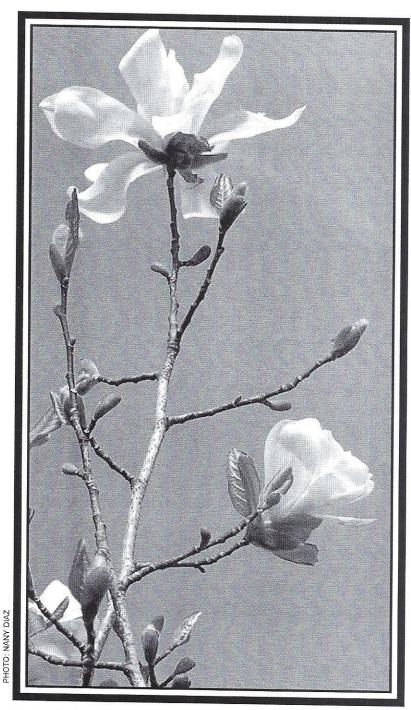


THE QUARRY BULLETIN

VOLUME 2

ISSUE MAY 2005



Spring in the Village – These attractive trees, saucer magnolias, are in full bloom throughout the Village.

A Spring Sight to See by Shirley Chambers

o walk for several miles around the perimeter of Potomac River's Tidal Basin in Washington, D.C., with thousands and thousands of spectacular pink blossoms over your head is like walking through a fairyland. This only happens once a year - usually April. And then we know Spring has arrived. The cherry trees were gifted to us by Japan in 1912 as a token of friendship.

Being a native D.C.er, I took them for granted in my early years. After college I worked for a specialized agency of the United Nations, and my office was within walking distance of the Tidal Basin. When the cherry blossoms were in full bloom some of my international friends and I would take our brown-bag lunches and eat amongst these exquisite and soothing pink and white petals.

During the WWII years there was a movement afoot to destroy the trees since they had been given to us by the Japanese. Fortunately this was "nipped in the bud."

If you haven't already, see them sometime if you can.

GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

Insurance Coverage



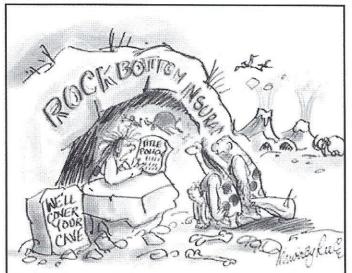
by Bill Nussbum, Board of Trustees

Negotiations on the VSR Master Insurance Policy have been concluded. The Trustees would like to thank Eli Demetri, Chairman of the Legal Committee, for the extensive effort he put forth in assisting us

through a complicated transition process. We were fortunate to be able to create a competitive bidding process for this Policy, as this type of Condominium Insurance is not of interest to most Insurers. Appleby & Wyman, our Insurance Broker, gave us substantial support in this transaction, and we appreciate their efforts on our behalf, as well.

The new valuation of the Village is \$29,000,000. Our new Premium is \$71,000, which is \$4,000 under our Budget estimate. Travelers Insurance Company will continue as our Insurer. A new deductible of \$2,500.00 is now in effect. This is a change from our previous deductible of \$1,000.00. We are asking that all owners immediately notify their Insurance Broker of this change. Your Premium increase should be very modest (should not exceed \$15-\$20). Please remember that this deductible applies to our Master Policy and you have your own deductable on the Homeowners Policy that you all should have in effect.

While we all know that a little knowledge is a terrible thing, please feel free to call me at 978-392-4613, or email me at diemarinc@aol.com and I will be happy to try and answer any questions you might have on our insurance. Rose Ann Traficante, the Manager of Appleby and Wyman, will be at our Thursday meeting on May 5th to review our Policy in detail and answer any questions pertaining to the blending of our Master Policy with your Homeowners Policy.



