981.

Boyd testified that former Wheeling police detective William Hoos repeatedly shouted at Boyd, describing how he allegedly killed Kosinski. "He points in my face and he says, 'You killed Mary Kosinski. You killed her. You did it,'" Boyd testified. "I flinched. I sat back and looked at him and I said I didn't do it. She was my friend. I didn't do it."

But Boyd said Hoos repeatedly told him he was a murderer and described how he smothered Mary as she struggled on that hot summer night after she had resisted his sexual advances earlier. "He told me I got up out of bed that night to get something that I didn't get the night before. I shook my head and I said I didn't do it. I kept shaking my head and said I didn't kill Mary Kosinski."

Later that night, Clarence Trausch, a former Wheeling police officer who now is a psychotherapist, was called to the station to help Boyd relax.

In his lawsuit, Boyd contends that Trausch hypnotized him into confessing to the murder. Boyd was indicted on murder charges, but the charges were dropped in 1983 after a Cook County Circuit Court judge threw out the confession.

Boyd testified Wednesday that Trausch "seemed like he was my friend" and helped him relax after the questioning by Hoos and detective John Stone.

"He told me to close my eyes and relax," Boyd testified. Boyd said he remembers Trausch telling him to focus on the scene of the night before. "The next thing I remember is hearing him say, 'Come awake,'" Boyd testified.

Then, Boyd said, Trausch told him, "Let's go tell your mom the truth." They went to another part of the police station to where Boyd's mother, Carol Boyd, was waiting.

"As I was walking down the hall I could see myself in the fort with Mary struggling and Mary screaming and my putting a pillow on her face and Mary going limp," Boyd testified. "I know I didn't kill Mary. But I saw the picture of myself doing that and I believed the picture I saw in my mind."

Boyd testified that after the session with Trausch, he then went to where his mother was waiting for him. "I kneeled down in front of her and I said, Mom, I killed Mary," he said.

The Village of Wheeling and the four police officers deny violating Boyd's rights. Trausch testified earlier in the trial that he did not hypnotize Boyd, but helped him relax so he could remember portions of the night before which he told police he could not remember.

Boyd also told the jury about the horror of finding his friend dead in his back yard. "I kneeled toward Mary's body and I reached over and lifted a pillow off her face. It was all white except for some blotches on her face and her hair was messed up."

"I was shocked. This was my friend of so many years and I couldn't believe she looked like that," Boyd testified. When he moved the sleeping bag that was on top of the girl, Boyd testified, "I got another shock. I couldn't even breathe," he said, after seeing her partially clothed, dead body.

Mary Kosinski's parents shook their heads in disbelief Wednesday as Boyd testified.

Seniors fight plan for Pavilion fees

HERALD 2-4-88

By Keri Wyatt
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Controversy over the use of the Pavilion Senior Center in Wheeling heated up this week when the village board decided to require membership fees for use of the center.

Some angry senior citizens are claiming that the fee, $8 annually for residents and $10 for non-residents, will serve to restrict membership.

"Lord, no," said Barb McIntyre, a senior citizen asked if she will pay the freight to become a member. "Out of principle."

Village board members, however, are saying the money is needed to help pay for day-to-day operations at the center. Senior coordinator Barb Hansen has said the fee is minimal, and will foster more of a sense of "belonging" or "family" among those who attend. She also said the fee will be waived for people who cannot afford to pay.

Maureen Dabeck, secretary to the senior center coordinator, said about 250 seniors use the center each week.

Some seniors, in a last-ditch effort to avoid the fee, suggested that because the Pavilion center was built with federal Community Development Block Grant funds, it cannot charge a membership fee.

The Community Block Grant Development program is a U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development program which is administered by the Cook County Planning Department.

Suzanne Hayes, community development director for the planning department, said the center could charge for membership as long as the money was put into programs. She added that anyone considered low- or moderate-income did not have to pay the fee.

Hayes said more than $1 million in federal block grant funds was used for plans, land acquisition and site improvements for the senior center, which opened in September 1985.

Richard Wilson, regional director of community planning and development for the Department of Housing and Urban Development, said the federal involvement means that the village of Wheeling is prohibited from discriminating against any group who wants to use the building.

Senior citizens also had been upset over plans by the village board to restrict use of the Pavilion by requiring visiting groups to have $1 million in liability insurance, pay for a custodian to be on the site and put up a $100 cash deposit.

That requirement, which had been suggested by the village manager, was part of a proposed ordinance governing use of the village hall as well as the senior center. On Monday, the village board passed the ordinance, but removed any mention of the senior center from it.

Now, says Village Manager Thomas Markus, "No outside groups, except those in village senior programing," may use the senior center.

Wilson said he had called the Wheeling village hall and talked to Michael Klitzke, community development director.

"I advised them that I thought the city was going in the wrong direction, in seeming to restrict the use of the center," Wilson said.

Wilson said the village's response to his suggestions was "neutral." However, the following week, the senior center was dropped from the proposed ordinance.

Pat Walsdorf, who is leading an effort to form a Wheeling chapter of the American Association of Retired People (AARP), had inquired about use of the center for meetings of that group.

Village President Sheila Schultz said if a local AARP chapter were sponsored by the Wheeling senior citizens commission, it could meet in the center and would be covered by the village's own liability insurance policy. However, Walsdorf, a member of the commission, has had trouble convincing her fellow commissioners to form such a group.

Currently, most activities at the center are free, but some require a fee. Those programs would still have fees, even under the new membership program.

"It's a break-even fee," Hansen explained, to cover the cost of materials. "If the classes are run by the park district, or Harper College, they have their own fees."

HERALD 2-4-88

Construction underway in Wheeling

Two multi-tenant service centers of 16,243 square feet each have been completed as part of the first phase of construction at the new Capitol Commerce Center in Wheeling. The one-story buildings combine attractive office space with warehousing and light-assembly capabilities to meet a variety of tenant needs. Also included in the initial phase of the 22-building project are a 72,500-square-foot mid-rise building, five "butterfly" buildings encompassing 33,500 square feet, and two freestanding service centers totaling 28,300 square feet. Capitol Commerce Center is a 38-acre business community located at Wolf and Palatine roads near the Pal-Waukee Airport.

HERALD 2-4-88

Trustees put limits on use of village hall sign

Scheduling which groups should put their messages on the sign in front has become an administrative nightmare for the village. To alleviate the problem, the village board has adopted a policy that restricts the use of the sign.

By Lee Ann Gill
Staff Writer

The sign in front of the Wheeling Municipal Center is no longer open to any group that wants to use it to promote an event.

The village board Monday adopted a policy limiting the use of the sign to local government bodies and non-profit groups from the village. The restrictions came because the village has been receiving too many requests from organizations wanting to put their messages on the sign.

In the past, the sign was available to virtually any group, regardless of whether the organization was based in Wheeling. The sign has been used to promote a variety of events and functions, from plant sales to meeting dates. The only limitation was that the sign couldn't be used for commercial use.

Messages from organizations such as Harper College in Palatine and Aptakisic-Tripp School District 102 in Prairie View have appeared on the sign in the past, but the influx of requests from organizations in surrounding communities has caused nothing but confusion for village officials.

IN FACT, THERE have been instances where the village couldn't get a message on its own sign because the space was already committed to other organizations. The sign's popularity has a lot to do with its location on Dundee Road, which thousands of motorists travel each day.

The new policy restricts messages to announcements of local civic or cultural events or public information notices of interest to Wheeling residents specifically. Fundraisers will not be allowed to be promoted on the the sign.

"It's the hope that with this criteria we will effectively be able to screen requests for marquee use," said David Kowal, Wheeling's administrative assistant.

Although dozens of organizations use the sign each year, Kowal said there wasn't any particular group that used it more than others. "There hasn't been any one specific organization that has used the marquee to an excessive degree," he said.

IT WAS JUST the combination of requests that prompted the board to adopt a policy restricting use of the sign, he said.

At a committee-of-the-whole meeting three weeks ago, village officials discussed limiting use of the sign to the village, Wheeling schools and Wheeling park district. But there were concerns that non-profit events, such as blood screening and eye testing, sponsored by local groups like the Jaycees and the Lions Club deserved a place on the sign as well.

The Wheeling Jaycees purchased the original sign in front of village hall in the early 1970s. According to village officials, the sign deteriorated and was replaced in 1983 for about $4,000.

Under the new policy, messages about village functions take precedence over any other request. And the village reserves the right to cancel any previously-arranged use of the sign if it's needed for village use.

Usually a message is left on the sign for one week, but under terms of the new policy, it may be removed earlier if something important comes up in the village, said Kowal. "If something comes up and the village needs to use the sign, we can replace it in mid-week," he said.

HERALD 2-4-88

Trustees OK fees for senior center

By Lee Ann Gill
Staff Writer

Membership has its privileges at the Wheeling Pavilion Senior Center.

Starting May 1, seniors who want to participate in Pavilion activities and receive the Senior Spokesman newsletter each month will have to pay an annual membership fee.

The village board Monday approved establishing a membership fee by a 5-1 vote. Wheeling seniors will pay an annual fee of $8 a year to belong to the Pavilion and non-residents will be charged $10 a year. The center's activities are now free and open to anyone.

The issue of charging seniors has been debated by the village board and members of the village's senior commission for more than a year. But starting this spring, only Pavilion members will be able to enjoy exercise and craft classes, parties and other activities at the center. Non-members will still be offered services such as the defensive driving course, blood pressure screening, social work assistance and tax information, said Pavilion Director Barbara Hansen.

MEMBERS WILL ALSO have priority when it comes to signing up for Wheeling Park District sponsored trips that are geared toward the elderly, said Margaret McDonnell, recreation coordinator for the park district.

McDonnell said there are specific events, usually day trips, that senior citizens generally register for. Once Pavilion members have been given the chance to sign up, other park district residents will have a chance, she said.

"A popular trip will be filled by members first," said Hansen, who sees membership as a step forward for the center.

"The board recognizes the fact that membership can be beneficial both to the seniors and to the center," she said. "It (membership) gives them a feeling and sense of belonging here," she said.

HANSEN SAID THE fees will be used to offset the expense of operating the center incurred by the village. "We're hoping to defray the cost to the taxpayers for the senior program," she said.

Hansen said the membership program isn't designed to set the Pavilion apart from the rest of the community. "It's not a club, in that we're exclusive in any way. We only expect to build up our program with the people interested in belonging to the Pavilion family," she said.

Wheeling Senior Commission member Pat Walsdorf, who has been against the membership fee since discussions began, said it will be "interesting" to see how effective the fee is in attracting residents to the Pavilion. She and two other seniors were the only ones in Monday's audience. Walsdorf cast the only opposing vote when the senior commission, an advisory board, voted on the issue last year.

And Wheeling Trustee Judy Abruscato was the only board member to vote against the fee Monday. "A fee of $8 is not going to make the difference of belonging or not belonging," she said, adding that her main concern is for the residents who do not join.

"THAT'S WHAT is cloudy with me," she said. "I think that everybody should be availed that opportunity of going or not going on a trip."

Abruscato said numerous seniors have called her with concerns about the fee, but she was disappointed that none of those people came out to voice their objections Monday.

"I have to agree with the seniors who have called me," she said. "The $8 seems to be a token and they don't feel it's justifiable."

The ordinance adopted Monday gives Hansen the authority to waive the fee for anyone demonstrating financial hardship. McDonnell said seniors will not be turned away from a park district sponsored program just because they can't afford it. "If someone can benefit from a program, we want them not to take it," she said.

Seniors wanting to join the Pavilion after Nov. 1 of each year will be charged a semi-annual fee of $4 for residents and $5 for non-residents. Those joining after April 1 will be given a grace period until membership is effective May 1.

Wheeling sets rules for use of meeting hall

Organizations that want to use the council room at the Wheeling Village Hall will now have to meet certain criteria to do so.

Until now, there has not been any policy regarding use of the village hall facilities. And village officials decided it was time a policy was drawn up to deal with groups wanting to use the room for meetings.

Under the terms of the new policy, approved by the village board Monday, an organization must put down a $100 deposit to ensure that the meeting room is left in satisfactory condition once it's done being used. The money will be returned if the room is found in good condition. Organizations using the room must also pay an hourly custodial fee to offset custodial costs incurred by the village. And all users are required to carry $1 million in liability insurance.

The council room is open for use by any non-profit Wheeling organizations or by a non-profit groups with a membership primarily made of Wheeling residents. The policy states the room can't be used by any commercial, religious, social or political groups.

Groups can hold meetings in the room on Tuesday through Thursday nights between 7 p.m. and 10 p.m. if a local government meeting is not taking place.

HERALD 2-4-88

Cop died during 'night of terror'

By DIANE DUNGEY
Daily Herald Staff Writer

The shooting death of Wheeling Police Officer Kenneth R. Dawson touched off a "night of terror" that included two more gunfights and the kidnapping of three Buffalo Grove residents, a prosecutor said in the first day of trial for the man accused of pulling the trigger.

"The defendant Tyrone Strickland is guilty of the murder of police officer Kenneth Dawson in uniform, in the line of duty," Assistant State's Attorney David Erickson said Friday. Dawson, a Kildeer man, was married with three daughters and was a 16-year-veteran of the Wheeling force.

Tyrone Strickland, 23, and his brother Larry Strickland, 28, are charged with murdering Dawson on Nov. 5, 1985, a night that began when the two men drove from their home in East Chicago Heights to the Cedar Run subdivision in Wheeling to see an acquaintance.

Dawson also went to Cedar Run at about 7:30 p.m. to check on a report that two men — later identified as the Stricklands — had opened the sliding glass door to a woman's town house on Cleo Court and attempted to step inside, said Erickson, who is prosecuting the case along with Paula Daleo.

The woman, Christine Hodge, testified Friday she witnessed a struggle in front of her home between Larry Strickland and Dawson, then heard a gunshot.

"I saw a police officer and the black man wearing the lighter-colored jacket scuffling. I grabbed my phone and dialed the police department. When I turned back around, I saw the officer seem to slip, lose his balance, fall. At that time there was also a shot," Hodge testified.

While Larry Strickland and Dawson struggled, "Tyrone Strickland began backing away from the scene, into the shadows," Erickson said.

But Tyrone then ran back toward the grappling men, said Robert J. Neil, a Des Plaines police sergeant who lived in Cedar Run and watched the struggle. Neither Hodge nor Neil saw who fired the handgun, killing Dawson. In an oral confession to police, however, Tyrone said he fired the gun.

Bernard Sarley, Tyrone Strickland's attorney, said Tyrone acted out of fright after Dawson approached the two.

"Whatever was done was done out of total panic, out of total fright. He was certain he and his brother were dead. He was acting out of extreme mental stress," Sarley said.

After Dawson was shot, the Stricklands fled toward the entrance of the cul-de-sac in their 1974 Ford Torino. When they encountered another Wheeling police officer, William Stutzman, Tyrone Strickland leaned out the car window and fired several shots, Stutzman testified.

The Stricklands abandoned their car in an apartment complex, then commandeered a car driven by Donald Hamburg of Buffalo Grove. Hamburg, with step-grandson Daniel Johnson and nephew David Duvall in the car, was forced to drive to Chicago's south Loop.

COUNTRYSIDE 2-4-88

Company makes plans to expand in Wheeling

By Lee Ann Gill
Staff Writer

Mercury Stainless Corp., a national steel processing company, wants to locate its U.S. headquarters to Wheeling — but only if the company gets a tax break from the village.

The company constructed its first plant in 1979 at 475 Allendale Drive in Wheeling. Since then, the manufacturing firm has expanded to seven locations around the country. And on Monday, nearly a decade after Mercury opened its first plant here, company officials came before the village board seeking to expand the Wheeling facility to house its national headquarters.

But company officials say they will do so only if they are granted a property tax break under Cook County's 6b property tax exemption program, said John Robb, vice president of administration for Mercury. The company has looked at alternate sites in Ohio, Georgia and Indiana for construction of its headquarters.

The 6b incentive program was designed by Cook County to lure new and growing manufacturing firms to the suburbs. The program offers a cut in a company's property assessment from 38 to 16 percent of the market value during the first eight years of operation. For four years after that, the assessment stands at 30 percent. And after 12 years of operation, the property assessment returns to the normal market value for that property in the county.

IF MERCURY EXPANDS in Wheeling, the tax break would save more than $1 million during the 12 years in the program, estimated Bob Fialkowski, finance director for the village.

The proposed $5.5 million expansion project includes adding 80,000 square feet of warehouse and production space to the existing 80,000-square-foot structure plus constructing 25,000 square feet of office space. The company now conducts its business out of a small portion at the Wheeling facility.

The company processes stainless steel by cutting and polishing it. Its clients include several fast food industry chains as well as companies in the health care industry. The company also has plants in Ohio, Indiana, Georgia, Michigan, Florida and Texas.

The headquarters would house a new computer system and would allow the company to have a centralized accounting system, said Robb. The village board is scheduled to vote on the expansion and the 6b application at its Feb. 22 meeting.

If approved, Robb said he is not sure when construction of the expansion would begin.

PUBLIC SPEAKING

● "We have to make very clear the difference between what members can do and what all senior can do." — Wheeling Village President Sheila Schultz commenting on a village board decision to charge an annual membership fee for activities at the Pavilion Senior Center.

HERALD 2-5-88

Friday, February 5, 1988 Daily Herald Section 1/ News 5

Boyd describes murder scene 'planted' in his memory

By Kathy Schaeffer
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Not a whisper could be heard Thursday in the federal courtroom where William C. Boyd described in vivid detail the 1981 murder of 14-year-old Mary Kosinski of Wheeling, then insisted the scene was just a vision planted in his head during a trance.

Attorney Elizabeth Brown asked Boyd, 21, to re-create the image of the still-unsolved murder that he says police wrongly charged him with nearly seven years ago. In a $23 million civil rights lawsuit, Boyd claims he was hypnotized and forced to confess to the crime.

"I can't say I'm sitting on her stomach, but I'm next to her, sort of," Boyd said, blushing. "Basically I can remember putting a pillow on her face. I can remember her stop moving and I can remember going into the house."

Brown, an attorney for the village of Wheeling and four former or current Wheeling police officers, asked for more details.

"The only thing I see is my putting a pillow over her face," Boyd testified. When Brown asked, "Is she struggling?" Boyd replied, "Yes."

Boyd said his description of the murder was the vision police planted in his mind while he was under hypnosis.

Boyd spent a second day on the witness stand Thursday as lawyers for Wheeling and for psychotherapist Clarence Trausch tried to find inconsistencies in his testimony.

Boyd testified that in 1981, while he was held awaiting bond at the Cook County Juvenile Detention Center, he told others he had murdered Mary Kosinski.

Boyd said Thursday that he calmly went back to bed just moments after finding Kosinski's dead body in the playhouse the morning after he, Kosinski, his sister and another boy had played strip poker and drank beer there.

Kosinski's partially clothed body was covered with a pillow and a sleeping bag, even though it was a hot summer morning. Boyd testified he thought she was sleeping.

"Didn't it strike you as odd that she was sleeping with a pillow on top of her face?" Brown asked. "I wasn't in there long enough to think about it," Boyd replied.

Boyd testified he didn't scream, didn't call the police and didn't run to tell his parents when he found Kosinski's body. He said he quickly undressed and went back to his bedroom so his parents would think he had not gotten up yet.

He said he was worried that if his parents knew he was awake, he would be in trouble for his drinking the night before.

But later Boyd testified that it wasn't unusual for him to stay out late or to drink beer. Boyd said he also went earlier in the evening to retrieve Mary Kosinski and his sister Barbara from a nearby park because he was trying to "protect" them. He said Mary had been drinking and he tried to sober her up and help her. However, when Brown asked him if he had stopped protecting Mary when the youths began playing strip poker, he agreed he had.

HERALD 2-5-88

Loans pay for residential repairs

By Keri Wyatt
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Low-income families in Wheeling who want to make improvements to their houses may be eligible for interest-free government loans.

The village of Wheeling is now accepting applications for the Residential Rehabilitation program. Through the federal Community Block Grant Development Fund, families can receive money to buy a new furnace, fix electrical wiring, repair or replace a roof, or make other structural repairs.

"Basically, the loans must be used for building code-related repairs," Village Planner Richard Greenwood said. "That means it is not for decorating or room additions."

The village has $100,000 available in grant funds, Greenwood said. A qualifying family could receive between $12,000 and $25,000 for repairs, "unless there is a safety or building code problem, that we'd need to spend more," he said.

Families who live in their own single-family house may apply, Greenwood said. Townhouse and condominium owners and renters are not eligible.

Families must have a combined income at or below the following maximums: for a family of two, $23,500; for three, $26,500; for a family of four, $29,450.

Greenwood said the loans are paid back in a lump sum when the owner sells the house. If, after 10 years, the family has not moved out or sold, the debt is forgiven and cancelled.

To find out if you qualify for the residential rehabilitation loan, phone the village at 459-2620.

The money is administered by Cook County to individual towns.

Tuesday, February 9, 1988

HERALD

Testimony contradicts Boyd's story

By Kathy Schaeffer
Daily Herald Staff Writer

A Wheeling police detective testified Monday that it was William Boyd's sister who discovered the body of a murdered 14-year-old friend, testimony that contradicts a version told by Boyd to jurors.

Wheeling Police Det. John Stone told a federal court jury that Boyd's sister, Barbara, told police she lifted a pillow and sleeping bag off the body of Mary Kosinski in the Boyd family's backyard playhouse. Boyd testified he found Kosinski's body and then calmly went back inside his house.

Stone said Barbara Boyd, who was 12 then, broke down in tears after relating to him how she went to wake Mary Kosinski on the morning of July 18, 1981. "She said she lifted the pillow off her face, moved the sleeping bag, and tried to open her eyes," Stone testified. "At that point, she started crying."

Barbara Boyd is expected to testify today.

Stone is one of four current or former Wheeling police officers named with the village of Wheeling and a psychotherapist in a multi-million-dollar civil rights lawsuit. Boyd, who once was charged with Kosinski's strangulation and suffocation murder, says the police violated his rights by hypnotizing him to extract a confession. He charges police did not adequately warn him of his rights to remain silent and have an attorney present, and kept him from his mother during interrogation.

The confession later was thrown out by a circuit court judge and the charges were dropped. The murder remains unsolved.

Stone also testified Monday that Boyd showed little emotion the morning Kosinski's body was found, a reaction he considered unusual for a 14-year-old boy who had just discovered his friend dead.

"I looked in one bedroom window and I saw Billy Boyd laying on his bed. He was just staring at us," Stone testified.

Former Wheeling police detective William Hoos, also named in the suit, testified Monday that he did not yell at Boyd and tell Boyd how he allegedly committed the murder, as Boyd testified last week. Hoos also said Boyd did not deny killing Kosinski, as he testified last week that he had done.

"Did he ever tell you, 'I wouldn't kill Mary, she's my friend,'?" Wheeling's attorney Byron Knight asked Hoos.

"No," Hoos told the jury.

HERALD

Firefighters raise funds for legal bill

By Keri Wyatt
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Wheeling firefighters will hold a raffle to help defray the legal costs of their court battle with the village of Wheeling.

Wheeling Firefighters Association President Bart Burns said the union has piled up about $25,000 to $30,000 in debts in trying to defend the inclusion of lieutenants in the bargaining unit. The Illinois Labor Relations Board had ruled that lieutenants could be included in the union and the village appealed the decision.

The case is currently before the appellate court.

Meanwhile, Wheeling village and top fire department officials are publicly disavowing any connection with the union.

Fire Chief Bernhardt O. Koeppen issued a statement that said the village and fire department do not endorse the "fund-raising activities" of the association.

"Our department rules state that the firefighters are not allowed to sell tickets for their association activities while on duty or in uniform," Koeppen said.

The association recently received a village permit to hold the raffle. He said the village's public announcement surprised him, but he "didn't get the impression they were trying to impede."

"We have to get the prizes first, and we'll start selling tickets in late February or March," he added. He said the drawing will be held June 10.

Koeppen said the fire department brass "has no say in what they do, so although the members are the same, they are a private group."

2-9-88

HERALD 2-10-88

Testimony defends hypnotist's conduct

BY KATHY SCHAEFFER
Daily Herald Staff Writer

A psychiatric expert testified Tuesday that the psychotherapist accused of hypnotizing William C. Boyd Jr. into a 1981 murder confession acted properly.

Dr. Ed Wolpert, a psychiatrist affiliated with the University of Chicago and Michael Reese Hospital, told a federal jury that psychotherapist Clarence Trausch was within prescribed ethics when he helped Boyd with "guided relaxation."

Boyd has filed a multi-million-dollar civil rights lawsuit against Trausch, the village of Wheeling and four current or former Wheeling policemen, saying they illegally extracted a murder confession from Boyd after hypnotizing him.

A circuit court judge later threw out that confession and the charges against Boyd were dropped. The murder of 14-year-old Mary Kosinski remains unsolved.

Wolpert examined Boyd in 1986 in preparation of the civil rights trial, now in its third week. On Tuesday, he said of Boyd's mental health, "He suffers from no mental illness."

