Allie England, 2, gets a little help from her dad, Kevin, playing one of the games during the Nelson School PTO-sponsored Fun Fair on Feb. 25 in Niles. PAGE 6 | ERIC DAVIS-FOR SUN-TIMES MEDIA

HOT SPOT
Super H Mart offers adventure in Asian cuisine PAGE 30

DIVERSIONS
What's old is new when Van Halen marks return at Allstate Arena PAGE B1

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ETHICS BOARD
Conflict of interest clause for village workers advances

BY TRACY GRUEN
Contributor

Niles Board of Ethics members on Feb. 21 voted to add a provision to the village employee handbook that would help avert potential conflicts of interest involving village employees who also serve as officers or board members for other nongovernmental organizations.

The amendment would require final approval from the Niles Board of Trustees in order to take effect.

The idea behind the provision stems from a concern that village Trustee Louella Preston shared with the Ethics Board in recent months about a possible conflict of interest if Niles Police Commander Joe Penze were to become president of the Niles Chamber of Commerce in two years.

At the Feb. 21 Ethics Board meeting, board member Anthony Gaudio made a motion to reject the entire provision because he felt it was unnecessary. All of the other board members favored the amendment.

"It's a perfect example of too much government," Gaudio said.

Gaudio said he feels Penze is an exemplary employee and that officials should be praising him for volunteering his time to the community instead of creating an unnecessary provision.

Gaudio believes village employees should not be forced to disclose their involvement with volunteer organizations.

"This is America," Gaudio said.

NEWS BRIEF
Girl Scouts mark 100th anniversary

Local Girl Scouts from Niles, Morton Grove, Park Ridge, Skokie and Lincolnwood will celebrate 100 years of Girl Scouting.

Juliette Gordon Low founded Girl Scouting on March 12, 1912, in Savannah, Ga., to give girls access to unique leadership opportunities.

Girls of all ages and adult volunteers are hosting special community-based Promise Circles at 7:12 p.m. March 12, locally at Golf Mill Shopping Center.

Troops should arrive at 6:45 p.m. Girl Scouts will join with former Girl Scouts from every decade to recite the Girl Scout Promise and Law, followed by singing of "Make New Friends."

CRIME

FBI: No suspect yet in bank robbery at Niles supermarket

A man in a ski mask on Feb. 26 robbed a bank branch at a Niles grocery store.

The man, believed to be in his 20s, wore a hooded sweatshirt and a dark ski mask as he robbed the TCF Bank branch at 5667 W. Touhy in Niles, according to the FBI.

The TCF branch is in a Jewel-Osco store.

No weapon was shown in the robbery, but apparently a note was shown to a teller.

The robber was described as white, between 5-foot-7 and 5-foot-8, and in his 20s.

As of the afternoon of Feb. 27, no suspect was in custody, the FBI reported.

There have been at least 32 bank robberies in the Chicago area so far this year, according to the FBI.

In 2011 there were 115 bank robberies in the Chicago metropolitan area.
Fun Fair lives up to name

“Fun” was indeed the order of the day when Nelson School in Niles hosted a Fun Fair for students and their families Feb. 25. The fair featured a variety of indoor games, prizes and refreshments in the school gym at 8901 N. Ozanam Ave.

The event was sponsored by the Nelson Parent Teacher Organization.

Eliana Garcia, 2, of Skokie, has a fun time on the moon-bounce at the Fun Fair. [ERIC DAVIS FOR SUN-TIMES MEDIA]
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NILES NORTH

Chess team members are state champs again

By Natalie Hayes

Playing 22 intense hours of chess over two days paid off this month for the Niles North High School chess team, who beat out 125 chess teams from throughout the state to become the 2012 IHSA State Chess Champions during the annual tournament this month.

The Niles North chess team has enjoyed a successful run over the past years. This is the third state championship title they’ve won in six years. Niles North was the state champion in 2005-06, 2009-10 and was the state runner-up last year before taking the title again this year. The team, coached by physics teacher Harry Kyriazes, will next head to the National High School Chess Championship in Minneapolis April 13.

Coach Kyriazes described the last minutes of the nail-biting championship game that pitted Niles North against Hinsdale Central as intense. Niles North took the game with a final score of 34½ to 33½, which is the minimum number of points a chess player can win a game by.

"Each game lasts two hours, but it really boils down to those last seconds of the game," Kyriazes said. "It’s tremendously nerve wracking because you have about 60 people watching that last game and as a coach there’s nothing you can do because all the pressure is on the player."

Other top teams that Niles North came out on top of at the tournament were Whitney Young Magnet, Northside College Prep, Stevenson and Evanston Township.

The 14 students on the school’s chess team—also boys—spend three hours after school on most days practicing. To switch up the pace of practices, the boys have added a little bit of fun to the mix by playing a game they call "ping pong chess," Kyriazes said. The player who wins the point in ping pong gets to make the next move in the game of chess being played.

“They’re really an enjoyable group of students to be around,” Kyriazes said. “They’re really nice kids and they’re fun, and I think being a fun group is what makes the team successful.”

While being on the high school chess team has historically had the reputation of being “less-than-cool” among teens, Niles North is different. To paint the picture of how chess is perceived at the school, the last two Homecoming Kings were players on the chess team, Kyriazes said.

“We just don’t have that nerdy reputation here,” Kyriazes said. “The chess team is just celebrated very well. A big group of students had a send-off party wishing us good luck at state.”

While all the members of the team contributed to the state championship title, the true star was senior Eric Rosen, a reigning National K-12 Chess Champion. Rosen competed in the World Youth Chess Championships in Brazil this past November where he took ninth place in the world among 99 teams.

At the tournament, Rosen faced opponents from England, Latvia, Colombia, UAE, Brazil, Switzerland and other countries, finishing with four wins, four draws and one loss during the nine-round competition.

Rosen is rated at a 2400 by the U.S. Chess Federation (USCF) and a master by the World Chess Federation, impressive rankings for any chess player, let alone a high school student.

“He’s a big deal,” Kyriazes said. “He’s been playing since he was a kid and can beat me blindfolded.” “When he was in fifth grade he came in to visit the chess club and he beat me then—he’s been a prodigy for a long time.”
Dick Buchholz, a natural-science expert with Mobile Ed Productions, carries an 11-foot albino Burmese python with help from Alyssa Demos, 10, of Morton Grove, at the Morton Grove Library Feb. 20. | RYAN PAGELOW-SUN-TIMES MEDIA

Kids get chance to ‘snake’ a peek

Dick Buchholz, of Naperville, a natural-science expert with Mobile Ed Productions, gave a presentation on animals and our environment Feb. 20 at Morton Grove Public Library.

Eli Mendelsberg, 4, of Chicago’s West Rogers Park neighborhood, scares his brother, Avraham, 2, with the snake around his neck after an animal presentation at the Morton Grove Library. | RYAN PAGELOW-SUN-TIMES MEDIA

Cameron Gordon, 8, of Morton Grove, wraps a corn snake around her shoulders after a presentation on animals and our environment at the Morton Grove Library Feb. 20. | RYAN PAGELOW-SUN-TIMES MEDIA
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Women's History Month marked
Celebrate Women's History Month by attending a performance of "Kita y Fernandez." March 1-4 and March 8-11 by the Performing Arts at Oakton's Studio One, 1600 E. Golf Road, Des Plaines.

A timely look at class, immigration, and women's friendships, this Jeff-nominated play by Tanya Saracho, one of Chicago's leading new playwrights, tells the tale of Fernanda, the privileged maid. A chance meeting many years later prompts a flood of memories about growing up in the same household. Enjoy a special $5 preview at 8 p.m. March 1. Regular performances are scheduled at 8 p.m. March 2, 3, 9 and 10; 2 p.m. March 4 and 11; and 7:30 p.m. March 8.

Tickets are $10 for general admission; $8 for students and seniors; and $6 for groups of 15 or more. Call (847) 635-1900 to purchase tickets.

Explore health care careers
For persons interested in a health care career, the following free information sessions will be given at Oakton. These seminars showcase Oakton's degree and certificate programs. Faculty will be on hand to discuss course requirements and industry trends:
- Nursing Information Session: March 6 at 5 p.m. at Oakton's Physical Therapy Center, Room A145-152.
- Radiologic Technology: March 14 at 2 p.m. at Oakton's Skokie campus, Room C110.
- Health Information Technology: March 7 at 6 p.m. at Oakton's Des Plaines campus, 1600 E. Golf Road (Room 1604).
- Physical Therapist Assistant: March 21 at 6:30 p.m. at Oakton's Des Plaines campus (Room 1604).

To reserve a place in a session, visit www.oakton.edu/healthcareers or call (847) 635-1700.

Social-emotional learning explored
Learn more about social and emotional learning on April 23 at Oakton. Sponsored by Rush NeuroBehavioral Center, the workshop, "Implementing Social and Emotional Learning for all Students," is designed for parents, teachers, and allied health and medical professionals. Ruth Cross, an educator for more than three decades and now a trainer who leads workshops around the world, will present a keynote address. Additional upcoming sessions in March include:
- Health Information Technology: March 7, at 6 p.m. at Oakton's Des Plaines campus, 1600 E. Golf Road
- Radiologic Technology: March 14 at 2 p.m. at Oakton's Skokie campus, Room C110
- Health Information Technology: March 6, at 5 p.m. at Oakton's Physical Therapy Center, Room A145-152.

Additional events will include:
- "The Language of the Birds: Rosa Luxemburg and Me," Donna Blude Lachman's acclaimed one-woman show. Admission is free.
- "An Evening with Amy Richards," 7 p.m. March 22 at Oakton's Performing Arts Center. Hear from the nationally known spokesperson and leading voice for young feminist issues. Richards also is the co-founder of the Third Wave Foundation, an organization for young feminists between the ages of 15 and 30. Richards' talk will be followed by a screening of HBO's "Gloria: In Her Own Words," for which she served as a consultant. Admission is free.

To view the full slate of events to celebrate Women's History Month at Oakton, visit www.oakton.edu/wm.

The series-only fee is $63 for in-district residents age 60 and over, and $75 for out-of-district residents and those under age 60. Seating is limited.

Passport to the World Series returns
Join local experts for an analysis of international events issues during Passport to the World, a series of popular lectures offered by the Emeritus Program at Oakton.

Two nine-week sessions are available: 1-2:30 p.m. Thursdays starting March 15, and 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Fridays, starting March 16.

The series kicks off with "Macroeconomics: A Greater Picture of Debts, Deficits, and Jobs," a thought-provoking examination of the potential ways to improve job prospects and economic opportunity for Americans.

Other lectures include:
- "China on the World Stage" (March 22, 23), "What Caused the Implosion of the Israeli Kibbutzim?" (March 29, 30), "The Democratization of Arabs?" (April 5, 6), "An 11-Month Assessment of Chicago's New Mayor Rahm Emanuel" (April 12, 13), "The New Geopolitical Middle East" (April 19, 20), "Did Marx Foretell Today's Economic Crisis?" (April 26, 27), "The Rise of the Era of Off-Shore Balancing" (May 3, 4), and "Is NATO an Anachronism?" (May 10, 11).

The series-only fee is $63 for in-district residents age 60 and over, and $75 for out-of-district residents and those under age 60. Seating is limited.

For more information about the Emeritus Program, call (847) 635-1414 or (847) 982-9888, press 3. For a complete list of Emeritus classes and events, visit www.oakton.edu/emeritus.

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Why upgrade your ticket when you can upgrade your airline? Leather seats, extra legroom, complimentary beer, wine and snacks... some people call it business class. We just call it Porter class.
Fashions for special occasions took center stage at a recent TV-show taping in Morton Grove. Alexis Williams, owner of Robin Elliott, Ltd., Morton Grove, provided the attire. The boutique, now at 6740 W. Dempster St., has been serving the needs of women of all ages since 1990. Taping the show for airing on Comcast cable TV is a new endeavor for the Morton Grove Economic Development Commission, said chairman David Lewis, adding that the show would expand village business' presence in multiple areas served by Comcast.
Veronica Marchetti, of Park Ridge, models during the show on Feb. 22.

George Clowes, of Mount Prospect, and Mike Heuel, of Niles, film the owner of Morton Grove boutique Robin Elliott, Ltd., Alexis Williams, of Morton Grove, as well as hostess Roberta Markbreit, of Skokie, and Model Mary Biancalana, of Norwood Park.

Veronica Marchetti, of Park Ridge, models during the show on Feb. 22.