'Unfortunately it doesn t cover meteor strikes, tidal waves, or any future evolutionary development

The Finance and Budget Committee



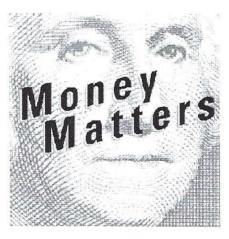
by Tom Barry, Board of Trustees

Although the year-end audit has not yet been completed by our Auditing Firm, the Finance Committee is very satisfied with the financial results through March 31, 2005. Except for expenses related to this winter's

snow removal, the March 31st year-to-date results are very close to the year-to-date budget. We'll cover the 1st quarter financial results in a little more detail at the meeting at the Clubhouse scheduled for Thursday, May 5th, at 7:00 pm.

As you all know by now from announcements made at the April 7th "First Thursday" meeting and from the letter that you received on April 8th from your Board of Trustees, the 2004/2005 winter was one for the record

books, as it dumped approximately 107 inches of snow on the Village. The new snow removal contract with TruGreen covered snow removal up to 55 inches, with each additional inch being billed to us at the rate of \$1,100 per inch, plus some extra charges for sand-



ing. This brought our budget overage to approximately \$60,000.

To cover these extraordinary expenses and after careful deliberations by the Finance Committee, your Board of Trustees unanimously approved a special 2004/2005 snow removal assessment of 2 (two) monthly Condo Fees.

Please note that this special assessment is only on the regular monthly condo fee component, but does not include the \$ 75.00 monthly Water/Sewer fee component. The full special assessment is charged for units, whose closings occurred through February, 2005. If a unit closed during the month of March 2005, only 50% of the full assessment, or 1 (one) monthly condo fee, will be due. For units closed after April 1, 2005, no assessment is made. Payment of this special assessment is due on May 1, 2005 and should be submitted with the regular condo fee. However, payment may be extended over 5 (five) months, with a minimum payment of 20% of the total special assessment due, beginning with May 1st. (Please note in the memo section on your check the amount of the check to be applied to the special assessment.)

We hope to see all of you at the May 5th "First Thursday" meeting at the clubhouse.

Window Washing Discussion



by Nick Johnson, Board of Trustees

At the Board meeting of April 18, 2005 a discussion was held on outside window washing. The last time we had the outside windows washed once with various degrees of unhappiness and concern about the quality of the job at a

cost of approximately \$60 per unit. This year's estimated cost for the Village is \$6,600.

A discussion was held at the meeting and the vast majority of attendees and trustees voted against spending \$6600 for one outside window washing. If we went ahead with the prior plans to do this twice, the total estimated



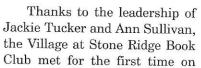
cost for just having the outside windows done would have been \$13,200. With the other expenses planned and the increased snow removal costs, this was not viewed as a good idea.

So the plans are to not have window washing done and the money to be allocated elsewhere. If any unit owner feels strongly about this, please contact one of the Trustees to discuss your concerns with any possible alternatives.

One possible alternative would be to individually buy an attachable apparatus for your garden hose, that mixes soap and dish water detergent (Cascade). This method would allow you to spray, wash and rinse in two applications. The cost of this type of appliance is less than \$40.00, plus soap and rinse.

Book Club

by Gail Sergenian





Thursday, April 7 with nine enthusiastic members. We will meet in the Clubhouse Library on the first Thursday of every month at 1:30 p.m.

Those of us who have been members of previous book clubs can attest to the enjoyment of participation in such a group. It is always intriguing to hear different perspectives. We welcome any interested members of our community, male or female, to join us.

For our meeting on Thursday, May 5, we will discuss The Blind Assassin, by Margaret Atwood. As with all future selections, this is available in paperback. Refreshments will be served.

We hope to see you there!

