

and generally schmooze. He then showed up in town a couple weeks later during Ryder Cup week to sign copies of his autobiography The Big Three and Me at two venues the Clocktower Café at the Sidney Marovitz Golf Course on Chicago's lakefront and Whisper Creek Golf Club in Huntley, IL.

Our industry bid farewell to another of its legends on August 28th when Stan Zontek, a USGA Green Section Agronomist for 40 years passed away unexpectedly after suffering a heart attack. Mr. Zontek was one of golf's most respected personalities, having been a frequent speaker at national and regional events and winning the 2006 GCSAA Distinguished Service Award. He will be missed.



While on the subject of legends, **Paul Voykin** is still making headlines with his efforts to promote his beloved native plants and wildflowers. Mr. Voykin, who is retired after serving as golf course superintendent at Briarwood Country Club for 46 years, was recently recognized by a resolution adopted by the City Council of Chicago on July 25th. With the help of Aldermen Patrick O'Connor and Matt O'Shea (I think they're Italian), the resolution was approved by mayor Rahm Emanuel, and it reads in part: "Whereas, one of Paul Voykin's wishes is to have this body set aside a few days at the end of July in order to highlight, extol, and reflect upon the beauty of the native flowers and grasses indigenous to this area. According to Illinois wildflower expert Dr. John A. Hilty, there are over 3,500 vascular plants that are native to or have naturalized in Illinois. In the United States, only California, Texas, and Florida have more; Now, therefore, whereas the environment of the thousands of wildflowers and varieties of grasses growing throughout our communities is one of the most remarkable experiences that can be encountered in nature. It behooves this august body to celebrate their noteworthy beauty; Now, therefore, Be it resolved, that we, the Mayor and members of the City Council gathered together this twenty-fifth day of July, 2012, do hereby declare July 25th through July 31st, 2012 to be "Native Flower and Grass Days" throughout Chicago and express our heartfelt thanks to Paul Voykin for bringing their pulchritude to our attention and that of the citizens of our city." In a recent conversation with Paul, he encouraged all MAGCS members to contact their local legislatures to have similar declarations enacted and celebrate our native plants. Paul is willing to help anyone with this endeavor—he can be reached at 847-234-9314 or at voykin@aol.com. Great work, Paul!

Q: Where does a plane go if it overshoots the runway at the DuPage Airport adjacent to **Tony Kalina's** course?

A: A Prairie Landing strip.

Another month has passed, and the hazards have not gotten any easier:

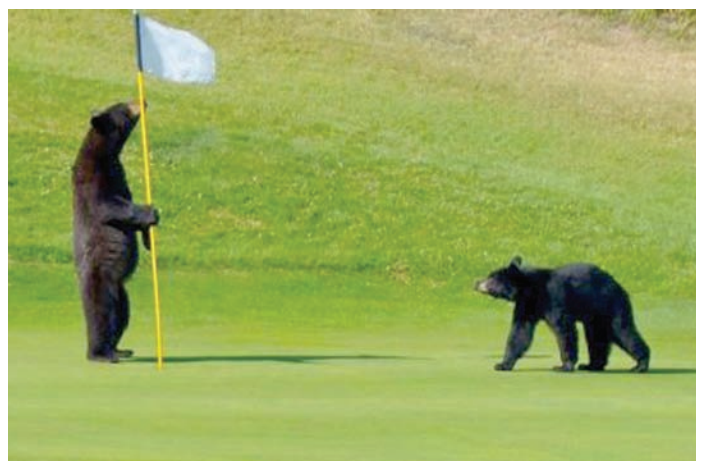


Oopsy daisy



Double oopsy daisy

Pat Jones of GCI magazine may have found the ultimate golf course hazard with this photo:



Pat included the following tidbit as a comforting thought: "Remember—you don't have to be faster than the bears, just faster than one guy in your foursome."

It's list time again, and in GOLF magazine's 2012 "Top 100 Courses You Can Play" list, three local courses were included.

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