Ernie Papucci, building coordinator of the Niles Family Fitness Center, shovels the walkway during the first major snowfall of the year Jan. 12. PAGE 5 | CURTIS LEHMKUHL - SUN-TIMES MEDIA
While you’re in vacation mode, so is your home.

Complete home control from anywhere in the world.

Adjust lights • Change temperature • Review surveillance cameras
Check security system status • Receive email notifications

- Avidia Energy Saving Lighting Control packages are starting at $2,995.00. Call us today for a free in-home consultation.

- Purchase your system by March 31, 2012 and receive a FREE SpeakerCraft in-ceiling Surround Sound ($500.00 value!)

Avidia Powered Showroom coming soon:

564 Lincoln Avenue
Winnetka, IL 60093
An Island Paradise

An Airoom custom kitchen strikes the perfect balance between function and style. Together, we'll design the dream kitchen you've always wanted.

Call 888.349.1714 or visit www.airoom.com for details.

AIROOM
ARCHITECTS BUIDERS REMODELERS
SINCE 1958

Lincolnwood Showroom | 6825 N. Lincoln Ave., Lincolnwood, IL 60712
Naperville Showroom | 2764 W. Aurora Ave., Naperville, IL 60540

Follow Us
Village plows through year’s first big snow

Niles Public Works employees worked the streets in order to keep residents safe during the first major snowstorm of the season.

“We just started salting a little while ago and had some beet juice down on most of the streets,” Niles Public Works Director Scott Jochim said the morning of Jan. 12.

Jochim noted that the forecast had called for a little less than 5 inches by the morning of Jan. 13 and that the snow had been predicted to fall at about a quarter of an inch per hour, so he wasn’t concerned at the time about the storm turning into a blizzard like last February.

“Knock on wood, we should be OK,” Jochim said.

The village had 1,500 tons of salt in its salt dome, Jochim noted. He added that a few years ago during a severe snowstorm, salt was difficult to come by because the state was grabbing every available ton. He said the village learned a lesson, and now makes sure its salt supply is full.

“We’re prepared for awhile,” he said.

Jochim said he wasn’t sure how many staff members the village would ultimately need for its snow response, but he had 30 workers ready to clean the streets.

Beet juice is effective because it stops the binding when cars ride over the snow, Jochim explained.

“It’s a lot safer for the motorist,” he said.

Jochim added, with a chuckle: “Maybe with a little luck this will be the last storm of the year.”

BUSINESS

Longtime Niles restaurant owner killed in India crash mourned by workers

BY TRACY GRUEN
Contributor

A Naperville family killed in a car crash in India earlier this month had ties to the Niles business community.

Longtime Niles business owner Iqbal Habib, his wife, Zeenat, and their two children, ages 6 and 10, were all killed in the car crash Jan. 6 while visiting India.

“He was a very nice boss,” said Nabeel Siddiqui, manager at the Subway who worked with Habib for seven years. “He was like family.”

Siddiqui said Habib was a generous person to work for.

“If we needed anything, he was just there,” Siddiqui said.

A female employee at the Subway restaurant also expressed her sadness about the crash, saying that Habib was a very nice person and describing him as being just like family.
NILES POLICE

Hit-and-run injury among snow-related accidents

BY TRACY GRUEN
Contributor

During the first major snowstorm of the season the Niles Police Department responded to 15 vehicle accidents, including a hit-and-run accident Jan. 13.

A pedestrian was struck by a vehicle at 12:29 a.m. Jan. 13 on the 6600 block of Touhy Avenue.

Due to the "sidewalk being impassable" the victim reportedly was walking with two other pedestrians in the roadway.

According to police a vehicle sideswiped the victim and then continued driving east away from the scene.

Niles Police Sgt. Robert Tornabene said the 20-year-old Chicago man was in stable condition at Advocate Lutheran General Hospital.

Tornabene said the other two pedestrians were not struck by the vehicle.

Storm-related accidents included nine involving motor vehicles, three in which drivers only exchanged information and two in which the Niles Police Department assisted other local law-enforcement agencies.

As far as the number of accidents, Tornabene said, the number is not par with past storms.

During the storm the Niles Police Department also issued two tickets to drivers who committed snow-route violations.

"I think there have been more in the past," Tornabene said, comparing to past storms the number of citations handed out during the recent storm.

Tornabene said that last year during the first round of snow, police issued about 10 tickets for snow-route violations.

Niles police encourage anyone with information regarding the hit-and-run incident to call the Niles Police Department, (847) 588-6500.

SHERIFF'S REPORTS

The following incidents in unincorporated Maine Township were compiled by the Cook County Sheriff's Department. Readers are reminded that an arrest does not constitute a finding of guilt. Only a court of law can make that determination.

THEFT
A vehicle was reported stolen Jan. 4 from the 9200 block of North Delphia Street. A second vehicle was reported stolen Jan. 9 from the 9700 block of Dee Road.

Theft from vehicles were reported Dec. 30 on the 8800 block of North Western Avenue and Jan. 7 on the 9700 block of Bianco Terrace.

PROPERTY DAMAGE

Vehicles were reported damaged Dec. 28 on the 9200 block of North Delphia Street; Dec. 29 on the 9400 block of Meadow Lane; Dec. 31 at Crestwood condominiums and apartments on the 10000 block of Linda Lane; and Jan. 10 on the 9000 block of Kennedy Drive.

Criminal damage to property damage reports were filed Dec. 31 at Crestwood condominiums and apartments on the 10000 block of Holly Lane; Dec. 31 on the 8900 block of North Western Avenue; Jan. 5 on the 8800 block of North Dee Road; Jan. 6 on the 9500 block of North Greenwood Drive; Jan. 8 on the 9100 block of Stevenson Drive; and Jan. 11 on the 9400 block of North Potter Road.

NORTH SHORE NOSTALGIA

A look back at the interesting events in the area's history PIONEERLOCAL.COM

CONTACT US at Niles Herald-Spectator

ADVERTISING
Display ads (847) 486-9200
E-mail: mmorales@pioneerlocal.com
Classified ads (847) 486-3540
E-mail: jstallford@pioneerlocal.com

Jenna Oakes, Account Executive
(847) 486-7133
David T. Sherman, Advertising Director
(847) 486-7200

CUSTOMER SERVICE AND DELIVERY
for service or subscriptions (847) 855-7722
Customer service hours: Mon-Fri, 6:30 a.m.-4 p.m.
Sat., 6:30 a.m.-12 p.m.
Sun., 8 a.m.-12 noon.
For TV WEEKLY DELIVERY
www.pioneerpix.com
E-mail: elizabeth@pioneerlocal.com

EDUCATIONAL
www.pioneerpix.com
Sports (847) 486-7500
E-mail: elizabeth@pioneerlocal.com

Matt Schmitt, Manger
Rick Martin, Editor
Connie Reeder, Sports Editor
(847) 486-3177

PIONEER PRESS
John Barron
Publisher
(847) 486-7201

Jeff Moreen
Editor in Chief
(847) 486-6848

Mike Nolan
Vice President, Operations
(847) 486-3177

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR
By e-mail: mschmitt@pioneerlocal.com
By mail: Letters to the editor, Niles Herald-Spectator, 3701 W. Lake Ave., Glenview, IL 60026
By fax: (847) 486-7451
By e-mail: mschmitt@pioneerlocal.com

PUBLICATION INFORMATION
Niles Herald-Spectator (USPS 390-580) Vol. 63, No. 4. Published 52 issues per year by Sun-Times Media, LLC, 3701 West Lake Ave., Glenview, IL 60025. Single copy $1.00. Periodical postage paid at Glenview, IL 60025 and additional offices. One-year subscription $32.00. In county only. Call (847) 486-9300 to subscribe. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Niles Herald-Spectator, 3701 W. Lake Ave., Glenview, IL 60026.
MAINE SOUTH

Orchesis dance team has all the 'Elements' to entertain

Maine South High School's Orchesis Dance Company presented its annual show Jan. 13 and Jan. 14 at the Park Ridge school.

This year's show, titled "Elements," featured original choreography by Orchesis members, and also included dancers from Emerson and Lincoln middle schools and Maine South's Advanced Dance class.

Members of 2011-12 Orchesis are Allanah Baresky, Dora Bialy, Becca Blazek, Breigh Carey, Eva Castane-da, Meghan Farrell, Maggie Fleita, Livvie Gobie, Anna Graziano, Abby Greiber, Jenni Hanson, Megan Hinds, Nicole Hassman, Kathy Hei-frich, Megan Hinds, Hayley Jaffe, Karina Koch, Catherine Kosl, Katie Krone, Kate Makowski, Nikki Romano, Jessica Self, Marissa Sulek, Kendra Suba and Nicole Za-wistowski.


Maine South Orchesis dancer Marissa Sulek holds a pin above a balloon during her performance of a piece, "As Time Breezes By." JON LANGHAM-FOR SUN-TIMES MEDIA

Dancers stand in a pool under dripping water during "Rain One," one of a number of choreographed pieces featured. JON LANGHAM-FOR SUN-TIMES MEDIA
The Rev. Britto Berchmans, pastor of St. Paul of the Cross Catholic Church in Park Ridge, will present a night of stand-up comedy Jan. 27 as part of a church fundraiser.

**RELIGION**

Priest stands up for funny side of faith

**BY JENNIFER JOHNSON**

So, a Catholic priest walks into a stand-up-comedy showcase...

What? You were looking for a punch line?

The Rev. Britto Berchmans' upcoming one-man show, "Centennial Chuckles," is no joke, but the pastor of Park Ridge's St. Paul of the Cross Catholic Church hopes his comedy act produces plenty of laughs.

"For too long people have thought church is kind of heavy and boring," Berchmans said. "No, church is wonderful, and my theory is, if you do not laugh in the Father's house, where will you laugh?"

Berchmans will be encouraging his flock to look at the lighter side of life and religion at 7 p.m. Jan. 27 in St. Paul's Morello Parish Life Center. "Centennial Chuckles: An Evening of Humor," is a fundraiser to help support some of St. Paul's 100th anniversary celebrations that have been taking place during the past year.

This will be the second time Berchmans is presenting a stand-up-comedy act at St. Paul.

"We did something similar last year. It was a fundraiser for the school and it was a great success," he said.

Regular parishioners of St. Paul are already familiar with Berchmans' comedy style — he is known for dropping short jokes or amusing anecdotes into his homilies to get across the message of the day's sermon. Many of these tales will be incorporated into his "Centennial Chuckles" act, which he explained will largely consist of comedy in story form, often with a life lesson attached.

The audience can also expect jokes about marriage and relationships, children and growing older — and even about the church itself, Catholic priests and the pope.

"One of my favorite topics is actually relationships between men and women, which always provides a great amount of humor," Berchmans said.

Laughing, he added: "I always tell people I love to tell jokes about married people because it makes me feel good as a celibate."

Berchmans' comedy style — he is known for dropping short jokes or amusing anecdotes into his homilies to get across the message of the day's sermon. Many of these tales will be incorporated into his "Centennial Chuckles" act, which he explained will largely consist of comedy in story form, often with a life lesson attached.

The audience can also expect jokes about marriage and relationships, children and growing older — and even about the church itself, Catholic priests and the pope.

"One of my favorite topics is actually relationships between men and women, which always provides a great amount of humor," Berchmans said.

Laughing, he added: "I always tell people I love to tell jokes about married people because it makes me feel good as a celibate."

Berchmans' material is drawn from stories he has heard and collected through the years, and can also be found in the many volumes of joke books that fill his office. Some of his original material is based on humorous things that have happened to him or people he has known. His attempts at speaking Italian while serving in Rome, for example, have generated their share of amusing tales, including the time he accidentally told a congregation, "If you are sexy, I am more sexy" instead of remarking, as he'd intended, on how hot everyone was feeling because of the summer weather.

"It always gets a good laugh," Berchmans said of that particular account.

Growing up in India, Berchmans was exposed to wry, British-style humor and identifies Irish comedian Hal Roach as one of his favorite funny men.

"I have listened to him a lot and I love his jokes," he said.

Berchmans is also a fan of American stand-up comedian and ventriloquist Jeff Dunham, as well as comedy TV and films.

"Life is too serious and I like, when I am by myself, to laugh," he acknowledged.

Even God, the priest believes, has a comedic side.

"God has a sense of humor by making us the way we are (with) all our quirks and idiosyncrasies," he said. "And life is too short to be so uptight. I think it is important people learn to smile and laugh."

Tickets for "Centennial Chuckles" can be ordered through the St. Paul of the Cross website, www.spcchurch.org. General-admission tickets are $35 per person or $30 for seniors if purchased on or before Jan. 20. Reserved seating is $50 per person.

After Jan. 20 the price of general admission is $40 per person and $35 for seniors.

For more information call Patti Nowak, (847) 698-0950.


**DISTRICT 207**

**Class rank mixed once and for all**

Maine Township High School District 207 students will no longer be ranked numerically among their classmates starting next school year.

School board members voted 4-2 to eliminate class rank at a regular board meeting on Jan. 9.

In June board members voted to eliminate class rank, but wanted students to still have the option to put their rank on their college transcripts if they wished.

But the online template, the Common Application, caused other complications, so there was no middle ground — rank would either have to remain on all transcripts or be eliminated.

In September the board reinstated class rank for the duration of the year.

“I think class rank is important,” said Board Member Eric Leys, who voted against eliminating it. “I think it’s something that students need to own.”

Leys said his overall concern with eliminating rank is that it eliminates an academic indicator that is available to students and their families.

Board Member Edward Mueller also voted against eliminating class rank. In a written statement he explained that he felt rank is valid information for students, parents and college-admissions offices. He also felt class rank helps students select the right college and helps deserving, yet younger students receive scholarships.

“It appears to me that maintaining student rank hurts some students,” said Board Member Eldon Burk, who voted to eliminate rank.

Barbara Dill-Varga, assistant superintendent for curriculum, explained at past board meetings that class rank has had a negative impact on some students when applying for universities and colleges. Dill-Varga explained that some students may be ranked lower because they attend more competitive high schools, and other students with higher class ranks at less-competitive schools would have a better chance of getting into the same college.

“I wish our solution from last year had worked,” said Board Member Margaret McGrath, referring to eliminating class rank but giving students the option to put it on their transcript if they felt it would benefit them.

McGrath voted in favor of eliminating rank, saying she supports the concept because she feels the district should be as transparent as possible, but she can’t support keeping it if it hurts some students.

“I don’t think we should be disadvantaging anyone,” she said.

Several local high schools have eliminated class rank and others plan to do so in the near future.

**PARK RIDGE POLICE**

**Student offered ride by suspicious man near train station**

**BY NATASHA WASINSKI**

An unknown man allegedly approached and followed a Park Ridge high school student on Jan. 11.

According to Park Ridge police the 16-year-old girl at 2 p.m. had exited the Metra BNSF train Depot at 950 Busse Highway when a man approached her and offered her a ride home.

He also gave her a piece of paper with a phone number and said to call if she wanted to “hang out in the city, presumably Chicago,” said Park Ridge Administrative Lieutenant Duane Mellema, adding that the man did not appear to have a car.

The teenager declined his offer and walked to her residence on the 1200 block of Hoffman Avenue with the man trailing behind on foot. She lost sight of him after she entered her home, Mellema said.

The man was described as a 25- to 35-year-old black man standing between 5-foot-6 and 5-foot-8. He had short hair and wore a black jacket and black pants. Mellema said it appeared to be an isolated event as similar incidents had not been reported in recent months. Police were investigating the incident.

School districts, including East Maine School District 63 and Park Ridge-Niles School District 64, put out community alerts regarding the incident.

**FREE DENTAL CARE**

Free Town Hall Meeting

Leukemia, Lymphoma

Myelodysplastic Syndromes

Multiple Myeloma

Sunday, Jan. 29 - 1 p.m. - 4 p.m.

Presented by the Leukemia Research Foundation

**Hoarder Cleanouts**

Major Mess, Large Building and Extreme Hoarder Property Cleanouts!

Illinois Largest Truck and 6-8 Man Specialized Crew!

We remove all junk and garbage in just a few short hours!

We can remove 150 yards per day!

As seen on Hoarding Buried Alive!

HoarderCleanouts.com

24-7 Service 847-338-0588
Produce World opened its doors in Morton Grove last year at 7220 Dempster St.
The store has a bountiful selection of produce, poultry, seafood, meats, dairy and bakery goods.

Produce World specializes in international products along with fresh produce at a low price.
The hours are 6:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 7:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. Sunday.

Produce World in Morton Grove specializes in international products along with fresh produce.

Photos by
Tamara Bell
Sun-Times Media

Scores of vegetables and other fresh produce items line the aisles at Produce World in Morton Grove.
Produce World opened its doors in Morton Grove last year at 7220 Dempster St.

Produce World, 7220 Dempster St., strives to provide customers with international products and fresh produce at a low price.

The store boasts a wide selection of produce, poultry, seafood, meats, dairy and bakery goods.

More Online

Click on Photo Galleries on the home page to view more images, or go to pioneeralocal.mycapture.com to buy photos.
Resurrection
COLLEGE PREP HIGH SCHOOL
celebrating 90 years of educating women

Second Entrance Exam
January 28, 2012 at 8:00 am

All interested eighth grade girls may register by January 26th by calling 773.775.6616 Ext 129.
The Exam is a requirement for admission. Students should bring a $25 testing fee, a calculator and #2 pencils.

www.reshs.org

Discover Resurrection
Single Gender | Block Scheduling | Practicum Program
Over 50 Clubs & Activities | 26 Athletic Teams & 11 Sports
100% College Acceptance | Catholic Christian Environment

Spring Open House
Thursday, March 22, 2012
6:00 pm to 8:00 pm

Call 773.775.6616 Ext 129 to schedule a Shadow Day or for more information about Resurrection College Prep.

Shadow Days
7th grade girls are invited to a special Shadow Day on March 16, 2012.
8th grade girls welcome to shadow on Wednesdays.

7500 W. Talcott Ave, Chicago 60631 | Adjacent to Park Ridge
Accessible by CTA blue line & Metra train | Private transportation available
POLICE BLOTTER

The following incidents were listed in the weekly bulletin prepared by the Niles Police Department. Readers are reminded that an arrest does not constitute a finding of guilt. Only a court of law can make that determination.

BURGLARY

A 24-year-old Chicago man reported Jan. 13 that someone entered his locked locker on the 9200 block of Milwaukee Avenue and took an iPhone valued at $800.

A 32-year-old Niles man reported that an unidentified male called him Jan. 13 at his home on the 8800 block of Washington and said he needed a ride home from the hospital and that he was going to be released from drug rehabilitation. When the victim returned home he learned that someone had entered his residence and stolen an XBox. The victim told police the offender staged the call in order to burglarize his home.

Someone stole a cash register and jewelry valued at $1,500 between Jan. 11 and Jan. 12 from a retail store on the 9000 block of Golf Road.

THEFT

Tadeusz Dec, 51, of 9074 Terrace, was arrested Jan. 1 on the 9000 block of Golf Road and charged with retail theft. The man reportedly picked up a bottle of vodka valued at $7.99 and left the store without paying. No court date was specified in the report.

A man thought to be in his 20s or 30s, wearing a dark hat and gray hooded sweatshirt stole three PlayStation controllers Jan. 12 from a store on the 8500 block of Golf Road. The controllers were valued at $168.

DOMESTIC DISPUTE

A 30-year-old woman from Niles called 911 from her apartment on the 6700 block of Milwaukee Avenue after an argument with her husband. The woman said she called 911 because her husband "didn't grind all the particles" out of the children's food. The woman said the couple argued over the man's lack of helping with the children.

VEHICLE THEFT

A two-door Toyota was stolen between Jan. 12 and Jan. 13 from a driveway on the 8600 block of Ozark.

IN SERVICE

Navy Seaman Recruit Matthew S. Bien, son of Jill Bien, of Chicago, and Daniel Bien, of Park Ridge, recently completed U.S. Navy basic training at Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, Ill. During the eight-week program Bien completed a variety of training, which included classroom study and practical instruction on naval customs, first aid, firefighting, water safety and survival, and shipboard and aircraft safety.

An emphasis was also placed on physical fitness. Bien is a 2011 graduate of Maine South High School.

---

THE HOMETEAL AT

MORTON GROVE

INDEPENDENT LIVING

A senior rental retirement community for folks 62 years of age and older! Reserve your Premier Select Series Apartment Homes Today

One and two bedroom apartment homes Every apartment has a washer/dryer
Enjoy social activities Under building parking available
Oversized patio/terrace • On-site staff
Community library • On-site fitness center

YOU ARE INVITED TO A PRIVATE PREVIEW AND LEARN

DATE: THURSDAY, JANUARY 26TH AT 1:30

Place: The Homestead at Morton Grove, Off-site leasing office
6032 Lincoln Avenue, Morton Grove

Please rsvp (847) 581-1800 Bring a Friend!

---

WHAT DO YOU WANT TO BE?

Faster

Stronger

Healthier

Leaner

---

FIND YOUR FITNESS FORMULA.

Union Station
adjacent to the train station at Jackson and Canal
312.627.0444

West Loop
now open across from the Ogilvie Transportation Center
312.902.2040

South Loop • Lincoln Park • Oak Park • Old Town
Gold Coast • East Lakeview • Halsted & Belmont

Text FFC to 70626 for a chance to WIN 4 personal training sessions*

Get RESULTS!

Join in January and receive:
- Two Personal Training Sessions FREE
- Two Pilates Sessions FREE
- Work out 36 times in 90 days, and earn your Enrollment Fee back.**

*Message data rates and sweepstakes rules may apply.
**Restrictions apply. See Club for details.

Thank you for voting us BEST GYM in Chicago!
- 2011 Citysearch Poll

ffc.com
### BRAKES

**$39.95**  
Per Wheel  
Metallic Pads Extra  
Expires - 2/4/12

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Kelly Explorer Plus</th>
<th>19565R15</th>
<th>Fuel Max</th>
<th>21570R15</th>
<th>Comfortred</th>
<th>22555R16</th>
<th>Triple Tred</th>
<th>23565R16</th>
<th>Limited Quantity Discontinued Special</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>18565R14</td>
<td>$49.95</td>
<td>$99.95</td>
<td>$115.95</td>
<td>$127.95</td>
<td>$99.95</td>
<td>$101.95</td>
<td>$109.95</td>
<td>4-22340R18 DUNLOP SPORT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19570R14</td>
<td>$69.95</td>
<td>$109.95</td>
<td>$125.95</td>
<td>$137.95</td>
<td>$119.95</td>
<td>$121.95</td>
<td>$129.95</td>
<td>4-22345R18 DUNLOP SPORT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18566R15</td>
<td>$59.95</td>
<td>$109.95</td>
<td>$125.95</td>
<td>$137.95</td>
<td>$119.95</td>
<td>$121.95</td>
<td>$129.95</td>
<td>4-22350R18 DUNLOP SPORT MAX</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19565R15</td>
<td>$69.95</td>
<td>$109.95</td>
<td>$125.95</td>
<td>$137.95</td>
<td>$119.95</td>
<td>$121.95</td>
<td>$129.95</td>
<td>4-22355R18 DUNLOP SPORT MAX</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20565R15</td>
<td>$69.95</td>
<td>$109.95</td>
<td>$125.95</td>
<td>$137.95</td>
<td>$119.95</td>
<td>$121.95</td>
<td>$129.95</td>
<td>4-22360R18 DUNLOP SPORT MAX</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21570R15</td>
<td>$69.95</td>
<td>$109.95</td>
<td>$125.95</td>
<td>$137.95</td>
<td>$119.95</td>
<td>$121.95</td>
<td>$129.95</td>
<td>4-22365R18 DUNLOP SPORT MAX</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22555R16</td>
<td>$79.95</td>
<td>$119.95</td>
<td>$135.95</td>
<td>$147.95</td>
<td>$123.95</td>
<td>$125.95</td>
<td>$133.95</td>
<td>4-22550R18 DUNLOP SPORT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22560R16</td>
<td>$79.95</td>
<td>$119.95</td>
<td>$135.95</td>
<td>$147.95</td>
<td>$123.95</td>
<td>$125.95</td>
<td>$133.95</td>
<td>4-22555R18 DUNLOP SPORT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23560R16</td>
<td>$79.95</td>
<td>$119.95</td>
<td>$135.95</td>
<td>$147.95</td>
<td>$123.95</td>
<td>$125.95</td>
<td>$133.95</td>
<td>4-22560R18 DUNLOP SPORT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23555R16</td>
<td>$79.95</td>
<td>$119.95</td>
<td>$135.95</td>
<td>$147.95</td>
<td>$123.95</td>
<td>$125.95</td>
<td>$133.95</td>
<td>4-22565R18 DUNLOP SPORT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23560R16</td>
<td>$79.95</td>
<td>$119.95</td>
<td>$135.95</td>
<td>$147.95</td>
<td>$123.95</td>
<td>$125.95</td>
<td>$133.95</td>
<td>4-22565R18 DUNLOP SPORT</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### ALIGNMENT

**$39.95**  
Most Cars  
Expires - 2/4/12

### CLEAN & FLUSH FUEL INJECTORS

**$59.95**  
Most Cars  
Expires - 2/4/12

### OIL, LUBE, FILTER

**$15.00**  
Most Cars  
Includes Disposal Fee, Tire Rotation $9.99  
Please call for appointment  
Expires - 2/4/12

### High Performance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>19560R15 Charger Gt</th>
<th>$63.95</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>19565R15 Charger Gt</td>
<td>$59.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20560R15 Charger Gt</td>
<td>$69.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21560R15 Charger Gt</td>
<td>$67.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20565R16 Charger Gt</td>
<td>$73.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21555R16 Charger Gt</td>
<td>$84.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22555R16 Charger Gt</td>
<td>$81.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23560R16 Charger Gt</td>
<td>$74.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21560R16 Charger Gt</td>
<td>$74.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22560R16 Charger Gt</td>
<td>$77.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21555R17 Charger Gt</td>
<td>$92.95</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Ultra High Perform

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>20550R17 Fierce</th>
<th>$104.95</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>21555R17 Fierce</td>
<td>$96.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21550R17 Fierce</td>
<td>$101.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22555R17 Fierce</td>
<td>$101.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22550R17 Fierce</td>
<td>$111.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23550R17 Fierce</td>
<td>$111.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23555R17 Fierce</td>
<td>$118.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24545R17 Fierce</td>
<td>$114.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24545R18 Fierce</td>
<td>$124.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24540R18 Fierce</td>
<td>$136.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24540R19 Fierce</td>
<td>$153.95</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Assurance CS Fuel Max

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>21570R16</th>
<th>$128.95</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>21570R16</td>
<td>$137.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21570R16</td>
<td>$140.95</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>22570R16</th>
<th>$148.95</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>22570R16</td>
<td>$138.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22570R16</td>
<td>$146.95</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>26570R16</th>
<th>$154.95</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>26570R16</td>
<td>$147.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26570R16</td>
<td>$154.95</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>23565R17</th>
<th>$142.95</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>23565R17</td>
<td>$167.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23565R17</td>
<td>$187.95</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CASTING CALL: READY TO MAKE YOUR DREAMS A REALITY?
Macy's is teaming up with Clinton Kelly and TLC to help you bring your dreams to life.
To submit your application now through January 31, 2012, go to facebook.com/macys
No purchase necessary; complete details online. Employees of Macy's, Inc. not eligible.

