

# Senior News

## Opinion Seniors have a right to know

By Matilda Charles  
King Features

In 1949, George Orwell wrote the chilling classic of the future "1984," in which he showed us a society where politicians spoke to the populace in "newspeak." For example, white could be black, tall could be short, poor could be rich. The meanings of the words as used in "newspeak" were intended to keep the people ignorant of the truth by giving them a distortion of reality.

Orwell's book was meant to be a cautionary tale of what could happen. Fortunately, while we have escaped the totalitarianism he warned about, we have not escaped the phenomenon of "newspeak." It remains very much alive in the mouths of our politicians, as shown in the most recent

example involving the Social Security system's reserves.

Remember the campaign promise by both George W. Bush and Al Gore that the Social Security fund would NEVER be touched -- except, perhaps, in the event of war. Now we hear that the government might have to take \$9 billion out of the reserve this year to meet expenses. However, White House budget director Mitch Daniels, in a fine example of "newspeak," says the Social Security pledge was "symbolic." (Hmm. How would a judge react if someone committed perjury and said he regarded the oath as merely "symbolic"?)

Also, the White House -- which recently changed the Social Security accounting procedure -- denies that the surplus is actually \$1 billion, after Social Security

expenses are deducted from the \$158 billion it claims is in the till.

Our senior citizens go to the polls in greater numbers than any other group. When you speak (and I mean speak in the true sense of the word), politicians listen. Call them, write them, e-mail them, and ask why they're playing these potentially disastrous games with Social Security. And don't forget to ask if, in all this controversy about the surplus, there will be any money available to fund the prescription drug bill if it ever gets passed. And don't take "newspeak" for an answer.

Let's discuss.  
Write to Matilda Charles in care of King Features Weekly Service, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475, or send e-mails to the following address: letters.kfws@hearstsc.com.

### Senior Center Activities

**September 21: "Bus Trip to Lancaster"** 8:15 Early-Bird Breakfast; 9-12 Computer Training; 9:45 Senior Swim; 10:00 Morning Get-Together; 11:00 Bean Bag Toss; 11:15 PEPPi Weight Training; 11:30 Luncheon Club at Strawberry Restaurant; 12:00 Lunch; 12:15 Bowling at Keystone; 12:45 "Fishy" Bingo.

**September 24: "Birthday Party"** 10:00 Morning Get-Together; 10:30 Center for Hearing Care; 11:00 Tai Chi w/Betsy Chapman, Reflective Moments; 12:00 Lunch; 12:45 Music by "Just Friends;" 1:00 Senior Swim; 2:00 Line Dancing w/the Heplers.

**September 25: "Cake Raffle"** 10:00 Morning Get-Together;

10:30 PEPPi Weight Training, Wellness Walking; 11:00 Tuesday Bingo; 12:00 Lunch and Organ Melodies; 12:45 Sit and Get Fit w/Jody; 6-9 Bingo Night.

**September 26:** 10:00 Morning Get-Together, Bridge Training; 10:45 PEPPi Weight Training; 11:00 Free-4-All; 12:00 Lunch; 12:30 Senior Swim; 12:45 Sit and Get Fit w/Jody; 1:30 Quilt Guild; 5:30 Supper Club at Lee's.

**September 27: "Bus Trip - Statler Brothers"** 10:00 Morning Get-Together; 10:30 Walk w/ Debbie Trench; 11:00 Blood Pressure Check; 12:00 Lunch; 12:45 "Hide and Seek" Word Search; 1-4 Card Party, Bridge. (Lunch prepared by St. Columbkil Church.)

### Senior Center Menu

**September 21:** Roast Beef w/Gravy; Mashed Potatoes; Cut Green Beans; Multigrain Bread; Raspberry Jello/Pears.

**September 24:** Pineapple Juice; Baked White Fish; O'Brien Potatoes; Basil Carrots; Pumpnickel Bread; Fresh Grapes.

**September 25:** Hot Dog/Baked Bean Casserole; Oven Potatoes; Cole Slaw; Pumpnickel Bread; Canned Peaches.

**September 26:** Blended Juice; Soft Ground Beef Taco; Lettuce and Tomato; Yellow Rice; Flour Tortilla/Margarine; Fresh Banana.

