

NEWS BULLETIN

RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION OF CHICAGO

Since 1926

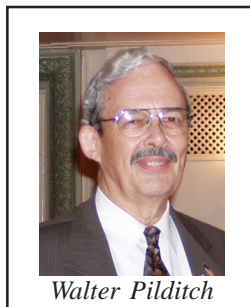
VOL. LXI

APRIL 2005

NO. 2

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT OF RTAC

I'm extremely proud to be your new President. I am sad, however, that the late **Tom Corcoran**, who was to be president of RTAC this year, cannot serve. We still applaud his fine efforts as chairman of the HB 1269 Committee that succeeded in restoring most of the subsidy for our health insurance costs. This legislation was about the only bill we passed in the Illinois House and Senate in 2004. We are making plans to repeat the coalition effort (RTAC, CTU, CTPF, and Board of Education) this year to pass some important bills in the legislature. These are mentioned in the article on page three.



Walter Pilditch

I joined RTAC in 2001 while I was still on the Pension Board as a representative of Chicago principals. I continue on the Board as a representative of retired Chicago teachers. My career started after graduating from Vanderpoel Elementary, Morgan Park High, Wilson Junior, and Chicago Teachers College. My first teaching position was at Felsenthal Elementary, the year I was drafted, and then I taught in the Army Signal Corps for two years. Following my service, I returned to Felsenthal in various grades for five years.

The University of Chicago selected several teachers and started the first Administrative Internship Program. For two years, we took courses and then spent time with four outstanding administrators for full-time training. Mine were: **Dorothy Sauer** at Kozminski Elementary, **Arthur Lehne** at Hyde Park High, **Curtis Melnick** at District 14, and **Richard McVey**, who was in charge of Teacher Personnel. I felt they were outstanding teachers for me.

My next assignment was as supervisor in the Bureau of Human Relations. For a period of five years, I served in this position while Chicago went

through some extremely serious racial situations that needed change. Concerns of the day were Willis Wagons, boycotts, walkouts, Board sit-ins, and superintendent changes. In 1968, I took the principals' examination. My first school was Jungman Elementary in the Pilsen neighborhood,

where I stayed for 10 years. Hyde Park Magnet School was next, followed by Dulles Elementary (Woodlawn), Lowell (Humboldt Park), and then on-loan to the OEEO Office of the Board to distribute funds to schools with the lowest reading scores. My first permanent high school was Morgan Park, for six years, followed by Curie High for six years. I had planned

to retire in 1996, but **Paul Vallas**, then CEO, asked me to serve in the Office of Accountability, where I remained for five years. There I helped schools trying to come off probation. Specifically, I served as probation manager of Foreman, Wells, and Spalding High and Elementary. Two of those schools succeeded in getting off probation. While in Accountability, I also served as acting principal of Amundsen, Lindblom, Calumet, and Schurz High Schools for periods of one to five months.

I now serve as your president, the president of the retired principals auxiliary of the Chicago Principals and Administrators Association, and vice-president of the Chicago Teachers Pension Fund.

The Executive Committee of RTAC has set several goals, the most important of which are the three bills to be promoted in the legislature, as mentioned. We will have shorter Board meetings and fully celebrate our 10,000th member this spring. Our Board is looking into the possibility of moving our RTAC office into more modern facilities. We will announce other goals as the year progresses. Join me as we prepare our organization for this 21st century.

**RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION
OF CHICAGO**

220 S. STATE ST., ROOM 2100
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60604-2180
<http://www.RTAC.org>

e-mail: **Office@RTAC.org**

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The News Bulletin is printed on recycled paper.

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| ID Theft Reports (Call AIG Group: Use Policy # 916240) | 866-434-3572 |
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The News Bulletin invites YOU to email your typed contribution (**editor@RTAC.org**), fax it (773-624-6264), or mail it to the editorial office (below). If NOT typed, please mail it to the RTAC Office for

typing and forwarding to the editor. **July '05 issue deadline: May 23, 2005.**

Mr. V. K. Brown, Editor
Suite 2516 N
4800 S Chicago Beach
Chicago IL 60615-2170

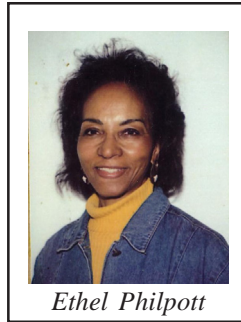
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LEGISLATIVE REPORT

By Ethel Philpott

As the new year 2005 moves swiftly forward, I sincerely hope you are well and taking time to relax and enjoy. At the state and federal levels, our legislators and representatives are back to the business of determining which bills will pass. I hope you are in contact with them, volunteering your help so that when you later ask their help, they already know you as a friend. Face-to-face contact is always the best way to relate to people who hold your fate in their hands.



Ethel Philpott

other states, solely because they have state or local government pensions. RTAC's web site provides direct links to everything you could possibly want to know about these two penalties and how they work.

On January 4, 2005, California Congressman **Howard "Buck" McKeon** and others introduced a bill (HR 147) that would repeal these penalties. At press time in mid March, he had 212 co-sponsors. The table shows the Illinois delegation record thus far.

Currently, there are two important issues facing us as retired educators. It continues to be disgraceful that more than 22% of Chicago teacher pensioners must exist on pensions below the U. S. defined poverty level. Representative **Bob Molaro** (D-Chicago) has again introduced a bill, **HB 797** in the State's House of Representatives' spring session. The bill would provide a measure of relief to those teachers who have been retired the longest.

Retiree activists from the 13 states affected joined together in a concerted effort to contact legislators on March 17th, 2005. RTAC Letter-A-Month Club members were urged to participate. Although this News Bulletin was not available at that time, you can still express your opinion to your member of Congress.

The Government Pension Offset (GPO) and Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP) sections of the Social Security Act withhold some or all earned benefits from retired civil servants in Illinois and 12

In the table below, the first column indicates the date on which the Member became a co-sponsor of HR 147. If no date appears, he or she is not yet a co-sponsor. The third column is party affiliation. In the Washington address column, HOB stands for House Office Building.

| Co Sp? | Representative Name | Dist | Washington DC Addr | Zip Code | Phone 1-202- |
|---------|-----------------------|---------|--------------------|------------|--------------|
| | Bean, Melissa L. | D IL-8 | 512 Cannon HOB | 20515-1308 | 225-3711 |
| 1/4/05 | Biggert, Judy | R IL-13 | 1317 Longworth HOB | 20515-1313 | 225-3515 |
| 1/4/05 | Costello, Jerry F. | D IL-12 | 2269 Rayburn HOB | 20515-1312 | 225-5661 |
| 1/4/05 | Davis, Danny K. | D IL-7 | 1526 Longworth HOB | 20515-1307 | 225-5006 |
| 1/4/05 | Emanuel, Rahm | D IL-5 | 1319 Longworth HOB | 20515-1305 | 225-4061 |
| 1/4/05 | Evans, Lane | D IL-17 | 2211 Rayburn HOB | 20515-1317 | 225-5905 |
| 3/9/05 | Gutierrez, Luis V. | D IL-4 | 2367 Rayburn HOB | 20515-1304 | 225-8203 |
| | Hastert, J. Dennis | R IL-14 | 235 Cannon HOB | 20515-1314 | 225-2976 |
| | Hyde, Henry J. | R IL-6 | 2110 Rayburn HOB | 20515-1306 | 225-4561 |
| | Jackson, Jesse L. Jr. | D IL-2 | 2419 Rayburn HOB | 20515-1302 | 225-0773 |
| 1/26/05 | Johnson, Timothy V. | R IL-15 | 1229 Longworth HOB | 20515-1315 | 225-2371 |
| | Kirk, Mark Steven | R IL-10 | 1717 Longworth HOB | 20515-1310 | 225-4835 |
| 1/26/05 | LaHood, Ray | R IL-18 | 1424 Longworth HOB | 20515-1318 | 225-6201 |
| 2/17/05 | Lipinski, Daniel | D IL-3 | 1217 Longworth HOB | 20515-1303 | 225-5701 |
| | Manzullo, Donald A. | R IL-16 | 2228 Rayburn HOB | 20515-1316 | 225-5676 |
| 1/4/05 | Rush, Bobby L. | D IL-1 | 2416 Rayburn HOB | 20515-1301 | 225-4372 |
| 1/4/05 | Schakowsky, Janice D. | D IL-9 | 1027 Longworth HOB | 20515-1309 | 225-2111 |
| 2/2/05 | Shimkus, John | R IL-19 | 513 Cannon HOB | 20515-1319 | 225-5271 |
| 1/4/05 | Weller, Jerry | R IL-11 | 108 Cannon HOB | 20515-1311 | 225-3635 |

LAW PHONE RESUMES

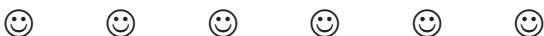
RTAC has selected a new attorney to provide members with telephone advice and some simple legal services at no charge to members. Her name is **Anne Chestney Mudd**. A *cum laude* graduate of John Marshall Law School, Ms. Mudd was featured in a Chicago *Tribune* article on July 26, 2004. She describes herself as a mediator and attorney – in that order.

Although she is fully qualified, Ms. Mudd does no litigation herself. If litigation is required, she works with another attorney.

Members will be glad to know that Ms. Mudd is also a teacher. She taught college and high school math, and currently teaches at her alma mater – the John Marshall Law School.

Anne's service offers unlimited free legal advice and/or consultation, and limited legal services. Included are:

- **Free:** Legal letters and phone calls on members' behalf.
- **Free:** Simple Will.



LUNCHEON PHOTO CONTEST

Are you sick and tired of faithfully attending the RTAC Spring and Fall Luncheons and having those ignorant photographers pass you by, when you're all sitting there being your photogenic very best? And all those undeserving folks get their pix in the *News Bulletin* instead?

Your day has finally arrived!!

