

A big friend of the Chicagoland golf scene is retiring. *Chicago Sun Times* writer Len Ziehm is calling it a career after 40 years on the daily beat. Although he is leaving the *Sun Times*, Len can still be found in the pages of Chicago Area Golf magazine, contributing his unique insights into the world of golf in Chicago.



*Anyone else have a mechanic with imagination?*

An old acquaintance of MAGCS is being honored this month in Milwaukee. Rick Elyea, the one-time Scott's representative who currently works for JacklinGolf will receive the Perry Dye Service Award from the Golf Course Builders Association of America (GCBA) on the 12th at its summer meeting and annual awards dinner. Elyea has served as vice president and secretary on the board of directors for GCBA and secretary/treasurer of the GCBA Foundation, as well as serving on numerous committees for the board over the past 20 years. Congratulations to Rick.

GCSAA is asking for your help in a new undertaking that was launched in the July issue of *GCM*, their monthly publication. "The Final Shot," which is found fittingly on the final page of each issue, will serve as a showplace for the photographic talents of GCSAA superintendents. Based on the fact that every superintendent's cart has a digital camera tucked away somewhere, this new feature hopes to discover our brethren's hidden artistic sides through their cameras. What kind of photos are they looking for? That's up to you, but they do ask that you don't submit one of the kid's birthday party or the winter trip to Vail. Ideally, they are looking for shots that depict the day-to-day work of the superintendent in the most artistic manner possible, blending the beauty of the game with the dedication of the profession. Vague, but you get the idea. Send low-resolution pics to [thefinalshot@gcsaa.org](mailto:thefinalshot@gcsaa.org) or to Editor Scott Hollister at [shollister@gcsaa.org](mailto:shollister@gcsaa.org).

Some local boys got famous in TurfNet recently, and mugged for the camera.



*Allen Parkes and crew from The Traditions at Chevy Chase in Wheeling were featured in last month's "Where's TurfNet?"*

Another MAGCS member that made the "papers" was **Valerie Lawrence**, the superintendent of Columbus Park, Marquette Park, and Douglas Park Golf Courses for Billy Casper Golf and the Chicago Park District. Valerie's story—which made mention of her uniqueness in our industry as a female superintendent, estimated to be less than one percent of superintendents nationwide—was told in the July edition of *Chicago District Golfer*, in an article titled "Golf in the City" by Amy Parker.



*Valerie Lawrence*

Congratulations to **Brian Kimbrough** of River Forest Country Club on being part of the second place team at the John Deere Pro-Am at TPC Deere Run last month. Brian and 2 other superintendents teamed with John Deere's Rob Wasser and PGA Tour pro Ted Purdy to card a net 57. Nice.



*Brian Kimbrough*

This is what NASCAR does to otherwise normal people. OK, I use the word "normal" liberally (and certainly NOT literally).



*Yup. Nascar. Ya git all kinds.*

*(continued on next page)*





*Casting call for the part of Warren in "There's Something About Mary". Neither got the gig.*

The 10th Annual John Buck Memorial Golf Outing—already 10!—was held at Crystal Woods Golf Club in Woodstock on the 29th of June. The outing is all about two things—having fun and raising money for scholarships. Beneficiaries of the day's fun and games, besides the participants, are the Kane County Farm Bureau Foundation, the Northwest Illinois GCSA Scholarship Fund and the MAGCS Scholarship Fund. This year's rendition featured everything we've become accustomed to—a great venue, some great people, great food, and great times for everyone. Thank you to everyone involved in making the day grand!



*VERY good hula hoop work.*



*The circle of hula hooping friends.*



*The lovely roving photographers Amanda (Angela) Keaty, her younger sister Julianna (Steffanie) Keaty, and the original Celina Gomez—Kayce DeRoo.*







-OC



# Simple Solutions at Ruth Lake Country Club (continued from page 15)

Grass clippings, autumn leaves, and other small plant debris also piles up over the course of the year. We try to minimize the clippings and leaves that we collect by using mulching decks on all of our mowers. We also throw as many clippings as we can into our rough areas. However, they still pile up because we don't have enough out-of-the-way areas. We have to get this sort of debris hauled away periodically. It would be great to be able to store small plant debris in a compost pile, but we just don't have the room and our neighbors probably wouldn't appreciate the sight or smell of it. So we try to find companies that will take this material and recycle it into compost instead of sending it to the landfill. Because this small plant debris is the only type of material we have hauled away, it lowers our overall cost for hauling. We are recycling and reusing the materials that we can.

Recycling is just one of the ways we are striving to become a greener facility. We still have a lot of work to do in becoming "more green," but that's what keeps pushing us to come up with new ideas and to refine the practices that we've started. Recycling is not always an easy thing to do. It takes a little more time and in some cases a little more money. It is worth it in the long run. It's worth knowing that we are doing what is right for our environment and keeping up with the demands of society.

-OC

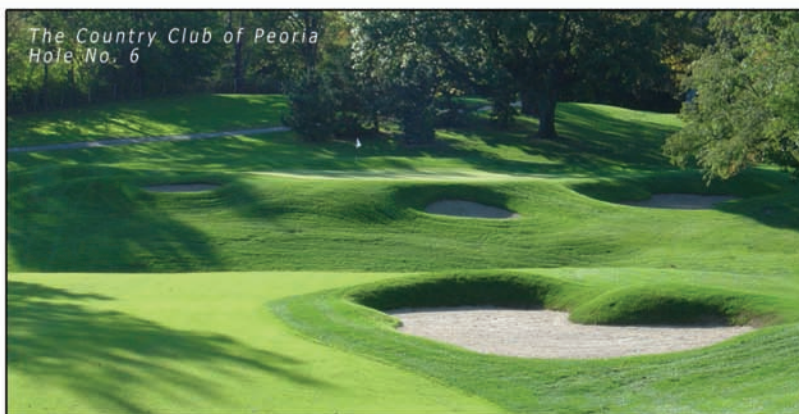


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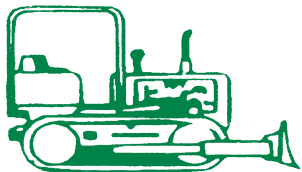
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