



Vegetarian cooking with corn. **Your Life, D3**

Popular Binanti's Taste of Italy II expands into Antioch. **Your Life, D1**



Liberty it ta



The NewsSun

Central Lake Edition cl

Gurnee ■ Grayslake



Dan Moran

Walking fine line between honor and intrusion.

Viewpoint, A6



Managing their money

Young adults' pursestrings tied to parents.

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Tonight clear, Partly sunny Thursday.

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NEWS FOCUS: Fountain Square

Pieces coming in place

New water tower rising at Lakehurst site

By Dan Moran
STAFF WRITER

WAUKEGAN — Most of the land is still flat and dotted with seagulls at what used to be Lakehurst Mall, but closer inspection reveals a few indicators of what will become Fountain Square of Waukegan.

Roadways are in place and landscaping rings the property. At the corner of Waukegan Road and North Point Boulevard, buildings that will house Washington Mutual and Starbucks outlets are having their exterior features installed.

To the south, Tires Plus has long since moved to its new home about 200 yards from its former site on a Lakehurst outlot. A new McDonald's is being framed on the north end of the Lakehurst Cinema parking lot.

The biggest project on the agenda, a Wal-Mart Supercenter near Greenleaf Avenue and Route 120, has yet to break ground six months after it was announced to the public and two months after the City Council approved its final site plan.

But Mayor Richard Hyde said the project went out for bids last week, adding that "according to (Wal-Mart's) schedule, they should start construction at the end of September."

Hyde also said Fountain Square's developer, the Shaw Company of Oak Brook, is expected to come before the city within the next month to reveal plans for "a couple more stores."

Meanwhile, as the real estate end of the transformation moves along, a key infrastructure element has started to take shape in the past week and has quickly become the dominant feature on the landscape.

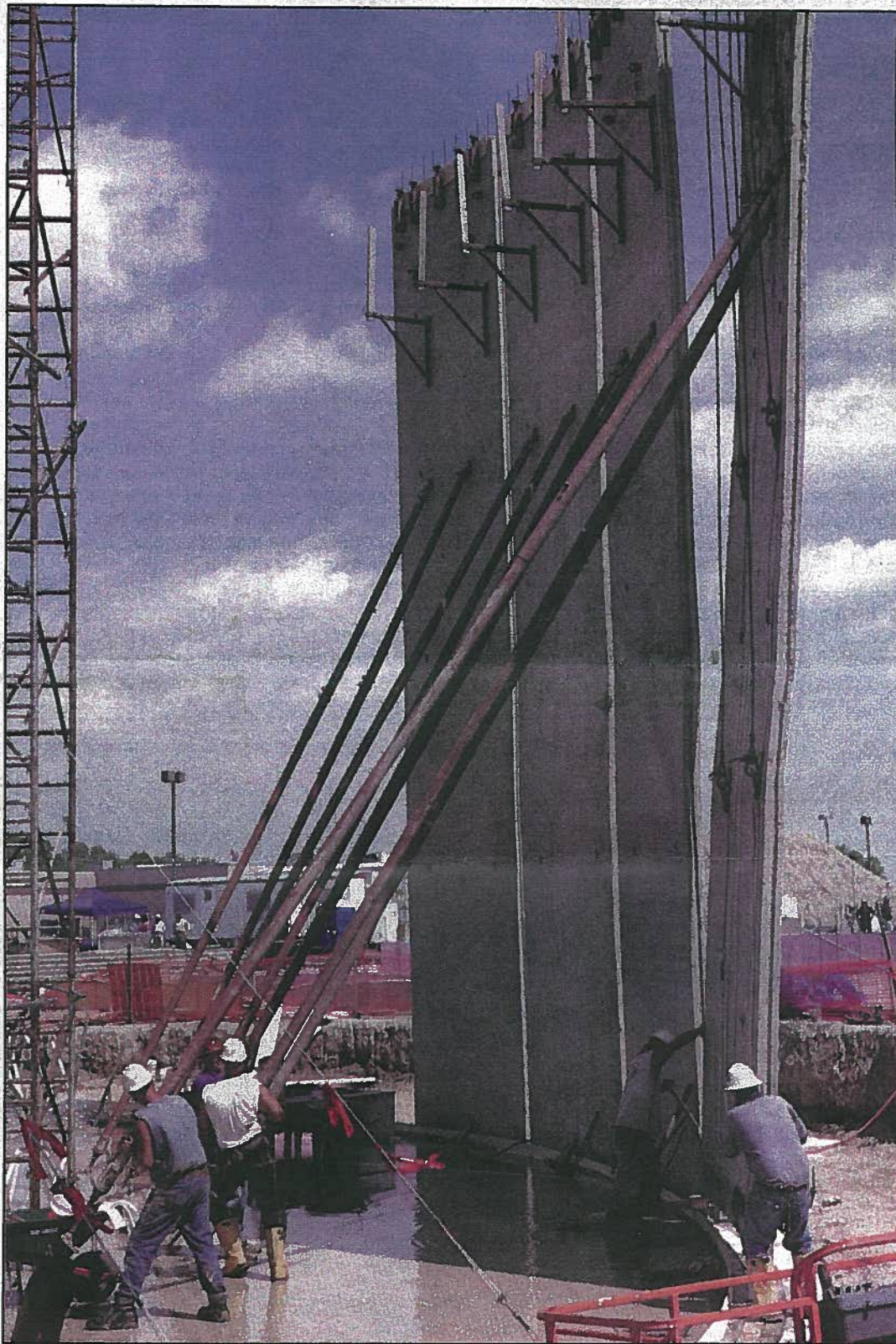
A three-million-gallon water tank, the city's first new tank since 1971, is in the early stages of a monthlong construction project in what was a parking lot for the defunct Fun Harbor.