Boyd, 21, is demanding between $5 million and $23 million in damages for the what he says was a violation of his rights in 1981. He claims the treatment he received at the Wheeling Police Department the day after Kosinski was murdered left him restless and unable to sleep.

But Wolpert testified that Boyd told him he had difficulty sleeping his whole life, not just after the murder and his experience with police.

Wolpert also testified that Boyd did not suffer from post-traumatic stress disorder, a condition that often affects Vietnam veterans and victims of other horror-filled experiences such as the Holocaust.

Boyd has testified that he can still recall as a flashback the "vision" of Kosinski's murder, which he said officials planted in his mind during hypnosis. He denies killing Kosinski.

When asked by attorney Robert Shuftan about those flashbacks, Wolpert testified, "The only person I believe who can have flashbacks of committing a murder is a person who committed the murder."

HERALD 2-10-88

Prosecutor says suspect confessed to shooting cop

BY DIANE DUNGEY
Daily Herald Staff Writer

An East Chicago Heights man confessed that he picked up a gun and shot Wheeling Police Officer Kenneth Dawson in the chest because the officer was "hassling" his brother, according to testimony Tuesday.

Tyrone Strickland admitted that he shot and killed Dawson on the evening of Nov. 5, 1985 in the Cedar Run subdivision in Wheeling with a gun that belonged to his brother, Larry Strickland, Special Deputy State's Attorney Mark Rakoczy testified.

Tyrone also confessed to kidnapping three members of a Buffalo Grove family and forcing them to drive the Stricklands to Chicago after the shooting, Rakoczy said.

"He (Tyrone) told me the police officer came up and started hassling his brother, pushing and shoving his brother," Rakoczy testified. "Tyrone Strickland told me he was stunned when the police officer got out of the car and started hassling his brother."

Tyrone told Rakoczy his brother had tossed a gun onto the grass when Dawson approached to question the two about a report that two men had opened the door to a woman's town house.

"He went to the grassy area and recovered the gun. As the police officer and Larry were struggling, he came up behind the officer and reached around and shot him once or twice," Rakoczy said.

Dawson, shot in the heart, died almost immediately.

Later, "He told Larry he shot the police officer to get the police officer off his back," Rakoczy said.

In contrast to Tyrone Strickland's description, a witness said Larry Strickland was the aggressor in the struggle with Dawson.

Karol Dalton, who was called as a defense witness, said Dawson was holding Larry Strickland's upper arm when Larry pulled away.

Dawson took hold of his arm again, and Larry Strickland grabbed the officer by the lapels, she said.

Dalton, like other witnesses, did not see who fired the gun at Dawson. Larry Strickland also is charged with murder but has not yet come to trial.

Tyrone Strickland's confession differed with witnesses' testimony on other points.

He said a Wheeling police officer who came to Dawson's aid fired at the Stricklands first. A Chicago police officer, forced to stop when the driver of the comandeered car pulled in front of him, also fired on the Stricklands, Tyrone told Rakoczy.

Both officers testified they were shot at, and only the Wheeling officer said he fired back at the brothers.

In the confession, Tyrone said the Buffalo Grove family repeatedly was told they would not be harmed, Rakoczy said.

HERALD 2-10-88

Addolorata Villa proposes adding apartments for elderly

BY KERI WYATT
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Plans for adding an apartment building to the Addolorata Villa home for the aged will be discussed by the Wheeling Plan Commission Thursday.

The 100-unit apartment building will be designed for "independent senior living," according to the plans.

For people less independent, the proposed $17 million project also includes renovation of the existing building to include additional skilled nursing and intermediate care facilities.

A convent for the sisters who operate the home would also be added to the grounds, along with cottages where independent seniors can live in a neighborhood setting but still be close to the villa.

The 100 apartments would include studio, one-bedroom and two-bedroom units. Services such as one meal a day, housekeeping, a barber shop and beauty parlor, transportation to shopping and special events and an emergency call system would be provided.

Addolorata Villa, located at 555 McHenry Road, was founded by The Servants of Mary, a Roman Catholic sisterhood dedicated to serving the elderly. The original building was built in the 1900s as a home for widows and children of employees of the Crane Plumbing Co.

The nursing home has a long waiting list for its facilities, and the expansion is necessary, according to Sister Mary Roberta Prince, administrator of the home. She also noted that because people move into the home at an older age than they used to, the addition of skilled care beds is important.

This is the first time plans for the expansion have come before the plan commission. The expansion plans have been on the drawing board and under study by the appearance commission since last summer.

The plans include a water detention area, a gazebo, extensive landscaping and a victory garden. Landscapers indicated at the last appearance commission meeting that they would try to save all the existing trees.

HERALD 2-10-88

Wheeling studies 'balefill' funding

By Keri Wyatt
Daily Herald Staff Writer

The village of Wheeling will continue to support plans to build a garbage dump near Bartlett and is looking for ways to pay its share of legal and other costs needed to get the site operating.

The $35 million proposed "balefill" site, so named because the garbage is compacted into bales and stacked, then buried, would take residential garbage from about 30 communities in the North and Northwest suburbs.

Currently the Northwest Municipal Conference is still developing its plans, and trying to put together an agency to run the balefill. Both translate into legal fees and other interim costs, which NWMC member communities must pay.

Wheeling Village Manager Thomas M. Markus said before the site opens, an agency must be formed to operate it. Each village participating in the project must pledge to pay for interim set-up costs, based on a per capita charge between 74 cents and $1 per person, which translates to about $20,000 to $28,000 for Wheeling.

Markus said the new agency would not only operate the balefill, but "has a commitment to look at other ways to deal with the (garbage) problem."

"I'm in support of the project," Trustee James Whittington said. "It's something we have to do, but it is not the end of our problems." Markus said the village may not have to spend the money it pledges, because once the agency is formed, it could become self-supporting. However, the money has to be pledged by March 15.

Each village essentially buys space in the site, Markus said, which it pays for with collection fees once the balefill is operating.

The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency is still reviewing the project, and Northwest Municipal Conference members hope that the process moves quickly, since the purchase option on the 410-acre site runs out a year from this June.

Residents who live near the site, which is located in unincorporated Cook County north of West Bartlett Road and east of Route 25, have opposed the project from the start. Last month, Bartlett Plan Commissioner John A. Stark filed suit in Illinois Appellate Court, seeking a pol-

Friday, February 12, 1988

HERALD 2-11-88

Girl was strangled and suffocated, says expert

By Kathy Schaeffer
Daily Herald Staff Writer

A nationally known forensic pathologist vividly described Wednesday how Mary Kosinski's killer smothered her with a pillow while using his other hand to strangle her with the collar of her T-shirt in Wheeling in 1981.

Dr. Werner Spitz, a Wayne County, Mich. pathologist who has consulted on the pathological studies of the assassinations of President John F. Kennedy and civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr., told a federal jury that the 14-year-old Wheeling girl died from suffocation or strangulation or both.

Kosinki's parents wept in court as Spitz showed how stains on the pillow case from the pillow found on Kosinsi's face led him to conclude she was smothered. Spitz then told how he gently simulated twisting a T-shirt collar on his 17-year-old son and produced marks on his son's neck that followed the same outline as bloody wounds found on Kosinski's neck.

The 1981 autopsy by Cook County Medical Examiner Robert J. Stein said the cause of death was strangulation. Lawyers for William C. Boyd Jr., who once was charged with the murder, contend that autopsy report conflicts with Boyd's confession that he smothered Kosinski with a pillow in a fort in his Wheeling back yard.

Boyd's confession was thrown out of court after a circuit court judge agreed that Boyd had been hypnotized before making his confession. The murder charges were then dropped. The case remains unsolved.

Now Boyd, 21, is suing the village of Wheeling, four current and former Wheeling policemen and a psychotherapist, claiming his civil rights were violated in 1981. He claims police prevented him from getting a lawyer or leaving the police station, and wrongly hypnotized him to plant the confession in Boyd's mind.

Boyd is asking for between $5 million and $23 million in damages in the civil suit.

Spitz said his findings were not inconsistent with Stein's. "It is impossible to exclude either one of these causes of death," he testified. "There is no doubt in my mind that a force was applied to the face of Mary Kosinski," he said.

Spitz said that no matter what the size of her killer, Kosinski had little chance of survival on July 18, 1981.

HERALD 2-11-88

Wider Milwaukee Ave. bumps into ire of business owners

By Keri Wyatt
Daily Herald Staff Writer

More than 60 Wheeling residents and business owners who live and work along Milwaukee Avenue crowded into the village hall Wednesday night to find out how a proposed widening and resurfacing project of the road will affect them.

Several business owners learned that they will lose part of their buildings or parking lots to the construction. Many have already dedicated part of their property to the village for widening and will lose even more than they originally gave.

The plans call for widening lanes from 10 feet to 12 feet in most areas, and to 11 feet between Dundee and Lake-Cook roads. The pavement would also be resurfaced, and the intersections of Milwaukee with Lake-Cook and Dundee roads would have three through-lanes in each direction with double left-turning lanes.

Because Milwaukee Avenue is a state route, the project will be funded entirely by road funds controlled by the state of Illinois. However, the Illinois Department of Transportation currently has about $1 million of the $7 million needed.

Construction could begin as early as 1991, Tony Osnacz, IDOT project studies unit engineer, told the crowd, depending on state and federal funding. He said the poject could take two years to complete.

Edward Skau, project engineer, said the project would absorb land mostly from the west side of Milwaukee Avenue to "minimize impact on the forest preserve." Many business owners were angry that their property would be appropriated while forest preserve land is being protected.

Osnacz said "Just as you have to comply with local ordinances, IDOT has to comply with federal law. We can't encroach upon the forest preserve unless there's no other feasible way. We have no control over it."

Larry Aronson, owner of My Pie, 102 South Milwaukee, called the project "disastrous" and said it would cause "tremendous harm to everyone. There will have to be a series of bankruptcies."

Neighbor Wheeling SECTION 7

HERALD 2-11-88

1980 Pal-Waukee forecast inaccurate

By Dan Rozek
and Keri Wyatt
Daily Herald Staff Writers

A study predicting air traffic at Pal-Waukee Municipal Airport will increase steadily year by year through 2000 is proving wildly inaccurate, say local officials.

The traffic estimate, done in 1980 by a private consulting firm, is being pointed to by neighbors of the airport who charge that the owners plan to increase airport traffic, something they don't want.

But the study has predicted high traffic volume every year, and has been off by more than 100 percent, according to airport records and local officials.

"Those are just very pie-in-the-sky projections," said Prospect Heights Administrator Robert R. Kiely. "The reality is you're not going to see that at the airport."

Although the total volume of traffic is not as high as predicted, airport officials acknowledge that jet traffic there has increased, while propeller plane traffic is down.

Neighbors worried

The trend toward more jet traffic worries neighbors and some officials, who believe that means more noise at and around the airport, which is jointly owned by Prospect Heights and Wheeling.

"If that's up," said Prospect Heights 2nd Ward Alderman Warren Sunde, an outspoken critic of Wheeling and Prospect Heights' purchase of the airport, "that's a noise problem."

The 1980 Airport Master Plan by Ralph Burke Associates predicted the number of takeoffs and landings at Pal-Waukee Airport would be 320,000 in 1980 and would climb steadily to 425,000 annually by year 2000.

Records indicate there were about 270,000 takeoffs and landings in 1980, but dipped sharply to 150,000 operations in 1983. They climbed back to about 235,000 in 1985 but by 1987 had slipped again to about 220,000.

Airport consultant John P. Kennedy blamed the faulty estimates on a nationwide downturn in the aviation industry in the late 1970s and early 1980s. Rising fuel prices and a tighter economy triggered that downturn, he said, adding it could not have been foreseen.

Kennedy compiled the actual airport statistics and compared them to the study projections after Sunde and other officials and neighbors raised concerns about traffic at a January public hearing.

No new projections for the next 15 to 20 years have been put together.

More flights projected

Instead, most city and airport officials will say they expect a slight or moderate increase in flights through the year 2000, but no one is offering specific numbers.

"I don't see real significant growth patterns," Kennedy said, although he adds they are difficult to predict for the next 20 years.

Wheeling Trustee William A. Rogers, also a member of the commission overseeing Pal-Waukee Airport, said he expects an increase in air traffic.

"In all probability, there will be an increase, but it depends on the U.S. economy," Rogers said.

Study off target

The 1980 study "misses the mark," Sunde said, but he is worried that a separate 1986 study — which indicates a significant increase in traffic by 2005 — appears to be more accurately predicting traffic patterns.

That study, which focused mostly on airport noise, predicted 205,000 takeoffs and landings in 1986. The actual number of operations totaled about 210,000 that year.

The study predicted 359,000 operations annually by 2005 — below the figures from the 1980 study but still significantly higher than current operations and enough to worry those concerned about increasing noise, he said.

Sunde said he also is worried that there have been no new projections to help officials plan for the future.

"What the people (living near the airport) are interested in is the future," he said.

But the present proliferation of corporate jets also concerns them.

Propeller planes are more numerous but residents argue the jets make the most noise at Pal-Waukee Municipal Airport.

Daily Herald Photo

Rogers said the airport is home to about 60 jets and between 300 and 400 small propeller planes.

The total number of jets is expected to rise to about 80 in the next 15 years, Rogers said, while the number of small private planes will decrease, but only by about 10 or 15 percent.

Jet traffic hit

Sunde said airport neighbors fear that an increasing number of jets and more jet traffic will cause more noise, even if the number of total flights does not increase dramatically.

"We can expect more jet traffic, it will be a little bit noisier than if it were propeller planes," said Prospect Heights 1st Ward Alderman Charles T. VanderVennet, a former airport commission member.

But quieter jet engines on newer aircraft will help keep jet noise down, as will changes in procedures, including the way jets take off, he said.

Kennedy argued that it is difficult to compare whether a propeller

See FORECAST *on Page 3*

HERALD 2-11-88

Strickland guilty in murder of Wheeling cop

BY DIANE DUNGEY
Daily Herald Staff Writer

A Cook County judge found Tyrone Strickland guilty Wednesday of murdering Wheeling Police Officer Kenneth Dawson, setting aside Strickland's testimony that he accidentally shot the officer.

Judge Fred G. Suria Jr. tested the trigger on the .38-caliber revolver used to kill Dawson and decided that it did not have a hair-trigger touch that would make it fire accidentally if it was bumped — the explanation Strickland gave during three hours of testimony.

"I cannot believe or accept your story of how the incident happened," Suria told Strickland.

Dawson's widow, Linda Dawson of Kildeer, called the verdict "more than fair. Justice was served. It's comforting to know that what my husband did as far as his profession, he did well, and they didn't let him down."

Suria also found Strickland guilty of two counts of attempted murder for shooting at a Wheeling police officer who came to Dawson's aid and at a Chicago police officer who tried to stop Strickland and his brother, Larry.

He also found him guilty of kidnapping three members of a Buffalo Grove family at gunpoint and forcing them to drive the Stricklands to Chicago in a getaway attempt. The Stricklands were arrested after the driver, Donald Hamburg, swerved in front of a Chicago police officer and shouted for help.

Prosecutors David Erickson and Paula Daleo will ask that Tyrone Strickland be sentenced to death.

Tyrone Strickland, in his testimony Wednesday, contradicted a confession he gave to Special Deputy State's Attorney Mark Rakoczy hours after the Nov. 5, 1985 murder.

In the confession, he told Rakoczy he fired at Dawson because the officer was "hassling" his brother. However, other witnesses characterized Larry Strickland as the aggressor in the struggle with Dawson.

Larry Strickland also is charged with murder but has not yet come to trial.

HERALD 2-11-88

GUEST VIEW

A graduate's pride

By Lynn Pattison

On Sunday, the Village of Wheeling held an open house at Chevy Chase to honor two of its schools for receiving national awards of excellence. Wheeling High School and Holmes Junior High School were among only 271 schools to receive the award nationwide, (10,000 applied) and officials from the village, schools and park district basked in the chance to brag a bit to village residents.

It was the sort of event which public officials love to hold and reporters hate to cover. All that warm fuzzy patting on the back tends to make us squirm uneasily. Experience has taught us that things usually aren't as rosy as public relations types would have us believe.

But this time around the public officials and residents who attended the open house had reason to be proud--and to celebrate. It really is about time Wheeling received some recognition for its fine schools. At last, as officials happily pointed out, the rest of the world would know what Wheeling residents have always known: that its schools are among the best in the country.

FOR YEARS, WHEN I've told anyone that I graduated from Wheeling High School the announcement was met with a sympathetic frown. "Oh," was the general response. "Wheeling". When I was a freshman in 1970, there were still greasers hanging out at the back of the cafeteria or in the school smoking area. The school had a reputation as a rowdy place filled with students who by and large would rather skip classes and drag race in the parking lot than allow some small spark of learning to penetrate their clouded minds.

That reputation, as I quickly learned upon my first day of classes there, was overblown and largely groundless. Yes, the school had its share of potential dropouts. There were students taking drugs and skipping class and getting into whatever other sorts of trouble adolescents were getting into in the 1970's.

But there was also some brilliant teaching and learning going on. And the school had more than its fair share of teachers who cared not only whether their students were learning the subject matter but also whether they were surviving the traumas of teenage life.

Some of the best teachers I've ever had were at Wheeling. Mary Healy not only sparked in me a lifelong passion for Shakespeare and English literature but also planted in my mind the idea of attending classes at Oxford University in England, which I did in 1977. (Her classes were superior even to those which I had at the university level.) Louise Gaudio gave me the confidence to converse fluently in a second language (French), which I have since followed up with the study of Spanish and Russian. Jim Whittington, now an administrator for District 214, taught a fascinating course in East Asian history upon which I still draw.

THE POINT IS that the excellence of the education at Wheeling has far more to it than simply the use of the latest textbooks and the most modern equipment. It stems from the fact that the staff endeavors to do more than simply cram a lot of facts and information into students' heads. The teachers at Wheeling High School manage to help their students graduate with the desire to keep learning, and the tools with which to do so. That's real cause for celebration.

Lynn Pattison is Editor of Pioneer Press' BIZ office newspaper.

HERALD 2-11-88

OPINION

Wheeling pride

To the Editor:

It was with a great deal of pride that I attended the open house held Sunday afternoon, Feb. 7, at Chevy Chase in honor of Wheeling High School and Holmes Junior High School, each having won an "Excellence in Education Award" from the U.S. Department of Education. Only one other community in the entire United States shared the honor of winning two awards.

I am a senior citizen and proud to live in a community which puts such high values on education. Children are our most important asset as they will be the "future of our country."

Evelyn S. Finkel

HERALD 2-11-88

Police canine patrol put on hold after German shepherd has seizure

It looks like Max, the would-be crime-stopping canine, is out of a job.

The German shepherd, who was on the eve of being inducted into the Wheeling Police Department's new canine patrol, had a seizure and was given back to his owner for care, said police officials.

Max was to be purchased by the department to aid in tracking down burglars, sniffing out drugs and other duties. But police discovered that Max was ill during the testing and evaluation of the animal last month.

Although the veterinarian who examined Max was not sure what caused the seizure, it was enough to make the department change its mind about buying him. "He suffered from a seizure and that was enough for us not to take him," said Deputy Chief Gary O'Rourke.

BUT THE DEPARTMENT isn't giving up the search for a fuzzy-faced employee. "We're interviewing further candiates for the position," said O'Rourke. "By the end of the month, we'll be back on the road." O'Rourke said the department has its eye on several dogs as potential candidates for the job.

Officer Bill Benson, who was in the process of training with Max, will be in charge of the new dog when one is purchased. The Wheeling Jaycees held a benefit last fall that raised more than enough cash to buy Max and help with the start-up costs of the program.

The dog will cost about $2,000, while training and first-year cost of the program will be about $4,000. After the first year, the annual cost to the village will be about $1,300. The money raised by the Jaycees will be kept in a savings account until a new dog is found, said O'Rourke.

Once a dog is purchased, it will be trained to follow the commands of Benson, who will also go through an extensive training course. The rest of the officers will also receive training, but only Benson will ever go on patrol with the pooch.

Once the village's canine patrol is in full swing, the dog will be used for such purposes as sniffing out narcotics and helping to stop the rash of break-ins to industrial and office complexes after business hours, said Police Chief Michael Haeger. With a dog, it's easier for police responding to a burglary to determine if a suspect is still in the building being searched. A dog can search a building in far less time than a police officer, said Haeger.

Thursday, February 11, 1988

HERALD 2-11-88

Strickland guilty of shooting Wheeling officer

By Lee Ann Gill
Staff Writer

Tyrone Strickland has been found guilty of the 1985 murder of Wheeling police officer Kenneth Dawson.

Cook County Criminal Court Judge Frank Suria handed down the verdict Wednesday evening following a full day of testimony that included statements from Strickland that the shooting was an "accident."

Strickland, who faces the death penalty, will be sentenced Feb. 17.

During his more than three hours on the witness stand, the 23-year-old Chicago Heights man said the handgun that killed Dawson went off accidently as Strickland was trying to break up a scuffle between his brother, Larry, and the officer.

BUT, THE ASSISTANT state's attorney who investigated the murder the night it happened testified Tuesday that Strickland told him he shot Dawson to get the officer off of his brother. Strickland never claimed the shooting was accidental the night it happened, according to the state's attorney's testimony.

And in issuing the verdict, the judge made it clear he, too, did not consider the shooting accidental. Suria even picked up the handgun that killed Dawson to demonstrate that it was virtually impossible for it go off accidentally.

"There is no question but that the case boils down to a question of credibility," Suria said. "I would find it was not an accident; the shooting was intentional."

Dawson was killed Nov. 5, 1985 while responding to a call on Cleo Court in the Cedar Run subdivision. The Strickland brothers are charged with the murder of Dawson, the attempted murder of another police officer and with kidnapping a Buffalo Grove man, whom they allegedly forced to drive the two to Chicago. Tyrone Strickland's trial began Friday. A trial date has not yet been set for Larry Strickland.

TYRONE STRICKLAND WAS also found guilty of two counts of attempted murder, kidnapping and unlawful restraint.

Dawson's relatives and about 15 members of the Wheeling Police Department were in the courtroom Wednesday as Tyrone Strickland gave his version of the events the night of the murder.

Speaking in a soft tone that at times was nearly inaudible, Tyrone Strickland testified that he and his brother had gone to the Cedar Run subdivision to visit a friend whom he referred to as "C.C." They mistakenly entered a home they believed belonged to their friend, but instead met a woman who told them C.C. didn't live there.

"After she shut the door, I said, 'Let's go. Let's go, man,'" Tyrone Strickland testified. "I wanted to leave. I felt like going home."

INSTEAD, THE TWO brothers remained in the subdivision looking for C.C., he said. Not long afterward, they saw Dawson's squad car in the neighborhood, and they started walking toward the officer, he said. As the two approached Dawson, Tyrone Strickland said he saw his brother throw a handgun into the grass, but at the time he didn't know what the object was.

He said Dawson asked his brother, "Where are the drugs?" Tyrone Strickland, thinking that whatever his brother had thrown in the grass may have been drugs, went to that area to retrieve them.

Tyrone Strickland said he reached into the grass, grabbed the gun and began walking away, but it took was awhile before he realized what he had in his hand. "I still intended to give it to the officer," he testified.

In the meantime, Dawson and Larry Strickland were involved in a scuffle, and Tyrone Strickland testified that the officer had his hands around Larry Strickland's neck and was holding him against the squad car.

"I DIDN'T know what was going on. This guy was way bigger than Larry," said Tyrone Strickland, who sobbed quietly throughout his testimony. "I was terrified. I was caught up in the middle of something and I didn't know what it was.

"He (Dawson) turned as if he was going to pull his gun from his holster," he continued. "As he turned, his arms hit mine in some kind of way. He turned and his body pressed up against the barrel of the gun. I felt the gun go off.

"His body caught the gun and met with the edge of the gun. The gun wasn't up against his body, he turned into it," Tyrone Strickland said. "It was real fast. I was real scared. It was an accident, man.

"I remember doing something real stupid next. I reached down and took his gun from the holster," he said. "I knew the whole police force was going to try to kill me. They weren't going to let me go home; I just knew it."

WHILE TYRONE STRICKLAND claimed the shooting was an accident, Cook County Assistant State's Attorney Mark Rakoczy, who investigated the murder, said Tyrone Strickland confessed to killing Dawson because he said the officer was "hassling" Larry.

And upon cross-examination Wednesday, Strickland admitted he never told investigators that the shooting was accidental.

As Tyrone Strickland read silently from the Bible during the trial Tuesday, Rakoczy recounted his version of what happened the night of the murder.

Rakoczy said Tyrone Strickland told him that he snuck up behind Dawson while Dawson and Larry Strickland were arguing in the middle of Cleo Court, and shot him on the left side of the chest.

WHEN THE STRICKLANDS were leaving the scene, they came up against Wheeling Police Officer William Stutzman. The Stricklands and Stutzman exchanged brief gunfire, and the brothers fled the scene.

Tyrone Strickland told Rakoczy he and his brother abandoned the blue Grand Torino they were driving about a mile from the murder scene and ran on foot until they came upon an elderly man, Donald Hamburg, and two children. Tyrone Strickland said the brothers insisted Hamburg drive them to California.

