

The Correspondent

BY CHARLENE LOUIS

Snakes aside - June 25 will be a 'zoo'



CHARLENE LOUIS
enough rare species in front

I WAS SO happy to hear the village of Skokie denied a permit to that man from Mundelein who wanted to bring snakes into Skokie June 25 to challenge the Nazis. I really can't take snakes. I suppose my phobia probably stems from a brother who enjoyed nothing more than scaring the daylights out of his sisters with baby garden snakes. The after-effects of such experiences linger; today, I even avoid the reptile house at the zoo.

Besides, who needs cobras, rattlers or water moccasins on June 25. There are going to be enough rare species in front

day without snakes. As on April 30, 1977 - the date of the earlier aborted Nazi march - there are likely to be in front of village hall every kind of malcontent and protestor around, many of whom will have nothing to do with the issue at hand.

SPEAKING OF THE zoo, and I'd much rather at this moment, did you know there is a blind snow leopard at Brookfield zoo? There is a notice posted above the leopard's cage informing the public the animal became blind during old age. The notice points out the leopard is healthy otherwise.

While I stood watching the leopard, a women walked by and commented it was too bad zoo officials didn't put the leopard to sleep, because he was blind. We don't put humans to sleep who lose ther sight. Cats are certainly more adaptable to blindness, being nocturnal animals, and having whiskers which serve as antennae.

Keep you comments to yourself, lady. And stay away from Skokie on June 25.

LOOKING AT THAT beautiful snow leopard, still so graceful and stately, I thought Nazi leader Frank

Collin, Skokie's "guest" on June 25, would probably agree with the woman that the leopard should be killed. The Nazis believed in doing away with the handicapped. I suppose the pure white of the animal's coat wouldn't help him survive, It is marred with dark spots.

Who knows, maybe now that Collin had won the court fight to march in Skokie, he might just wish he could trade places with the snow leopard on June 25. It would be replacing one blind animal with another. Being a cat lover, I just happen to prefer the leopard. Its affliction is a misfortune, not a calamity.

At least we are reaching the end of this hellish period Skokie has been living through since the Nazis first announced their intention to demonstrate in kie more than a year ago. My kids have been really going at me double-time not to cover the march. At least, they plead, you don't have to be in the front row like you were on April 30.

I really don't think I'll be in the front row. This isn't a picnic taking place in front of village hall on June 25.

If I'm there I'll be saying my prayers for peace.