Catcher owes on-field durability to CPC-McHenry County Orthopedics

Seven years ago, Don Gragnani had an injury that threatened to bench him for good.

In 2010, the Barrington Hills man tore his rotator cuff while playing catcher for the Algonquin Bats in the Northern Illinois Men’s Baseball League.

Gragnani had one question for orthopedic surgeon William Cox Jr., MD of Centegra Physician Care-McHenry County Orthopedics before he went in for surgery.

“If I do this surgery, will I be able to play again?”

Gragnani has played baseball for decades, playing full-time with the Algonquin Bats in the 50-and-older division since 2008.

“Playing keeps me healthy, and I love it,” Gragnani said.

In May 2010, Dr. Cox performed an arthroscopic surgery repair, completing a rotator cuff and labral repair and removing bone spurs on Gragnani.

Both the rotator cuff and labrum were torn off the bone.

Dr. Cox, performs hundreds of such minimally invasive procedures each year. Dr. Cox said the labral tear is common in swimmers and baseball and volleyball players, and the rotator cuff tear is usually from wear and tear over time.

After the surgery, Gragnani took the year off from baseball and worked with physical therapist Jeanne Standefer-Schmoldt to complete his long recovery.

“Dr. Cox did a good job, and they made a good team for me,” Gragnani said.

He debated his repaired shoulder in April 2011, starting a 100-game streak catching every inning for the Bats that would continue through the 2017 season.

The first time he threw someone out at second base after his return, Gragnani saved the ball, put it in a case with a note and gave it to Dr. Cox. He did the same with the second ball for Standefer-Schmoldt.

“That was awesome,” Dr. Cox said. “To have that extensive of a surgery and get back to a sport where you’re throwing is impressive, especially as a catcher.”

Now 61 years old, Gragnani recently finished his streak catching every inning for the Bats at 101 games, which included more than 630 innings and more than 3,760 batters. The lefty batted .389 and put up 107 hits, 18 doubles, nine triples with 66 runs batted in during the first 100 consecutive games.

An active father of two and grandfather of five, Gragnani said he is going to start looking for 60-and-older leagues soon and that he wants to play as long as he can.

He even told Dr. Cox, “I might be coming in to see you for a knee or two in the future.”

The indictment does not identify the defendant as it is pending in federal court.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Shoba Pillay.

Each count of the indictment is punishable by a maximum penalty of 10 years in prison. If convicted, the defendant is presumed innocent and entitled to a fair trial at which the government has the burden of proving guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

Businessman indicted for allegedly stealing employer’s trade secrets while planning for new job with rival firm in China

A 30-year employee of a McHenry County manufacturing firm stole proprietary information from the company while planning to move to China to begin work for a rival firm.

According to the charges, O’Rourke, a Woodstock-based manufacturer of cast-iron products, had already accepted the position of Vice President of Illinois; and Michael J. Anderson, Special Agent-in-Charge of the Chicago office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

O’Rourke initially advised the Woodstock company on Aug. 12, 2015, that he intended to resign, according to the indictment.

At that time, O’Rourke did not mention that he was negotiating employment with the Chinese firm, and he continued to work for the Woodstock company for another month, the indictment states.

During that month he purchased his plane ticket to China and stole the proprietary trade secrets, the charges state.

The indictment does not identify the name of the Woodstock company or the Chinese firm.

The public is reminded that an indictment is not evidence of guilt. The defendant is presumed innocent and entitled to a fair trial at which the government has the burden of proving guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

Each count of the indictment is punishable by a maximum penalty of 10 years in prison. If convicted, the Court must impose a reasonable sentence under federal statutes and the advisory U.S. Sentencing Guidelines.
Woodstock native promoted to Sergeant
Lucas Konecny of Woodstock, Ill., a human resources assistant with Joint Force Headquarters, Illinois National Guard, was promoted to sergeant during a ceremony at Camp Lincoln in Springfield, Ill., July 18. Konecny’s wife Jana and infant daughter Ayla assisted in the ceremony by applying the new rank to his uniform. Konecny is a 2009 graduate of Woodstock High School in Woodstock. He enlisted in the Illinois Army National Guard in 2014 following a three-year enlistment as an infantryman on active duty.

Woodstock resident performs with Lake Geneva Symphony Orchestra
By Tom Ganser
REPORTER
On June 25, Sandy Light, of Woodstock, took to the stage with the Lake Geneva Symphony Orchestra at George Williams College in Williams Bay, Wis., in an exploration of what makes music American.

Light performed playing the bass clarinet.