But the Stricklands only got as far as Chicago when Hamburg slammed on his brakes right behind a police car and ran from the car with the two children screaming for help, said Rakoczy.

The Stricklands also fled from the car and were chased on foot by about eight police officers. Tyrone Strickland ran into an alley and hid, but was soon apprehended by police.

"When I got into the alley, I didn't know what to do," Tyrone Strickland testified. "I said, 'I know they're going to kill me. I know they are.'

HERALD 2-12-88

Boyd: I truly believed I killed girl in my yard

By Kathy Schaeffer
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Although he now denies killing 14-year-old Mary Kosinski in his Wheeling backyard in 1981, William C. Boyd Jr. told a federal jury Thursday that when he confessed to the murder he truly believed he had killed his friend.

"At that time I believed that I had killed Mary Kosinski," Boyd testified Thursday. Boyd said that when he confessed to authorities he willingly drew a diagram of the backyard playhouse where the murder occurred, including a stick figure of where Kosinski's body was found.

"You drew that with your own hand, right?" attorney Elizabeth Brown asked Boyd. Brown is representing Wheeling police in the case.

"Yes ma'am," Boyd replied.

Boyd, 21, was called to the witness stand Thursday for the second time in his three-week-long civil trial. He is suing the Village of Wheeling, four current or former Wheeling policemen and a psychotherapist, charging they violated his rights and hypnotized him to "plant" a confession in his mind for a murder he did not commit.

He is seeking between $5 million and $23 million in damages.

The first time he testified, Boyd told jurors that for two years after the murder he believed he had killed Kosinski. He said it wasn't until he learned of a dental expert's report, which created doubt that bite marks on the body were his, that he began to realize that he may not have committed the murder.

In 1983 a circuit court judge threw out Boyd's confession, agreeing that Boyd had been hypnotized before making his statement. The murder charges were then dropped. The case remains unsolved.

HERALD 2-17-88

Wheeling police want six new squad cars

By Keri Wyatt
Daily Herald Staff Writer

The Wheeling Police Department is asking the village board for $72,300 to pay for six new squad cars.

The six cars are normally part of the village budget, but the department is seeking approval to order the new squad cars before the final village budget is approved this year, in order to take advantage of a state bidding program.

Police Chief Michael F. Haeger said the department usually orders its squad cars through the state bidding program, but the deadline was pushed up from March 31 to Feb. 22 this year.

"The state bids for cars, and we piggyback that bid," Haeger explained. The cars, 1988 Chevrolet Caprices, will be purchased from Miles Chevrolet of Decatur.

The department has 12 marked squad cars, and purchases six new ones each year. A car is used as a marked squad for about two years, Haeger said.

"Once they get about 60,000 to 70,000 miles on them, we don't want to use them as marked cars. We'll be downgrading some of the old cars, and retiring some," he said. "Downgrading" a squad car means turning it into a unmarked detectives' car or one used by community service officers, who do not use the cars as heavily. Including the unmarked cars, there are about 22 cars in the police department fleet.

If approved by the village board at its Feb. 16 meeting, the new cars will be ordered next week and should arrive by May 1.

Domino's seeks to open carry-out restaurant

Domino's Pizza may open a carry-out restaurant in the Lynn Plaza shopping center in Wheeling, if the village board agrees.

The Wheeling Plan Commission recommended Domino's be allowed to set up shop in town. It would move into the former Zack's carpet store at 546 W. Dundee Road, next to Walgreen's drug store. The store has been vacant for over a year.

"We think it's a good project," Village Planner Richard Greenwood said. "It is a compatible use and will work well."

The village board will make a final decision. No date has been set.

Friday, February 12, 1988

HERALD 2-12-88

Conviction of killer consoles cop's peers

By Diane Dungey
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Even before an ambulance came to take away the body of a fellow police officer, Wheeling police set aside their grief and began collecting evidence that was used to identify the killer.

In a trial that ended Wednesday — two years and three months after Wheeling police officer Kenneth Dawson was shot to death — that evidence helped convict 23-year-old Tyrone Strickland of killing Dawson.

For Wheeling police officers, the conviction brought relief, satisfaction and the comfort of knowing the murder of a police officer will not go unpunished.

"It's tough to describe the emotions," Wheeling Police Chief Michael Haeger said Thursday. "Joy is not the right word. I searched for the right word, maybe support or a thank you for Ken Dawson. Some felt relief that the judge recognized he made the sacrifice. That's very supportive to all police officers, not just in Wheeling."

"It's a credit to police officers everywhere that they can lose one of their own in the line of duty and still do a tremendous job in investigating that death," Haeger said. "They set aside their emotions. It was a good, solid investigation in this case, and they did it realizing they would have to take the time and deal with the death."

After Cook County Judge Fred G. Suria Jr. announced the guilty verdict, Haeger and other Wheeling officers who attended the trial rushed to the pay telephones outside the courtroom.

"Everyone was satisfied," said Wheeling Detective William Hubner, who was assigned to investigate Dawson's murder. He was one of about 20 officers, some fresh from the midnight shift, who went to court Wednesday.

"The news went very quickly through the department. A far different evening than Nov. 5, 1985," Haeger said.

On that evening, the night Dawson died, Wheeling officers who went to assist Dawson with two unruly suspects instead found themselves taking the names of witnesses after they found Dawson's body.

"The investigation helped. It was difficult and everything, but we were able to do something," Wheeling Police Sgt. Jack Kimsey said. "Now, there's a feeling of relief. This part is over with."

"It's been a long time in coming, over two years," said one police officer, who asked not to be named.

But the ordeal is entirely not over. Tyrone's brother, Larry Strickland, has not yet come to trial. Both men were arrested in Chicago after they commandeered a car driven by Donald Hamburg of Buffalo Grove in a getaway attempt.

"Let's get it behind us and move on," Kimsey said. "We'll never forget Ken, but we need to go on."

Wheeling officers said Dawson's death made them more aware of the potential danger in every routine call. "It takes away any complacency. Don't ever let your guard down," Haeger said.

It also has made the police force aware of losses in other police departments, he said. Mindful of a Michigan squad car that joined the long funeral procession for Dawson, Wheeling sent police representatives to the funerals of three Michigan policemen killed in the line of duty.

"When a police officer falls, we'll be there," Haeger said. "Not only to show support for the department, but for the community. The community has to know that just because one officer has gone down, the line that provides service to that community has not been broken."

HERALD 2-12-88

Milwaukee Ave. work has merchants worried

By Keri Wyatt
Daily Herald Staff Writer

The upcoming repair project on Milwaukee Avenue has Wheeling business owners worried about how they will survive the two-year construction period, when one lane of traffic in each direction and temporary driveways may scare away customers.

Others will lose all or part of their buildings or parking lots.

Larry Duxler said an office building he is going to buy at Dundee Road and Milwaukee will lose about seven parking spaces.

The loss will mean the building no longer conforms to village codes and may be difficult to lease out, he said.

But James Masterson, owner of Hackney's Restaurant, 241 S. Milwaukee, said he is "all for the improvement," especially the new center turn land that's going in.

"My building shakes from semis going by," he said. "I've asked about getting it fixed for years, and I hope the resurfacing will stop it."

He too thinks business will suffer during the construction period, expected to begin in 1991.

"I can't imagine it would help," he said. "But that road is not going to last forever, and has to be fixed, even if it is not widened. We have to bite the bullet."

The Illinois Department of Transportation currently has about $1 million of the $7 million needed to complete the project. Nancy L. Magnus, IDOT project leader, said just when and where the project begins will depend on "what's logical."

"We're not going to start and then leave it all a mess if the money runs out," she said. "If we don't have enough money to start work, we may just work on land acquisition first. Or we may try to do a logical segment, maybe one intersection."

Magnus said it would be done in segments. Areas under construction will be reduced to one lane in each direction.

Magnus said the project calls for total demolition of three buildings. She did not have specific addresses, but said that the buildings were located on the west side, two just north of Mors Avenue and one just south of Wolf Road.

Herald 2-14-88

THE WEEK AHEAD

Trustees to vote on tax break request

The top meeting

Who: Wheeling village board

Where: Wheeling village hall, 255 W. Dundee Road

When: 8 p.m. Tuesday

The Wheeling village board will vote on a local manufacturer's request for a tax break at its Tuesday meeting. The meeting will be held at 8 p.m. at the village hall, 255 W. Dundee Road.

At the last village board meeting, Mercury Stainless Corp. in Wheeling told village board members the company would like to expand its facilities to more than double their current size and turn its plant into a corporate headquarters. Without the break,. they could not afford the project, company representatives said.

The plant, at 475 Allendale Drive, is asking for a tax break that would lower taxes for 12 years. The company has had a plant in Wheeling for nine years.

The tax exemption, which reduces Cook County taxes, is supposed to act as an incentive to keep businesses in Cook County instead of moving to Lake or DuPage counties.

However, Mercury officials see it as an incentive to stay in Illinois. But even if the request is granted, John Robb, vice-president of administration for Mercury, said the company may still opt to build in Ohio, where its largest operation is currently located.

Robb said Thursday that he is hopeful about the board's decision.

"We are trying to make an economic decision based on our viability in the village of Wheeling," he said.

The number of employees at Mercury would increase from 70 to 120 by about five years after the expansion is completed. Robb said.

Another incentive for putting its corporate headquarters in Wheeling would be traffic lights at the entrance of the industrial park where Mercury is located. Robb said.

"The village seems very willing to help out," he said.

Herald 2-14-88

Guilty verdict in murder of police officer

A Cook County judge found Tyrone Strickland guilty Wednesday of murdering Wheeling Police Officer Kenneth Dawson. The verdict by Judge Fred G. Suria Jr. setting aside Strickland's testimony that he shot the officer accidentally. Suria also found Strickland guilty of two counts of attempted murder for shooting at a Wheeling police officer who came to Dawson's aid and at a Chicago police officer who tried to stop Strickland and his brother, Larry. He also found him guilty of kidnapping three members of a Buffalo Grove family at gunpoint and forcing them to drive the Stricklands to Chicago in a getaway attempt. Prosecutors David Erickson and Paula Daleo will ask that Tyrone Strickland be sentenced to death.

Kenneth Dawson

School options

The possible closing of Stevenson School in unincorporated Des Plaines and the reopening of a larger grade school are among options being considered to ease overcrowded sixth grades in East Maine Elementary District 63. Superintendent Eldon L. Gleichman unveiled a list of 15 options this week, which include a citizens' committee recommendation that Apollo Junior High be reopened and his own recommendation to move several classes of sixth graders to Gemini Junior High. The possible closing of Stevenson was a common theme in eight of the 15 options. Gleichman said the board will attempt to narrow the list before its next full board meeting Feb. 23. A committee meeting also will be held at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday in the Galaxie Theater in Apollo Junior High.

Parks smoking ban

The Salt Creek Rural Park District will ban smoking at park district buildings, but one commissioner upset with the decision says he'll ask that sale of beer and wine at the Twin Lakes Recreation Area be dropped. The park district board voted 4-2 this week to prohibit smoking at the Rose Park administration building and the Twin Lakes clubhouse. However, Commissioner Patrick Grealish, a smoker who opposed the new law, said he'll propose that all alcohol sales at the Twin Lakes park in Palatine also be banned. Grealish said he does not object to beer and wine sales at Twin Lakes, but if smoking is banned then alcohol should be dropped too. "(Other board members) say smoking sets a bad example for kids. Well, so does drinking," Grealish said.

City manager push

Des Plaines Mayor John E. Seitz and some aldermen campaigned for a locally governed city manager during a city council committee hearing, but several residents said they favor going back to a full-time mayor form of government. "Creation of the post of city manager is another step toward professionalism, but the creation of that post by state statute may well carry us too far," Seitz said, claiming that the statute form considerably limits mayoral power and reduces aldermanic power. Instead, he favors a manager whose powers are limited by the city council.

Attitudes survey

Buffalo Grove Park District officials are considering hiring a consulting firm to conduct an "interests and attitude" survey, which among other things, will ask residents if they want a second community pool. Although the "attitudes" survey is routinely conducted every five years, this year the survey will also address the possibility of a new pool on a 20-acre site south of Route 22 and west of Buffalo Grove Road. Neighboring Long Grove residents strongly oppose the possibility. Park district Director Mike Rylko said that unless they conduct an in-house survey, it could cost between $12,000 and $18,000 to hire a consulting firm.

Grennhouse to go

Sixty-one years after it opened, the Weiland Brothers Greenhouse will be torn down and replaced with an industrial project. David Weiland, who runs the family operated greenhouse, says plans for an industrial park are underway, but he will still be in business for at least three years. A new residential subdivision built near to the greenhouse has caused additional water flow onto the property, Weiland said. By the time the water filters through the roads and nearby properties, it is often filled with salt and other pesticides and cannot be used to water the plants. Because of the water problem, Weiland opted to sell the property instead of trying to build a new greenhouse.

Firefighters raffle

Wheeling firefighters will hold a raffle to help defray the legal costs of their court battle with the village of Wheeling. Wheeling Firefighters Association President Bart Burns said the union has piled up about $25,000 to $30,000 in debts in trying to defend the inclusion of lieutenants in the bargaining unit. The Illinois Labor Relations Board had ruled that lieutenants could be included in the union and the village appealed the decision. The case is currently before the appellate court. Meanwhile, Wheeling village and top fire department officials are publicly disavowing any connection with the union.

TRIBUNE 2-18-88

Student loses hypnosis lawsuit

Civil rights not violated, jury says

By William B. Crawford Jr.

A federal court jury refused Wednesday to award damages to a man after deciding that his civil rights had not been violated when he was taken to the Wheeling police station in 1981, questioned at length and charged with the murder of a 14-year-old neighbor girl.

William C. Boyd, who was a teenager at the time of his arrest, and his mother were seeking $2.6 million in damages from four Wheeling police officers and a psychotherapist. Boyd, now 21 and a Cicero resident, alleged that his civil rights were trampled during the police investigation into the murder of Mary K. Kosinski. The girl's partially clad body was discovered on the floor of a playhouse behind Boyd's home on the morning of July 17, 1981.

Boyd was initially charged with murder, but the charges were dropped after a Cook County Circuit Court judge ruled that his confession had been improperly obtained. The slaying remains unsolved.

Boyd and his mother later filed a multimillion lawsuit in U.S. District Court against the police officers and Dr. Clarence P. Trausch, a psychotherapist who elicited the confession from Boyd after he had been questioned for hours by the officers. The suit accused Trausch of placing the youth under hypnosis to extract the confession after a grueling police interrogation failed to elicit one.

But lawyers for the officers and the witnesses who testified for the defense during the unusual trial continued to insist that Boyd was responsible for the girl's death. Apparently, those assertions played a major role in the jury verdict.

Afterward, the four officers—John Stone, William Hoos, Edward Theriault and Ronald Nelson—told reporters during a news conference in the lobby of the Dirksen Federal Building that they had conducted their investigation properly.

"We feel we did a good job in 1981, and nothing has changed my mind," Hoos said.

"I don't think anything can change our mind about who killed the girl," Theriault said.

The girl's parents, John and Mary Kosinski, who attended nearly every day of the four-week trial, also reacted emotionally to the verdict.

"I don't know what I personally accomplished by being in court, but I knew I had to be here for Mary. . . . I think the whole world knows Bill Boyd is guilty," Kosinski said, unable to hold back his tears.

Boyd and his mother left the courtroom without comment.

His lawyer, Anthony Pinelli, said later: "I think Bill Boyd was arrested without probable cause and coerced to confess. I thought we proved that in the courtroom. The jury obviously thought otherwise. Yes, I am disappointed."

Pinelli said he would consult with the Boyd family before deciding whether to appeal.

Tribune photo by George Thompson

William C. Boyd leaves federal court after a jury refuses to award him $2.6 million in damages in his civil rights lawsuit against four Wheeling police officers and a psychotherapist.

Boyd, who is now married and who works as a janitor, is a Moody Bible Institute student who aspires to be a missionary to Third World countries.

Mary Kosinski had been spending the night with Boyd's sister, Barbara, then 12. Mary's body was discovered about 9 a.m. on July 17, 1981, in the playhouse behind Boyd's home at 408 Sunset Lane, Wheeling. A pillow had been placed over her face and her lips, and right breast bore bite marks.

Boyd was charged after he gave a statement, recorded by a court stenographer, to an assistant state's attorney who was summoned to the police station on July 18, 1981.

He said in his confession that he placed the pillow over the victim's face after she spurned his attempts to kiss and fondle her during a strip-poker game the youths were playing in the playhouse earlier in the evening.

The signed confession was thrown out in 1983 by Judge Nicholas Pomaro, who concluded that it had been obtained through hypnosis in violation of the youth's 5th Amendment right against self-incrimination. Later,

See Student, pg. 8

HERALD 2-18-88

Lapse of liability insurance bewilders airport commission

By Keri Wyatt
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Pal-Waukee Airport commissioners were surprised to learn that the commission has been without liability insurance since the first of the year. The airport's liability is not affected.

The officers and directors' liability policy, which had been carried by Arthur Gallagher Insurance Co., expired Dec. 31, 1987, airport consultant John P. Kennedy told the commission at it's Wedneday night meeting

The commission, made up of trustees and citizens from Wheeling and Prospect Heights, makes policy decisions about airport management. The insurance policy covers any liability incurred by the commission's decisions.

Commissioner William A. Rogers of Wheeling, said he was very worried about not having insurance.

"I feel very strongly about this," Rogers told the commission. "I am not ready to sit here and make decisions without liability insurance. I don't think we should even meet without it. We're dealing with millions of dollars; we're dealing with land acquisition, property and people's lives."

Kennedy said he thought that Intergovernmental Risk Management Association (IRMA) an insurance pool made up of 40 towns might have covered the commission's liability because it is made up of members from both Wheeling and Prospect Heights.

However, Kennedy said IRMA officials told him they would have to check to see if the commission could be covered. Kennedy said he was expecting to hear from IRMA Monday, but in the meantime, the commission is "out in the cold."

Kennedy said he was working on finding out how the policy lapsed and what to do about it.

Commissioner Carey L. Chickerneo, of Prospect Heights, said "I'm upset we didn't know about this. It's imperative we be actively involved" in obtaining insurance.

HERALD 2-18-88

Jury lifts cloud over Wheeling

By Mary Rowitz
Daily Herald Staff Writer

For seven years, the stigma of the William Boyd case shrouded the Wheeling Police Department.

While observers may have supressed their doubts about the department's ethics, Police Chief Michael F. Haeger knew those doubts existed.

"I hoped that none of my peers looked down on us because of the case, but if they did, they don't today," Haeger said Thursday. "We've combatted the stigma. I think we've been vindicated, and I think the entire department is savoring it. This is very good for the village, the officers, and the family" of Mary Kosinski.

A Cook County jury refused Wednesday to award damages to Boyd for false imprisonment, false arrest, involuntary confession and other charges stemming from the still unsolved murder of Kosinski, 14, in 1981. Boyd confessed to that murder the day after it happened, but his statement was thrown out by a judge who said the Wheeling police hypnotized Boyd into thinking he committed the crime.

The ruling also gave Haeger an opportunity to vent his anger toward Boyd's attorney, Michael Norris.

"This is one very large victory for us relative to Mr. Norris," Haeger said. "He has done a tremendous disservice to this department and its officers. He has been criticizing and ridiculing the officers of this department for years."

Norris, who said an appeal to a federal court may be in the works, said the jury's verdict may have carried a different message.

"The jury may not have exonerated the police and their tactics," Norris said. "Maybe they thought I could not prove Bill Boyd innocent. But whatever they thought, you haven't heard the last of the Boyd matter."

For now, however, Haeger is relishing the victory, stressing that his own personal relief pales in comparison to the "elation" of the two officers named in Boyd's multi-million dollar lawsuit, Officer Edward Theriault and Det. John Stone.

"I would say our laws work," Theriault said. "This shows it works."

On the night she died, Mary Kosinski had gone to the Boyd house several blocks from her own to spend the night outdoors with Barbara Boyd, a friend. A party began in a playhouse behind the Boyd home, and when Boyd's father broke up the gathering, Mary stayed there alone. Her partially clad body was found in the morning. A pathologist said she had been suffocated strangled.

Boyd confessed to the murder, but the evidence was thrown out after a circuit court judge agreed that Boyd had been hypnotized. After the murder charges were dropped, Boyd sued the village, four current and former Wheeling policemen and a psychotherapist, claiming they violated his civil rights.

Haeger, who assumed the department's top post after the murder, says he would have handled the Boyd case differently. But he refused to speculate on what actions he would have taken.

"I don't think it's time to belabor the past, but savor the present," he said. "Still, I don't care how much joy we get out of the case, it doesn't bring Mary back, and the offender is still out there."

HERALD 2-18-88

Jury rules cops were 'just doing their jobs'

By Diane Dungey
Daily Herald Staff Writer

A Cook County jury ruled Wednesday that William C. Boyd is not entitled to any money from authorities who he said hypnotized him into confessing that he killed a 14-year-old Wheeling girl in 1981.

Parents of Mary Kosinski, who was murdered on a summer night in 1981 in Boyd's back yard, cried and hugged each other after the verdict in the month-long civil trial was read.

"What little victory it is. My daughter is still dead," said John Kosinski, Mary's father.

"I'm just glad he didn't make any money," said Karen Kosinski, Mary's mother.

Mary's aunt and godmother, Joyce Kosinski of Chicago, pleaded that the criminal case be reopened.

"We'd like to ask (State's Attorney Richard) Daley to reopen this case and try to prosecute," she said.

The day Mary Kosinski died, Boyd was charged with strangling and suffocating the girl. But prosecutors dropped charges after a circuit court judge threw out Boyd's 10-page confession, saying Wheeling police held him illegally and called in a psychotherapist to elicit his confession with hypnotism.

Boyd and his mother, Carol, in their $2.6 million lawsuit, asked that the Village of Wheeling, four current or former police officers, and psychotherapist Clarence Trausch pay damages for false imprisonment, false arrest, involuntary confession and other charges.

"He got his freedom in the criminal court. I don't know what more the law could give him," said Elizabeth Brown, an attorney for Wheeling. "The freedom he's got is more than he could ask from anyone, let alone sue all the police officers. Police officers have to be able to question suspected murderers in our society. If they can't, it's going to be complete chaos."

Another attorney for Wheeling, Byron D. Knight, said, "These officers have lived under this for a long time. It's gratifying the jury believes police were just doing their jobs."

Boyd, now a 21-year-old student at the Moody Bible Institute in Chicago, left the courtroom without commenting on the decision. In his testimony, he described the murder in vivid detail, then said the scene was only a vision planted in his head

See **BOYD** *on Page 3*

HERALD 2-18-88

BOYD: Girl's family gets a hollow victory

Continued from Page 1

when Trausch put him in a trance.

"Mr. Trausch did nothing wrong in this situation. There was no hypnosis here. A verdict like this reaffirms our faith in the legal system," said Robert L. Shuftan, an attorney for Trausch, a former Wheeling police officer who left the force before Boyd's arrest. During his closing argument Tuesday, Shuftan had told jurors he believed Boyd was guilty of the murder.

On the night she died, Mary Kosinski had gone to the Boyd house several blocks from her own to spend the night with Barbara Boyd, a friend. A party began in a playhouse behind the Boyd's home, but when Boyd's father broke up the gathering, Mary remained there alone.

The next morning, Carol Boyd discovered her body.

Former Wheeling Det. William Hoos said joy at the verdict was tempered by the Kosinkis' loss.

"We did a great job in 1981 and we still believe that today. We did what we felt was right," Hoos said. "Regardless of what happened to us, they still lost their daughter."

"I would say our laws work. This shows it works," said Wheeling Officer Edward Theriault, who also was named in the suit.

Others named in the suit were Det. John Stone and former Acting Chief Ronald Nelson.

Boyd's attorney, Anthony Pinelli, declined comment.