George Clowes, of Mount Prospect, films an episode of “Contempo” at the Skokie Comcast studio.

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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.

DOMESTIC BATTERY
Shamsheer-Singh Chauhan, 46, of 6944 Oakton, was arrested Feb. 19 at his home and charged with domestic battery. Police said the suspect threw a salt shaker at the victim, his 19-year-old nephew.

ASSAULT
Curtis Holliday, 38, of the 9500 block of Sumac Road, unincorporated Maine Township, was charged with simple assault Feb. 4 after police said he threatened his 19-year-old nephew. The alleged incident occurred inside Holliday's residence.

DRUG POSSESSION
Colin Barnes, 34, of the 8100 block of Kilpatrick, Skokie, was charged with possession of marijuana Feb. 8 following a traffic stop at Dee Road and Heathwood Drive. According to police Barnes was found with 11 grams of suspected marijuana in his pocket during a search.

BURGLARY
A computer monitor and two prescription medications were reported stolen Feb. 4 from an apartment on the 9300 block of Congress Drive. Police said entry was gained through a bedroom window after a rock was used to break the glass between 7 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. The resident also reported that a neon sign kept in the resident before the resident lost sight of him, police said. Investigators appeared to have been pried open to gain entry, police said.

VANDALISM
Someone used black spray-paint to put gang-related graffiti Feb. 22 on the rear door of a business on the 8600 block of Golf Road.

BATTERY
A 21-year-old Morton Grove man was reportedly attacked by three male offenders Feb. 18 at a restaurant on the 6700 block of Touhy Avenue. An employee of the store said three offenders entered the restaurant, beat the victim and then fled.

THEFT
A 21-year-old Niles woman said she was attacked by three male offenders Feb. 18 at a restaurant on the 6700 block of Touhy Avenue. She said she was attacked by three male offenders Feb. 18 at a restaurant on the 6700 block of Touhy Avenue. The victim found scratches on her vehicle.

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.

ASSAULT
A 16-year-old Niles boy allegedly took a pair of shoes and concealed them before leaving a store Feb. 20 at Golf Mill Shopping Center without paying for the shoes. An 8-inch knife was also found on the teenager's waistband, which he said he had in order to protect himself from gang members, police said.

CRIMINAL DAMAGE
Someone damaged a 2009 Nissan four-door Feb. 18 in a parking lot on the 5600 block of Touhy Avenue. The victim found scratches on her vehicle.

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A unincorporated Maine Township man stands accused of ignoring orders from police that he have no contact with a 15-year-old Park Ridge girl who alleged she was pursued by him in mid-January following a train ride.

Hitendra Parmar, 32, of the 8800 block of Carlesteen Street, was charged Feb. 21 with disorderly conduct in connection with an incident that allegedly occurred two weeks earlier near the Dee Road Metra station in Park Ridge.

Police said Parmar winked and smiled at her as she crossed Busse Highway at Oakton during the afternoon of Feb. 7, Parmar allegedly followed her as she crossed Busse Highway at Oakton, but when she took out her cell phone to make a call, he turned around and headed in the opposite direction.

According to the police report this was the second time the girl reported Parmar to the police, Jogmen said. On Jan. 12 the teenager told authorities that a man, later identified as Parmar, approached her after her train had stopped at the Dee Road station, asked her if she wanted a ride home, gave her his phone number and followed her as she walked home, police said.

Jogmen said Parmar was given a warning not to have any future contact with the girl following the Jan. 12 incident.

Parmar made no statements to police following his arrest, Jogmen said. His bond was set at $120 and he was assigned an April 2 court date.

In Cook County Jail following a March 2012 arrest on a felony home-invasion charge, according to the Cook County State's Attorney's Office. Initially he was held without bond, but his bond has since been set at $800,000. His arrest stemmed from an incident to property charge that has since been set at $800,000.

Hitendra Parmar; 32, of the 8800 block of Church Road.

An unincorporated Maine Township man has been arrested for attempted murder in an incident that occurred in the 3200 block of Kenmore in Chicago and attempting to rob the occupants at gunpoint.

In August Terrazas and three other men, two of them his brothers, were arrested on aggravated battery and mob-action charges after they allegedly threw bricks and bottles at a 22-year-old man in Niles.

At the time Sheriff's Police Deputy Cmdr. Anthony Bierzniak described the three suspects as "self-admitting gang members who have been creating havoc and terrorizing Maine Township for some time."

Terrazas spent time in Cook County Jail following his Aug. 25 arrest, his bond initially set at $80,000.

Juan Terrazas, 23, of the 8900 block of Robin Drive in unincorporated Maine Township, is featured in the Crime Commission's 2012 edition of "The Gang Book," an overview of a number of street gangs active within the city of Chicago and surrounding suburbs. In the book, Terrazas is identified as a leader among the Latin Kings street gang, a title he was also given in the Crime Commission's 2006 edition of "The Gang Book."

Though the 2012 book identified him as a resident of Niles, recent arrests have indicated that Terrazas resides in unincorporated Maine Township.

In Maine Township, the Latin Kings faction is also known as the Dee Road Kings, a reference to the street that runs north of Park Ridge that has been claimed as Latin Kings territory.

Terrazas is now behind bars in Cook County Jail following a Jan. 22 arrest on a felony home-invasion charge, according to the Cook County State's Attorney's Office. Initially he was held without bond, but his bond has since been set at $800,000.
HOT PROPERTIES BY ROB PISKAC

Open floor split-level
1-story features spacious rooms with hardwood floors

8509 W. Roseview Drive, Niles - $259,000

Constructed in 1969, this 1,313-square-foot split-level is situated on 0.16 acres. Highlights of the kitchen include vintage appliances, vinyl flooring and a window over the sink.

Hardwood floors line the living room, which comes with decorative trim and a wall of windows overlooking the front yard.

The dining room consists of hardwood floors, a chandelier, a large window and direct access to the kitchen.

The lower level has concrete floors, recessed lighting and a wet bar area.

The open floor plan provides a spacious feel throughout the three-bedroom, split-level home.

The open floor plan provides a spacious feel throughout the three-bedroom, split-level home.

A five-bedroom, four-bath home at 5533 Albert St. in Morton Grove is on the market for $490,000. The Colonial-style house, built in 1980, has 3,445 square feet. The two-story home features hardwood flooring throughout the main part of the house, as well as a finished lower level - not included in the square footage - not in the square footage.

The dining room consists of hardwood floors under carpet in living rm, dining rm & 2 front bedrooms. Front porch & beautiful landscaping. Direct entry from attached garage to main flr.

A three-bedroom, two-bath home at 785 Lake St. in Morton Grove is on the market for $333,750. The 1.5-story brick residence features a remodeled kitchen with top-of-the-line appliances. Other highlights include a 2-car garage and a bright family room with new carpeting. The home also includes a yard with a built-in sprinkler system. The tear-off roof was new in 2010. Perry Leininger of Coldwell Banker Martin & Marbury is the listing agent.

The open floor plan provides a spacious feel throughout the three-bedroom, split-level home.

A wall of windows overlooks the front yard of this single-story split-level home in Niles.

 Beds: 3
 Baths: 2
 Selling a home that stands out from the rest? Email us: hotproperties@blockshopper.com

)—John Ferri

ON THE MARKET
A ROUNDUP OF NEW LISTINGS
A three-bedroom, 1.5-bath home at 6822 W. Seward St. in Niles is on the market for $225,000. This property includes a two-car garage and is 1.5 miles northeast of the Dee Road Metra station.

A three-bedroom, 1.5-bath home at 6551 Albert St. in Morton Grove is on the market for $380,000. The Colonial-style house, built in 1980, has 3,445 square feet. The two-story home features hardwood flooring throughout the main part of the house, as well as a finished lower level - not included in the square footage - not in the square footage.

A five-bedroom, four-bath home at 785 Lake St. in Morton Grove is on the market for $490,000. The Colonial-style house, built in 1980, has 3,445 square feet. The two-story home features hardwood flooring throughout the main part of the house, as well as a finished lower level - not included in the square footage - not in the square footage.

A three-bedroom, two-bath home at 785 Lake St. in Morton Grove is on the market for $333,750. The 1.5-story brick residence features a remodeled kitchen with top-of-the-line appliances. Other highlights include a 2-car garage and a bright family room with new carpeting. The home also includes a yard with a built-in sprinkler system. The tear-off roof was new in 2010. Perry Leininger of Coldwell Banker Martin & Marbury is the listing agent.

A three-bedroom, two-bath home at 785 Lake St. in Morton Grove is on the market for $333,750. The 1.5-story brick residence features a remodeled kitchen with top-of-the-line appliances. Other highlights include a 2-car garage and a bright family room with new carpeting. The home also includes a yard with a built-in sprinkler system. The tear-off roof was new in 2010. Perry Leininger of Coldwell Banker Martin & Marbury is the listing agent.

MARKET WATCH AS OF MONDAY

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<th>City</th>
<th>For sale</th>
<th>Median price</th>
<th>Foreclosure rate</th>
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Source: Chicago BlockShopper.com. Data tracks last 12 months of sales.
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DISTRICT 219 NOTES

NW News earns Gold Circle Awards

The Columbia Scholastic Press Association (CSPA) received almost 5,000 entries from college, university and secondary school students in the 29th Gold Circle Awards program for yearbook and digital media. Out of the 743 winners in this annual competition for individual achievement by student writers, editors, designers and photographers, Niles West News earned 13 awards.

Niles West students/alumni received 2012 Gold Circle Awards for Digital Media. These awards reflect entries produced between Nov. 2, 2011 and Nov. 1, 2011.

First place awards were given to: Dylan Lanoff and Vishal Piryani (Niles West Class of 2011), "Vikral," Video News Package; Jackie Povitsky, "Backlot Bash," Single Feature Photography; and Mike Undas (NW '11), "Decalistic ice cream," Video Commercial.

Second place awards were given to: Hafsa Wahid, "Niles West's Muslims celebrate Eid-ul-Fitr," General Commentary; and Amy Chow (NW '11), "Orchids Gallery," Photo Slideshow.

Third place awards were given to: Amy Chow, "Walkout Gallery," Photo Slideshow; and Niles West News staff, Typography, Overall Look of the Entire Website.

Certificate of Merit, or honorable mention awards, were given to: Colene Gibson and Ivana Kosic, "Sprinkler malfunction causes water pipe to burst," Breaking News; Rozy Kanjee (NW '11), "Students walkout for collective bargaining rights," News Writing; Ivana Kosic, "Committee studies school day schedule," In-depth News; Rozy Kanjee, "My plea to the school board: make us want to learn," Personal Opinion; On Campus Issues; Nick Goldwyn, "Koner Scott: A day in the life," Sports Features; and Niles West News staff, News Online Design Web Site.

Support Special Gifts Theatre
Niles North High School is holding its Empty Walls Silent Art Auction this year on March 3. Empty Walls is an all-day event in which artists from the community, staff, teachers and talented art students will team up and create art during the day. The evening artists donate their works to a silent auction with the proceeds going to this year's School Chest beneficiary, Special Gifts Theatre. Special Gifts Theatre is an organization that provides children and teens with special needs a Drama experience enabling personal growth while also breaking down stereotypes related to disabilities. This is a special opportunity to acquire beautiful one-of-a-kind works of art while at the same time helping to support children with special needs.

The Empty Walls Silent Art Auction begins at 4:30 p.m. on the 3rd November School Codell Commons at 9800 Lawler Ave., Skokie. Curing will take place from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. with auction winners announced at 5:30 p.m. Artwork represented at the auction includes paintings, photography, drawings, watercolors, jewelry, fiber arts/clothing and ceramics. There will be jazz entertainment from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. For children, there will be a craft section and face painting.

Local businesses may make donations by contacting Emily Walls Silent Auction Director Lori Real at (847) 626-2113 or lorrea@ niles219.org. Visit the Empty Walls Silent Auction Home Page at: http://www.niles.hs.k12.il.us/north/departments/ fine-arts/empty-walls/. Local businesses may make donations by contacting Emily Walls Silent Auction Director Lori Real at (847) 626-2113 or lorrea@ niles219.org. Visit the Empty Walls Silent Auction Home Page at: http://www.niles.hs.k12.il.us/north/departments/ fine-arts/empty-walls/.

Make Yourself Known: Tech Leader Aliza Malani shares ways to safely promote your talents online.