Now in its 17th season, the LGSO boasts talented musicians from southeast Wisconsin and northern Illinois. LGSO Music Director David Anderson described how the selections he had chosen for the program, “An American Celebration,” offer examples of different aspects of American music, including patriotic songs (“When John-ny Comes Marching Home”), folk tunes (“Simple Gifts”), as well as distinctive American musical genres such as Broadway (“Oklahoma!” and “West Side Story”), jazz (medleys of “Porgy and Bess” and Duke Ellington) and a composition that evokes unique American culture (“Hoe-Down” from Aaron Copland’s “Rodeo”).

As an encore, the LGSO offered a wonderfully en-ergetic performance of John Philip Sousa’s “Stars and Stripes Forever,” selected by an Act of Congress in 1987 as the official national march of the United States of America.

On Aug. 10, from 6 to 9 p.m., the LGSO’s “Summer Splash” fundraiser will be held at Simple Café, S25 Broad Street, Lake Geneva. The event includes both tasty cre-a-tions from Simple Café and the talents of LGSO mem-bers and friends in Lake Geneva. “Summer Splash” supports the LGSO and educational opportunities for local students of the arts.

To purchase tickets for “Summer Splash” and to learn about the LGSO’s upcoming 2017-18 season (“To My Friends Pictu-red Within”) and the LGSO Chamber Mu-sic series, visit www.lakegenevaorchestra.org.

ONLINE ONLY PUBLIC AUCTION
Thursday, August 10, 2017 at 5:00PM
Schmid Auction Center 1909E Main St. Teutopolis, IL

MEAT PROCESSING EQUIPMENT
2011 Ford E250 Econoline Super Duty fracas/refrigerator van (like new), freezer just serviced, Advance Trac RSC, Thermo King V-300 Max, 19,607 miles, 5.9L, Dual fuel gas, external 15’/driver’s side plug-in, International Cold Storage Inc. 10ft x 12 ft walk in model TF1012 Freezer; trolley meat hooks & rail; stainless racks on castors, meat saws, misc meat equipment; Superior 8x12 walk in cooler; website for complete listing.

For a more complete listing visit www.schmidt.com

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REAL ESTATE AUCTION • PERSONAL PROPERTY
Saturday August 12th 9am – 511 Buchanan St., Ottawa, IL

“THE STRAWN HOUSE – BUILT IN THE EARLY 1850’s”
REAL ESTATE: Home built on the west side of Ottawa in the early 1850’s by Henry C. Brown. It has a large lot, 6 bedrooms, large living room with 20 ft ceilings, 2 floor to ceiling windows, hardwood flooring, front hallway has mahogany staircase, large front porch and 2 side porches. Will be sold at 1pm.

PERSONAL PROPERTY: Baskets of vintage collectibles and household items to be auctioned off by Matthew Bulluck Auctions of Ottawa.

New officers welcomed
The Algonquin Police Department swore in two new officers last week, Officer Haley Bucheleer and Officer Anthony Hart-Davi.

Choir to sing at First Fridays Concert Series
Sit back and enjoy a summer eve-ning of musical entertainment with Woodstock Community Choir on Aug. 4 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. on the back patio of the Lost Valley Visitor Center in Glacial Park, Rt. 31 and Harts Road in Ringwood.

The Woodstock Community Choir is the creative vision of local singer, songwriter and musician Cassandra Vohs-Demann. The choir performs an eclectic mix of repertoire from classical to rock, and everything in between. The choir is open to men and women age 16 and older who have a desire to sing, have fun and meet new people! Visit woodstockcommunitychoir.org for more information.

Bring a picnic dinner or dessert and enjoy your intimate outdoor setting under the branches of ancient oaks with stunning views of the outstretched valley. (In the case of inclement weather, concerts will be moved indoors. No glass containers. Site closes at 9 p.m.) Join us for the final First Friday Concert of the season Sept. 1: Charlie Far.
Community invited to National Night Out

Lake in the Hills Police will host the National Night Out from 5 to 7 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 5 at the police department, 115 Crystal Lake Road, Lake in the Hills. The National Night Out Community Cookout is a great bonding event for the community members, the Lake in the Hills Police Department, local emergency service providers, and local businesses.

We all come together as a community to have a free cookout, enjoy food and fun, for the kids and lots of activities. Join us out for a police department tour, see and touch the many different types of police vehicles that the department has. Get up close with some of our police officers who drive and drug impaired drivers get behind the wheel. For this reason, the Woodstock Police Department is partnering with the Illinois Department of Transportation, The Environmental Department, Township Highway Department.

As we step back in time to the 1850s and the World War II era at McHenry County Conservation District’s Living History Open House, Sunday, Aug. 13 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., the Environmental Department, The Environmental Department, Township Highway Department.