State OKs $9.6 million Villa expansion plan

By Lee Ann Gill
Staff Writer

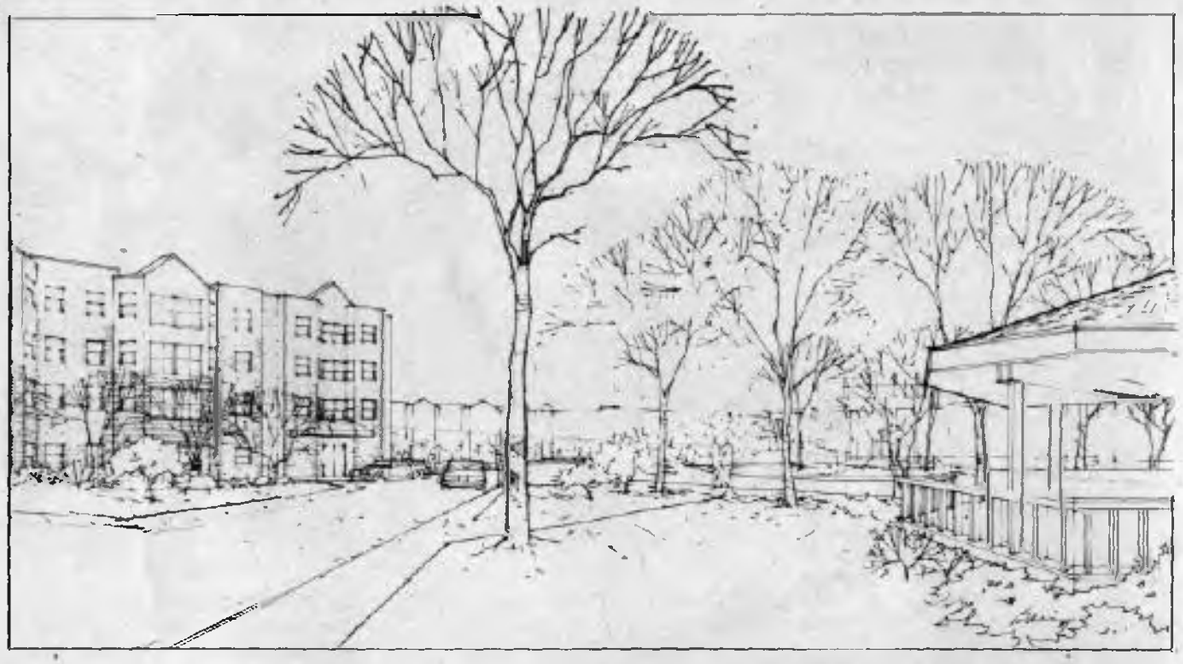
2-18-88

The Illinois Health Facilities Planning Board has put its stamp of approval on a $9.6 million expansion plan at the Addolorata Villa Home for the Aged in Wheeling.

The project, which calls for increasing the number of sheltered and intermediate beds in the McHenry Road facility and adding a skilled-care unit, was unanimously approved this month by the state board.

The plans were also approved last week by the Wheeling Zoning Board of Appeals and the village's plan commission, which will both recommend approval to the village board. The board is expected to vote on the project within a month.

"This is a capstone on 40 or 50 years of striving for a complete service for the aging and the aged," Larry Valentine, director of development at the Villa, said about the state board's decision. "We are delighted. We had a lot riding on this."



This is an artist's vision of what the entrance Addolorata Villa Home for the Aged will look like after a $9.6 million expansion and renovation project.

THE FACILITY, OPERATED by the Servants of Mary, an order of the Roman Catholic Church, now offers intermediate and sheltered care and is licensed for 98 beds. If the project is approved by the village, the facility will be expanded to include 45 additional sheltered care beds, a 20-bed skilled-care unit and 60 additional intermediate-care beds.

The project also calls for construction of 100 private apartment units on the 17-acre site for seniors who are able to live independently.

If approved, Valentine said construction would likely begin this summer.

The skilled-care unit, which is now not available at the facility, would provide residents with more intensive medical care, such as intravenous treatments and tubular feedings. A larger nursing staff would be required to operate that unit.

THE RETIREMENT HOUSING units would include unfurnished studio, one-bedroom and two-bedroom apartments, said Rick Banas, vice president of marketing for Revere Healthcare Ltd., the Palatine-based firm that is marketing the project. Rents would range from $900 a month for a studio to $1,400 a month for a two-bedroom apartment with two baths.

Unlike other senior housing projects in the area, Banas said residents will not be required to pay entrance fees or make down payments on their units. However, they will be required to make a deposit to reserve a unit. The deposit will be equal to two month's rent, Banas said.

Services and amenities such as an

(Continued on page 21)

Villas—

(Continued from page 13)

emergency call system in each unit, around-the-clock security, daily transportation to shopping and special events, recreational and social activities, and one meal per day will be included in the rent for the apartment units. Residents will bring in their own furnishings to enhance the feeling of being at home, said Banas.

The facility will also have arts and crafts room, a beauty salon and barber shop, card and game rooms, lounges on each floor, an exercise area, a library, a dining room that will serve home-style meals, an ice cream parlor, a chapel, a convenience store and a gardening area.

PENDING VILLAGE APPROVAL, reservations for the independent living apartments will be accepted beginning next month, Banas said, but about 30 seniors are now waiting to get into the facility.

The sheltered-care units will serve residents who may no longer be capable of a truly independent lifestyle, but are not in need of nursing home care. Residents in those units will get assistance with daily activities such as dressing, bathing, eating, walking and getting in and out of bed.

The state planning board approved only the first phase of the project, Banas said, but the village board will vote on the first and seconds phase of the expansion.

Included in the the second phase are an additional 40 nursing home beds, 100 more apartment units and 22 "cottage" units that will be built in clusters on the Villa's 17 acres. He said the state planning board would not vote on the entire project at once, but as the needs of the facility increase, further expansion plans will be brought before the state board.

TO REINFORCE THE residential character of the proposed development, the cottage units will be positioned along McHenry Road, Banas said. Bays, gables and "warm-toned" brick and siding or stucco materials will be used for the apartments and the health care center, he said. Those materials complement the existing Villa building. Each of the buildings will be inter-connected, which will provide residents with enclosed access to each of the housing and health care facilities.

Banas said the needs of a senior care facility are always increasing.

A study performed by Deloitte Haskins and Sells, a Chicago-based accounting firm, looked at the demographics, economics and needs of the senior population within a 10 mile radius of Wheeling. The results of this study encouraged officials at the Villa to go forward with the project.

The study showed there are now about 66,100 residents aged 65 and over in the area studied. That number is expected to jump by 28 percent by 1991. The 75 and older age group in the area — a population that now stands at 22,613 — is expected to increase by 36 percent to 30,831 by 1991.

"THE PROJECT is designed to meet the changing needs of our current residents as well as to enhance our ability to help meet the housing and health care needs of older adults," said Sister Mary Roberta Prince, administrator of the Villa, which has been serving the elderly since 1942. "The apartment units are being designed to provide independent living for independent older adults," Sister Roberta said.

HERALD 2-25-88

$1 million tax break keeps firm in Wheeling

By Lee Ann Gill
Staff Writer

Mercury Stainless Corp. will build a $5.5 million expansion to its facility on Allendale Drive thanks to a property tax incentive approved by Wheeling trustees.

The national steel processing company, which built its first plant in Wheeling in 1979, is now making plans to construct its U.S. headquarters in the village.

Mercury officials told trustees earlier this month that they would not consider expanding in the village unless they received the tax break, which will save the company more than $1 million over the next 12 years. The request for a 6b property tax exemption was approved last week.

"We're happy to have the tax abatement. It will enable us to expand our growth plan in Wheeling," said John Robb, vice president of administration for the company.

THE 6B PROPERTY tax exemption program was created by the Cook County as a way to help lure new and growing manufacturing firms to the suburbs. The program offers a cut in a company's assessment from 38 to 16 percent of the market value during the first eight years of the exemption. For four years after that, the assessment stands at 30 percent of market value. And after 12 years, the assessment level returns to the normal market value for that property in the county.

The company's expansion project calls for adding 80,000 square feet of warehouse and production space to the existing 80,000-square-foot structure and building an additional 25,000 square feet of office space.

The new headquarters will house a computer system that will centralize accounting and purchasing for the company's seven facilities across the country, said Robb. Now, business is conducted individually at each location, he said.

"This will centralize many functions taking place now in individual locations," he said.

MERCURY WILL NOW begin discussion on a "more exact construction date and on the final plans of what we'll be building," said Robb.

The company processes stainless steel by cutting and polishing it. Its clients include several fast food restaurant chains as well as companies in the health care industry. Mercury has plants in Ohio, Indiana, Georgia, Michigan, Florida and Texas.

Robb said the company chose Wheeling as the site for its new headquarters because of its location. With Pal-Waukee Airport and the Edens Expressway nearby, the location is convenient for Mercury's clients and for the 400 trucks that leave the plant each month to distribute the company's goods, he said. "Being in Wheeling is a good point for distribution," said Robb.

Mercury Stainless is the 14th company to receive a 6b tax exemption from the village. To date, two applications for exemptions are awaiting approval and two have been denied.

HERALD 2-26-88

WHEELING

Seniors organize

Senior citizens in Wheeling who want to get more involved in local politics will have a chance to do that soon, thanks to the efforts of a small group of contemporaries who are starting a local chapter of the American Association of Retired Persons. The first meeting for the new group will be held at 2 p.m. March 14 at Whipple Tree Club House, 525 McHenry Road. Residents age 55 and up are invited to the meeting. Pat Walsdorf, one resident who had pushed starting an AARP chapter in Wheeling, says "there are a number of people interested in starting a chapter."

Jury clears Wheeling police in Boyd trial

By Lee Ann Gill
Staff Writer

A federal jury Wednesday refused to award compensatory or punitive damages to William Boyd, the man who filed a $2.6 million lawsuit against the Village of Wheeling and its police department. Boyd claimed he was coerced into making a false confession in the 1981 murder of a Wheeling teenager.

After deliberating for nearly six hours, the jury ruled for the village and five individuals named in the suit, saying that Boyd was not entitled to any damages in the case.

The verdict came after four weeks of testimony in U.S. District Court in Chicago. The suit was filed in connection with the handling of the July 1981 murder of Wheeling teenager Mary Kosinski. Boyd, who filed the suit in 1983, was charged but not convicted of killing Kosinski in his backyard.

Boyd, now 21 and a student at the Moody Bible Institute in Chicago, filed the suit against the department and individuals involved in the murder investigation, claiming he was coerced into making a false confession the night following the murder. The suit also alleged that Boyd's civil rights were violated during the investigation.

"I FEEL very good about the decision. It lays a lot of things to rest," said Village President Sheila Schultz when told of the jury's decision. "It's good to have it over, and for everybody invovled to put it behind them."

After the foreman of the jury read the verdict that cleared the village and the former police officers involved in the murder investigation, the defendants began hugging and congratulating each other on the outcome. Members of Mary Kosinski's family, many of whom sat through most of the trial, began crying after the verdict was announced.

"I'm just glad he didn't get any money off of killing Mary," said Karen Kosinski, the victim's mother.

Joyce Kosinski, Mary Kosinski's godmother, said, "Good triumphed over evil in this instance."

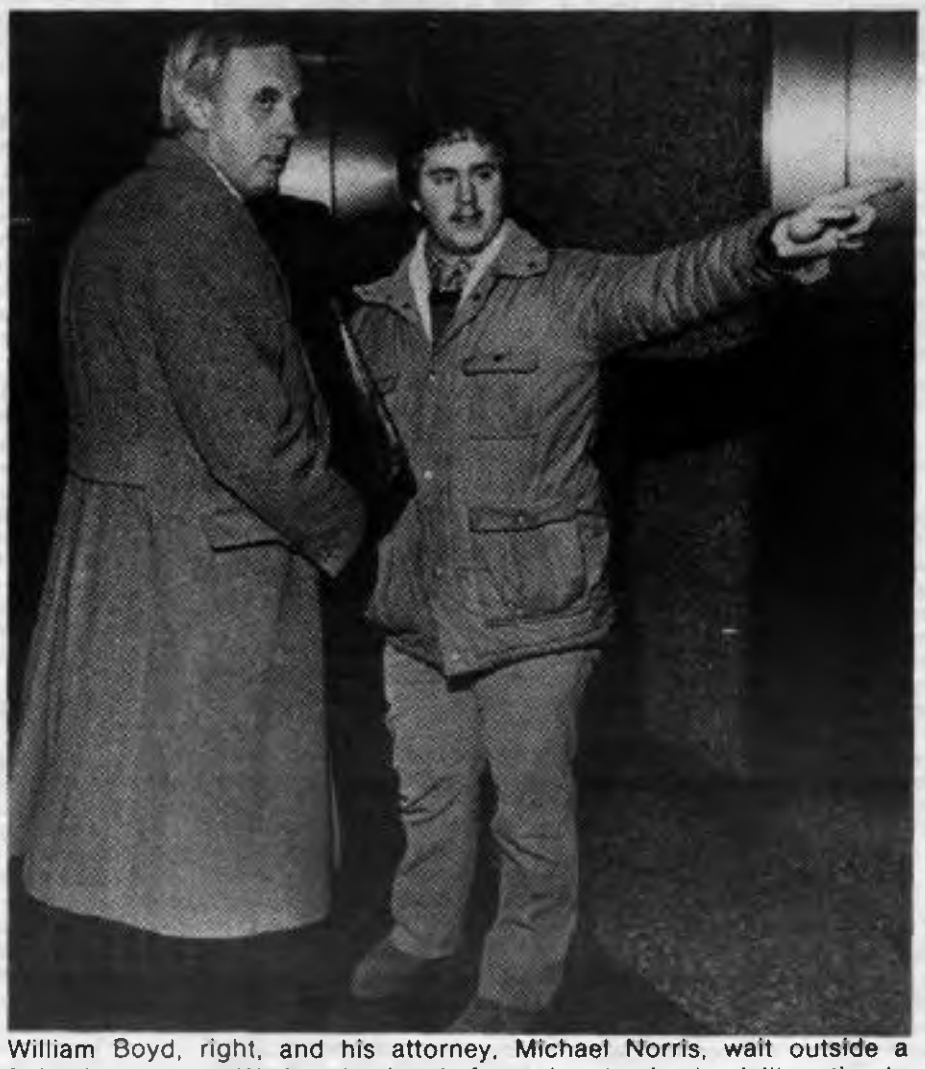
WHILE BOYD WOULD not comment after the trial, the attorneys who represented the village, said the jury's decision cleared the name of the former Wheeling officers who investigated the murder.

"What these men have gone through since 1983 . . .five years of these accusations. . .and all they came away with is what they started out with: their pride," said Byron Knight, who represented the village.

"This case is important to us as lawyers because it proves that just because you win in a criminal court, you can't necessarily turn around and sue for damages," said Elizabeth Brown, who also defended Wheeling in the case. "You'd tie the hands of all the police officers."

In his closing arguments Tuesday, the attorney who represented Boyd told juror that the events surrounding the arrest have scarred his client's life forever.

"THE BIGGEST event in his high school days was when the murder charges were dropped. They took away his youth," attorney Tony Pinelli said. "The fact that he was charged will be with him for the rest of his life."



William Boyd, right, and his attorney, Michael Norris, wait outside a federal courtroom Wednesday just before a jury begins its deliberation in a multi-million dollar lawsuit Boyd filed against the Village of Wheeling and its police department. *(Staff photo by Daniel White)*

The jury began deliberating at 11:30 a.m. Wednesday and continued to mull over the case throughout the day. The verdict came at about 5 p.m.

In front of jurors Tuesday, Pinelli accused two former Wheeling policemen, John Stone and William Hoos, and psychotherapist Clarence Trausch, all defendants in the case, of "conspiring" to get a confession from Boyd.

Also named as defendants were former acting police chief Ronald Nelson, who headed the department at the time of the investigation, and Edward Theriault, a former Wheeling police investigator.

PINELLI TOLD JURORS the only reason Boyd "confessed" on July 19, 1981 was because he was hypnotized by Trausch, who was brought to the Wheeling station by police that night to assist in the investigation.

"He gave the statement because of what these men did to him," Pinelli said, pointing to a table where the former Wheeling police officers were seated."They didn't have the facts until Clarence Trausch gave them to them.

"When Stone and Hoos got together, that was the start of the conspiracy," he said. "If you don't believe that people don't confess to crimes they didn't do, I have no chance here today."

Recounting earlier testimony by Boyd, Pinelli said Hoos, a former investigator with the department, "told" Boyd he killed Kosinski instead of asking him if he committed the crime. He said Boyd, who was 14 years old at the time, saw Hoos as the "judge and jury."

"IT SEEMS to me he's the suspect the first time that Bill Hoos tells him 'You killed Mary,'" said Pinelli. "They broke him; he had nothing left to fight back. . . This is America, we don't program people here."

But Knight, attorney for the Wheeling Police Department, said the investigators "were doing their job," and that Boyd and his mother "want them (Wheeling police) ruined because they don't like police officers plain and simple."

Pinelli also argued that Wheeling police didn't spend enough time investigating other possible suspects that evening. But those involved in the investigation say in fact they did talk to everyone who took part in a strip poker game in Boyd's backyard the night of the murder. "If there was one dime's worth of evidence that pointed to anybody but Bill Boyd, you would have heard about it," said Knight.

On the night of the murder, Boyd, then a Wheeling High School freshman, his sister, Barbara, another boy and 14-year-old Kosinski were playing strip poker in a shed in Boyd's backyard. After the gathering broke up, Kosinski spent the night in a sleeping bag in the shed. Her partially-clad body was discovered the next morning.

DURING TESTIMONY LAST month, Boyd admitted he found Kosinski's body that morning, and, without telling anyone in his family, he went back to bed. "Who acts rationally when they find a friend of their's dead?" Pinelli asked jurors.

Knight argued that Boyd got "nervous" when he found Kosinski's body. "He got nervous when the truth was getting close. He couldn't get himself to admit what he'd done," he said.

Knight said the confession was not coerced. "We don't put words in somebody's mouth when they confess; they do it," he said.

Bob Shuftan, attorney for Trausch, said there is "zero evidence to support any allegations that Clarence Trausch knowingly and intentionally" was a part of a coercion at the police station that night. Boyd is charging Trausch with malpractice and with forcing an involuntary confession from Boyd by hypnotizing the boy.

"IF THEY (the plaintiffs) say it loud enough and long enough, you're going to believe it," said Shuftan.

"There was no coercion. There was no psychological force. The plaintiff's request for damages in this case is ridiculous," he said.

And investigators Hoos, Stone and Theriault were not a part of any alleged conspiracy, nor were they wrong in continuing to investigate Boyd the night of the murder, said Knight.

"At what point should we have stopped the investigation?" he asked the jury. "Should we have stopped when Bill Boyd said, 'It could have been me?' "

"DID WE have a right to ask questions? Yes. Bill Boyd showed us he had motive and an opportunity to commit a crime," Knight added. During the trial Boyd admitted to attempting to kiss Kosinski during the poker game — an advance which she rejected.

"They did what you would expect investigators to do. They kept at it after repeatedly telling Bill and Mrs. Boyd (Boyd's mother) of their rights," said Knight.

Pinelli argued, however, that police discouraged Boyd's mother from seeking an attorney for her son after several hours of investigation. "They knew they couldn't do what they wanted to do if Billy had a lawyer," he said. "They didn't want to do anything to upset closing the case."

Responding to allegations that Boyd was not allowed to leave the police department during the interrogation prior to his arrest, Knight said Boyd was free to go at any time.

KNIGHT DISPUTE THE claim that Boyd's life has been permanently scarred by the arrest. "He went back to school, he got better grades then he ever had before. He led a normal life throughout school," said Knight. "Bill Boyd and his mother have gotten everything they deserved by this action: their day in court."

Countryside 2-25-88

Landfill pledge carries risks for municipalities

By Susan Montgomery
Staff writer

The Northwest Municipal Conference is suggesting that the agency formed to oversee a $35 million landfill near Bartlett set aside $1 million annually in a self-insurance pool to protect agency members from potential lawsuits.

But the towns that opt to join the agency could be forced to pay even more money if potential liability claims exceed the amount in the insurance pool, slated to be supported via surcharges on landfill tipping fees, local officials say.

Already, several towns near the conference's planned 200-acre landfill site, at W. Bartlett Road and Ill. 25, have threatened lawsuits if the project wins approval from the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA).

Barrington, Palatine, Buffalo Grove and Wheeling are among the 31 conference member municipalities that are being asked to help finance the landfill by joining an agency the conference suggests be formed to oversee the landfill's operations. Wheeling has already agreed to contribute $23,600 toward the effort. Buffalo Grove officials are slated to vote on the request next month.

THE AGENCY WOULD operate as an entity separate from the conference, which has spent years planning for the landfill.

Environmental liability is just one concern facing conference communities.

"There's no question this is a risky, speculative venture" for communities that plan to use the landfill facility, said Buffalo Grove Village Manager William Balling, a member of the NWMC's solid waste management subcommittee.

Another concern is that conference members are being asked by the conference to pledge funds by March 15 to raise $5.5 million to finance the site's purchase as well as the landfill's engineering and environmental studies and needed governmental permits. Also included in that estimate is the cost of purchasing two transfer sites, one of which would be on the North Shore.

THE AMOUNT EACH town will ultimately pledge depends on how many communities opt to join the agency; hence, communities won't know how much they are committing to pledge until March 15, when the conference knows how many towns have committed funds.

As of Tuesday, officials in Skokie, Northfield, Northbrook, Arlington Heights and Lake Forest had not voted on whether to participate in the project. Barrington officials Monday night voted to commit funds for the interim financing. Previously committed towns include Palatine, Inverness, Wheeling, Mount Prospect and Evanston.

Once 10 communities have pledged funds, NWMC officials hope to issue $5.5 million in bonds needed to initially finance the project. However, the IEPA isn't expected to decide for several months whether to grant a permit for the landfill project.

If it doesn't grant the permit, and the landfill ultimately never gets built, it's possible that the participating commu-

(Continued on page 17)

Countryside 2-25-88

Landfill—

(Continued from page 14)

nities could lose the money they have committed, Balling said.

"THIS IS a venture. There are no guarantees," he said. However, if the project does win IEPA approval, and is built as planned, participating communities will not lose money on the venture, he said.

"Theoretically, if all goes as planned, the $5.5 million in interim bonds will be rolled over into the long-term financing plans," Balling said. The conference plans to issue $40 million in bonds later on as long-term financing, part of which would be used to repay the interim financing.

Long-term bonds would be paid off by users' tipping fees once the landfill facility is in full operation, according to conference planners.

Conference communities must pledge the interim funds as a condition for joining an intergovernmental agency that would oversee and operate the landfill.

THE COMMUNITIES ARE being asked by the conference to sign an agreement that would form the agency; yet those communities don't know specific details about the agency's administration and policies governing use of the landfill.

What they do know is that the agency will act as a separate governmental entity, and that entity will not be administered by the municipal conference. The conference has coordinated preplanning and design for the project, but plans to bow out of the project once the agency is formed.

Conference members who join the agency by mid-March will be able to help set policy for the landfill. Those communities who join the agency after March will be assessed a late penalty and may miss out on helping to determine policies.

Once the agency is formed, it will set users' rates for the landfill, select a site for a transfer facility, and decide whether non-agency towns may use the facility.

PARTICIPATING TOWNS MAY have input in determining how much waste they will be allowed to dump at the landfill, but those decisions will ultimately be decided by the agency as a whole, Balling said.

Balling speculated that if a community dumps less than its annual allotment of garbage, it's possible that the community could "sublet" its unused allotment. It's also possible a community could join the agency, and opt to reserve its allotted landfill space for future use, he mused.

But those decisions will be determined by an interim board of agency members once the agency is established, he said.

Herald 2-25-88

Strickland sentencing date set

Tyrone Strickland, the 23-year-old Chicago Heights man found guilty in the 1985 murder of Wheeling police officer Kenneth Dawson, is scheduled to be sentenced March 14 in Cook County Criminal Court.

Strickland, who was found guilty Feb. 10 by Criminal Court Judge Fred Suria following a four-day bench trial, could receive the death penalty in connection with the shooting.

Dawson was killed Nov. 5, 1985 while responding to a report of an attempted burglary on Cleo Court in the Cedar Run subdivision in Wheeling. When he arrived, he met with Strickland and his brother, Larry Strickland, who said they were looking for a friend. After a short dispute, Tyrone Strickland came up behind Dawson reached around him, and shot the officer in the chest, according to testimony in the case.

Strickland, who testified that the gun went off accidentally, was found guilty of killing Dawson, attempted murder and of kidnapping Buffalo Grove resident Donald Hamburg and two children. After the murder that night, the Strickland's abandoned their car in Buffalo Grove and hijacked Hamburg's car in an attempt to flee to California, according to testimony.

But Hamburg stopped the car behind a Chicago patrol car and ran for help. The two men were apprehended shortly afterward in a nearby alley.

A date has not been set for Larry Strickland's trial.

Herald 2-25-88

$1 million road project planned

A $1.1 million street improvement program will begin this spring in Wheeling.

This year's road improvements include the reconstruction of three streets, said Bob Gray, Wheeling's director of operations. Improvements, which are expected to start in May, will be made to:

- Tahoe Circle Drive, from Buffalo Grove Road to Lakeview Drive;
- Alderman Avenue, located north of Camp McDonald Road and west of Wolf Road;
- and Edgewood Drive, off Milwaukee Avenue.

These streets have deteriorated beyond the point of simple repairs, said Gray. "There's so much deterioration of the subsurface," he said. "It's deteriorated to the point where resurfacing would not suffice."

And the work involved will likely inconvenience homeowners and businesses on those streets. Tahoe Circle and Edgewood Drive are residential roads and Alderman Avenue is an industrial strip.

Wheeling trustees are expected to approve a contractor for the project next month. The money for the repairs will come from motor fuel tax funds and from bonds issued for street improvements. Gray said the work should be completed by fall.

