

"The Navigator" Principal's Newsletter

St. Charles North High School

Vol. 4111 No. 5

June 2007

255 Red Gate Road / St. Charles, Illinois 60175 / Phone 630/443-5700 We value feedback from the District 303 community. Write or call us. Your response is always appreciated.

Mrs. Kimberly Zupec, Principal e-mail:MARILYN.M.RINGSBY@d303.org

NORTH STAR AWARD

North

- **S.** Service through sacrifice and stewardship
- Traditions that developed or sustained culture and climate
- A. Accomplishment that exceeded expectations
- R. Resourcefulness through character and unshakeable commitment



Four years ago, the North S.T.A.R. Award was established to recognize senior students who have demonstrated the ability to excel in the attributes of the S.T.A.R. The recipients of the North S.T.A.R. Award are leaders both inside and outside of the classroom and are positive role models for our entire school community.

We are proud to recognize the following graduating seniors as our 2007 North S.T.A.R. Award recipients: (Front L to R) Kaylee Jamison, Stefanie Gutierrez, Carolyn Nield, and Bethany Figura (Back L to R) Samantha Copping, Katherine Kuhn, Evan Phillips, Karl Becker, Robert Zimmer, and Jessica Haney.

NORTH TEACHER RECEIVES NUMEROUS HONORS!

Janice Young, St. Charles North biology teacher, has been busy winning awards this spring. On Wednesday, May 23, she received the 2007 St. Charles Wal-Mart Teacher of the Year Award in a surprise classroom presentation by Wal-Mart store managers and District 303 officials. Students cheered as Young accepted a \$1000 educational grant to benefit North's science program. Young was nominated for the award by a St. Charles North parent.

In April, the National Association of Biology Teachers (NABT) named Janice Young the 2007 Outstanding Biology Teacher for the State of Illinois. This award recognizes one teacher from each of the 50 states for exceptional teaching in a secondary level Biology classroom. To win the award, Young had to pass an intensive assessment by a committee of NABT officials that included classroom observation and peer review.

Earlier in the year, Young was named one of the National Honor Roll's Outstanding American Teachers. The National Honor Roll asks students to identify one teacher who has had the most influence on their lives, and those teachers are then contacted and invited to fill out a teacher profile form. The responses on Young's profile qualified her for the recognition.

Young has taught at St. Charles North for five years and has been a teacher for 30 years.



JANICE YOUNG is thrilled with her awards.

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"Pen of the Principal"

"Every teacher a learner."

"Every parent a partner."

"Every student a success."

Congratulations to all North Star students and staff for an outstanding year! We have had much to celebrate from individual achievements to whole school accomplishments. You have raised the bar here at North High School. In all of our well-earned accolades, I am most proud of the grace with which everyone greets success.

Best wishes to our graduates. The Class of 2007 has demonstrated exemplary leadership in both academics and community involvement. The legacy of this class will certainly be the lesson that anything is attainable. We are honored to have been a part of your lives. North High School is your home. Please do not hesitate to call upon us should we be able to assist you as you journey down new paths.

Thank you to all of our parents. Your support of our programs is integral to what we do. Whether it is PTO providing an exciting post prom venue for our students or our many booster parent organizations working hard to support the various co-curricular programs at the school, your involvement touches all of the students. Working side by side with you sends a powerful, positive message to the school community.

This triage of student / parent / teacher is the most influential factor in enhancing achievement. It solidifies our belief that rigor, relevance, and relationships are the cornerstones of a high performing school. We are committed to the practice of making each year better than before. Working together, we will realize our vision: Each St. Charles North High School student will reach their maximum success.

Have a great summer!

Kim Zupec Principal

VAN ARRAGON NAMED OUTSTANDING ASSOCIATE EDUCATOR



(L to R) North HS Principal, Kim Zupec, congratulates Nurse Wilma Van Arragon.

On Friday, May 18, 2007, at the Annual Kane County Educator of the Year Banquet, Wilma Van Arragon was named Kane County's Outstanding Associate Educator for 2007.

Van Arragon has worked in the District for a total of 20 years. She has been at St. Charles North High School for the past 7 years as nurse and department chair. She has also worked at Thompson, Wredling, Fox Ridge, Anderson, and Little Woods schools.

