

Around Rap Around Rap Around Rap Around



May was Senior Citizen's month in the United States and a recent census bureau report stated that over 13 million Americans who live alone are over the age of 65 and women over 65 make up 3 million of this category. The point is this — the isolation of the elderly from normal family life is one of the greatest tragedies of our time. The American grandparent is on the path to extinction.

How easy it is today for our grandparents to be withdrawn from society and placed in "acceptable" senior citizen homes. How easy it is to get grandpa an apartment after grandma dies, and then leave him there. In our American philosophy and thought of independence we have rid ourselves of the elderly to become the nuclear family. One of the biggest industries in America is the nursing home industry and it will continue to grow as long as we shun the elderly. Granted, there are those people who heed medical and nursing care constantly but I am not speaking of them.

What we fail to realize is the fact that when we withdraw old people from society, we not only hurt them, but we hurt society. The young people live their lives far removed from human contact with the elderly. Long gone are the days when grandparents were an integral part of family life. Young children and adolescents learned the virtues of respect and love more readily. The whole life

process meant more to the youth because they could see birth to adulthood to old age right in their own lives. They could accept the fact that we must all grow old. It was Dr. Charles Lowman a 96 year old orthopedic surgeon at UCLA who recently commented, "The time to get ready for old age is when you are young."

Now that we are into our third century of American history, we must examine our philosophy of family life, and start to put the elderly back into the hustle and bustle of everyday life. We must ignore the "I hate to be a burden" attitude of so many grandparents and understand that this statement is a coverup of the loneliness and despair that so many elderly people share. The concept of senior citizen must not be taken as an evasion effort — in other words, now that social security has taken over, our part is done. The young must be exposed to grandparents much more than they are. Remember, old people do not exist merely at Christmas and birthdays, they live each day. The elderly must not be the new additions to the list of American endangered species.

Now as May comes to a close, let us rejoice and celebrate life with the grandparents and elderly of America. Let each of us echo the words of Robert Browning: "Grow old along with me, the best is yet to be; The last of life for which the first was made."



Sheila Gartland prepares to deliver a pitch during play at Mercy High School. She watches for the batter's reaction, center photo, as Joanne Andresky takes a swing at the ball and gets to first base.

Photos by Susan McKinnis

Chopstick Athletes Honored Gourmets

Nazareth Academy freshmen studying Chinese culture recently experienced its food at the May Ling Restaurant. Social Study teachers Sisters Joan McDowell, Petrina Trybalski, and Kathleen Clary accompanied their classes on this outing.

Students who were apprehensive about trying new kinds of food found the meal, which consisted of egg rolls, fried rice, Kakamien (chicken noodle soup), chicken sticks, chinese tea and fortune cookies, delicious and not as different as they had expected. Eating with chopsticks added a challenge that most students mastered successfully.

Sue DeMatto, whose pen pal lives in Hong Kong, proudly displayed her own ivory chopsticks decorated with the traditional mountain, river and pagoda designs. Linda Dobson shared her experience by teaching her brother and sister how to use chopsticks.

The Aquinas Athletic Booster Club paid tribute to 100 athletes at the annual Spring Sports Banquet held on Sunday, June 5.

Varsity letters were presented and recognition was given for outstanding performances in the five Spring sports.

In track, John Miller was chosen as the most improved runner. Jerry Gallepeau showed the most improvement while the most outstanding man in field events was Gary Killings. Jim Harney received a trophy for being the most outstanding runner and Bob Stevenson was declared the most valuable in field events. The most valuable runner award went to Jeff Huber.

In tennis, Tom Powers was chosen the most improved player while Joe Magoffin was declared the most valuable player.

In golf, Phil VanDongen was selected as the most improved golfer while the trophy for being the most valuable player went to Frank Nardone.

In baseball, Jim Brown was named the most improved player, Paul Roland received the most outstanding player's award and Dave Merkel was named the most valuable player.

Annapolis Topic of June 8 Meet

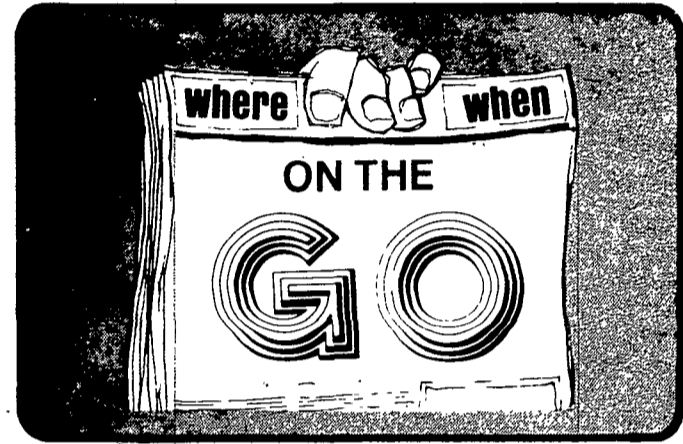
A U.S. Naval Academy information session is scheduled at 8 p.m. Wednesday, June 8, at the Navy and Marine Corps Reserve Training Center, 439 Paul Road in Chili.