RTAC proudly announces its first Luncheon Picture Contest, complete with cash prizes!! (But not in the same league as the Lottery, unfortunately.)

Here's how it works: Bring your digital camera to the Spring Luncheon on June 9th. Take a bunch of your usual superb-quality pictures at the lun-

• **Free:** Healthcare and Property Powers of Attorney.

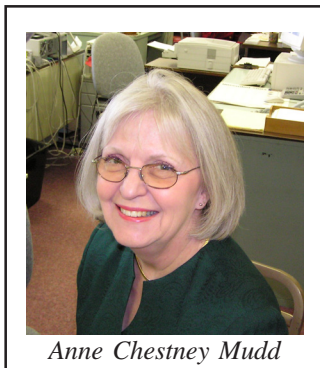
• **Free:** Simple contracts and other documents.

• **Free:** Quit Claim deed.

• **Free:** Divorce consultations regarding rights and options.

• **Discounted:** Real Estate transactions.

• **Discounted:** prenuptial agreements.



Anne Chestney Mudd

• **Referral:** of members and spouses who need more legal services to highly qualified and highly ethical attorneys in the Chicago Metropolitan Area.

You may contact Anne Chestney Mudd by email at anne@annemudd.com. You may also call her at 312-502-3949, or write to her at P. O. Box 381, Chicago IL 60558.

Please note that the Code of Legal Ethics for Attorneys that is part of Illinois state law prohibits Attorney from giving advice or any other legal assistance to any person who is represented currently by another lawyer.



cheon. When you get home, select up to five of your best (i. e., most suitable for publication – they do NOT have to be limited to people) as your entry. Email your multi-picture, JPEG-format entry to editor@RTAC.org, along with your name, snail-mail address (we are not set up to email checks yet) and telephone number.

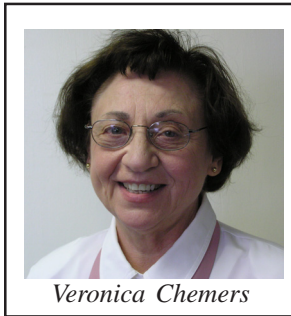
The best entry will receive a prize of \$25. Second prize is \$15, and third prize is \$10. You may enter more than once, but only one cash prize will be awarded to any one person. All entries become the property of the Retired Teachers Association of Chicago. Photographers will receive credit for any pictures published.

Come on, all you Richard Avedons and Yousuf Karshes out there! Let's see your stuff!

RTAC SPRING TRIP

by Veronica Chemers

RTAC's next membership special event will be a trip to the Morton Arboretum on Tuesday, May 10, 2005. Two chartered motor coaches will meet us at 8:45 am, on Quincy Court at State Street, just south of RTAC's office (220 S. State). Cardboard signs in the window will identify our coaches. They will depart at 9:15 am sharp. Both the coaches and the Arboretum are wheelchair accessible .



Veronica Chemers

acres of woodlands, wetlands, and flower gardens present a spectacular early spring pageant. Weather permitting, we will enjoy a leisurely one-hour narrated riding tour on the open-air trams. (If the weather does not cooperate, we will remain on our hired coaches with a narrator.) We will see majestic trees from all over the world, and early spring flowers in breathtaking colors. It is the perfect place for us to share time together, refresh our souls, have lunch, and shop at the Arboretum store. The

The cost of the trip is \$40.00, which covers bus transportation, entrance fees, a one hour tour and a buffet lunch. Those wishing to

first tram will start at 10:30 am., and the second at 10:45 am.



travel independently by car may do so ;

your parking is included — just mention the Retired Teachers Association when entering the lot.

After the guided tour, we will have a buffet lunch at about noon in the new Ginkgo Restaurant in the Visitor Center. We will have some time before lunch to renew friendships and socialize. After lunch, there may be time available to explore other areas independently, but the buses will depart at 2:15 pm sharp, returning to the RTAC office at about 3:15pm.

The Arboretum has only two trams available, limiting us to 90 seats. Reservations will be accepted only as long as space is available, so make your reservation early. Remember that our last event attracted 177 people!

Be sure to join us if you can!

The Special Events Committee (Chair **Veronica Chemers, Peg Olson, Nancy Makowski, Art Keegan** and **Sam Altschuler**) particularly thanks those members who continue sending us ideas for outings.

Located in Lisle, Illinois, the Arboretum's 1,700

Enclosed find \$_____ for _____ tickets at \$40 each. (Sorry; **NO REFUNDS.**)

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY, STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

TELEPHONE:(_____) _____

*Please make check payable to the RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION OF CHICAGO. Send remittance and a STAMPED, SELF-ADDRESSED ENVELOPE with this form **BY MAY 3rd** to:*

**RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION
ROOM 2100
220 South State Street
Chicago IL 60604-2180**

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(November 18, 2004 to February 17, 2005)

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| Jean Broutman | General Principles |
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|-----------------------|--|
| | Arthur Drechey Joseph Dooley Naomi Davidson |
| Louise E. Christensen | Bernice Boye |
| James Emery Malles | Wilmur Archer Wilma Armstrong Margaret Baker Helen Barnes Anderson Carter Robert L. Dixon Rosalie Cash Gloria Dyson Homer Holmes Lonnie Hubbard Thomas J. Johlle Elmo E. Jones J. Herbert King Mary A. Markett Yvonne Otis Jan Peterson Toby Rockwell Warren A. Turner Lauris Weathers |
| Henry Suder Club | Herman F. Johnson Husband of Helen P. Johnson, Former Presi- dent of RTAC |

SPECIAL DONATIONS TO

RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION of CHICAGO

DONOR:

OCCASION:

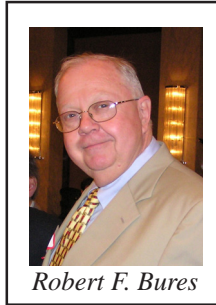
| | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Dolores K. Horwitz | General Principles |
| Helen F. Lee | In honor of Cora D. Passin, Senior BCS psychologist. My sincere thanks for her courage. |
| Catherine & Roy Buchanan | General Principles |
| Nancy L. Vrooman | General Principles |
| Anonymous | General Principles |
| Sandra Smith | General Principles |



REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

By Robert F. Bures

Spring is in the air — already. April showers really do bring May flowers. Everything is beginning to green up again and that makes it wonderful to take a walk or just breath deeply of the soft breezes. But spring also brings with it other challenges — that spring clean up around the house and yard, for instance. Officially it also brings the active legislative session in Springfield — our Spring luncheon — our Spring trip to the trees and gardens at the Morton Arboretum in Lisle — all discussed and explained on p. 5 of this *News-Bulletin*. Take time to look at all the details.



As much fun as the Spring Luncheon (June 9th at the Palmer House; see the back cover) is, it has a serious side to it as well. Making sure that our legislative program is passed downstate is vital. Our program has two essential parts - to make sure our health care rebate is specifically stated in the law to be no less than 75% of our premium cost, and that our oldest, most needy and often frail annuitants have a living pension for the rest of their lives. Read the details on page 3! Then spring into action and call your legislators or visit them in their home offices. Don't know your legislators, their addresses, phone numbers, fax listings or email addresses? It's easy and convenient. Just log on to our website – www.rtac.org - and click on the Legislators link, enter your 9-digit zip code (or your address) and that's that! No computer? *No Problem!* Just call Project Vote Smart at 1-888-VOTE-SMART, and give the friendly human volunteer the same information. Together we'll get these bills through the General Assembly! We'll have an update for you at the Spring Luncheon.

I spent some time in Washington, D.C. recently and visited my new Congressman, **Dan Lipinski**. A great guy with a lot of good ideas to assist us, but he did not have great news for us with respect to WEP-GPO elimination. Although Social Security may very well change in many respects, it's unlikely that the GPO-WEP will be changed — it would cost America more than \$30 billion dollars over the next forty years. This does not mean that all is lost — some partial changes still may take place and RTAC will keep you informed. By the way — if you live in Illinois' 3rd Congressional District, Congressman Dan

Lipinski welcomes you warmly while you are in DC - he will listen to you intently and advise clearly and wisely, provide you with a Capitol tour, get you tickets to the White House (with three weeks security notice), bring you up to speed on vital issues, will update you on education matters and assist you with a variety of federal topics from veteran's benefits to immigration rules to taxation alternatives being considered by Congress. He encourages RTAC to keep up the good fight! It was a pleasure meeting him - you should too! Congressman Dan is going to be one of the young new leaders with a bright future!

No matter whose district you live in, if you get to Washington and have the time, visit the office of your own Congressional representative. You'll get a warm reception and a chance to discuss issues that concern you. You'll be glad you paid the visit.

See you at our June 9th Spring Luncheon!

Cordially, *Bob Bures*



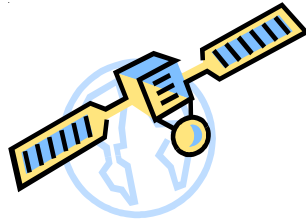
COMPUTIPS

In our January issue, we printed some tips on using Adobe Systems' powerful **Adobe Reader**, including how to use its search feature to find what you want in a document file, and how to print only the part you're interested in. (This comes in very handy sometimes - the *Adobe Reader* "Help" file, for example, consists of 262 pages.) We also asked if readers would like to see more such tips.

Out of RTAC's 10,000 members, *four* wanted more. Hardly a landslide. We've gotta think about it.

SATELLITE DOINGS

SAN DIEGO



All Chicago retired teachers in San Diego County and southern Orange County are being given a heads-up announcement and invitation to the next luncheon/business meeting of the RTAC San Diego Satellite. It will be held on **Tuesday, April 12, 2005 at MCAS Miramar Officer's Club** in San Diego. The meeting/luncheon will start promptly at 12 noon and will be completed no later than 3:00 p.m. The speaker as yet has not been determined, but the latest information on pensions and legislation relating to pensions plus the latest on health care and medications will be presented.