NOW THROUGH SUNDAY!

storewide clearance

50% - 85% OFF

thousands of items when you TAKE AN EXTRA 20% OR 50% OFF
already reduced prices

FREE SHIPPING AT MACY'S WITH $99 ONLINE PURCHASE
No promo code needed; exclusions apply.

75% OFF
WHEN YOU TAKE AN EXTRA 20% OFF
Orig. $34.50-$75, final cost 8.33-15.75.
Clearance sportshirts from our Club Room, Alfani & more.

75%-85% OFF
WHEN YOU TAKE AN EXTRA 50% OFF
Orig. $29-$299, final cost 3.63-74.75.
Select clearance sweaters, knit tops, blouses, outerwear & more from our Style & Co., Alfani, Charter Club and JM Collection. Misses & petites. Women's prices slightly higher.

60% OFF
WHEN YOU TAKE AN EXTRA 20% OFF
Orig. $39.50-119.50, final cost 15.80-47.80.
Clearance sweaters, fleece tops, outerwear & sportshirts from Sean John & our American Rag.

60% OFF
WHEN YOU TAKE AN EXTRA 20% OFF
Orig. $40-$90, final cost 16-36.
Clearance coats: down, wool-blend and faux shearling styles. Misses.

65%-70% OFF
WHEN YOU TAKE AN EXTRA 20% OFF

50%-65% OFF
WHEN YOU TAKE AN EXTRA 20% OFF
Orig. $18-$248, final cost 6.30-$124. Clearance handbag selections: satchels, totes, more.

the magic of macys.com

ORIG. PRICES ARE OFFERING PRICES & SAVINGS MAY NOT BE BASED ON ACTUAL SALES. SOME ORIG. PRICES NOT IN EFFECT DURING THE PAST 90 DAYS. EXTRA SAVINGS IN EFFECT 1/19-1/22/2012, EXCEPT AS NOTED. *Intermediate price reductions may have been taken. Orig/Now & clearance items are available while supplies last. Jewelry photos may be enlarged or enhanced to show detail. Fine jewelry at select stores; log on to macys.com for locations. Almost all gemstones have been treated to enhance their beauty & require special care, log on to macys.com/gemstones or ask your sales professional. Extra savings taken off already reduced prices; "final cost" prices reflect extra savings. Advertised merchandise may not be carried at your local Macy's & selection may vary by store. Prices & merchandise may differ at macys.com. N112004S.

OPEN A MACY'S ACCOUNT FOR EXTRA 15% SAVINGS THE FIRST 2 DAYS, UP TO $100, WITH MORE REWARDS TO COME. Macy's credit card is available subject to credit approval; new account savings valid the day your account is opened and the next day; excludes services, selected licensed departments, gift cards, restaurants, gourmet food & wine. The new account savings are limited to a total of $100; application must qualify for immediate approval to receive extra savings; employees not eligible.
OAKTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE

New course offerings

Gain a better appreciation of religion or screen stars by enrolling in new classes offered by the Emeritus Program at Oakton.

The Old Testament: A Treasury of Stories (HUM B20-71) - Analyze the inspiring and lesser-known stories found in the Hebrew Scriptures. Eight-week course meets 10 a.m. to noon Thursdays starting Jan. 26. Course fee is $128.

Sir Alec Guinness: His Golden Decade on Screen (HUM E41-71) - Explore eight films from the 1950s that showcase this British actor's range and versatility. Movies to be screened include: "The Bridge on the River Kwai," "The Man in the White Suit," "The Lady Killers" and "Our Man in Havana." Eight-week course meets 9:30 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. Fridays starting Jan. 27. Course fee is $156.

Marlon Brando: Force of Nature (HUM B02-71) - Find out how this actor became a cultural icon by examining some of his most famous roles and collaborations with directors. View movies that demonstrate his diverse talent, including "A Streetcar Named Desire," "On the Waterfront" and "Last Tango in Paris." Eight-week course meets 9:30 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. Wednesdays starting Feb. 1. Course fee is $156.

All featured courses meet at Oakton's Skokie campus, 7701 N. Lincoln Ave.

All registrants will be charged an $8 nonrefundable processing fee at the time of registration. However, students who register online will only be charged once per semester for an unlimited number of courses. Those registering in person, by mail, or fax will be charged an $8 fee with each registration form.


Brush up on language, dance

Head on over to Glenbrook South High School to brush up on language or dance skills by enrolling in noncredit courses offered through the Oakton Alliance for Lifelong Learning.

Chinese I (LCH B01-01) - Familiarize yourself with the language of modern Mandarin Chinese while exploring Asian culture. Eight-week class meets 7-9 p.m. Thursdays starting Jan. 26. Course fee is $154.

Spanish I (LSP C01-02) - Learn the basics of Spanish grammar, vocabulary and pronunciation. Eight-week course meets 7-9 p.m. Thursdays starting Jan. 26. Course fee is $154.

Belly Dancing for Fitness and Fun (PED 577-02) - Belly dancing enhances coordination, flexibility and circulation. No partner or prior dance experience is needed. Six-week course meets 6:30-7:30 p.m. Thursdays starting Jan. 26. Course fee is $55.

Best of Ballroom Dancing and Special Party Line Dances (PED 560-02) - Learn American-style dances. A partner is not required. Six-week course meets 7:40-8:40 p.m. Thursdays starting Jan. 26. Course fee is $55.

All registrants will be charged an $8 non-refundable processing fee at the time of registration. Visit www.oakton.edu/alt or call (847) 982-9888, press 3.
Go From Mod To Modern

You changed up your look. Isn't it time your house did too? Elevations specializes in exterior makeovers. We'll custom design a unique, fresh look you'll be proud to come home to.

Call 888.616.4686 or visit www.myelevations.com to learn more.

Free estimate or consultation.

Elevations. Elevating the Standard in Exterior Renovations.

Lincolnwood Showroom | 6825 N. Lincoln Ave., Lincolnwood, IL 60712
Naperville Showroom | 2764 W. Aurora Ave., Naperville, IL 60540

Open 6 days a week, Sunday by appt
PROPERTY TRANSFERS

Information is provided by Record Information Services, PO. Box 894, Elburn, IL 60119; phone (630) 557-4000; fax (630) 557-1000.

EDISON PARK

5655 N Octavia Ave.: Sieniak Trust to Tomasz Gniezdek, $220,000, Dec. 7

GLENVIEW

1024 Castilian Court Apt 204: Jitka Petrasova to Sang Chun Do, $1,000,000, Dec. 12

GOLF

59 Park Lane: Richard Wittington Estate to Todd Lansdowne, $1,000,000, Dec. 12

HARWOOD HEIGHTS

4833 N Olcott Ave. Unit 311: Parkway Bank & Trust Co. Trust to Mary Rose Mastromarco, $208,000, Dec. 9

LINCOLNWOLD


MORTON GROVE

5501 Lincoln Ave. Unit 408: Frisch Trust to Lyudmyla Leskiw, $85,000, Dec. 7

PARK RIDGE

127 Gillick St.: Chicago Title Land Co. Trust to Roman Speron, $358,000, Dec. 13

DITCH SATELLITE FOR THE MOST ON DEMAND. EXPERIENCE XFINITY.

Get access to more On Demand movies and shows on your TV, streaming online and on your iPad, with the XFINITY TV app—anytime, anywhere. And as the fastest Internet provider in the nation according to PC Mag. XFINITY gives you the speed you need on all of your devices so you can do more of what you want to do.

$99 a month for 12 months
HD DVR service free for 3 months
The most On Demand

comcast.com/xfinity | 1-888-702-7014

Offer ends 3/31/12 and is limited to new residential customers. Not available in all areas. Requires subscription to Digital Starter TV, Performance Internet and XFINITY Voice Unlimited service. After 3 months, monthly service for HD DVR service goes to $10 for months 4-12. After 12 months, monthly service charge for Starter XF Triple Play goes to $119.99 for months 13-24. After promotional period, or if any service is cancelled or downgraded, regular charges apply. Comcast's current monthly service charge for the Starter XF Triple Play is $139.95 and for HD DVR ranges from $16.95-$17.95, depending on area (rate includes HD technology fee, where applicable. TV and Internet service limited to a single outlet. Equipment, installation, taxes, franchise fees, the Regulatory Recovery Fee and other applicable charges (e.g., per call or international charges) extra. May not be combined with other offers. TV Basic service subscription required to receive other levels of service. On Demand selections subject to charge indicated at time of purchase. Not all programming available in all areas. Internet: Actual speeds may vary and are not guaranteed. 2011 rating by PC Mag based on review of customer data from speedtest.net. Voice: $29.99 activation fee may apply. Service (including 911 emergency services) may not function after an extended power outage. Money-Back Guarantee limited to one month recurring service and standard installation charge up to $500. Call for restrictions and complete details. © 2012 Comcast. All rights reserved. Apple, iPad, iPhone and iPod touch are trademarks of Apple Inc., registered in the U.S. and other countries.

Don't be a dish head
Private and spacious

Brick 2-story comes with large stone fireplace

8726 W. Stolting Road, Niles — $789,000

Built in 1996, this 6,000-square-foot brick two-story home sits on 0.21 acres and features a kitchen with hardwood floors, modern appliances and a center island.

There is a vaulted ceiling in the living room, which comes with recessed lighting, skylights and a floor-to-ceiling stone fireplace.

The dining room has a semi-tiered ceiling, a chandelier and hardwood floors.

The spacious lower level has a wet bar and both hardwood and carpeted flooring.

The back yard is equipped with a wood deck that provides views of the property's manicured landscaping.

This home comes with a two-car garage and is just over a mile northeast from the Dee Road Metra station.

Listing agent: Tadeusz Dolecki, RE/MAX Properties Northwest, 847-917-7622, tdolecki@remax.net

Stylish track lighting accents this kitchen's white cabinetry and dark countertops.

Located near a Metra station, this five-bedroom comes with fine landscaping and a large garage.

Beds: 5
Baths: 5

Selling a home that stands out from the rest?
Email us: hotproperties@blockshopper.com

ON THE MARKET
A ROUNDUP OF NEW LISTINGS
A three-bedroom, two-bath home at 8401 Austin Ave.
In Morton Grove is on the market for $309,000. The 1,274-square-foot house is steps from Austin Park, and the recent remodel includes a chef's kitchen with stainless steel appliances and granite countertops. Mario Greco of Prudential Rubloff is the listing agent.

A three-bedroom, 1.5-bath home at 8839 Marmora Ave. in Morton Grove is on the market for $180,000. The all-brick, ranch-style house is 1,087 square feet. It features a full basement, a large yard and hardwood flooring on the main floor. Mark Firlej of Arc Realtors is the listing agent.

A four-bedroom, 3.5-bath home at 8336 Natchez Ave. in Morton Grove is on the market for $385,900. The Colonial-style house, built in 1981, is 3,588 square feet. Located in the Eldorado Towers neighborhood, the home includes a dramatic two-story entry, a newer kitchen, fireplace and two-car garage. Juanito Pasia of Net 1 Realtors is the listing agent.

—John Ferri

MARKET WATCH

CITY | FOR SALE | MEDIAN PRICE | FORECLOSURE RATE | # OF SALES | # OF FORECLOSURES
---|---|---|---|---|---
Edison Park | 1.85% | $250,000 | 6.67% | 90 | 6
Forest Glen | 0.43% | $282,500 | 2.83% | 19 | 1
Norwood Park | 2.09% | $265,000 | 17.83% | 157 | 28
Des Plaines | 3.03% | $165,000 | 30.58% | 667 | 204
Evanston | 2.71% | $325,000 | 12.98% | 601 | 78
Glencoe | 2.92% | $390,000 | 13.44% | 543 | 73
Lincolnwood | 2.79% | $292,000 | 15.25% | 118 | 18
Morton Grove | 2.35% | $220,000 | 19.25% | 213 | 41
Niles | 2.13% | $192,000 | 19.75% | 243 | 48
Park Ridge | 2.64% | $334,000 | 14.93% | 355 | 63
Skokie | 2.34% | $255,000 | 24.43% | 528 | 129
Wilmette | 1.99% | $583,750 | 7.62% | 315 | 24

Niles North debate wins championship

The Niles North Debate Team spent their winter break in sunny Fort Lauderdale, riding a winning wave to the championship at the University School Sunvitational held at Nova Southeastern University Jan. 6-8. The Niles North teams of Sam Eschker and Leelabari Fulbel and Ambria Benesch and Adam Yusen went undefeated in preliminary rounds (both had a 6-0 record) and were named Co-Champions in Novice Policy Debate. This is Niles North’s first championship title in its first year of competition (all its members are freshmen). Niles North’s Karli Goldenberg and Mia Temkin won third place and Rushanas Hasan and Komal Khooja placed 14th. The top overall individual speaker at the tournament was Eschker. His teammates joined him in the top 10: Benesch, third individual speaker; Yusen, fourth individual speaker; Goldenberg, sixth individual speaker; Temkin, ninth individual speaker; and Fulbel, tenth individual speaker.

“It’s impressive that both our teams did not lose a single debate round,” said Niles North Head Debate Coach Kaj Gjerpen. “Our debaters should feel proud. Winning a tournament as a new program and with all freshmen is an incredible accomplishment.”

Assistant debate coaches are Andrew Baker, Arjun Vellayappan, Apoorv Kumar and Sarah Smaga.

Sophomore college night at Niles West

The college search and application process can be very confusing. District 219 sophomores and their parents are invited to start the journey at Sophomore College Night from 7-8:30 p.m. Jan. 26 in the Auditorium at Niles West High School, 5701 Oakton St., Skokie. This free informational session will cover the following topics: college selection process, high school course requirements for college, and admissions criteria. The speaker is Heather Chase Boggs, Admissions Representative from Miami University of Ohio. Also present to answer questions will be College and Career Counselors Dan Gin (Niles West) and Tiffany Stallone (Niles North) and National College Adviser Jerry Pope. For more information, call Dan Gin at (847) 626-2682.

Auroris Dance Company to perform


The dancers will perform different styles of dance including jazz, modern, hip-hop, tap, swing, Broadway, ballet and Bollywood. Tickets may be purchased at the door for $10 or reserved in advance by contacting Artistic Director Deanna Sorinto at deasor@d219.org or (847) 626-2059 or purchased at the door for $10. A free community performance will be held at 10 a.m. Jan. 26.

Nano's Pizza
5906 W. Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, IL 60053
Monday-Saturday 10:30 a.m.-9:00 p.m. & Sunday 1:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
(847) 967-9700

SALADS
All Salads are Served with Choice of Dressing (Italian, French, Thousand Island, Creamy Garlic and Ranch) and Bread or Pita.
Add Chicken Breast, $3.00 Extra

TOSSED SALAD
1/2 Pint 1.50 1 Pint 3.00

COLESLAW

PASTA

BROASTED CHICKEN DINNERS

All Above Pastas are Served with Garlic Bread, Parmesan Cheese, Ground Beef Meat Sauce and Coleslaw or Soup or Side Salad.

Check us out on Facebook

Prices Subject to Change without Notice.
TEDDIE KOS Sof
salon & spa
Since 1975

281 Waukegan Rd
Northfield IL 60093

Hours
M-TH 8am-9pm
FRI 8am-8pm
SAT 8am-5pm
SUN 9am-4pm

a world of beauty and wellness

under one roof

SALON SPA
HAIR STYLING • COLOR • EXTENSIONS • HAIR REMOVAL • NO-CHIP NAILS • MANI/PEDI
• FACIALS • MAKEUP • MASSAGE

HAIR SCIENCE
RETEXTURIZING TREATMENTS • DAMAGED HAIR TREATMENTS • HEALTHY SCALP TREATMENTS
• KERATIN SMOOTHING TREATMENTS • LASER HAIR REJUVENATION

SKIN SCIENCE
ANTI-AGING TREATMENTS • ANTI-ACNE TREATMENTS • MICRODERMABRASION
• HYDRATION TREATMENTS • EXFOLIATION TREATMENTS

MED SPA
COSMETIC DENTISTRY • PERMANENT MAKEUP • REIKI • LASER NAIL TREATMENTS • LIPO MASSAGE

FASHION
ELA’S BOUTIQUE • RITA’S DESIGN STUDIO

Call today for a complimentary consultation with Teddie
(847) 446.9526

Visit us online to find out what’s on sale now!
teddiekossof.com/deals
HESPERIA
By RANDALL COLBURN
Directed by ASSOCIATE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR STUART CARDEN
Begins January 24 | Performed at 325 Tudor Court, Glencoe

THIS IS TRICK
He's the nicest guy.
He has all the faith in the world.
That doesn't make this any easier.

THIS IS DAISY
She's a good girl.
She would never hurt you.
Kissing doesn't hurt, does it?

THIS IS AARON
He can recite Corinthians, Ch. 13.
He knows something he shouldn't.
He has a lot of questions.

NOW PLAYING!
"A dazzling viewing experience. Unforgettable" - CHICAGO STAGE AND CINEMA

PURCHASE EARLY FOR BEST PRICES!
FOR TICKETS: WRITERSTHEATRE.ORG | 847-242-6000
BANNER KITCHEN & BATH SHOWROOM WINS
"Showroom Of The Year!"
-Decorative Plumbing & Hardware Association, 2011

The Nation's #1 Kitchen and Bath Showroom is in Buffalo Grove!

Sorry New York, LA and Miami – The North Shore is where it's at!

Interactive displays • Gorgeously designed 15,000 sq. ft. space
Ideas for any budget • Brilliant & friendly style consultants

We proudly carry JADO faucets and lowler fixtures

10201 Lake Cook Rd, Buffalo Grove • 847-520-6100 • BannerPlumbing.com
Tue, Wed & Fri, 9-4:30 • Thurs, 9-7 • Sat, 10-4 • Closed Sun & Mon
WOW
GOLD OVER $1600
WE URGE YOU TO ACT BEFORE PRICES DROP AGAIN
BEST TIME TO SELL YOUR GOLD IS NOW

See Mr. Hoffman for Highest Immediate Allowable Payment

HOFFMAN JEWELERS

FAMILY OWNED FOR OVER 65 YEARS
NO ONE HAS PAID HIGHER PRICES FOR SO MANY YEARS

209 Skokie Blvd., Highland Park
Crossroads Shopping Center
847-579-1400 • www.hoffmanjewelers.com

Easy to Get to. 1 block N of Lake Cook on Skokie Blvd. 1 block west of the Edens Expressway
Open Daily 10-6, Thurs til 8, Sat til 5
Dog and cat names match? What is the world coming to?

Perhaps it is an omen, a portent that soon opposites will be reconciled and harmony will reign on earth. Or, it might just mean that we are unoriginal copycats.

I'm talking about the coincidence that the most popular names for dogs in 2011 were the same names as the most popular names for cats in 2011.

Bella and Max were the most popular dog names.

"But maybe, someday, encouraged by common naming, dogs and cats, Republicans and Democrats, Cubs fans and Sox fans, Jerry Springer fans and human beings can achieve amity. It's a dream I have."

Bella and Max were the most popular cat names.

These are the results of a survey by petfinder.com and the Veterinary Pet Insurance Co. The findings are interesting to me because dog lovers generally don't like cats, and vice versa. That each camp is starting to give the same names to name their dog/cat, is this a sign of a possible rapprochement? Will dogs and cats, and dog and cat owners someday lie down together?

I hope so because dogs and cats are pretty much the same animal. Yes, yes, one barks and one meows, and there are other differences. But what they give to human beings is the same - love and companionship. I've always been crazy about dogs and cats. Wish I could have about a hundred of each.

But due to circumstances, I have only one: a cat. His name is not Max, nor - heaven forbid - Bella.

His name is Jack. And he does his job. He gives me love and companionship.

Though he's not as fond of dogs as I am. Two dogs live next door. They bark and run around for apparently no reason, as dogs will. Jack meatloafs in the window well and gazes down on them in haughty disdain.

If it were up to him to give dogs names for 2012, they might be something like:

1. Salivabug.
2. Poops in public.
3. Drooler.
4. Filthroller.

Unkind, I tell him. But he is resolute in his disapproval of dogs.

But maybe, someday, encouraged by common naming, dogs and cats, Republicans and Democrats, Cubs fans and Sox fans, Jerry Springer fans and human beings can achieve amity. It's a dream I have.

By the way, the other eight most-popular dog names for 2011 were: Buddy, Daisy, Bailey, Lucy, Molly, Coco, Charlie and Rocky.

The names for cats: Chloe, Oliver, Lucy, Shadow, Smokey, Tiger, Charlie and Tigger.

If your pet's name is not on this list: Congratulations.

"But maybe, someday, encouraged by common naming, dogs and cats, Republicans and Democrats, Cubs fans and Sox fans, Jerry Springer fans and human beings can achieve amity. It's a dream I have."

I vowed I'd repaint the master bedroom and tackle the New York City Subway system - namely our bathroom. As I slipped into my Hazmat suit, my husband rolled his eyes.

"Oh, DIY, you make me cry."

There are women who can gracefully climb a ladder, twirl out yards of fabric and fashion a lavish window treatment with backyard bark and twine. Their bathrooms are neat, cabinets organized. These same women color code their dental floss: green for mint, white for extra-fine and red for gum disease.

But me, I am decorating-challenged. My glasses beaded with paint blobs. When I clutched the ladder, my legs wobbled as though I was about to be airlifted to a Chinook. Every half-hour I forgot where I put the screwdriver and improvised with a fork.

Ultimately, no matter how I maneuvered and fussed, my window treatment looked like an inside-out pillowcase.

Most sane women take on such projects in the spring or summer, when windows can be opened to air out fumes. But the weather's been unseasonably mild. Across the street, we heard hammering from the intervention. I threatened to hand him a paint brush.

After visiting an Xbox buddy, my youngest son, the Bloodhound, flung open the front door. This child could detect a sewage leak from Horton's Whoville.

"My husband heaved a sigh and mused whether he'd stumbled onto a person from 'Hoarders' before the intervention. I threatened to hand him a paint brush.

"You'll live."

"Benjamin Moore moved in with us for a couple of days," I said.

"You'll live."

But when we ate dinner that night, paint particles embedded in my nasal cavity, and I swore the gravel melted on the sidewalk.

I nodded at my oldest son. "Pass the caulk... I mean salt."
Complimentary Calendar

Submissions for Community Calendar are required 14 days preceding the date of publication. Send to: Niles Managing Editor, Pioneer Press, 3701 W. Lake Ave., Glenview 60026. Information may be faxed to (847) 486-7495 or emailed to mbottor@pioneerlocal.com.

Center of Concern
The Center of Concern, 1550 N. Northwest Highway, Suite 310, Park Ridge, (847) 823-0453, calendar of events includes:
- Monday, Jan. 23 and 30 - Employment counseling by appointment.
- Wednesday, Jan. 25 - Grief and loss support group (call first).
- Saturday, Jan. 28 - Legal counseling by appointment.
- Saturday, Jan. 28 - Blood pressure and blood sugar testing, 10 a.m.-noon (no appointment needed).

Homeowners desiring additional income, companionship, or the ability to remain in their homes may wish to consider the Center of Concern's Shared Housing Program. Residents are matched with screened applicants who possess a temperament suitable to shared accommodations.

Preparation of simple wills and durable powers of attorney for health care and property also is available by appointment. All services are offered at the Center of Concern offices at 1550 N. northwest highway, #310, in Park Ridge. For services that require an appointment, call (847) 823-0453 weekdays, 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. (The center is open only until noon on Fridays.) The Center of Concern also offers housing counseling for seniors and others seeking affordable housing, programs designed to prevent homelessness, friendly visitors for the homebound, and volunteer opportunities in the office and in the field. See www.centerofconcern.com.

Center counselors also are available to help eligible residents apply for Illinois Circuit Breaker property-tax relief grants and license-plate discounts, Illinois Care Rx (prescription-drug assistance), the senior-citizen real-estate tax exemption and deferral, the senior-citizen tax-assessment freeze, and the long-term-occupant-homeowner property-tax exemption.

Chamber
Niles Chamber of Commerce & Industry, (847) 268-8180.

Civic
A Coffee with Abby Fishman Romanek, candidate for judge for one of two seats up for election from Cook County's 9th judicial circuit which includes Niles, will be held from 10 a.m. to noon Jan. 24 in west Wilmette. To join the coffee, contact Cheryl Smith at findme@cherylsmith.com or call (847) 255-3044.

State Rep. Rosemary Mulligan, R-65th, maintains her 65th District office at the following address: 1420 Renaissance Drive, Suite 306, Park Ridge IL 60065. Phone: (847) 297-6533; fax: (847) 297-2978; e-mail: repmulligan@usa.net; website and E-News sign-up: http://rep-mulligan.com. The 65th District includes all or portions of Des Plaines, Park Ridge, Mount Prospect, Rosemont, Norridge, Harwood Heights, Niles, Elk Grove Village, and the northwest corner of the 41st Ward of Chicago.

A representative from the Niles Township Clerk's office will be available 9 a.m.-5 p.m. weekdays and evenings by appointment on the second and fourth Mondays of each month to accommodate residents with passport applications, voter registrations and temporary handicapped parking placards. To schedule an appointment at Niles Township in Skokie, call (847) 673-9300.

The Maine Township Neighborhood Watch meets at 7:30 p.m. on the first Wednesday of every month in the basement of Maine Town Hall, 1700 Ballard Road in Park Ridge. Meetings address issues within the unincorporated area of the township and all residents are invited. Reports from the Cook County Sheriff's Police, North Maine Fire Department, and the township's Code Enforcement Department are shared, and residents are invited to ask questions and report any concerns or problems in their neighborhood.

Classes
The Joseph Regenstein, Jr. School of the Chicago Botanic Garden, 1000 Lake Cook Road, Glencoe, offers a variety of classes for adults in the horticulture, garden design, nature studies and botanical arts by Garden staff and other experts. For information or to register, visit www.chicagobotanic.org/school or call (847) 835-8261.