Rules to Remember



by Tom Barry, Board of Trustees

From time to time some of us will have unintentional holidays from the rules here at the Village. The following are some points that directly effect every unit owner:

- ◆ Portable Air Conditioners are not permitted to be installed in windows here at the village. If you have a problem with controlling air in your unit, you should call your Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning (HVAC) contractor to have your HVAC system balanced.
- Flags and poles are not allowed at individual units in the village. The Flag Committee, with the approval of the Board of Trustees, is working on installing a community flagpole to fly the American flag at the clubhouse.
- ♦ Please remember to bring a pooper scooper with you when you walk your dog through the Village. Be considerate of all your neighbors and clean up after your pet.



- Speed Limits are posted throughout the Village and must be strictly observed. With the good weather finally here, many of your neighbors walk routinely through the Village. Please be considerate and drive safely.
- ◆ Thursday is trash pickup day here at the Village (except on weeks with a legal holiday, when trash day moves to Friday). Please do not put your trash out at the curb any earlier than late Wednesday. If you plan to be away, maybe you could ask a neighbor to put your trash out for you, instead of leaving it out all week.

We live in a beautiful community with great neighbors. We need to remember that, in a condo community, what we do has an impact on all of our neighbors. Please be thoughtful and considerate of the needs and desires of all at the Village.

LOCAL VOTES

Tuesday May 3rd, is voting day in Westford. It is a town election with local issues. It is important that all registered voters exercise their vote. This ballot includes issues impacting our lives and pocketbooks.

The following week, May 7th, there will be a Town Meeting. Another chance to express your opinion, if by no other means than your presence. Remember, the only votes that are not counted are the ones that are never cast.

Vote; it's good for everyone.

MEET YOUR NEIGHBORS

₩ Raymond Allaby ₩

by Shirley Chambers

If you happen to see a gold Buick LeSabre with Ex-POW license

plates tooling around our Village, wave and say hello to Ray Allaby. During WWII Ray was in the U.S. Army Air Force Bomber Command. This red-haired, freckled-face, then 19-year-old kid was shot down over France in 1943, and he remembers every detail of it, vividly.

He was a gunner on a Flying Fortress and the only one of a crew of 10 to survive. This was his crew's 10th combat mission over Europe and the target was the St. Nazaire submarine docks (west coast of France). They had delivered their bombs and were just flying away from the docks when they were hit by AAA flak. "All of a sudden I saw the wing rip off and then we got hit again, this time in the tail, the flak making a huge hole right around where I was." Shrapnel had ripped a hole in his ankle and, as the plane tumbled down out of control, he was catapulted around the fuselage like a "straw in a whirlpool," which shattered many of his ribs. Once he was thrown clear of the plane he fell to less than 500 feet, his chute opened at roof-top height and he floated down into the arms of the flak crew that had shot him down. (Oops!)

Ray was shipped to a hospital in Paris staffed by German doctors. An infection set in that guadually ate away his ankle bone and was continuing up his leg. The German doctors scraped the rot from the bone but never stopped the infection, and for 2 months Ray watched the leg wither, figuring it was only a matter of time until -- Then they shipped him (all 70 pounds of this lanky kid from Lowell) to a hospital near Erfurt, Germany, staffed by English doctors who had been taken prisoners at Dunkirk in 1940. They had almost nothing in the way of medical supplies, but they worked unceasingly to heal the men under their care. It took seven long months to accomplish, but they checked the bone decay and got Ray's wound healed.

They saved his life.

From the hospital he was sent to Stalag Luft VI, a prison camp in East Prussia, near the Russian boarder. Later they sent him to Luft IV in Pomerania (near Poland). In those days the Allied air supremacy was pretty well established, and Ray says they often needled the guards about it. The POW's were familiar with Goering's boast that no Allied planes would ever bomb the Reich and so when a sky filled with Allied bombers en route to a mission, the prisoners would sidle up to a guard (usually a mean one whom they enjoyed infuriating) and ask innocently in bad German: "Das ist de Deutsch Luftwaffle, yah?" A little

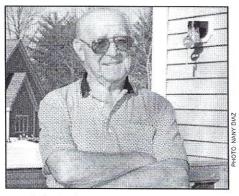
"All of a sudden I saw the wing rip off and then we got hit again, this time in the tail, the flak making a huge hole right around where I was."

levity in an otherwise deplorable existence.