Herald 2-25-88

Zoning hearings delay barn's move to park

By Keri Wyatt
Daily Herald Staff Writer

The Wheeling Historical Society faces another delay in moving an antique barn to Chamber Park for use as a museum, after learning it will have to go through hearings to get the proper zoning.

Once at Chamber Park, the barn will house a collection of antique carriages.

The Wheeling Park District, which is the governing body for the historical society, has learned it must apply for zoning permission to put a third building in the park. It then discovered it would be easier to ask that a special historical district be created so more buildings could be added later.

The village told the historical society last year it could have the barn if they moved it from its location at Dundee Road and Milwaukee Avenue.

In order to comply with zoning regulations a site plan must be drawn by the architect hired by the historical society to redesign the old building. This will add $2,000 to the cost of the renovation and moving project, which is estimated at $50,000 to $60,000.

Once plans are submitted, they will be reviewed by village staff members, then must be approved by the zoning board of appeals, the plan commission and finally the village board. The entire process could take 60 to 90 days.

"It's a damn nuisance," said Robert McIntyre, historical society member. "But it seems to be the only way."

The society wants to make Chamber Park, already home to an old church and the Wheeling Historical Museum, into a historical village.

Michael Klitzke, community development director, said that the site plan does not have to be exact.

Frank Schnaitmann, historical society president, said that the society still hopes to open the new carriage house by June, despite the delay.

HERALD 3-26-89

Phone book shows Old Union Hotel

A historic photograph of a building in Wheeling will be featured on the regional Illinois Bell phone book distributed to residents of Wheeling, Buffalo Grove, Long Grove, Prairie View, Half Day and Aptakisic this spring.

Barb and Bob McIntyre, Wheeling Historical Society members, said the society submitted the picture of the old Union Hotel, to National Suburban Directories last April. The picture is also the cover of Wheeling's history book, "Wheeling Through the Years," which was compiled and edited by the McIntyres.

"We're kind of excited," Barb McIntyre said. "The picture is the same as the cover of our book, and there's going to be a page inside the phone book describing the cover, which will hopefully mention the historical society."

The old Union Hotel, built in 1856, was partially destroyed by fire in 1925. It was rebuilt the following year and now houses Billy and Company restaurant, at 124 S. Milwaukee Avenue.

The new phone books should be out March 15.

HERALD 3-26-89

Seniors form local AARP chapter

By Keri Wyatt
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Senior citizens in Wheeling who want to get more involved in local politics will have a chance to do that soon, thanks to the efforts of a small group of their contemporaries who are starting a local chapter of the American Association of Retired Persons.

The first meeting for the new group will be held at 2 p.m. March 14 at Whipple Tree Club House, 525 McHenry Road. Residents age 55 and up are invited to the meeting.

Pat Walsdorf, one resident who had pushed starting an AARP chapter in Wheeling, says she sees the formation of the group as a victory. Walsdorf, a member of the Wheeling Senior Advisory Committee, had suggested that group get involved with bringing AARP to Wheeling, but met with little enthusiasm from fellow commissioners.

However, Walsdorf said, "There are a number of people interested in starting a chapter. We're organizing with the intent of becoming politically active," especially on the local level.

Another problem was finding a place to meet. The village recently changed its policies to allow outside groups to use the village hall, but requires groups to have $1 million in liability insurance. If the AARP unit were sponsored by the village senior commission, the village would cover that insurance. However, that is not the case with the proposed chapter. A similar policy is in place at the Pavilion Senior Center.

Village President Sheila Schultz said, "I presume, if they don't go through the senior commission, they'd be considered an outside group. That's my educated guess but I'm not certain."

Barbara McIntyre, a senior citizen who lives in Whipple Tree mobile home park, suggested that the group use the club house there for its first meeting. "Eventually, we hope to use the Pavilion," McIntyre said. Because she lives in Whipple Tree, she has use of the club house without charge. Other groups, such as the Wheeling Lioness Club, also meet at Whipple Tree.

"We have no political action groups in Wheeling," McIntyre said. "AARP will work for seniors on both the local and national level. It's a group that honestly represents seniors."

The AARP is a national organization that, among other things, lobbies heavily on behalf of senior citizens on state and national levels. Local chapters work to keep seniors involved in and informed about issues and rights, such as voting, medical care and housing, according to Winifred Holland, Illinois chapter organizer.

HERALD 2-27-89

Tunnel builder takes safety steps

By Chris Szechenyi
Daily Herald Investigative Editor

Kenny Construction Co. is agreeing to a precedent-setting pact to abide by a wide range of safety measures on Deep Tunnel and other federally funded projects, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency announced Friday.

If Kenny breaches its agreement, it would be barred from receiving federal funds, the agency said.

As part of its agreement, the Wheeling-based company is promising to step up its training, air testing and reporting programs on Deep Tunnel and a project in Milwaukee.

The EPA, which took the step in response to a Daily Herald investigative series, decided not to attempt to stop the company from receiving further federal funds on the $3.7 billion flood-and-pollution control system in Chicago.

Instead, the agency obtained the Kenny Construction's participation in an agreement that calls for the following steps on the still-unfinished system and all other future EPA-funded construction projects:

- Air tests must be conducted every work shift for poisonous gases and oxygen.
- Elevator cages must be fully enclosed, provided with several safety features and carry no more than four workers.
- Kenny must allow increased federal safety inspections and provide at least eight hours of safety training to employees.
- The company must report all fatalities, injuries and mishaps each month to the EPA with a plan to address hazards.
- Kenny must make its financial records available to the EPA for safety audits.

The agreement, which will remain in effect for five years, allows the company to receive contracts on the next $153.7 million leg of the 131-mile-long Deep Tunnel system, which stretches from Arlington Heights to south suburban Hodgkins.

"This agreement will provide immediate improvements in safety for workers," said John Grand, an EPA spokesman. "Other contractors and guarantees are going to look at this as the new standard."

Gene Callahan, a company attorney, downplayed the importance of the agreement, saying: "It's a cooperative effort to assure the EPA Kenny will continue its safety procedures."

But Joseph Kinney, executive director of the Chicago-based National Safe Workplace Institute, said he is unhappy that the EPA did not go further.

"The message this agreement sends is clear: Companies can violate federal safety laws and expect to have a second chance," he said. "The agreement is a disgracefully weak instrument."

The company is facing criminal charges for breaching safety rules in LaGrange in 1985 when a foreman suffocated to death in a shaft devoid of oxygen. The company also is facing $17,000 in fines by the U.S. Occupational Safety Agency for alleged violations that led to that death.

Callahan said the agreement will not influence the outcome of the criminal or civil cases.

Airport acquisition rattles property owners

2-24-88

By Keri Wyatt
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Plans by Pal-Waukee Airport to buy property along Wolf Road adjacent to the airport have several property owners jumpy about whether they are included in the plans.

Airport officials say they have dropped plans to buy several pieces of property, but the property owners are skeptical that their land is "safe."

"It looks like a big smoke screen to me," said Bruce P. Egeland, owner of Bruce Woodworking, 1275 S. Wolf Road, Wheeling.

Egeland says he wants to expand his business by buying nearby property, but can't because that was also proposed for airport acquisition. His attempts to sell the property also have been hampered by its being on the airport's wish list.

However, airport manager Fred Stewart said while Egeland's property was once considered for acquisition, the land was more valuable now than when it had first been considered. Because the land in question is developed, it would cost too much to buy, Stewart said.

The land currently under consideration is for a "clear zone," or area where planes would be flying low as they landed or took off. Once plans go through public hearings, the land associated with the plan will be identified, Stewart said.

Across the street from Egeland, Clarence Marquardt owns a 100-acre industrial park called the Wheeling Center for Industry. Most of the lots are sold, except for about 10 acres on Wolf Road.

Marquardt claims that an airport plan calls for condemnation of his property.

"The land can't be sold, but my taxes are not abated," he complained. "So for 10 years I've been paying taxes on that land, which is worth about $1 million."

Stewart, however, says the airport does not plan to condemn any land, but to "acquire" what they need.

Marquardt says he doesn't want to, "assume a hostile posture," but added he has hired an attorney.

Airport officials may boost security

2-23-88

By Keri Wyatt
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Pal-Waukee Airport officials are considering beefing up security at the airport to cut down on thefts, vandalism and trespassing.

Because there is no fence around the air field, joyriding drivers can take their cars right onto the runway and to the areas where planes are tied down.

The airport commission plans to put in fencing around various parts of the airport, starting this spring. Airport Commission Chairman William A. Rogers said the fencing project would take about three years to complete, and even then would not completely fence in the field. In the meantime, Pal-Waukee officials are looking at the possibility of hiring a security guard service.

"It's just talk at this point," Rogers said of the security guard idea. "We want better definition on the number of incidents."

The Pal-Waukee Airport Pilots Association had asked the commission to look at the problem because one pilot had his radios stolen from his plane twice in just a few months.

"We don't expect them to drop everything and get fences up," said Barry Axelrod, spokesman for the pilots association. "Thefts are not a frequent problem, but these two in row was a bit disconcerting."

The airport, which is co-owned by Prospect Heights and Wheeling, is patrolled occasionally by police from both towns.

Pal-Waukee Commissioner Carey L. Chickerneo said the local police patrols were "not a cure, just a deterrent."

"If the municipalities don't have the manpower, it might be a good idea to check out a private security company," Chickerneo said.

Wheeling Police Sgt. Jack L. Kimsey said his department patrols the north end of the airport, and Cook County Police, based in Prospect Heights, are responsible for the south end.

"We don't get many complaints," Kimsey said. Most airport calls are caused when someone accidentally sets off an alarm in one of the hangars, he said.

Cook County Sherrif's Police Lt. Ray Olson said officers from the Prospect Heights station patrol near the airport occasionally, but not on a specific schedule. Olson said his department heard "very, very seldom" from the airport.

HERALD 3-1-88

Towns wrangle over fire service

By Keri Wyatt
and Dan Rozek
Daily Herald Staff Writers

Prospect Heights and Wheeling Township residents would see services drop but tax bills rise if they approve a March fire district referendum, Wheeling village officials charge.

A Prospect Heights fire official, however, says Wheeling is trying to scuttle the March 15 consolidation referendum so it does not lose $465,000 in taxes it now receives.

The Prospect Heights Rural Fire Protection District, which currently serves only part of Prospect Heights, is asking voters to allow it to consolidate with the Wheeling Township Rural Fire Protection District.

The Wheeling Rural Fire Protection District does not actually have any firefighters, ambulances or fire trucks. It collects taxes and then contracts with surrounding fire stations to provide fire service to residents who live in unincorporated Wheeling Township and Prospect Heights.

The decision about whether to merge the two districts is ultimately in the hands of the voters in the districts.

Prospect Heights fire and city officials say the consolidation is needed to eliminate the current patchwork of fire districts that often leaves residents confused about who to call for protection. Wheeling village officials say the Prospect Heights fire district is simply looking for a way to increase tax revenues to expand its department and build a new fire station.

"The taxpayers are being hoodwinked," Wheeling Village Manager Thomas M. Markus said. He said the Prospect Heights fire dis-

See FIRE on Page 4

FIRE: Voters asked to merge fire services

Continued from Page 1

trict is "trying to capture areas outside its district."

Wheeling will receive about $465,000 this year to protect parts of the Wheeling Township district, including large parts of Prospect Heights.

If the referendum is approved, the Prospect Heights fire district would be responsible for protecting those areas — and collecting the taxes.

Markus said the Prospect Heights fire district could not adequately protect some parts of the district now covered by the Wheeling Fire Department, particularly those north of Wheeling.

But if the referendum succeeds, Prospect Heights fire officials say they will contract with the Wheeling Fire Department to protect those distant areas.

The Prospect Heights fire district levies a higher tax rate — nearly four time higher — than the Wheeling Township district, but Markus said it still operates at a deficit.

Prospect Heights Assistant Fire Chief Donald Gould said accusations that the district operates at a deficit are "totally off the wall."

HERALD 3-2-88

Wheeling addresses blood shortage

By Keri Wyatt
Daily Herald Staff Writer

The village of Wheeling is trying to administer some first aid to an area wide problem — a shortage of blood.

Donors are "desperately needed" for next week's Wheeling Community Blood Drive, according to village staff members planning the drive.

Daniel Adams, village sanitarian, is heading up the local effort. A decrease in donors, coupled with hospitals using more and more blood, has created a "chronic shortage of blood," Adams said.

Wheeling has responded to the problem by increasing the number of blood drives it hosts from two a year up to three. Wheeling Board of Health members and other volunteers are calling past donators asking them to donate again.

"The board of health is looking for even more effective ways to get people to donate," Village President Sheila Schultz said.

Susan Zimny, marketing coordinator for Life Source blood services, said Chicago and its suburbs import 200,000 units of blood from other areas of the state and country each year, because local donations don't fill the need.

"There ought to be some kind of community responsibility," Zimny said. "This area has the population base to support it."

The acquired immune deficiency syndrome epidemic has reduced the number of willing donors, even though experts say it is impossible to catch AIDS by donating blood.

"One reason for the decrease in donors is the irrational concern over AIDS," Adams said.

Hospitals also use more blood now than in days past with new medical treatments that require blood transfusions. For example, cancer patients undergoing chemotherapy get transfusions of platelets, blood cells that aid clotting.

Life Source distributes about 500 units of blood to 63 hospitals per day. The group collected an average of 425 units each day during February. The rest had to be imported.

The drive will be held from 2:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., March 9 at the Wheeling Village Hall, 255 W. Dundee Road.

HERALD 3-3-88

Wheeling Village Manager Markus will resign his post

By Keri Wyatt
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Wheeling Village Manager Thomas M. Markus said Wednesday he is resigning from the post he has held for eight years to take a job in his native Minnesota.

Markus said he has accepted a job as city manager of Brooklyn Park, a Minneapolis suburb. The new job will increase his salary from $62,000 to $70,000, but Markus insists "salary is not really a consideration at that level."

He said he is leaving for "personal reasons, family reasons and career reasons. It has nothing to do with any relationships I have here."

The new job will give him "greater challenge. It's a town of about 55,000, but they still have substantial areas for growth and are interested in community improvement," he said.

Markus has worked to bring Lake Michigan water to Wheeling, complete the joint purchase of Pal-Waukee Airport with Prospect Heights, and plan a redevelopment project near Dundee Road and Milwaukee Avenue.

Thomas M. Markus

While he said he has enjoyed the projects, Markus sees his greatest accomplishment as "re-establishing the council-manager form of government in Wheeling. Previously, there had been constant skirmishing about

See MANAGER on Page 4

HERALD 3-3-88

MANAGER: Board will seek replacement

Continued from Page 1

who was responsible for what."

Wheeling's management was anything but smooth before Markus.

When he was hired in 1980, Markus was the fourth manager in five years. The 37-year-old first came to Wheeling in 1974 as assistant manager. He left in 1977 to return to Savage, Minn., where he worked for three years, only to return to Wheeling in 1980.

"What I'll miss the most is the people," Markus said. "I felt that way when I left the first time, and it's why I came back (in 1980)."

Village President Sheila Schultz said the board has had "an extraordinary working relationship with Tom. He has set the tone for how a manager operates here. We feel confident that will continue."

Schultz said the village board will discuss how to find a new manager at a board meeting Monday. Markus' resignation becomes effective April 30 — eight years, to the day, after he was hired.

Assistant Village Manager Robert W. Fialkowski said he is interested in replacing Markus.

HERALD 3-6-88

Sergeant eligibility rules to be discussed

The Wheeling Police and Fire Commission Tuesday will ask police officers whether they think eligibility requirements for sergeants should be changed.

In previous meetings, the commission has discussed possible changes in the eligibility rules for officers who wish to become a sergeant.

Currently, Wheeling police officers who wish to be promoted to sergeant must have completed their initial two-year probation period, plus an additional year on the force. The test is offered periodically to maintain an active list of eligible officers in case current ranks are depleted by promotions, firings, retirement or resignation.

The board had considered dropping the third year of probation so officers sign up to take the test after just two years of probation. But commissioners were divided on the issue and decided to find out what officers though about it.

Commissioner Edward Main said he felt two years was "a long time to have that over your head," and that the initial probation should be shortened.

At a recent commission meeting, Village Attorney James A. Rhodes said shortening the probation period could be a mistake, because if the person turns out to be unqualified, it is difficult to fire or demote them.

"The most difficult thing to do with a civil service employee is to terminate them on the basis of not being qualified after you've accepted them," Rhodes said.

THE WEEK AHEAD

The top meeting

Who: Wheeling Police and Fire Commission

Where: Wheeling village hall, 255 W. Dundee Road, Wheeling.

When: 7:30 p.m. Tuesday

3-7-88

Wheeling slates three streets for repair work

By Keri Wyatt
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Three Wheeling side streets are scheduled for summer repairs that include tearing each road out and installing new drainage, curbs, gutters and pavement.

The Wheeling village board is expected to award a $396,000 street repair contract Monday for work on Tahoe Circle Drive, Edgewood Drive and Alderman Avenue. The roads would be done one side at a time to keep one lane open for traffic, said Robert D. Gray, the village's director of operations and maintenance.

The project is one of the last in a five-year plan started in 1983. It is being funded by a $3.5 million bond issue.

"We didn't complete everything we wanted to do in five years," Gray said. "This year and next, we should complete the reconstruction projects."

Reconstruction means tearing the street up and completely rebuilding it. New pipes and storm sewers will be installed where needed.

"Many of the problems on these streets are attributed to water," Gray said. When water builds up underground, it destroys the road base, he added.

The street project will be paid for with motor fuel tax funds. The low bidder on this year's project, Peter Baker and Son Co. of Lake Bluff, offered a bid of $396,153. If the bid is accepted Monday, work could begin in early May, Gray said.

The Cook County Highway Department and the Illinois Department of Transportation are planning several other projects in Wheeling this summer. One, which will realign the intersection of Boehmer Road and Northgate Parkway at Dundee Road, is a joint project between IDOT and the village.

The highway department plans to improve Hintz Road between Route 83 and Arlington Heights Road, and between Wolf and Wheeling roads; Wheeling Road between Hintz and Palatine roads; and Buffalo Grove Road between Hintz and Dundee roads.

"It's getting to the point where it's back to the bicycles," Gray said.

Reminder 3-10-88

Wheeling, Buffalo Grove join new county solid waste agency

Wheeling and Buffalo Grove trustees Monday agreed to become part of an intergovernmental agreement to support construction of a proposed landfill near Bartlett.

Both village board unanimously approved the agreement at their meetings and are now members of the Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County. The agency was developed by the Northwest Municipal Conference (NWMC) to oversee construction of the proposed balefill.

The NWMC is compiling an "A" list of the first 10 communities who commit to the balefill project before March 15 to form the intergovernmental agreement for a solid waste government. As members, the two communities will be represented by Wheeling Village President Sheila Schultz and Buffalo Grove Village President Verna Clayton.

The newly-formed agency will "oversee all of the construction and operation of the balefill," said James Rhodes, Wheeling village attorney.

With existing landfill space dwindling, the NWMC has been working since 1983 to create the solid waste district. After more than two years and several Cook County zoning hearings, the NWMC is ready to go ahead with plans for a landfill on a 225-acre abandoned gravel pit near Bartlett.

Each community participating will pledge up to $1 per resident in short-term loans to cover engineering and legal costs of the project. Wheeling chose to pledge $1 per resident while Buffalo Grove is considering anywhere from 74 cents to $1 per resident. Wheeling approved contributing $23,600 and Buffalo Grove will contribute anywhere between $19,000 and $26,000, officials say.

The agency will use the "pledges" as backing to garner financial support for the project, said Rhodes. The agency will eventually issue bonds to pay for the project.

The money the communities pledge is "financial backing" giving the agency "some financial strength" to get started, said Rhodes.

In the meantime, Buffalo Grove and Wheeling will commit about another $200,000 each, which will be returned to the communities when the landfill becomes supported by revenues it generates.

GUEST VIEW

HERALD 3-8-88

Joint fire dist. deserves 'yes'

By David L. Jost
Daily Herald guest columnist

A recent letter from village of Wheeling Fire Chief, Bernhardt Koeppen, misinformed and misled Wheeling Township Rural Fire Protection District residents.

Chief Koeppen was incorrect in his statement that the Prospect Heights Fire Protection District intends to serve the entire consolidated district. Prospect Heights Fire Protection District officials met with Wheeling officials on several occasions and discussed Wheeling's continued service to many areas of a consolidated district.

Much information has been published about Wheeling's abundance of equipment and manpower.

When per capita and per response are compared, however, the Prospect Heights Fire Protection District has much more to offer. Wheeling serves more than 33,000 residents, while the Prospect Heights Fire Protection District serves just more than 6,000. Wheeling responded to more than 2,600* emergencies in 1986. Prospect Heights Fire Protection District averaged 10* men per emergency, Wheeling only 4*. For fire-type alarms, the Prospect Heights Fire Protection District averaged 11* men per emergency, Wheeling only 5*. (* figures provided by the Illinois fire marshal).

Parmamedics and firefighters from the Prospect Heights Fire Protection District and Wheeling pass the same tests from the state of Illinois. All Prospect Heights Fire Protection District must be Illinois certified.

Every community needs a fire department. And to paraphrase Tom Markus, village manager of Wheeling,Wheeling Township Rural Fire Protection District residents are being "hoodwinked" into believing they have a fire department.

Through the years, the Wheeling Township Rural Fire Protection District owns nothing. All the equipment paid for by the residents of the Wheeling Township Rural Fire Protect District now belongs to either the villages of Wheeling or Buffalo Grove. Wheeling Township Rural Fire Protection District residents need to know that when these villages terminate their service contracts, no fire department will obligated to serve them. By voting yes on the referendum March 15, these residents would become part of a fire department (Prospect Heights Fire Protection District), not simply a taxing body (Wheeling Township Fire Protection District).

David L. Jost is referendum coordinator, Prospect Heights Firefighters Association Inc.

HERALD 3-8-88

Village joins landfill project despite objections

By Keri Wyatt
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Wheeling officials agreed Monday to join a solid waste agency being set up by the Northwest Municipal Conference to run a proposed garbage dump near Bartlett.

Despite their objections to the conference's recent decision to give larger towns more influence in governing the project, the village board unanimously approved an ordinance forming a joint agency to govern the landfill.

Last month the Wheeling trustees delayed action on joining the agency, which is being set up by the NWMC to govern a proposed $35 million "balefill," so called because the garbage is bundled into bales before it is buried.

The NWMC board had voted to reserve two of the seven seats on an executive committee for members from towns with populations of 50,000 or more. That committee will be drawn from a governing board set up by the NWMC to administer the proposed landfill before it actually opens.

A letter of protest from Wheeling, a town of about 26,000 people, stated that officials "disagreed with the concessions given to the 'big' municipalities and consider them both unwise and unnecessary."

Trustee James Whittington said, "I still don't understand why some municipalities are more equal than others."

Village Manager Thomas M. Markus told the board, "I believe the debate is over and it's time to make a decision."

Village President Sheila Schultz said she sent the letter to the conference as a matter of principle. "We did not expect it to change because the changes had already been voted on."

Schultz was unable to attend the NWMC meeting because of bad weather.

"The agreement was tabled because the document we had was not correct," Schultz added. "We're not going to stay out of the conference, but I think it was right for us to express our opinion."

Wheeling has supported the balefill project, which is located on a 410 acre site north of West Bartlett Road and east of Route 25, since it was first proposed.

Countryside 3-10-88

Village board delivers approval to Domino's

Wheeling pizza lovers will soon be able to pick up the phone and order a pie from Domino's Pizza as village trustees have approved the chain's plans to open a store here.

By Lee Ann Gill
Staff Writer

Domino's Pizza will soon deliver in Wheeling.

Village trustees Monday approved a special use permit for a Domino's restaurant to operate in Lynn Plaza shopping center, 546 W. Dundee Road. The restaurant will open this summer.

Plans for the store, which will be the newest of 4,300 Domino's nationwide, were unanimously approved by plan commissioners last month.

The impact of the store on parking and traffic at Lynn Plaza will be minimal, said Ken Lindeman, director of store development for the chain.

HE SAID LESS than 5 percent of the store's orders are picked up by customers; the rest are delivered. And that's no accident, said Lindeman. "We offer a reasonably priced product with free delivery," he said. "That's our gimmick."

To avoid any problems with parking when other Lynn Plaza stores are operating, the employees delivering the pizzas will park in the back of the plaza and use the back entrance of the restaurant, said Lindeman. At the restaurant's busiest time, on Friday and Saturday between 5:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m., 10 drivers, who use their own cars for work, are on duty. Additional lighting will be installed near the back entrance of the store to increase the safety of using the back door.

When the other stores in the plaza have closed for the day, typically between 9 p.m. and 10 p.m., driver will begin to use the front entrance, said Lindeman. He explained that the restaurant's "high crime" hours are between 11:30 p.m. and 1 a.m., when most other stores are closed. During those hours it would be safer for drivers to use the front entrance, he said.

Domino's emphasis on fast delivery keeps drivers moving and there aren't a lot of drivers in the store at one time, said Lindeman. "We're in and out without a lot of movement," he said.