Rainbow Animal Assisted Therapy Inc., is now offering "Introduction to Animal Assisted Therapy," dog training classes at various locations, including 6042 W. Oakton St., in Morton Grove. The fee is $60. Contact Dorida King at dhkinga@yahoo.com or call (773) 736-9021, for schedules and locations.

Clubs
The Sweet Singers of Congregation Ezras Israel which entertains at nursing homes, retirement facilities and charitable organizations, meets the first Wednesday of every month at 10 a.m. in the Rosenberg Auditorium of Ezras Israel, 7001 N. California Ave., Chicago. Those who enjoy singing are welcome to join. Call the Ezras Israel office at (773) 764-8210.

Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 7712 meet at 7 p.m. every second Wednesday of the month at the Post at 7680 Caldwell Ave. (next to Tam Tennis in Niles on Howard Street). The Post is open also on Fridays 7 p.m. until closing. All veterans from Vietnam, Gulf War, Afghanistan Korea and World War II are welcome. Call Bernard Beverley, (847) 966-5479, e-mail jamesbond54762@yahoo.com or call (847) 470-0989.

The Korean War Veterans Chapter No. 25, meets at 7 p.m. the second Wednesday of each month at the Montclare-Leyden VFW Post, 6940 W. Diversey Ave. Call Joe Hennelder, (773) 774-9671.

The Knights of Columbus (North American Martyrs Council, Niles), provides ways for members to help others in the community while trying to improve their family and personal lives. Call Bob Galassi, (847) 965-0230.

Niles Chapter Toastmasters meets at 7:15 p.m. the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month at the Morton Grove, 6140 Lincoln Ave. Members learn how to feel comfortable and have self-confidence talking to an audience. Call (847) 583-9328.

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 30
MedServ
YEAR-END INVENTORY
CLEARANCE SALE

Save Up To 40%
On In-Stock Inventory While Supplies Last

LIFT CHAIRS
UP TO 15% OFF

GOLDEN COMPANION I
SAVE $1200

STAIRGLIDE
15% OFF ON ORDERS
PLACED BY 1/28/12

Disposable
Diapers & Briefs
Up to 40% OFF

Wound Care
& Ostomy Supplies
Up to 40% OFF

Walkers – 10% Off
Rollators
from $99

Luxury Adjustable Bed
Save $689

ONE WEEK ONLY (While Supplies Last)

MedServ Equipment Corp.
Home Medical Equipment & Supplies

MedServ
Equipment Corp

20066 N. Rand Rd.
Deer Park - Palatine, IL 60074
Corner of Lake Cook & Rand

(847) 991-3600 • www.MedServDME.com
Applies to In-Stock Inventory Only
Law in the pink: ‘Legally Blonde’ at Marriott

A Valley Girl proves she's more than just a shopping machine in "Legally Blonde," the Tony-nominated musical, based on the hit 2001 movie starring Reese Witherspoon. The Marriott Theatre is staging the Heather Hach (book), Laurence O'Keefe and Nell Benjamin (music and lyrics) show which takes heroine Elle Woods (Chelsea Krombach) from partying at UCLA to being a serious student at Harvard Law School.

Three suburban musical theater talents help to tell Elle's story.
Summer Naomi Smart of Oak Park plays Brooke. "Brooke has made millions on her exercise DVDs and books," Smart said. "She's an all-out, high-energy exercise instructor who's on trial in the show for the murder of her husband — which she did not commit." Convincing a jury that she is innocent might be a bit difficult because her husband was considerably older than Brooke and she could be perceived as a gold-digger.

Sisterly love
Brooke is a former member of Delta Nu, Elle's sorority, but the two hadn't met until Elle becomes a member of Brooke's defense team. The two characters bond while singing "Delta Nu Nu Nu."
"I'm grateful that I have another sorority sister on my team," Smart said.

Laura Savage of Deerfield appears in "Legally Blonde" at the Marriott Theatre.

On the ropes
When we spoke, the cast had taken a break from working on "Whipped into Shape," a jump-rope dance number led by Brooke, the fitness guru who is on trial for murder. "Literally we are jump-roping the entire time," Savage said. "It takes a lot of endurance. We keep joking about having amazing bikini bodies by April."

That lesson is emphasized in Callahan's big number, "Blood in the Water."
When Elle enters Callahan's freshman law class, "He has enormous doubts about her and, in fact, throws her out of class the very first day," Weygandt said. "But she continually surprises him along the way."

Deerfield resident Laura Savage is an ensemble member and understudies the role of Pilar, one of Elle's best friends. "I get to dance a lot and sing a whole lot," Savage said.

Chelsea Krombach as Elle Woods in "Legally Blonde."

Gene Weygandt of Park Ridge plays a law professor in "Legally Blonde."

"LEGALLY BLONDE"
Marriott Theatre, 10 Marriott Drive, Lincolnshire
1 p.m. and 8 p.m. Wednesdays, 8 p.m. Thursdays and Fridays, 4:30 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturdays, and 1 p.m. and 5 p.m. Sundays, through March 25
$40-$48
(847) 634-0200 or visit www.MarriottTheater.com

also saw the musical when it ran on Broadway.
Savage thinks this story works particularly well as a musical. "I always want to see the main character triumph — really take a true journey," she said. "That's what's happening to Elle. She beats all the odds. She is this amazing person that the whole time but because of superficial opinions you can't see her for who she really is. It truly is about her journey and I think people root for that."

Smart also believes the adaptation is a great success. "The characters are all so high-energy and there's such an assortment of colorful characters that they can step right into the world of musical theater," she said.

"I think that the musicalization of this doesn't take anything away from the story that's in the film of a young woman reaching beyond what she thought she might be capable of," Weygandt said. "But it adds an awful lot of fun and charm, and some silliness, and some great jokes. It's a very clever score!"
Kids will learn about pets of all sorts — and the responsibilities inherent in owning and caring for a pet — during Picking a Pet, Tuesday at Wildwood Nature Center in Park Ridge.

**Picking a Pet aims to teach responsibility**

*BY MYRNA PETLICKI*

Owning a pet is a long-term commitment. That's one of the messages Leslie Hurtt, manager of Thee Fish Bowl in Evanston, will convey during Picking a Pet, 7-9 p.m. Tuesday at Wildwood Nature Center, 529 Forestview Ave., Park Ridge.

Before choosing a pet, people should understand "how long the commitment is and how much care they're realistically willing to put into it," Hurtt said. "A lot of kids get excited about a new hamster or guinea pig and then in six months they've moved on to something else."

Hurtt will bring several animals for kids to hold and pet, including a small bunny, Australian water dragon and possibly her own pet, a golden conure (parrot) named Harry Potter. She will also answer questions "and address the general care of each animal that we bring," Hurtt said.

The cost is $15 per family, $10 per individual.

For details, call (847) 692-3570 or visit www.prparks.org.

**Safety measures**

Kids will learn not to be a bully and not to be bullied at the No Name-Calling Storytime, 11 a.m. Saturday at the Village Crossing Shopping Center Barnes & Noble, 5405 Touhy Ave., Skokie. They will hear *One* by Kathryn Otoshi and Steven Kroll's *Jungle Bullies*.

For details, call (847) 329-8460 or visit www.barnesandnoble.com

**Heartfelt greetings**

You and your children can spend quality time being creative together at the Card-Making Extravaganza for All Ages, 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Saturday at Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave. Stamps, cutouts and a computer can all be used to make customized cards. Instruction and assistance will be provided.

For details, call (847) 965-4220 or visit www.mortonglibrary.org.

**Lesson plan**

It won't cost a penny to learn "How to Train Your Dragon." The 98-minute, PG-rated film is being shown at 10 a.m. Saturday as part of the Free Kids Film Festival at Wilmette Theatre, 1122 Central Ave., Wilmette.

For details, call (847) 549-3272 or visit www.wilmette-theatre.com.
'Extremely' uneven

BY BRUCE INGRAM
Film Critic

EXTREMELY LOUD & INCREDIBLY CLOSE

*** 1/2

"Only humans can cry tears," notes the precocious young protagonist of this fine-pedigreed yet frustrating 9/11 drama. It's a seemingly random statement when it occurs, just one of many factoids the brainy kid drops from time to time, but in hindsight it seems likely to have been a reminder to the audience about the way we're supposed to be responding to his suffering.

Whether you're going to need that reminder will depend largely on how you feel about our young hero and the nearly impossible task he has set for himself. Is he a brave little genius seeking the truth in spite of his overwhelming fears or an annoying little self-absorption?

The strange thing about "Extremely Loud & Incredibly Close," director Stephen Daldry's adaptation of Jonathan Safran Foer's controversial 2005 novel, is that it can make you feel one way about our young hero and the other next. You may ultimately wind up feeling more moved than unmoved, but there's also a real possibility that the two extremes will merely cancel each other out.

Daldry, who has the distinction of receiving a best director Oscar nomination for each of his three previous feature films ("Billy Elliot," "The Hours" and "The Reader"), chose well when he hired an unknown young actor named Thomas Horn to play young Oscar Schell. Though Horn may have succeeded too well at playing the hyper-intelligent, multi-phobic, emotionally detached boy, at the cost of depriving the film of an easy repository for audience sympathy.

Intellectually voracious and afraid of just about everything as a result of his borderline Asperger's syndrome, young Oscar has an extremely close relationship with his father Thomas (Tom Hanks in perfect-husband-and-father mode) and what appears to be a nodding acquaintance with his mother Linda (Sandra Bullock, also good). In an attempt to engage his son's intellect and help him overcome his fears, Thomas creates elaborate mysteries and puzzles for him to solve, involving "reconnaissance missions" into the outside world.

When his father dies, because he happened to be in a meeting at the World Trade Center on what his son calls "The Worst Day," Oscar eventually convinces himself he has been left one final mission. While looking through his father's closet, he finds a mysterious key in a small envelope with the word "black" written on it. So he searches phone books for the 427 people living in New York City with the last name of Black and sets out to visit each of them, certain the key will unlock a final message from his father.

What follows is an assortment of encounters with random New Yorkers as the boy, outfitted with a camera, binoculars and a tambourine, knocks on one door after another — and somehow manages to avoid being hacked into small pieces. All of the encounters are slightly odd (and a bit precious), but he's a slightly odd kid. Oscar makes the acquaintance of one lady (Viggo Mortensen) as her husband is in the process of moving out and, noticing she is sad, asks if he can kiss her. Gradually, these scenes begin to appear as a sort of tapestry of shared loss, with a few simple moments, here and there, that ring true — despite the filter of whimsy.

The situation improves when an old man who may or may not be his grandfather (Max von Sydow, excellent), struck mute after surviving the Allies' firebombing of Dresden in World War II, joins Oscar on his search and, without a word of dialogue (the words "yes" and "no" are tattooed on his palms), contributes considerable gravity to the quest. We also learn that Oscar's compulsion to solve his father's last puzzle is driven by the guilt he feels over answering-machine messages left by his father on 9/11 — including a final message unheard until a devastating climax involving the collapse of the Twin Towers. And that his mother, who bears the brunt of Oscar's anger while she grieves, has a secret too — but not a guilty one.

For every moment that works well, though, there are a couple that don't quite make it — and for a subject like this one, not quite is not good enough.
OPENING FRIDAY
EXTREMELY LOUD & INCREDIBLY CLOSE
★★ 1/2
Rated: PG-13 for emotional thematic material, some disturbing images, and language
Stars: Tom Hanks, Sandra Bullock, Thomas Horn, Viola Davis
After his father dies during the attacks on the World Trade Center, a boy (Horn) attempts to find one final message from his father by tracking down the lock that fits a mysterious key. Stephen Daldry (“Billy Elliot,” “The Hours,” “The Reader”) directed the drama. Reviewed in this section.

HAYWIRE
Rated: R for some violence
Stars: Gina Carano, Ewan McGregor, Michael Fassbender
After she is betrayed during a mission, a black-ops super-agent (Carano) seeks payback. Steven Soderbergh (“Contagion”) directed the action-thriller.

PINA
Rated: PG for some sensuality/partial nudity and smoking
Stars: Pina Bausch, Regina Advenuto
This documentary on the career of German choreographer Pina Bausch, a leading proponent of modern dance since the 1970s, is Germany’s official submission for the 2012 best foreign language film Oscar. Directed by Wim Wenders (“Wings of Desire”).

RED TAILS
Rated: PG-13 for some sequences of war violence
Stars: Bryan Cranston, Cuba Gooding Jr., Terrence Howard
After being relegated to ground duty, a crew of African-American fighter pilots in the Tuskegee training program is finally called into combat under Col. A.J. Bullard (Howard). TV director Anthony Hemingway (“CSI: New York”) directed the war drama.

UNDERWORLD: AWAKENING
Rated: R for strong violence and gore, and for some language
Stars: Kate Beckinsale, Michael Ealy
In the latest installment in the “Underworld” action/fantasy franchise, human forces discover the existence of the Vampire and Lycan clans and attempt to eradicate both, resulting in payback from vampire warrior Selene (Beckinsale).

STILL PLAYING
THE ARTIST
★★★ 1/2
Rated: PG-13 for some disturbing images and crude gestures
Stars: Jean Dujardin, Berenice Bejo
A silent-movie star (Dujardin) worried about the effect sound movies will have on his career falls in love with a young dancer (Bejo). Michel Hazanavicius (“ OSS 117”) directed the romance. In French with subtitles. Winner of a best foreign language Oscar. Directed by Wim Wenders.

CONTRABAND
Rated: R for violence, pervasive language and brief drug use
Stars: Mark Wahlberg, Giovannii Ribisi, Kate Beckinsale
After going straight, a former smuggler (Wahlberg) is drawn back into the trade to make good on a deal batted by his brother-in-law — and to protect his wife (Beckinsale). Icelandic actor/director Baltasar Kormakur (“The Sea”) directed the crime drama.

THE DEVIL INSIDE
Rated: R for disturbing violent content and grisly images, and for language including some sexual references
Stars: Fernanda Andrade, Simon Quarterman, Evan Helmuth
A young woman (Andrade) asks exorcists to help her prove that her mother was possessed by demons and not criminally insane when she murdered three people. William Brent Bell (“The Devil Inside”) wrote and directed.

THE IRON LADY
★★★ 1/2
Rated: PG-13 for some violent images and brief nudity
Stars: Meryl Streep, Jim Broadbent
Though Golden Globe winner Meryl Streep’s performance as the iron-willed (and occasionally iron-fisted) British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher is richly detailed and compelling, the same can’t be said for this surprisingly superficial bio-drama. Director Phyllida Lloyd (“Mamma Mia”) has opted for the story of Margaret Thatcher: Human Being, with mixed results. Opening 15 years after she was forced out of office by her own party, “Iron Lady” presents Thatcher as a somewhat cold-blooded strategist. Human Being, with mixed results. Opening 15 years after she was forced out of office by her own party, “Iron Lady” presents Thatcher as a stern example of old-fashioned, stiff-upper-lip values, whose determination to do great things allowed her to triumph over the old-boy network, eventually paying off with a portrait in 10 Downing Street. Streep is convincing, the movie isn’t.

JOYFUL NOISE
Rated: PG-13 for some language including a sexual reference
Stars: Queen Latifah, Dolly Parton, Keke Palmer
The star performers (Latifah and Parton) of a small-town church choir have conflicting ideas about the best way to participate in a national competition, Todd Graff (“Bandslam”) wrote and directed.

WAR HORSE
★★★
Rated: PG-13 for intense sequences of war violence
Stars: Jeremy Irvine, Emily Watson, Peter Mullan
Steven Spielberg’s epic World War I drama about the soul connection between a farm boy and a thoroughbred stallion-turned-plowhorse-turned-wartime-beast-of-burden, is beautifully crafted, grand in scope and deeply moving at its best. Two things, though, prevent “War Horse” from achieving the sort of emotional impact Spielberg is famous for: A storyline that struggles to reconcile material best suited for young audiences, a la “E.T.,” with hard-hitting anti-war statements, a la “Saving Private Ryan”; and a detached point of view that makes it difficult to identify closely with any of the characters. That said, “War Horse” is never less than visually dazzling, and its message that life is precious, regardless of class or nationality or species, is driven home by effective performances across the board.
SHOWTIMES

My Week with Marilyn (R) Fri, Sat 12:45-1:45; Sun 12:45-1:45; Mon-Thur 4:15-7

RANDBURST
324 Theater Way, Mount Prospect
(888) 262-4386 www.amctheatres.com

SHOW PLACE 12
301 Golf Mill Center, Niles
(800) 326-3264 www.amctheatres.com

Extremely Loud & Incredibly Close (PG-13) Fri 1:30-4:30; Sat 1:30-4:30; Sun 1:30-4:30

ROSEMONT 18
9701 Bryn Mawr Ave., Rosemont
(847) 258-7282 www.amctheatres.com

Extremely Loud & Incredibly Close (PG-13) Fri 1:30-4:30; Sat 1:30-4:30; Sun 1:30-4:30

One for the Money (PG-13) Fri 1:30-4:30; Sat 1:30-4:30; Sun 1:30-4:30

The Girl with the Dragon Tatoo (R) Fri 1:30-4:30; Sat 1:30-4:30; Sun 1:30-4:30

War Horse (PG-13) Fri 1:30-4:30; Sat 1:30-4:30; Sun 1:30-4:30

Contraband (R) Fri 1:30-4:30; Sat 1:30-4:30; Sun 1:30-4:30

Dawn - Part 1 (PG-13) Fri 1:30-4:30; Sat 1:30-4:30; Sun 1:30-4:30

The Devil Inside (R) Fri 1:30-4:30; Sat 1:30-4:30; Sun 1:30-4:30

THE BEST MOVIE OF THE YEAR

EXTREMELY LOUD INCREDIBLY CLOSE

GROVER'S
9701 Bryn Mawr Ave., Rosemont
(847) 258-7282 www.amctheatres.com

World Premiere

My Week with Marilyn (R) Fri, Sat 12:45-1:45; Sun 12:45-1:45; Mon-Thur 4:15-7

Rancho
324 Theater Way, Mount Prospect
(888) 262-4386 www.amctheatres.com

Show Place 12
301 Golf Mill Center, Niles
(800) 326-3264 www.amctheatres.com

Extremely Loud & Incredibly Close (PG-13) Fri 1:30-4:30; Sat 1:30-4:30; Sun 1:30-4:30

One for the Money (PG-13) Fri 1:30-4:30; Sat 1:30-4:30; Sun 1:30-4:30

The Girl with the Dragon Tatoo (R) Fri 1:30-4:30; Sat 1:30-4:30; Sun 1:30-4:30

War Horse (PG-13) Fri 1:30-4:30; Sat 1:30-4:30; Sun 1:30-4:30

Contraband (R) Fri 1:30-4:30; Sat 1:30-4:30; Sun 1:30-4:30

Dawn - Part 1 (PG-13) Fri 1:30-4:30; Sat 1:30-4:30; Sun 1:30-4:30

The Devil Inside (R) Fri 1:30-4:30; Sat 1:30-4:30; Sun 1:30-4:30

THE BEST MOVIE OF THE YEAR

EXTREMELY LOUD INCREDIBLY CLOSE
A case of ‘Beginners’ luck

BY BRUCE INGRAM

NEW THIS WEEK

BEGINNERS

Rated: R for language and some sexual content
Length: 105 minutes
Stars: Ewan McGregor, Melanie Laurent, Christopher Plummer

- If you’re allergic to preciousness and whimsy, you might want to let “Beginners” get started without you. But anyone who likes their romance warm, fuzzy, quirky and bittersweet is likely to find this heart-achy little comedy a charmer. McGregor plays like a light bedroom buddy, Oliver, who falls in love with the wife (Laurent) of a 35mm film frame from Hal’s (Plummer) collection. He gradually falls in love with the wife, and risks everything to claim her - with disastrous results. This Criterion Collection release features a hi-def digital restoration and numerous extras including an introduction to the film by Renoir and a booklet featuring writings by Renoir, Francois Truffaut and Bertrand Tavernier.

THE RULES OF THE GAME

Rated: No MPAA rating
Length: 110 minutes
Stars: NoraGregor, Roland Toutain, Marcel Dalio, Jean Renoir

- Just generally hailed as one of the greatest films ever made, Jean Renoir’s 1939 masterpiece was almost completely lost. Crowds booted the film at its debut screenings, perhaps offended at the way Renoir undercut a romantic comedy of manners with tragedy and pointed a finger at corrupt morals in French society. The original distributor cut the film radically and then the original negative was lost during World War II - when the film was banned by the occupation government as a bad moral influence. Followers of Renoir restored the film in 1956, however, and it was instantly lauded as a classic. On one level, “Rules of the Game” plays like a light bedroom farce, in which a weekend retreat at the country estate of a wealthy aristocrat (Dalio) is the setting for a game of musical beds among the rich guests — and the estate’s servants. The catalyst for tragedy is an aviation hero (Toutain), who falls in love with the wife of his host, and risks everything to claim her - with disastrous results. This Criterion Collection release features a hi-def digital restoration and numerous extras including an introduction to the film by Renoir and a booklet featuring writings by Renoir, Francois Truffaut and Bertrand Tavernier.

IT TAKES A THIEF: THE COMPLETE SERIES

- This 18-disc box set contains all 66 digitally remastered episodes of the 1968 ABC-TV series starring Robert Wagner as a cat burglar who earns his freedom by breaking and entering for an American espionage agency. Extras include a feature-length version of the pilot episode, an interview with Wagner, a limited edition reproduction of a 35mm film frame from the series, and a collectible booklet.

LARRY CROWNE

- Director/co-writer (with “My Big Fat Greek Wedding” screenwriter Nia Vardalos) Tom Hanks stars as the title character, a downsized, middle-aged corporate veteran who decides to make a new start by getting a college degree — and makes the romantic acquaintance of burned-out teacher Julia Roberts. Rated PG-13 for brief strong language and some sexual content.

MY FAIR LADY

- George Cukor’s 1964 movie version of the Broadway musical features Audrey Hepburn, and Rex Harrison recreating his most famous role. Extras in this Blu-ray set include vintage footage and audio taken from the film’s original shoot, alternate vocals from Hepburn and photo galleries.

WEST SIDE STORY:

50TH ANNIVERSARY

- Jerome Robbins’ 1961 film version of the Leonard Bernstein-Stephen Sondheim Broadway smash won a record-breaking 10 Academy Awards, including best picture. In addition to a restored, high-definition Blu-ray transfer, extras include documentaries on the film’s famous dance sequences and a look at the impact of the film around the world, plus song-specific commentary by Sondheim.

OUT NEXT WEEK

- Documentaries are a highlight of the coming week’s releases, including “Making the Boys,” about the impact of “The Boys in the Band,” the first gay play to reach a mainstream audience in America; and “These Amazing Shadows: The Movies that Make America,” exploring the role of the National Film Registry. On the fictional side, look for “The Adventures of Tintin: Season One,” the DVD debut of the animated 1962 French TV series based on Belgian artist Hergé’s long-running series of graphic adventure novels.
go.

What to do.
This week and beyond.

YOU WANT IN? HERE'S HOW.
» Submit go. events one week prior to the date of publication.
» Entries must be typed. We're sorry, but we can't take it over the telephone. We prefer e-mail submissions, please.
» go. listings are free! Include brief description of the event, time, date, address, price and phone number.
» By mail: go. c/o Pioneer Press, 3701 W. Lake Ave., Glenview IL 60025. E-mail: go1@pioneerlocal.com.
» Call (847) 486-7451.

STAGE
“Black Pearl Sings!”, through Feb. 19 at Northlight Theatre, located at the North Shore Center for the Performing Arts, 9515 Skokie Blvd, Skokie. Performances on Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m. (Feb. 7 & 14); Wednesdays at 8 p.m. (except Feb. 1 & 8); Thursdays at 7:30 p.m.; Fridays at 8 p.m. (except opening on Jan. 20 at 7:30 p.m.); Saturdays at 2:30 p.m. and 8 p.m.; and Sundays at 2:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. (except Jan. 22 and 29 and Feb. 19). Tickets: $25-$50. Tickets for those 25 and under are $10, subject to availability. Call (847) 673-6300 or visit www.northlight.org.

CLASSICAL

Evanson Symphony Orchestra will present a program at 3 p.m. Jan. 29 at Prairieland Restaurant, 1502 Sherman Ave., Evanston. Patrick Casali, professor emeritus of Humanities and Performing Arts at Oakton Community College, will discuss this season’s Lyric Opera production of “Show Boat” by Jerome Kern. An appetizer buffet will follow the program. $25 per person. For reservations, call Barbara Eckel, (847) 475-5345.

Evanson Symphony Orchestra performs at 2:30 p.m. Sundays at Pick-Staiger Concert Hall, 50 Arts Circle Drive, Evanston. (847) 864-8804. Tickets in advance are $27; $22 for senior citizens. Tickets are $5 for students. Call (312) 225-5226 for seniors. Tickets are $5 for students, subject to availability. The program includes works by Mozart, Beethoven, Schubert, and Dvorak.

Lake Shore Symphony Orchestra will present a program at 8 p.m. Jan. 19 at Pick-Staiger Concert Hall, 50 Arts Circle Drive, Evanston. The program includes Franz Schubert’s Rondo in A minor, Op. 141; John Harbison’s “Twilight Music” and Mozart’s Divertimento No. 17 in D Major for two horns and string quartet. Tickets: $25-$65; $50 for students. Call (312) 225-5226 or visit www.chicagochambermusic.org.

Evanston Chapter, Lyric Opera of Chicago will host a program at 3 p.m. Jan. 29 at Prairieland Restaurant, 1502 Sherman Ave., Evanston. Patrick Casali, professor emeritus of Humanities and Performing Arts at Oakton Community College, will discuss this season’s Lyric Opera production of “Show Boat” by Jerome Kern. An appetizer buffet will follow the program. $25 per person. For reservations, call Barbara Eckel, (847) 475-5345.

Evanson Symphony Orchestra will present a program at 3 p.m. Jan. 29 at Prairieland Restaurant, 1502 Sherman Ave., Evanston. Patrick Casali, professor emeritus of Humanities and Performing Arts at Oakton Community College, will discuss this season’s Lyric Opera production of “Show Boat” by Jerome Kern. An appetizer buffet will follow the program. $25 per person. For reservations, call Barbara Eckel, (847) 475-5345.

Evanson Symphony Orchestra performs at 2:30 p.m. Sundays at Pick-Staiger Concert Hall, 50 Arts Circle Drive, Evanston. (847) 864-8804. Tickets in advance are $27; $22 for senior citizens. Tickets are $5 for students. Tickets are $5 for students, subject to availability. The program includes works by Mozart, Beethoven, Schubert, and Dvorak.