Web 2.0 and the Cloud: Tech leaders discuss Dropbox and other cloud-based file storage services that can be accessed anywhere/anytime: Journ Baghdard and Aziz Aziz. The Tech Leader program in District 219 offers students an opportunity to be an integral part of the District's Anytime Learning (AAL) initiative by providing technical support and training to their peers. Students learn valuable life skills while exploring new areas of web-based applications and open-source software.

To qualify as a Tech Leader, students must be proficient in computer technology, support and training, be patient and respectful, have strong problem-solving and leadership skills, be recommended by a teacher, maintain a strong GPA, and commit to work a minimum of 10 hours each week.

SIT Conference website: http://www.sitconference.org/

North and West attend conference

Originating in Bloomington-Normal, the Students Involved with Technology (SIT) Conference is an annual conference held at several sites throughout Illinois. SIT is for students, for students, and teens with special needs. This is a special opportunity to acquire beautiful one-of-a-kind works of art while at the same time helping to support children with special needs.

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Modern Student: Tech leaders share their favorite/essential Web 2.0 and smartphone applications: Max Collins with Umer Gaffar, Bill Povitsky, Tezen Mathew, and Talah Ahmed.

SEE NOTES, PAGE 21
SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarships for immigrants offered

The office of Elizabeth Walder, founder and president of Immigration Law Associates in Skokie, announces the "Immigrants Aspire!" scholarships and essay competition. Three scholarship awards—a grand prize of $2,000 and two runner-up prizes of $500—will be payable directly to each winning student's college or university. Winners will also be honored at a special reception and their essays will be featured on the Immigration Law Associates website.

Contests must prepare a 750 to 1,000 word essay on the topic: "If you could make one major change in the immigration laws, what would it be and why?" Essays must be in English. Entrants must be graduating high school seniors residing in Illinois who will be entering an institution of higher learning in fall 2012.

They must be immigrants themselves or have at least one immigrant parent or step-parent. In keeping with the Illinois DREAM Act, the immigration status of contestants and their families will not be a factor in eligibility.

Interested students should submit their essays online along with the "Immigrants Aspire!" application form posted at www.immig-chicago.com/pages/Scholarship. The deadline for submission is midnight May 31. Winners will be announced no later than June 30.

Norwegian heritage scholarship offered

The Norwegian National League of Chicago is offering scholarships and cash prizes to deserving students who are of Norwegian heritage residing in the counties of Cook, Lake, DuPage, Kane, Kendall, McHenry and Will. The first scholarship for $1,000 will be awarded to a high school senior with a minimum 3.0 grade point average and who has been accepted by a college or university. Also, a $500 cash prize will be awarded to a student in fifth through eighth grades. Also, a $25 cash prize will be awarded to a student in first through fourth grades.

To qualify, older students must submit an original essay on a Norwegian topic and the students in first through fourth grades must submit an original drawing depicting a Norwegian topic. Entries must be postmarked by March 15.

For scholarship information and applications, visit the Norwegian National League website at www.nnl.org or contact Tom Maxson at (847) 297-1656; e-mail soymax@owway.com.

NOTES | CONTINUED FROM PAGE 20

off its tournament win at the Lane Tech tournament, competed at the Dead Presidents Invitational hosted by Evanston Township High School Feb. 3 through 5. Niles West came close to winning another novice championship; the team also advanced in the Varsity division, which is an amazing feat for a new program.

In the Novice division, Alvin Alex and Tahir Meeks were 5-1 in the preliminary rounds and were seeded fifth entering the elimination rounds. They made it to the semifinal round, then lost on a 2-1 decision to Walter Payton High School. Out of 116 debaters, Meeks was the 11th speaker. Teammates Julia Sarata and Sahar Jiwani had a 4-2 record at the tournament. Other Niles West debaters competing in the Novice division: Joe Bakes, Reza Khan, Dimitry Kotrobois, John Lefevre, Mahnoor Bhatti, Emmanuel Picazo, Taimur Khan, Breana Brill, Miranda Kang, Emma Lazar, Gershon Chan, Michelle Sproat, James McLellan, Lizzie Prees, Janat Ahmed, Nick Charles, Morgan Gaitler, Megan Zachacki, Vinay Patel, Jonass Placitak and Walter Lindwall.

The Niles West Debate Head Coach is Eric Odoo. Assistant coaches are Matt Fahrenbacher, Val McIntosh and Kevin Bancroft.

North Debate reaches semifinals

The Niles North Debate Team had a successful weekend at the Dead Presidents Invitational, held at Evanston Township High School on Feb. 3 through 5. Competing in the Novice division, Adam Yusen and Ambria Benesch, seeded 11th going into the elimination debates, defeated the sixth seed and advanced to the semifinals, where they upset the third seed from Glenbrook North and advanced to the semifinals. They were defeated on a close 2-1 decision by Northside College Prep and were named semifinalists at the tournament. Benesch was named fourth speaker out of 116 debaters. Also competing from Niles North: Mia Temkin, Karli Goldenberg, Zahra Domin and Jyotsna Seesala. Niles North is preparing for its next round of competition, including a tournament at Harvard University, and will be vying for state and national championships in March.

The Niles North Debate Head Coach is Katie Gjerpen. Assistant coaches are Arjun Vellayappan, Andrew Baker, Apoorv Kumar and Sarah Smaga.
Support School District 67 referendums

BY KRISTINA OTTE
Contributor

My husband and I moved to Morton Grove nearly seven years ago, about to become parents for the first time.

We were happy to find a nice house in a village with great amenities, close to Chicago. We did not truly understand then, as soon-to-be parents, that we were also moving into one of the most high-performing school districts in the area. Now, in 2012, Golf School District 67 is facing serious financial hardship.

While our students continue to perform at very high rates at both Hynes Elementary School and Golf Middle School (both in the Top 35 in Cook County's Top 300), the current school fund balance is precipitously low. Drastic cuts are about to be made to programs, to teachers and to our children's quality of education, which will affect each and every one of us.

Our facilities, not updated since the 1960s, have serious problems. The heating and cooling systems repeatedly fail, forcing kindergartners, for example, to wear their coats in class. At the hand sinks, corroded plumbing results in brown, rusty water equaled only by corroded plumbing results in brown, rusty water.

Like our buildings, our curriculum is also in danger of crumbling. At the recent Board of Education meeting, it was announced that over a dozen teaching jobs will be reduced or eliminated. Art and music programs are on the chopping block. Full-day kindergarten will be permanently cut from 7.5 hours to 2.5 hours a day. All student clubs and after-school athletics will disappear. These are just a few items on the long list of cuts, shown on the district's website (www.golf67.net), if action is not taken.

As a parent I am truly saddened at this situation. Golf 67 had a referendum on the ballot since 1969. That's 43 years ago! All other districts that feed into Niles North have had one, if not two, referendums since then (except tax-revenue-wealthy Old Orchard). We have problems now. We need to deal with these problems now.

Our teachers and children have outperformed other school districts despite infrastructure that has been deteriorating for years, but "Band-Aid fixes" are no longer a solution. More than our fine reputation is at stake. Regardless of whether one has children in school or not, our property values are affected by the quality of the schools.

Long-term, our quality of life and therefore our future is at risk.

Regardless of whether one has children in school or not, our property values are affected by the quality of the schools. Long-term, our quality of life and therefore our future is at risk.

To find American dream now, we have to be asleep

College was my introduction to financial hardship. Ultimately, it was good for me. Despite working several low-wage jobs, I had an apartment and utility bills, and occasionally had money problems.

I remember a friend bringing Velveeta and stale white bread when I hadn't eaten in two days. I savored every bite like a French chef had prepared it.

Like everyone else, I'm older now. To borrow a Tennessee William line from "Cat on a Hot Tin Roof": "You can be young without money, but you can't be old without it."

But we're facing a cold reality. We're old without money. Many Americans struggle to hold onto their jobs and postpone major purchases. When the HVAC guy came to fix our A/C, he explained people couldn't afford a new system. Customers told him: "Fix what I got."

Many of us are driving 10-year-old vehicles, praying we can get through another year without pricey repairs. My sister buys her clothes at consignment shops. A friend skips the salon and relies on a stylist who cuts and colors hair from her home.

I found an Atlantic magazine article on the Great Recession. An emerging theme was that there is a "reluctant self-reliance." Americans trust no one, government or private enterprise, to help them.

The article stated: "Americans feel they're paddling alone."

"Yep. Paddling alone in a stagnant job market with no prospects. Many of us aren't sure if we're aboard the Joad jalopy sputtering along the Dust Bowl, or coasting along in a bad dream."

Years ago I remember watching a Monty Python episode about Mr. Pither, a bumbling cyclist who wore a backpack that rattled with pans. Eventually he stumbled into disaster and faced a bizarre execution.

Believe it or not, the skit was hilarious, and given the bleak economy, I feel a bit like Mr. Pither. In the episode, he fell asleep and awakened to a beautiful garden and birds tweeting. His mother poured him some juice and nudged him gently. "Come on, dear. Wake up, dear."

"Mother?" he exclaimed, relieved. "So it was all a dream."

His mother patted his arm. "No dear, this is the dream, you're still in the cell."

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Kristina Otte lives in Morton Grove.
COMMUNITY 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 IL 60026. Information may be faxed to (847) 486-7495 or emailed to mbotari@pioneerlocal.com.

Center of Concern

The Center of Concern, 1580 N. Northwest Highway, Suite 310, Park Ridge, (847) 823-0453, calendar of events includes:

- Tuesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays – Income tax preparation, by appointment.
- Mondays, March 5, 12, 19, and 26 – Employment Counseling, by appointment, Monday, Mar. 12 – Alzheimer’s Caregivers support group, group, 10 a.m.
- Tuesdays, March 6 and 20 – Medicare counseling, by appointment, sponsored by the federally funded Senior Health Insurance Program
- Wednesdays, March 7 and 21 – Grief and loss support group (call first)
- Saturdays, March 10 and 24 – Legal counseling, by appointment.

- Saturday, March 31 – 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 1580 N. Northwest Highway, Suite 310, 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.org.

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

Chamber

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

- Business after Hours: Niles Chamber networking event, 5-7 p.m. March 14 at CitiBank, 8400 Dempster St., Niles; no cost. Register in advance by calling the Niles Chamber office.

- Niles Chamber Women in Business Luncheon: Noon-1 p.m. March 27, North Suburban Physicians Group, 241 Golf Mill Center, Suite 600. Cost: $20; register in advance.

- Annual Niles Night of Roses Awards Dinner: Honoring local citizens who make a difference, April 21 at White Eagle Banquets & Restaurant, 6839 Milwaukee Ave. Tickets, $50, available through the Niles Chamber.

Civic

The village of Niles was informed of a grant opportunity for homeowners with a minimum of $10,000 worth of damage remaining from the 2008 federally declared flood. To be eligible, the following requirements must be met: Home must have been damaged by the 2008 disaster; must be a single family unit structure; must be located outside the 100-year flood plain; must be the homeowner’s primary residence; homeowner must have been owner of record at the time of the disaster and continue to be the owner; homeowner must have applied for FEMA for disaster assistance in 2008; household must be considered Low and Moderate Income; home must still have a minimum of $10,000 worth of damage. If all of the requirements above are met, contact the Assistant Village Manager at (847) 588-8007 before March 20.

Maine Township is again accepting nominations for the Sgt. Karen Lader Memorial Good Citizen’s Award. The award recognizes a Maine Township resident who has shown support, service, and dedication to the township. The winner will be recognized at the Maine Township Annual Town Meeting on April 10 and will receive a plaque and monetary award. Deadline to submit a nomination is March 22. Nomination forms are available on the Maine Township website, www.maintownship.com, or at the front desk of Maine Township Town Hall, 1700 Ballard Road in Park Ridge. Forms should be mailed to Township Trustee Susan Moylan Krey at the Town Hall address or faxed to (847) 297-1335.

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 the 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) 935-8261.

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 27

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4 For Your Consideration

A quartet of activities for the coming week

1. “Kita y Fernanda,” a look at class, immigration, and women’s friendships, will be presented March 1-11 at Oakton Community College’s Studio One, 1600 East Golf Road, Des Plaines. Performances are at 8 p.m. March 1-3 and 8-10, 2 p.m. March 4 and 11, and 7:30 p.m. March 8. Tickets are $10 for general admission; $8 for students and seniors; $5 for a preview performance on March 1. Call (847) 635-1900.