Congratulations Nurse Wilma!

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CURRICULUM CORNER

Mark Moore, Assistant Principal for Curriculum & Instruction

District 303 has created an assessment plan for high school students. This assessment plan will allow for teachers, counselors, and parents to see improvement in student achievement from year to year.

Dr. Mark Pomplun, the District 303's Director of Assessment and Accountability, provides the following explanation of the assessment plan:

We would like to introduce two improvements in D303's high school assessment program beginning with the 2007-2008 school year. Teachers will now be utilizing Scantron's *Achievement Series* to help guide instruction and pre-ACT tests to help students prepare for college. MAP tests will no longer be administered.

How Scantron helps inform teacher instruction: Scantron's Achievement Series is a formative assessment and reporting system to help teachers identify gaps in student knowledge that occur throughout a course. This system allows teachers to machine-score exams and immediately access results. Score reports are used not only for individual teacher reflections but are also reviewed during course team meetings. As part of professional collaboration, teachers discuss ways to improve their classroom instruction with their colleagues.

How the pre-PLAN and pre-ACT help enhance student performance: The ACT is the most required college admissions test in the Midwest. With that in mind, we will begin an ACT-based testing system in the 2007-2008 school year. We already administer the PLAN in the fall of 10th grade and the ACT as part of the PSAE in the spring of 11th grade. A pre-PLAN in the fall of 9th grade and a pre-ACT in the fall of 11th grade will be added to the sequence. This will allow students, parents, and teachers to evaluate, monitor, and make instructional changes every year to help students prepare for college and perform their best on the ACT in their junior and senior years.

How you can support your student in this program: Encourage your student to perform their best on the pre-PLAN, PLAN, and pre-ACT tests and use their results to become better prepared for college. Your student will receive an individual report that will identify their weak areas and make specific suggestions to help remediate those areas. Sit down and review the results with your student. Encourage them to register for courses that will help improve their weak areas which will increase their ACT score and increase their chances of being accepted to the college of their choice.

Should you have any additional questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Assessment and Accountability Department at 630-377-4840 or MARK.R.POMPLUN@d303.org.

North LRC Receives 2007 DLS 21st Century Service Award

The North High School Library has been selected to receive a 2007 DuPage Library System (DLS) 21st Century Service Award for the Freshman Tech Literacy Program. The DuPage Library System serves approximately 400 public, school, and special libraries. This award is annually awarded to the library member of the DLS that best exemplifies service planned to meet the challenges of the future. The LRC will receive \$250 as well as a recognition plaque. The Executive Director of the DLS, Shirley May Byrnes, stated, "The DLS Board was impressed with the integration of technology and information literacy skills into the freshman English and science courses. Congratulations to the library staff involved with the project."

About Our Freshman Tech Literacy Program. . . North HS has a commitment to improve student learning through the implementation of an integrated technology and information literacy program. By January of their freshman year, all students participate in technology and information literacy instruction integrated through their English and science curricula. Teachers in all other curricular areas can expect that their students will know how to research, cite bibliographic information, and use Microsoft Office programs. This initiative preserves precious teaching time as teachers in other areas no longer have to teach those skills. In other high schools when there is no coordinated technology and literacy program, teachers find themselves teaching technology skills in addition to their own curriculum in order to ensure that the students can successfully complete assessments. Often students must endure multiple teachers teaching the same skills they already acquired in another class.

The media specialists and North HS teachers have been collaborating and refining this important program for five years. Skills such as "Power Researching" and professional presentations using *Powerpoint* are taught within the context of the curriculum. There is a seamless process of learning that includes a final assessment utilizing all the technology and research strategies presented during the unit. English and science teachers work collaboratively with the media specialists to pinpoint areas of the curriculum that would provide natural vehicles for this instruction. The media specialists teach the special skills necessary to reach standards "just in time" in order to help the students successfully reach both technology and content area standards. Instructional booklets with step-by-step instructions are provided to each student as a reminder of lessons learned. Students are encouraged to keep the booklets for ready reference as they are asked to demonstrate their skills in other courses.