Lake Shore Symphony Orchestra will present a program at 8 p.m. Jan. 19 at Pick-Staiger Concert Hall, 50 Arts Circle Drive, Evanston. The program includes Franz Schubert’s Rondo in A minor, Op. 141; John Harbison’s “Twilight Music” and Mozart’s Divertimento No. 17 in D Major for two horns and string quartet. Tickets: $25-$65; $50 for students. Call (312) 225-5226 or visit www.chicagochambermusic.org.

Evanson Chapter, Lyric Opera of Chicago will host a program at 3 p.m. Jan. 29 at Prairieland Restaurant, 1502 Sherman Ave., Evanston. Patrick Casali, professor emeritus of Humanities and Performing Arts at Oakton Community College, will discuss this season’s Lyric Opera production of “Show Boat” by Jerome Kern. An appetizer buffet will follow the program. $25 per person. For reservations, call Barbara Eckel, (847) 475-5345.

Evanson Symphony Orchestra will present a program at 3 p.m. Jan. 29 at Prairieland Restaurant, 1502 Sherman Ave., Evanston. Patrick Casali, professor emeritus of Humanities and Performing Arts at Oakton Community College, will discuss this season’s Lyric Opera production of “Show Boat” by Jerome Kern. An appetizer buffet will follow the program. $25 per person. For reservations, call Barbara Eckel, (847) 475-5345.

Evanson Symphony Orchestra performs at 2:30 p.m. Sundays at Pick-Staiger Concert Hall, 50 Arts Circle Drive, Evanston. (847) 864-8804. Tickets in advance are $27; $22 for senior citizens. Tickets are $5 for students. Tickets are $5 for students, subject to availability. The program includes works by Mozart, Beethoven, Schubert, and Dvorak.

Lake Shore Symphony Orchestra will present a program at 8 p.m. Jan. 19 at Pick-Staiger Concert Hall, 50 Arts Circle Drive, Evanston. The program includes Franz Schubert’s Rondo in A minor, Op. 141; John Harbison’s “Twilight Music” and Mozart’s Divertimento No. 17 in D Major for two horns and string quartet. Tickets: $25-$65; $50 for students. Call (312) 225-5226 or visit www.chicagochambermusic.org.

Evanston Chapter, Lyric Opera of Chicago will host a program at 3 p.m. Jan. 29 at Prairieland Restaurant, 1502 Sherman Ave., Evanston. Patrick Casali, professor emeritus of Humanities and Performing Arts at Oakton Community College, will discuss this season’s Lyric Opera production of “Show Boat” by Jerome Kern. An appetizer buffet will follow the program. $25 per person. For reservations, call Barbara Eckel, (847) 475-5345.

Evanson Symphony Orchestra performs at 2:30 p.m. Sundays at Pick-Staiger Concert Hall, 50 Arts Circle Drive, Evanston. (847) 864-8804. Tickets in advance are $27; $22 for senior citizens. Tickets are $5 for students. Tickets are $5 for students, subject to availability. The program includes works by Mozart, Beethoven, Schubert, and Dvorak.

Lake Shore Symphony Orchestra will present a program at 8 p.m. Jan. 19 at Pick-Staiger Concert Hall, 50 Arts Circle Drive, Evanston. The program includes Franz Schubert’s Rondo in A minor, Op. 141; John Harbison’s “Twilight Music” and Mozart’s Divertimento No. 17 in D Major for two horns and string quartet. Tickets: $25-$65; $50 for students. Call (312) 225-5226 or visit www.chicagochambermusic.org.

Evanston Chapter, Lyric Opera of Chicago will host a program at 3 p.m. Jan. 29 at Prairieland Restaurant, 1502 Sherman Ave., Evanston. Patrick Casali, professor emeritus of Humanities and Performing Arts at Oakton Community College, will discuss this season’s Lyric Opera production of “Show Boat” by Jerome Kern. An appetizer buffet will follow the program. $25 per person. For reservations, call Barbara Eckel, (847) 475-5345.

Evanson Symphony Orchestra performs at 2:30 p.m. Sundays at Pick-Staiger Concert Hall, 50 Arts Circle Drive, Evanston. (847) 864-8804. Tickets in advance are $27; $22 for senior citizens. Tickets are $5 for students. Tickets are $5 for students, subject to availability. The program includes works by Mozart, Beethoven, Schubert, and Dvorak.

Lake Shore Symphony Orchestra will present a program at 8 p.m. Jan. 19 at Pick-Staiger Concert Hall, 50 Arts Circle Drive, Evanston. The program includes Franz Schubert’s Rondo in A minor, Op. 141; John Harbison’s “Twilight Music” and Mozart’s Divertimento No. 17 in D Major for two horns and string quartet. Tickets: $25-$65; $50 for students. Call (312) 225-5226 or visit www.chicagochambermusic.org.

Evanston Chapter, Lyric Opera of Chicago will host a program at 3 p.m. Jan. 29 at Prairieland Restaurant, 1502 Sherman Ave., Evanston. Patrick Casali, professor emeritus of Humanities and Performing Arts at Oakton Community College, will discuss this season’s Lyric Opera production of “Show Boat” by Jerome Kern. An appetizer buffet will follow the program. $25 per person. For reservations, call Barbara Eckel, (847) 475-5345.

Evanson Symphony Orchestra performs at 2:30 p.m. Sundays at Pick-Staiger Concert Hall, 50 Arts Circle Drive, Evanston. (847) 864-8804. Tickets in advance are $27; $22 for senior citizens. Tickets are $5 for students. Tickets are $5 for students, subject to availability. The program includes works by Mozart, Beethoven, Schubert, and Dvorak.

Lake Shore Symphony Orchestra will present a program at 8 p.m. Jan. 19 at Pick-Staiger Concert Hall, 50 Arts Circle Drive, Evanston. The program includes Franz Schubert’s Rondo in A minor, Op. 141; John Harbison’s “Twilight Music” and Mozart’s Divertimento No. 17 in D Major for two horns and string quartet. Tickets: $25-$65; $50 for students. Call (312) 225-5226 or visit www.chicagochambermusic.org.
Young artists show

“Chicago: A Resource of Young Artists,” features works by eight young artists of the School of the Art Institute of Chicago through April 3 at the Art Museo at the InterContinental Chicago O’Hare, 5800 N. River Road, Rosemont. The gallery never closes and encompasses the whole first level of the hotel. Personal, guided tours available by the on-staff art concierge anytime.

The show is a collaboration with Schneider Gallery in River North, and is sponsored by Lulu B. The show includes work by three students from Seoul, Korea: Yo Ahn Han, who gets inspiration for painting through a battle with disease; Minky Kim, who explores herself through photography; Youjeong Kwon, who focuses on portrait paintings.

Other young artists are: William Joyce, who specializes in painting with video installations; Dyne Sophia Lee from Columbus, Ohio, whose tapestries reflect her childhood in Korea; Eileen O’Donnell from Elmhurst, whose oil paintings depict observational narratives; Nick Schleicher from St. Louis, whose paintings reflect the act of confrontation; and Noelle Sharp from Salt Lake City, who expands space and environment through fiber installations.

For more information, call (847) 544-5300.

“Tortured Beauty in Asymmetry,” by Yo Ahn Han

Untitled work by Nick Schleicher

“I still remember how furious I was that my brain almost melted away by an anger inside me when she said that to me,” by Dyne Sophia Lee

FRI, FEB. 17TH - SUN, FEB. 26TH
Festival Hall, Navy Pier

Electrifying Circus Acts!
Entertaining for Audiences of All Ages!

Celebrating Chicago’s 175th Birthday with Famous Historical Personalities

One Week Only!

WINDY CITY

Chicago’s newest circus shares 80% of its net proceeds with Ronald McDonald House Charities® of Chicagoland & Northwest Indiana and Special Olympics Chicago

A Circus with a Purpose

For tickets visit windycitycircus.org or call 312-803-0096. Groups of 10 or more call 773-327-3778.
Two strong women bond through music

BY MYRNA PETLICKI

"Black Pearl Sings!" is not a musical. E. Faye Butler, who plays the title character in Frank Higgins' play at Northlight Theatre, wants to make that perfectly clear.

"Pearl does not sing because she is a singer," Butler explained. She sings because she hopes her songs will buy her freedom so she can search for her daughter.

Pearl is confined to a Texas prison for murder. It's the Depression and everything looks bleak until Pearl sees a possible way out through Susannah, a Caucasian woman who is a song collector for the Library of Congress.

When Susannah overhears Pearl singing, she discovers that the inmate knows songs that Susannah desperately wants to collect. Pearl has no intention of giving away songs that were passed down from her ancestors in Africa where she might be able to use them to her advantage.

The songs become bargaining chips between the two women. "Every time Susannah gives Pearl what she wants, Pearl gives her another song — maybe," Butler said. She holds back on the song Susannah wants most — the oldest song Pearl knows from West Africa.

Born fighter

"Pearl is a very strong woman who, against all odds, is going to make it. She's going to persevere," Butler said.

"She's very strong-willed. I think she was truly ahead of her time because she speaks her mind. She's not afraid. She'll fight for whatever is right."

Susie McMonagle plays Susannah, another powerful character. "She is a very independent woman and strong willed, stubborn," McMonagle said. "She really has a passion for music and heritage, and the importance of documenting it so it doesn't die out."

As she travels the country, Susannah "figures out that prisons are a great place to look for old songs," McMonagle said. She winds up at Pearl's prison, listening to woman after woman sing. Nothing clicks until she hears Pearl singing out in the work yard.

"I'm drawn to the fact that she's got a great voice," McMonagle said. "Then I realize that she's old enough to have grandparents who were slaves. The more I dig into her story, the more I realize that she's got potential for knowing some great old songs. There's something in it for her and something in it for me, and we strike up this unique friendship which was certainly not of the time."

The songs become bargaining chips between the two women. "Every time Susannah gives Pearl what she wants, Pearl gives her another song — maybe," Butler said. She holds back on the song Susannah wants most — the oldest song Pearl knows from West Africa.

Familiar songs

Audiences will hear Butler sing, but mostly a cappella. All of the songs Pearl sings were familiar to Butler before she took the role. "As an African American, you can't go to church and not know 'Dear Lord, Remember Me,' 'I've Got the Keys to the Kingdom,' 'This Little Light of Mine,' 'Kumbaya,'" Butler said. "Those are all songs we sang as children. They're songs I heard my mother sing, my grandmother sing. It's a part of our culture."

McMonagle, another amazing vocalist, only sings a little bit in this show but she gets to play the autoharp. "I've been once a week schlepping down to the Old Town School of Folk Music for my autoharp lessons," she reported.

Butler, who last appeared at Northlight in "Ella," is a veteran of numerous musicals in the Chicago area and has also toured nationally in many musicals. This is the first nonmusical that Butler has done at Northlight so she's hoping her fans won't be disappointed.

"She's got an amazing voice," said McMonagle, who also has numerous local and touring musical theater credits. "I think a lot of people are fascinated and love to hear her sing but E. Faye to me is a truly amazing actor. That's what makes her a great singer. It's great to see her in this light because it is a tour de force acting role."

E. Faye Butler and Susie McMonagle star in "Black Pearl Sings!" at Northlight Theatre.

'BLACK PEARL SINGS!'

Northlight Theatre, North Shore Center for the Performing Arts, 9501 Skokie Blvd., Skokie
7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 7; 1 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Wednesdays (no 1 p.m. show Feb. 1, no 7:30 p.m. show Feb. 8); 7:30 p.m. Thursdays; 8 p.m. Fridays (except opening night, Jan. 20, is 7:30 p.m.); 2:30 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturdays; and 2:30 p.m., 7 p.m. and 8 p.m. Sundays (no 7 p.m. show on Jan. 22, Jan. 29 and Feb. 19), through Feb. 19
$25-$60
(847) 673-6300 or visit www.northlight.org

Enjoy an evening of cabaret in the intimate setting of Madden Theatre. Choose table or proscenium seating.

"Give My Regards" Sally Mayes February 12, 6 p.m.
"Valentine'S Showtune," Steven Brinberg February 26, 6 p.m.
"No Tune Like a Valentine," Steven Brinberg March 25, 6 p.m.
"Simply Barbra" Steven Brinberg March 25, 6 p.m.

Call the Box Office at 630-637-SHOW (7469) or visit us online at northcentralcollege.edu/show

Box Office hours:
Tuesday - Friday 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Buy tickets to all four shows and SAVE!
Dave Rudolf's Beach Party!
Saturday, February 4, 3 p.m.
Do the limbo, pick up a hula hoop, join a conga line, jump rope, blow some bubbles, and listen to some great summer-time music with this Grammy-nominated family entertainer.
$7 general admission; $5 children under 12; $4 group rate

Saturday, February 18, 8 p.m.
Sunday, February 19, 2 p.m.
A controversial drama about a university professor accused of sexual harassment by his female student. John, who is on the brink of tenure, and Carol, his student, become embroiled in a power struggle and a war of words—leading to a shocking conclusion.
$8 general admission

March 1 - 11
A timely look at class, immigration, and women's friendships, this Jeff-nominated play tells the tale of Fernanda, the privileged daughter of a wealthy Mexican family, and Kita, the child of the family's undocumented Mexican maid. When a chance meeting brings the women together after many years, it prompts a flood of memories.
$10 general admission; $8 students and seniors; $6 group rate

Six Piano Ensemble
Saturday, April 28, 8 p.m. and Sunday, April 29, 3 p.m.
Celebrate the 31st anniversary of this unique group. Founded by Glenna Sprague, Oakton professor and coordinator of music, the Six Piano Ensemble performs classical, ragtime, and popular music.
$17 general admission; $14 students and seniors; $12 group rate

May 3 - 13
The devious machinations of the deformed villain, Richard, Duke of Gloucester, made this story of war, power, and blind ambition an Elizabethan favorite. Determined to be king, Richard ruthlessly eliminates anyone who stands between him and the throne—from his wife and brothers to his innocent young nephews.
$10 general admission; $8 students and seniors; $6 group rate

Chamber Players perform Schubert's Trout Quintet and Brahms' Piano Quartet No. 3 in C minor Op. 60. $25; $15 seniors; $10 students.
Northeastern Illinois University, Fine Arts Center Recital Hall, 3701 W. Bryn Mawr Ave., Chicago. (773) 442-4636. Feb. 17, 8 p.m.: Classical guitarist David Russell. $25; $15 senior citizens; $10 students.
Northwest Symphony Orchestra, Paul Vermel, music director, presents concerts at 3:30 p.m. Sundays in the Theatre for the Performing Arts at Maine West High School, 1755 S. Wolf Road. The Chicago Sun-Times presents a pre-concert commentary by Carolyn Paulin, a staff member of radio station WFMT, begin one hour prior to each concert. Tickets: $20; $15 for seniors; $10 for students. Children under age 14 are admitted free when accompanied by a paying adult. Visit www.northwest-symphony.org. Jan. 29: "NSO Golden: "Eine Kleine Klezmer Romance," with Victor Muenzer, conductor. The program includes works by Stacy Garrett, Louise Farrenc, Phyllis Tate and Fanny Mendelssohn. Tickets: $26; $23 for seniors; $10 for students; children 12 and younger are free. For tickets or more information, call (630) 628-9591 or visit www.orionensemble.org.
Segovia Classical Guitar Series will be presented by the Northwestern University Henry and Leigh Bienen School of Music and the Chicago Classical Guitar Society Feb. 4-April 14. All concerts take place at 7:30 p.m. in Lutkin Hall, 700 University Place, or Pick-Staiger Concert Hall, 50 Arts Circle Drive, on Northwestern's Evanston campus, as noted. Subscription prices for the five-concert series are $110; $45 for students. Call (847) 467-4000 or visit www.pickstaiger.org. Feb. 4: Greg Cutler plays works by Bach, Mertz and Barrios in Lutkin Hall. $20; $10 for students. March 3: Johannes Möller's Lutkin Hall program includes music by Albéniz, Barrios and Gougeon. $20; $10 for students. March 4: Johannes Möller will present a master class at 1 p.m. at Bienen School student guitarists in the rehearsal room of Pick-Staiger Concert Hall. Admission is free. March 28: Two-time Grammy nominee Anoushka Shankar and guests will perform a program in Pick-Staiger Concert Hall titled "Traveler." Shankar melds music of Spain with the ancient forms of Indian classical music. $26; $10 for students. March 31: Guitarist
Sharon Isbin will share the stage with Brazilian percussionist Thiago de Mello at Pick-Staiger Concert Hall. The program will include excerpts from her album "Journey to the Amazon" and other favorites. $26; $10 for students.

April 14: Eduardo Fernandez's program in Pick-Staiger Concert Hall will conclude the 2012 Segovia series. $24; $10 for students.

Skokie Valley Symphony Orchestra performs at 3 p.m. Sundays at the North Shore Center for the Performing Arts, 9501 Skokie Blvd., Skokie. Tickets are $26-$40; $13 for youth 17 and under. Free pre-concert lectures begin at 1:45 p.m. For tickets, call (847) 673-6300 or visit www.svso.org. Feb. 19: The program, featuring guest soloists Michelle Ayreyazaga, soprano, and Aurelien Fort-Pederzoli, violin, includes Gershwin: Cuban Overture; Granados: La Maja y el Ruiseñor; Sarasate: Fantasy on Bizet's "Carmen," op. 25; Villa-Lobos, Bachianas Brasileiras No. 5; and Albéniz: Suite Española No. 1.

POP/FOLK/JAZZ
Allstate Arena, 6920 N. Mannheim Road, Rosemont.

Tickets are available at www.ticketmaster.com or (800) 745-3000; the ticket prices listed below do not include service fees. The information line is (847) 655-6601.

March 9, 7:30 p.m.: Lady Antebellum—Own the Night 2012 World Tour, with Darius Rucker and special guest Thompson Square. $29.50, $45, $59.50. April 1, 7:30 p.m.: Van Halen. $49.50, $79.50, $149.50. May 4: Rammstein—"Made in Germany 1995-2011 Tour." May 30, 6 p.m.: Nickelback with special guests Bush, Seether, and My Darkest Days. $51.50, $65, $87.50, $96.50.


InterContinental Chicago

Dept. FAYF, BUTLER and SUSIE McMONAGLE!

Starring E. FAYE BUTLER and SUSIE McMONAGLE!

Theatre Northlight

Black Pearl Sings!

Produced, written, and directed by Jackie Taylor.

The best production of this century!

Tickets $55-65
773.769.4451
blackensemble.org

"These performers could have lit up the new theater— even before the electricity was turned on."

Hedy Weiss, Sun Times

extended through march 18th!
Reservations Limited
Call Mon-Fri (773) 267-6400
www.mysteryltd.com
Also Call about our
Murder Mystery Train™
Every Saturday

S. PROKOFIEV
Romeo and Juliet
Ballet in 2 acts
Choreography by M. Lavrovsky

State Ballet
Theatre of Russia

Igor NEPOMNYSCHCHIY  Lyudmila SYCHEVA
Artistic Director of the Theatre  Artistic Director of the Ballet

January 28 & 29, 2012

4 EASY WAYS TO PURCHASE TICKETS
PHONE: 800.982.ARTS (2787)
ONLINE: Ticketmaster.com
BOX OFFICE: 50 E. Congress Pkwy
SUBSCRIPTIONS & GROUPS 10+: 312.431.2357

FOLLOW US ON  

AUDITORIUM THEATRE
of ROOSEVELT UNIVERSITY

50 East Congress Parkway | Chicago, Illinois 60605 | auditoriumtheatre.org
March 9: Ryan Montbleau Band (folk/rock), $17/$20.

“The 3 Divas,” a special one night-only Valentine’s Day cabaret event with Susie McMonagle, Heidi Kettenring and Christine Sherrill, will be presented at 8 p.m. Feb. 14 at Northlight Theatre, 9501 Skokie Blvd., Skokie. $35.

March 9: Original Flecktones
March 10: Teitur (folk rock).
March 13: Teitur (folk rock).
March 14: Dave Specter’s “Adventures With A Blues Diva,” featuring Sharon Lewis (blues), $12/$15.
March 15: DAY 15: RYAN MONTBLEAU BAND (FOLK/ROCK)
March 16: Teitur (folk rock).
March 17: Teitur (folk rock).
March 18: Teitur (folk rock).
March 19: Teitur (folk rock).
March 20: Teitur (folk rock).
March 21: Teitur (folk rock).
March 22: Teitur (folk rock).
March 23: “Gems from the Koehnline: 19th and Early 20th Century Vintage Prints,” showcasing works from the museum’s permanent collection. Artists include William Strang (English), Tavik Frantisek Simon (Czech), Dmitry Moor (Russian), Ando Hiroshige (Japanese), as well as Chicago artists Raymond Katz, Milton Horn, Nathaniel Steinberg and Frances Foy. In addition, popular reproductions published at the turn of the century by Currier and Ives will be on display. Feb. 2-3: “Two Plus Two - Jackson, Owens, Williams and Wheatley.” The exhibit features works by Preston Jackson, professor of sculpture at the School of the Art Institute in Chicago; Joyce Owens, curator of the Galleries Program at Chicago State University; Bernard Williams, a former instructor at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago; and Rhonda Wheatley. Opening reception from 5-8 p.m. Feb. 2. 5: “Services for Adults Staying in Their Homes,” 1123 Emerson, Suite 200, Evanston. (847) 864-7274. www.SAIRCA.org. Gallery hours are 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Wednesdays and Fridays or by appointment. Through Feb. 5-8 p.m. Feb. 2.

4: “In Their Homes, 1123 Emerson.” The exhibit features works by Preston Jackson, professor of sculpture at the School of the Art Institute in Chicago; Joyce Owens, curator of the Galleries Program at Chicago State University; Bernard Williams, a former instructor at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago; and Rhonda Wheatley. Opening reception from 5-8 p.m. Feb. 2. 5: “Services for Adults Staying in Their Homes,” 1123 Emerson, Suite 200, Evanston. (847) 864-7274. www.SAIRCA.org. Gallery hours are 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Wednesdays and Fridays or by appointment. Through Feb. 5-8 p.m. Feb. 2.

3: “Celebrating Experience: A Gallery of Art by Older Adults,” featuring works by Chicago textile artist Mary Jo Bowers and painter Patricia Schuler of Park Ridge. All art is for sale, with a portion of the proceeds benefiting SASL, a community nonprofit that helps adults in Chicago and the north/northwest suburbs who, due to aging, illness or injury, need assistance in the home.

AUDITIONS & OPPORTUNITIES
Bilingual actresses who are fluent in both English and Spanish are encouraged to audition for the Performing Arts at Oakton production of the play “Kita y Fernanda” from 6-9 p.m. Jan. 23-24 at Oakton Community College’s Studio One, 1600 East Golf Road, Des Plaines. The director is seeking four bilingual females ranging from 18 to 40 years of age. Prepared monologues or readings from the script will be heard. Production dates are March 1-11. For more information, call (847) 376-7061.

The Rising Stars Theatre Company will hold open auditions for select roles in the musical comedy “Nun-Sense — The Mega Musical” from 7-9 p.m. Jan. 27 and 1-5 p.m. Jan. 29 at 2559 N. Sayre, Chicago. Auditioning for the roles of Sister Leo, aged 20 to mid-30s, must be able to dance; Sister Julia, featured role; and an ensemble of singing nuns and brothers, ages 20 and up. Prepare 2 bars of an upbeat song and sing sheet music in your key. Accompanist provided. A simple dance step will be taught. Audition appointments recommended; e-mail auditions@risingsstarschicago.com or call (773) 736-2490. Walk-ins welcome and will be seen as time permits. There is no pay. Performances will be April 20-29 at The Stahl Family Theatre, 5900 W. Belmont, Chicago.

Park Ridge Chorale will present the 8th annual Mistletoe Variety Show, “Holiday Cheer,” Jan. 26-27. The show, which is presented in cooperation with the Park Ridge Chamber of Commerce, features a variety of musical and dance performances.

To advertise, call Greg Tardi at (312) 321-2490 or email gtardi@suntimes.com

WWW.PIONEERLOCAL.COM
Play examines the many ways we misunderstand

BY MELISSA WASSERMAN


"The Girl in the Yellow Dress" is one of the most provocative plays I've worked on," said director Joanie Schultz. "It's a very specifically drawn piece and very distilled. It's about the miscommunications, the lack of ability to understand and the assumptions we make about people of other genders, other races, other cultures, other classes."

The play, with a cast of two, is set in contemporary Paris where Celia, a white Englishwoman from a well-off family teaches Pierre, a French-Congolese man, English lessons. A relationship develops that reveals dark truths from Celia's past.

As story progresses, we recognize the many divisions still present in the modern, seemingly advanced world.

"The Girl in the Yellow Dress" is South African playwright Higginson's second play. It premiered in Grahamstown, South Africa in 2010 and has since toured in both South Africa and the UK. It was the most talked about performance at the Edinburgh Festival in 2010.

"I just can't believe this play hasn't been done in this country," said Schultz.

Austin Talley, originally from South Carolina, is also performing his first show at Next. The complex psychology of the play intrigues him.

"I'm still discovering new things and connections all the time as I learn my lines," he said.

Talley describes his role as Pierre as one of the most challenging roles he has played, but he is able to identify with the character in some ways. Knowledge of French, however, is not something he shares with Pierre.

Learning languages

"I have to learn a new language and I have to learn the new dialect that I, Austin, the actor, have never had the chance to work on," said Talley. "So that's really challenging. That's one of the exciting things about being an actor is you get to step into (a new life) for however short the period is.

Carrie Coon, who plays Celia, is also making her Next Theatre debut, and is enjoying the experience. Although Coon is working on a different accent than Talley, she also enjoys the language aspect of her role. However, she is no stranger to working with British dialect on stage.

"I'm particularly attracted to the fact that Celia is an English teacher and the play is actually very cleverly divided by particular parts of speech," Coon said. "So, I love the way he (Higginson) uses grammar and language and plays with grammar and language in that context, reinforcing how important language is, and the power of language to create us, and the challenges that language presents us in expressing ourselves. I just found that all very intriguing.

All new

And because this is an American premiere the actors and director are working from scratch in creating their characters.

"That's always exciting because you feel like you're getting the opportunity to create something new," said Coon. "There certainly isn't a huge legacy of actresses who have played this role. So there's a kind of freedom about it. It's really liberating to do a newer work or a premiere. You get to be the person that creates that here."

Schultz hopes the play inspires conversations about the characters and their problems.

"I think it's a really worthwhile, really unique play," she said. "I just hope that a lot of people are exposed to it and that they leave thinking about how they misunderstand, or how they might work in a situation with a person of a completely different gender, class, culture and race."