2. “Putting Ives in Context,” featuring soprano Amber Wagner, piano accompanist Alan Darling, and Bienen School voice and opera students, 7:30 p.m. March 7 in Lutkin Hall at Northwestern University, 700 University Place, Evanston. The program features songs of 20th-century American composer Charles Ives juxtaposed with works by Schubert, Brahms, Liszt, Debussy, Britten and others. $10; $6 for students. Call (847) 467-4000.

3. “Danceworks 2012,” a celebration of traditional, modern and world dance, will be performed through March 4 at Northwestern University’s Josephine Louis Theater, 20 Arts Circle Drive, Evanston. Performances are at 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday; 2 p.m. Sunday. Tickets are $25; $22 for senior citizens and students. Call (847) 491-7282 or visit www.tic.northwestern.edu.

4. North Shore Choral Society performs Carl Orff’s “Carmina Burana” at 3 p.m. March 4 at the Unitarian Church of Evanston, 1330 Ridge Ave, Evanston. Guest performers include the Evanston Children’s Choir and soloists Rosalind Lee, soprano, Peder Reif, tenor, and Hugh Russell, baritone. Tickets in advance are $22; $20 seniors; $12 students. Tickets at the door are $25; $22 seniors; $15 students. For information, call (773) 956-8400 or visit www.northshorechoral.org.

Van Halen 2012: Cheatsheet for the Allstate show

Van Halen set list

1. You Really Got Me
2. Runnin’ With The Devil
3. She’s The Woman
4. Romeo Delight
5. Tattoo
6. Everybody Wants Some
7. Somebody Get Me A Doctor
8. China Town
9. Mean Street
10. Oh Pretty Woman
11. Drum solo
12. Unchained
13. The Trouble With Never
14. Dance The Night Away
15. I’ll Wait
16. Hot For Teacher
17. Women In Love
18. Girl Gone Bad
20. Ice Cream Man
21. Panama
22. Guitar solo
23. Ain’t Talkin’ 'Bout Love
24. Jump (Encore)

Van Halen 2012: Cheatsheet for the Allstate show

By J.T. Morand
jmorand@pioneerlocal.com

Going to the Van Halen show April 1 at Allstate Arena? Or still thinking about getting tickets?
Based on their Feb. 24 show at the United Center, here are a few things you should know about the 2012 version of the band touring in support of their new album, “A Different Kind of Truth.”

What’s old is new. You might ask yourself, “Is that a new song or a deep cut from the albums prior to Roth leaving the band?” Van Halen’s new songs were written back in the day, which is why they sound like vintage Van Halen. The band performed “She’s the Woman,” “Tattoo,” “China Town” and “The Trouble with Never” at the United Center and they blended well into the set. You will not hear anything from the Sammy Hagar era.

Keeping it simple. A wall of amplifiers (although not as big a wall as back in the 1970s and ’80s) on both sides of Alex Van Halen’s gigantic drum set, which sits several steps above the stage, and a large movie screen showing the live performance, current-day video of the band and various other images make up the visual aesthetics of the 2012 Van Halen tour. The only thing flashy is David Lee Roth’s outfit. Eddie Van Halen’s guitar work and Alex Van Halen’s drumming are brilliant, too. Other than a few kinks, the band is tight.

Don’t expect the David Lee Roth of old. Just expect an old David Lee Roth. Roth can’t quite hit all the high notes he could in the 1970s and ’80s. But, he can still hit some, and Eddie’s guitar playing sometimes picks up

SEE VAN HALEN, PAGE B12
Get hoppin’ for Niles’ Easter Bunny lunch

BY MYRNA PETLICK
Contributor

The guest of honor at Lunch with Bunny is a lot like Santa Claus, according to Julie Jentel, director of marketing for the Niles Park District. “Just like Santa, we get the ones who are scared and the ones who are eager to go up and say hello,” she said.

Your children can meet the Easter Bunny from 11 a.m. to noon or 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. March 24 at the Howard Leisure Center, 6676 W. Howard St.”

“It’s our event that kicks off the spring season at the park district,” Jentel said. “Families come for lunch. The kids can get pictures with Bunny, they can make a craft and they go home with a goodie bag.”

The buffet lunch will include kid-friendly foods such as grilled cheese sandwiches, french fries and fresh fruit.

The cost is $10 for resident children, $12 for nonresidents, $8 for adults. Early registration is encouraged because the event sells out.

For details, call (847) 967-6633 or visit niles-parks.org.

Chili forecast
Your family will enjoy a bowl of chili around a glowing campfire before setting out on a “Chili” Full Moon Hike, 5:30 to 7:15 p.m. Tuesday at Wildwood Nature Center, 529 Forestview Ave., Park Ridge. The trek will take you through the Des Plaines River Forest Preserve. Cost is $22 per family.

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

Rock returns
Mothers and their boys, ages 4 and older, will dance, snack and do a craft project at Mom and Son Rockin’ in Your Socks Hop, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. March 9 at the Prairie View Community Center, 6894 Dempster St., Morton Grove. Cost is $27 per couple for residents, $34 for nonresidents, $6 and $8 per additional child. Registration deadline is Friday.

For details, call (847) 956-1200 or visit mortongroveparks.com.

Scientific discovery
A demonstration of a real working hovercraft is one of the fun activities at Getting Excited About Science: Forces and Motion, 2 to 2:45 p.m. Sunday at Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave. Pick up tickets in advance for Steve Belliveau’s program.

For details, call (847) 825-3123 or visit parkridgelibrary.org.

Turtle recall
Families will hear a variety of stories about turtles while sipping hot cocoa around the fireplace at Emily Oaks Nature Center, 4650 Brummel, Skokie, during Turtle Tales, 6:30 to 8 p.m. March 10. You also will make a turtle shell craft. Cost is $5 per person, which includes snacks. Preregistration is requested.

For details, call (847) 674-1500, ext. 2500, or visit skokieparks.org/emily-oaks-nature-center.
MOVIE REVIEW

“The Lorax” is a new, computer-animated adaptation of a Dr. Seuss favorite from the team that created “Despicable Me.” Danny DeVito and Ed Helms are among the actors lending their voices to the production.

Seuss gets set loose

BY BRUCE INGRAM
Film Critic

THE LORAX

It takes a lot of skill to make a fairly heavy-handed moral lesson about greed, consumerism, runaway capitalism and environmentalism thoroughly enjoyable, even when it comes with all the delightful trappings of a tale by Dr. Seuss.

Fortunately, the team that made the inventive, sophisticated and frequently funny animated adventure “Despicable Me” two years ago have applied those same qualities to this update of Dr. Seuss’ 1971 environmentalist fable “The Lorax,” with remarkably entertaining results.

What's more, they've left all the moral improvement for impressionable young (and recalcitrant old) minds intact, no doubt because screenwriters Ken Daurio and Cinco Paul worked closely with Seuss’ widow Audrey Geisel.

The original story of “The Lorax” basically involves a young boy learning from the sorrowful (and somewhat ominous) Once-ler how his greed led him to destroy a natural paradise by chopping down a bountiful forest of Truffula trees and using their swirly, cotton-candy foliage to make a bennighted product called Thneeds. Despite the warnings of a small, furry, sad-eyed old guardian of the forest called the Lorax (portrayed by Danny DeVito in a way that stokes up plenty of feistiness before the story turns weepy).

“The Lorax” is Seuss’ most didactic and directly moralistic tale and it has a slightly grim and dreary quality that also appeared in a 1972 made-for-TV animated adaptation.

The new (and unnecessarily 3-D) computer-animated “Lorax” doesn't shy away from the terrible consequences of the Once-ler's greed — his home is surrounded by a blighted wasteland of lifeless Truffula stumps — but it pumps considerable entertainment value into the back story of the Once-ler and the little boy (named Ted in honor of Theodor “Dr. Seuss” Geisel) whose eyes are opened by his confession.

The early-days Once-ler (amiably voiced by Ed Helms) is a young, ambitious, guitar-slinging kid who is determined to prove himself by becoming a success in business. Not a bad sort, necessarily, just oblivious to the threat he poses to the bright, sunny, neon-pastel paradise he discovers in his travels — and all the creatures who live there. Daurio and Paul also open up Seuss’ story by imagining an entirely new subplot involving Ted and the town of Thneed Dale, where the inhabitants are forced to buy canned air from greedy oxygen magnate Mr. O'Hare (Rob Riggle), since all the Truffula trees are long gone.

When 12-year-old Ted (Zac Efron) develops a crush on high school girl Audrey (Taylor Swift), who wants a real live tree for her birthday, his Grammy Norma (Betty White) turns him on to the Once-ler and sets a social revolution in motion.

That means there's lots of action, eventually, in “The Lorax,” in addition to a handful of impressive production numbers (including a pretty dazzling hip-hop paean to unbridled money lust) and an effectively entertaining flow of sitcom-style dialogue that should keep adults amused as consistently as kids. Even better, the film features an unusual amount of inventive sight gags, often involving a trio of high-pitched, close-harmony, singing and dancing goldfish — just one instance in which the film brings Seuss’ unique vision to life.

Moralistic or not, “The Lorax” is still Dr. Seuss and that's reason enough to see it.
FILM CLIPS
BY BRUCE INGRAM

OPENING FRIDAY

THE LORAX
★★★
Rated: PG for brief mild language
Stars: Danny DeVito, Zac Efron, Betty White, Ed Helms
A young boy who learns how a mysterious old hermit (Helms) turns nature's paradise into a wasteland, decides to make a difference in his hometown.
Chris Renaud and Kyle Balda ("Despicable Me") directed this animated adaptation of the Dr. Seuss tale. Reviewed in this section.

PROJECT X
Rated: R for crude and sexual content throughout, nudity, drugs, drinking, pervasive language, reckless behavior and mayhem — all involving teens
Stars: Thomas Mann, Oliver Cooper, Jonathan Daniel Brown
Three unpopular high school seniors throw a wild party to make a name for themselves — and then see it spiral horribly out of control. Nima Nourizadegan directed the teen comedy.

STILL PLAYING

ACT OF VALOR
Rated: R for strong violence including some torture and for language
Stars: Alex Veadov, Roselyn Sanchez, Nestor Serrano
Active-duty Navy SEALs were cast in this action-adventure about an operation to rescue a kidnapped CIA agent and foil a terrorist attack.

THE ARTIST
Rated: PG-13 for a disturbing image and a crude gesture
Stars: John Goodman, Jean Dujardin, Berenice Bejo
A silent-movie star (Oscar winner 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 Oscar-winning romance and received the best director award as well.

BIG MIRACLE
Rated: PG for language

Party boys: Thomas Mann, Oliver Cooper and Jonathan Daniel Brown throw a shindig that spirals horribly out of control in "Project X."

life changing when he becomes involved with a cleaning woman (Newton) in his office building. Perry also wrote and directed the romance.

THE IRON LADY
Rated: PG-13 for some violent images and brief nudity
Stars: Meryl Streep, Jim Broadbent
Years after being forced out of office, British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher (Streep in an Oscar-winning turn) reflects on her life and the sacrifices she made for power. Phyllida Lloyd ("Mamma Mia") directed the biopic.

SAFE HOUSE
★★★ 1/2
Rated: R for strong violence throughout and some language
Stars: Denzel Washington, Ryan Reynolds
A kidnap victim (Seyfried) is convinced that the man who attacked her has returned to threaten her sister — and she takes action to protect her. Heitor Dhalia ("Adrift") directed the thriller.

GOOD DEEDS
Rated: PG-13 for sexual content, language, some violence and thematic material
Stars: Tyler Perry, Gabrielle Union, Thandie Newton
A successful businessman (Perry) finds his well-ordered

GONE
Rated: PG-13 for violence and terror, some sexuality, brief drug language and drug references
Stars: Amanda Seyfried, Jennifer Carpenter, Wes Bentley
A kidnap victim (Seyfried) is convinced that the man who attacked her has returned to threaten her sister — and she takes action to protect her. Heitor Dhalia ("Adrift") directed the thriller.

THE SECRET WORLD OF ARRIETTY
★★★★
Rated: G
Stars: Bridgit Mendler, Amy Poehler, Will Arnett
This warm, glowing adventure from Japan's Studio Ghibli has master animator Hayao Miyazaki's ("My Neighbor Totoro," "Spirited Away" and many more — all must-sees) patented sense of heroism and wonder — despite being directed by a protege. The intrepid daughter of a tiny family (based on the children's book "The Borrowers") living under the floor of a country house, braves the unknown after being discovered by a kindly, but sickly, boy. Something special.