Integration of technology skills and teaching can be seen in the freshman science program. Students work through a unit on genetic diseases. Students learn about specialized science databases, reference materials, and citing sources and then create a two-sided informational brochure on their assigned disease. The brochure incorporates data, charts, graphics, and a works cited page. Students become very adept at using the *Publisher* Program to present their ideas in a graphically appealing and professional manner.

As we work with other high school media specialists throughout the state and the country, we find that there are very few successful programs such as ours. Many schools have required technology courses which teach important skills but always in isolation. Research shows that true integration into the curriculum is the most effective use of technology to improve student learning.

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'BETWEEN THE LINES"

John Rutter, Athletic Director

The 2006-2007 sports season has come and gone very quickly. We have enjoyed many successes over the past nine months both in and out of the athletic arena. We were UEC Champions in Baseball, Boys Soccer, and Girls Volleyball. We won Regional titles in Boys Cross Country, Girls Golf, Girls Gymnastics, Boys Soccer, Girls Soccer, Boys and Girls Volleyball, and Baseball. The North Stars won Sectional titles in Boys Cross Country, Girls Golf, Boys Soccer, Boys Swimming, Girls Swimming, Boys Tennis, and Girls Volleyball. Our teams represented St. Charles North at the state level as well - Boys Cross Country team finished 2nd in State, the Girls Cross Country team was 13th, the Boys Soccer team was part of the Elite Eight at the State Finals, the Boys Swim Team was 5th and the Girls Swim Team finished 11th at State. Our student athletes have reaped the benefits of all of their hard work, dedication, and determination, each of which has become the cornerstone of North Star athletics.

We had many student athletes whom achieved individual success throughout the year as well. Those athletes include:

Matt Baumann – 5^{th} in the State Boys Swimming Championships in the 100yd. Backstroke Brooke Bettis – 19^{th} in the State in Girls Golf

Doug Brooks – 4th in the State Boys Swimming Championships in the 100yd. Breaststroke
-11th in the State Boys Swimming Championships in the 200 Individual Medley

Robert Force - 5th in the State Boys Swimming Championships in the 100yd. Breaststroke John Higgins – 7th in the State Boys Swimming Championships in the 100yd. Backstroke Kaylee Jamison – 2nd in the State in Girls Swimming 100 yard Butterfly

--2006 Wendy's High School Heisman Award Winner

Annemijn Koenen – Top 16 in the State as a singles player in Tennis & 2nd Team All-State Girls

Chris Peterson - Back-to-Back State 500 Freestyle Champion in Boys Swimming

- State 200 Freestyle Champion in Boys Swimming

Stephanie Strasser – 8th in the State Girls Cross Country Championships

3rd in the State Girls Track & Field Championships in the 3200 meter run

Girls Soccer Program & Coach Ruth Vostal - won their 100th game in the program's history Boys Swimming 200 yd. Medley Relay was 3rd in the State Championships

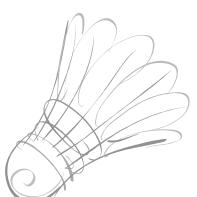
(John Higgins, Doug Brooks, Jimmy Brooks, & Chris Peterson)

Boys Swimming 400 Free Relay was 8th in the State Championships

(Matt Baumann, Jimmy Brooks, John Higgins, & Chris Peterson)

Girls Swimming 200 yd. Medley Relay was 3rd in the State Championships

(Taylor Reynolds, Jessica Clay, Kaylee Jamison, & Angie Chokran)



All Academic award winners are athletes who are varsity letter winners with a 4.5 GPA or better. Two-hundred twenty-nine student athletes represented St. Charles North. Those include:

FALL 2006 - 2007 ALL ACADEMIC

Girls Cross Country - Ashley Capone, Lauren Farmer, Emily Freiny, Anna Hoban, Liz Lanning, Nicole McSweeney, Claire O'Brien, Jaime Pfeiffer, Tara Orech

Girls Golf - Brooke Bettis, Miranda Fencl, Molly Fremgen, Melanie Helgeson, Rebecca Orr

Girls Tennis - Jennifer Durkop, Andrea Gentile, Lauren Dutkiewicz, Hajerah Hameeduddin, Denise Lovorn, Keeley Mennie, Michelle Nickels, Emily Pacholski, Anne Reuss, Marla Tetzlaff, Kendall Williams