GO | CONTINUED FROM PAGE 138

hold tryouts for its spring session, through Jan. 30. Rehearsals are held from 7-9 p.m. Mondays at the Park Ridge Nonprofit Center, 720 Garden St., Park Ridge. The concert will be presented April 15, with a theme of gospel music including the Gospel Mass by Robert Ray. For information, call Guy Huff, (847) 647-7116, or Pattie Bonk, (847) 825-2216.

BOOKS & POETRY

Barnes & Noble, 55 Old Orchard Center, Skokie, (847) 676-2230. Feb. 5, 2 p.m.: William Landay discusses and signs Defending Jacob. "Fathers and Daughters in a Changing World," a free five-part seminar examining the role of women in Jewish literature, will meet from 7-8:30 p.m. Wednesdays, Jan. 22-May 9, at Oakton Community College, 7700 N. Lincoln Ave., Skokie. Presented by the Oakton Library, the series of readings, lectures and group discussions will be led by Benjamin Goloboff, associate professor of English. Copies of the books may be borrowed from the Skokie campus library. Participants are not required to attend all sessions. Selections include Jan. 25: Tevye the Dairyman by Sholem Aleichem. Feb. 22: Bread Givers by Anzia Yezierska. March 21: Park Avenue: A Memoir by Anne Roihe. April 18: American Pastoral by Philip Roth. May 9: Bee Season by Myla Goldberg. To register, contact Lifelong Learning at (847) 698-2988 (press 3).

Love Is Murder 13, a morning and evening conference for authors, readers and fans, will be held Feb. 3-5 at the Intercontinental Chicago O'Hare Hotel, 5300 N. River Road, Rosemont. The event includes author panels, workshops, pitch sessions with agents and editors, and entertainment. Also, a preconference book signing will be held from 5:30-7 p.m. Feb. 2, featuring authors David Morrell, Donald Bain, Julie James, Hank Phillippi Ryan and Julie Huy. For more information or to register, visit www.loveismurder.net.

Mount Prospect Public Library, 10 S. Emerson St., Mount Prospect, (847) 253-5675. Jan. 20-22: Mount Prospect Friends of the Library winter book sale. Fri-Sat: Friends Member Only Night from 6:30-9:30 p.m.; $5 memberships available at the door. The general public sale will be from 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Saturday and noon-4:30 p.m. Sunday.

CHILD'S PLAY

Niles Public Library, 6960 Oakton St., Niles, (847) 663-6405. www.nileslibrary.org. Jan. 28, 2 p.m.: Screening of "Mr. Popper's Penguins.

Oakton Community College's Footlik Theater, 1600 E. Golf Road, Des Plaines. Tickets are $9, $12 in advance; $11-$14 at the door. Call (847) 699-2280 or visit www.cytchicago.org.

COMEDY


North Shore Center for the Performing Arts, 9501 Skokie Blvd., Skokie, www.northshorecenter.org. (847) 673-5300. Jan. 26-29: Political satirists The Capitol Steps. Performances are at 7:30 p.m. Thursday; 8 p.m. Friday; 5 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday; and 3 p.m. Sunday. $45-$54-$54.50. Feb. 25, 5 p.m. and 8 p.m.: Lily Tolmin, $42-$76.

Rosemont Theatre, 5400 N. River Road, Rosemont. Tickets are available at www.ticketmaster.com or (800) 745-3000; the ticket prices listed below do not include service fees. For more information about the theater, call (847) 671-5100 or visit www.rosemonttheatre.com. March 4, 2 p.m. and 5 p.m.: The Fresh Beat Band, Nickelodeon's preschool music group and stars of the television series of the same name. Tickets: $22, $27, $32. Fresh Beat Band Party packages, which include a meet and greet with the band, also available.

“The Wizard of Oz” will be presented by Christian Youth Theater Feb. 10-19 at Prairie Lake Theater, 515 E. Thacker, Des Plaines. Tickets are $9-$12 in advance; $11-$14 at the door. Call (847) 516-2298 or visit www.vycitichicago.org.

The Wizard of Oz will be presented by Christian Youth Theater Feb. 10-19 at Prairie Lake Theater, 515 E. Thacker, Des Plaines. Tickets are $9-$12 in advance; $11-$14 at the door. Call (847) 516-2298 or visit www.vycitichicago.org.

Sears Centre, 9501 Skokie Blvd., Skokie. (847) 673-5300. Jan. 26-29: Political satirists The Capitol Steps. Performances are at 7:30 p.m. Thursday; 8 p.m. Friday; 5 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday; and 3 p.m. Sunday. $45-$54-$54.50. Feb. 25, 5 p.m. and 8 p.m.: Lily Tolmin, $42-$76.

Rosemont Theatre, 5400 N. River Road, Rosemont. Tickets are available at www.ticketmaster.com or (800) 745-3000; the ticket prices listed below do not include service fees. For more information about the theater, call (847) 671-5100 or visit www.rosemonttheatre.com. March 4, 2 p.m. and 5 p.m.: The Fresh Beat Band, Nickelodeon's preschool music group and stars of the television series of the same name. Tickets: $22, $27, $32. Fresh Beat Band Party packages, which include a meet and greet with the band, also available.

“The Wizard of Oz” will be presented by Christian Youth Theater Feb. 10-19 at Prairie Lake Theater, 515 E. Thacker, Des Plaines. Tickets are $9-$12 in advance; $11-$14 at the door. Call (847) 516-2298 or visit www.vycitichicago.org.
Oversize egos, over the top fun from Buffalo

BY MYRNA PETLICKI
Contributor

It would be an understatement to describe the Hay family as dysfunctional.

We meet husband and wife actors George and Charlotte Hay in Buffalo, N.Y., where their touring theater company is about to present “Cyrano de Bergerac” and “Private Lives” in rotating repertory.

Things aren’t going well for the traveling troupe. To begin with, their ingénue is pregnant, which sets off a chain of events, including several cases of mistaken identity.

The arrival of their daughter Rosalind and her fiancé adds to the chaos in Ken Ludwig’s comedy, “Moon Over Buffalo.”

Audience-pleaser

Artistic Director Connie Canaday Howard of Downers Grove directs the show for Buffalo Theatre Ensemble, which is celebrating its 25th anniversary season. Howard noted that the company “had quite a bit of reaction” from audiences when they performed “Noises Off” during their 20th anniversary season.

That’s one reason they wanted to schedule another farce for this landmark season. They also selected the show because it offers the opportunity to utilize a number of the company’s ensemble members, including Amelia Barrett and Bryan Burke, both of Glen Ellyn, who star as Charlotte and George.

Married for 35 years, the couple has been able to support themselves as actors except in 1963 — the year in which the play is set. Their acting company includes Charlotte’s nearly-deaf mother, Ethel, with whom George has a cantankerous relationship. Daughter Rosalind was also in the troupe but left in pursuit of a more normal life.

Howard noted that, although “Moon Over Buffalo” is a very funny show about a very wacky family, “At its heart, it is really a love story. It’s a love story about theater but it’s also a love story about a family, in addition to a romantic love story. This is a piece about people who have very large egos and also huge devotion and love for one another. It’s just that sometimes they’re in conflict.”

As if the family doesn’t have enough problems, some outsiders get embroiled in their conflicts, including Richard, Charlotte and George’s lawyer, played by Rob Frankel of Highland Park.

Unrequited love

“It’s kind of a rich, arrogant wisecracker of a guy who happens to have a desperate love for Charlotte, and who is trying to whisk her away from George and from all the starving artists type of stuff into a world of luxury,” Frankel said.

Frankel, who has been acting since he was eight years old, considered it his avocation during the 26 years that he worked at IBM. Whenever possible, he performed with professional and community theaters in the Minneapolis area.

Frankel retired five years ago with the intention of making acting his career, while writing plays in his spare time. “I’m a starving artist full time,” he joked, which helps Frankel relate to the plight of the Hays.

After performing in North Carolina and Wisconsin, Frankel, who grew up in Skokie, decided to return to the Chicago area. Since moving to Highland Park nearly a year ago to help his parents, Frankel has performed in a couple of shows, including “Run for Your Wife” at BrightSide Theatre in Naperville.

Frankel was pleased when he was cast in “Moon Over Buffalo” because he had heard great things about Buffalo Theatre Ensemble. Besides, he was ready for a farce.

“I go through spells where I’m doing lots of dramas and then lots of comedies,” Frankel said. “It was time to do comedy. It’s really my forte.” He particularly enjoys being in this show genre because, “I like the sense of urgency that farce demands.”
Winter is the very best season to enjoy some of the finest getaways in the Midwest. Whether you're seeking solitude, romance or just the kind of weekend that will make you the envy of your officemates, here are a few to add to your must-do list.

DEEP IN THE HEART OF THE DRIFTLESS REGION

MAPLE WOOD LODGE – Mineral Point, WI
2950 State Highway 39
Mineral Point, WI 53565
(608) 987-2324
www.maplewoodlodge.com

This secluded paradise is tucked away in the hills of southwest Wisconsin on a beautiful country estate just past historic Mineral Point. Maple Wood is a comfortable two level, three bedroom post-and-beam home set on 26 wooded acres with nothing but big blue sky, wooded trails and miles of rolling hills surrounding you. Partners John Petters and the actor Coleman are your hosts whose lodge showcases works by local artists with a fully-equipped kitchen, living room, dining room, three bedrooms, two baths, Jacuzzi, stereo, satellite TV, Internet access and a sky full of twinkling stars. Hike, bike or ski in-season. A quick trip to town takes you to galleries, artist studios, the opera house and fine dining.

RITTENHOUSE INN: The inn is listed in the book 1000 Things to Do Before You Die.™
BY GARY KNOWLES
For Sun-Times Media

A GRAND GETAWAY

GRAND GENEVA RESORT – Lake Geneva, WI
7036 Grand Geneva Way
at Highways 50 East and 12
Lake Geneva, WI 53147
(800) 558-3417
www.grandgeneva.com

The Grand Geneva Resort combines the finest full-service resort amenities, salon and spa services, recreation and elegant dining in an oasis of comfort and relaxation. It’s one of the rare Four Diamond rated AAA Resorts in Wisconsin. Skiing, snowboarding, workouts or pool sitting may keep you content at the lodge, but downtown. Lake Geneva has a world of entertainment, shopping and great restaurants. Stay longer; do it all!

A SUPERIOR GETAWAY

THE OLD RITTENHOUSE INN – Bayfield, WI
301 Rittenhouse Ave.
Bayfield, WI 54814
(715) 779-5111
www.rittenhouseinn.com

Wassaay up north in Wisconsin, in Bayfield overlooking Lake Superior and the Apostle Islands, stands the Old Rittenhouse Inn and her sister property, Chateau Boutin. These romantic Victorians regularly earn glowing reviews in major travel and dining magazines. They offer a variety of expertly antiqued rooms upgraded with Jacuzzis, fireplaces and four-posters. Lovingly restored by Jerry and Mary Phillips, now hosted by son Mark and daughter-in-law Wendy, the inn’s twenty guest rooms are what others aspire to be. Acclaimed for gourmet dining, Rittenhouse was a leader of the slow food movement before it had a name. It’s listed in the best seller “1000 Things to Do Before You Die.” Special themed weekend packages feature red wine, chocolates, Valentine’s Day, birthing, martinis and a Wild Gourmet dinner. For outdoor winter fun, book a sled dog ride, visit Madeline Island, ski nearby Mt. Ashwabay or, if snow and weather are right, explore ice caves along the National Lakeshore. Madeline Island.

SHOP, RELAX, SHOP, RELAX

THE RADISSON PAPER VALLEY HOTEL – Appleton, WI
333 W. College Ave.
Appleton WI 54911
(888) 395-7046
www.radisson.com/appletonwi

OK, some getaways should be focused, like, say on shopping! So we head to Appleton the heart of Wisconsin’s Fox Cities and one of the most popular shopping destinations in the Midwest. Here the nest of choice is the Radisson Paper Valley Hotel with a reputation for comfortable rooms and attentive service. After shopping outings enjoy the fitness center, pool, sports bar, coffee shop and hotel café in the hotel. Also in the hotel is Lombardi’s Steak House, one of Wisconsin’s finest. Right out the door is a magnificent Performing Arts Center, the fascinating Houdini Museum, an edgy Visual Arts Center, jazz talent at Lawrence University and near-by is the Bergstrom Mahler Museum with a superb collection of glass. Pro-football teams often stay here when they play the Packers so you may have to muscle out a tight-end or nose tackle to get to the bargains.

HOW TO GET THE BEST RATES:

1. Always check hotel/resort’s own websites for specials and seasonal offers.
2. Look for best prices midweek and Sunday through Thursdays.
3. Getaway in January through March for the is real value season.
4. Book early to find the most options and best rates.
5. Shop around. It’s a buyer’s market.
6. Ask if they’ll consider a room upgrade, dining discounts or other enhancements at the same rate.

PRODUCED BY CUSTOM MEDIA SOLUTIONS CUSTOM MEDIA SOLUTIONS
KNO ONE

Editor: Tammy Matthews
Design: Jennifer Williams
To Advertise: Donna Evans: devans@suntimes.com, Rich Holevoet: rholevoet@pioneerlocal.com
What’s your pleasure? Snowshoe dancing? The most grueling cross country skiing race in North America? Watching Bald Eagles soar? Jazz? Hot-air balloons? Sipping fine wines? Cooking with cheese? Jazz? Hot-air balloons? Cross country skiing race in North America? Whether it’s a girls’ getaway in our Avani Spa, a romantic retreat or a fun filled family vacation with nearby winter activities, we welcome you to discover Lake Geneva at this classic lakeside retreat, The Abbey Resort.

For more information, call 800.709.1323 or visit www.theabbeyresort.com

WINTER HOT DATES
BEGINNING AT $99 PER NIGHT†

†Plus taxes & resort fee. Based on double occupancy in a standard room or pool view room. Minimum night of stay varies by season. Special rates available, advance reservations recommended.

©2011 The Abbey Resort
Managed by Homewood Hospitality Group

- Spacious 1 or 2-Bedroom Suites
- Fully Equipped Kitchens
- Flat Screen Televisions
- Whirlpool Bath
- Fireplace

Resort Amenities Include:
- Indoor Pool, Hot Tub & Sauna
- Wine and Cheese Hour
- Complimentary Wi-Fi
- On-site Restaurant
- Fitness Room

800-770-7107
www.cove-lake-geneva.com

The Cove of Lake Geneva
Close to Everything...Far From Ordinary!

Take Advantage of our ‘Winter Blowout Sale’!
Rates Starting at Just $85!

Condo Style Suites Feature:
-Fully Equipped Kitchens
-Flat Screen Televisions
-Whirlpool Bath
-Fireplace

Resort Amenities Include:
-Indoor Pool, Hot Tub & Sauna
-Wine and Cheese Hour
-Complimentary Wi-Fi
-On-site Restaurant
-Fitness Room

800-770-7107
www.cove-lake-geneva.com

2012 COOL WINTER EVENTS

BY GARY KNOWLES
For Sun-Times Media

January

JAN. 19-22 | Eagle River
World Championship Snowmobile Derby
The world’s premier snowmobile racing event. 200-plus entries combine the excitement and success of championships. Eagle River Derby Track. Hwy 54 N. (715) 479-4024

JAN. 20-22 | Fontana
Great Chefs at the Lake

JAN. 21-22 | Stevens Point
Arctic Run Model Railroad Sale & Show
See model railroad setups, a hands-on Thomas the Tank Engine layout for children, swapplates tables, hobby shop dealers and vendors. www.frmw.org. (715) 343-8228

JAN. 21 | Madison
Isthmus Beer and Cheese Fest
Tasting some of the finest beers brewed in the Midwest and artisan cheeses from Wisconsin. Cell for ticket info. A Natural Energy Center. (608) 263-3919

JAN. 21-22 | West Bend
West Bend Antique Show
More than 50 quality dealers with furniture, paper items, paintings, advertising, art, ceramics and other unusual collectibles. Washington County Fair Park. (414) 525-8021

JAN. 21 | Bloomer
Bloomer Rope Jump Contest
Some 240 jumpers from 20-35 participating schools and try to break world records at the 160,000 square feet ‘Jump Capital of the World’. Bloomer High School. (715) 508-3339

JAN. 21 | Prairie du Sac
Port Celebration
Celebrate the mules of Wollersheim Winery. Port 2013 and White Port 2013. Learn how Port is made. Sample Ports and other Wollersheim wines. Live jazz, light food and Port presentation by winemaker, Philippe Coquard. Free admission. Wollersheim Winery, 7819 Hwy 189, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. (608) 843-0315

© SPECIALSECTIONS.SUNTIMES.COM/ LIFESTYLE/ TRAVEL

Wisconsin’s winter beaches: Waterparks, resorts and spas

A wild ride: Take a tour through Wisconsin country
DANCE

Mayne Stage, 1328 W. Morse Ave. In Rogers Park, Chicago. www.maynestage.com. (773) 381-4554. Feb. 17, 8 p.m.: Chicago Dance Crash KIF presents “Love is a (Dance) Battlefield.” CDC’s Keeper of the Floor (KIF), 18B Mayne Stage, 1328 W. Morse Ave., Skokie. (847) 673-6300. www.northshorecenter.org. Feb. 11, 8 p.m.: Thodos Dance Chicago & Luna Negra presents two leaders in the world of aerial acrobatics and live music, Feb. 12-March 11 at the Noyes Cultural Arts Center, 927 Noyes St., Evanston. Performances are at 7:30 p.m. Fridays; 4:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Saturdays; and 3 p.m. Sundays. Tickets: $15; $10 for children 12 and under and students with ID. Gala opening night will be Feb. 11; tickets are $100 each, which includes a post-show reception. Tickets available at www.brownpapertickets.com or (800) 838-3006. For information, visit www.actorsgymnasium.com.

FILM


ET CETERA

The Actors Gymnasium presents “Lost and Found: A Recycled Circus,” featuring aerial acrobatics and live music, Feb. 12-March 11 at the Noyes Cultural Arts Center, 927 Noyes St., Evanston. Performances are at 7:30 p.m. Fridays; 4:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Saturdays; and 3 p.m. Sundays. Tickets: $15; $10 for children 12 and under and students with ID. Gala opening night will be Feb. 11; tickets are $100 each, which includes a post-show reception. Tickets available at www.brownpapertickets.com or (800) 838-3006. For information, visit www.actorsgymnasium.com.

MUSEUMS

The Chicago Symphony Orchestra presents a variety of concerts and performances under different conductors and directors, including Riccardo Muti, John Sharp, and J. Lawrie Bloom. Events range from classical music to jazz and family concerts. Each concert features different composers and works, such as Rachmaninov, Shostakovich, and Bartók. The season includes performances by renowned artists like Joshua Bell, Pierre-Laurent Aimard, and Leif Ove Andsnes. Special events like the Chicago Symphony Orchestra Alumni Series and Family Concerts are also featured. The season runs from February to April, with performances at Orchestra Hall and other venues throughout the city.
Aries (March 21 to April 19) The changes you've waited to see in your work situation might not be happening quite as quickly as you'd hoped. Although the pace is slow, it's ongoing. Expect to hear news soon.

Taurus (April 20 to May 20) You should be feeling very proud of the fine effort you've made to get that important project done. Now take some time out to celebrate with family and friends. You've earned it.

Gemini (May 21 to June 20) You're close to reaching your objectives. That's the good news. But be careful: Your aspects show lots of potential distractions looming. Stay focused and keep your eyes fixed on your goals.

Cancer (June 21 to July 22) Be careful not to let that suspicious Cancerian mind create a problem where none exists. What you might believe is an act of betrayal could be nothing more than a misunderstanding.

Leo (July 23 to August 22) Your Lion's heart overflows with self-confidence. All you need to do is tap into it, and you'll be able to handle any change that must be made regarding that recent surprise development.

Virgo (August 23 to September 22) The need to watch what you say becomes increasingly crucial this week. Be as temperate as you can with your comments and avoid arguments for the sake of controversy.

Libra (September 23 to October 22) A longtime family problem presents new demands. But this time, you won't have to go it alone. Someone else is asking to help share your responsibilities. Let it happen.

Scorpio (October 23 to November 21) A period of feeling vulnerable is about to give way to a stronger, more self-confident aspect. Use this new strength to reaffirm promises you've made to others and yourself.

Sagittarius (November 22 to December 21) A creative dilemma stalls your progress. Instead of letting it raise your ire, use the time to re-examine your aims and, perhaps, come up with a new target.

Capricorn (December 22 to January 19) Your nimble will finds a way for you to work out those newly emerged problems plaguing your new project. Stay with it. The results will be well worth your efforts.

Aquarius (January 20 to February 18) You might feel overwhelmed at having to decide which new opportunity you should follow. Best advice: Check them all out and see which offers what you really want.

Pisces (February 19 to March 20) Continue to tread water before you even consider plunging into something that never seemed quite right. Some facts will soon emerge that can help you make a decision.

Born This Week: You're a natural-born peacemaker. You value truth and have little patience with those who lie to you for their own purposes.
Markland, Elsa E. (nee Wild), age 90, of Skokie. Beloved wife of the late James L.; Dear mother of James T.; Loving grandmother of Brittany E., James K. and Trent W.; Fond sister of the late Eleanor Haynes.

Visitation Thursday, from 9 a.m. until time of Funeral Service, 11 a.m., at HABEN Funeral Home & Crematory, 8057 Niles Center Rd., Skokie. Cremation private.

Former member of the Women's Club of Skokie and the Germania Club. Past Worthy Matron of the Order of the Eastern Star.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to The American Lung Association, 55 W. Wacker Dr., Ste 800, Chicago, IL 60601. Funeral info: 847.673.6111 or www.habenfuneral.com.


A visitation was held on Wednesday, January 11, at Ryan-Parke Funeral Home, Park Ridge. A funeral service was held on Thursday, January 12 at St. Luke's Lutheran Church in Park Ridge. Interment followed in Rosehill Cemetery, Chicago. In lieu of flowers, memorials to Rainbow Hospice, www.rainbowhospice.org are appreciated.

Sign Guest Book at www.chicagolandobits.com
Prove Yourself Again with Your First Performance Review

By Peter Vogt, Monster Senior Contributing Writer

You did so well in your recent job interviews with Company X that you got the entry-level position you really wanted. But your days of having to prove your value to the company are just beginning.

In a few months or perhaps a year from now, you'll be asked to demonstrate your worth again to your supervisor during your first performance review.

Granted, your review probably won't carry the same make-or-break pressure as your job interview. But it will still have a significant impact on your future assignments, work relationships, day-to-day activities and salary. So you need to be as ready for your review as you were for all those interviews. And that means preparing for it from day one.

"The key to a successful performance review is what happens during the three, six or 12 months before the meeting," says Gene Mage, president of Making It Work, a Horseheads, New York-based leadership development and consulting firm. That's the time when your working relationship with your boss will be crystallized - or not.

But here's the hard part: In many ways, forging that solid relationship will be up to you, says Sherry Cornwell, a selection specialist and strategic business partner for Medica, a Minneapolis-based health insurance company.

"I say this because there are many organizations and managers who do not take the lead in on-boarding their new employees," Cornwell says. "In the end, it's the employee's primary responsibility not to wait for information to be given to them, but to be proactive."

In other words, sooner rather than later, you need to clarify your role and your boss's expectations of you to determine how you'll eventually be assessed at your performance review. Do you have individual goals you need to achieve? Company goals?

When your review is only a few weeks or days away, you must become more concrete by completing tasks like these:

**Summarize Your Key Achievements**

Think about what you've achieved since you began the job, and develop a written list of your most important accomplishments. Just as you might do if you were to highlight these achievements on your resume, quantify wherever possible, and mention specific results (e.g., "helped streamline the customer database, reducing query processing time by about 40 percent.").

**Present These Accomplishments**

"Brainstorm concrete examples that illustrate outstanding performance, and practice communicating them so they're on the tip of your tongue," says Alexandra Levit, author of *They Don't Teach Corporate in College*.

**Develop a Detailed Agenda**

"If you don't care about your performance reviews, no one else will," Levit stresses. "The worst thing you can do for your career as a new employee is to go through the process passively."

Make a detailed list of what you'd like to cover during your actual review meeting, Levit says. That way, you'll be able to discuss what you want to focus on, not just what the boss wants to talk about.

No matter how much you prepare, your performance review will still be stressful. So try not to become defensive if you get some constructive criticism during the meeting, and listen as much as you talk.

If you've done your homework ahead of time and worked hard to build a solid relationship with your supervisor, then your formal review will be "exactly that — a formality," Mage says.
Staffing Services
Help Wanted Part-Time
Help Wanted Full-Time
Featured Jobs
Employment Wanted
* Long Term Care Facility
* Central Baptist Village

We've been renowned for our Registry, Operating Room RNs, and Valley West Community Hospital.

Online and phone scheduling, documentation,

- Must be able to multi-task
- Must be detail-oriented

Position: Full-Time RNs
Salary: $30-$35 per hour

* The Registry is hiring!
* Pay rates: $10-$15 per hour

- Must be able to work independently
- Must be able to prioritize tasks

Contact: news@valleymarketinggroup.com

Find your dream job now with a leading healthcare recruiting company.

- Holiday call rotation required
- Current RN certification required
- Must be willing to work any shift

Contact: news@valleymarketinggroup.com

Join us and be the renowned leader in nursing excellence.

- Discover the Methodist Difference!
- Offered in the Chicago Metro Area in US News & World Report's Top Hospitals.

Contact: nursing@methodisthospitals.org

Hiring School Bus Drivers, Charter Drivers and Diesel Mechanics for the following locations:

- Chicago West
1001 Laramie
773-287-0060
- Chicago Central
4100 South Wabash
773-924-5839
- Chicago North
3412 W. Touhy Ave.
847-674-6777
- Waukegan
415 N. Green Bay
847-249-4100
- Glenview/Park Ridge
3515 W. Howard St.
847-249-4100
- Glenview/Park Ridge
3515 W. Howard St.
847-249-4100

Driver Qualifications:
- Must be at least 21 years old
- Must have a valid driver's license with no breaks or suspensions within the last three (3) years
- Competitive hourly rates + Free training

Mechanic Qualifications:
- Must have own work tools
- Experience working on School Buses preferred
- Must be able to obtain a CDL, within 90 days of hire
- Must pass pre-employment drug test and DOT physical

Visit us online for more info.
www.illinois-central.com
Or email resume/inquiry to:
riders@illinois-central.com

Drug Free Workplace/EOE
ZACHRY NUCLEAR ENGINEERING, INC.

Zachry Nuclear Engineering is currently seeking a Project Manager for the Midwest office in Naperville, IL. The position requires an engineering degree and experience in power plant operations and maintenance.

Requirements:
- Experience in power plant operations and maintenance.
- Strong technical background in nuclear engineering.
- Experience working with a multidisciplinary team.