In addition to partnering with The Algonquin Township Highway Department, The Environmental Department, Township Highway Department.

Powers-Walker Historic Landmark

Step back in time to the 1850s and the World War II era at McHenry County Conservation District’s Living History Open House, Sunday, Aug. 13 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., the Powers-Walker Historic Landmark, 37200 N. Route 31, Willow and Harts Road in Ringwood.

The restored green railroad house circuit 1854 and learn more about the Powers family that called this area home. Volunteers in historical attire will be on hand to greet visitors and answer questions, offer tours and demonstrate skills appropriate to the season.

There will be several special presentations during the event focusing on the history of the house, its residents and the area during World War II. Remembrances of the Schaefer and Steinmetz families, who resided in the house during this era in time, including copies of old family photos, will be featured at about 2 p.m.

The Program is free and registration is not required for this drop-in event. For more information, contact Prairieview Education Center at (815) 479-5779 or www.MCCDdistrict.org.
PUBLIC AUCTION

To settle the Estate of Joe Howard Jr. and others, we will offer at Public Auction the following described Real Estate and Personal Property. Each person joining the auction is bound by the rules and regulations set forth in this notice.

AUCTION SCHEDULE

SATURDAY, AUGUST 5th – 27663 Johnson Rd., Rockford, IL

- 10:00 A.M. Steve Johnson Down-Sizing Auction

SUNDAY, AUGUST 6th – 3100 1st St., Rockford, IL

- 10:30 A.M. Rustic Wood Design Sale

THURSDAY, AUGUST 10th – 10524 289969 Minns Dr., Machesney Park, IL

- 10:30 A.M. Rustic Wood Design Sale

SATURDAY, AUGUST 12th – 11:00 A.M. Cecil Broomfield Estate Auction


www.leauctionservice.com and auctionzip.com

SATURDAY, August 5th - 1:00 P.M. Sharp! Absolute Real Estate Auction, 114 S. Van Buren St., Cherry Valley, IL 61016

- 2:00 P.M. J.R. & D.L. 12th Annual Bidding Ends Tuesday, August 8th at 7:00 P.M.

BIDDING ENDS TUESDAY, Aug. 8 WITH 1ST LOT CLOSING AT 7:00 P.M.

BIDDERS MUST REGISTER WITH A 100.00 CASH DEPOSIT OR CREDIT CARD

FOOD PREPARATION EQUIPMENT: Vulcan 4-kilo oven, Vulcan grill and range, Pitco-fish deep fryer, Snapple tea service, Dole Salad, Slab Serving Line, Salad Bar Equipment.

FARM MACHINERY EQUIPMENT: IHC 666; IH M & IH C Tractors; IHC 715 Combine; Tillage & Planting;

DECOR – exterior & interior: awnings; corn ceilings; 30+ ; loaded glass hanging lamps; wide variety of chandeliers.

INSPECTION: Mon. Aug. 7 from 10 A.M. to 3 P.M.

TERMS: Cash or check / driver's license I.D., VISA, Master Card, Discover or American Express. Bidders Preferably apply with a $1,000.00 deposit. If you are not sure where the bid is at, ASK!

PAYMENT: by credit card or at Beloit Auction Service building 534 W. Grand Ave. Beloit, WI. Wed. Aug. 9, 10 A.M. – 5:30 P.M. Each day.

ADD TO PERSONAL PROPERTY TERMS: A deposit of $500 will be required for the sale of real estate. The remaining balance is due on or before September 29, 2017, at which time full possession will be given. Seller to provide appropriate deed as well as a completion of the real estate offer and payment in full. This property is being conveyed in its “As-is” condition without any contingencies with regard to financing and/or the sale of another piece of property. All announcements made the day of auction take precedence over all prior advertising.

Owner of Record

www.beloitauction.com

RESTAURANT ONLINE AUCTION

COMPLETE LIQUIDATION - RUBY TUESDAY

7616 Walton St. - Rockford, IL

BIDDING ENDS TUESDAY, AUG. 8 WITH 1ST LOT CLOSING AT 7:00 P.M.

11:00 A.M. - 3:30 P.M.