Ray was a POW for 2 years. He describes life in the camps as dull, drab, and dirty. It was hours and hours of boredom interrupted by moments of sheer terror. The prisoners were forced to march and march and march whether they were physically able to do so or not. Some limped, some



Ray and wife Clare Allaby



crawled. At first Ray's foot was so sore he was unable to walk and if you didn't walk they shot you or bayoneted you. Buddy took care of buddy. So a Frenchman and a Scot got on either side of him and half carried him along for the first few weeks until he could walk unassisted.

They too saved his life.

Ray marched with the others—marched for 86 long days—marched 500 miles around the heart of Germany. They had no destination. They endured incredible hardships. The day they were liberated (April 26, 1945), the prisoners danced, wept, prayed, yelled and screamed. (And I say God bless our American troops then and now.)

For some 40 years Ray owned and flew his own plane (a Cessna). He was a professional photographer most of his life. When he was with the Lowell Sun, he was nominated for a Pulitzer prize for his photo journalism. Later he headed up the photo lab at Raytheon in Bedford, where he met his second wife, Clare. Both Ray and Clare have children and grandchildren living in this area.

Writing Ray's story on such a small slate was most difficult. In fact I think it's enough for a full-length movie. Because of space limitation I've had to slight Ray's pretty wife Clare. Believe me, she isn't just chopped liver; she's a star in her own right and merits an article solely about her (later, I promise). This one is for RAY, who is a proud POW survivor with a Purple Heart and 4 Air Medals, one for each of the enemy aircraft he shot down. I am very proud to have interviewed this brave man.

A SLICE OF LIFE

An Occult Adventure

by Mort Silverman



When I was an actor I took many odd jobs to support myself. Acting jobs were difficult to find and frequently did not pay enough to pay my bills.

I found work as a maitre d' with a theatrecabaret. Second City was an improvisational

theatre. It had completed a successful run on Broadway and then was moved to a more intimate venue.

After work one night, at about 1 a.m., three employees, Ben, Floyd, Dudley and myself, all aspiring actors, decided to take a taxi to Birdland, a jazz club. The great tenor sax-ophonist, John Coltrane, was performing there.

The show was wonderful and exciting. We left the club at about 4 a.m. and looked for a cab. I could see a taxi way up on Broadway, heading straight toward us as if it were preordained to meet us.

Shortly after entering the taxi we asked the driver to drop us each off at our residences. Ben, Floyd and Dudley lived in West Greenwich Village and would be dropped of first. I lived in what is now called Soho (South of Houston Street) and would be dropped off last.

After settling in the taxi, we started listening to a talk show with Long John Neville. He was talking to a "call-in" and the subject was occult phenomena. After listening for a while the driver exclaimed, "Why don't they come out and say it; they are talking about Voodoo." A great deal of conversation followed, sometimes ranging far and wide; I listened.

As Ben exited the taxi he asked the driver for his phone number. The driver gave him the number and said, "I'll give you the number but you are not going to call."

"I will," insisted Ben.

I quietly made note of his phone number.

This was a fascinating man. Before dropping me off he turned to me and said something that went right to my essential being. Zing! Dong! Like a punch to my solar plexus. While I don't remember what he said, I was very impressed. It seemed he could see deep into my soul. I felt naked.

Well, I'm a risk taker and I enjoy far-out, interesting people. The next day I called him. He lived in the projects in the lower east side of New York City. I made an appointment to go over to his apartment. He told me to bring a cigar, a white handkerchief, a sewing needle, a candle and a bottle of red wine.

After gathering all of the above articles, I went to his apartment. The rooms were very neat and attractively, though inexpensively, furnished. He had said that he was married but there was nobody else at home. Pictures of family members were all over. He led the way down a short corridor to a closet. He opened the door, revealing a small altar that was lighted by many candles. There was faint smell of incense.