Successful candidates will participate in the planning and execution of projects related to nuclear power plant operations and maintenance.

If you are interested in this position, please contact Zachry Nuclear Engineering at 615-333-9000 for more information.
The mortgagee of the following described real estate,-rights, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate, and the mortgagee has satisfied the said special assessments or special taxes, and the mortgagee has not received any other monies or security for said special assessments or special taxes.

The real estate is subject to a Deed of Trust dated on the 24th day of July, 2010, recorded in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds of Cook County, Illinois, as Document No. 10-22-223285. The real estate is subject to a Deed of Trust dated on the 24th day of July, 2010, recorded in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds of Cook County, Illinois, as Document No. 10-22-223285. The real estate is subject to a Deed of Trust dated on the 24th day of July, 2010, recorded in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds of Cook County, Illinois, as Document No. 10-22-223285.
If the sale is not confirmed by the court within the time specified therein, the sale will be canceled and the property will be returned to the seller.

The Purchaser shall have no further right to the property after confirmation has been given by the court.

The sale will be held in accordance with the provisions of the law and the rules of the Judicial Sales Corporation.

Judicial Sales-Real Est.
To place a help wanted ad in the classifieds, call 847-998-3400.
This document appears to be a legal notice, possibly related to a public auction or a real estate transaction. The text is not entirely clear due to scanning quality, but it contains information about a legal notice for an auction of property, specifically titled "STATE OF ILLINOIS IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS IN THE MATTER OF PETITION FOR CONFIRMATION OF ASSIGNMENT OF CREDIT TO THE FILE FOR TITLE OR REPOSSESSION OF THE PURPOSES OF REPOSSESSION AND RECOVERY OF THE PROPERTY SUBJECT TO SALES CONTRACT, AND FOR CONSENT OF THE COURT." The notice is dated February 15, 2012, and includes details about the location of the sale and the terms of the auction. The notice is addressed to interested parties and potential bidders, providing information on how to bid and the conditions under which the property will be sold. The document also contains contact information for the court and the parties involved. It is a formal legal notice and should be treated as such, requiring careful reading and understanding. The notice is issued by the Circuit Court of Cook County, Illinois, and is of significant legal importance, requiring attention from anyone interested in the auction or the property in question.
NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY

Notice is hereby given in accordance with Section 4 of the Self-Storage Facility Act, State of Illinois, that the Self-Storage Facility, Storage/PS Orangeco, Inc., will conduct sale(s) by competitive bidding on Januay 30, 2012 at 11:00 a.m. on the premises where property has been stored and which are located at Public Storage #22333, 801 N. Broadway Rd, Rolling Meadows, Illinois, 60008, 312-563-1065, where said property has been stored, which are located at Public Storage #22331, 1901 W. Howard St., Arlington Heights, IL 60005, 1-847-998-3400. All goods are sold as is and must be removed at the time of purchase. Sale is subject to adjournment.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY

Notice is hereby given in accordance with Section 4 of the Self-Storage Facility Act, State of Illinois, that the Self-Storage Facility, Storage/PS Orangeco, Inc., will conduct sale(s) by competitive bidding on January 31, 2012 at 11:00 a.m. on the premises where property has been stored, which are located at Public Storage #22335, 801 N. Broadway Rd, Rolling Meadows, Illinois, 60008, 312-563-1065, where said property has been stored. All goods are sold as is and must be removed at the time of purchase. Sale is subject to adjournment.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY

Notice is hereby given in accordance with Section 4 of the Self-Storage Facility Act, State of Illinois, that the Self-Storage Facility, Storage/PS Orangeco, Inc., will conduct sale(s) by competitive bidding on January 30, 2012 at 11:00 a.m. on the premises where property has been stored, which are located at Public Storage #22335, 801 N. Broadway Rd, Rolling Meadows, Illinois, 60008, 312-563-1065, where said property has been stored. All goods are sold as is and must be removed at the time of purchase. Sale is subject to adjournment.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY

Notice is hereby given in accordance with Section 4 of the Self-Storage Facility Act, State of Illinois, that the Self-Storage Facility, Storage/PS Orangeco, Inc., will conduct sale(s) by competitive bidding on January 30, 2012 at 11:00 a.m. on the premises where property has been stored, which are located at Public Storage #22335, 801 N. Broadway Rd, Rolling Meadows, Illinois, 60008, 312-563-1065, where said property has been stored. All goods are sold as is and must be removed at the time of purchase. Sale is subject to adjournment.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY

Notice is hereby given in accordance with Section 4 of the Self-Storage Facility Act, State of Illinois, that the Self-Storage Facility, Storage/PS Orangeco, Inc., will conduct sale(s) by competitive bidding on January 31, 2012 at 11:00 a.m. on the premises where property has been stored, which are located at Public Storage #22335, 801 N. Broadway Rd, Rolling Meadows, Illinois, 60008, 312-563-1065, where said property has been stored. All goods are sold as is and must be removed at the time of purchase. Sale is subject to adjournment.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY

Notice is hereby given in accordance with Section 4 of the Self-Storage Facility Act, State of Illinois, that the Self-Storage Facility, Storage/PS Orangeco, Inc., will conduct sale(s) by competitive bidding on January 31, 2012 at 11:00 a.m. on the premises where property has been stored, which are located at Public Storage #22335, 801 N. Broadway Rd, Rolling Meadows, Illinois, 60008, 312-563-1065, where said property has been stored. All goods are sold as is and must be removed at the time of purchase. Sale is subject to adjournment.
BEFORE YOU CONQUER THE WORLD

START WITH YOUR HOMETOWN.

Monster and Pioneer Press have joined forces so you can discover a job that will let you rise to the top in the suburban Chicago area. Your calling is calling.

MONSTER AND PIONEER PRESS NOW WORK TOGETHER.

PIONEER PRESS monstre

pioneerlocal.com/monster
Glencoe Golf Club

A certified Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary, surrounded by the beauty of nature, featuring exceptional greens, tree lined fairways, native prairie grass corridors and ponds located throughout the course. A great escape from the sights and sounds of the city, located only 20 minutes north of Chicago.

Golf Camps for Juniors of all ages and skill levels
- Camp registration now available.
- New rates and added value for the 2012 golf season.
- All campers receive 5 free rounds of golf and a 'Get Ready to Golf' starter kit.
- Full day camps include 36 holes of golf weekly.

Senior Membership Program
- Available to golfers 60 years of age and older.
- Save $16.00 off your 18 hole greens fees each time you play.
- No residency required.

Permanent Tee Time Program
Permanent tee time package offers 19-weeks of reserved tee times, on either Saturday or Sunday mornings, prime tee times still available. Single golfers welcome.
Dear Fixer: I turned off my gas valve at my warehouse in New Lenox and did not use gas for a year. Later, I decided to discontinue my gas service since I was not using it.

Nicor had been estimating my gas usage. On March 4, Nicor sent me a statement reflecting a $168.99 credit. But on March 28, they sent me a check for only $93.58. I called Nicor, and their representative informed me that they had estimated my last bill. I was told that it was a mistake, but Nicor could not explain why it happened. I was told I would receive a check by May 1 for the balance.

On April 16, I received a check for one cent. I believe we are still owed $135.40.

I filed a formal complaint with the Illinois Commerce Commission. I received a call from Nicor stating that they did not read the meter because I didn't ask them to. They used their website to turn off the service and there was nothing there to ask for a final reading.

Ronald Lattanzio
Kingman, Ariz.

Dear Ronald: Bad news — this time the gas company is right.

The Jerusalem of Lithuania, prior to World War II. Q&A with filmmaker and native of Vilna, Mirja Jedwabnik Van Doren, follows the screening. Fee with Museum admission. Feb. 19, 11 a.m.-4 p.m.: Exhibition — Ours to Fight For: American Jews in the Second World War, through their artifacts, letters, and photographs, "The Greatest Generation" tells the stories of what the war was like for all its participants, and for Jews in particular. Curator Talk with Lou Levine, 1:30 p.m. Free with Museum admission.

The Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County recently established a Battery Recycling Program for rechargeable and alkaline batteries, partnered with Interstate Batteries in Skokie to provide recycling at no cost to SWANCC communities. Common household batteries are no longer accepted at Illinois EPA-sponsored household chemical waste collection sites due to their benign nature and high recycling costs. Batteries accepted in SWANCC's program: Alkaline (AA, AAA, C, D and 9V) and rechargeable (NiCd, NiMh, lithium ion, lithium polymer). Before dropping off rechargeable batteries, residents need to tape the contact points on each battery or place in an individual self-locking baggie to avoid spills. Local drop-off sites include: Niles Public Services Department, 6849 Touhy Ave., (847) 588-7900, 7 a.m.-4 p.m.; Monday through Saturdays; Park Ridge Public Works, 400 Busse Highway, (847) 318-5240, 7 a.m.-4 p.m., Mondays through Fridays.

Avenues Thrift Shoppe of- donors: computers, computer monitors, mobile phones, peripherals — mice, keyboards, zip drives, MP3 players, televisions, PDAs — printers, VHS players, fax machines, DVD players, video game consoles, and DVR/ cable boxes. Electronics from businesses, institutions or schools will not be accepted. Visit swancc.org.

Donations

The Polish National Association, the Polish Roman Catholic Union of America, and the Polish National Alliance, the Polish Falcons of America, along with the affiliates of the PNA, the Polish Daily News (Dziennik Zlaskowy), WPNA 1490 AM

Dear Fixer: On Dec. 24, 2010, I bought an HP Compaq Presario computer from Staples, with the keyboard and mouse. I purchased the keyboard only because I was having problems with the system in mid-November of 2010, so I called the store. They told me to contact Hewlett-Packard, which was still within the one-year warranty. I contacted HP and it took two weeks for me to get assistance, only to find out that I needed to purchase a recovery disk. They said the warranty had expired in July 2010 and I would have to pay $16 fee for shipping and handling. I told them I did not purchase the system until November 2010. They told me to supply them with a copy of the receipt, so I faxed it to them and also emailed a copy to their support desk.

After that, I spoke with numerous representatives on the phone, and they all had the same statement: it was a bill for gas and that it was out of warranty. But the system was bought as a bundle with the keyboard and mouse. They said the technical support manager would contact me within an hour.

Since then, I have been calling HP and have been told numerous times I would receive a call back. It's now almost a month later and I have not received a phone call, and the warranty will expire later this month.

Lois Jones

Dear Lois: We got your letter Dec. 5 and contacted HP the next day. With the clock ticking on your warranty, which expired Dec. 24, we knew HP would basically be able to get to the bottom of this.

And they did — soon, a prepaid shipping box arrived and you sent the computer back to them. They replaced the hard drive and mailed it back, and you happily told us it's up and running again.

Warranty caution

Lois's problem reminds us about another letter we recently got from a Fixer reader whose workplace bought a KitchenAid dishwasher that broke down within the warranty period. Lauren's boss at work realized too late that their warranty was worthless: In the fine print, it states that it doesn't cover parts if the appliance is used for anything "other than normal, single-family household use."

Luckily, they were able to get their appliance dealer to assist, but other businesses, schools, community centers and shelters should note that this is pretty standard language in warranties for large appliances like refrigerators, stoves, dishwashers and the like.

It's now almost a month later and I have not received a phone call, and the warranty will expire later this month.

Lois Jones
Radio, and both PNA Bank locations, are joining in the support of the “Cell Phone for Soldiers” program. The donated phones are sent to ReCellular, which pays Cell Phones for Soldiers for each donated phone, enough to provide an hour of talk time to soldiers abroad with prepaid calling cards. Local residents can support the collection drive by donating their phones at the following locations: Polish National Alliance, 6100 N. Cicero Ave., Chicago, (800) 621-3723; Polish Roman Catholic Union, 984 N. Milwaukee Ave., Chicago, (800) 772-8632; Polish Nationals Alliance, 6100 N. Cicero Ave., Chicago, (800) 621-3723; PNA Bank, 7840 N. Milwaukee Ave., Chicago, (773) 763-9844; Polish Daily News, 5711 N. Milwaukee Ave., Chicago, (888) 522-1898; Polish Daily News, 5711 N. Milwaukee Ave., Chicago, (888) 522-1898; Polish Daily News, 5711 N. Milwaukee Ave., Chicago, (888) 522-1898; Polish Roman Catholic Union, 6100 N. Cicero Ave., Chicago, (800) 621-3723; Polish Roman Catholic Union, 6100 N. Cicero Ave., Chicago, (800) 621-3723; Polish Roman Catholic Union, 6100 N. Cicero Ave., Chicago, (800) 621-3723.

**Food Drives**

In honor of Breast Cancer Awareness Month, the Caldwell Breast Center at Advocate Lutheran General Hospital is hosting a food drive for the Maine Township Emergency Food Pantry. Anyone who brings a canned good or nonperishable item to the breast center is eligible for the second annual “I Can help” raffle for a variety of items. Individuals are invited to drop off their nonperishable items during December at the center, 1700 Luther Lane in Park Ridge. All women who are in need of their yearly mammogram may call (847) 723-5050 to make an appointment. Contact Carol Dallmeyer, nurse navigator, (847) 723-3303 for information about donations.

**Fundraisers**

Like New Auto Spa, Inc., 1050 Busse Highway, Park Ridge, has introduced a special fund-raising program that benefits Advocate Lutheran General Hospital/Advocate Lutheran General Children's Hospital. Anyone who visits Like New to have their car washed or detailed or buys a gift card from the company and also asks for the Lutheran General discount will receive a price cut for the service, with a portion of the proceeds going specifically to benefit the Older Adult Services program of the hospital. Call AIMee Madden, Lutheran General Development Office, (847) 723-8518; Steve Radakovic at Like New Auto Spa, (847) 823-9274; or visit www.likeneauto-spa.com. The fundraising program is featured on the home page with a link to a more detailed flyer containing the discount and donation matrix. This offer is not valid with an outside wash only, or any other promotion/program.

**Health**

Advocate Medical Group is now providing immediate care and occupational health services at the Advocate Medical Group Patient Center, 7255 N. Caldwell Ave. in Niles. This will provide community members with convenient, quality medical care including treatment for non-life-threatening illnesses such as: Cuts and burns, sprains and bruises, eye injuries, flu symptoms, sore throats, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, ear aches, respiratory and urinary tract infections. The center provides easy access to X-ray and laboratory services to assist in diagnosis and treatment of these and other ailments. In addition, the clinic provides international travel medical services including for those planning a trip out of the country. Office hours are 7:30 a.m.-8 p.m. weekdays and Saturday and Sunday 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays. Call, 847-647-0355.

**Golf Mill Hearing Aid Center,** 8856 N. Milwaukee Ave., is offering free hearing evaluations. All who come in will receive a comprehensive audiological evaluation. Call (847) 296-3344.

Pediatric development screenings offered at no cost. LYNX Therapeutics, 9436 Ozark Ave., Morton Grove, provides specialized occupational therapy services and learning instruction programs to children with physical, social, emotional, and learning difficulties. Contact Ingrid Kenron at (847) 791-1631 or (847) 966-1505. A local dialysis clinic, Fresenius Medical Care Niles, 9371 N. Milwaukee Ave., has started a new night-time program for dialysis patients. The new service allows patients to receive treatments...
CAINMARINI SKIN RESEARCH

Acne Treatments • Botox Cosmetic • Chemical Peels • Juvederm/Restylane • Laser Hair Removal • Microdermabrasion • Photo Restoration • Sclerotherapy • Silk Peels • Dermal Fillers • UltraPulse Laser Skin Resurfacing • Professional Skin Care Products • Glominerals • Wax Treatments • Lip Liquefactive • Titan Skin Treatment

BY APPOINTMENT: (773) 775-6105
6702 NORTHWEST HIGHWAY | CHICAGO, IL 60631
www.medicalaestheticsltd.com

MAKE SOME BREAD

EARN SOME DOUGH
The Finest Board Certified Plastic Surgeons  
Complimentary Consultations  
Financing Available

www.bodycosmetica.com  
866.923.7540

CHICAGO • HIGHLAND PARK • GLENVIEW

BEAUTY
CONQUERS
ALL.

BODY
COSMETICA
DEFINING THE ART OF PLASTIC SURGERY
FROM CRIMSON-HUED COCKTAILS to dumplings with fire-breathing hot sauce, chefs everywhere plan to raise a glass to welcome Chinese New Year, the year of the dragon.

Big Bowl-Lincolnshire has developed special cocktails for their Chinese New Year fest, Jan. 19-22. The drinks are inspired by the magenta color of blood orange juice. “Blood oranges have the beautiful red color which symbolizes wealth and prosperity in the new year,” explained Bobby Rogers, Lettuce Entertain You Enterprises divisional trainer.

Rogers and a mixology team developed a blood orange margarita (tequila blanco, Cointreau, fresh-squeezed blood orange and lime); blood orange sangria (blood orange-infused wine); and red dragon (vodka, yuzu sour, pomegranate and soda). A non-alcoholic version, Little Red Dragon, will also be available.

Sharing spirit
Philanthropy is part of the celebration. Proceeds from sales of Blood Orange Ginger Ale will be donated to the Make-A-Wish Foundation. Those born during a year of the dragon will receive a complimentary lunch or dinner entrée on the first day of the new year, Jan. 23.

A complimentary class on making the first day of the new year, Jan. 23.

Recipes to ring in the Chinese New Year

**Braised Eight Treasures**

From Benny Cheung, Lake Forest Place Executive Chef

1 pound celery cabbage (can substitute Napa or green cabbage), cut into about 1½-inch-square cubes

1 pound Chinese turnip, daikon, cut into large cubes

½ pound chestnuts (Make a cross on flat side of each chestnut, and bake in the oven at 350 degrees for seven minutes or until the peel is popped open. Peel and skin after cooling.)

1 cup chicken broth

4 ounces medium-size dry shrimp (Wash and soak shrimp in cup of water until soft. Reserve water.)

4 ounces bamboo shoots, sliced about ¼ inch thick

4 ounces dry black mushrooms, braised. Recipe follows.

½ pound pork spare rib, cut bite-size (Soak in hot water for two minutes to render fat.)

2 ounces mung bean thread (Soak in water until soft.)

¼ cup sliced scallions for garnish

3 slices ginger root, peeled and sliced ¼ inch thick

Place one cup chicken broth in 4-5 quart pot. Lay cabbage on bottom evenly with garlic slices. Add turnips, chestnuts, shrimp, bamboo shoots, spare ribs and braised mushrooms (recipe follows) with the cooking liquid.

Cover pot and bring to boil. Reduce heat to medium or lower. Simmer for 30 minutes. Add more chicken stock if ingredients begin to dry. Reduce heat. Place mung bean thread on top of mushrooms. Cover and simmer for five more minutes. Toss ingredients before serving.

Garnish with sliced scallions.

**Braised Dry Black Mushrooms**

4 ounces dry black mushrooms, stemmed, washed and soaked in one quart of water for six hours or until soft. Reserve water.

½ cup corn oil

½ cup oyster sauce

2 cloves garlic, crushed

1 teaspoon sugar

When mushrooms are softened, squeeze liquid and reserve.

Combine oyster sauce, sugar and water reserved from soaking shrimps and mushrooms. Stir well until oyster sauce and sugar are combined.

Heat oil. Add garlic and cook until aromatic. Add mushrooms and stir until coated with oil.

Add sauce mixture to mushrooms, bring to boil over high heat. Reduce heat and cover pot.

Simmer and periodically stir, continuing to cook mushrooms for 45-60 minutes, or until mushrooms are tender.

Lake Forest Place Executive Chef Benny Cheung enjoys preparing his family’s recipe for Braised Eight Treasures for the Chinese New Year. JOEL LERNER-SUN TIMES MEDIA

Lake Forest Place Executive Chef Benny Cheung enjoys preparing his family’s recipe for Braised Eight Treasures for the Chinese New Year.
opportunity to enjoy a varying and visual impairments and learning disorders, hearing of Special Recreation offers.

Maine Township.

Help) is in need of volunteers.

Maine Township's FISH

In Maine Township.

MAINE TOWNSHIP

FISH (Friends Indeed Serve and Help) is in need of volunteers.

` Maines Park District.

Golf Maine

Maine Township's FISH

Friends Indeed Serve and Help) is in need of volunteers.

Maine Township.

MAINE TOWNSHIP

FISH (Friends Indeed Serve and Help) is in need of volunteers.

Maine Township's FISH

Friends Indeed Serve and Help) is in need of volunteers.

Maine Township.

MAINE TOWNSHIP

FISH (Friends Indeed Serve and Help) is in need of volunteers.

Maine Township's FISH

Friends Indeed Serve and Help) is in need of volunteers.

Maine Township.

MAINE TOWNSHIP

FISH (Friends Indeed Serve and Help) is in need of volunteers.

Maine Township's FISH

Friends Indeed Serve and Help) is in need of volunteers.

Maine Township.

MAINE TOWNSHIP

FISH (Friends Indeed Serve and Help) is in need of volunteers.

Maine Township's FISH

Friends Indeed Serve and Help) is in need of volunteers.

Maine Township.

MAINE TOWNSHIP

FISH (Friends Indeed Serve and Help) is in need of volunteers.

Maine Township's FISH

Friends Indeed Serve and Help) is in need of volunteers.

Maine Township.
Senior Center

The Niles Senior Center offers membership to Niles residents age 55 and older and their spouses. Drop by the Niles Senior Center, 999 Civic Center Drive, Niles, or call (847) 588-8420 for an application. Visit www.vniles.com, click on Departments and then Senior. Registration required for most programs.

Learn about the history of numerology from 10:30-11:30 a.m. Feb. 2 and 16. Some people believe that numerology can help unlock the door to a better understanding of oneself and others. Pre-register. Bring a pencil to class. Cost is $9, members; $13.50, nonmembers.

Join the Computer Interest Group to discuss all the recent computer innovations or individual problems or concerns. Contact Jaymi for dates, (847) 588-8420.

Niles Senior Center Issues in the News meets at 9:30 a.m. Thursdays.

An Effective Communications group for persons with hearing loss meets monthly from 11 a.m. to noon (Jan. 25, Feb. 29). Learn about the latest equipment and devices. Contact Trudi, (847) 588-8441.

A Valentine's Day trip to Tommy Guns Garage will be taken from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Feb. 15 for an interactive dinner show. Lunch features choice of prime rib, lasagne or boneless breast of chicken, served with side dishes. Cost is $68, members; $73, nonmembers.

Take a trip to see “Gypsy” at the Drury Lane Oakbrook, from 10 a.m.-5:15 p.m. Jan. 26. Lunch prior to the show will feature freshly baked breads, chef’s soup of the day, roast turkey breast with herb dressing, gravy, cranberries, dessert, and coffee. Cost is $63, members; $68, nonmembers.

The Niles Senior Center offers a wide variety of support groups. Cost per group is $10, members; $15, nonmembers. Weight Management meets the first Thursday of the month from 1-2 p.m. Diabetic Management meets the second Thursday of the month from 1-2 p.m. Virtually Impaired Motivators (VIM) meets the third Tuesday of month, 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Cancer Survivor Group meets the third Thursday of the month, 1-2 p.m., starting Jan. 19.

Arthritis Foundation Exercise Classes winter term, running to June 25 - Level 4 Advanced, meets 9-10 a.m. Mondays; includes weight training with under 3-pound weights, standing and sitting exercises. Level 1 Beginners/ Pain Management meets 10:30-11:30 a.m. Mondays; includes gentle stretching, mostly chair exercises. Cost for each session is $10, members; $15, nonmembers. Contact Sue Friedman.

Niles Senior Center and the Niles Public Library are looking for volunteers to assist seniors and low-income residents in preparing 2011 taxes. AARP Foundation Tax-Aide volunteers will receive free tax training at the Niles Senior Center in January and will help taxpayers at the Center as greeters and client facilitators/tax preparers beginning Feb. 7 to April 12. Niles Senior Center tax appointments are based on volunteer availability and generally are offered Monday through Friday mornings and afternoons. Volunteers choose the day(s) and time(s) they are available. Niles Public Library is also looking for volunteers for evening or weekend assistance. For more information, contact MaryAnn Borucki at the Niles Senior Center (847) 588-8420 or Judy McNulty at the Niles Library (847) 663-6431.

The Sudoku Club meets from 11 a.m.-12:15 p.m. on the second and fourth Mondays of the month. Admission is free for members; $12 for six months for nonmembers.
Hundreds Expected to Cash In Today by Selling Silver & Gold Coins During Record High Market!

By DAVID MORGAN
STAFF WRITER

ICCA will be placing ads in newspapers, radio and running television spots this week asking people to bring in any old silver and gold coins made before 1970. Those that bring in their coins will be able to speak with collectors one on one and have their coins looked at by a specialist. With the help of these ICCA members, offers will be made to those that have coins made before 1970. Offers will be made based on silver or gold content and the rarity of the coins. All coins made before 1970 will be examined and purchased including gold coins, silver coins, silver dollars, all types of nickels and pennies. Those that decide to sell their coins will be paid on the spot.

If you are like a lot of people you might have a few old coins or even a coffee can full lying around. If you have ever wondered what they are worth now might be your chance to find out and even sell them if you choose. They could be worth a lot according to the International Coin Collectors Association also known as ICCA. Collectors will pay a fortune for some coins and currency for their collections. If it is rare enough, one coin could be worth over $100,000 according to Eric Helms, coin collector and ICCA member. One ultra rare dime, an 1894S Barber, sold for a record $1.9 million to a collector in July of 2007. While that is an extreme example, many rare and valuable coins are stashed away in dresser drawers or lock boxes around the country. The ICCA and its collector members have organized a traveling event in search of all types of coins and currency. Even common coins can be worth a significant amount due to the high price of silver and gold, says Helms. Washington quarters and Roosevelt dimes can be worth many times their face value. Recent silver markets have driven the price up on common coins made of silver. Helms explains that all half dollars, quarters and dimes made before 1965 contain 90% silver and are sought after any time silver prices rise. Right now it's a sellers market he said.

The rarest coins these collectors are looking for include $20, $10, $5, $4, $3, $2.5, $1, Private Gold, Gold Bars, etc. Other types of items the ICCA will be purchasing during this event include U.S. currency, gold bullion, investment gold, silver bars, silver rounds, proof sets, etc. Even foreign coins are sought after and will be purchased. Also at this event anyone can sell their gold jewelry, dental gold or anything made of gold on the spot. Gold is currently trading at Record Highs. Bring anything you think might be gold and the collectors will examine, test and price it for free. If you decide to sell, you will be paid on the spot - it has been an unknown fact that coin dealers have always paid more for jewelry and scrap gold than other jewelers and pawn brokers.

So whether you have one coin you think might be valuable or a large collection you recently inherited, you can talk to these collectors for free. If you're lucky you may have a rarity worth thousands. Either way there is nothing to lose and it sounds like fun!