Crews from Joseph J. Henderson & Son in Gurnee and Massachusetts-based Natgun started assembling the roof structure last week and began placing precast concrete wall panels onto footings Friday morning.

When completed in early fall, the \$1.75 million tank and an accompanying \$1.84 million booster station will serve not only the Fountain Square property, but everything in the city west of Route 41 between Park City and Green Oaks, including residential areas west of the Tri-State Tollway.

According to Water Superintendent Jeff Musinski, the new facilities will ensure availability and delivery of water to the city's west side in the event of an emergency.

◆ Turn to **PIECES, A2**



THOMAS DELANY JR./STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Workers secure a 22-ton panel for the Fountain Square pumping station and water tank at the former Lakehurst Mall site. Thirty concrete panels will be placed around the tank, with 48 panels for the roof.



Thomas Conrad, left, of Waukegan and Jon Stephens, right, of Antioch hold support posts for a cement panel at the Fountain Square water tank project on the site of the former Fun Harbor.



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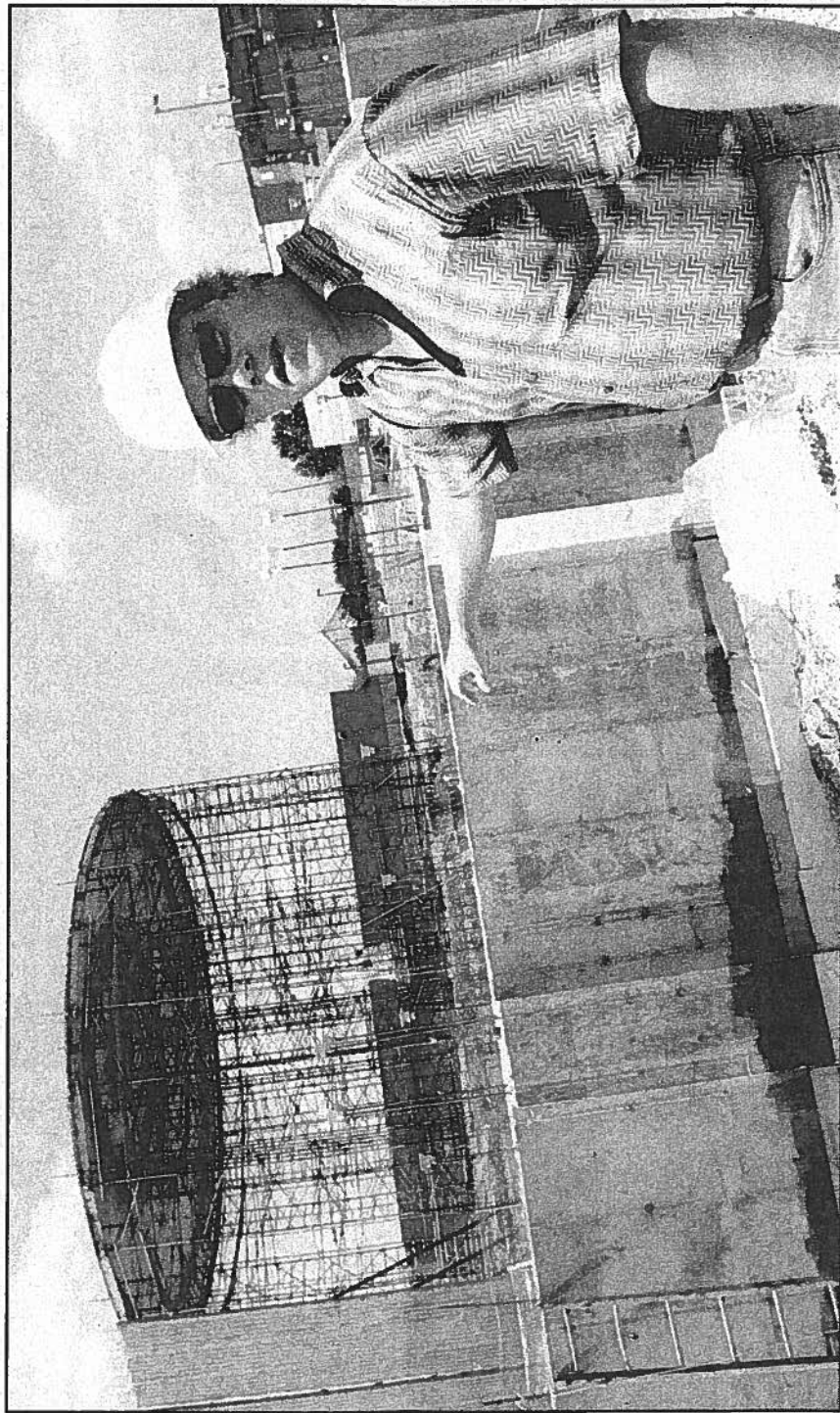
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Waukegan Water Utility Director Jeff Musinski stands in the city's new west side pumping station with the new water tank behind him.