Lindeman said the drivers are easily recognized by their blue and red uniforms and by the Domino's signs perched atop each delivery car.

Those customers that do pick up their pizza will use the middle section of Lynn Plaza parking lot, Lindeman said.

REMINDER 3-10-88

Manufacturer plans to expand in Wheeling

By Lee Ann Gill
Staff Writer

The Smalley Steel Ring Co. wants to expand its operation in Wheeling, but only if the village grants the business a property tax break.

If the company is not awarded a tax incentive through Cook County's 6b property tax exemption program, it will build on property in Lake County, said Michael Greenhill, vice president of engineering for the company.

The company, located at 333 Alice St., would save at least $500,000 on its tax bill during the 12 years of the 6b program if it constructs a new building in the village, Greenhill said.

"We want to stay in Wheeling," Greenhill told trustees at Monday's village board meeting. "We've had a lot of luck in Wheeling and we want to stay here. We've really established ourselves here."

THE COMPANY, WHICH manufactures specialized steel rings that are sold to industries such as the automotive, aerospace and farm equipment industries, came to Wheeling in 1968 when it constructed a 6,000-square-foot building. In 1978, the company built a second facility that was 24,000 square foot.

Now, the company plans to construct a 55,000-square-foot building on a 4.3-acre site located on the southeast corner of Wheeling Road and Gilman Avenue. The new building would be used for additional office, manufacturing and warehouse space. The company would also buy enough surrounding property to eventually expand the new building to 100,000 square feet, said Greenhill.

But if trustees don't grant Smalley a tax incentive, it will "definitely" expand in Lake County, said Greenhill. "Definitely, if we don't get the tax advantage then we would build in Lake County," he said.

"We won't even buy the property (in Wheeling) until we're notified," he added. "If we don't get the 6b we have a few alternatives."

GREENHILL SAID THE company is willing to locate the new building outside of Wheeling and away from the other two buildings if it means saving money. "We'll be self-contained no matter what we do," he said.

Trustees are scheduled to vote on the company's 6b tax application at the March 22 village board meeting.

The 6b program was designed by Cook County to attract growing manufacturing firms to the suburbs. The tax incentive program offers a cut in a company's property tax assessment from 38 to 16 percent of the market value during the first eight years of operation. For four years after that, the assessment stands at 30 percent. After 12 years of operation, the property assessment level returns to the normal market value for that property in the county.

If approved for the 6b program, Greenhill said the company would like the new building in place by December.

Reminder 3-10-88

Commuter rail service plans are back on track

By Jeff Graunke
Staff Writer

Plans for commuter rail service through Buffalo Grove and Wheeling are getting back on track.

Representatives of the Metra commuter rail service will meet with municipal officials from several suburbs in Buffalo Grove March 23 to discuss the proposal for commuter service between Mundelein and Chicago on the Wisconsin Central Railway, formerly the Soo Line railroad.

"The real thrust of the meeting is to look forward at what can be done to bring this to a reality," said Dennis O'Brien, a North Suburban Mass Transit District (Nortran) spokesman.

There is much support from area communities, but the major stumbling block is funding, O'Brien said. "We need to find money," he said.

ACCORDING TO A Metra study, the proposed commuter line could be the most cost-efficient rail line operated by the agency. However, the cost of converting what is now a freight-only line into a commuter line is estimated at $40 million, O'Brien said.

He said a transfer area in Des Plaines, where about a mile of new track is required, would be one the of more expensive components of the new service.

A feasibility study into the service is scheduled to be presented by Metra, the agency that handles all commuter rail line matters for the Regional Transportation Authority.

The new commuter rail line would use the existing Wisconsin Central freight lines starting at Mundelein and passing through Buffalo Grove, Wheeling and Prospect Heights before connecting with the Chicago and North Western tracks in Des Plaines, where commuters would transfer to Chicago.

PROJECTIONS FOR THE first year of operation show 1.4 million one-way trips on the new rail line.

A northern Lake County segment, from Antioch to Mundelein, was put off indefinitely last year by the Metra board due to the lack of prospective riders.

The meeting in Buffalo Grove will be a mutual exploration for financing alternatives and concerns for interested parties. The meeting set for March 23 at 8 p.m. at village hall, 50 Raupp Blvd.

Thursday, March 10, 1988

REMINDER 3-10-88

Search underway for Markus' replacement

By Lee Ann Gill
Staff Writer

Wheeling village officials have started a nationwide search for a new village manager.

With less than two months to go before Village Manager Tom Markus begins his new job as city manager of Brooklyn Park, Minn., the village board has begun looking for his replacement. Trustees discussed finding a new village manager in executive session at Monday's village board meeting.

Wheeling will advertise the postion in the March 28 ICMA Journal, a professional manager's association publication, said Village President Sheila Schultz.

"We will look at in-house and out-of-Wheeling candidates," she said. "We would like to have someone in place before Tom leaves. We're going to move as quickly as we can."

MARKUS, WHO SUBMITTED his resignation last week, begins his new job in Minnesota, which is where he is from, on May 1. His last day in Wheeling is April 30.

Schultz said the new manager should have a smooth transition into office because the annual budget and capital improvements plan, two of the village's most detailed projects each year, are near completion and are scheduled for adoption this month.

Aside from professional ability and administrative experience, the board will consider an applicant's ability and willingness to cooperate with the staff, Schultz said.

"The management philosophy that's been so successful for us is what we're looking for," she said. "There needs to be a very open relationship between the board and manager."

SCHULTZ SAID THE open relationship she and the board shared with Markus helped them work together to make Wheeling a better place to live and work.

The eight years that Markus was manager was an "extraordinary time," she said. He took a village with an image problem and helped turn that image around, said Schultz.

"The result that we're probably most proud of is the sense of confidence and a little bit of pride we now have in the community, which was something lacking," she said. "It took a special person as village manager to do that."

Schultz said she isn't surprised by Markus' decision to leave the village. "With someone of Tom's capabilities it's only realistic that he would probably find a different job with new challenges," she said.

MARKUS FIRST WORKED in Wheeling as assistant village manager in the mid-1970s. He took a job as a city manager in Minnesota for a few years before coming back to Wheeling as manager in 1980.

"When Tom came back (from Minnesota), there really was a need for a change in the village," said Schultz. "We all wanted the same thing. It was a real cooperative effort.

"Not that we always agreed on everything, but what we agreed on was that we wanted to do it the best way we can," she said.

Michael Klitzke, director of community development in the village, has worked with Markus during his entire stay in the village. Although Klitzke said he has enjoyed working with Markus, he understands why the village manager wants to change jobs. "He's a very professional knowledgeable person," said Klitzke. "I hate to see him go, but other opportunities come up."

Reminder 3-10-88

Police brutality trial scheduled to start April 6

A $10 million brutality lawsuit filed against three Wheeling police officers is scheduled to go to trial April 6 in U.S. District Court.

Wheeling police officers William Stutzman, Thomas Lorenz and John Stone are named as defendants in the suit that charges the three with harassing an Arlington Heights family while investigating a report that the family had neglected to pay a car repair bill to a Wheeling repair shop.

The lawsuit, filed in 1985 by members of the Gerald Plambeck family, charges that the three plain-clothed officers went to the family's Arlington Heights home in 1983 to arrest Plambeck for not paying the repair bill.

According to the suit, the officers become violent with members of the family when they attempted to phone the Arlington Heights Police Department for assistance.

Wheeling police officials have said the officers were only acting in self defense and that the Plambecks became defensive when the officers came to their home.

Attorneys Elizabeth Brown and Byron Knight, of Park Ridge, represent the three officers, who are all still employed by the police department.

Michael Norris, a Rolling Meadows attorney, represents the Plambecks.

HERALD 3-10-88

Firefighter-village contract talks may resume

By Keri Wyatt
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Contract negotiations between Wheeling firefighters and the village may resume after a one-year impasse, as Village Manager Thomas M. Markus said he wants to get the negotiations going again before he leaves April 30 for a new job in Minnesota.

Markus told the village board this week that he hopes to find a solution to the contract negotiations between the village and its firefighters, which have been at a standstill since last March.

Contract talks broke down when the village appealed an Illinois Labor Relations Board ruling that lieutenants could be included in the union bargaining unit. That case is still pending in court, and although both sides have made feeble attempts to revive negotiations, neither has been successful.

Markus said, "We've been working since the end of last year to try and reach an interim agreement, to continue bargaining until the court case is settled."

He said the village and the union were "pretty close" to reaching an agreement, but noted that any negotiations conducted prior to the court decision would exclude lieutenants.

"We'll deal with the lieutenants once the court determines their status," Markus said.

Wheeling Firefighters Association President Bart Burns said the union and the village were close to agreeing to go back to the bargaining table. Then the real work of forging a new contract for the firefighters could begin.

Negotiations between the firefighters union and village began in January 1986. At that time, the union included only rank-and-file firefighters, not lieutenants. The village denied the union's request to include the six lieutenants, saying they were supervisors.

The Illinois Labor Relations Board upheld the union's decision, but the village appealed that ruling last March, bringing negotiations to a halt.

A trial date has not been set.

HERALD 3-11-88

Mayor's letter contradicts charge

By Dan Rozek
and Keri Wyatt
Daily Herald Staff Writers

Prospect Heights Mayor John E. Gilligan is publicly criticizing the Wheeling Fire Department for not helping Prospect Heights enough during two previous floods, but a 1986 letter has surfaced in which he lavishly praises the services Wheeling rendered.

Gilligan has been a strong advocate of Tuesday's referendum, calling for the Prospect Heights Rural Fire Protection District to assume control over areas in the city now protected by the Wheeling Fire Department.

But a letter signed by Gilligan and sent to Wheeling Fire Chief Bernard Koeppen in November 1986 states, "We are deeply appreciative of the assistance provided by the Wheeling Fire Department in evacuating flood victims. Not only did your workers supply sorely needed labor, their presence and work effort had a very noticeable and positive effect on morale... thanks for being a good neighbor."

Gilligan acknowledged Thursday that he wrote the letter, but said it was written only as a "courtesy."

Wheeling firefighters responded only after two telephone calls, Gilligan said, adding they then spent only "three or four hours" working in the city, evacuating "a few people."

"The only way we got them there was to beg," he said. "There has to be something wrong when they make that kind of response to a true emergency."

Because of Wheeling's performance in 1986, the city did not ask them for help during the 1987 floods, Gilligan said.

The 1986 and 1987 floods are a main issue in Tuesday's fire district consolidation referendum, which will determine whether the Wheeling

See LETTER *on Page* 4

HERALD 3-11-88

LETTER: Officials feud over flood facts

Continued from Page 1

Fire Department continues protecting large parts of Prospect Heights.

The Prospect Heights Rural Fire Protection District wants to merge with the neighboring Wheeling Township Rural Fire Protection District so it can cover both areas.

The Wheeling Township district, which has a board of directors but no equipment or firefighters, pays the Wheeling Fire Department $465,000 a year to protect its area. That area contains parts of the city of Prospect Heights and nearby unincorporated areas.

"Jack Gilligan's claim that we didn't respond during the flood is an out and out misstatement," Wheeling Village Manager Thomas M. Markus said. "The whole approach is wrong."

But Robert Bremner, Prospect Heights fire district president, said the information is accurate because Wheeling provided little assistance.

"They did help out after we offered our services," he said. "They originally said it wasn't in their contract." He said Prospect Heights firefighters responded with more manpower and equipment.

Bart Burns, president of the Wheeling Firefighters Association, said Wheeling firefighters spent as much time as they could in Prospect Heights.

HERALD 3-12-88

Mobile home expansion plans roll on

By Keri Wyatt
Daily Herald Staff Writer

A Northbrook developer is going ahead with his plans to expand a mobile home park in Wheeling, despite a negative response to those plans from the Wheeling Zoning Board of Appeals this week.

Richard Klarchek, of Capital Development Corporation, said he will ask the village board to allow him to add a new section to Whippletree Village Mobile Home Park, located at 525 N. McHenry Road, between Lake-Cook and Dundee Road. The new neighborhood, which will be located just east of the current park, will be called Whippletree II.

The zoning board voted 3-2 to reject Capital's request to vary the local zoning code to allow private streets and utilities within the project.

However, at least four votes are needed to make an official recommendation for denial.

In either case, the village board still reviews the project, according to Thomas Fennell, Wheeling building, housing and zoning administrator.

"The village board has to take action on the variance request," Fennell explained. If the board grants the variance, the project will then go to the Wheeling Plan Commission for its approval.

Fennell said the issue has not yet been scheduled for board consideration, and if the board vetoes the variance request, Capital will have to scrap the project or alter its plans.

Klarchek said the utilities, which he would own, would hook into the village systems.

His plans would add lots for 160 mobile homes.

"The lots are bigger" than the 407 that already exist in Whippletree Park and the average will be less than six trailers to an acre, Klarchek said. The original park was built in 1972.

In mobile home parks, residents bring their own trailer to the park, and then rent the space to park it on. Lots in the existing park are about $300 per month, Klarchek said.

HERALD 3-12-88

Wheeling health chief resigns

By Keri Wyatt
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Wheeling Board of Health Chairman Dr. Robert L. Rhoda has resigned, to take a job with the Parker Chiropractic College in Dallas, Tex.

Rhoda, a doctor of chiropractic, has practiced in Wheeling for eight years, at the Wheeling Health Center, 300 N. Wolf Road. He will be director of clinics for Parker, and also serve as Chief of Chiropractic at a hospital in Dallas.

"I've enjoyed it," Rhoda said of his four years on the committee. "It's nice to be of service to the community."

The Board of Health meets every other month to discuss matters of public health concern, according to Daniel Adams, village sanitarian. The board makes recommendations to the village board of trustees.

Adams said the board also coordinates village blood drives, which are held three times a year. The board also does public health education.

The board also organizes an immunization clinic at Wheeling High School every second Monday, Rhoda said.

The board's six members are appointed by the village board for three-year terms. Its next meeting is scheduled for March 22.

Village President Sheila Schultz said the village board of trustees will review applications already on file to find a replacement.

HERALD 3-14-88

Flood prevention work rewarded

By Keri Wyatt
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Wheeling Community Development Director Michael Klitzke has received an award for his work in flood prevention.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) recognized Klitzke for his work during the past 10 years in enforcing and interpreting the flood plain ordinance in Wheeling.

David Schein, FEMA flood plain management specialist, said, "Mike has done a great job. It's not a popular program, because developers want to build in floodways and you have to say no. He was able to get the developers to comply, and we've seen less damage from floods in Wheeling during the past few years."

Klitzke was the village engineer until December 1986, but he says he still works on flood prevention.

"I'm still very involved with it," Klitzke said. "Jim (Edgmond, village engineer) and I work together."

"He was involved in surveying property, making sure developments had the proper elevation, keeping the flood way clear," Schein said. The flood plain ordinance is a local ordinance based on federal guidelines established by FEMA.

Klitzke said one of the toughest cases he's worked on in 10 years was with the Edgebrook Business Center, located north of Dundee Road and east of Northview Parkway.

"They were all set to go, but got caught when the regulations changed in 1979. We couldn't give them a permit until they met all the new regulations, and they weren't very happy. We were very strict, and they know it's necessary to protect them. But Edgebrook just completed all the redesign they had to do last year."

Klitzke said it is also tough to enforce state and federal codes when the two are not necessarily the same.

"The state will say one thing, the feds another," he said. "The key is good communication, so we can interpret things properly."

Schein presented the award to Klitzke at a village board meeting.

"I was surprised," Klitzke said. "I had no advance warning. But it's one of those little things that mean a lot."

Michael Klitzke

HERALD 3-14-88

Burglar returns stolen money to restaurant

Marco DiFranco would like to publicly thank the person who broke into his father's Wheeling pizza restaurant March 4.

Because whoever broke in and took $125 from the cash register at Nino's Pizza, 1764 Hintz Road, returned it through the mail slot Sunday.

DiFranco said the break-in occurred after the restaurant closed that Friday. But the thief's conscience must have got the better of him, because when the DiFrancos came in Sunday they found the money in an envelope that had been pushed through the mail slot.

"I was really surprised," DeFranco said. "Could you please tell them thank you?"

This was the first time anyone had tried to break into the restaurant, a perplexed DiFranco said.

"I have no idea why they returned the money," he said.

HERALD 3-15-88

Cop's killer sentenced to death

BY DIANE DUNGEY
Daily Herald Staff Writer

The man who murdered Wheeling Police Officer Kenneth Dawson during a 1985 crime spree was sentenced Monday to die by lethal injection.

Before he was sentenced by Circuit Judge Fred J. Suria Jr., Tyrone Strickland, 23, of East Chicago Heights apologized and repeated a claim he made during his trial that he accidentally shot Dawson.

"It still doesn't bring the officer back, but it's appropriate justice," Wheeling Police Chief Michael Haeger said after the sentencing.

Strickland, 23, will be sentenced Monday on additional counts of attempted murder and aggravated kidnapping. During automatic appeals of his sentence, he will live on Death Row in one of two Illinois prisons with facilities for condemned men.

No one has been put to death in Illinois since 1962, and appeals currently require 10 to 12 years.

Dawson, who lived in Kildeer with his wife and three daughters, died on Nov. 5, 1985 after he was sent to the Cedar Run subdivision to investigate a report that two men had tried to enter a home there. Strickland's brother, Larry Strickland, also is charged with murder but has not yet been tried.

"I think it's an appropriate sentence for the crimes committed. I think it was a difficult decision for the judge to make," said Assistant State's Attorney Paula Daleo, who with Assistant State's Attorney David Erickson prosecuted Strickland.

Strickland's attorney, Assistant Public Defender Bernard Sarley, pleaded that Tyrone's life be spared and brought four witnesses who described Tyrone as a good worker and a good friend.

One witness, East Chicago Heights Police Sgt. George Nance, said Strickland was not violent and was "like a son" even though Nance had arrested Strickland earlier in 1985 for burglarizing the home of a police commissioner.

"(Nance) said he treated him like he was his son. He said he was like a father to him," Daleo said.

A childhood friend, a former employer and a director of a job placement program Strickland had joined also spoke on his behalf.

Suria said Strickland's repeated crimes in the hours after Dawson died contributed to his decision.

After Dawson was shot, Strickland fired at another Wheeling police officer who tried to stop him and his brother. The Stricklands abandoned their car in an apartment parking lot and commandeered a car driven by Donald Hamburg of Buffalo Grove, who had been leaving for church basketball practice with step-grandson Daniel Johnson and nephew David Duvall.

Hamburg was forced to drive to Chicago, where he steered in front of a police officer to provoke an end to the ordeal. Tyrone Strickland fled, firing at the Chicago police officer.

HERALD 3-15-88

In some towns, the yawns win

BY DAVE MCKINNEY
Daily Herald Staff Writer

In towns like Elk Grove Village, Arlington Heights and Wheeling, the label "bedroom community" has taken on an all-too-true significance in the days leading up to today's primary election.

Unless one happened to stumble into an aspiring presidential candidate somewhere along the way, this off-year vote — characterized by the absence of door-to-door political stumping and campaign leaflets — has held all the excitement of a good nap.

With the spotlight having shifted to county, state and national races, the majority of voters in these towns aren't being asked to decide school referendums and the like. But crossing the boundary line into a neighboring village or county tells a different story, as the following examples illustrate:

- Prom, interscholastic athletics and extracurricular programs may fall victim to the budget-cutting knife if a tax increase is not approved by Wauconda Unit District 118 voters. Officials there, beset by a $1.2 million shortfall in the pool from which salaries are paid, are hoping that this latest plea, the sixth in about as many years, finally will ring true with residents who have said "no" each previous time. If the 98-cent per $100 assessed valuation increase doesn't pass, more than $1 million will have to be cut. If it does pass, an average taxpayer would pay more than $200 after three years.
- The issue of home rule has turned Lake County and Prospect Heights into hotbeds of debate. In Lake County, some officials want voters — and not county board members — to elect a county board chairman. Proponents say such a system would make officials more accountable to voters, but opponents maintain the county's 1,800 employees could fall prey to patronage hiring and firing. In Prospect Heights, home rule supporters say the city would be given the flexibility to generate money more easily. Foes say the city doesn't need the system.
- In DuPage County, the contest for county board — in which Des Plaines Police Chief Joseph R. Kozenczak is one of seven GOP candidates — has brought into question whether one person can hold two jobs effectively. Kozenczak, a Naperville resident since October, maintains through vacation and compensatory time, he can make the five daytime county meetings a month without interfering with his job as Des Plaines top law enforcer. Several Des Plaines aldermen disagree.
- And officials in Palatine Township Elementary District 15 are asking voters to approve the issuance of $64 million in bonds to build two new schools and add on to 17 others.

Call for election results

The Daily Herald will provide suburban election and referendum results by telephone tonight. Call 870-3600 after 9 p.m.

HERALD 3-15-88

Bank plan sparks worry over traffic

BY KERI WYATT
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Homeowners near a proposed drive-through bank and strip shopping mall are worried it will increase traffic through their neighborhood.

Prudential Realty Co. Inc., is asking to build a drive-through branch of First Colonial Bank and a 13-store building at the southwest corner of Wheeling and Hintz roads. The Wheeling Plan Commission unanimously recommended the project last week.

There will be three driveways into the center: one from Hintz Road, one from Wheeling Road and a third from Weeping Willow Drive. Residents were opposed to the driveway onto Weeping Willow, because it was directly across from Ridgefield Drive.

"That intersection is dangerous already," said Martha Kelly, 988 S. Ridgefield Lane. She and her neighbors were concerned that drivers looking to avoid the traffic light at Hintz and Wheeling roads would go through the shopping center parking lot.

Shortcutters already use Willowbrook Drive, which cuts diagonally from Wheeling to Hintz roads, to avoid the intersection.

Because of the residents' concern, the developer agreed to move the driveway farther west, slightly behind the store building, to discourage shortcuts through the lot.

If approved by the village board and the appearance commission, the developer will put a temporary bank building on the site and begin construction this spring on a permanent bank.

HERALD 3-15-88

Utility tax proposed in Wheeling

By Keri Wyatt
Daily Herald Staff Writer

A one-percent Wheeling utility tax is being proposed in the 1988-89 budget to pay for street repairs.

The tax would eliminate the need for vehicle stickers, a system that officials say is difficult to enforce and causes too much paperwork.

Assistant Village Manager Robert W. Fialkowski recommended that a one-percent utility tax be added to all electric, natural gas and telephone bills in the village starting Sept. 1.

Fialkowski estimated that the tax would add an average of $14 per year to each household's bills. Businesses would also pay the tax.

Although businesses usually have higher utility bills, federal tax law allows them to deduct utility taxes as a cost of doing business. The tax is not deductible for homeowners.

Before deciding on the tax, Wheeling officials said they will send residents a newsletter explaining it and will hold a public hearing for residents and business owners.

Also, village board members suggested waiting until after the current vehicle stickers expire. The alternative to a utility tax would most likely be an increase in the cost of village stickers.

The current vehicle sticker fee is $10, as it has been since 1973. In fiscal 1987, the village collected $208,263 through the sale of the stickers. Fialkowski said a one-percent utility tax would generate about $360,000 per year. That amount would automatically increase as utility prices rose with inflation.

Fialkowski estimated the village spent at least 15 percent of the the sale of the vehicle stickers on administering the program.

Village Manager Thomas M. Markus said the vehicle sticker system is "inefficient and archaic," because of the paperwork involved, and the number of complaints the village receives from people who become aware of the law requiring a sticker when they find a traffic ticket on their windshield.

"I know we're using overtime on the police department to enforce this," Markus said.

HERALD 3-15-88

Voters decide fire district merger today

By Keri Wyatt
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Residents of unincorporated areas near Wheeling will vote today on whether the Wheeling Township Rural Fire Protection District should consolidate with the Prospect Heights Rural Fire Protection District.

Residents of Wheeling, however, will have to sit on the sidelines.

The consolidation issue has become a hot one in recent weeks, with the Village of Wheeling urging fire district residents to vote "no," and the City of Prospect Heights adamantly pushing for "yes."

If the referendum is successful, the Prospect Heights fire district will effectively wrest control of fire protection for the unincorporated areas and a large section of Prospect Heights. Currently that area is protected by the Wheeling Fire Department, which is contracted for the job by the Wheeling Township Rural Fire Protection District.

Only people who live in the Wheeling Township Rural Fire Protection District are eligible to vote Tuesday.

Successful passage also means that the Wheeling Township fire district board could dissolve itself, something it's been contemplating for a while.

Wheeling is paid $465,000 annually for providing service to the Wheeling Township fire district, and says it has added personnel and equipment over the years to meet the need.

HERALD 3-16-88

Police request staff to handle calls

By Keri Wyatt
Daily Herald Staff Writer

The Wheeling Police Department is asking for six more staff members in the upcoming budget, three of them patrol officers to help handle an increase in calls.

The department's request has "the most impact on the village budget" this year, according to Village Manager Thomas M. Markus. Despite the increase in the police department, the overall proposed village budget is slightly lower than last year's, down to $18,403,070, compared with last year's $20,487,630.

Police Chief Michael Haeger said that as the village grows, the number of calls to the police department also increases. A recently completed study indicated that the department needs 10 additional employees.