He pulled out two chairs and we sat down in front of the altar. He put a saucer over the white handkerchief, melted some wax on the bottom of the candle so that it could stand upright on the saucer and placed the needle into the tip of the candle. Lighting the candle and the cigar, he told me to puff very hard on the cigar. The cigar became very hot to hold. Every few seconds he would take the cigar which had produced an ash of about half an inch, and scraped the ash of the cigar at the base of the candle. Eventually the needle fell out, ridding me of impurities. These proceedings would regulate and strengthen my vibrations.

He predicted that I would have a great deal of money, own big luxury cars and date many, many women. Perhaps he had assumed the things that he valued most would meet my needs, as well. He took my bottle of red wine and exchanged it for one that had been treated with "special herbs." I was to drink the wine; which would further strengthen my vibrations. I expressed by gratitude for taking the time to meet with me. Before I departed I asked him whether Ben had called. "No he hadn't", he replied.

I left the projects confident and smiling about my new found, regulated and strengthened vibrations and the future expectations of wealth, large luxury cars and many, many women.

In retrospect, one out of three wasn't bad.

Inspired by Southern Living magazine, our exclusive home décor line will bring warmth and style to every room of your home!

Forget the mall!

Come to a Southern Living At HOME party and shop with your friends in a comfortable setting!

Come and enjoy an evening of fun
May 9th
Dessert and Coffee
7:00 PM at the Clubhouse
Signup sheet on the bulletin board,
friends welcome.



Hostess: Barbara West 978-692-3262



PERCEPTIONS

The Price of Progress



by Louise O'Donnell

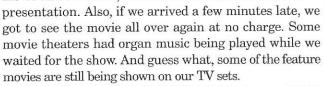
Recently my Ya-Ya Sisterhood had the opportunity to see the movie Fever Pitch. It's about a rabid Red Sox Fan and it was really quite amusing. Being a Red Sox Fan myself and having sat, chewing my nails

throughout the play-offs with the Yankees and the World Series, I enjoyed feeling the excitement all over again.

But the movies have really changed.

First of all, the assault on my eardrums when the sound came on almost had me run for the exit. Then came twenty minutes of commercials, coming attractions, what the concession stand sells, and finally, the feature presentation. For all this, we pay \$7.50 (matinee).

When my sister and I first started loving the movies, we walked a mile or so to the only theater in town, stood in line, paid our 25 cents, spent 10 cents on popcorn, and settled in for the afternoon. We saw the RKO news, two or three cartoons, an installment of the current series, a B rated movie and of course, the feature



With the advent of digital TV, DVD players, TIVO, etc., movies aren't being attended like they used to be. It's really unfortunate because going to the movies then was so much fun compared to today.

Chalk one up for the good old days!

A Warm Spring Day at the Village



Dot Palisoul takes a walk with her



MARKARAKANA

用国田

Cheerful Ri Vanderlaan on her

HEALTHFUL TIPS

The Benefits of Ginger



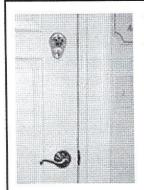
by Friederike Heiter

Ginger has been revered in Indian and Chinese civilizations for over 5000 years for its powerful health imparting properties. In fact, Indian ginger is

said to have the most potent medicinal properties. Due to such a prolonged belief, research on the benefits of ginger brought the following results:

Danish researchers found that ginger can block the effects of prostaglandin, a substance that causes inflammation of the blood vessels in the brain and can lead to migraines.