BIDDERS MUST REGISTER WITH A 100.00 CASH DEPOSIT OR CREDIT CARD

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AUCTION TIPS

• Come early to view the merchandise
• Have driver’s license ready
• Register with the clerk to receive a number (This is your bidding number)
• Look carefully for those hidden treasures
• Determine what you would like to pay for an item
• Raise your bidding number up high when you want to bid.
• If you are not sure where the bid is at, ASK!
• You may settle your bill any time during the auction.
• Pay for item before leaving the auction premises
• Have FUN!!!!
**EMPLOYMENT**

**Drivers**

For details on placing an ad in our Employment Section Call Mary Jane 815-854-4850 ext. 22 or email mjane@cvypublishing.com

**Health Care**
Prairie View Assisted Living located in Winnebago is seeking the following:
• CNAs and caregivers, all shifts. Flexible scheduling available. Small, friendly, homelike setting. Salary based on experience. Shift differential paid. Review and increase after 90 days.
• Cook Assists with meal service, food prep, food storage, simple cleaning. Part-time, flexible hours.
• RN/LPN Licensed Practical Nurse. Flexible hours. $18.50/hour. Occasional on-call - need to live within 10-15 miles of the community.

Contact Tammy Bargman, Executive Director at 815-335-1800 or fax resume to 815-335-7136

**Help Wanted**
Harvest Help Needed!
Class A CDL Truck Drivers, Concrete, Tractor, Part Operators. Competitive Wage. Non-Smoker. Self starter. call Stan at 786-546-9188 (MCN)

Make $1,000 WEEKLY! Paid in advance! Making Brochure at Home! Easy pleasant work. Begin immediately! Age unimportant. Send in Simple Information. Send Message to Lists/IA Box 396, Springhouse, PA 17477-0396

For details on placing an ad in our Employment Section Call Mary Jane 815-877-4044 Ext. 22

**Northern Illinois & Southern Wisconsin Classifieds**

For Classified Advertising Call (815) 877-4044 Fax: (815) 654-4857

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**Employment**

**Business Services**

**Real Estate**

**Building Services**

**Drivers**

**Help Wanted**

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**Contact** Tammy Bargman, Executive Director at 815-335-1800 or fax resume to 815-335-7136

**Parkside of Prairie View** 500 E. McNair • Winnebago, IL

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**Temporary Farm Workers**

**Pecatonica, IL**

Alewelt Concrete Inc., Alden, IA seeks 18 Temporary Farm Laborers from 7/31/17 to 11/05/17, for the construction of livestock buildings near Pecatonica, IL.

- Measure and lay out building. Excavate footings and level earth to grade specifications. Tie rebar, position aluminum wall-forms and place all concrete. Clean site. Must be able to lift and carry 75 lbs. 75 yrs. Wage is $13.80/hr.

Apply at Illinois Workforce Development Office or contact the State Workforce Agent at 33 State Street, 8th Floor Chicago, IL 60603 (312) 793-1284 Job Order Number 5041845

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**Temporary Farm Workers**

**Rankin, IL**

Alewelt Concrete Inc., Alden, IA seeks 10 Temporary Farm Laborers from 8/12/17 to 12/06/17, for the construction of livestock buildings near Rankin, IL.

- Measure and lay out building. Excavate footings and level earth to grade specifications. Tie rebar, position aluminum wall-forms and place all concrete. Clean site. Must be able to lift and carry 75 lbs. 75 yrs. Wage is $13.80/hr.

Apply at Illinois Workforce Development Office or contact the State Workforce Agent at 33 State Street, 8th Floor Chicago, IL 60603 (312) 793-1284 Job Order Number 5046860

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**Business Hours:**
Mon.-Fri. 9:00 am-4 pm
For your convenience Visa & Mastercard are accepted

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No job too BIG or SMALL
10% senior citizen discount
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**Education**


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ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHILD CARE NOTICE. All individuals seeking to offer child care services must pass a background check before being allowed to advertise. Call 855-390-3747.

DISCLAIMER NOTICE. This publication does not guarantee anything. It does not accept or prevent deceptive or offensive ads. Readers are cautioned to thoroughly investigate all ads, and especially those asking for money in advance.

HOTELS FOR HEROES - to find out how to support our service members, veterans, and their families, call 847-987-7669. If you need, visit the Fisher House website at fisherhouse.org.

Misc. For Sale


PERSONALS

MEET SINGLES RIGHT NOW! Call 262-539-9567. Try it first! Call now: 800-387-4970 (MCN).

BUDAPEST LEAF 2000, 847-733-0205 (MCN).

CUB CABINET push pull mover, Milwaukee 1" Dbl-S5, Wal-Mart 10’ x 10’ x 10’, standard size saddle-$200 excellent condition. 815-859-7167.

CASH FOR ALL UNWANTED Junk cars, 262-758-1807.

WANTED to buy Used 2012 KIA SOUL, 5-speed, great mpg, 5 speed, in excellent condition. 2001 FORD FOCUS 18K orig. miles, recent trans, looks sharp, locks and runs great, $5,000 obo. Call 603-690-5280.