For more information on this event visit www.internationalcoincollectors.com
“Today is my first day of school! Instead of walking two hours to fetch water for my family, I now have access to an education and clean water. With one click, you made this possible and have given me a brighter future. Thank you for joining the world’s largest online community of people making a difference.”

1 like = $1 USD

www.facebook.com/WeDay
YOU JUST ATE 16 PACKS OF SUGAR.

All those extra calories can cause obesity, diabetes and heart disease.

RETHINK YOUR DRINK

Pledge to reduce your number of sugar-loaded beverages at www.RethinkYourDrinkNow.com

CALENDAR

Seniors

Mather's—More Than a Cafe, 7134 W. Higgins Ave., invites adults 55 and older to experience professionally taught, free-to-moderate-priced programs such as lifelong learning programs, fitness classes, free blood-pressure checks and health screenings, free consumer seminars, special-interest workshops, special events and day trips. Call (773) 774-4804 for more information, except where noted.

Chess Club for checkmate champs and new people who want to learn the rules and basic strategies. Sessions are Wednesdays at 1 p.m. Jazzercise — Jazzercise is a fitness program that combines aerobics exercises with elements of jazz dance. A series of dance routines is set to popular music while incorporating yoga, Pilates, cardio-kickboxing, and other fitness styles. The classes move incrementally through different intensity levels, so anyone is welcome to join. Classes are held at 11 a.m. on Wednesdays and the cost is $5.35. Line Dancing is offered at 11:15 a.m. on the first and third Tuesdays of each month. Each class costs $3.25. A variety of exercise classes fit for every level is available. Try the gentle-moderate exercise class, 11:15 a.m. on Mondays and 10 a.m. on Tuesdays that features a combination of seated and standing exercises for a complete cardiovascular workout. The moderate-high energy class is at 11 a.m. on Thursdays and Fridays, giving more of a challenge with cardio, strengthening, stretching, and toning routines. Each class costs $3.25. Computer Classes — All classes are four weeks and meet once a week for two hours. Begin with level one and advance through to level four. Classes are regularly forming and are offered every month.

Golf Mill Shopping Center is hosting "Feats of Fitness," a mall-walking program Mondays through Saturdays, to enable seniors to walk within an enclosed environment. The program is sponsored by Bethany Terrace, Golf Mill Shopping Center, Maine Township Mainstreamers and Partners in Healthcare (North Shore Physicians Group). Health seminars and blood pressure screenings will be offered throughout the year every month on the second Wednesday. Call the Golf Mill management office at (847) 699-1070.

CJE SeniorLife is accepting applications for its Robineau Residence, 7750 N. Kostner Ave., in Skokie. Robineau offers a residential community composed of 24 affordable units in a one-story building, in a warm, friendly setting designed to serve seniors, 62-years and older, who may need a helping hand. Staff is available on-site, 24 hours a day, in case of emergency. Additional supportive services are available through CJE. Applicants should qualify for subsidized housing under the provisions of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Section 8 program. An additional monthly service fee is required. Scholarships are available. For an application and tour of Robineau, contact Dorothy Levant at

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 44

Winter Values

Call Jake Witcpalek at 630-978-8046 to place your ad!

Bath Tub Resurfacing

Is your bathtub dull, pitted, chipped & hard to clean?
DON'T REPLACE IT!

SAVE UP TO 90% OF REPLACEMENT COST!!
Coast to Coast and Backed by 50 years experience
• Free Estimates • Any Color at NO Extra Charge • Written Warranty • Sink, Tile, & Countertops
$20.00 OFF ANY BATHTUB WHEN YOU MENTION THIS AD!

CALL NEW-LIFE (847) 298-6989
We Accept Visa, MasterCard & Discover
See pioneerlocal.com/monster to find a job at the intersection of both.

Wouldn’t you like a job that fulfills you both professionally and personally? With Monster’s new filtering tools, you can quickly hone in on the job that’s right for you. So visit pioneerlocal.com/monster, and you might find yourself in the middle of the best of both worlds.

PIONEER PRESS & monster®
**SCHOOLS DIGEST**

**CAMPUSS**

Christopher Cichon, of Park Ridge, graduated with high honors earning a Master of Science in Structural Engineering from the Milwaukee School of Engineering.

Tay Enders, of Park Ridge, was designated a Chancellor’s Scholar, chosen for academic excellence and leadership potential in the Campus Honors Program this fall at the University of Illinois-Champaign.

Charlie Mueller, of Park Ridge, majoring in music education at Illinois State University, made the dean’s list for his first year of college.

Graduating summa cum laude from DePaul University were Park Ridge students Nora O’Byrne and Kate Zelic while the following students earned degrees, cum laude: Jessica Dimeo, Brian Greising, Alex O’Byrne, Ashley McLelland, Megan Meredith and Panagioti Radaios.

Earning degrees from DePaul University as part of the summer graduating class were Park Ridge students Ageliki Bariakaris, Joanna Burskowska, Lauren Calahan, Kaitlyn Donohue, Ryan Gavlin, Jaclyn Italia, Monica Johnson, Amy McNerney, Dwayne Morimoto, Jessica Morris, Nayeli Olbrives, Jillian Orlando, Andrew Paleczny, Lauren Raphael, Gregory Rohatsch, Mollie Sagerstrom, Adam Sodini and Eric Thallhammer.

DePaul University announced the following Park Ridge residents made the spring 2011 dean’s list: Ageliki Bariakaris, Adriana Bartolomei, Julie Beato, Matthew Bennett, Matthew Butch, Kornellus Cebulla, Taylor Depaula, Jessica Dimeo, Hubert Dolubizno, Katelyn Elder, Joseph Falbo, Maria Gianakos, Brian Greising, Lindsay Jablownez, Alexandria Johnson, Joseph Jones, Kevin Karrasch, Tayler Labellette, Lauren Lamara, Jacqueline Malach, Ashley McClelland, Megan Meredith, John Nalin, Paulina Nowak, Brian O’Byrne, Nora O’Byrne, Lauren Pegg, Emi Paul, Paulina Popek, Nicky Pirovolos, Panagiotis Rados, Lauren Raphael, Michael Schafer, Natalie Stam, Ted Tabaka, Elizabeth Teahan, Alex Van, John Von, Daniel Wojciechowski, Matthew Wong, Bohdan Yarnyshchuk, Michael Zaruba, Kate Zelic and Elena Zistakis.

Park Ridge student Andrew Binienda, sec. Rome, Italy, in conjunction with the CEA Global Education program at the University of San Diego, Brehm is majoring in marketing.

Alex Binienda, of Park Ridge, performed in “The Pirates of Pencinna,” a comic opera by Gilbert and Sullivan, at Lake Forest College in November.

The St. Norbert College office of faculty development has announced that Megan King, senior sociology major from Park Ridge, is a recipient along with her team members of a student-faculty development endowment fund awards in the amount of $1,000 each for the 2011-12 academic year. Their project includes the study of the influence of a college major on student perceptions of social and health issues and how these interact with other variables of interest like age, sex and socioeconomic status. The results of this project will be used in a research paper to be presented at St. Norbert College, and it is hoped the study will provide new information about ways the college impacts the lives of its students.

Aaron Ruder, Tim Christiansen and Kelly McCurry, of Park Ridge, participated in the annual holiday concert at Augsburg College. Ruder and Christiansen also performed in the Augustana Handel’s Messiah presentation.

Park Ridge students who were named to the dean’s list at the Art Institute of Chicago for fall quarter 2011 include Brian DeYoung and Sarah Geraci.

Terese Black, of Park Ridge, graduated with a doctor of naturopathic medicine degree from the College of Professional Studies at National University of Health Sciences. While completing her degree, she served a one-year clinical internship with a special focus on integrative medicine.

Alexander Park, of Park Ridge, earned a doctor of chiropractic degree from the College of Professional Studies at National University of Health Sciences. He also served a one-year clinical internship with a special focus on sports medicine.

Named to the fall dean’s list at Western Illinois University were Park Ridge students: Josephina A. J. Binda, Sophia Delvin and Olivia N. Leiby, Joshua T. Swoboda and Megan L. Urquhart, and freshmen Michael A. Lisula and Jessica R.M. Tornabene.

Seth Duncan, of Park Ridge, was selected as a resident assistant at Illinois College.

Ciarra Celiano and Matthew D. Saffarls, of Park Ridge, were included on the summer-quarter honor roll at Ohio State University.

Megan M. King and Tara M. Sullivan, of Park Ridge, earned dean’s list recognition for the fall semester at St. Norbert College.

Park Ridge students Mary K. Balow, Rebecca J. Menarak and Stefanie L. Winter made the dean’s list for the fall quarter at the University of Wisconsin Whitewater.

Cullen F. Geary, son of Brian and Kathleen McCristian, of Park Ridge, has been named to the Ohio Northern University dean’s list for the fall semester. He is a chemistry student in his sixth year.

The following Park Ridge students were recognized on the fall dean’s list at Marquette University: Cullen F. Geary, John D. Strecha, Justin E. Kipling, John Catherine, Grace O’Donnell, Michael A. O’Neill, Kenzie R. Brown, Kristina J. Taggart, Joseph P. Schuster, Dante P. Velev, William H. Johnsen, Conner S. Mattiace, Shane M. Kratz, Charles M. Brown, Morgan A. Budziszewski, Aram J. Dziedzic, piano; Jason Giblin, cello; Steven H. Zawila, bass; Johnny Maltese-Miller, baritone sax.

Lincoln – Wesley Dziedzic, piano; Jason Giblin, cello; Bobbi Reinhard, bass. District 64 teachers who instruct these students include: Jacobi, Eric Bachmann, Kaitlyn Schermer, Nicholas Jacobson, Dallas Hylty, Mary Fontana, Jamie Hestad and Erica Churys.

**DISTRICT 207**

Three seniors selected by Maine South for the IMEA District Festival 2012 District 207 as “207’s Best” for December have been recognized by the Board of Education.

All three – Austin Bynkrski, of Maine South, Alvin George, of Maine West, and Nicholas Harlow, of Maine East – were recognized for academic achievement.

George racks second in West’s senior class of 519 with a grade point average of 4.94. In addition to excelling in an academic load that currently includes six Advanced Placement courses, George has been involved in many school activities, including Ambassadors, COACH tutoring, PI Sigma Pi, Science Olympiads, Scholastic Bowl, Spanish National Honor Society and Track and Field. He plans to pursue a career in medicine and has applied to Northwestern University and Washington University in St. Louis.

Harlow has earned a GPA of 4.71, which puts him in the top 1 percent of East’s senior class. He is a member of the school’s Gifted Lyceum program and has previously taken numerous AP courses. Harlow is a member of the National Honor Society and Math team, plays baseball and basketball and soccer for two years. He serves as a Senior Leader in physical education. He is considering a major in computer science engineering at Carnegie Mellon University.

Both students were selected by Maine West, Alvin George, of Maine West, and Nicholas Harlow, of Maine East – were recognized for academic achievement.

**DISTRICT 64**

Top student musicians from Park Ridge-Niles School District 64 middle schools were selected to participate recently in two annual regional events sponsored by the Illinois Music Educators Association.

The IMEA District Festival was held Nov. 4 at Waubonsie High School. More than 700 of the finest band and orchestra students from more than 50 junior high schools in the north suburban area auditioned for seats in this all-star group.

Small school in Nuesse and his friends to watch a game. Students met their fundraising goal and the rest of the money was donated to Bear Necessities for cancer research.

As the holiday season approached, students sponsored a food and to and drive to fill the cupboards for the Little Sisters of the Poor Home for the Elderly in Palatine. Their food drive resulted in a donation of more than 435 pounds of food to the local charity. Students also donated $62 from the proceeds of the Missionaries of Charity on the West Side of Chicago so that families in need could enjoy the holiday.

In the last few weeks of the semester, some students took part in three different charitable
opportunities. Northridge families donated more than 250 toys to the Women's Center of Chicago, a resource center for disadvantaged mothers. Northridge families also bought Christmas presents for the 26 residents at the St. Joseph's Homeless Mission in Osceola, Ind. The presents were to be delivered by history teacher Dr. Kel lher. Students also worked to collect shoes and medical supplies for the Little by Little Foundation, a relief agency in Haiti. These medical supplies and donations will be sent overseas this month.

Northridge Prep High School is a college preparatory school for young men, located in Niles.

**RESURRECTION**

Resurrection College Prep High School is offering an Adult Enrichment Humanities course entitled “Hitler’s Germany and the Chicago Connection.”

Participants will read Erik Larson’s new historic narrative, In the Garden of Beasts: Love, Terror, and an American Family In Hitler’s Berlin. The author of Devil in the White City, Larson takes readers into Germany and the world as it was in 1933 while following the life of Professor William E. Dodd from Chicago. Dodd goes to Berlin, along with his family, as America’s first ambassador to Hitler’s Germany. The reader has the opportunity to watch history unfold in this engrossing narrative.

Participants will also read The Book Thief, a historical novel by Markus Zusak and will study the roots of William Shirer’s The Rise and Fall of the Third Reich. The course will be taught by Resurrection faculty member, Mike Longo, who holds a master’s degree in music and humanities from DePaul University.

The course will meet from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Tuesdays, March 6 and 20, and April 3 and 17. The cost is $50. To register, contact Stefanie Thorpe at sthorpe@srbchs.org or (773) 775-6616, ext. 127.

Resurrection College Prep High School is at 7500 W. Talcott Ave. Chicago.

Frustrated by the recent failure of the Senate Super Committee to compromise on a way to reduce the federal deficit, students in the Resurrection College Prep High School Accelerated Political Science class hosted an assembly on Dec. 13 to speak to fellow students about the need for bipartisan cooperation from both Democrats and Republicans.

The class members decided to launch a symbolic project named “The Bipartisan Bake Sale: Baking Across the Aisles” in order to demonstrate that students of differing political views can work together to create solutions to problems facing the nation.

Students invited local politicians to attend the student presentation, including State Rep. Michael McAuliffe, R-20th; Chief of Staff Kim Stark for state Sen. John Mulroe, D-10th; and Chicago aldermen Mary O’Connor, 41st Ward, and John Arena, 45th Ward. O’Connor, an alumna of Resurrection College Prep High School, stressed the importance of young women’s involvement in the political process.

U.S. Rep. Jan Schakowsky, D-9th, also expressed her support for this project and was scheduled to speak to the entire student body of Resurrection College Prep High School on Jan. 12 on the issues of bipartisan cooperation, the federal deficit, budgetary issues and political involvement by students. Other officials invited to the student assembly included state Rep. John D’Amico, D-15th, and Chicago Aldermen Nicholas Sposato, 6th Ward, and Margaret Laurino, 39th Ward.

During the assembly the members of the political science class presented information about the national deficit and how it impacts students and their families. They urged classmates to write to their elected officials and to support the bake sale, which was held the next day, “The Bipartisan Bake Sale” was held Dec. 14 and raised more than $600, which included contributions from O’Connor, McAuliffe and Mulroe. The funds will be sent to Congress as both a real and symbolic effort to reduce the national debt. Along with the contribution to the federal deficit, students have included a letter to U.S. Sen. Dick Durbin, D-20th, the senator from Illinois who has worked closely on the deficit proposals that went through Congress in the fall.

**ST. ROBERT BELLARME**

As part of the Archdiocese’s celebration of Catholic Schools Week, St. Robert Bellarmine School will hold an Open House from 1-3 p.m. Jan. 29 after the noon Mass. Visitors can learn about programs, meet the principal, talk with other parents, tour the school, meet teachers in their classrooms and view student work.

St. Robert Bellarmine School is located at 6036 W. Eastwood Ave., Chicago. To attend the open house, enter through the gym doors located directly off the church parking lot at the corner of Austin and Eastwood avenues.

Information about programs and curriculum, as well as other open-house times, can be found on the school website, srb-chicago.org.

Registration is open for the spring 2012 session of Tiny Tots for 2-year-olds. The 10-week session will meet 10-11 a.m. Thursdays, Feb. 16 to May 10. (There will be no class March 29, April 5 and 12.) The cost is $60 for the 10-week session, due at time of registration. Registration forms are available on the Tiny Tots page of the school website (srb-chicago.org) or from the school office (773) 725-5133. Class size is limited; register early.

To build on its strong Language Arts core, St. Robert Bellarmine School will introduce the Latin and Greek Roots Challenge to students in K-8 in January 2012. The program is designed to introduce students to the roots, which are the “building blocks” of the English language in a creative, collaborative and fun way. It instills the discipline to deconstruct words into their component roots, thereby building a stronger foundation for academic success.

More information is available on the “K-8 Curriculum” page of the school website (srb-chicago.org) and will also be available at the Jan. 29 Open House. Call (773) 725-5133.

Registration is open for the next session of Little Bruins after-school soccer, baseball and basketball programs for students in kindergarten to third grade. Registration forms are available on the Extracurricular Activities and Athletics page of the school website, srb-chicago.org, or from the school office, (773) 725-5133. Register by Jan. 20.

**TV WEEKLY MAGAZINE**

Such as...the latest TV celebrity news, complete sports listings, sudoku and crosswords, plus much more!

Find out what you’re missing in the TV WEEKLY MAGAZINE

Subscribe today for as low as 67¢/week.

1-888-979-0123

www.iwantmytv.com/stmedia

* Offer for existing Sun-Times Media subscribers. Non-subscriber rate is $2.99 per week.
(847) 675-9580.

Super Seniors, a Jewish Seniors group for people older than 60, meets 3-4:30 p.m. the first and third Sundays at the North Shore University Health System Skokie Hospital, 9600 Gross Point Road, Skokie. Topics include current events, books, jokes and Israel. Call (847) 583-9328.

Support Midwest Palliative & Hospice CareCenter (2050 Claire Court, Glenview) grief support groups meet for eight weeks and are offered at no charge to the general public. The schedule for winter includes: Hope & Healing: Adult Loss, Thursdays, Feb. 9 to March 29, 6:30-8 p.m.; First Light: Spouse/Partner Loss, Wednesdays, Feb. 8 to March 28, 6:30-8 p.m.; Families with Children, Wednesdays, Feb. 8 to March 28, 6:30-9 p.m. Jan. 23 at the Knecht-Knox Conference Center, 9701 N. Knox Ave., Skokie. Call (847) 556-1777 to register. Registration deadline is four business days before the start date of each group. Visit www.carecenter.org/groupsupport.

The National Alliance on Mental Illness, Cook County North Suburban, will feature Maxima Chasnov, medical director of Alexander Center for Mental Health, answering questions about mental illness from 7:30-9 p.m. on the first and third Fridays of each month, 10:30 a.m. to noon. Call (847) 556-1777 to register. www.namicns.org.

La Leche League of Des Plaines, a breastfeeding support group, meets at 7 p.m. at Healthy Babies, Happy Families, 8267 W. Golf Road in Niles (Four Flagg Shopping Center). Next meeting date is Feb. 15. Expecting and nursing mothers are invited. Babies are always welcome. Accredited La Leche League Leaders will be on hand to answer questions and guide the discussion. Call 1-877-452-5324 or visit llli.org.

Weight No More, a friendly weight loss support group, welcomes new members. Discussions include weight loss tips, recipes, and helpful ideas to help participants reach their goals. Fees are $55 monthly to defray the room rental costs and small fines for weight gain. Meetings take place from 9:15-10:15 a.m. Fridays at the Howard Leisure Center, 6676 Howard St., Niles (elevator accessible). Call (847) 679-4229.

The Lutheran General Hospital Stroke Club for stroke survivors and their caregivers meets from 10:30-3 p.m. on the first Thursday of the month (except January and July) at the Outpatient Therapy Center, 9375 Church St., Des Plaines; use south entrance. Contact Meg Potterfield, (847) 723-4765.

### CALENDAR CONTINUED FROM PAGE 40

March 28, 6:30 p.m., (847) 556-1999; Drop-in Group, first and third Fridays of each month, 10:30 a.m. to noon. Call (847) 556-1777 to register. Registration deadline is four business days before the start date of each group. Visit www.carecenter.org/groupsupport.

### MORTGAGE RATES & INFORMATION AVAILABLE 24/7 ON THE INTERNET

[http://suburbanchicagonewspapers.interest.com](http://suburbanchicagonewspapers.interest.com)
John & Barbara White
50th Anniversary

John and Barbara White of Lake Forest, IL, celebrated 50 years of marriage on January 13, 2012. The couple was married on January 13, 1962, at St. Martha’s Church in Morton Grove, IL. They have nine children: Michael (Patty) of Green Lake, WI; Jennifer (Tony) McFarland of Gurnee; Bill (Kimberlee) of Gurnee; Pamela (Keith) Mitchell of Lake Forest; Kevin (Janet) of Lake Forest; Patrick of Gurnee; Kristan (Tim) Berry of Antioch; Matthew (Ellie) of Lake Forest; and Paul (Lindsey) of Libertyville. They have 29 grandchildren, with the 30th due in February 2012.

In 1980, John and Barbara founded K International Inc. from their garage in Royal Oak, MI. Today, seven children work at their new facility in Waukegan, IL. To celebrate their 50th anniversary, a party was held on January 14 at the Elysian Hotel in Chicago.
Happy 50th Anniversary Mom and Dad!
With love and admiration,
Your Family

Edgar - Petrucci
Engagement

Marilee Machon of Des Plaines and John and Gail Edgar of Kildeer are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, Allison Louise Edgar to Gregory Joseph Petrucci, son of Rob Petrucci of Palatine and Tracy Petrucci of Harwood Heights. A March 2012 wedding is planned in Elmhurst, Illinois. The couple will reside in Wheeling, Illinois.

Dimoulis - Lo Destro
Engagement

Mr & Mrs Nicholas (Stella) Dimoulis are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, Ioanna to Grant Lo Destro, son of Dr. & Mrs. Peter Lo Destro of Yorkville. Ioanna is a 2005 graduate of Niles West High School and a 2009 graduate of University of Illinois. Ioanna teaches History at Rolling Meadows High School. Grant is a 2005 graduate of Marist College, a 2009 graduate of University of Michigan and a 2010 graduate of DePaul University. Grant works for Triton Capital in Chicago. A July 2012 wedding is planned.

Tovian - Greenberg
Engagement

Marie and Steven Tovian of Highland Park, Illinois are proud to announce the engagement of their daughter, Rachel Dena Tovian, to Jason Henry Greenberg, son of Natalie and Ronald Greenberg of Woodbury, New York. Rachel received her Bachelors degree in Nursing from the University of Michigan and her Masters degree as a Pediatric Nurse Practitioner from New York University. Jason received his Bachelors degree in Engineering from Cornell University and his Medical Degree from the State University of New York Downstate Medical Center. He completed his Residency training in Pediatrics at New York University. A 2012 wedding is planned.
Your Local Worship Guide

Central Zone

CHICAGO

Edison Park Lutheran Church
6626 N. Oliphant Ave., Chicago, IL
(Across park from Edison Park Metra)
773.631.9131, www.edisonparkchurch.com
Saturday Worship 4:30 p.m. Evensong,
Sunday Worship 8:00 a.m. Traditions
6:30 p.m. Contemporary
Rev. Dr. Michael D. Sparby, Sr. Pastor
Carole Edwards, Associate in Ministry
Marti Haider, Worship Music
Michael Lyda, Children/Youth/Family

St. Paul Lutheran Church
5650 N. Canfield, 60631,
(708)687-5044, www.stpaulcanfield.org
Street Level, Air Conditioned
Sunday Worship 8:15 & 10:45AM
Sunday School & Adult Bible 9:30AM
Saturday Worship 6PM
St. Paul Lutheran Christian Day
School, Pre K-Grade 8, SHARING GOD,
TOUCHING LIVES EVERYWHERE

Faith Lutheran Church (ELCA)
6201 W Peterson Ave.
Chicago, IL (773) 631-0715
Saturday Worship 5:30PM
Sunday Worship 10:30AM
Holy Communion Weekly
Pastors: Barbara Berry-Bailey
and Jeffery King

MORTON GROVE

Morton Grove Community Church
Presbyterian Church (USA)
8944 Austin Avenue
(Lake and Austin)
Morton Grove, IL
(847) 965-2982
www.mgccpresbyterian.org
Sunday Worship 10 AM
Fellowship 11 AM
Rev. Lolly Dominski
Handicapped Accessible
ALL ARE WELCOME!

St. John Lutheran Church
7429 Milwaukee Ave., Niles
847-647-9867
www.st-john-niles.org
Sunday Service 9:30AM

NILES

NORTHERN

Willow Creek
Community Church
North Shore Campus
315 Waukegan Road
847-441-6599
Sunday Services: 9 & 11 am
Promiseland (Infants-Gr5): 9 & 11 am
Elevate (Grades 6-8): 11 am
Impact (Grades 9-12): 6 pm
For more information visit
www.WillowNorthShore.org

NORWOOD PARK

Norwood Park Lutheran Church
5917 N. Nina Ave.
Chicago, IL
773-631-2860
Fax: 773-631-0142
Sunday Service 10AM
Sunday School 9AM
(September thru May)
Rev. Robert C. Johnson, Pastor

PARK RIDGE

Park Ridge Presbyterian Church
1300 West Crescent Avenue
847-823-4135
www.parkridgepresby.org
Sunday Service: 10:00 AM

To showcase your House of Worship here
call 630-978-8277 or Worship@Pioneerlocal.com
Central United Methodist Church
8237 Kenton Ave., Skokie
(847) 673-1311
www.skokiecentralumc.org
Worship: Sundays at 10:30 AM

Temple Beth Israel
3601 W. Dempster St.
Skokie, IL 60076
847-675-0951
www.tbiskokie.org

Devar Emet Messianic Synagogue
7800 Niles Ave., Skokie 847-674-9146
www.devaremetsynth.org
Join us for Shabbat Services at 10am
"A Community of Jews who believe and teach that Yeshua (Jesus) is the Promised Jewish Messiah"

Carter-Westminster United Presbyterian Church
4950 W. Pratt Ave., Skokie
www.cwupc.org 847-673-4441
WE'RE GROWING & MAKING CHANGES!!
10 am-Traditional Service with Choir
12 Noon - CW Café & Praise & Celebration (Contemporary) Service
10 am-Sunday School (All Ages)
& Adult Bible Studies
(Adult Classes in English & Assyrian)
Fridays 7:30-9:30 pm - Assyrian Fellowship
Sunday Evenings 5:30-8:30 pm
New Lyle Youth Group (for Jr/Sr High Youth)
2nd Saturday
Monthly 7:30-9:30 pm-CW Café with
Open Microphone:
Guitar, Singing, Poetry, Comedy
"All Positive Forms of Entertainment"

Beth Hillel Congregation Bnci Emunah
3220 Big Tree Lane, 847-256-1213
www.bhcbe.org
Kabbalat Shabbat Fridays 6:30 PM
Shabbat Service - Saturdays 9:15 AM
Jr. Congregation, Tot Shabbat,
Torah Time 10:30 AM
Followed by Kiddush
Daily Minyan AM and PM
Rabbi Allan Kensky
Cantor Pavel Roytman
Rabbi Michael Cohen, Ed. Dir.