Reservations will be mailed to all those on the mailing list. If you have not received a reservation form over the past few years we must not have your name on the list. Please contact **Rita Evoy**, president, at 858-566-1819, or **Sam Dolnick**, treasurer, at 619-697-4854.

For those who attended the October 2004 luncheon in Carlsbad, you will recall that the restaurant picked up the \$14.00 cost of the luncheon. Therefore, those retirees who attended will get a credit of \$14.00 toward the cost of the luncheon on April 12.

Attendance at the luncheon is a great opportunity to renew acquaintances with friends, meet new friends and obtain the latest information. Hope to see you there.

Cordially, *Sam Dolnick*



RTAC AID FUND

By Audrey Mivelaz, President

The RTAC Aid Fund began in 1969 when the Service Committee formed "Principles for Aid", a plan to financially assist those needy retired Chicago public school teachers whose modest pensions and savings were not enough to cope with inflation and rising health care costs. The Chicago Retired Teachers Aid Fund (CRTAF) was created in 1975 and incorporated in 1986, as the result of a generous \$50,000 gift from Ms. **Ferol Potter**, a retired teacher from Lucy Flower high school. The Aid Fund is a 501(c)3 corporation; thus all donations are deductible from federal income tax.

Secretary; **Steven Kailes**, Grants Committee Chair; **Veronica Chemers**, **Leroy Hansen**, **Marshall Knox**, **Robert C. Konen**, **Nancy Makowski**, **Walter Pilditch**, and **James F. Ward**. **Bob Bures** functions as Executive Director of the Aid Fund as well as for RTAC.

Currently, applications and grants are reviewed and revised regularly by the Grants Chair and the Aid Fund Board of Directors. As we continue to serve greater numbers, our total annual grants have grown to about \$40,000.

We suspect that many retirees now near or under the poverty level, and others facing emergencies of all sorts, do not apply for help from the Aid Fund even though they are in great need. If you are, or if anyone you know is, in serious financial difficulty, we urge you to apply for Aid Fund assistance. Remember that the contributions come from donors who actively want to help any retired teachers who may need it. Aid fund recipients are people who have served in the Chicago school system, helping others, and who now find they need help themselves.

Our 2005-06 officers and directors are: **Audrey Mivelaz**, President; **Ethel Philpott**, Vice President; **Vaughn Barber**, Treasurer; **Jewel Koch**,

When you *really* need a friend – keep us in mind.



When you hear your favorite song on an elevator, you know you're not a kid any more...

April 2005: HONOR ROLL OF RECENT DONORS

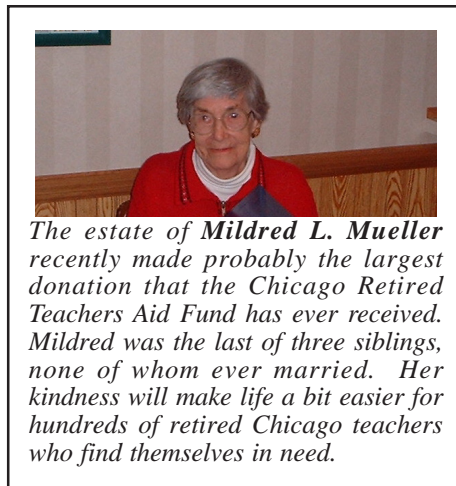
Throughout the years, many now-deceased men and women who served the Chicago Public Schools have left the Retired Teachers Association of Chicago or the Chicago Retired Teachers Aid Fund significant bequests. We are deeply indebted for their generosity.

Each year, we acknowledge the major legacies of the past ten years. These unusually generous gifts allow RTAC to offer more services, and the Aid Fund to help more of those in need. Pension security, legislative action, humanitarian efforts, special services - are all enhanced.

Large contributors since the April 2004 honor roll are shown in **Boldface**.

Loren C Aspel
Helen E Atwater
Louise E. Christiansen
Florence M. Devenish
Loretta M. Francis
Hazel L Hart
Albertine Haw
Anna M Healy
Alice O Hedenberg
Lenore S Helmich

Margaret C Jennings
M Katherine Jordan
Mildred P Judkins
Virginia M Kelley
Vera S Lamos
Florence Lathrop
Theresa Leone
Emilie U Lepthien
Rita Levy
Florence P Lewis
Josephine Mc Donnell



*The estate of **Mildred L. Mueller** recently made probably the largest donation that the Chicago Retired Teachers Aid Fund has ever received. Mildred was the last of three siblings, none of whom ever married. Her kindness will make life a bit easier for hundreds of retired Chicago teachers who find themselves in need.*

Eleanor Mc Hugh
Elizabeth (Betty) McCaffrie
Barbara McGarvey
Coletta B Mertes
Mildred L. Mueller
Esther Powers
Margaret M Reid
Hannah M Rosenthal
Dorothy A. Stevens
Lillian Trcka
Tate Yoshida

MAIL ORDER PRESCRIPTIONS

Many RTAC members have now discovered a way to cut prescription co-pay costs by as much as 67%: Have your doctor write three-month prescriptions that may be refilled 3 times, and send them to the mail order drug firm approved by your health care insurer. You pay the same co-pays, but only every three months instead of once a month.

Blue Cross has switched its approved drug firm to **PrimeMail Pharmacy** (for information, call 877-357-7463). If your insurer approves them, they will provide a complete (two sided) information form, with boxes for letters and numbers so that they can be read by an optical scanning machine. One side is for *Member And Dependent Information*; the other is for prescription information.

Each time you order a prescription, *PrimeMail* sends you one of these forms for reordering or sending a new prescription. Unless there are

changes or additions, **you do NOT** have to fill out the *Member And Dependent Information* form again. Only the *Prescription Section* needs to be filled out for new and renewal prescriptions.

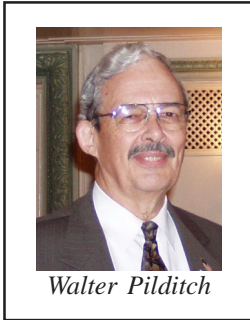
PrimeMail has only one kind of bottle cap. You will not be surprised that you need a child to open it — but only the first time. **If you have no children in your home or visiting you**, you can defeat the child-proof feature. Just place the cap on a table, and push down hard on the center of the cap. The center will snap into a new position, well below the top of the rim of the cap. It may now be opened, even by the folks who need the meds.

Be sure to think about this before you do it. Visiting grandchildren are awfully precious people! (If children visit unexpectedly, you can always switch the cap back to childproof by snapping the center back to the top of the rim again.)

PENSION NEWS

by Walter Pilditch, President and Pension Fund Trustee

A quick review of the total value of our pension fund shows an increase from \$9.61 billion to \$10.87 billion between the ends of 2003 and 2004. An overall increase of 13.2% was achieved, with the best performance of 21% being for our foreign currency investments. This was expected, considering the drop of the U.S. dollar against other currencies. These figures still place the CTPF in the top 100 pension funds in the country.



Walter Pilditch

Michael Nehf, the executive director of the CTPF for many years, accepted the position of executive director of the Georgia Employee's Retirement System. With his office in Atlanta, he oversees pension funds for about 340,000 employees and 42,000 retirees. The fund totals just over \$14.250 billion in assets and includes all employees in the state except teachers. Our own pension fund presently is conducting a search for a new executive director.

Other pension news includes our defense of the fund against the Chicago Board of Education's suit seeking a downward revision of some pensions paid over the last five years or so. The dispute concerns the fact that teachers were credited for a full ten days of pension credit for pay

periods with less than ten days. An example would be the first pay period of the school year, that might include a two-day in-service period in addition to a full week of pay. This would result in seven days of pay earning a full ten days of pension credit. The Board wants this refunded even though it has already been paid to retirees. The Pension Fund takes the position that a pension, once granted, cannot be reduced. As mentioned, only pensions granted after December 1999 are under consideration. The courts may have to decide this issue.

Another case has been filed in court, seeking to throw out the last teacher trustee election, conducted last October. The suit contends an election held by mail (as it was) was not valid because of alleged irregularities. The sad fact about the last election was that only 23% of the eligible teachers voted in the election!

Your three retirees trustees – I, **Carole Nolan** and **James Ward** – will continue being diligent about protecting your valuable pension. Please contact any of us if you have questions or comments — we welcome your help.



HELP! BACKUPS STILL URGENTLY NEEDED!

RTAC is still in urgent need of someone to train to replace the current editor.

You'll need very good computer skills and familiarity with the Internet and the World Wide Web. You'll need excellent grammatical skills. You'll need a lot of patience. You'll need to love the people you're writing for – all 10,000 of 'em.

And you'll need to keep on learning, maybe faster than ever before!

Please, please, contact the Editor, by email, telephone or whatever. But please, do it soon!

At this time, the **RTAC Board**, the **Finance Committee**, the **Social Committee** and the **Aid Fund (CRTAF)** and the **San Diego Satellite Group** are the only functionaries that have contingency backup support. The RTAC Board and the Aid Fund rely on their Vice Presidents; the Finance Committee, headed by **Nancy Makowski**, is backed up by **Ed O'Farrell**, and **Social Committee** co-chairs **Audrey Mivelaz** and **Marion Hoffing** back each other up. The **RTAC Pension Fund Trustees** will also support each other as far as possible in the event of emergency.

Where is the support person for everyone else?

FROM THE SERVICE COMMITTEE

By Betsy Clayton

One of the heaviest burdens of aging is loneliness, as friends and family pass on. To help ease this isolation, the Service Committee sends birthday and holiday cards to members 85 and over. That this thoughtfulness is welcomed is shown by these excerpts from the replies received. Their courage and spirit inspire us all.

Dorothy Benschop (CA) was surprised to read that Marshall Field's had been sold. She's had a charge account with them for years.