Girls Swim & Dive - Marcy Blowers, Anna Bultema, Nicole Chokran, Colby Conn, Megan Danielson, Laura DiFiglio, Danielle Goebbert, Kaylee Jamison, Nora Lugo, Tracy Merwin, Justine Meyers, Carolyn Nield, Isabel Perfect, Kelsey Ransom, Catrin Reves, Amanda Richer, Madeline Shurtleff, Jordan Stewart, Danielle Yockey

Girls Volleyball - Kerry Brown, Laura Conte, Gretchen Giesler, Maddie Hughes, Jayde Huxtable, Emily Russell, Caitlin Schneider, Kelsey Smith

Cheerleading - Kathryn Bakstad, Rachel Dittman, Denise Gonzalez-Mendez, Danielle Huff, Alexandra Johnston, Megan Langille, Sarah Martin, Kathryn Wolverton

Drill Team - Natalie Failla, Beth Figura, Arielle Johnson, Jackelyn King, Brittney Lutsch, Kayla Patrick, Adriane Steltenpohl, Jessica Tylka

Boys Cross Country - Curtis Behrens, Chris DeSilva, Matt Miller, Rhett Morici, Ben Zeman

Boys Golf - Nicholas Failla, Collin Prentiss, Matt Schroeder, Greg Wiitanen

Football - Taha Anwar, John DiFulvio, Trevor Dunne, Graham Facer, Josh Forni, Michael Goduco, Kyle Harmon, Brian Huckins, Tim Janeway, Jake Juriga, Brian Kelso, Zach McCullough, Sean McGushin, Brandon Nothnagel, Jeff Pechan, Lin Stacey, Morgan Titus, Andrew Westfall

Boys Soccer - Austin Andrekus, Dominic Catalano, Erik Ellingson, Anthony Damico, Erik Ellingson, Robert Gonnella, Jake Hosler, Mike Picinich, Jonathan Schroeder, Sean Sullivan

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"BETWEEN THE LINES" (cont'd)

FALL 2006 UPSTATE EIGHT ALL-CONFERENCE

Football - Scott Becker, Bill Schroeder, Brian Giera, C. J. Nemec

Boys Cross Country - Bryan Barker, Max Clink, Scott Speare, Jose Sanchez-Vasquez

Boys Golf - Nick Failla, Mike Keup, Greg Wiitanen

Boys Soccer - Austin Andrekus, Mike Picinich, Steve Purdy, Alex Russell, Mitch Welsch

Girls Cross Country - Brittany Haas, Claire O'Brien, Stephanie Strasser

Girls Golf - Kate Babcock, Brooke Bettis, Melanie Helgeson

Girls Volleyball - Gretchen Giesler

WINTER 2006 - 2007 ALL ACADEMIC

Competitive Cheerleading – Kathryn Bakstad, Rachel Dittman, Denise Gonzalez-Mendez, Danielle Huff, Alexandra Johnston, Sarah Martin, Nicole Presta, Kara Taylor, Kathryn Wolverton

<u>Girls Basketball</u> – Amanda Blumeyer, Anna Conrad, Stephanie Horton, Kara Johnston, Lauren Klopmeyer, Sarah McDonald, Alex Messacar, Kelsey Smith

Girls Gymnastics - Danielle Goebbert, Justine Meyers, Allyssa Beird, Kelsey Ransom

<u>Drill Team</u> – Natalie Failla, Beth Figura, Arielle Johnson, Jackelyn King, Brittney Lutsch, Kayla Patrick, Adriane Steltenpohl, Jessica Tylka

Boys Basketball - Joe Deliberto, Erik Ellingson, Tim Janeway, Mike McCarthy, Austin Peterson, Mike Reiland

Boys Swimming – Matthieu Baumann, James Brooks, Jason Edgar, Robert Force, Derek Hampton, Taylor Hecht, Keith Kaplan, Jonathan Leal, Chris Peterson, Nick Smith, Daniel Stanek

Wrestling - Lin Stacey, David Trizzino

WINTER 2006 – 2007 UPSTATE EIGHT ALL-CONFERENCE

Competitive Cheer - Katie Bakstad, Denise Gonzalez-Mendez, Megan Langille, Allison Martin, Kate Wolverton