To showcase your House of Worship here call
630-978-8277
or worship@PioneerIocal.com
Love your pet —
love Pioneer Press’
Pets & Vets!

A monthly feature
devoted to our
animal companions.

Look to Pioneer Press
Classified for all the
products and services
you need and want for
your favorite family
member.

PIoER PRESS
YOUR LOCAL SOURCE

Classified
Scoring touch ignites Don's defense in 4th

BY GARY LARSEN
Contributor

When the offense comes, the defense usually follows in high school basketball and Notre Dame used a 46-point second half and an elevated defensive effort to win 65-54 over Nazareth Academy on Saturday.

The win improved the Dons’ East Suburban Catholic record to 2-0 and upped their overall mark to 14-4 on the year.

“We didn’t shoot the ball particularly well in the first half and sometimes for kids, when they make shots it’s much easier for them to play defense,” Notre Dame coach Tom Les said. “In the second half we made shots and then that adrenaline fed into our defense.”

Nazareth (6-11, 1-2) led 23-19 at halftime, holding the Dons (14-4, 2-0) to four second-quarter points. The Dons scored 21 in the third quarter and 25 in the fourth, with junior Matt Mooney icing the game down the stretch by going 8-of-9 from the free-throw line.

Mooney led the Dons in scoring with 16 points, but Les has enjoyed parity in the scoring column throughout the season.

“We’ve had eight or nine different players lead us in scoring on a given night,” Les said. “Tonight it was Mooney, but I also thought (Joe) Johnson played pretty good tonight. Joe Ferrcic had a ton of rebounds for us.

The Dons trailed 23-19 at halftime before using a 21-6 third-quarter scoring edge to take a 40-35 lead into the final eight minutes. Johnson scored six of his eight points in the third while both Greg Leifel and Justin Halloran drained three-pointers in the period. Halloran finished with nine points on a trio of treys in the contest.

A steal and layup from Mooney, a baseline jumper from Ferrcic, and Leifel’s three-pointer closed out the third quarter. Nazareth tied the game in the fourth at 46-46 but the Dons went on a 9-0 run to build a lead they never relinquished.

Notre Dame’s Duante Stephens used a spin move in the post and a twisting layup during the run, and scored all seven of his points in the final quarter. Nazareth began fouling to stop the clock down the stretch but Mooney closed out the win from the charity stripe.

“It was a tough game to play and I’m sure a tough game to officiate,” Les said. “There were so many fouls called during the game that our team could find any rhythm.

“In the first half we played OK, but didn’t shoot the ball particularly well. But we’ve numerous games this year where we’ve struggled to score in the first half and been behind, and then in the second half we’ve had one or two guys find their shots. Then we’ve guarded better.”

On Friday, Loyola junior Peter Pujals was driving to the basket, hoping to keep the Ramblers’ upset dreams alive against host Notre Dame.

He was trying to tie the game with 23 seconds to play, but it wasn’t meant to be.

Notre Dame junior Matt Mooney knocked the ball away to teammate Donte Stephenson, and the Dons drained three of four free throws from there on to seal a 65-54 victory.

“I saw him driving — he had the ball out in front of him — and I took advantage and grabbed it,” Mooney said.

Velez, Lopez are Dons’ top hopes at sectional

BY MIKE CAMERON
Contributor

Seniors Peter Velez and Irvin Lopez led Notre Dame’s bowling team to its sixth straight Catholic League North regular-season title, and give the Dons a chance to advance as a team to the IHSA state meet.

But Velez and Lopez, who are averaging 215 and 213, respectively, took very different paths to excellence.

Velez began bowling at age 9, and needed only to improve one facet of his game to rise to the next level.

“About two weeks before the sectional last year, I developed a better hook. I’ve been pretty consistent since then,” said Velez, who won the Tournament Player of the Year award in the Catholic League Championships at Willowbrook Lanes on Saturday.

Lopez took up the sport only two years ago, and struggled mightily, scoring in the 120s. Not for long. He rolled a pair of sanctioned 300 games last summer and started this season by winning the Harlem Invitational with a 1,410 series, averaging 285 over six games.

“I think my big advantage is the oil, because I’m good at reading the lanes,” said Lopez, who carries three balls and wound up over 200.”

The Dons dominated the sectional, winning 1,150 points, beating out St. Patrick, and were mired in a row. We weren’t able to finish well (Saturday), but we think the whole regular season is a lot more important than what happens in one day.

Notre Dame shifts its attention to the 16-team Stevenson Sectional at Lakeside Lanes in Mundelein on Saturday. Two teams from each sectional advance to the 10th annual state meet the following week. The top two individuals not on the two qualifying teams also move on, while the next six-highest scorers encompassing all 12 sectionals gain at-large berths.

Vernon Hills and Lake Zurich are favored at Stevenson after placing second and third, respectively, in last year’s state meet behind Rockford Guilford. But Notre Dame, McHenry and Huntley are all capable of springing upsets. The Dons were just 100 pins shy of advancing last year, and are mere 40 two seasons ago.

THIS WEEK

NOTRE DAME

Today
Wrestling hosts Carmel, 5:15 p.m.

Friday
Basketball hosts St. Patrick, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday
Basketball vs. St. Rita at Niles-Ballard, 8 p.m.

Wrestling hosts Edwardsville, w/Moline, Bethalto Civic Mem., 9 a.m.

Sunday
Basketball vs. Lincoln Park at Whitney Young Shootout, 1:30 p.m.

Tuesday
Hockey vs. Benet at Niles-Ballard, 8 p.m.
Niles West provides a springboard for end run

The format of Saturday’s Viking Gymnastics Invite at Niles North was somewhat unusual, with just three gymnasts competing on each event and only one from each team allowed to compete all-around.

While this set-up may not have been ideal for many teams, it did suit the host Vikings, who finished fifth (93.025) and narrowly missed eclipsing third-place Evanston (93.30). Geneva won the meet.

The Vikings were short-handed, so head coach Charlie Friedman appreciated the not having to pencil in the standard five gymnasts per event. Friedman said her gymnasts may actually perform better when they compete in fewer events.

“It was good because they were not doing all the events, so they got to be more focused on one specific event,” the coach said. “Some teams don’t do well like that and need to keep going (throughout the meet). My girls did really well, stepping up when they needed to.”

Senior Brittany Ebeling led the Vikings, finishing fifth in the all-around (33.025). The co-captain placed eighth on floor (8.625), ninth on vault (9.5) and tied for 15th on beam (7.85).

Senior co-captain Karolin Kariin scored 8.0 on vault and 8.25 on floor; freshman Adriana Marijanovic earned 7.5 on floor; freshman Adriana Marijanovic earned 7.5 on floor; junior Lilly Wong graded 7.05 on vault; and sophomore Nicole Hawel scored 6.95 on vault.

Hawel, who battled a back injury early in the campaign, is coming on late in the season.

“(Hawel) is a three-sport athlete, doing volleyball, gymnastics and soccer. She is a really talented girl. But she doesn’t do gymnastics year-round. We’re seeing big gains from her now that she is in the gym every day,” Friedman said.

Another highlight was the performance of junior Chiimono Ukeje, who successfully competed a new bars skill she had added a day earlier.

On Jan. 12, Maine West defeated Niles North 124.5 to 120.7. Ukeje and Wong each finished with an 8.3 on beam. Two days prior, Glenbrook North overcame the Vikings 127.05 to 121.1, as Ebeling earned a 9.1 on floor.

The Vikings visit Highland Park at 8:30 p.m. today.

Niles West

The Wolves, who are battling injuries, finished sixth at the Viking Invite, scoring 92.65.

Junior Catherine Steegmueller came in ninth on bars (9.2), senior Kelly Sanks was 10th on bars (8.0) and 12th on vault, sophomore Valerie Fung took 12th on beam (7.85) and tied for 15th on floor (8.1) and senior Jenny Marin was 16th on bars (7.8).

Maine East

The Blue Demons scored 72.75 and finished at the bottom of the 12-team Viking Invite. The team is still competing without top gymnast Katho Kolodziejek, who is out with a back injury.

Junior Anne Kaczkowski competed all-around for the Demons. Her scores included 7.9 on floor, 7.9 on vault and 67.5 on beam.

Blue Demons head coach Amanda Harrison said earlier this week she hopes to get Kolodziejek back this week. Plus, she expects senior Tori Walley, who has seen limited competition because of injuries, to increase her workload.

“Kathy has a back injury and it’s just kind of day-to-day,” Harrison said. “All I can hope is she’s back on an event or two by Glenbrook North (6:30 p.m. today). We also hope to have Tori back to at least 85-percent capacity by (today). That’s her goal. I want her to have a full floor routine and possibly see her competing on vault.”

Niles West, Niles North and Maine East will participate in the Niles West Invite at 1 p.m. Saturday.
Wolves fall to Waukegan

BY MIKE MADIGAN
Contributor

Visiting Waukegan out-scored Niles West 12-3 during the final 4:36 of Friday's game in taming the Wolves 62-50 in the Central Suburban South.

Niles West fell to 2-11 overall (0-5 conference) at the halfway point of the league campaign, while Waukegan—barring behind league-leading New Trier (5-0 conference)—improved to 7-8, 4-1.

Junior Devonte Taylor and senior Akeem Springs each scored 23 points for Waukegan.

Joe Younan, a junior guard for Niles West, had 23 points to lead all scorers. He hit four three-pointers.

With the score tied at 50-50, the contest turned on a wild play, with the officials caught in the middle.

While Taylor was scoring from underneath the basket, Waukegan coach Ron Ashlaw was calling for a timeout from the bench. One official signaled the hoop was good, while the other ref seemed to be awarding the timeout.

The ruling on the court was that Taylor scored before the timeout, giving Waukegan a 52-50 lead.

Niles West coach Bob Williams saw it a different way, and he was TD-up for stepping onto the court for what he thought was a timeout. Waukegan's D.J. Ross shot 1-for-2 on the technical foul, and Taylor then made it a five-point possession by scoring a bucket.

Niles West then turned the ball over, and Waukegan scored again for a 57-50 lead. After yet another Wolves turnover, Taylor scored another basket, and it was 59-50 — and game over — with 1:30 left.

"I thought we played hard. A play here, a play there, and it's a different game," Williams said. "But that has been the case for most of our season.

"The play that resulted in the technical bafled Williams, who was on the court when Taylor scored to make it 52-50 only because he thought a timeout was called.

"I'm still not sure why I got the call on me," he said. "But you have to live with the referee's decision. I will find out later.

As has been the case almost all season, Niles West played almost well enough to win.

Younan had 10 points in the first quarter, when Niles grabbed an early 10-3 lead.

Then, Springs (11 first-quarter points) fueled a Waukegan rally that cut the Wolves' lead to 15-14 after one quarter.

The Wolves still led 31-30 at halftime and 44-37 after three quarters.

In the first three periods, Niles West had a 31-13 rebounding edge, including a 14-4 advantage in offensive boards. But in the fourth quarter, Niles West was 2-for-11 from the field and committed seven turnovers. Younan's five points were all the Wolves could muster in eight minutes.

"It's frustrating because we've been in most of the games this season. We just haven't been able to finish," Williams said. "We'll continue to persevere and try to turn it around.

Niles West will begin its second round of divisional games against New Trier at home on Friday.

On Saturday, St. Patrick came out firing and blasted Niles West 62-45.

After missing their first shot, the Shamrocks converted their next eight, including four from beyond the arc, three of those from Loren Horton.

"I only shoot when I am open," Horton said. "And I was open early thanks to our defense.

Horton."

With the score tied at 50-50 only because he

Wolves fall to Waukegan

BY MIKE MADIGAN
Contributor

Visiting Waukegan out-scored Niles West 12-3 during the final 4:36 of Friday's game in taming the Wolves 62-50 in the Central Suburban South.

Niles West fell to 2-11 overall (0-5 conference) at the halfway point of the league campaign, while Waukegan—barring behind league-leading New Trier (5-0 conference)—improved to 7-8, 4-1.

Junior Devonte Taylor and senior Akeem Springs each scored 23 points for Waukegan.

Joe Younan, a junior guard for Niles West, had 23 points to lead all scorers. He hit four three-pointers.

With the score tied at 50-50, the contest turned on a wild play, with the officials caught in the middle.

While Taylor was scoring from underneath the basket, Waukegan coach Ron Ashlaw was calling for a timeout from the bench. One official signaled the hoop was good, while the other ref seemed to be awarding the timeout.

The ruling on the court was that Taylor scored before the timeout, giving Waukegan a 52-50 lead.

Niles West coach Bob Williams saw it a different way, and he was TD-up for stepping onto the court for what he thought was a timeout. Waukegan's D.J. Ross shot 1-for-2 on the technical foul, and Taylor then made it a five-point possession by scoring a bucket.

Niles West then turned the ball over, and Waukegan scored again for a 57-50 lead. After yet another Wolves turnover, Taylor scored another basket, and it was 59-50 — and game over — with 1:30 left.

"I thought we played hard. A play here, a play there, and it's a different game," Williams said. "But that has been the case for most of our season.

"The play that resulted in the technical bafled Williams, who was on the court when Taylor scored to make it 52-50 only because he thought a timeout was called.

"I'm still not sure why I got the call on me," he said. "But you have to live with the referee's decision. I will find out later.

As has been the case almost all season, Niles West played almost well enough to win.

Younan had 10 points in the first quarter, when Niles grabbed an early 10-3 lead.

Then, Springs (11 first-quarter points) fueled a Waukegan rally that cut the Wolves' lead to 15-14 after one quarter.

The Wolves still led 31-30 at halftime and 44-37 after three quarters.

In the first three periods, Niles West had a 31-13 rebounding edge, including a 14-4 advantage in offensive boards. But in the fourth quarter, Niles West was 2-for-11 from the field and committed seven turnovers. Younan's five points were all the Wolves could muster in eight minutes.

"It's frustrating because we've been in most of the games this season. We just haven't been able to finish," Williams said. "We'll continue to persevere and try to turn it around.

Niles West will begin its second round of divisional games against New Trier at home on Friday.

On Saturday, St. Patrick came out firing and blasted Niles West 62-45.
By Patrick Kelly

A few of Aaron Shannon's teammates were still in middle school when the Maine East senior entered high school, but he doesn't seem burdened by his leadership role on a squad that had just two seniors in the starting lineup against Glenbrook North Friday night.

Freshman Ezeke Omekke and sophomore Keith Brown-Stillwell started along with Shannon, as the Blue Demons dropped a 75-53 Central Suburban North decision to the Spartans in Park Ridge.

In addition, freshman Abby George came off the bench in the second quarter and dropped in back-to-back baskets, including a three-pointer that helped cut a 15-point deficit to 34-28 less than a minute before the intermission.

The youth movement hasn't seemed to hinder Shannon, who led the Blue Demons with 15 points.

"I feel pretty confident," he said. "I am glad that we have people that we can go to — that we can bring out there with some good intensity and pressure. Also, that freshman (George), I am pretty satisfied that he came out and hit some big shots, being that it was his first varsity game, actually. We just have to keep working with (the younger players), filling their heads with good motivation, and we should be fine. We have to show them around a couple of times — show them the ropes — and get them focused and concentrated."

So close as Maine East would pull after Glenbrook North took a 20-12 first-quarter lead. The Spartans blew it open during a 15-0 run that spanned the final minute of the first half into the third quarter.

Shannon struggled with just three points in the first half, but responded after the break, collecting seven points in the third, including two buckets from long distance.

"In the first half, I was struggling really bad," Shannon explained. "After the second quarter, coach (Dave Genis) pulled me aside and told me to focus, play my game and get my teammates involved, and I should be able to get on the road from there."

Omekke pulled down nine rebounds and also finished with nine points, including hitting 3-of-4 shots in the fourth quarter. Junior Evan Nazzal nailed all three of his three-point attempts, totaling nine points.

Brown-Stillwell paced the Blue Demons in the first half, scoring all seven of his points before the break, while senior Adam Bieniarz came off the bench to add four points and six boards.

"We had some good offensive possessions and some good defensive possessions," Shannon said. "At the end of the day, we just have to get back to practice and work harder, and we will move ahead from there."

Wolves drop times during back-to-back meets

By Dan Shalin

After a solid Friday night performance in a dual meet at Glenbrook South, Niles West's reward was a return to the same pool 16 hours later for the Titan Relays.

"As if senior Ryan Miller's weekend wasn't grueling enough," coach Dan Vander Jeugd said. "Everybody wants a bobblehead," Niles West head coach Dan Vander Jeugd said.

Miller now has one for his trophy shelf. The Wolves sophomore opened the event with a 50.08 (2nd) to move on to the next round. He then advanced on to the finals with a 49.84 (7th), breaking 50.0 for the first time.

In the final, which included top-level competition, Miller clocked 50.01 (6th).

"He was just pooped," Vander Jeugd said following the final heat. "There is not a lot of time between races. But he was happy. He swam really well."

The Wolves (156 points) ended up seventh at the eight-team meet, which was won by Warren. Not only was it the meet "loaded," according to Vander Jeugd, but the non-CSL teams came in much fresher because they did not compete in Friday duals.

"Those were two great meets," Vander Jeugd said. "He still makes so many mistakes and we need to streamline him in the pool and work on making good turn and improving breathing wise. But this kid ... he swam lights out."

On Friday, Glenbrook South defeated Niles West 114-72, but the Wolves did produce numerous season-bests. Miller won the 200 IM (2:05) and swam a strong 54.09 in the 100 butterfly, losing narrowly to Glenbrook South star Ryan Brander.

Giffen tapped the 100 breaststroke (1:03.3), the medley relay of Leffler, Giffen, Miller, and Giddens registered its all-time best (1:44.2), just getting touched out for first. "Every single swimmer had season-best swims on Friday. We wanted them to get that and feel that all the hard work they are doing, that they are getting something out of it," Vander Jeugd said.

The Wolves visit Maine South at 6:30 p.m. Friday and compete in the Buffalo Grove Invite at 11 a.m. Saturday.
Improving Vikings pull into first place tie

BY MIKE CAMERON
Contributor

Niles North hit its nadir seven weeks ago, losing its conference opener 58-37 to Loyola. The Spurs on Dec. 2 and relinquishing a nine-point halftime lead in a 49-38 defeat to district rival Niles West the next night to fall to 2-6.

But Dan Paxson knew better than to press any panic buttons. The fifth-year head coach has the ideal inside-outside combination of fourth-year stars Mariah Henley and Alissa Hirsh and an enviable mix of height and quickness from his next eight players, several of whom simply needed more varsity experience.

Paxson's patience has paid off. Niles North's efficient 45-27 payback victory over visiting Deerfield (4-17, 2-5) on Friday was its fifth straight CSL North win, one over every conference foe. The Vikings are 3-0 in January and 10-3 in their last 13 outings after blowing out Lane Tech 52-20 on Saturday afternoon.

Niles North (12-5, 5-1) is tied for first place with Maine West (7-3, 5-4) and Glenbrook North (11-5, 3-2) is a half-game ahead of Glenbrook North (11-5, 3-2). The Vikings host the Spartans at 7:30 p.m. Friday. Paxson's girls pulled out of their early season slump with a big 50-47 overtime road victory over GBN on Dec. 6.

"We play one of the toughest schedules, and we had a lot of players who were either new to our team or this level," said Paxson. "The girls have made a lot of progress, but we can still tighten things up in several areas."

Deerfield, defensively stout but offensively limited, gladly marched to the free-throw line 37 times and converted 23 in the first meeting against aggressive Niles North. The Vikings stressed not fouling in the rematch, and the Warriors were but 8-of-8 from the stripe.

Niles North held modest leads of 12-5 after one quarter and 22-12 at intermission until stocky fireball Hirsh put on a show in a four-play sequence late in the third period and into the fourth. The 5-foot-10 point guard scored on her own offensive rebound before a steal and bullet pass underneath to Henley. Then she drove for a bucket and found Henley with another no-look sizzler. The party was over at 37-20 with 6:27 to go.

"They are a lot better now," said Hirsh, who added 14 points, six assists, three steals and a block. The rugged 6-foot point guard scored on her own offensive rebound before a steal and bullet pass underneath to Henley. Then she drove for a bucket and found Henley with another no-look sizzler. The party was over at 37-20 with 6:27 to go.

"They are a lot better now," said Hirsh, who added 14 points, six assists, three steals and a block. The rugged 6-foot point guard scored on her own offensive rebound before a steal and bullet pass underneath to Henley. Then she drove for a bucket and found Henley with another no-look sizzler. The party was over at 37-20 with 6:27 to go.

"We are not looking long-term. Our focus has been to improve every day, either in practices or games. Just play better basketball today," said Paxson. "I think we are becoming more disciplined both on offense and defense."

Nix, Wolves quickly become force in North

BY DANNY MEHIGAN
Contributor

Niles North has made it known that it wants to play at top speed.

"The Vikings want to run, cause turnovers and score — and they want to do it for 32 minutes," said Paxson.

There's likely nobody better suited to run the show than 5-foot-6 junior point guard Malachi Nix.

The diminutive speed demon took a backseat to current NIU Huskie Abdul Nader a year ago, but he has assumed the reins this season and hasn't looked back.

"Last year, we had Nader, and he was going to take a lot of shots, but Malachi was getting better," said North coach Glenn Olson. "He was unselfish enough to know Nader had to score the ball, but now he can go."

Nix is a terror for opponents on both sides of the floor, shocking fast in the open court on offense and constantly pestering on defense. He has deep range on his shot, and can constantly pick a pocket for a steal. He has deep range on his shot, and can constantly pick a pocket for a steal. He has deep range on his shot, and can constantly pick a pocket for a steal.

"I had to keep patient throughout the game with their 3-2 (zone), so I had to keep patient to get my shots," said Nix. "I did and then I knocked them down. Whether they are playing man or zone, we are just going to keep playing our way, running up and down the court. We're playing the way we're supposed to play — the way coach wants us to play, demands us to play — and if we keep doing that, we can keep rolling."

North has won eight of nine games since mid-December, and is tied for second in the CSL North. The Vikings head to Glenbrook North for a showdown with the first-place Vikings on Friday. In nonconference action, the Vikings were to host Loyden on Tuesday and Mather on Saturday.
Shootout smacks Wolves with 1-2 punch

By Phil Brozynski

Forget the hype. Forget all the message board trash talk. Forget the focus on Morgan Tuck versus Jewell Loyd.

Monday's finale of the McDonald's Shootout at Willowbrook between No. 2 Bolingbrook and No. 21 Niles West was more about two teams trying to get better as the long and arduous girls basketball season grinds to an uncertain conclusion.

"People can hype any game," Bolingbrook's Tuck said. "But when you get out there, you still have to play the same way you do every other game."

Tuck was more critical of her own performance.

"I think I started off well, but I just got a little frustrated. I'm used to making the shots, but when you get out there, you still have to play the same way," Tuck said. "My teammates were there saying, 'Morgan is OK. Everybody misses.' It doesn't matter as long as we win."

"We just had to forget about the misses," Tuck said. "We didn't expect her to make anything. But I think our guards did a great job guarding her."

Bolingbrook's four guards used most of their 15 fouls on Loyd.

"Yeah, it's always physical," Loyd said. "I'm used to not getting calls. It's not a big deal. They just make me get ready for college. So, thanks."

Jackie Cardenas added seven points for Niles West (16-6), which heads back into conference play Friday night after back-to-back losses to No. 1 Whitney Young on Saturday and No. 2 Bolingbrook on Monday.

"It's fun when you play teams like these," Loyd said. "They make us better for conference."
BOYS 2nd, 3rd, 4th & 5th GRADE
TRYOUT 1: SUN. FEBRUARY 26, 6:00 - 7:30 PM
TRYOUT 2: WED. FEBRUARY 29, 6:00 - 7:30 PM

BOYS 6th, 7th & 8th GRADE
TRYOUT 1: SUN. FEBRUARY 26, 7:30 - 9:00 PM
TRYOUT 2: WED. FEBRUARY 29, 7:30 - 9:00 PM

BOYS 9th & 10th GRADE
TRYOUT 1: SUN. MARCH 4, 6:00 - 7:30 PM
TRYOUT 2: THURS. MARCH 8, 6:00 - 7:30 PM

BOYS 11th GRADE
TRYOUT 1: SUN. MARCH 4, 7:30 - 9:00 PM
TRYOUT 2: THURS. MARCH 8, 7:30 - 9:00 PM

JG SPORTS CENTER ★ 158 S WAUKEGAN RD. ★ DEERFIELD, IL 60015

NEW OWNERSHIP
FACILITY UPGRADES
TRAVEL TEAMS
BIRTHDAY PARTIES
PRIVATE & GROUP TRAINING
COLLEGE RECRUITING & EXPOSURE
CLASSES & LEAGUES FOR ALL AGES

JOY OF THE GAME IS CHICAGOLAND'S PREMIER BASKETBALL FACILITY.
FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE OR CALL (847) 498-6646.

www.JOYOFTHEGAME.com
Voted #1 find in Chicago
By Chicago Tribune

“Everything you’re looking for, and then some”
Bring it home

OUR BIGGEST SALE
10% to 60% OFF FLOOR AND SELECT ITEMS
OF 2012

TUSCANY SOFA
MADE IN USA USA

PARK AVE SOFA
NOW $849

SAHARA SOFA
NOW $799

COMPARÉ
&
SAVE

OAKTON TABLE
SOLID OAK
NOW $999
COMPARE TO $1495
AT CRATE & BARREL

OURS
BRISTOL SOFA
FROM $1099 (85”)

THEIR’S
THE PETRIE SOFA
FROM $1599 AT CRATE & BARREL (86”)

NO-TAX* SALES EVENT
DOMICILE
MONTAGE SECTIONAL
LOWER PRICE FOR 2012
NOW FROM $1295
WE CARRY SERTA MATTRESSES

TWO FOOTBALL FIELDS OF FURNITURE

MUST MENTION THIS AD TO GET TAXES WAIVED AT TIME OF PURCHASE

- CHICAGO: 2717 N. CLARK ST
  773-360-1826
- LINCOLNWOOD: 3701 W.
  LUNT AVE • 847-568-1088
- EVANSTON: 2510 GREEN BAY RD
  847-328-3240

“Everything you’re looking for, and then some”
Bring it home

"Features in"