THE VOW
★★★★
Rated: PG-13 for an accident scene, sexual content, partial nudity and some language
Stars: Channing Tatum, Rachel McAdams, Jessica Lange
"The Vow" is straight-ahead cute cinematic romance soap opera that gives free-spirited artist McAdams a second-chance at the stuffy, upper-crust, Lake Forest lifestyle she previously rejected when a car crash wipes out her memory of free-spirited musician hubby Tatum — who decides to woo her all over again.

WANDERLUST
★★★★
Rated: R for sexual content, graphic nudity, language and drug use
Stars: Paul Rudd, Jennifer Aniston
After becoming unemployed, a Manhattan couple (Rudd, Aniston) become involved with a rural community where free love reigns.
David Wain ("Role Models") directed the comedy.
SHOWTIMES

Movie times are effective Friday and are compiled from information available on Tuesday. Please note that theater schedules are subject to change. If no listings are provided, please call the theater for information.

ARLINGTON THEATERS
53 S. Evergreen St.
Arlington Heights
(847) 483-0123

The Artist (PG-13) Fri 5:10-7:20; Sat, Sun 12:45-3:10; Mon, Tue, Thu 9:45; Wed 12:45-3:10

Dr. Seuss' The Lorax (PG) Fri 5:10-7:20; Sat, Sun 1:30-5:10; Mon, Tue, Thu 9:45; Wed 12:45-3:10

Project X (R) Fri 5:10-7:20; Sat, Sun 12:45-3:10; Mon, Tue, Thu 9:45; Wed 12:45-3:10

The Descendants (R) Fri 5-7:20; Sat, Sun 12:45-3:10; Mon, Tue, Thu 5:10-7:20

The Vow (PG-13) Fri 5-7:15; Sat, Sun 12:45-3:10; Mon, Tue, Thu 5-7:15; Wed 12:15-2:50-5:15-7:15

The Last Airbender (PG) Fri 5-7:15; Sat, Sun 12:45-3:10; Mon, Tue, Thu 5-7:15; Wed 12:15-2:50-5:15-7:15

The Secret World of Arrietty Fri-Thu 8:15-11:15-2:45-5:35; Fri 11:15-2:45-5:35; Sat 12:45-3:10; Sun 2:25-4:55-7:45-10:35

The Secret Life of Pets Fri-Thu 12:05-2:25-4:45-7:05; Fri 12:05-2:25-4:45-7:05; Sat 1:25-4:45-7:05-10:35; Sun 12:05-2:25-4:45-7:05-10:35

In Darkness (PG-13) Fri-Thu 1:30-4:30-7:30-10:30

Tinier Tailor (R) Fri-Sun 12:30-3:10-5:10-7:10-9:10; Mon-Thu 1:30-4:30-7:30-10:30

A Separation (PG-13) Fri-Sun 11:45-2:30-5:20-8:15; Mon-Thu 12:30-5:20-8:15

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(888) 262-4386 www.amctheatres.com

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(800) 326-2364 www.amctheatres.com

NORRIDGE
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(888) 262-4386 www.amctheatres.com

PICKWICK
5 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge

(847) 604-2234
www.pickwicktheater.com

Dr. Seuss' The Lorax (PG) Fri-Sun 1:30-6:8-15; Mon-Thu 4:6-8:15

Act of Valor (R) Fri-Sun 2:45-6:15-9:15; Mon-Thu 4:45-7-9:15

Journey 2: The Mysterious Island (PG) Fri-Sun 1:45-6:30-8:45; Mon-Thu 4:30-6:30-8:45

Unofficially Single (Filipino film) Fri-Sun 2:15-4:45-7:15; Mon-Thu 4:45-7:15-9:15; tickets $12

ROSEMONTE 18
9701 Bryn Mawr Ave., Rosemont
(847) 447-1030

A Thousand Words (PG-13) Thu 12:01 a.m.

John Carter (PG-13) Thu 12:01 a.m.

John Carter in 3-D (PG-13) Thu 12:01 a.m.

Silent House (R) Thu 12:01 a.m.

The Grimm/The Wiggles Sat, Sun 11:20 a.m.

Dr. Seuss' The Lorax (PG) Fri-Sun 10:45-12:45-2:45-4:45; Mon-Thu 10:45-12:45-2:45-4:45

Project X (R) Fri 12:15-2:15-4:15-6:15; Sat 10:45-12:45-2:45-4:45

The Vow (PG-13) Fri 12:15-2:15-4:15-6:15; Sat 10:45-12:45-2:45-4:45

The Descendants (R) Fri-Sun 12:15-2:15-4:15-6:15; Mon-Thu 10:45-12:45-2:45-4:45

John Carter in 3-D (PG) Fri 12:15-2:15-4:15-6:15; Sat 10:45-12:45-2:45-4:45

Safe House (R) Fri, Sat 1:05-4:05-6:45-9:30; Sun-Thur 1:05-4:05-6:45-9:30


The Woman in Black (PG-13) Fri 12:10-5:10-8:10-11:10; Mon-Thu 12:10-5:10-8:10-11:10

Joe Satriani: Satchurated in Moscow Sun 2:30-5:30-8:30-11:30

Rendez-vous w/French Cinema Festival: Screen Illusion Mon 7:00

Rendez-vous w/French Cinema Festival: Moonchild Mon 3:30

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The Artist (PG-13) Fri, Wed 4:30-7; Sat, Mon, Tue 2:40-7; Sun 2:30-7; Thu 4:30

Rendez-vous w/French Cinema Festival: Pater Fri 5; Sat 2:15

Rendez-vous w/French Cinema Festival: 17 Girls Fri 8:15 p.m.

Seussical, Jr. - Live For Kids Sat 10 a.m.

Ballet in Cinema - The Nutcracker from Bolshoi, Moscow Sun 2:30

Rendez-vous w/French Cinema Festival: Moonchild Mon 3:30

Rendez-vous w/French Cinema Festival: Screen Illusion Mon 7

Rendez-vous w/French Cinema Festival: Last Screening Thu 7:30

Creation of Wizard of Oz Multimedia Presentation Wed 1:30

Rendez-vous w/French Cinema Festival: Smugger's Song Wed 8:30

Side Mullal Nation - Cameron Esposito - Live Comedy Show Thu 8
**What to do.**

**This week and beyond.**

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» Submit go. events one week prior to the date of publication.
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» 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 60026. E-mail: go1@pioneerlocal.com.

FAX: (847) 486-7451.

**STAGE**

"The Cherry Orchard," by Anton Chekhov, will be presented by Piccolo Theatre March 9-May 5 at the Evanston Arts Depot, 600 Main St., Evanston. Curtain at 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays; 3 p.m. Sundays. Tickets: $24 for seniors; $22 for students. Curtain will be postponed on March 17 and 18. For information, call (847) 866-1500, ext. 3555 or spreadevents@northlight.org.

**CLASSICAL**

The Antique Baroque Consort will present a program featuring the music of Vivaldi, Handel, Scarlatti, Frescobaldi, and other Baroque masters at 4 p.m. March 4 at St. Paul of the Cross Church, 320 S. Washington, Park Ridge. Free-will offerings accepted. For more information, contact Edward Eicker at edward@spc-church.org, or call (847) 825-7605.

Ars Viva Symphony Orchestra performs at North Shore Center for the Performing Arts, 9501 Skokie Blvd., Skokie. Performances are Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m. (except opening on March 15); Thursdays at 7:30 p.m. (except March 10); and Sundays at 3 p.m. (no show March 11). Tickets: $25-$50; $25-$40 for seniors. Limited to 12 people per show. For tickets, call (847) 673-6300 or visit www.arsviva.org.

**THEATERS AND SHOWTIMES**

Check local listings for 25% off admission; $8 for students 13-18; $10 for general admission; $25 for seniors; $15 students; $12.50 for previews, March 9-11. Call (847) 486-7451.
Chicago Chamber Choir. The program includes works by Theofanidis, Sibelius, Lauridson and Smetana. Lake Shore Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Russell Laurens, performs for the Music of the Masters Series at 3:30 p.m. March 4 at Queen of All Saints Basilica, 5280 N. Sauganash, Chicago. The program includes the Faure Requiem and Brahms Requiem. Free-will offerings accepted. Call (312) 409-5670 or visit www.lsso.org.

The Lincolnwood Chamber Orchestra performs "Sounds of Korea" at 3 p.m. March 18 at the Lincolnwood Community Center, 6900 Lincoln Ave., Lincolnwood. The program includes "Our Song" by Eun Young Lee, "Images from Folk Tales" by Sungki Kim, and "Tapis for Strings" by Isang Yun. In addition, violin soloist Jennifer Cha will perform "Praeludium and Allegro" by Fritz Kreisler. Admission is free. For information, call (224) 456-2399 or visit www.americanmusicfestivals.com.

Lutkin Hall at Northwestern University, 700 University Place, Evanston. (847) 467-4000. March 5, 10 a.m.: Richard Goode, inaugural winner of Northwestern University's $50,000 Jean Gimbel Lane Prize in Piano Performance, will lead a piano master class. $6; $4 for students. March 6, 7:30 p.m.: Percussionist Patti Cudd and Jeff Herriott, live electronics, will perform electroacoustic music. $6; $4 for students. March 7, 7:30 p.m.: "Putting Ives in Context," featuring soprano Amber Wagner, piano accompanist Alan Darling, and Bienen School voice and opera students. The program features songs of 20th-century American composer Charles Ives juxtaposed with works by Schubert, Brahms, Liszt, Debussy, Britten and others. $10; $6 for students.

Mayne Stage, 1328 W. Morse Ave, in Rogers Park, Chicago. (773) 381-4554. www.maynestage.com. March 21, 6:30 p.m.: Chicago Chamber Musicians presents its Classical Conversations series featuring music by Francis Poulenc, Leonard Bernstein, Mikhail Glinka and Roberto Sierra. $20; $10 students.

Music of the Baroque performs at First United Methodist Church, 516 Church St., Evanston, unless noted otherwise. (312) 551-1414. www.baroque.org. Tickets are $30-$75. March 25, 7:30 p.m.: "Mirth & Melancholy," with the Music of the Baroque Chorus and Orchestra, Jane Glover, conductor. Guest soloists are sopranos Lisa Saffer and Elizabeth Futral, Thomas Cooley, tenor, and Christopher Nomura, baritone. The program includes Handel: L'Allegro, il penseroso ed il moderato.

Music Institute of Chicago, Nichols Concert Hall, 1490 Chicago Ave., Evanston. (847) 905-1500. www.musicinst.org. March 4 and 11, 3 p.m.: Four Score Festival celebrates the music of Charles Ives and Aaron Copland and explores their worlds.

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SEE 60, PAGE 9B
Local H goes political, frets about weather

BY J.T. MORAND
jmorand@pioneerlocal.com

Local H makes a record only when they have something to say.
And, with the political divide in this country widening and the presidential election eight months away, they have something to say on their yet-to-be-released 12th album, "Hallelujah! I'm A Bum."

It's been four years since the Chicago-based two-man post-grunge band consisting of Scott Lucas (vocals, guitar and bass) and Brian St. Clair (drums) released a studio album, which was "12 Angry Months" in 2008. ("12 Angry Months," by the way, was about the months in a year after a break-up.)

Album coming
Unfortunately, there's not a release date yet for "Hallelujah!" but the band finished mixing last month and Lucas said the album will be out before the November elections.

"We wanted to take this thing that goes on in the country, and the rest of the world, and figure out how it affects people and their relationships with each other and the relationships within their neighborhoods and their community," Lucas said. "It's definitely in a record that, in some ways, has an expiration date, and that expiration date would be November. But, in other ways, it doesn't."

Fans can get a preview of what Lucas has to say on "Hallelujah!" when Local H performs at the Montrose Room in Rosemont at 8 p.m. on March 9.

Lucas is a liberal and has no problem letting you know how he feels about conservatives.

"It worries me that all these people want change for no real reason other than out of spite," he said about the Tea Party. "It seems like these people have dedicated their lives to getting Obama out of office no matter what he does or what he's done or what he says."

The right wing, he added, has made themselves tar-

gets for criticism. Local H takes aim at the idolization of Ronald Reagan by conservatives on "Hallelujah!" in the song "They Saved Reagan's Brain."