- Ginger was found to be effective for relieving the severity of nausea, even in cases of pregnancy.
- Many women claim that ginger tea helps rid them of menstrual cramps.
- Ginger has anti-inflammatory properties that can lessen the pain of rheumatoid arthritis.
- It is well known for its warming action on the upper respiratory tract, therefore being used to treat colds and flu.
- It has been found to be effective in cramps caused by stomach gas. Ginger also stimulatres digestion.
- Ginger has a wholesome effect on the circulatory system as it makes the platelets less sticky and is of great benefit in case of circulatory disorders.
- As a mood enhancer, ginger's cineole content may help contribute to stress relief.
- It is also a good mouth freshener and ginger tea has vastly refreshing properties.
- ◆ Incorperating a ginger intake in your daily routine can bring wholesome effects and personal well being.



THE GYM DOOR LOCK

The new lock for the gym door is now operational. If you are a newcomer to the facility and don't know or remember the combination to open the door, please call 978-692-0648.

A WEEK AT THE GYM

One Man's Story

(anonymous)

If you read this without laughing out loud, there is something wrong with you. This is dedicated to everyone who ever attempted to get into a regular workout routine.

Dear Diary,

For my 40th birthday this year, my wife (the dear) purchased a week of personal training at the local health club for me. Although I am still in great shape since playing on my college football team 25 years ago, I decided it would be a good idea to go ahead and give it a try.

Called the club and made my reservations with a personal trainer named Belinda, who identified herself as a 26 year old aerobics instructor and model for athletic clothing and swim wear. My wife seemed pleased with my enthusiasm to get started! The club encouraged me to keep a diary to chart my progress...

Monday: Started my day at 6:00 am. Tough to get out of bed, but found it was well worth it when I arrived at the health club to find Belinda waiting for me. She is something of a Greek goddess - with blond hair, dancing eyes and a dazzling white smile. Woo Hoo!! Belinda gave me a tour and showed me the machines. She took my pulse after five minutes on the treadmill. She was alarmed that my pulse was so fast, but I attribute it to standing next to her in her Lycra aerobic outfit. I enjoyed watching the skillful way in which she conducted her aerobics class after my workout today. Very inspiring. Belinda was encouraging as I did my sit ups, although my gut was already aching from holding it in the whole time she was around. This is going to be a FANTASTIC week!!

Tuesday: I drank a whole pot of coffee, but I finally made it out the door. Belinda made me lie on my back and push a heavy iron bar into the air - then she put weights on it! My legs were a little wobbly on the treadmill, but I made the full mile. Belinda's rewarding smile made it all worthwhile. I feel GREAT!! It's a whole new life for me.

Wednesday: The only way I can brush my teeth is by laying on the toothbrush on the counter and moving my mouth back and forth over it. I believe I have a hernia. Driving was OK as long as I didn't try to steer or stop. I parked on top of a GEO in the club parking lot. Belinda was impatient with me, insisting that my screams bothered other club members. Her voice is a little too perky for early in the morning and when she scolds, she gets this

nasally whine that is VERY annoying. My chest hurt when I got on the treadmill, so Belinda put me on the stair monster. Why the heck would anyone invent a machine to simulate an activity rendered obsolete by elevators? Belinda told me it would help me get in shape and enjoy life. She said some other junk too.

Thursday: Belinda was waiting for me with her vampire like teeth exposed as her thin, cruel lips were pulled back in a full snarl. I couldn't help being a half an hour late it took me that long to tie my shoes. Belinda took me to work out with dumbbells. When she was not looking, I ran and hid in the men's room. She sent Lars to find me, then, as punishment, put me on the rowing machine - which I sank.

Friday: I hate that heifer Belinda more than any human being has ever hated any other human being in the history of the world. Stupid, skinny, anemic little cheerleader. If there was a part of my body I could move without unbearable pain, I would beat her with it. Belinda wanted me to work on my triceps. I don't have any triceps! And if you don't want dents in the floor, don't hand me the *&%#(#&**!!@*@ barbells or anything that weighs more than a sandwich.) The treadmill flung me off and I landed on a health and nutrition teacher. Why couldn't it have been someone softer, like the drama coach or the choir director?