Eva Sigrid (GA) founded and operated the nation's oldest jazz club. She also studied under Marie Montessori in Lechworth, England and had her own Montessori Schools in Winnetka and North Chicago for 41 years. How interesting, Eva! Eva is clearly fine. She is in a nursing home and the nurses describe her as the most content and happy person on the floor. She enjoys being waited on, which is interesting because she always waited on others.

Carrie E Johnson (VA) says she does her best to keep mind and body active by doing aerobics and keeping up with current events. They keep her spirit uplifted.

Hendrene Gansevoort (IL) can't read the newspapers these days and has to get the news on TV. We're sorry to hear that, Hendrene.

Mary Antonia Thomas (NY) wishes she were able to visit Chicago and see the many improvements in the city. She suffered a ministroke last spring and it slowed her down considerably. That's sad news, Mary.

Augusta Moldawan (FL) wrote: "There are some advantages of being old (I am 97). Yesterday I won a prize for being the oldest at a Christmas dinner. As the oldest member attending church on Sundays, I get special recognition as a substitute "mother" with hugs, etc. I am still able to take about a mile walk every day. I am interested in politics, but at this time I'm not planning to run for office." Aw, shucks! We were planning to vote for you, Augusta.

Dorothy Raven (FL) stated "The Christmas greeting was just what I needed after surviving Hurricane Charlie and two others. Our entire area has been devastated. Our beautiful town resembles a disaster area with all the fallen trees and destroyed homes."

Catherine and Roy Buchanan (FL) are 91 and 92 years old. The hand printing on the card they sent is excellent. It makes one jealous.

Marie J. Griffin (CHI) wrote "The year 2004 update (on the Christmas letter) brought back memories, some forgotten."

Helen Jean Nelson (NE) said she worked at Field's one summer and during the Christmas holidays. She said the schools in Nebraska are not crowded and they're safe but there is a salary problem.

Gwen S. Hoffpauir (IL) misses "the humor of the teachers and the people who are associated with the Chicago schools. One can't help but chuckle or grin at their comments. They are precious; I love it!"

Lauretta Obara (IL) participates in many of the activities at the local Senior Center, goes to lunch with the Gage Park High and Bogan teachers once a month, and enjoys the fun lovin' Red Hatters. Sounds as if you're more than busy, Lauretta.

Esther Yost (CA) is troubled with macular degeneration in both eyes. We're terribly sorry, Esther.

Rose Corey (IN) wrote she was only a "sub," but she loved the job. She's 94 years old and was born and raised in Chicago.

Martha Clausen (AZ) moved to the prestigious Assisted Living Place in August and has adjusted well. The retirees have a bus that takes them shopping and to their doctors. They are also offered many activities. Martha's favorite is Fun and Fitness, every morning, six days a week.

Evelyn Wurum (IL) wrote "Better late than never" when thanking us for the belated birthday card she didn't receive in August. It was very good to hear from you, Evelyn. Lateness doesn't matter.

Laverne Brett (CA) wrote "the vast migration from Mexico and South American countries is a massive problem" for the local school system. America can't be bad if so many foreign nationals want to come here. She taught at Bowen and almost always had Latino students.

Philip Lewis (MD) has moved East to be near his daughter after his wife died. Before that he was a lifelong Chicagoan.

Mary J. Sheil (IA) says "I'm getting a bit slow but I did make it to 95 years!" She gets only good reports from her doctor. Keep on getting them, Mary.

Dorothy Manley Warden Runken (FL) writes she had a great birthday party. It was her 95th. Here's to many more, Dorothy.

Genevieve Diver (IL) stated "Each 12 months I continue living seems to have interesting and unusual things going on." Sounds as if you're never bored, Genevieve!

Rosemary Kingsbury Hayes English (IL) loves to hear about Chicago. She threatens to get on the South Shore train, ride to Randolph, and visit Marshall Field's. She knows this is a pipe dream but says, "We can dream, can't we?"

Mildred T. Fisher (FL) volunteers, plays golf and bridge, and enjoys living in Florida.

Louise Christensen (MI) is 95. She says she's not *getting* old, she *is* old. Her handwriting could make one think she's fibbing about her age. She said she has some vision problems but is able

to read two newspapers every day. The news is not always good but she does want to know what is going on.

William J. Bryant (Chi) sent a Christmas card that we think he designed. Did you, William? It's very clever.

Gordon Evison (Chi) telephoned to express his deep appreciation of his birthday card, with its personal handwritten note. He didn't want anyone to think the words "fell on deaf ears." Thank you, Gordon! We're glad you were pleased!

Alice Maguire (Chi) regrets that, at 88, so many friends are gone. But she says she's blessed because she lives with her daughter, is the organist at church each Sunday, directs a 30 member chorus, is on a symphony orchestra board and enjoys her book club. Sounds as though you're really busy, Alice!

Also sending greetings and thanks:

Grace Kelly (Chi)
Eleanor Mellick (Chi)
Dorothy Armbruster (IL)
Agnes A. Brennan (IL)
Daisy Driss (Chi)
Cleopatra G. Collins (NC)
Louise V. McCoy (MD)
Ann Guzlik (FL)
Hirama B. Cannon (IL)
Ann Marie Cagney (IL)
Paula Grayer (Chi)
Ann Stefan (IL)
Adele Peck (MA)
Marjorie Carlson (Service Committee)



WHAT GOOD IS A COMPUTER? I

Like many computer users, your editor typically balances his checkbook within one to two minutes.

If you had a computer and color printer, you could print your own copy of the *News Bulletin* - with the pictures in full color.

GRANDMA'S APRON

I don't think our kids know what an apron is ...

The principal use of Grandma's apron was to protect the dress underneath, but along with that, it served as a holder for removing hot pans from the oven.

It was wonderful for drying children's tears, and on occasion was even used for cleaning out dirty ears or wiping a runny nose.

From the chicken-coop the apron was used for carrying eggs, fussy chicks, and sometimes half-hatched eggs to be finished in the warming oven.

When company came those aprons were ideal hiding places for shy kids. And when the weather was cold, grandma wrapped it around her arms. Those big old aprons wiped many a perspiring brow, bent over the hot wood stove.

Chips and kindling wood were brought into the kitchen in that apron. From the garden, it carried all sorts of vegetables. After

the peas had been shelled it carried out the hulls. In the fall the apron was used to bring in apples that had fallen from the trees.

When unexpected company drove up the road, it was surprising how much furniture that old apron could dust in a matter of seconds.

When dinner was ready, Grandma walked out onto the porch, waved her apron, and the men knew it was time to come in from the fields to dinner.

It will be a long time before someone invents something that will replace that “old-time apron” that served so many purposes.

And think about this —

Grandma used to set her hot baked apple pies on the window sill to cool.

Her granddaughters set theirs on the window sill to thaw.



Marion Hoffing

THE RTAC NEWS-BULLETIN ONCE AGAIN PROUDLY PRESENTS

The indefatigable MARI@N H@FFING'S humongous tri-monthly creation

THE CHICAGO SCENE

to enjoy during April, May and June

See Our NEW REGULAR LISTING: **REUNIONS**

COMPUTER USERS PLEASE NOTE:

The Events page on RTAC's web site (<http://www.rtac.org/events.htm>) now carries **DIRECT LINKS** to the venues listed! **Just click on the name!**

ADLER PLANETARIUM & ASTRONOMY MUSEUM 1300 South Shore Drive 312-922-STAR
<http://www.adlerplanetarium.org>

The Future Is Wild! An exciting exhibit that brings you up close to earth millions of years from the present, after continents have shifted, mass extinctions have occurred and new species dominate the planet. An interactive trip through the universe begins in an alien world about five billion years ago and continues through the formation of the solar system, through the stars of the Milky Way Galaxy and beyond.

The Secret Of Saturn includes background information about the Cassini-Huygens spacecraft currently exploring the ringed planet, and provides recent updates from the mission, etc. *Fees in excess of General Admission.*

ART INSTITUTE of CHICAGO Michigan at Adams 312-433-3600
<http://www.artic.edu>

A long-time term loan from the Terra Foundation for American Art has been joined with some of the best of the Art Institute's American Art. These extraordinary works are now on two floors of the of the Institute's Daniel F. and Ada L. Rice building in a completely new presentation. Thru 5/7

Faces, Places and Inner Spaces. Interactive games, audio, video and computer elements offer children and adults a new perspective on art in this exhibition.

AUDITORIUM THEATRE 50 E. Congress Parkway 312-559-2110
<http://www.auditoriumtheatre.org/>

AMERICAN DANCE THEATRE-**ALVIN AILEY** 4/7-10

A soul-stirring Ailey performance is a visceral experience of pure joy and vitality. **The Beekeeper** Tori Amos, with Matt Nathanson - singer, song writer and pianist. 4/15

EIFMAN BALLET OF ST. PETERBURG **Anna Karenina** 6/16-19
Eifman/Tchaikovsky - Eifman's emotionally charged dancers with a powerful penchant for dramatic interpretation brilliantly highlight the major themes of this timeless novel.

CHICAGO BOTANIC GARDEN 1000 Lake-Cook Rd., Glencoe 847-835-5440
<http://www.chicago-botanic.org/>

Recorded announcements 24 hours a day. Chicago Botanic Garden comprises 385 acres of natural beauty with 23 gardens and three native habitat acres. It is the second most visited public garden in the United States. It has 2 million plants of 5,301 taxa, the largest collection in the upper midwest. It is a recognized center of education, research and conservation. Visitors of all ages enjoy the 385 acres of winding paths and hidden gardens, sparkling lakes, woodlands and restful atmosphere.

SPECIAL EVENTS: **Antiques & Garden Show** 4/15,16,17

Over 100 American & European exhibitors, with an array of garden antiques.

A Bloomin' Sale - 11:00 am & 1:00 pm, 5/13,14,15

Container Potting Demonstration FREE!