"You've got all these politicians and wannabe politicians who constantly invoke the name of Reagan, and that's all they do. You watch these Republican debates and it's constantly, 'I believe in Reagan, I believe in Reagan,'" Lucas said. "So, it's basically about them and that sort of stonewalling. When you look at Reagan, when he was governor of California, it was kind of [messed] up the things he did. He's not a perfect figure, by any means. But, once again, nobody wants to hear that."

However, there are songs that touch on other themes, too.

Such is "Blue Line," a nod to Chicago and the L line that runs through the city between O'Hare and Forest Park. Living in Chicago, a politically-charged town, is a thread that runs through the album, Lucas said.

"There are a lot references to the Blue Line on the record. Where I live, I hear it everyday," he said. "I'll hear the sounds of trains throughout the record. The whole record is meant to evoke a ride on the Blue Line, like you're listening to this record on your headphones while riding on this train. That's another thread of the record. And then there's dogs. Dogs is another thread that you'll hear throughout the record. There's a lot of stuff going on."

Including the weather. "Another February" is one of Lucas' favorite songs on the new album.

"On top of everything, the weather affects things," he said. "This time of year is a lot of people's slow time. There's a certain sense of anxiety. It's off-season time, off-peak time, and you're worried if you're going to make it to spring and summer. That's something that's pretty primal when you talk about animals and hibernation and scratching around for food. It seems to bleed into a lot of facets of a lot of living creatures. That's interesting to me."

Long term
Local H has been around, in one form or another, for 25 years. It's hard to believe their breakout hit, "Bound for the Floor," was 16 years ago. In 1996, Lucas said the desire to keep making good albums is what keeps the band going.

"When we made our first record and nothing happened with it, I said, 'Alright, I just want to be able to make another record,' he said. "And, the second sold some copies and the band started to pick up some steam. Since then, Lucas hasn't wanted to rest on his laurels because the band hasn't achieved financial success that would allow them to rest. But, integrity comes first, he said.

"I'm constantly trying to make good records just because I want to make good records," he said. "We don't make records just so we can tour. We make them when we have something to say and when the songs are good."

Local H with Stoop Goodnoise

Montrose Room, inside the InterContinental Chicago O'Hare, 5300 N. River Road, Rosemont
8 p.m., March 9
$15
(847) 544-5300, www.montroseroom.com
GO | CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7B

how their inspiration threads through the works of two of their students: the March 4 performance focuses on the music of Ives and Gunther Schuller; the March 11 performance features the music of Copland and Mario Schulter; the March 13 performance focuses on the music of Alan Wellman, will present its spring concert, "Psalms of Alan Wellman," will present its spring concert, "Psalms and Songs," at 7:30 p.m. March 31 at Trinity United Methodist Church, 605 W. Golf Road, Mount Prospect. The program includes Leonard Bernstein's "Chichester Psalms," as well as works by Jean-Philippe Rameau and Brahms. The Dolce Strings, a Chicago-based string quartet, and harpist Cathy Litaker will accompany the chorus, in addition to NWCS's collaborative pianist Lori Lynn Mackie. A complimentary preconcert lecture and discussion of the music will be hosted by chorus member John Morrison at 4:45 p.m. at the church. Tickets for the concert are $20; $15 for students and seniors.

Visit www.nwchoralsociety.org or call (224) 585-9127.

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, Des Plaines. Pre-concert commentaries 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.northwestsymphony.org.

March 18: "National Romanticism," featuring Ralph Vaughan Williams' Symphony No. 5 and Antonín Dvořák's Symphony No. 9, "From the New World."

The Orion Ensemble presents "Celebrating Women Composers" at 7:30 p.m. March 11 at the Music Institute of Chicago's Nichols Concert Hall, 1490 Chicago Ave., Evanston. The program includes works by Stacy Gar-
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**GOT GAS?**
**LECTURE**
David Lobowitz, D.O., Gastroenterologist, will discuss what causes gas and bloating, and how to deal with it. Free.

**WEDNESDAY • MARCH 14 • 6-7 P.M.**

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**OVERUSE INJURIES AND TREATMENT**
Brian McCann, M.D., Orthopedic Surgeon, will discuss the impact of sports injuries and “boomeritis”, the overuse injuries of the “Baby Boomer” generation. Free.

**TUESDAY • MARCH 20 • 6-7 P.M.**

To register for any of our programs, call 877-RES-INFO (877-737-4636)

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**Jeanne Roberts**

**Akoo Theatre at Rosemont, 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.**

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**NORTH SHORE CENTER**
**SATURDAY, MARCH 10th**

Tickets available at The North Shore Center PAC Ticket Office, www.northshorecenter.org or by phone at (847) 673-6300

Ethical Humanist Society Second Saturday Coffeehouse, 7574 N. Lincoln Ave. (at Howard), Skokie. (847) 677-3334. www.ethicalhuman.org/coffeehouse. March 10, 8 p.m.: The Marne Glaser Trio, with Marne on vocals, Tim Green on piano, and Adam Kraus on bass, in a collage of jazz standards celebrating spring. $8 minimum donation includes refreshments.

InterContinental Chicago O'Hare Hotel, 5300 N. River Road, Rosemont. (847) 544-5300. Friday Nights Live, featuring music from 8:30 p.m.-midnight in the Montrose Room, $5. Ticket prices for other shows vary. For information, visit www.montroseroom.com. March 3: Coco Montoya (blues guitar). $10 general admission; $15 VIP. March 9: Local H. $15. March 10: Ides of March. $20 general admission; $30 VIP.

March 14: Buckwheat Zydeco. $18 general admission; $25 VIP. March 23: Mike Doughty. $20 general admission; $30 VIP. March 31: Michael McDermott (folk rock). $12 general admission; $20 VIP.

North Shore Center for the Performing Arts, 9501 Skokie Blvd., Skokie. (847) 673-6300. www.northshorecenter.org. March 2, 8 p.m.: Putting on the Ritz presents "Voices of Chicago," a musical celebration in honor of Chicago's 175 anniversary of official incorporation. The concert features jazz, blues, gospel, folk, pop, and soul. Tickets: $27 general admission; $35 reserved. March 9, 7:45 p.m.: Ensemble of Ragas School of Performing Arts and Las Guarras de Espana present Surabhi: A Melting Pot of Music, including Indian, flamenco and Arabic music. $25 general admission. March 10, 4 p.m. and 8 p.m.: Windy City Gay Chorus and Aria present "Broadway and Beyond: An Evening of Broadway Benefit & Concert," with proceeds to benefit Windy City Performing Arts. $50 general admission.

Very Vocal Productions presents Mayne + Broadway: A Cabaret Concert Series. March 15, 8 p.m.: Cabaret duo Amy & Freddy present a CD release performance for "We Get Along." $20 general admission; $25 reserved. March 17, 8 p.m.: Bluegrass band Swiftys; WhiteWater Ramble opens. $12 general admission; $18 reserved seating. March 25, 2 p.m.: Very Vocal Productions presents Mayne + Broadway: A Cabaret Concert Series.

North Shore Center for the Performing Arts, 9501 Skokie Blvd., Skokie. (847) 673-6300. www.northshorecenter.org. March 2-3, 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m., and March 4, 7 p.m.: Putting on the Ritz presents "Voices of Chicago," a musical celebration in honor of Chicago's 175 anniversary of official incorporation. The concert features jazz, blues, gospel, folk, pop, and soul. Tickets: $27 general admission; $35 reserved. March 9, 7:45 p.m.: Ensemble of Ragas School of Performing Arts and Las Guarras de Espana present Surabhi: A Melting Pot of Music, including Indian, flamenco and Arabic music. $25 general admission. March 10, 4 p.m. and 8 p.m.: Windy City Gay Chorus and Aria present "Broadway and Beyond: An Evening of Broadway Benefit & Concert," with proceeds to benefit Windy City Performing Arts. $50 general admission.
the slack. Such was the case on “Runnin’ with the Devil” at the United Center show. Aesthetically, Roth looks more like an old, grinning woman with short, blond hair trying to dress like David Lee Roth in tight pants, a sparkly top and a scarf. At the United Center, he acted like an old, grinning woman with short, blond hair trying to dress like David Lee Roth in tight pants, a sparkly top and a scarf. At the United Center, he acted more like a consummate entertainer, who, for the most part, does justice to the songs.

And, really, you wouldn’t want to see anyone else singing Van Halen songs, not even that other guy who fronted the band after Roth left in 1985. Plus, Roth can play guitar, too. He straps on an acoustic, plays a mellow tune in front of his dog, and seems to enjoy being on stage. But, when Roth attempts to hit the high notes, it causes every dog in Chicago to start barking. And he, Eddie and Wolfgang just weren’t able to harmonize on that particular song at the United Center show.

It’s a family affair. There’s something very cool and sweet about watching Eddie and Wolfgang play together. They look more like band mates than father and son, and you know Eddie holds Wolfgang accountable for his playing, but well, he’s Eddie Van Halen. Wolfgang doesn’t get off easy just because he’s Eddie’s son. But, when you remember they are father and son, you kind of go, “Aww,” especially when one of them struts over to the other during a song and they share a laugh (about Roth, maybe)? Isn’t this every father’s dream?

Kool & the Gang can’t go unmentioned as the opening act, which is really a disservice to them. They, too, are legends and are playing tight and funky, which seemed to be lost on the United Center audience. Whoever billed them with Van Halen made a mistake. Kool & the Gang deserve some love.
Old music, old instruments offer new experience

BY DONALD LIEBENSON

A tip: Should Mark Ponzo, founder of the Antiqua Baroque Consort, mention to you that he plays a baroque trumpet, resist the urge to ask him why he doesn’t get the opportunity to hear in concert baroque masterworks performed on the instruments for which they were written. Ponzo and the rest of his ensemble will rectify that when they perform on Sunday, March 4, at 4 p.m. at the St. Paul of the Cross Church in Park Ridge.

Ponzo started playing trumpet in the fifth grade after becoming enamored of popular trumpet players such as Herb Alpert, Al Hirt, and Tower of Power. In high school, he played with a jazz combo as well as break into sections of baroque music. His first gig was playing Al Hirt’s “(The 400) Crossroads” for $10. Ponzo laughed.

He also enjoyed the horn section of this. We are all teachers.”

He was introduced to baroque music after his first exposure to the movie “The Sting,” which he saw on television. “I was really into the horn section of this. We are all teachers.”

The program will include Vivaldi’s “Domine Deus,” Scarlatti’s “Sonata in D Minor,” and Handel’s “The Messiah.”

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Dash Moore discusses her

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with museum admission. March

25, 3:30-3 p.m.; Deborah

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Missing Souls: A Personal

History of the War Crimes Tri-

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The exhibition explores the

achievements of Jewish men

and women who were part of

the American war effort on

and off the battlefield. March

15, 6:30-8 p.m.; Clark Univer-

sity professor and Holocaust

scholar Deborah Browk

discusses her book, Flight

from the Reich: Refugee Jews,

1933-1946. A book signing

will follow the presentation.

Free with museum admission.

Reservations recommended.

March 22, 6:30-8 p.m.; Elliot

Leeffkovitz, Loyola University

and Spertus Institute faculty

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Justice by Gerald Steinacher,

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The Surprising "New Normal" of the Job Search

By Larry Buhi, Monster Contributing Writer

The upheaval of the job market has sent many experienced workers scrambling to update their resumes, only to find that the job search rules they had been following have fundamentally changed. Experts say these changes were brought on only partly by the soft job market, and aren’t likely to go away if and when the economy improves. It’s a whole new ballgame, experts say, and those who understand how to play stand a much better chance of winning.

So if you've been out of the job market for a while, get to know these four ways in which the job search has changed:

The Hidden Job Market Has Grown

**Benefit:** You can be innovative in your job search.

**Challenge:** You can't wait for jobs to open up.

A huge number of professional jobs are filled without ever being advertised. Part of the reason is that hiring managers don't have time to sift through hundreds or even thousands of resumes. That's not to say that answering a job post is a waste of time, just that it should be only one search strategy, according to workplace consultant Jake Greene, author of Whoa, My Boss is Naked. "Hiring managers will often consider people they already know when a job opens up," Greene says. "You have to establish rapport, so you'll be on their radar and have the upper hand when there's an opening."

Technology Can Turbocharge Your Job Search

**Benefit:** There are more ways to apply for a job.

**Challenge:** There are more ways to screen you out.

Technology has allowed candidates to easily research companies and hiring managers, and companies now expect you to do this, according to Greene. "By using the Internet, you can learn most of what you should know before you go into an interview, so you can ask informed questions," he says.