1998 LINCOLN CONTINENTAL 4 door sports sedan. 43K miles, fully loaded, heated and cooled seats, good condition. 1999 SILVERADO 1500 extended cab, mint cond., low miles. $8,000 815-851-7547.

2003 GOLD WING 30,000 miles, custom bike, very nice to list, one of a kind, $1,000 OBO. 815-547-0084.

1999 HARLEY FATBOY anniversay black & silver, carb, 12K, loaded, extra chrome $8,000 262-495-8838.

2007 HD ULTRA CLASSIC 96 cubic, 4 sp. 6000 miles, nice motorcycle. 262-495-8838.

2010 GOLD WING 30,000 miles, very nice to list, one of a kind, 262-534-6660.

1996 RAMBLER AMERICAN Orig. owner, 151K, good cond., low hours, $5,500 OBO. Excellent condition. 815-499-9239.

1950 CHEVY COUPE, Runs good. 847-838-0492.

1940 FORD SEDAN 2 DOOR, 40hp, 208-230 volt, single phase. Model A4011N, comes with 12 cylinder engine, asphalt car, $6,500 262-495-8838.

1950 CHEVY BEL Air, runs good, low miles, 5-speed, $5,000 815-733-0205 (MCN).

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Slices of life

Adventures with houseplants

They sat unsungmassingly on a shelf in the gardening department. I was on the hunt for fertilizer, but these little potted beauties caught my eye and caused me to pause. Even though I’d never seen anything like them before in real life, I identified them immediately. I figured my boys would be more interested than the care and feeding of the delicate blooms.

We had to have one. When I got home, I set my purchase on the kitchen table and waited. It wasn’t long before one of the boys was on the tabletop and the family’s newest treasure. I heard a whoop and then the announcement.

“Mom got a Venus flytrap!”

If you ever want to see a kid get excited over a plant, make sure it’s a carnivorous one.

Quite simply, the Venus flytrap eats bugs. The plant’s leaves are made up of two hinged lobes lined with sticky teeth. The lobes secrete sweet nectar, which attracts insects. Trigger hairs on the lobes identify the presence of a creeping crab. When an insect touches two different hairs the trap springs closed, and the insect is captured, digested and absorbed by the plant.

My boys are putting that question to the test.

So far, she seems to be thriving. Or at least she’s not dead. She’s fully consumed at least one fly and an ant and is sprouting additional lobes to further enhance her killing power.

We trowelplanted her into a larger pot and used unfertilized peat moss for her bedding. (Flytraps don’t like fertilizer, it can burn their roots.) We have her outside in the sunshine and keep her soil moist, just like she prefers, with distilled water - never from the tap.

The Venus flytrap is an efficient carnivore.

No wonder my boys were thrilled.

I didn’t want our plant to perish, so I consigned myself with Googling things like how to care for a Venus flytrap. My boys consumed themselves with catching insects. They weren’t willing to wait for our Venus to catch a bug on her own, the way nature intended. They wanted to jump-start the feeding frenzy.

Even since they have been killing the plant with kindness. How many flies can one tiny Venus flytrap eat?

My excitement when I found the cutest little bowseredowse (brushed really) on an end-of-season clear-

ance at a local nursery. I picked one that looked like it had the most horned potential and brought it home.

Meanwhile, the boys are hunting bugs.

Bill Pertler is an award-winning syndicated columnist, published by Wright, author and member of the National Society of Newspaper Columnists. Don’t miss a slice; fol-

low Slices of Life on Face Book page.

I’ve learned that I am out of touch with the times.

I got a new phone (it was time to trade in the old Note 4) and played for a moment with ringtones. I didn’t know any of the “most popular” songs or artists. And I don’t care.

But I do now know the difference between ringtone and ringback. And I discovered I had a bank of ringtones saved to a wishlist default from sev-

eral phones ago that had magically transferred with every phone update.

I also learned that I can be more patient than I ever thought possible.

Hearing to tunes with my hubby is pure bliss, but the perks are worth any long drive.

All in all, the ten bucks just to have a polish with what’s trending (gee, what a drag) was well worth it.

I was so excited over a plant, make sure it’s a carnivorous one.

What else has happened this sum-

mer?

I’ve discovered that I can cut my own hair nearly as good as many stylists can. Trimming the back of my head (and shaving my neck) is a skill set I am nearly as good as many stylists can. It’s delightfully yummy. I no longer waste time and money on my 30-40 minute cut. I have discovered that I can cut my own hair better than I ever thought possible. It just takes a little patience and time.

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What else has happened this sum-

mer?

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