Girls Basketball - Anna Conrad, Kelsey Smith

Boys Basketball - Erik Ellingson

Wrestling - Dante DeBerry, Eric Justice, Lin Stacey, Dan McSweeney

SPRING 2006 - 2007 ALL ACADEMIC

<u>Girls Badminton</u> – Valeri Cannon, Julie Gawron, Aaron Herreras, Katie Krywaruczenko, Lindsay Madziarczyk, Katherine Staniek, Kelsey True

Softball – Jaclyn Devitt, Kelly DiFulvio, Brooke Jaeger, Elizabeth Korth, Sarah Korth, Keeley Mennie, Tara Orech, Christine Roggemann, Lauren Screeden, Marla Tetzlaff, Christine Truesdell, Erin Walsh

<u>Girls Soccer</u> – Ashley Capone, Annette Gwozdz, Lynda Judy, Lauren Klopmeyer, Kelly McNamara, Alex Messacar, Lauren Ostarello, Nicole Perri, Shannon Ratcliff, Lauren Stoecklin, Vicki Traven, Beth Ward

<u>Girls Water Polo</u> – Anna Bultema, Maddie Bultema, Emily Davis, Laura DiFiglio, Amanda Golemba, Kelly Harms, Sarah McDonald, Carolyn Nield, Amanda Richer, Maddie Shurtleff

Girls Track – Ashley Barthel, Allyssa Beird, Christina Ghanem, Danielle Goebbert, Anna Hoban, Liz Lanning, Jenna Loynachan, Nicole McSweeney

Baseball - Chris Hamel, Zach Hirsch, Jeff Holm, Brandon Nothnagel, Michael Reiland, Jeff Roberts

Boys Tennis - Andrew Davis, Brendan Lanphear, Tim O'Brien, Ben Richards, Adam Screeden, Brian Smith

Boys Track – Steven Miller, Chris DeSilva, Adam Keen, Steven Kelder, Patrick Manser, Rhett Morici, Peter Nero, Dan Ortiz, Jeremy Van, Curtis Behrens, Will Thompson, Ben Zeman

<u>Boys Volleyball</u> – Austin Collingbourne, Austin Dunn, Brandon Havens, Tyler Hoerner, Grant Livingston, Nick Manser, Keith True <u>Boys Water Polo</u> – Nick Smith, Derek Hampton, Robert Force, Keith Kaplan, Chris Peterson

SPRING 2006 – 2007 UPSTATE EIGHT ALL-CONFERNECE

Girls Soccer - Kelly McNamara, Lauren Ostarello, Caitlin Winkelman

Softball - Kylee Sprengel, Jessica Swanson

Baseball – Jeff Holm (Unanimous), Mike Corrigan (Unanimous), Jake Thornton (Unanimous), Zach Hirsch (Unanimous), Jeff Roberts, Brian de la Torriente

Boys Volleyball - Brandon Havens (Unanimous)

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Did your student attend Post Prom?

If not – they missed a LOT! Like playing a ton of different games including laser tag, putt-putt golf, the money machine, the climbing wall, interactive games, the singing machine, etc. In addition, we had four carricature artists, a tattoo artist, and a huge wave to have your portrait taken.



If that was not enough – we gave away over \$8,000 in prizes! You couldn't win if you didn't attend!

It's always amazing how many parents do NOT encourage their kids to attend – for a mere \$15 they are safe, you know where they are, and they actually have a great time.

They can certainly still have their "after-prom" fun the next day and do whatever it is that teenagers like to do – but from 11:00 PM until 3:00 AM there is no better deal in town than the St. Charles North Post Prom Event.

So next year – encourage your kids to attend! And if possible – participate in the fun yourself; either in decorating or in volunteering for the night. These are a great bunch of kids and you actually have a good time watching them have a good time!

Take the time to thank the Post Prom Committee for all their hard work!