On the other hand, assume a company will do a thorough background check on you. That means your credit score and even those benign photos of you on Facebook are easily accessible, and could be used against you. "Clean up your information on Facebook, untag yourself from anything that's potentially embarrassing and Google yourself to see what employers will see," says Roberta Chinsky Matuson, president of Human Resource Solutions and author of Suddenly In Charge.

Companies Demand Perfection

**Benefit:** They usually settle for near perfection.

**Challenge:** You have to prove your skills are transferable.

Companies rarely train now, and they expect new hires to have all the skills they need on Day One. "Though they won't tell you this, what they're really looking for is someone who can adapt and think," Bennett says. "If you don't have all of the skill sets a company wants, emphasize the ones you do have and how you're willing and able to learn the rest," says Cheryl Ferguson, recruitment partner with recruitment services company Decision Toolbox.

Personal Chemistry: A good resume may get you a phone interview, but the likeable candidate will probably get the job. "It always comes down to who the manager really wants to work with," Bennett says.

Common-Sense Etiquette: You still need to show up to the interview on time, turn off your phone, be polite, say thank you, check your spelling and grammar, and don’t write LOL in your emails.

Thank-You Letters: Few candidates write interview thank-you notes on paper, Bennett says. "It's very retro, and that’s why it works."
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**CONDITIONS OF SALE**: The sale shall be held in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth in the Notice of Sale. The rights of the Owner and the Mortgagee, or other lienor acquiring the residential real estate pursuant to the credit bid at the sale, shall be subject to further confirmation by the Circuit Court, which shall be held on the 14th day after the sale. The sale is to be held in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth in the Notice of Sale. The rights of the Owner and the Mortgagee, or other lienor acquiring the residential real estate pursuant to the credit bid at the sale, shall be subject to further confirmation by the Circuit Court, which shall be held on the 14th day after the sale. The sale is to be held in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth in the Notice of Sale. The rights of the Owner and the Mortgagee, or other lienor acquiring the residential real estate pursuant to the credit bid at the sale, shall be subject to further confirmation by the Circuit Court, which shall be held on the 14th day after the sale. The sale is to be held in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth in the Notice of Sale. The rights of the Owner and the Mortgagee, or other lienor acquiring the residential real estate pursuant to the credit bid at the sale, shall be subject to further confirmation by the Circuit Court, which shall be held on the 14th day after the sale. The sale is to be held in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth in the Notice of Sale. The rights of the Owner and the Mortgagee, or other lienor acquiring the residential real estate pursuant to the credit bid at the sale, shall be subject to further confirmation by the Circuit Court, which shall be held on the 14th day after the sale. The sale is to be held in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth in the Notice of Sale. The rights of the Owner and the Mortgagee, or other lienor acquiring the residential real estate pursuant to the credit bid at the sale, shall be subject to further confirmation by the Circuit Court, which shall be held on the 14th day after the sale. The sale is to be held in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth in the Notice of Sale. The rights of the Owner and the Mortgagee, or other lienor acquiring the residential real estate pursuant to the credit bid at the sale, shall be subject to further confirmation by the Circuit Court, which shall be held on the 14th day after the sale.

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minimum deposit.
NOTE OF SALE: Case: 15 W. 225 MORTON GROVE, IL 60053, HARLEY M. MARTIN, MORTGAGE COMPANY, Plaintiff, U.S. DISTRICT COURT, NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS, CHICAGO DIVISION, Defendant.

NOTICE TO MORTGAGORS, OWNERS, AND TRUSTEES:

This notice is intended to inform you of the following:

1. **Notice of Sale**: A Notice of Sale has been filed in the Circuit Court of Cook County, Illinois, Case No. 15 W. 225 MORTON GROVE, IL 60053.
2. **Property Details**: The property for sale is located at 15 W. 225 MORTON GROVE, IL 60053.
3. **Sale Process**: The sale will be conducted at 10:30 AM on March 15, 2012, at the Cook County Law Complex, 225 N. LaSalle St.
4. **Important Information**: Bidders are advised to check with the court for all information.

For further details, please contact the court.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

[Date]

*Note: Contact information is not provided.*
2540 N. Pulaski

That on 4/9/2012, a sale will be advertised in a newspaper of general circulation in the City of Chicago to enforce a lien existing under the laws of the State of Illinois for labor, services, skill or material expended upon a storage furnishing the right to refuse any and all bids. The sale will be advertised in a newspaper of general circulation in the City of Chicago to enforce a lien existing under the laws of the State of Illinois for labor, services, skill or material expended upon a storage facility, unless such articles are released within thirty (30) days of the publication of this notice.

Name of Person: Narcissus Co., Inc. 7231 W. New Bremen Rd., Wheeling, IL 60090

REINHARD BILITINA

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS

PERSOAL PROPERTY LIENS

STATE OF ILLINOIS IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY.

PROBATE DIVISION IN THE MATTER OF: Joyce M. Majda, Deceased

PUBLICATION NOTICE

Notice is hereby given by the personal representative of the estate of Joyce Majda, who is the decedent's survivor, that he has filed a petition with the court to authorize the sale of certain personal property of the estate of Joyce Majda, deceased, in the amount of $20,000.00, to be sold by public auction on the premises of the Self Storage Facility Act, 65 ILL.CS. 11/74.4-4, at 10:00 a.m. at the Time Storage Facility, 5100 West 69th Street, Chicago, Illinois 60641.

IN THE MATTER OF: Joyce M. Majda

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Black Leather Sectional
Apartment Size Black Leather and Fabric Sofa and Ottoman Set
0597-M9812-Petite $899

Emma Sectional Set
Cream Microfiber Contemporary Modular Sectional Sofa Chair Set with Side Table
OCF-25-VEN-01 $1,265

5 Piece Dinette Set
Espresso 5pc Dinette Set with Choice of the Following Chairs:
*Additional Chair Prices

The Sally Sofa
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O9006-206 sofa $549

Stavenger Sofa
Beige Microfiber Contemporary Sofa
OLEM-102N1 $286

Black Leather Sectional

Red Leather Modern Sofa
Red Leather Modern Sofa
OCO07-467-Red Sofa $755

Le Corbusier Sofa
Le Corbusier Modern Black Leather and Steel Sofa
OA61-s66-black $665

Arthur Club Chair
Dark Brown Leather Armless Club Chair
OA-85-001 $305

Joussard Chair
Beige Linen Club Chair
O964-83109 $224

Black Le Corbusier Wave Chaise Lounge Chair
Le Corbusier Black Wave Chaise Lounge Chair
O990A-Black $335

Pop Chair
Pop Chair with Floral Pattern Cushions and Clear Acrylic Base
OA8403-Clear/Flower $363

Cantley Dark Wood Contemporary Queen 5 Piece Bedroom Set
Dark Wood Contemporary Queen 5 Piece
OCantley $815

Simple Accents
Floor Mirror with Leather Frame
OA-61-1-063 $155

Acrylic Tables - Side Tables
OA-61-1-062 $258
OA-61-1-001 $93

Walgrave Modern Coffee Table with Hidden Storage
ODTV-1196BRC $140

Brenda Brown Leather Coffee Table Bench with Wood Slat Storage
OD-098-509 $312

Derwent Coffee Table with Drawers
ODT20W $97

Gallo Ottoman
Dark Brown Leather Large Flip Top Storage Ottoman
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Arco Floor Lamp
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ODT12509-White $229

Havana Bookcase
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SUBURBODDITY

Representative government

EVANSTON, FEB. 20 — The city council, which contends with extra headaches with rental property largely because of Northwestern University student housing, is now trying to decide whether landlords should be licensed. The membership of the new Landlord Licensing Committee includes no landlords and no one from Northwestern.

Who's there? Orange, Orange who? Orange you glad I paid attention in school?

NORTHLAKE, FEB. 15 — West Leyden High School student Simon Perez was the beneficiary of a gift during third-period geometry class.

"This girl right next to me whips out an orange and offered me some," Perez, 16, said. "She gave me a big piece. Something happened and it got stuck.

"I was doing that sign you do when you're choking," Perez said. "You're supposed to put both hands on your neck.

Wojciech Panek, also 16, believed him.

Last fall, Panek and Perez learned the Heimlich maneuver in Wellness and Safety class.

"His entire face turned red and almost blue," Panek said. He got Perez on his feet, put his arms around him, his flailing arms clapped under his rib cage. He yanked back and slightly up.

"He did it two times, just to be sure," Perez said. The orange "came flying out. It hit the girl in the face - the one who gave me the orange."

Rough month

OAK PARK, FEB. 21 — Kathy Rajters, like many homeowners in her town, buys her electricity from Integrys Energy. All ComEd has to do is deliver the power and send the bill. Her January bill was $276. Her February bill was $107.625.16.

Chew this much and no more

LAKE BLUFF, FEB. 21 — Resident Chris Falls tells our David Sweet about "The Gimme Stick," his new invention to quickly measure how far is reasonable for a golfer to award himself a "gimme," a putt that is OK for your partner to concede so he doesn't have to stand there and wait forever to see you eventually miss it.

Those who do not remember the past are probably high

GLENVIEW, FEBRUARY — A Glenview youth, 19, was ticketed Feb. 2 for smoking pot on the 4000 block of Cove Lane, about a half-mile from his home. He was ticketed Feb. 8 for smoking pot on the 400 block of Cove Lane, still about a half-mile from his home.

My name is Inigo Montoya. You killed my garbage

GLENVIEW, JAN. 20 — A Wellington Court woman asked police to pick up three swords she wanted to dispose of. She said she felt uncomfortable about just putting them in the trash.

Spell check

GLENCOE, FEB. 18 — A resident, 30, called police to tell them that her sister had sent her a text message saying, "I'm thinking of you," and then didn't return a subsequent phone call. She said she was worried because her sister did not normally abbreviate words.

Police contacted the sister, who said she was just in a hurry.

The rest are considering setting fires for the insurance

LA GRANGE, JAN. 29 — Frankie Sullivan, who wrote "Eye of the Tiger" with Survivor bandmate Jim Peterik in Peterik's La Grange house in 1981, sued Newt Gingrich for using the song for his campaign.

But Peterik said he didn't mind who used the "Rocky" theme, and that he kinda liked Newt.

Peterik described himself as "very apolitical" and wouldn't draw a line on which politician should use "Eye" for events.

"If someone is out there trying to make a difference, let him do it," Peterik said. "Unless it was Adolf Hitler."

Planned to play the sock market

VERNON HILLS, FEB. 9 — A Mundelein man, 66, was accused of stealing $78 worth of nothing but men's hosiers.

Never mind

GLENCOE, FEB. 15 — A resident of the 300 block of Adams Avenue called police to report that her purse, packed with credit cards and cash, had been stolen from her car, left unlocked in the driveway. Four hours later she called back to say that one of her kids had seen the purse, noted its vulnerability, and locked it in the car's trunk without telling her.

The magic knife

PARK RIDGE, JAN. 29 — Police interviewed a Maine Township woman at Advocate Lutheran General Hospital after hospital staff said she's been stabbed with a paring knife. The woman's husband reported that the knife stuck in his wife's back by accident while she was washing dishes. The woman, 30, told police that she fell on the knife. She was treated and released, and there were no immediate charges.

Lost count

LA GRANGE, FEB. 11 — A boy, 15, said he was walking down Cossitt Avenue counting his money when a man grabbed the $18 bankroll out of his hand and ran away with it.

Phony

BUFFALO GROVE, FEB. 6 — A Buffalo Grove man running on a treadmill at the Highland Park Fitness Club, 1501 Busch Parkway, set his iPhone down, then forgot and left without it.
to 1:15 p.m. March 4 at Ezra Habonim-The Niles Township Jewish Congregation, 4000 W. Dempster St., Skokie. There will be games, songs, and fun for everyone. Hot dog lunch, complete with chips and drink will also include Purim desserts. Open to the whole community. Cost is $5 in advance or $6 at the door. Call (847) 675-4414.

A special Musical Comedy Stage Show: "The Trial of Haman" will be presented at 8 p.m. March 3 and again at 1:30 p.m. March 4 at Ezra Habonim-The Niles Township Jewish Congregation, 4000 W. Dempster St., Skokie. This is a Purim Shpiel open to the entire community. Additionally, Purim desserts including, hamantaschen will be served. Cost is $20 for adults and $10 for children 12 and under. Make reservations by Feb. 29. Call (847) 675-4414.