THOMAS DELANY JR. / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

PIECES

From page A1

"If they had a huge need, like a major, major fire, we might not be able to pump enough water out there. We needed something more reliable," Musinski said, explaining that the west side currently relies on a tank at the corner of Route 120 and Green Bay Road.

Musinski added that residences along River

Road on the city's farthest western edge will also benefit from the new water source.

"Some of them are on wells out there," he said. "There's been a lot of growth out there, and we needed this to support that growth."

The new tank will be made entirely of concrete, a first for the city, a situation that Musinski said will save money in maintenance costs. Steel tanks must be periodically repainted both inside and out to fight corrosion. A recent repainting project at a 34-year-old tank on the city's northwest side, Musinski said, came with a \$280,000 pricetag.

The new tank is being constructed using a process that erects concrete panels and then binds them together by winding steel wire around the exterior. The final stages include application of a spray-on concrete to the interior, a process Musinski said is scheduled to start Aug. 31.

"These are all the pieces of the puzzle right here," Musinski said, pointing to the concrete panels stacked up next to the site. "If you came out on Monday, this was only scaffolding, (and) they finished the roof (Friday) morning. It's really going to start rolling now."

Why the geographic patterns? Experts don't have any one clear answer. Some suggest that urban sprawl plays

Hearne said the United States is stuck in a "debate limbo" about how to confront obesity. She urged gov-

sued Tuesday said taxpayers spent \$39 billion in 2003 for the treatment of conditions attributable to obesity.

CLOSURE

From page A1

In the last round of base closures a decade ago, Great Lakes not only survived but also saw \$1 billion in new construction. While both Fort Sheridan near Highwood and Glenview Naval Air Station were closed. Both have since been redeveloped.

Previous commissions - 1988, 1991, 1993 and 1995 - estimated about 15 percent of what the Pentagon proposed as it sought to get rid of bases considered no longer needed. But analysts say it's unclear just how much Rumsfeld's plan will be changed given the emphasis on homeland security and threats in the post-Sept. 11, 2001, era.

"It's not about just trying to get rid of excess capacity. It's actually about trying to reorganize forces for future challenges," says Loren Thompson, a military analyst with the Lexington Institute, a think tank in Arlington, Va. "That makes the outcome hard to call."

The commission plans to sign off on each part of Rumsfeld's plan, the first such effort in a decade to reconfigure states military bases and the most ambitious by far.

The Pentagon proposed closing or consolidating a record number of major military bases and smaller installations to save \$4 billion over 20 years, streamline the services and reposition armed forces to face current threats.