High school juniors or seniors, male and female, who may be interested are invited. Parents and school counselors also will be welcome.

Naval academy requirements including application, testing, nomination and appointment procedures will be explained and a film will be shown.

Winner!

Rick Orico, a senior at Aquinas Institute, was the recipient of the Winner's Circle \$5 for the week of May 25.



- AQUINAS**
Sunday, June 12 — Family picnic, 1-6 p.m.
- BISHOP KEARNEY**
Thursday, June 9 — Sports dinner at Valle's
Parents Alumni picnic; Webster Park Kearney Singers concert, cafeteria
Saturday, June 11 — St. Anthony Day Parade
June 13-14 — School exams, early dismissal
- CARDINAL MOONEY**
Sunday, June 12 — Baccalaureate Mass
Monday, June 13 — Exams begin
- DESALES**
Thursday, June 9 — Block 'D' banquet
Monday, June 13 — French Department faculty luncheon
Tuesday, June 14 — Board of Trustees meeting
- MCQUAID**
Thursday, June 9 — Eighth grade promotion
Sunday, June 12 — Graduation, 3 p.m.
- NAZARETH**
Thursday, June 9 — Band practice, 2:45 p.m.
Sunday, June 12 — Senior banquet, Logan's Party House, 6 p.m.
Monday, June 13 — Moving Up Day
June 14-16 — Local exams
- NOTRE DAME**
Friday, June 10 — Awards assembly, Senior prom
- OUR LADY OF MERCY**
Monday, June 13 — Class Day
June 14-16 — Local exams
- ST. AGNES**
June 8-10 — Fine Arts Week
Saturday, June 11 — Instrumental and voice recital, 2 p.m.
Sunday, June 12 — Mass for senior class, Sacred Heart Cathedral, 11:15 a.m.
Monday, June 13 — Moving Up Day, Senior banquet at Logan's Party House, 6:30 p.m.
June 14-16 — Local exams

DeSales Honor Students

On June 1 Geneva DeSales students were inducted into the National Honor Society during an evening ceremony in the school gym. Members inducted were: Seniors, John Bimbo, Joy McDonald, Mary Beth Walsh Juniors, Mary Lou Anastasi, Karen Crough, Arlene D'Amico, Kimberly Kloess, Maria

Koelbel, Jody Lavin, Christopher Lynch, Joan Marsh, Ellen Monahan, Mary Morgan, Debra Murphy, Ann Quigley, Karen Roxstrom, Laurie Schibley, Lisa Ventura, Andrea Venuti, Sally Walsh. St. Bernadine Freida moderator for the Bellarmine Chapter, chaired the event.

Honored for Commitments

BY JOAN M. SMITH

DeSales senior, Deborah Verzella, didn't think she had too much of a chance to win the Ontario County Teen Ager of the Year competition which was sponsored by the Ontario County Insurance Underwriters. But at the banquet recently at the Geneva Country Club she was awarded this honor for her outstanding services to her school and community.

Her school activities include being president of the Student Council, a member of the yearbook staff, a cheerleader, a member of the National Honor Society and in her junior year president of her class.

These duties alone would be enough to fill anyone's time but not Debbie's. After school she is employed as a legal secretary, is a member of her parish's (St. Francis) liturgy committee and involved in the local

Muscular Dystrophy campaign. But her involvement doesn't end here, either. She has also taught herself sign language and not only communicates with the deaf but finds time in her hectic schedule to visit the elderly and these visits aren't social calls — she pitches right in and cooks and cleans for her senior citizen friends. And if they are out for a walk they know Debbie's door is always open for them to stop in and chat with her.

"People are so lonely," she stated. "And it's great to know I've done something for them."

Debbie is a soft spoken young lady with a ready smile and sparkling eyes but behind her quiet demeanor is a person who once she starts something she finishes it. Though there are times when she wonders what she's doing involved in all these endeavors when she could be just sitting and doing nothing she

remembers, "When I see what I've accomplished for people, it gives me a deep feeling of satisfaction."



DEBBIE VERZELLA