Haeger is requesting 6 additional staff members in this year's budget, with four more to be added next year. This year's additions, if approved by the village board as part of the final budget, would include three patrol officers, one sergeant, one community service officer and one civilian supervisor, a newly created position.

Because of increasing requests for police service, Haeger said the officers on the street have little time left for general patrolling, which makes crime prevention more difficult. This is especially true for the officers who work the afternoon, or 3-11 p.m. shift, when activity peaks, he said.

Most of the trustees spoke in favor of the increase, except for Trustee William Rogers.

"Bringing on six people is going to be a mighty costly business," he said. "The phase-in program is too short."

Markus said the request was a combination of the village's financial position, the legislative position of the board and the police department's need.

"There is a need right now for 10 more people," he said. "We are actually behind, by spreading the increase over two years."

"If we don't catch up now," Village President Sheila Schultz said, "it's going to be as painful or more so in the future. A two-year phasing seems reasonable."

The village board will hold a public hearing on the entire 1988-1989 proposed budget on April 18.

HERALD 3-15-88

Voters decide fire district merger today

By Keri Wyatt
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Residents of unincorporated areas near Wheeling will vote today on whether the Wheeling Township Rural Fire Protection District should consolidate with the Prospect Heights Rural Fire Protection District.

Residents of Wheeling, however, will have to sit on the sidelines.

The consolidation issue has become a hot one in recent weeks, with the Village of Wheeling urging fire district residents to vote "no," and the City of Prospect Heights adamantly pushing for "yes."

If the referendum is successful, the Prospect Heights fire district will effectively wrest control of fire protection for the unincorporated areas and a large section of Prospect Heights. Currently that area is protected by the Wheeling Fire Department, which is contracted for the job by the Wheeling Township Rural Fire Protection District.

Only people who live in the Wheeling Township Rural Fire Protection District are eligible to vote Tuesday.

Successful passage also means that the Wheeling Township fire district board could dissolve itself, something it's been contemplating for a while.

Wheeling is paid $465,000 annually for providing service to the Wheeling Township fire district, and says it has added personnel and equipment over the years to meet the need.

Fire district merger losing

By Dan Rozek
Daily Herald Staff Writer

A proposal to combine two area fire districts protecting Prospect Heights was losing by a few dozen votes late Tuesday night.

But Prospect Heights Rural Fire Protection District officials were not ready to concede Tuesday and said it may be several days before final results are known.

"It's going to be real close, it's going to go down to the wire," said fire district President Robert Bremner.

With 10 of 13 Prospect Heights precincts reporting, there were 1,662 votes in favor and 716 votes against merging the Prospect Heights district and the neighboring Wheeling Township Rural Fire Protection District.

But the vote in the Wheeling Township fire district were running against consolidation, with 301 favoring the merger and 375 opposing it.

State law requires voters in both fire districts to approve a consolidation independent of each other.

In the Prospect Heights fire district, there were 1,361 votes in favor of consolidation and 273 against it.

Prospect Heights city and fire officials had pushed for passage, saying it would help end the complicated, patchwork system of fire protection that currently has four different fire departments covering Prospect Heights.

The village of Wheeling, which stood to lose the most from the consolidation, actively opposed it. The Wheeling Fire Department was paid $465,000 per year to protect the Wheeling Township Rural Fire Protection District, under contract.

Fire consolidation vote unclear

By Dan Rozek
Daily Herald Staff Writer

It may be at least more three days before the final results of Tuesday's fire district consolidation referendum in Prospect Heights and Wheeling Township are known, fire officials say.

Even after the results are tallied, however, whether the fire districts actually consolidate may be left to the courts.

The effort to merge the Wheeling Township Rural Fire Protection District and the Prospect Heights Rural Fire Protection District appeared to be losing Tuesday, despite final vote totals that show 1,917 voters approved the measure and 1,038 opposed it. The catch comes because state law requires each fire district to approve the merger independently of each other.

While residents in the Prospect Heights fire district approved the merger 1,122 to 274, results in the Wheeling Township district are still unclear.

Voters in the Wheeling Township district were reportedly opposing the measure 650 to 425.

But those results do not include two other precincts that actually cross fire district lines.

In those precincts, some voters live in the Prospect Heights fire district and some live in the Wheeling Township district.

The results in those precincts should have been separated by fire district, but apparently were not, Prospect Heights fire attorney Donald Kreger said.

The two precincts voted heavily in favor of consolidation, with 370 votes for and 111 against the merger, but attorneys said they are uncertain how those votes now can be added to the tally.

Those two precincts could be the basis for a legal challenge to the referendum, said Steven Daday, another Prospect Heights fire district attorney.

Official tallies by fire district were unavailable Wednesday because they have been sealed by Cook County election workers until a judge can certify the results.

Reminder 3-1-88

Strickland gets death penalty in Dawson murder

By Jeff Graunke
Staff Writer

Tyrone Strickland was sentenced Monday to death by lethal injection for the 1985 murder of Wheeling police officer Kenneth Dawson.

Before being sentenced by Cook County Criminal Court Judge Fred J. Suria Jr., the 23-year-old Chicago Heights man apologized to Dawson's family.

"I'm sorry to the family for what I did. It truly was accidental. I didn't mean to do it. I'm sorry," said Strickland in a soft voice with his hands folded as he looked to Dawson's widow and three daughters, who were in court during the sentencing hearing.

Strickland was convicted Feb. 10 of murder, two counts of attempted murder, aggravated kidnapping and unlawful restraint in connection with the November 1985 slaying of Dawson. He will be sentenced on Monday on the additional charges.

"THIS SENTENCE is an example of the American justice system at work, and should send a message to those who are convicted of the murder or attempted murder of police officers must face the most severe penalties," said Wheeling Police Chief Michael Haeger after the sentence was handed down. "The decision by Judge Suria should give support to the men and women who wear a badge and have vowed to protect and serve the citizens of our communities that their efforts are not in vain."

Dawson died Nov. 5, 1985 after responding to a report that two men had tried to enter a home in the Cedar Run subdivision. Strickland admitted to shooting Dawson once in the left side of the chest while the officer was struggling with Strickland's brother, Larry, however, he claimed the shooting was an accident.

Larry Strickland also faces murder charges in connection with the death, but a trial date in that case has not yet been set.

The death penalty is applicable when a person is convicted of murdering a peace officer. Strickland's case will automatically appealed to the Illinois Supreme Court because he was sentenced to death. The appeal process currently takes about 10 years. The last time anyone was put to death in Illinois was in 1962.

HOWEVER, EVEN THOUGH Strickland was convicted of murdering a officer, his attorney argued the death penalty was too stiff.

"Tyrone has the ability to be rehabilitated. His is not a life that should be snuffed out," said Cook County Assistant Public Defender Bernard Sarley. Sarley called four witnesses who testified Strickland was a non-violent person and a good worker. "He's basically a nice guy, a very good friend," testified Richard Wayne Davis, a friend of Strickland. Davis testified that Strickland was not violent or involved in gangs. Davis said he and Strickland

Tyrone Strickland

went to church and were on the wrestling team together as high school students.

Another character witness, George Nance, testified Tyrone was like a son to him.

"To me it's just like a dream. The Tyrone that I knew couldn't have committed it," said Nance, a sergeant in the Ford Heights police department who also testified he arrested Strickland in 1985 for burglary. "He wanted to be something in life. I've never known him to be violent at any time."

BUT PROSECUTORS PAINTED a different picture of Strickland.

"He was a merchant of terror that night. He has committed the most heinous of crimes, that is murder," said Assistant State's Attorney Dave Erickson in his closing arguments. "Every time he saw a blue uniform that night he shot at it. He kept committing crimes after Dawson's death."

After the shooting, the Stricklands fled, shooting at another Wheeling police officer who tried to stop them. After abandoning the car they were driving, Larry Strickland commandeered a car driven by Donald Hamburg of Buffalo Grove, according to testimony in the trial.

The Stricklands told Hamburg, who was with his nephew and his grandson, to drive to California, but they only got as far as Chicago when Hamburg cut off a police car and ran from the car with the two children.

THE STRICKLANDS FLED but were caught by police.

In his closing argument, Erickson said to Suria, "your sentence must say that justice be served and in this case your sentence must be that Tyrone Strickland be sentenced to death."

Suria, who presided over Strickland's trial, said Strickland's behavior after the shooting was a factor in the decision to give the death penalty. "In light of (Strickland's) conduct following the shooting, there are no mitigating circumstances to to preclude the death penalty," said Suria as Strickland sunk in his chair.

Upon hearing the sentence, Strickland's mother fell to her knees in the court room crying.

Reminder 3-17-88

22 towns pledge funds for balefill site work

By Susan Montgomery
Staff Writer

As Tuesday's sign-up deadline loomed, 22 north and northwest suburbs — including Buffalo Grove and Wheeling — had pledged funds to help build a $35 million regional landfill near Bartlett.

Several other communities were expected to vote by Tuesday whether to commit funds to finance start-up costs of the 200-acre landfill being developed by the Northwest Municipal Conference (NWMC).

The conference has asked its 31 member communities by Tuesday to commit up to $1 per capita to raise the $700,000 it needs to start engineering work on the facility. Wheeling agreed last week to contribute $23,600, while Buffalo Grove's contribution will be between $19,000 and $26,000.

Conference officials earlier said that commitments from at least 10 towns were needed to form an intergovernmental agency that will oversee and operate the landfill facility.

ONCE THE intergovernmental agency is formed, it will act as a separate governmental entity that will issue bonds to finance the project. Up till now, the conference has coordinated preparation and design work for the project.

As of Monday, Schaumburg and Highland Park had voted not to participate in the landfill project, sited for Ill. 25 and W. Bartlett Road.

Highland Park officials opted not to participate because they want to explore other alternatives to address the city's garbage disposal problems, officials have said. One possible option could be a regional landfill, for which Lake County solid waste management planners are presently developing a proposal.

The NWMC is also asking its members by April 15 to join the intergovernmental agency and to commit funds on a per capita basis, enabling the agency to issue $5.5 million in bonds as interim financing for the project. The interim funds would help pay for engineering and environmental studies, and purchase of the landfill site as well as two transfer sites, one of which would be on the North Shore. The $700,000 that communities were asked to pledge by Tuesday is included in the $5.5 million interim financing.

THE AMOUNT OF interim financing each town is asked to pledge depends both on its size and how many communities ultimately participate in the agency. Wheeling and Buffalo Grove will be each be asked to contribute about $200,000.

Even after the agency is formed, an operating permit will be needed from the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) before the landfill plan can become a reality. The permit has not yet been applied for.

Aside from setting future policies governing the landfill, the agency, not the conference, will actually issue the $5.5 million in bonds as interim financing. The interim bonds later would be rolled over into the long-term financing for the landfill.

Thursday 3-17-88 Reminder

14% hike in burglaries pushes up crime rate

By Lee Ann Gill
Staff Writer

A 14 percent hike in the number of burglaries reported last year is the primary factor in an overall 3.3 percent increase Wheeling's 1987 crime rate.

Although reports of robbery, aggravated battery and aggravated assault decreased over 1986, reports of felony theft, burglary and burglary to cars were up over the previous year.

There were 147 burglaries reported last year, compared to 129 reported in 1986, according to statistics released this week by the Wheeling Police Department.

The number of break-ins to cars increased from 250 in 1986 to 261 last year — a 4.4 percent increase. The number of driving under the influence (DUI) arrests went down from 229 in 1986 to 184 last year, a nearly 20 percent decrease.

WHEELING POLICE CHIEF Michael Haeger said the rash of car break-ins in the village is one of his greatest concerns. Haeger is urging restaurant owners and other business owners to display signs, distributed by police, that warn drivers to lock all of their valuables in car trunks. The signs were distributed in 1986, but Haeger said he plans to remind businesses to keep the signs posted.

Last year, most car break-ins occurred in the parking lots of Wheeling multi-family housing developments. Industrial areas and restaurant parking lots followed closely behind, said Haeger.

Haeger said the residential and industrial development boom over the last three years has been behind the increase in the number of burglaries to cars. "With the growth we're experiencing, we're going to have an increase in criminal incidents," he said.

And while the 1987 statistics show a decrease in DUI arrests, Haeger said he hopes to bring that number up again next year.

PART OF THE reason drunken driving arrests are down is because people just aren't drinking and driving as much as they used to, said Haeger. "We are having some impact. There are less occurrences of people driving drunk."

But he also said the arrests were down because of a manpower shortage the department is experiencing.

Because of problems with "general staffing, we have not put out our DUI unit as much as we'd like," he said. The DUI tactical unit is made up of officers, generally working overtime, who patrol specifically for drunk drivers. But last year the department did not have enough officers to go out use the unit as much as in previous years.

The police department is requesting that the village approve six additional police personnel as part of its 1988-89 budget. If the staff increases, the chances of catching more drunken drivers will also increase, said Haeger.

"WE HOPE to get that number up again," he said.

While reports of Part I crimes, the more serious offenses, were up, Part II crimes, which includes incidents such as traffic accidents, simple battery and criminal damage to property, were down .4 percent over 1986.

Other highlights of the annual crime report include:

- reports of robbery decreased from seven to six;
- aggravated battery decreased from 10 to eight;
- motor vehicle theft decreased 20 percent, from 80 to 64;
- arson decreased 61 percent, from 13 to five;
- incidents of criminal damage to property decreased 4.3 percent, from 678 to 659.

Crime in Wheeling 1986 vs. 1987

Crime	1986	1987	Inc./Dec.
Burglary	129	147	+14%
Burglary from auto	250	261	+4.4%
Theft	477	515	+8%
Robbery	7	6	-14%
Auto theft	80	64	-20%
Sex offenses	11	20	+81.8%
DUI	229	184	-19.7%

Source: Wheeling Police Department

Reminder 3-17-88

Senior housing plans move ahead as plan commission OKs changes

By Lee Ann Gill
Staff Writer

A 200-unit senior citizen apartment complex will be constructed this summer on a seven-acre site on First Street near the Pavilion Senior Center.

Revised plans for the project, which is being developed by Northbrook-based Leisure Technology, were unanimously approved by the plan commission last week. The apartment complex was approved by the village board last year, however, the developer came back before the plan commission seeking approval of minor changes in those plans.

The commission unanimously recommended that the village board approve the changes, and the board is expected to vote on the plan next month.

The three-building, "high ticket" development will include a 149,000-square-foot, seven-story apartment building, a 27,000-square-foot commons area, and a 14,000-square-foot nursing care facility.

THE NURSING CARE facility would be used by residents who live in the apartment complex. If health problems of any resident should develop, a resident could move into the nursing facility, said Village Planner Richard Greenwood.

The one-bedroom, unfurnished rental units will cost between $1,200 and $1,500 a month, said Greenwood. Originally, the developer planned to include two-bedroom units, but recently changed the plans to include just one-bedroom units.

Residents living in the complex will be offered maid service, one meal a day and other services for an additional charge each month. "It will be like a little community," said Greenwood.

Greenwood said the development will likely attract seniors from all over the northwest suburbs. "It will draw from a larger geographic area than just Wheeling," he said.

THE DEVELOPMENT WILL also fit in nicely with what Wheeling officials call the community's "senior campus," added Village President Sheila Schultz. "This particular development fits in with our concern for senior citizens," she said.

Now, the subsidized senior housing towers on Milwaukee Avenue, the Pavilion Senior Center on First Street and the Cameo condominiums on Wolf Road are all located near each other.

And the new development will make that area complete, said Schultz. "We're happy to see something like that go in," she said. "It fits in with what we had started as our senior campus."

Although the development is expected to attract senior citizens from neighboring towns, Schultz anticipates Wheeling residents will move there as well. "I'm sure it's going to serve people in our community and parents of people in our community," she said.

Thursday, March 17, 1988

Reminder 3-17-88

Fewer projects spell drop in '88-89 budget

By Lee Ann Gill
Staff Writer

With fewer capital improvements planned in the village in Fiscal Year 1988-89, Wheeling officials are eyeing an $18.4 million budget that reflects a 10 percent decrease over this year's spending plan.

The decrease reflects village officials' decision to focus less on embarking on large, expensive capital improvement projects and more on increasing village staff and improving services, said Village Manager Thomas Markus.

The village's property tax rate should remain stable or may go up slightly from the current rate of $1.43 per $100 of equalized assessed valuation, Markus said.

Markus said the village's plan over the last several years has been to focus on getting major capital improvement projects done before making any drastic changes in the staffing of any department. With most of those improvements completed, Wheeling can now work on beefing up village staff, he said. This year, the village budgeted $4.3 million in capital improvements; the proposed budget 1988-89 includes just $2.2 million for major projects.

"TRYING TO do everything at once gets to be real difficult," Markus said. "We're trying to look at it from a fiscally responsible point of view.

"We've finished all of the (major) capital improvement and sewer projects, so we're not spending any of that money," said Markus. "We're in real good shape with our infrastructure."

The primary emphasis in the proposed budget, which was unveiled at Monday's village board meeting, is on increasing the staff in the 42-member police department. While the overall budget is down, the proposed $2.9 million police department budget is up 13 percent over this year.

The reason for the increase is a request for six additional police personnel. The recent growth in the residential, industrial and commercial areas of the village has generated a need for additional policemen, said Police Chief Michael Haeger (**See related story on this page**).

THE POLICE DEPARTMENT is asking for six additional employees this upcoming year and four additional officers next year to keep up with development and to bring the department more in line with the number of officers in other neighboring communities, said

(Continued on page 11)

Reminder 3-17-88

Budget—

(Continued from page 9)

Haeger.

The additional officers will require the department to spend more on salaries as well as more on uniforms, weapons and training equipment, said Haeger. Projected costs for additional manpower plus a request for additional squad cars boosts the proposed police budget up more than $300,000 over the previous year.

Aside from the six additional police personnel, the board is also considering the addition of three village employees, including a secretary for the village attorney.

Tackling traffic problems on village streets is also emphasized in the proposed budget. The community development department has requested an increase in consulting services from $7,000 this year to $118,000, a large portion of which will be used for the study the traffic congestion in the area. The cost of traffic study helped boost the community development budget by 24 percent over this year, to $835,713.

THE ADDITIONAL MONEY allocated for consulting fees could be used to study major intersections in the village or study the need for new signalization, said Michael Klitzke, community development director. And part of the money will go toward membership in Transpart, an agency designed by the Northwest Municipal Conference to study traffic problems in the northwest suburbs.

Klitzke said the traffic problem in Wheeling has "gotten to a point where it has becoming more of a problem. We're trying to anticipate and be there before it happens."

Other major funds in the proposed budget include: $1.9 million in the fire department fund, down 3.7 percent from last year; $1.07 million in the finance and administration fund, an 8.9 percent increase; and $1.08 million in the road and bridge fund, up 12.9 percent.

While the village isn't spending as much on capital improvements in the upcoming fiscal year as it has in previous years, a few minor projectsare on tap for 1988-89. Those improvements include: the installation of a traffic light at the corner of Lake Cook Road and Northgate Parkway for $17,000; street improvements in Wolf Road Estates for of $15,775; the Hintz/Wolf Road water main relocations, $59,240; and sidewalk improvements on Strong Street, $41,250.

An estimated $5 million in property taxes and $2.3 million in sales tax will be the largest revenue sources in the 1988-89 fiscal year.

The village board plans to adopt the budget next month. The fiscal year begins May 1.

Thursday, March 17, 1988

Herald 3-17-88

Results in referendum on merger of 2 fire districts still unknown

Although voters in both the Wheeling and Prospect Heights rural fire protection districts voted on a proposal Tuesday to consolidate the two districts, the final results won't come for some time.

For the merger to take place, the majority of voters in both districts would have had to vote for the referendum. But because some precincts that voted are in both fire protection districts, it was impossible to tell which district some of the votes came from, said Karen Pedersen, Prospect Heights city clerk.

"We have some precincts that are part in Wheeling Township and part in Prospect Heights," she said. "They counted it as a total vote. The breakdown is sealed right now by court order."

So, although the total number of votes counted for both districts is 1,917 for the merger and 1,038 against the issue, that number doesn't mean anything to officials waiting to hear about the consolidation. Pedersen is not sure when the breakdown of the total will be released by the county.

The Wheeling Township Fire Protection District is a paper district that contracts with several municipal fire departments to protect unincorporated areas near Wheeling and Prospect Heights as well as the northern section of Prospect Heights.

Prospect Heights Rural Fire District officials have been proponents of the merger. The Prospect Heights district operates from a facility on Camp McDonald Road and has a 38-person paid-on-call staff that covers the southern portion of the city. Unlike Wheeling, Prospect Heights doesn't have its own municipal fire department.

If the consolidation takes place, Prospect Heights district officials say they'll expand its staff, build a new facility and purchase more equipment for the expanded coverage.

Wheeling village officials have come out against the merger saying the city can't afford such a move.

Thursday, March 17, 1988

Herald 3-16-88

Pal-Waukee seeking insurance coverage

By Carl Pugliese
Daily Herald Correspondent

Pal-Waukee Airport commissioners are scrambling to get insurance coverage for the commission.

Because the airport is jointly owned by the city of Prospect Heights and the village of Wheeling, the commissioners were included in the officers and directors liability insurance policies for each town. However, the Intergovernmental Risk Management Agency (IRMA), an insurance pool comprised of 42 municipalities throughout the state, reorganized and according to Commissioner Carey L. Chickerneo, dropped the riders covering the commission from each town's policy.

Airport commissioners found out last month that their insurance coverage had lapsed in December, because they did not get a bill for the premium.

Chickerneo said IRMA's new bylaws exclude coverage of airports.

"One interpretation of that is that aldermen and the mayor and everyone on the village board and city council aren't covered for decisions related to the airport," he said.

The Pal-Waukee Airport Commission makes recommendations to the councils of Wheeling and Prospect Heights, which makes final decisions on issues concerning the airport.

The commission, comprised of Wheeling and Prospect Heights citizens and some elected officials, will ask the municipalities this week for an agreement that would indemnify the advisory group against potential litigation. The commission will meet again next Wednesday.

Commissioner Robert Strauss said airport insurance is the responsibility of the two communities.

"We're (the commission) just an arm of the municipalities," he argues.

Wheeling and Prospect Heights are still members of IRMA. No one on the commission was aware of the change in the airport's insurance status.

Pal-Waukee Airport Consultant John Kennedy said he discovered the airport had lost its coverage when it hadn't received a bill from IRMA after two months. The commission had paid out approximately $1,000 in premiums between August and December.

Herald 5-18-88

Ceremony to celebrate excellence

By Gail Kahover
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Wheeling High School will receive official recognition today for its national education award.

The school was the recipient of an excellence in education award from the 1987 National Secondary School Recognition Program of the U.S. Department of Education. A special ceremony will begin at 9 a.m. at the high school, 900 S. Elmhurst Road, Wheeling. A reception will follow in the fieldhouse.

Rosemary Thompson, of the education department, will present the official plaque to Stephen D. Berry, superintendent of Northwest Suburban High School District 214, and Principal Thomas W. Shirley. Also participating will be class presidents Val Sabal, Laura Sprehe, Brian Nash and Stacy Goldman.

Attending the convocation will be students, teachers, board members, public officials and parents. Resolutions will be presented by: Wheeling Village President Sheila Schultz; state representatives Grace Mary Stern and Bernard Pederson; state senators Virginia McDonald and Roger Keats and District 214 Board President Stanley B. Eisenhammer.

Thomas L. Burroughs, representing the state superintendent of schools, will also be present, as will Holmes Junior High School Principal Avi Poster. Holmes was also a recipient of the national excellence award.

Sharing master of ceremony duties will be faculty member James Barrett and Scott Nelles, a Wheeling High School junior.

Other participants include student council president Gina Schenkemeyer and student athlete representatives Jose DeJesus, Tom McManus, Dana Miroballi and Kristin Stoudt.

Student academic representatives are Darren Bronson, Byung Kang and Jennifer Rakstad. Stephanie Hayes, Larry Rogers and Theresa Ruiz will represent the principal's advisory committee. The parent support group representatives will be Dawn Smith, a Prospect Heights resident.

Wheeling has been celebrating the national recognition in a variety of ways throughout the year. The ceremony marks the formal visit from the department of education and presentation of the plaque and flag.

Nine public high schools and junior high schools, as well as six private secondary schools in Illinois were cited last May for "exemplary achievements." In all, 217 secondary schools across the country were named national award winners.

Herald 3-17-88

Haeger asks trustees to beef up police force

By Lee Ann Gill
Staff Writer

The Wheeling Police Department needs more employees — 10 over the next two years — if it's going to keep up with increased activity in the village and "catch up" to other police departments in the northwest suburbs.

That's the plea police officials made to the village board Monday night during a three-hour presentation that outlined the department's need for additional staff. The board will consider the department's request as part of its 1988-89 budget, which is scheduled for adoption next month.

Overall growth in the residential, commercial and industrial sections of the village during the last few years has generated a need for additional officers, said Wheeling Police Chief Michael Haeger.

Haeger said in the last 18 months, the village has experienced "a tremendous amount of growth. We can't continue to do it with this many sworn officers," he said.