Saturday: Belinda left a message on my answering machine in her grating, shrilly voice wondering why I

did not show up today. Just hearing her made me want to smash the machine with my planner. However, I lacked the strength to even use the TV remote and ended up catching eleven straight hours of the Weather Channel.

Sunday: I'm having the Church van pick me up for services today so I can go and thank GOD that this week is over. I will also pray that next year my wife (the devil) will choose a gift for me that is fun - like a root canal or a vasectomy.

Simp

Pimply Pocial... By Donna Hudon

How wonderful to see the green grass, buds on the trees and the flowering plants!

Stone Ridge awakens from a long winter's nap!



After a quiet April, May will be buzzing! We are planning a "dedication" cocktail party sometime in mid-May, for the new addition to our Stone Ridge Community, the flag and flagpole that will fly proudly in front of the Clubhouse! Many thanks to Tink Nussbum and her committee and to those who so generously contributed to make this happen. Watch for details on the bulletin board.

On Sunday, May 29th we will have our 2nd annual Memorial Day Cook-out. There will be a sign-up sheet and more info to follow.

On Sunday, June 5th, there will be a "Newcomers Brunch" at the Clubhouse. Since it was a very cold, snowy winter, there wasn't much opportunity for the new residents to get out and meet their neighbors. This event will give the "Winter Arrivals" a chance to come out and socialize!!

We're trying to put an afternoon aside each month to "Do Lunch" at different area restaurants. If you have a favorite place, let me know and we can make that one of our lunch spots!

Housekeeping

The carpet in the Clubhouse will be cleaned within the next few weeks! We will be putting some hooks up in the restrooms and a clock will be put up in the kitchen.

Enjoy your day!

Clubhouse: May Weekly Happenings

Wednesdays – May 4, 11, 18, 25 Weight Watchers 4:30 pm Knit, Stitch & *Itch 7:00 pm

Thursday – May 5 Book Club 1:30 pm Business Meeting 7:00 pm

Monday - May 9 Southern Living Party 7:00 pm

Friday – May 13 Canasta Club/Poker game 7:00 pm

Sunday - May 15 Private Function

Monday - May 16 Board Meeting

Sunday - May 22 Private Function

Sunday - May 29 Memorial Day Cookout

Social Committee Meeting

Wednesday - May 18 7:00 pm at the Library

THE LAST WORD See What Happens

A man was walking down the street when he was accosted by a particularly dirty and shabby-looking homeless man who asked him for a couple of dollars for dinner.

The man took out his wallet, extracted ten dollars and asked:

"If I give you this money, will you buy some beer with it instead?"

"No, I had to stop drinking years ago," the homeless man replied.

"Will you use it to gamble instead of buying food?" the man asked.

"No, I don't gamble," the homeless man said. "I need everything I can get just to stay alive."

"Will you spend it on green fees at a golf course instead of food?", the man asked.

"Are you NUTS!" replied the homeless man. "I haven't played golf in 20 years!"

"Will you spend the money on a woman in the red light district instead of food?", the man asked.

"What are you kiddin' and catch a disease for ten lousy bucks?!!", exclaimed the homeless man.

"Well," said the man, "I'm not going to give you the money. Instead, I'm going to take you home for a terrific dinner cooked by my wife."

The homeless man was astounded. "Won't your wife be furious with you for doing that? I know I'm dirty, and I probably smell pretty disgusting."

The man replied, "That's okay. I just want her to see what a man looks like who's given up beer, gambling, golf, and sex".

-Sent by Gabriella DiPrizio

TRIVIA

Coca-cola was originally green in color.

Honey is the only food that doesn't spoil.

The cost of raising a medium size dog to the age of 11 is \$6,400.

Many years ago in Scotland, a new game was invented. It was ruled "Gentlemen Only ... Ladies Forbidden" ...and thus the word GOLF entered into the English language.

The State of Vatican City, is 108.7 acres in size; population 921; expenditures (2003) \$264 million. The Village at Stone Ridge is 108 acres in size; population to be determined; expenditures to be determined.

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