Plant Auction - **Rare Affair** 6/6

Fruitful Abundance -Each artistic image offers a disarming and delightful view of fruit. 4/14 -6/12

(See **Scene**, next page)

(*Scene, continued*)

The exhibit runs in the North Gallery. All paintings are for sale! Daily 9 am to 5 pm
The Esplanade, a stunning new garden and plaza, featuring showy fountains and Late June
dramatic sweeps of trees and flowers, right down to the water's edge.

Dream About British Gardens? In a special partnership with *Visit Britain*, Garden members are offered a free *Britain's Garden* guide and a chance to win a trip for you and a garden loving spouse or friend to visit Britain's beautiful gardens in person. For details go to www.VisitBritain.com/chicagobotanic and follow the prompts. Or mail your name, address, phone and email address to: Chicago Botanic Garden Sweepstakes c/o Visit Britain, 551 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10176. The deadline is June 15th! Good Luck!

CHICAGO CULTURAL CENTER 78 E. Washington St. 312-744-1424
"The People's Palace." <http://www.cityofchicago.org/tourism/CulturalCenter/>
ROOM CODES: CR=*Chicago Rooms*; EH=*Exhibit Hall*; MAG=*Michigan Avenue Galleries*;
PBH=*Preston Bradley Hall*; RG=*Renaissance Court Gallery*; YG=*Sidney R. Yates Gallery*.
Ruth Duckworth - Modernist Sculpture YG 4/30-7/10
Inge Norath - Photographer MAG 4/30-6/26
Bill Smith - Kinetic Sculpture MAG 5/7 -7/3
Petah Coyne -Sculpture - 1987-2004 - YG 5/14-8/21
Sustainable Furniture - Chgo. Designers CR 5/28-8/14
AFTRA/SAG Senior Radio Players: Claudia Cassidy Theatre. The talented members 7 pm, 5/4
of the Seniors Committee of the American Federation of Television and Radio Artists and
the Screen Actors Guild perform classic radio scripts — as they were originally produced,
with live sound effects *and no re-takes*.

CHICAGO HISTORICAL SOCIETY North Ave. & Clark St. 312-642-4600
<http://www.chicagohistory.org> FREE Mondays
The oldest Cultural Museum in Chicago and research center in the United States. The ever growing collection
covering Chicago and US history houses 20 million items. Visitors can enjoy numerous exhibits including:
The South Side Shore Line Posters, Coming of Age, photographs of **Declan Haun** 1961-69, etc. There
is also the **Big Shoulders Cafe**, named for Carl Sandberg's description of our city. Shop at CHS's Museum
Store, offering a large quantity of imaginative merchandise with an historical connection, and much more.

CHICAGO NEIGHBORHOOD TOURS 312-742-1190
Travel the world with these tours, which depart from the Cultural Center and offer a unique
perspective on Chicago's multicultural communities. They can be tailored for groups.

CIVIC OPERA HOUSE 20 North Wacker Dr. 312-332-2244
<http://www.civicoperahouse.com>
Giselle — American Ballet Theatre. The world's greatest dancers in the world's most 4/19-24
romantic ballet. To see American Ballet at its best is to see *Giselle*. ABT's internationally
acclaimed ballet stars bring this timeless tale of unrequited love and forgiveness vividly
to life in this widely praised production.

COLLEGE OF DUPAGE, **McAninch Arts Center** 630-942-2321
425 Fawell Blvd., Glen Ellyn <http://www.cod.edu/ArtsCntr/>
630-942-2321
PERFORMING GROUPS:
ACJE: Arts Center Jazz Ensemble
NCS: New Classic Singers
RTE: Buffalo Theatre Ensemble

(See **Scene**, next page)

(**Scene**, continued)

| | | |
|--|----------------------|-------------|
| NP: | New Philharmonic | |
| DOT: | DuPage Opera Theatre | |
| CT: | College Theatre | |
| Natalie Mac Master | | 4/1 |
| Chamber Blues with Siegel/Schwall Band | | 4/2 |
| Bruce Wood Dance Company | | 4/3 |
| NP: Jennifer Koh | | 4/8,9 |
| The Adventures of Tom Sawyer | | 4/10 |
| Sandip Burman & Friends | | 4/14 |
| Marvin Hamlisch | | 4/15,16 |
| CT: La Ronde | | 4/15 to 26 |
| SCB: Giselle | | 4/23,24 |
| CT: Heroic Journeys | | 4/29 to 5/1 |
| Hubbard Street Dance Chicago | | 4/30 |
| Tom May | | 4/30 |
| Hubbard Street Dance Chicago | | 5/1 |
| College Lecture: Barbara Ehrenreich | | 5/3 |
| CT: Heroic Journeys | | 5/5 to 5/15 |
| NP: Massive Mahler | | 5/6,7 |
| BTE: The Lonesome West | | 5/13 to 6/4 |
| ACJE: Janice Borta | | 5/13 |
| NCS: From the Bard to Broadway | | 5/14 |
| Turtle Island String Quartet | | 5/15 |
| Chamber Orchestra | | 5/17 |
| Concert Choir/Chamber Singers | | 5/19 |
| Branford Marsalis | | 5/20 |
| DuPage Community Jazz Ensemble Dance | | 5/22 |
| DPage Chorale: Dvorak | | 5/22 |
| DuPage Community Concert Band | | 5/24 |
| Percussion Ensemble | | 5/25 |
| Student Jazz Showcase | | 5/26 |
| Guitar Ensemble | | 6/2 |
| BTE: The Lonesome West | | 6/2-6/4 |
| Jazz at Sunset | | 5/19 |
| Four Bitchin' Babes | | 6/25 |
| GAHLBERG GALLERY | | |
| ANNUAL STUDENT EXHIBITION A juried display of paintings, drawings, sculptures, prints, ceramics, jewelry, photography and more, by College of DuPage art students. | | 4/7-5/7 |

DU SABLE MUSEUM of AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY 740 E. 56th Pl. 773-947-0600
<http://www.dusablemuseum.org>

A Photo Documentary of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and the civil rights movement: Thru 5/9
A traveling exhibit features 78 black-and-white prints by acclaimed photographer Benedict J. Fernandez, taken throughout the year before the assassination of the civil rights leader.

FIELD MUSEUM of NATURAL HISTORY Museum Campus 312-922-9410
McFetridge Dr (14th St) at Lake Shore Drive <http://www.fmnh.org>

Dinosaur Dynasty! Discoveries from China - It is a once in a lifetime opportunity Thru 5/10
to meet a whole new set of dinosaurs from one of the world's hottest spots for dinosaur research. Authentic fossils and life-size casts on view - visitors will see how dinosaur life begins from very different nests of fossil eggs.

(See **Scene**, next page)

(*Scene, continued*)

Arctic National Wildlife Refuge: Seasons of Life & Land. Photographer Subhanker Banerjee documents the fragile interdependence of animals, plants, humans and their environment in a series of photographs taken over the course of two years. He reveals the remarkable biodiversity of this pristine region's icy winters. (Free with general admission.) Thru 5/8

Treasures Of The Americas: These precious objects illustrate the depth and variety of the riches held in trust by the Field Museum, where more than 1.5 million objects convey the range, diversity and sophistication of indigenous cultures across the American Museums. Anthropologists delved deeply into their vaults to select the finest objects, rarely seen on public display. Thru 5/30

GALLERY 37 CENTER

60 E. Randolph St.

Box Office: Wed-Sat, 12-6 pm.

<http://www.gallery37.org/adult/>

World Kitchen. Learn basic cooking techniques and specialized professional secrets offered by instructors and guest chefs in a state-of-the-art professional training kitchen. All World Kitchen classes are \$30, and require pre-registration, which can be made by phone, on-line or in person. 312-744-7094

THE NEW GOODMAN THEATRES

Dearborn St., between Lake and Randolph

312-443-3800

World-Class Artists, unsurpassed, astonishing range. Experience productions that you won't find anywhere else.

<http://www.goodman-theatre.org>

In the Owen:

Floyd & Clea: Under the Western Sky - Book & lyrics by David Cale. A world premiere! 4/9-5/8

In the Albert:

The Story - by Tracey Scott Wilson. "Showcases a singular new voice." — *The New Yorker* 3/5-4/10

Silk - From the novel by: Alessandro Baricco. Visually thrilling production! 4/23-5/29

Dollhouse- adapted from the play by Henrik Ibsen, by Rebecca Gilman. 6/18 -7/24

Features one of the most complex and controversial female characters in all theatrel

JOAN W. & IRVING S. HARRIS THEATRE *for Music & Dance*

(Millennium Park)

312-334-7777

205 E. Randolph

<http://www.madtchi.com/03jun03.shtml>

CHICAGO OPERA THEATRE

312-704-8414

<http://www.chicagooperatheater.org/>

Mozart's **Le Nozze di Figaro**

5/4,6,8,12,14

Considered by many to be the most perfect of all operas, Figaro is an unsurpassed portrait of the joys and sorrows of the human experience. Mozart's score captures the energy of youth and the aching tenderness of mature love.

A Midsummer Night's Dream. Music by Benjamin Britten. 5/18,20,22,26,28

Most familiar as Shakespeare's play and one of the greatest operas of the 20th century - an operatic treat!

Music of the Baroque Presents George Frideric Handel's *Israel In Egypt*. Often compared to Messiah for its choral splendor and sheer dramatic effect, *Israel In Egypt* closes the Music of the Baroque's concert series in grand style. 5/23

Fulcrum Point New Music Project: Earth Tones

7:30 pm, 5/31

Fulcrum Point's musical investigation of earth culminates with a celebration of the colors and cultures that comprise the globe. Lokumbe and Ellington merge West African sacred songs with symphonic orchestra, gospel choir and jazz while Cuban-born composer Tania Leon bridges European and Latin-American influences in a journey from abstract structures to humor and infectious dance rhythms.