Committee Chairs – Kathy Bultema, Sue Becker
Decorating – Julie Haney, Cindy Pudlik
Memory Wall – Pam Watson, Mary Tetzlaff
Food – Theresa Sacomani, Shirley Nichols
Fundraising – Kim Sutcliffe, Erin Davis
Games – Jeanne Hosler, Kathy Polito
Prizes – Debbie Hopkins, Paula White, Mary Johnston
Publicity – Karin Roberts
Security – Mary Conrad
Thank you – Lisa Beer
Tickets – Mary Fremgen, Janine Holm, Carolyn
McDonald, Pat Screeden
Treasurer – Jane Vandril
Volunteers – Sue Wachs, Gina Morici

June 2007

The St. Charles North Post Prom Committee thanks the businesses and organizations that greatly support the Post Prom event held for our HS students:

Asanas & More Yoga Studio

Allstate Insurance Amlings Flowerland Anabella Salon

Automotive Parts Service Co.

Caribou Coffee Charlestowne Movie Chipotle - South Elgin Cold Stone - South Elgin Crossings at Geneva Cyndirella's Academy Delnor-Community Hospital Dennis J. Lazzara, D.D.S., M.S. Dimitri's Mediterranean Grill

Erik & Me Fast Frame

Fox Valley Orthopaedic Institute

Francesca's By the River Funway Entertainment Center

Geneva Eye Clinic

Graham's Fine Chocolates & Ice Cream

Grimm's Hallmark Harris N.A.

Horton & Vranas DDS

John B. Norris Recreation Center

Kelly Orthodontics

Ju Rin

John Christian Salon Kinvarra Homes, Inc. Kramer Photographers La Fox Martial Arts Fuji Photo Film, USA McNally's Irish Pub Meijer - St. Charles Mens Groom Room Menards, Inc. Mendel Plumbing

Mercedes Benz - St. Charles

Mill Creek Golf Nick's Pizza & Pub Paramount Theater Plandscape

PMA Outdoor Equipment, Inc.

Pheasant Run Resort Pottawatamie Park **Prose Orthodontics**

Pub 222

Rex's Cork and Fork Randall IMAX Sky Video

Spare Wheels Transportation St. Andrew's Gold & Country Club STC North HS Central Boosters STC North HS Custodial Staff STC North HS Key Club

STC North HS

STC Youth Commission

Starbucks Swifty Print Sylvan Learning Taco Bell

Target - South Elgin Todd S. Hewell III, M.D.

Tranguility Skin & Body Care Center Ultimate Image Medical Spa

Villa Olivia

Wilson Travel

Yanni Management, Inc. -McDonald's

Zimmerman Ford, Inc.



THANKS

- To Post Prom Event Chairs Kathy Bultema and Sue Becker and over 100 SCN Parents who assisted in planning, decorating and staffing a great party for our juniors and seniors!
- To Marcy Speare and the Hospitality Committee for a delicious end-of-year teacher appreciation luncheon.
- To Terri Ohlrich and her many helpers for the senior yard signs placed in the yards of our graduating seniors.
- To the staff and parents who go above and beyond to help make St. Charles North a really great school.

UPDATES

- In addition to \$500 provided yearly for each instructional area, PTO was able to fund the following recently: 2 Digital cameras and accessories and 4 DVD players for the LRC, and 1 sousaphone for our music department. PTO will also be helping to fund a courtyard sculpture to be created in the fall of 2007. Thanks to all who have supported PTO and made these gifts possible.
- PTO awarded \$750 scholarships to 4 graduating seniors to pursue post high school education. There were 15 applicants, and the 4 recipients chosen after blind review were: Adam Screeden, Kaylee Jamison, Jayde Huxtable, and Ryan Sanders. Best wishes to these young people as they begin this next chapter in their lives!
- Just a reminder that a copy of the 2007-08 Student Directory will not be included in the PTO dues. Directories will be on sale for \$3 at Back-To School Night or in the Main Office after that evening.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

- We are in need of a lead parent to schedule our parent volunteers for Materials Pick-Up Days (which are August 13-17). This is a late-July to mid-August effort, which is completely finished before the start of school and has the support of the past MPUD Coordinator, as well as the PTO Board - so you wouldn't be alone! If this is something you may be able to do, please contact Lisa Beer at 630-443-7383 or Lori McQuillan at 630-587-3352.
- Please check any items on the PTO sheet in the summer mailer that you can help with. Our school depends on the many people who are willing to volunteer their time – Thank You!

PTO Officers for next year are: President: Lori McQuillan (630)587-3352

> Secretary: Gina Morici (847)468-0897 Treasurer: Marlene Pedone (847)695-0328