**September 27:** Roast Pork w/Gravy; Sauerkraut; Mashed Potatoes; Applesauce; White Bread/Margarine; Cupcake.

### Contract Bridge

By Steve Decker  
King Features

In most cases, declarer's prime objective is to make his contract. He pays very little attention to making overtricks -- worth only 20 or 30 points a trick -- if doing so would jeopardize making the contract.

Similarly, a defender's aim is to stop declarer from making the contract. He should be willing to yield an overtrick to declarer if, in doing so, he gives his side a chance to defeat the contract. A defender should be acutely aware of the vast discrepancy between the value of a game and the value of an overtrick, and shouldn't mind risking a small number of points while trying to avoid losing a much larger number.

Consider this deal where West leads a club to dummy's ace and declarer finesses the queen of trumps. West wins with the king and is at the critical point of the play.

It should be evident to West, in view of the diamond position, that there is virtually no chance to stop the contract unless East has the ace of spades. West does not know whether East has the ace, but he assumes it. To assume otherwise would amount to conceding the contract.

West dealer.

East-West vulnerable.

**NORTH**

♠ Q 8 4

♥ Q J 8 2

♦ A Q J 10 5

♣ A

**WEST**

♠ K J 9

♥ K 6 4

♦ K 7 3

♣ J 10 8 3

**EAST**

♠ A 6 5 2

♥ 5

♦ 8 4

♣ K 9 6 5 4 2

**SOUTH**

♠ 10 7 3

♥ A 10 9 7 3

♦ 9 6 2

♣ Q 7

**The bidding:**

West North East South

Pass 1♦ Pass 1♥

Pass 3♥ Pass 4♥

Opening lead -- jack of clubs.

West therefore proceeds on this assumption and so leads a spade. He knows that this play might hand declarer an extra trick if South has the ace of spades, but it does not bother him at all. An overtrick is a drop in the bucket. The only problem West has to solve is which spade to lead.

It is not difficult to prove that the jack of spades is the correct play. In the actual case, South cannot avoid losing three spade tricks in succession, whether he covers West's jack with the queen or ducks. But if West returns either the king or the nine of spades at trick three, South makes the contract with proper play.

### Boyertown Area Senior Center

#### Bus Schedules

**September 21:** Stoltzfus Farm and "Another Side of Lancaster."

**September 27:** American Music Theater, Statler Brothers, Cracker Barrel Restaurant.

**October 15:** Atlantic City-Best Package.

#### Meals on Wheels

**Drivers/Helpers Needed:** If you can volunteer approximately 1 1/2 hours twice each month, Meals on Wheels needs you. We need both drivers and deliverers. Every attempt will be made to accommodate volunteers' personal schedules. If you can help, please call Mary Jo Zukoski at 610-367-6957.

### Volunteers needed at Multi-Service

Boyertown Area Multi-Service is in need of volunteers to transport individuals to medical appointments. When a request for transportation is received, our receptionist will contact you. If it is convenient for you, she will give you the assignment. Mileage reimbursement is available. For more information, please call 610-367-6957.

### Boyertown Area Multi-Service

**Friday, September 21:** GPU 8:30-12:30; OVR 8-4; BCIU 8:30-4:30.

**Monday, September 24:** GPU 8:30-12:30; BCIU 8:30-4:30.

**Tuesday, September 25:** GPU 8:30-4:30; BCIU 8:30-4:30; Dr. Ivison 6-9 p.m.

**Wednesday, September 26:** PCS 8:30-12:30; BCIU 8:30-4:30; JPO 2-4; Dr. Ivison 6-9 p.m.

**Thursday, September 27:** GPU 8:30-12:30; WIC 8-4; Dr. Ivison 6-9 p.m.

### Charles J. Adams Jr.



Felix can't hold his liquor, but you can't take it away from him, either.

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### More entertainment on page 22

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