Chicago Children's Choir: 2005 Spring Gala. The concert features Beethoven's Choral Fantasy, accompanied by the Chicago Youth Symphony Orchestra, featuring pianist John 3 pm, 6/5

(See **Scene**, next page)

(**Scene**, continued)

Goodwin; the Chicago premiere of *Where Life Is Written in Water* (set to a poem by Carl Sandburg) by Chicago composer Gary Fry; Bobby McFerrin's exciting piece, *He Ran to the Train*, along with the international folk songs, gospel and pop for which the Choir is famous.

MAYOR'S OFFICE of SPECIAL EVENTS

312-744-3370

<http://www.cityofchicago.org/SpecialEvents/>

FESTS:

| | |
|--------------------|--------------------------|
| Kids and Kites | May 14 & October 1, 2005 |
| Blues Fest | June 9-12, 2005 |
| Gospel Fest | June 3-5, 2005 |
| Taste of Chicago | June 24-July 4, 2005 |
| Country Music Fest | June 25-26, 2005 |

PARADES:

| | | |
|--------------------------|--|-------------------------|
| Assyrian New Year | Western Ave., Peterson to Pratt | 1 pm, April 3, 2005 |
| Hellenic Heritage Greek | Halsted, Randolph to Van Buren | 2:30 pm, April 10, 2005 |
| Cinco de Mayo | 21st & Marshall Blvd. | 12 pm, May 1, 2005 |
| St. Jude Police League | Michigan, Chicago River to Chicago Ave | 8:30 am, May 1, 2005 |
| Polish Constitution Day | Columbus Drive, Balbo to Monroe | 11:30 am, May 7, 2005 |
| Chicago's Memorial Day | State St., Randolph to Van Buren | 12 pm, May 28, 2005 |
| Puerto Rican Parade | Columbus Drive, Balbo to Monroe | 1 pm, June 18, 2005 |
| Rotary Centennial Parade | Columbus Drive, Balbo to Monroe | 10 am, June 18, 2005 |
| Gay & Lesbian Pride | Halsted & Fullerton N to Broadway, S to Diversey | 12 pm, June 26, 2005 |

MILLENNIUM PARK EXHIBIT Boundaries are Randolph St., Michigan Ave., Columbus Dr. and Monroe St.

<http://millenniumpark.net/index.html>

TERRY EVANS - A landscape photographer famed for prairie studies is preparing a major outdoor exhibit of serial pictures of the Chicago region to open in June '05 in Millennium Park. *Revealing Chicago: an Aerial portrait* will consist of between 80 and 100 outsize images to be displayed on the park's central plaza, near the Cloud Gate sculpture. 6/10-10/10

MUSEUM of CONTEMPORARY ART 220 E. Chicago Avenue.

312-280-2660

<http://www.mcachicago.org/welcome/>

Works of art displayed in this outdoor-indoor exhibition in a universal experience: *Art, Life and the Tourists*, include eye-ranging from large scale installations and sculptures to more intimate photographs. The Show aims to illuminate or mediate interaction with the wider world. Thru 6/5
The vibrant color reproduction and accompanying shortcuts lead us through the work of more than 75 artists.

MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY PHOTOGRAPHY 600 S. Michigan Ave.

(312) 344-7104

<http://www.mocp.org/>

"AT WORK" AND "STICKS AND STONES": Two series by the veteran photographer, Lee Friedlander, on *American Workers* and *Architectural Form*. Thru 4/28

MUSEUM of SCIENCE AND INDUSTRY 57th & Lake Shore Dr.

773-684-1414

<http://www.msichicago.org>

Body Worlds: The Anatomical Exhibition of Real Human Bodies - human specimens, individual organs, transparent slices and entire bodies, preserved through *plastination*, a method that allows for authentic displays without the use of glass barriers and formaldehyde. Ongoing
Visitors gain insight into human locomotive, digestive, nervous and vascular systems and more.

Game On: *The History, Culture and Future of Video Games*. This exhibit makes its Thru 9/5
(See **Scene**, next page)

(**Scene**, continued)

American debut this spring from its popular run in Europe. Its hands-on displays explore 40 years of video gaming with more than 125 playable games.

The museum's beloved **U-505 Submarine** will surface in a brand new 35,000 square foot exhibit that allows guests to experience the dramatic capture of the World War II vessel first-hand. Peek through the periscopes, and translate messages into enigma code. Discover what life was like aboard this famous submarine! Ongoing

NORTHLIGHT THEATRE 9501 Skokie Blvd., Skokie 847-673-6300
<http://www.northlight.org>
Red Herring. A "noir" comedy set in the 1950s; filled with intrigue and romance. Thru 4/24
It Ain't Nothin' But The Blues. Centuries of the blues in song and story. Tony nominated. 5/11-6/19

PEGGY NOTEBAERT NATURE MUSEUM Chicago Academy of Sciences 773-549-0606
2430 N. Cannon Dr. (Lake Shore at Fullerton) <http://www.chias.org/>
A museum of our natural world! See a snake shedding its skin. Glimpse an array of migrating birds. Watch a butterfly emerge from its chrysalis, wet-winged and wide-eyed for the very first time, etc. Take an urban gardening class, and interact with nature in new, interesting and exciting ways you never imagined. And if you haven't seen the wildly popular exhibition GROSSOLOGY, it's still fascinating and fun for the entire family. See it while it's still available! Ongoing

RENAISSANCE SOCIETY AT THE University of Chicago 5811 S. Ellis Avenue 773-702-8670
REBECCA MORRIS - a six-year survey of abstract paintings. 5/8-6/19

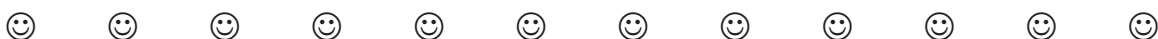
REUNIONS:

Senn High School Reunion, Class of 1955. The Reunion Committee of the Senn High School Class of 1955 is searching for all surviving classmates, and particularly teachers, to invite them to a 50th year reunion party on September 16(?) 2005. Anyone able to assist in this search is asked to contact a Reunion Committee member. PLEASE call **Carlene Blumenthal** (773-736-1702) or **George Willhite** (217-359-5341).

SHEDD AQUARIUM 1200 S. Lake Shore Drive 312-939-2438
Shedd is 75! - Happy birthday! <http://www.sheddnet.org>
Shedd welcomes nearly 2 million visitors each year and more than 21,000 animals are cared for. They inspire their guests with innovative and educational programs. Throughout the years, Shedd has combined the best of both worlds: the charm and majesty of yesterday, and the forefront of animal care and new technology. It was the first aquarium in the country to display a neon-tetra fish, was the only aquarium to house a sawfish, and was the first to display spotted wobbegong sharks. Today come and see the Wild Reef and the sharks, close up. Enjoy the reef fishes, rays and corals and many more magnificent creatures. Ongoing
CELEBRATE AT SHEDD AS THEY EMBARK ON NEW AND EXCITING JOURNEYS FOR DECADES TO COME!! LEARN ABOUT SHEDD SUMMER SCHOOL - SELECTED TEENS TO TAKE A RESEARCH TRIP TO THE BAHAMAS!!

VIETNAM VETERANS ART MUSEUM 1801 Indiana Ave. 312-326-0270
Women On War: Fiber art works, photographs, drawings, poems, and short stories comprise an exhibition honoring the service and experiences of 10,000 women who served as nurses, therapists, photographers, language specialists and more during the Vietnam War. Thru 5/14

IMPORTANT! Be sure to CHECK SCHEDULES before you go! CHANGES DO HAPPEN! Also, remember to ASK FOR YOUR SENIOR DISCOUNT. **ENJOY YOUR CITY!**



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Many retired teachers find that working for a worthy cause as a volunteer is extremely satisfying. The following organizations have asked us for help in recruiting. The Retired Teachers Association of Chicago **does not endorse any organization**; potential volunteers must make their own judgments.

| | | | |
|--------------------------------|------------------|-------------------|------------------------|
| Adler Planetarium | Chicago | Hannah Katz | 312-322-0514 |
| Alex Haley Academy | Chicago – Far So | Karen Demots | 773-371-3661 |
| American Red Cross | Chicago - Loop | Tina Green Rounds | 312-729-6227 |
| Anixter Center Literacy Pgm | Chicago – Nr N | Sara Kohl | 773-929-8200x265 |
| Aquinas Literacy Center (ESL) | Chicago - South | Alison Altmeyer | 773-927-0512 |
| Blind Service Assn | Chicago - Loop | Theresa Togtman | 312-236-0808 |
| Boys/Girls Clubs | Chicago - South | Desiree McIntosh | 312-285-5009 |
| Brookfield Zoo | Suburbs - W | Regi Mezydlo | 708-485-0263x366 |
| Catholic Charities (Tutor) | Chicago | Albert Curtis Jr | 312-655-7412 |
| Chicago Architectural Found | Chicago - All | Barbara Hrbek | 312-922-3432x225 |
| Chicago Youth Centers | Chicago - West | Michelle Gauthier | 312-762-5655 |
| Child Services | Cook/Lake/DuPg | Greta Nielsen | 773-693-0300 |
| Child Services | Chicago - RogPk | Michelle Genarro | 773-973-3662 |
| Christopher Hse | Chicago - LncPk | Susan Kramp | 773-472-1083 |
| Council for Jewish Elderly | Chicago - All | Anne L. Simon | 773-508-1064 |
| Court's Special Advocate | Cook | Imogene Harris | 312-433-6997 |
| CPS Student Science Fair | Chicago | Rita Nelson | 773 553-6318 |
| Cycle | Chicago - Nr N | Melinda Brand | 312-664-1194x14 |
| Field Museum | Lakefnt Musm Cp | Mary Ann Bloom | 312-665-7505 |
| Forest Preserve District | DuPage | Chris Linnell | 630-942-6169 |
| Friends of the Parks | Chicago - All | Laura Ronneberg | 312-922-3307 |
| George Armstrong School | Chicago - Nr W | Kim Bendig | 773-534-2150 |
| Ginkgo Organic Gardens | Chicago - North | | 773-404-7114 |
| Grandma, Please | Chicago - All | Kathy Slover | 773-561-3500 |
| Graue Mill | Oak Brook | Sandy Brubaker | 630-920-9720 |
| Heartland Alliance Vista | Chicago - Loop | Carol McNeill | 312-696-4500x4085 |
| Ill. Action for Children | Chicago - Loop | Rebecca Klipfel | 312-986-9591 |
| Ill. Parents Anonymous | Chicago - All | Melinda Crosby | 312-649-7301 |
| Ill. Volunteers of America | Chicago - All | Peggy Schweiger | 312-707-8707 |
| JCB School | Chicago - N | Amber Egelston | 773-467-3746 |
| Jesse White Tumblers (tutors) | Chicago – S & W | Yvonne C. Jones | 312 943-4846. |
| Little Bros Friends of Elderly | Chicago | Geri Mead | 312-455-1000 |
| Mercy Home for Boys and Girls | Chicago - All | J Brown/E Dordek | 312-738-7554 |
| Metro Family Services | Mt Greenwood | Dee Speich | 773-298-5065X345 |
| Museum Science & Industry | Chicago - South | Penny Aulston | 773-684-9844x2422 |
| N Shore Senior Center | Suburbs – N | Paul J. Luzwick | 847-784-6000 |
| Naperville Settlement | Suburbs – W | Diane Ernst | 630-420-6010 |
| Oakton Comm College | Subrb – NW | Rita Stewart | 847-635-1434 |
| Peace Corps | International | J Ostermeier | 312-353-7716 |
| Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum | Chicago – North | Cindy Vasquez | 773-755-5141 |
| Salvation Army Group Home | Oak Park | Frank Massolini | 312-455-8059x200 |
| Woman Made Gallery | Chicago – Nr So | Pamela Callahan | 312-328-0038 |
| World Libraries | South Africa | Laura Wendell | www.worldlibraries.org |
| Youth Service Proj | Chicago – NW | Esther Prins | 773-772-6270 |