ALTHOUGH THE DEPARTMENT added just one officer last year, officials knew then they would be coming back to the village with a request for more, said Haeger. Department officials were just waiting to conclude a two-year manpower study to determine just how many additional officers they need to operate effectively.

The 42-member staff is not enough to answer all service calls while continuing routine patrol in the village during peak times throughout the day, said Haeger.

"There are many times during the day when all the police department is doing is responding to calls," the chief said. "It's taking away from the routine preventative patrol. . .In addition to all the activity we still have to be able to patrol."

Of the department's 42 officers, 27 are on patrol in the village, said Haeger. The rest are higher-ranking officials, such as deputy chiefs and sergeants.

THE DEPARTMENT requested three additional patrol officers, one sergeant and two civilian supervisors be added to the department next fiscal year, which starts May 1. The increase in staff and the resulting increase in cost for salaries, uniforms and training would increase the police fund by 13 percent in fiscal year 1988-89. The proposed police fund is $2.9 million, up from $2.6 million this year.

Haeger said he would like two more patrol officers, an additional sergeant and another civilian supervisor hired the following year to fulfill the department's needs.

According to a department study, most area police departments have more sworn officers than Wheeling. Of the 10 surrounding towns surveyed, the average number of officers on a depart-

(Continued on page 11)

Herald 3-17-88

Haeger asks—

(Continued from page 9)

ment is 71. Palatine has 57 officer, Mount Prospect has 67, Buffalo Grove has 46, Des Plaines has 95, and Arlington Heights has 97.

Haeger said that while some of the towns surveyed have a larger population, most answer around the same amount of service calls annually as the Wheeling department. For example, in Mount Prospect, which has a population of 56,000, 67 sworn police officers answered a total of 15,653 service calls in the 12-month period studied, an average of 233 calls per officer. Wheeling's 42 officers answered 14,135 calls in that same period, an average of 337 calls per officer.

"WHEN THE number (of officers) decrease, the only thing we're doing is answering calls. We have to provide sufficient personnel for us to meet the increased demands for service calls," said Haeger.

"There is a need for police visibility," he added. "Should someone think about violating the law, they have to know they may be seen."

Recent residential development has also required more police patrol, said Haeger. Developments like the Arlington Club, constructed over the last few years on Dundee Road, are keeping the department busy. "It (Arlington Club) is starting to generate activity, probably a little more activity than we anticipated," he said.

With few exceptions, trustees and village staff members seemed to support Haeger's request. "If we don't catch up now, it's going to be as painful or more painful in the future," said Village President Sheila Schultz.

"IT IMPROVES the quality of life for the whole village if we play catch up," added Trustee James Whittington.

But Trustee William Rogers had his doubts about the "striking" request for 10 officers in two years. "It doesn't seem that last year we had a significant deficiency," he said. "Now, we're struck with the fact that we're deficient in almost every area. . .It's a little difficult to assume that we made that jump in one year."

SUBURBAN REPORT

Herald 3-19-88

Wheeling may create another TIF district

By Keri Wyatt
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Wheeling may create another tax increment financing district to lure developers to the village.

This year's proposed budget includes $40,000 for professional planning services to look at areas that might be eligible for TIF development. In a TIF district, the bulk of the property taxes raised by the redeveloped area are siphoned off to repay the construction loan.

Wheeling's current TIF district is the area at Milwaukee and Dundee roads.

Village Manager Thomas M. Markus said the village has had "feelers" from developers interested in Wheeling's Milwaukee Avenue corridor, and a second TIF district might make it more attractive.

Markus said there is "no particular site or developers" for the TIF district, but because of the time required, the funds to get a study underway have been allocated.

Trustee William Rogers did not like the idea of a second tax increment financing district, which was discussed at a budget workshop.

"I'm not willing to start another," Rogers said. "I think citizens might want to see something more positive than two years of delays." The Crossroads redevelopment project has been held up while the village and several property owners fight over condemnation.

The village wants a $8.9 million retail center in that area, which includes both sides of Milwaukee Avenue from Manchester Drive to Strong Street and both sides of Dundee Road from the Des Plaines River to First Street.

"We don't have to (use) the study," Markus said. "It's just to get ready in case we find developers who are interested."

Wheeling Village Attorney James Rhodes said the village has already acquired about eight parcels of the Crossroads project and still has about six more parcels to buy.

Tax increment financing districts can last anywhere from 17 to 23 years.

2nd TIF district eyed

Wheeling may create another tax increment financing district to lure developers to the village. This year's proposed budget includes $40,000 for professional planning services to look at areas that might be eligible for TIF development. In a TIF district, the bulk of the property taxes raised by the redeveloped area are siphoned off to repay the construction loan. Wheeling's current TIF district is the area at Milwaukee and Dundee roads. Village Manager Thomas M. Markus said the village has had "feelers" from developers interested in Wheeling's Milwaukee Avenue corridor, and a second TIF district might make it more attractive.

Herald 3-19-88

Herald 3-19-88

Wheeling celebrates excellence

By Gail Kahover
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Wheeling High School students partake of the victory cake, after ceremonies over the school's Excellence in Education award.

Daily Herald Photo/Scott Sanders

Parents, students and teachers celebrated Wheeling High School's national excellence award Friday, a gathering one official described as "our greatest moment."

The ceremonies marked the formal presentation of the national Excellence in Education award to Wheeling High School. The school won the award in the 1987 National Secondary School Recognition Program of the U.S. Department of Education.

"It's a significant event in the history of our school," said Principal Thomas W. Shirley. "It's considered by many our greatest moment."

Shirley was joined in the hour-long ceremony by students, teachers, parents, administrators, as well as local and state dignitaries. Rosemary Thomson, the regional representative for U.S. Department of Education Secretary William J. Bennett, was also on hand to formally present the award to the school.

"We're proud of you," said Wheeling Village President Sheila Schultz. "But remember, we've always been proud of you."

"We've known for a long time that Wheeling High School was the best," added student Byung Kang. "Now the whole state and the country knows it too."

Nine public high schools and junior high schools, as well as six private secondary schools in Illinois were cited last May for "exemplary achievements."

Wheeling High School students come from Wheeling, Prospect Heights, Arlington Heights, Mount Prospect and Buffalo Grove.

Herald 3-20-88

Officials weigh $50,000 traffic study

By Keri Wyatt
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Wheeling officials may spend up to $50,000 to study traffic problems in the village, using it to find out where the problem intersections are.

Each intersection has an effect on surrounding intersections, so the study may encompass most of the village, not just specific intersections. The objective of the study is to find the six worst intersections, and find out how they could be improved.

Community Development Director Michael Klitzke said the $50,000 allocated in this year's budget is "flexible," as is the program it will pay for.

"We don't need a study telling us we have traffic problems," Klitzke said. "We can see that."

He noted that studies could be done within the village, or "we may want to get together with Buffalo Grove or other towns to do a joint study," Klitzke said.

Officials have not yet nailed down the scope of the study, which is part of Wheeling's proposed 1988-1989 budget. If the $50,000 is approved as part of the budget, the village will put out a request for proposals from consultants.

Village Manager Thomas M. Markus said the proposed study would look at existing and projected traffic.

Klitzke said the $50,000 does not include construction costs for the actual traffic lights, which cost about $100,000 per intersection.

Because so many state highways go through town, much of the traffic in Wheeling is just going through the town to get somewhere else.

"I'm frustrated by traffic problems that aren't generated by Wheeling," Trustee William Rogers said. "I don't want to spend money to study the problem just to find out that we can't do anything about it."

Although the village could request traffic studies from the state and county highway departments, that could take a long time, Markus said. Also, "the state and county don't always take community goals and objectives into consideration," he said.

Trustees to vote on company tax exemption

The Wheeling Village Board of Trustees will vote Monday whether to give another Wheeling company a tax break.

Smalley Steel Ring Co., currently located at 333 W. Alice St., would like to expand by moving to a larger building, which they plan to build about two blocks from their current location.

Mike Greenhill of Smalley Steel said the number of employees would increase from 60 to 100 if the company expands.

The new building would be about twice the size of the company's current warehouse. Greenhill said his company would move all its operations to the new building, at the corner of Gilman and Wheeling roads, and "probably rent out the old building."

The village administers the Cook County property tax exemption program, which provides incentive for businesses to remain in Cook County instead of moving to Lake or DuPage, where taxes can be lower.

Companies who are granted the exemption are taxed at 16 percent of their property's value for eight years. The rate then goes up to 30 percent for the next four years, then returns to the original 40 percent, according to Wheeling Director of Finance Robert Fialkowski.

Since April 1984, Wheeling has granted 17 such exemptions.

Companies typically use the exemption to save money when they want to expand or alter their businesses.

Herald 3-20-88

THE WEEK AHEAD

The top meeting

Who: The Wheeling village board

Where: Wheeling village hall, 255 W. Dundee Road

When: 8 p.m. Monday

Herald 3-22-88

Man gets 135 years for related crimes in Wheeling cop killing

By Anne Burris
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Ignoring pleas for mercy from a man who killed a Wheeling police officer and then kidnapped three people, a Cook County judge Monday sentenced Tyrone Strickland to 135 years in prison for the kidnapping and other related charges.

Strickland, 23, already had been sentenced to death for the 1985 slaying of Police Officer Kenneth Dawson of Kildeer.

Judge Fred G. Suria Jr., who handed down that sentence, Monday added the lengthy prison term as punishment for Strickland's conviction on charges of aggravated kidnapping, armed robbery and attempted murder. It was the maximum penalty on all counts.

Strickland and his brother Larry, who has not yet come to trial, were charged with the Nov. 5, 1985, murder after Tyrone shot and killed Dawson, who had foiled an apparent robbery attempt.

After shooting Dawson, prosecutors say, the brothers fled, commandeering a car driven by 61-year-old Donald Hamburg of Buffalo Grove, who was driving his nephew and step-grandson to a basketball game. Strickland was arrested, according to court testimony, after Hamburg swerved in front a police car in Chicago.

Public defender Andrea Lyon, who supervised Tyrone Strickland's defense, said the death penalty and

See **COP** *on Page 4*

COP: Convicted killer gets prison, death

Continued from Page 1

135-year prison sentence are excessive.

"There were a lot of mitigating circumstances in this case," she said.

She said Strickland had a bad upbringing, but had no previous record and shot Dawson in a moment of panic.

"It's wrong, but there's wrong and there's wrong," she said. "There is a depravity in some people that makes them want to see other people suffer, and then there are people who do something in a moment of panic.

"Apparently Judge Suria is convinced he's cold and depraved, but I think he's disturbed. This whole thing is a shame. It's a shame the officer died. It's a shame those people were frightened."

Herald 3-23-88

Firefighters' salaries thaw under pay raise agreement

By Keri Wyatt
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Wheeling firefighters will get pay raises retroactive for the past two years, under an agreement reached by the fire union and village administrators.

Firefighters' wages have been frozen for two years while both sides haggled over a contract. Contract negotiations stalled in March of 1987.

The agreement, which was ratified by the village board this week, gives firefighters a four-percent increase in base pay, retroactive to May 1, 1986, which is when the last contract expired.

It then adds a five-percent pay hike, retroactive to May 1, 1987.

A similar but separate agreement was set up for lieutenants, whom the village does not recognize as part of the union. Contract talks broke down last year when the village appealed an Illinois Labor Relations Board ruling that lieutenants could be included in the union bargaining unit.

Bart Burns, union president, said that the firefighters did not object to the separate agreements.

"Our predicament was not good," he admitted. "This is just to carry us through the court proceedings."

Sue Musick, village personnel director, said the average base pay for a firefighter paramedic is currently $30,247. The two raises will bring that average to $33,188. Each firefighter will receive two checks, one for each year's raise, totaling about $4,300.

Village officials also agreed to resume negotiations with the fire union minus the lieutenants. Fire union officials say they are willing to return to the table under those conditions, while the lieutenant issue is being decided in the circuit court.

Musick, however, said the Illinois Labor Relations Board must first ratify the agreement

SUBURBAN REPORT

Herald 3-24-88

Trustee objections don't stop plans for new mall

By Keri Wyatt
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Plans for a strip shopping center at the corner of Wolf and Dundee roads in Wheeling are moving ahead, despite objections to the project from several village board members.

Developer Deano Vass, of North Shore Real Estate in Northbrook, said several store leases were contingent upon the original plan being approved, and he would have to check with those tenants before altering the plans. However, Wheeling Community Development Director Michael Klitzke said Wednesday Vass is "not folding up his tents and going away."

Earlier this week, trustees Elizabeth Hartman, William Rogers and James Whittington all said they thought a driveway onto Wolf Road just south of Dundee would add traffic problems at the busy intersection.

Vass said he was caught off guard by the board's questions, because the plan commission had unanimously approved the plan in December.

Klitzke said the driveway would be "self-regulating."

"If people realize that they can't get out because of traffic, they are going to find another way," Klitzke said. "If they can't get in and out easily, they won't go there."

"This is the wrong place, and the wrong kind of development," Rogers said. "We will have horrendous traffic problems. Besides, we have a plethora of this type of center."

In addition to Lynn Plaza, K mart and Riverside shopping centers, there are six strip malls in a 1¾-mile length of Dundee Road, Rogers said. The new mall would create more even competition for those centers, some of which have vacant storefronts.

Village Manager Thomas M. Markus said a shopping center would be preferable to an office building, which would cause more rush-hour traffic.

"Quite frankly, I hope it does draw business from the other malls," Markus added. "Maybe landlords will get the message, that they need to upgrade their buildings."

REMINDER 3-24-88

Strickland sentenced to 135 years for attempted murder, kidnapping

Tyrone Strickland, convicted of the 1985 murder of Wheeling police officer Kenneth Dawson, was sentenced Monday to 135 years in prison Monday for charges of attempted murder, aggravated robbery and kidnapping in connection with the killing.

Cook County Criminal Court Judge Fred Suria Jr. handed down the additional sentence against Strickland, a 23-year-old Chicago Heights man, in connection with the events surrounding the Nov. 5, 1985 murder of Dawson. Strickland received the maximum penalty allowable on all charges.

Suria sentenced Strickland to death by lethal injection last week following four days of testimony in his February murder trial. Larry Strickland, also accused of Dawson's murder, has yet to be tried in the case.

The Stricklands are accused of killing Dawson on Cleo Court, in the Cedar Run subdivision, after the officer answered a call of a suspected burglary in the area. When Dawson arrived on the scene, he and Larry Strickland began to struggle and shortly after Tyrone Strickland shot the officer.

After a brief exchange of gunfire with several other police officers at the murder scene, the Stricklands abandoned their car and allegedly kidnapped Donald Hamburg of Buffalo Grove and two children.

With Hamburg driving his car, the Stricklands attempted to escape to California, but only got as far as Chicago when Hamburg stopped his car near a police car and fled with the two children.

After a brief foot chase involving several Chicago policemen, the two

(Continued on page 11)

Thursday, March 24, 1988

Strickland—

(Continued from page 5)

were arrested.

Andrea Lyon, the public defender who supervised Tyrone Strickland's defense, said she thought Strickland's sentence was too harsh under the circumstances. She said Strickland "panicked in a situation where he thought his brother was in trouble.

During his trial, Strickland maintained that the shooting was an accident and that the shots were fired while he was trying to break up the struggle between his brother and Dawson.

"When you've got someone who tortures a child, that's when you think about a death penalty," she said. "It's very discouraging."

Lyon said Dawson's murder was "not planned, not cold, not calculated — that's not Tyrone Strickland." She said Strickland has family problems and that he was "the only one in his family doing halfway well."

"He's got some severe problems," she said. "He was trying to make it."

Thursday, March 24, 1988

REMINDER 3-24-88

Lincolnwood developer planning bank, shopping center in Wheeling

A Lincolnwood developer is planning to build a new bank facility and shopping center at the southwest corner of Wheeling and Hintz roads.

Wheeling trustees are scheduled to vote April 4 on plans by the Prudential Realty Co. for the 13,500 square-foot development, which already has been approved by the village's plan commission.

The proposal is not designed to be the "typical strip with the White Hen Pantry, the fast-food store and the video store," explained Tom Conrardy, vice president of Prudential.

Instead, Conrardy hopes to attract service-oriented businesses such as beauty salons, dry cleaners or dog grooming shops to the center, he said. The plan calls for space for 13 businesses or offices. He said no leases have been signed yet.

"With all of the industrial development to the east, there might be a use brought in that could benefit that area," said Conrardy.

Proposed for development in conjunction with the shopping center is a 6,600-square-foot branch of the First Colonial Bank. Conrardy is requesting that a temporary bank be put up on the site to begin attracting customers before the permanent structure is in place.

"We asked for a temporary building so we can start attracting customers," he said. "People just don't change banks immediately."

If trustees approve the development next month, Conrardy hopes to begin construction immediately and to have the center open for business by the end of the year.

Thursday, March 24, 1988

COUNTRYSIDE 3-24-88

Trustee blasts plans for shopping center

By Lee Ann Gill
Staff Writer

Does Wheeling need another strip shopping center?

That's the question at least one Wheeling trustee is asking as the village board reviews a Northbrook developer's plans for a center on Dundee Road.

The proposal, brought before the village board Monday by Deano Vass of North Shore Real Estate, calls for a 10,500-square-foot "convenience" shopping center on the southwest corner of Dundee and Wolf roads.

The center would be located next to and share the same Dundee Road entrance as the Main Street Restaurant (formerly Four Stars Restaurant). The plan was recommended for approval by the village's plan commission in December.

TRUSTEES TABLED A vote the proposal Monday, saying the developer should reconsider plans for an exit from the shopping center onto Wolf Road going north. The traffic flow north on Wolf Road is already heavy, officials say, and should not be increased.

"We'll meet with the village staff and come up with an alternative that would better suit the situation," said Vass. Trustees are scheduled to vote on a revised plan next month.

However, Trustee William Rogers isn't likely to vote in favor of the center. "Who needs it?" he asked. "We've got three of them within 1,000 feet of each other (near the intersection eyed for development)."

The continued construction of strip shopping centers "denigrates the entire village," he said. "I can show you 50 of them up and down every street, and they all look pretty bad."

ROGERS SAID "putting this on a prime corner in the Village of Wheeling is just a bad idea." Most of the existing strip shopping centers in the village were constructed 20 or 30 years ago, said Rogers.

"We've been trying to help those that are in the village now upgrade themselves. They're all outmoded, outdated and not the way to go if you're trying to enhance the village environment."

Although Trustee Judy Abruscato likes the idea of a new shopping center for the village, she said she hopes the development attracts specialty shops. "I can see a few specialty shops coming in," she said.

"We're trying to increase the image and develop the image of the community. I don't think we need another convenience or grocery store," she said.

ONE BENEFIT TO additional retail development in the village is an increase in tax revenue, said Abruscato. "Retail business brings in taxes," she said.

Vass said he hopes to attract national chain stores to the center as opposed to small, independent tenants. He is currently negotiating leases with several stores, but would not reveal the names of any prospective tenants. A food mart, video store and tanning salon are a few possible tenants for the center, which would house eight businesses or offices, he said.

If the project is approved, Vass said he hopes to break ground in early April.

Herald 3-24-88

Resident 'dares' trustees to place utility tax on ballot

By Keri Wyatt
Daily Herald Staff Writer

A Wheeling resident has "dared" the village board to put its proposed 1 percent utility tax on the referendum ballot this November.

Joseph W. Volk, of 1451 W. Anthony Road, told the board: "You should have an advisory referendum. Put the question, 'Should the village of Wheeling have a 1 percent utility tax on electric, gas and telephone service, yes or no?' It's a simple way to hear the residents' opinion."

Village Manager Thomas M. Markus said he did not expect residents to welcome an added tax, but noted the proposed tax is a replacement for the current vehicle sticker fee.

The proposed utility tax "won't be acted upon until we put out a special newsletter and hold a public hearing. We want everyone to get the facts first," Markus said.

Volk drew Markus' ire when he said if the question was not put on an advisory referendum, he would gather petitions to get it on the ballot.

"I can get as many petitions as you can," Markus replied. "I can go out and get all my friends to sign a petition, just like you. You have to know that many of them will sign it just to get rid of you. But we have to give people all the facts. If it is put to the voters, you have to add that it would replace the vehicle stickers."

"I still say it should be on an advisory referendum," Volk countered. "I challenge you to put it on the ballot."

The tax was first proposed as part of Wheeling's 1988-1989 budget. The 1 percent tax on electric, gas, and telephone service would replace revenues currently generated by the sale of vehicle stickers. The stickers, which cost $10, are required for every car in the village. The money from the tax would pay for street repairs, just as the vehicle sticker fees now do.

The tax would generate about $360,000 per year, as compared with the $208,263 that vehicle stickers brought in last year. Director of Finance Robert W. Fialkowski said the tax would also be much more efficient, because approximately 15 percent of the money from vehicle stickers is spent on collection and paperwork.

Wheeling's July 4th committee meets

The Wheeling Fourth of July Committee will meet tonight at Am-Vets Post 66, 700 Old McHenry Road, Wheeling.

The committee is made up of "any interested citizens," according to Judy Abruscato, who is heading up the committee.

The committee plans the parade and fireworks celebration for Independence Day, and Abruscato said that any interested residents may attend the meeting and help plan the events. The meeting will be held at 7:30 p.m.

The Wheeling Lions Club and Lioness Club, along with the Jaycees and the Rotary Club, have been raising money for the festivities. Abruscato said she expects the fireworks display to cost about $7,000, and the parade about $2,000.

In continuing its Fourth of July fund raising efforts, the Lioness Club will hold a pancake breakfast Sunday at Chevy Chase country club, 1000 N. Milwaukee Ave. The breakfast will be held from 7:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Tickets are $3.50 for adults, $2 for kids.

SUBURBAN REPORT

HERALD 3-23-88

Objections of neighbors don't halt OK of homes

By Keri Wyatt
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Plans for a 37 unit town-house complex at 11th street and Strong Avenue were approved by the Wheeling Plan Commission Thursday.

Several residents who live near the proposed development attended the meeting, armed with questions about how the development would affect flooding in the area. They were unhappy to learn that the developer, Morris Wrobel Company is planning to add 3 to 4 feet of fill to the site.

"I live right behind and beside this," said John Calvert, of 272 North 10th St. "Water runs downhill if you raise your property 4 feet, the water is going to run down toward my property."

James Kapustiak, engineer for the project, said the water would be directed to the drainage ditch along Strong Avenue or to the 12th Street storm sewer. "We won't contribute to flooding on your property."

Kapustiak said the property had to be raised to prevent flooding, but most of the water would flow away from the houses on 10th Street.

The property was previously zoned for ten six-flat apartment buildings. Only two of those buildings were actually constructed.

The developer has a contract to buy the land. The commission granted the developer's request for slightly higher density then is normally allowed, because town houses were preferable to apartment buildings.

Barry NewDelman, architect for the project said that 54 percent of the property would remain open with landscaping. NewDelman added that he has been working with village staff on the project for over a year.

"We've massaged this plan for over a year," he said. "We feel we've reached something satisfactory. Nothing is ideal to everyone."

Calvert said he was still worried about flooding. "I don't see anything but trouble with this," he said.

The commmission's approval was subject to numerous conditions regarding maintenance of the site and floodwater storage. It is also subject to approval by the Wheeling Zoning Board of Appeals and the Village Board of Trustees.

HERALD 3-25-88

Record number of units donated to blood drive

Wheeling residents, businesses and volunteers responded to a request from the Wheeling Board of Health by donating a record 93 units of blood at a blood drive earlier this month. This is a 30 percent increase in donations, compared with the last blood drive, held in November.

The Wheeling Board of Health coordinated the drive for LifeSource, The Blood Center, who provided medical staff for the drive. The 93 units are distributed to local hospitals to meet the transfusion needs of the patients.

Wa-Pa-Ghetti's Pizza contributed to the effort by donating coupons for free pizza. Three other local restaurants, Don Roth's, Billy and Co. and Hackney's, also donated gift certificates, which were given as door prizes.

The Wheeling Board of Health sponsors blood drives three times a year.

Herald 3-25-88

Record number of units donated to blood drive

Wheeling residents, businesses and volunteers responded to a request from the Wheeling Board of Health by donating a record 93 units of blood at a blood drive earlier this month. This is a 30 percent increase in donations, compared with the last blood drive, held in November.

The Wheeling Board of Health coordinated the drive for LifeSource, The Blood Center, who provided medical staff for the drive. The 93 units are distributed to local hospitals to meet the transfusion needs of the patients.

Wa-Pa-Ghetti's Pizza contributed to the effort by donating coupons for free pizza. Three other local restaurants, Don Roth's, Billy and Co. and Hackney's, also donated gift certificates, which were given as door prizes.

The Wheeling Board of Health sponsors blood drives three times a year.

MONDAY HERALD 3-27-88

- The Wheeling Village Board of Trustees will hold a committee of the whole meeting at 8 p.m. at the village hall, 255 W. Dundee Road. A representative from NORTHAN bus system will answer resident's questions and discuss the agency's 1989 service program.