DONOR FORM

**Retired Teachers Association of Chicago
220 South State Street, Room 2100
Chicago IL 60604-2180**

PLEASE NOTE: Sorry, but **WE CAN NO LONGER ACCEPT MONEY ORDERS.**

My enclosed **check** for \$_____ is to cover (please check below as appropriate):

- Political Education Fund (**not** tax deductible; make check payable to **RTAC COPE**)
- Chicago Retired Teachers Aid Fund (tax deductible; make check payable to **C.R.T.A.F.**)
- Retired Teachers Association of Chicago (**not** tax deductible; make check payable to **R.T.A.C.**)

Donor's name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

All donations are gratefully accepted, but the following choices require a \$10 minimum donation, either to the Aid Fund or to RTAC, for each name listed.

This donation is made (please check below):

- In memory of _____
- In honor of _____
- Happy birthday/anniversary to: _____
- Celebrating: _____
- Just on general principles.
- Anonymously; please do NOT publish my name.

OPTIONAL: Please notify

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

that this donation has been made.

**PLEASE REMEMBER the Retired Teachers Association of Chicago
or Chicago Retired Teachers Aid Fund in your will.**

FOR MEN ONLY: WOMAN-TALK TRANSLATIONS

Sure, go ahead: *I don't want you to.*

Do what you want: *You'll pay for this later.*

I am not upset: *Of course I am upset, you moron!*

Are you listening to me?? *Too late, you're dead.*

You're so manly: *You need a shave and you sweat a lot.*

Do you love me? *I am going to ask for something expensive...*

It's your decision: *The correct decision should be obvious by now.*

I'll be ready in a minute: *Kick off your shoes and find a good game on TV.*

How much do you love me? *I did something today that you're really not going to like...*

CHANGE OF ADDRESS FORM

Please use this form to change your **permanent** address.

Name: _____

NEW Address: _____ Apt. _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone () _____ - _____

Please include your last mailing label, OR fill in your OLD address:

No. & Street _____ Apt. _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Effective date of change (month, day, year): ____/____/____

"SNOWBIRD" NOTICE

(**Please** use this form if you will spend part of this year in one location and part of it in another.)

Your Name: _____

The *News Bulletin* is mailed to arrive on approximately the first of January, April, July and October. *Please show below the issues you want mailed to each address:*

These issues _____ should be mailed to me at:

Address: _____ Apt. _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

(My telephone there is () _____ - _____)

These issues _____ should be mailed to me at:

Address: _____ Apt. _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

(My telephone there is () _____ - _____)

Please mark this box if these instructions apply every year.

MEET YOUR NEW DIRECTORS!

It took some nimble footwork, but we finally got them all in the same place at one time. From the left: **Marcella Morrison, Nathaniel Blackman, Mary Sharon Reilly** and **Leroy Hansen**.



FRIENDS GONE AHEAD

Requiescant in pace

ABELL, EMILY A.

Née Harrison. When she left Bennett in 1989, Emily put a 36 year career to an end. Her life ended on October 9, 2004, at the age of 78.

ANDERSON, LEROY R.

After a career that spanned 29 years, Leroy retired from Nash in 1981. He expired on October 21, 2004, at the age of 81.

AUGUST, REBECCA I.

Rebecca's career of 10 years came to an end when she resigned as a substitute in 1982. When she passed away on October 8, 2004, she had reached the age of 89.

BALL, LAVERTA D.

Née Winston. LaVerta died on October 20, 2004, at the age of 97. Her career of 19 years ended when she retired from the Jenner school in 1973.

BAYER, NATALIE M.

Née Melamerson. After 29 years in the Chicago school system, Natalie retired from Sullivan High School in 1974. When death took her on October 27, 2004, she was 93 years old.

BERNARD, LAURIA

At the close of her life on October 22, 2004, Lauria was 72 years old. A teacher for 26 years, she retired from the Tilton school in 1997.

BUGYIE, WINIFRED T.

Née McAndrew. Winifred was 83 years old at her death on October 15, 2004. She resigned from Spry school in 1986 after 29 years in Chicago.

BURROWS, DOROTHY MAE

Née O'Neill. Dorothy was affiliated with the Chicago Public Schools for 24 years when she retired from the Higgins school in 1977. At the time of her death on October 17, 2004, she was 83 years of age.

CAGNEY, THADDEUS

When he left Kennedy High in 2001, Thaddeus put a 36 year career to an end. His life ended on November 4, 2004, at the age of 60.

CAMPBELL, MARY L.

Her 37 year teaching career ended when Mary retired from Lawndale in 1991. She was 79 when her life ended on October 26, 2004.

CHAMBERS, ANITA

Née Johnson. After a career that spanned 35 years, Anita retired from Burr in 1998. She expired on December 5, 2004, at the age of 70.

COLEMAN, MADELINE E.

When Madeline retired as a counselor in 1980 from Kenwood Academy, her career had lasted 27 years in Chicago and 5 more outside. Her life ended at the age of 88 on October 3, 2004.

CROOKS, GRACE JONES

Née Lockett. Grace succumbed at age 73 on September 21, 2004. She taught for 38 years before retiring from McCosh Elementary in 1994.

CUNY, GERALD T.

Gerald's career of 26 years came to an end as he left Taft High in 1975. When he passed away on October 28, 2004, he had reached the age of 94.

DAVIS, VANOLA H.

Née Hickman. Vanola retired from District 13 in 1988 after a career that lasted for 30 years. She expired on November 24, 2004, at the age of 82 years.

ELLMAN, EVA

Née Kanofsky. Eva retired from Lloyd in 1991 after teaching for 22 years. On October 28, 2004, she died at age 75.

EWING, RUTH W.

Née Willis. In 1981, when she retired from Englewood High school, Ruth ended her 32 year career with the Chicago school system. On December 5, 2004, her life ended after 80 years.

FOLEY, JAMES L.

James resigned in 2003 from Farragut High, ending a 34 year time span in the Chicago system. He was 57 at the time of his death on November 1, 2004.

FORD, H. EILEEN

Née Smith. A teacher at Caldwell when she resigned in 1987, Eileen had served for 26 years. She was 84 on the date of her passing, December 4, 2004.

FREEMAN, JOHNNIE D.

Née DeRamus. Ending a 25 year career, Johnnie left Price in 1989. When she died on September 3, 2004, she was 81 years of age.

GLOVER, SUSAN S.

Née Stewart. Susan had taught for 22 years before she retired in 2004 from the Whitney Young High school. She was 49 when her life ended on November 9, 2004.

GORSKI, DOROTHY M.

When she resigned after 37 years in 1991, Dorothy was at the Walter S. Christopher school. On October 27, 2004, she died at the age of 78.

GRADY, MARY E.

After a career that lasted 30 years, Mary retired from Earle in 2004. She was 54 when she died on October 16, 2004.

GREENWOLD, AUDREY W.

Née Withington. Audrey succumbed on December 4, 2004, at the age of 84. She served 29 years, resigning from the Clay school in 1980.

GRUBBS, ANNIE M.

On October 13, 2004, Annie passed away at the age of 76 years. She retired from Doolittle in 1997 after 35 years of teaching.

HICKEY, PATRICIA M.

Née Cassidy. Patricia was associated with the Chicago schools for 27 years, the last at the Cooper school, where she was when she retired in 1989. She was 79 years old when death took her on November 7, 2004.

HUPPERT, JOSEPHINE A.

Née Kent. On November 29, 2004, Josephine passed on, at the age of 94 years. She had spent 35 years in the schools when she resigned from Burbank in 1972.

JAFFE, SALLY R.

Née Pinckovitch. When she retired from Lane Tech High in 1994, Sally ended a career of 23 years. She was 74 when her life came to a close on November 4, 2004.

JOHNSON, JUANITA B

In 1999, Juanita left Richards High School after a career that lasted 40 years. When her life ended on February 17, 2005, she was 68 years of age.

KRAUS, ANNE E.

Née McGlone. After 21 years in Chicago schools, Anne retired from City Wide in 2003. She was 60 when she expired on October 24, 2004.

LAFOE, BARBARA S.

Née Strickland. Barbara ended a 40 year career when she resigned as an administrator at the Bureau of Teacher Personnel in 1990. At her death on November 26, 2004, she was 73 years old.

LASON, SHIRLEY S.

Née Sabath. Her career of 32 years ended when she left the Edgebrook school in 1983, and Shirley died on November 12, 2004, at the age of 84.

LOVE, ANNE T.

Née Woods. When she resigned from Revere in 1991, Anne capped a 24 year career. She was 75 when she died on September 23, 2004.

MAHONEY, MARY T.

Née Turrise. Mary was at Cook when she retired in 1970 after a 42 year career. She was 99 when she died on October 1, 2004.

MAMSEN, GERALDINE A.

Née Olsen. Geraldine ended a 36 year term in the Chicago system upon her retirement in 1979 from Canty. At her death on October 23, 2004, she was 87 years old.

MCAULIFFE, MARY M.

Née McGuire. Mary was a library consultant assigned to Area A when she retired in 1973 after 42 years in the Chicago system in Chicago and 2 more outside. She was 97 when she went to her reward on October 16, 2004.

MCCLENDON, ELNORA D.

Née Davis. After 38 years, Elnora resigned as Assistant Principal of the Raymond school in 1986. She was 88 when death claimed her on October 14, 2004.

MCCLURE, ROSEMARY

Née McShane. Rosemary's 32 year career in the Chicago schools ended when she retired from Columbus in 1989. On November 12, 2004, at the time she succumbed, she was 76 years old.

MESSER, DAVID L.

David retired as a substitute in 1972 after a career that lasted for 5 years. He expired on October 18, 2004, at the age of 101 years.

MESSIAH, HENRY R.

Henry was at Chicago Vocational High when he resigned in 1987 after 17 years in the Chicago Public Schools. He was 80 on October 4, 2004, when he passed on.

NORRIS, CAROLE S.

Carole was at the Chase school when she retired in 1994 after a 38 year teaching career. She was 68 at the time of her death on November 23, 2004.

NORWOOD, ALMA

At the age of 62, Alma passed away on November 7, 2004. She was at Abbott in 2003 when she ended a 36 year career in the Chicago system.

NOVOGRODSKI, JOHN J.

When he retired as a substitute in 1999, John ended a career that included 15 years in the Chicago system. Death claimed him on November 20, 2004, at the age of 82 years.

O'CONNOR, DANIEL J.

In 1993, Daniel retired from Montefiore after 38 years of teaching. On November 1, 2004, he passed on at the age of 72 years.

O'SULLIVAN, HELEN H.

Née Hanlon. Helen retired in 1974 from the Michelson ending a 33 year career. At the end of her life on November 15, 2004, she was 90 years old.

PETERSON, MIRIAM E.

Miriam resigned as Director of the Division of Libraries in 1973 after 35 years in Chicago and 3 more outside. On November 4, 2004, she passed on at the age of 96 years.

PRATHER, DONALD I.

Donald retired as Principal of Carrie Jacobs Bond Elementary in 1993 after teaching for 38 years. On November 12, 2004, he died at age 69.

QUINLIVAN, EILEEN M.

Née McElligott. In 1979, when Eileen was at the Dawes school, she retired after 36 years. She was 87 years old when she expired on November 25, 2004.

RAY, GLADYS J.

Née Adams. Gladys retired as Principal of the J. T. Pirie Elementary school in 1993, after 38 years. Her life ended on November 7, 2004, at the age of 67 years.

RAYE, ANNA M.

Née Gunnell. At the age of 64, Anna passed away on November 15, 2004. After 27 years in the system, she resigned from Cameron in 1997.

RIORDAN, DANIEL P.

A 38 year career in Chicago schools came to an end for Daniel when he left as Assistant Principal of the Cook County Juvenile School in 1983. He died on December 8, 2004, at the age of 83 years.

ROMANS, EDWARD F.

A college teacher when he resigned in 1983, Edward had served for 12 years. He was 87 on the date of his passing, December 5, 2004.

SANDERS, VIOLA G

Viola was 61 at her death on November 26, 2004. She ended her 23 year career when she retired from Schurz High in 2000.

SCHWARTZ, DOROTHY S.

Née Shirey. After teaching 26 years, Dorothy resigned in 1977 from Agassiz. She succumbed at the age of 81 on October 14, 2004.

SERING, MARGARET P.

Née Pahlman. Her 22 year career in Chicago and 4 more outside ended when Margaret retired as Assistant Principal of Jackson Adult Educational Center in 1974. Death came for her on September 25, 2004, at the age of 95.

SHAVER, ZOLLA E.

Née McCullough. After a 27 year teaching career, Zolla retired from Ryder in 1992. She died on October 4, 2004, at age 78.

SHAW, PAULINE L.

Pauline retired from the Calumet Academy in 2003, ending a 35 year career. On November 18, 2004, when she passed on, she was 60 years old.

SILVER, IRVING M.

Irving ended a 37 year career when he left Burley in 1975. When he died on October 20, 2004, he was 90 years of age.

SPLETZER, JEAN R

When Jean retired from King High school in 1994, she ended a 35 year career. She expired on October 18, 2004, at the age of 71 years.

SUASTEGUI, VICTORIA I.

Victoria's 23 year career ended in 1994 when she resigned from Washington Irving. Death claimed her on October 28, 2004, at the age of 68.

WARREN, BEVERLY L.

Née Watson. Beverly had reached 72 years of age when her life came to a close on November 25, 2004. Her 36 year career ended when she resigned from the Pirie school in 1989.

WATSON, JESSIE W.

Née Wolf. In 1964, when she resigned from Steinmetz High, Jessie completed a 23 year career in Chicago and 2 more outside. She was 95 when she died on November 14, 2004.

WAUGH, ELIZABETH Y.

Elizabeth's 20 year teaching career ended when she retired from Woodson North in 1985. She passed away on November 6, 2004, after 84 years.

WILKINSON, MARGARET B.

Née Bloom. Margaret was at Schurz High when she retired in 1965, terminating a 40 year career. At her death on October 18, 2004, she was 99.

WILLIAMS, RUTH T.

Née Thomas. On November 26, 2004, when she was 95, death claimed Ruth. She had taught 24 years when she resigned from Willard in 1972.

WILLIAMS, WILLIS H.

When he resigned after 36 years in 1982, Willis was Administrator of the Bureau of Teacher Personnel. On November 10, 2004, he died at 85.

WOJNICKI, EDWARD

Life ended for Edward at the age of 70 on October 26, 2004. He retired from Piccolo in 1976, at the end of a 13 year career.

FALL MEMBERSHIP LUNCHEON

AND BUSINESS MEETING

GRAND BALLROOM

Fourth Floor of the

PALMER HOUSE HILTON

17 East Monroe St.

(Monroe and Wabash Ave.)

THURSDAY, June 9, 2005 - 11:30 AM

Enclosed find \$_____ for _____ MEMBERS' tickets at \$28 each, and \$_____ for _____ GUESTS' tickets at \$35 each. (Sorry; **NO REFUNDS.**)

MEMBER'S NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY, STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

TELEPHONE: (_____) _____

Please make check payable to the RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION OF CHICAGO. Send remittance and a STAMPED, SELF-ADDRESSED ENVELOPE with this form to:

RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

ROOM 2100

220 South State Street

Chicago IL 60604-2180

RTAC is subsidizing a large portion of your luncheon cost. Your stamped, self-addressed envelope will help a lot.

TICKETS will be mailed from the RTAC office as reservations are received until June 2, along with a name tag for you to wear at the Luncheon. **Deadline for mailing ticket orders to the RTAC office: June 2, 2005.**

Paid ticket orders **arriving at the office** after June 2, 2005, will be accepted, but **tickets will be held for pick-up** at the door on the day of the luncheon.

WHAT GOOD IS A COMPUTER? II

If you had a computer and were a member of the Letter-A-Month Club, you could be alerted to RTAC's Legislative needs *less than ten minutes after* the problem is put into writing.

If you had a computer, your legislator would have your letter *90 seconds after you finish it.*

If you had a computer, you could find out *within one day* that Junior — or an identity thief — had used your charge card without your permission.

If you had a computer, you could receive — or send — pictures of your grandkids, from or to anywhere in the world, within seconds, and *pay nothing* for printing or postage.

RTAC SPRING LUNCHEON

The annual RTAC Spring Luncheon will be held Thursday June 9, in the Grand Ballroom of the Palmer House, as usual. Also as before, festivities will begin at 11:30 am.

The Social Committee and the Board of Directors have regretfully found it necessary to raise prices, for the first time in several years. Members' tickets are now \$28, and guests' tickets are \$35. Even with the increase, RTAC still subsidizes a major part of the cost.

Plans are being made to celebrate some of our most generous Aid Fund donors at the luncheon. Thanks to these warm-hearted people, many retired Chicago Public School teachers, some of whose pensions have actually fallen below the US poverty level, are able to eat, pay medical bills and rent, etc. With the vaunted governmental

"safety net" developing holes at a truly alarming clip, it is good to know that generous RTAC members are helping our colleagues in times of adversity and in emergencies.

Because the luncheon is being held so late, the state's legislative session will probably be ended. Come and hear what we did, and did *not*, accomplish this year, and where we go from here.

And come see how all your friends have aged, while you stayed the same. You'll feel SO much better!

The form for ordering tickets is just inside this cover. Fill it out, enclose your check and a self-addressed envelope, and mail it today, before you forget. (You know how other folks forget things all the time, right?)

See you there?

Retired Teachers Association of Chicago
220 S State Street, Room 2100
Chicago, Illinois 60604-2180

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