Temple Judea Mizpah, 8610 Niles Center Road, Skokie, presents a program open to the community: "Success with Your Internet Job Search," led by Melissa Fickling from Jewish Vocational Services of Chicago at 7 p.m. March 13. Program is free with advance reservation; register by March 12; email templejim@aol.com or call (847) 675-4166.

Illinois Holocaust Museum & Education Center, 9603 Woods Drive, Skokie, presents a program open to the community: "Success with Your Internet Job Search," led by Melissa Fickling from Jewish Vocational Services of Chicago at 7 p.m. March 13. Program is free with advance reservation; register by March 12; email templejim@aol.com or call (847) 675-1566.

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 events and facilities due to their benign nature and high recycling costs. Batteries accepted in SWANCC’s program include, Alkaline (AA, AAA, C, D and 9V) and rechargeable (NiCd, Ni-MH, 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 plastic baggie to avoid sparks. Local drop-off sites include: Niles Public Services Department, 6849 Touhy Ave., (847) 740-8680.
CALENDAR | CONTINUED FROM PAGE 27
588-7900, 7 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Mondays through Fridays; Niles Village Hall, 1000 Civic Center Drive, (847) 588-8000, 8 a.m.-5 p.m., Mondays through Fridays; Park Ridge Public Works, 400 Busse Highway, (847) 318-5240, 7 a.m.-4 p.m., Mondays through Fridays. Additional drop-off sites are posted at swancc.org/recycling/batteryrecycling.html.

The Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County has established a location for residents to drop off electronics on a weekly basis at no cost at the Glenview Transfer Station, 1151 N. River Road, 9-11:30 a.m. Saturdays. Under the new Electronics Products Recycling and Reuse Act (SB2313), only the following items will be accepted: Computers - PCs and laptops, scanners, 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.

Any women interested in joining the Rainbow Hospice and Palliative Care Threshold Singers can contact Kathy Huber at (847) 685-9900. Practices are held on two Thursdays each month starting at 6:45 p.m. in Park Ridge. Threshold Singers are trained to sing in groups of two or three at the bedside of those who are sick and dying. The songs are generally traditional or simple rounds, chants, lullabies and hymns that can be chosen to respond to musical taste and spiritual direction. Singers go through patient care volunteer training, but there are no auditions; only requirements are a love of music and a desire to serve others.

Avenues Thrift Shoppe offers great prices and specials on gently used clothing for infants, children and adults, shoes, household items, books and small furniture. On Wednesdays, seniors 60 years and older receive 10 percent off all regularly priced items. The main shop is located at 7710 W. Touhy Ave. in Chicago, and the "boutique" shop at 7700 Touhy Ave. features upscale clothing, outerwear, collectibles and fine merchandise. Hours are 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays, and Saturdays and 1-8 p.m. Thursdays. Donations are accepted 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Tuesdays through Saturdays only. Donate only gently used clothing; broken or obsolete electronics cannot be accepted. Purchases help adults with developmental disabilities. Avenues to Independence is a nonprofit organization based at 515 Busse Highway in Park Ridge that offers a variety of programs to enhance an individual's work, social, and daily living skills. For information on donations or to volunteer, contact Michael Frusini, (773) 631-6230.

Donations
The Polish National Alliance, the Polish Roman Catholic Union of America, the Polish Women's Alliance, the Polish Falcons of America, along with the affiliates of the PNA, the Polish Daily News (Dziennik Zwiazkowy), WPNA 1490 AM 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 gifts 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 Women's Alliance, 6643 N. Northwest Highway, Chicago, (888) 522-1898; Polish Daily News, 5711 N. Milwaukee Ave., Chicago, (773) 763-3343; PNA Bank, 7840 N. Milwaukee Ave., Niles, (847) 966-7900. Donations are accepted until March 1, 2012 during regular office hours.

Fundraisers
Our Lady of Ransom Church, 8524 W. Normal Ave., Niles, will host its annual St. Joseph's Table on March 18. Mass will be celebrated at 12:15 p.m.; a spaghetti dinner with a variety of treats will be served from 1:30-4:30 p.m. Suggested donation is $5. Call (847) 823-2550. All are welcome. Proceeds benefit the St. Vincent dePaul Society in their community work.

Like New Auto Spa, Inc., 1050 Busse Highway, Park Ridge, has introduced a special fund-raising program that benefits Advocate Lutheran General Hospital.

Health
Advocate Lutheran General Hospital is hosting a weekly community lecture series titled "Taking Care," focusing on Women's Health during March. All lectures will be held at Advocate Lutheran General Hospital's West End Grille, 1775 W. Dempster St., Park Ridge, at 7 p.m. Tuesdays. Free valet parking is available and refreshments will be served. There is no charge to attend however registration is required. Call (800) 323-8622 and mention class code 8652 or visit www.advocatehealth.com/luthclick on "I need a class or support group" and type in the class code. March 6: "Managing Celiac Disease: A Physician's and Mother's Perspective" presented by Dr. Esperanza Garcia-Alvaraz, pediatric gastroenter-
ogist, Center for Children's Digestive Health; March 13: "Total Hip Arthroplasty for Women," presented by Dr. Wayne Goldstein, chair of Orthopedics; March 20: "Your Pregnancy: How It Affects You and Your Child Forever," presented by Dr. James Keller, chair Obstetrics/Gynecology; March 27: "Pelvic Pain: Finding the Answers," presented by Dr. John White, chair of Surgery, and Dr. Lisa Laurent, radiologist.

"Fall Prevention & Recovery Strategies" will be presented by Terrace Gardens Assisted Living and Memory Care, 8415 N. Waukegan Road, Morton Grove, at 11 a.m. March 7. Advocate Lutheran General Hospital's Mindy Haglund and Marci Jezierski, physical therapist, will discuss and demonstrate safety strategies to prevent falls. Exercises to encourage stability, strength and independence, and techniques for safely recovering from a fall. Respond to 847-470-0550 and ask for Diane or email dwareth@bethanyhealthst.org. Refreshments will be served.

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 strains, 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: Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday, 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Call, 847-674-0355.

Pediatric developmental 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) 791-6131 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 in the clinic at night, for eight hours, while sleeping or resting, usually three times a week. In addition to having their days free for other activities, patients often report having more energy and better dialysis results. Medicare-certified Fresenius Medical Care Niles is now accepting new dialysis patients. Call (847) 581-0334.

Senior Advocate of Advocate Lutheran General Hospital offers free blood-pressure screenings 10 a.m.-noon on the first Wednesday of every month at the hospital's Patient Resource Center, 8820 W. Dempster St., Niles (across from the hospital). No appointment is necessary. Call (847) 723-7277.

**History of Medicine**

The Niles Historical Museum, 8970 N. Milwaukee Ave., is open to the public from 10:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Fridays. Drop in, make arrangements for a tour, drop off artifacts and collections, or just come to visit. The new magnetic elevator makes the auditorium easily accessible. Call (847) 390-0160.

**Lectures**

"Bullies and Those They Bully" will be presented from 7-9 p.m. March 14 at Maine Township High School, 1700 Ballard Road, Park Ridge, by Dr. Michael P. Maniaci, clinical psychologist and published author. This event will emphasize how people can get what they want without becoming the bully or being bullied themselves. To register for the free program, call Oksana at (847) 297-2510, Ext. 271, or go online at www.maineconv.org or in person at Maine Town-ship Town Hall. Hosted by Maine Stay Youth and Family Services, the social service department of Maine Township, the program provides two CEUs for counselors and social workers.

**Library**

Niles Public Library, 6960 W. Oakton St., (847) 663-1234 or online at www.nileslibrary.org. Registration is required for most programs unless indicated otherwise. The Niles Public Library is hosting multiple workshops for teens and their families concerning the ACT, college, and career planning. Registration is required:

In coordination with the College Planning & Career Services, review actual math problems from ACT tests at 1 p.m. March 3. Teens are invited to take a free practice ACT test at 12:45 p.m. March 17; bring a calculator and pencil. On April 3 at 7 p.m., review passages and questions from an actual ACT reading test and learn test-taking skills and strategies.

Get help picking a college that will provide the best financial aid package, learn what steps to take to ensure the best prospects for admission and maximum financial aid, and pick up key strategies for paying for college even when one may not qualify for financial aid. The College Planning & Career Services will be presented by College Planning Partners, LLC at 7 p.m. March 13.

Learn about making good academic and career choices before choosing a college at 7 p.m. March 20. Find out why early career planning is important, and four great steps for making college major and career decisions. This program is presented by Career Vision, a not-for-profit foundation.

The Niles Public Library is celebrating Teen Tech Week by offering special programs for teens during the week of March 4 to 10. More than 40 programs are planned for teens and adults at the library and at other locations throughout the community.

**Library Programs**

- "Bullies and Those They Bully" presented by Dr. Michael P. Maniaci, clinical psychologist and published author.
- "Lectures" on various topics such as bullying, college planning, and career choices.
- "Library" programs for teens and adults.

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Warrenville (630) 393-9880
Aurora (630) 820-4050
WWW.PTNERVE.COM
Super H Mart is super hot spot for Asian cooking

I am a grocery store geek. Roadside beef jerky stands, fruit-filled orchards, artisan cheese markets, tiny spice houses — nothing makes me happier than blindly wandering through an unfamiliar market.

Last summer, while shuttling my daughter to dance practice, I regularly passed a sign for Super H Mart on Waukegan Road in Niles. Initially, I assumed the enormous building housed a big box store, but after further inspection, I discovered a grocery store — a sprawling Korean grocery market.

Pull over and stop the car! I didn't have enough time to properly tour the market on my first visit, so later I assembled my fellow grocery store geeks and made a pilgrimage to Super H Mart. Oak Park moms and foodies Michelle Chapman-Rienstra and Teresa Shattuck along with fifth-grader screamed my fellow grocery store geeks and budding chef Theo Trefonides joined me to check out what this extraordinary market has to offer. None of us had much experience with Korean cooking or ingredients, so we allotted ourselves three hours to navigate the vibrant market.

We started our exploration in the produce section and uncovered several varieties of sweet Asian grapes, curiously large carrots, a diverse array of Japanese greens and spiny rambutan and durian fruits. Everything in the produce section is competitively priced, but no offering is short on quality. Super H Mart offers produce to meet the needs of both average Western cooks and adventurous chefs alike.

We lost ourselves in a maze of aisles brimming with pan Asian noodles, sauces, seaweed, snacks and rice cookers. The meat section offers a wide array of unique cuts of beef and pork; pre-sliced Kobe beef and ready to cook pork belly would elevate everyday stir-fries and soups to a new level. Moving into the fish section revealed open bins full of crawling crabs and display cases overflowing with sashimi grade fish. Super H Mart has an entire section devoted to fresh kimchee, miso and display cases overflowing with sashimi grade fish. Super H Mart makes a thrilling adventure — and not just for grocery store geeks.

Melissa Elsmo is an Oak Park mom, wife and chef/foodie. She speaks regularly about reclaiming the family dinner hour with nutritious meals. Check out her food blog at www.outofmelskitchen.blogspot.com.

Tips for navigating ethnic markets

Theo: Use pictures as a guide when you can't read the labels.

Michelle: Use the Internet and cookbooks to familiarize yourself with the cuisine before you set foot in the store. Being prepared prevents first-time shoppers from becoming overwhelmed.

Teresa: If you can't bring along someone who has already been to the market, don't be afraid to look in other carts to see what regular customers are picking up.

Mel: Eat in or near the market you are preparing to shop at. Use the uses and flavors of the items available for purchase.

---

Mel's Super H Market Fusion Fish

1 bunch asparagus, chopped into 2-inch pieces
1 cup somen-tsuyu (straight)
2 tablespoons soy sauce

Marinate the tilapia in the soy sauce and sesame paste for 30 minutes to 1 hour. Meanwhile, cook the somen noodles in boiling water and chill according to package directions.

To serve, place a portion of somen noodles in the bottom of each of four bowls. Pour 1/4 cup (or more to taste) of somen-tsuyu over the noodles. Place the two pieces of cooked bok choy next to the noodles and top with the fish. Garnish with asparagus, crispy garlic, and chili garlic sauce.

Somen noodles are very thin wheat noodles that are most often served cold. Somen-tsuyu is a lightly flavored dipping sauce for the noodles. "Straight" varieties do not need to be diluted before use.

Along with the other ingredients in this recipe, somen noodles and somen-tsuyu can be found at Super H Mart. My friend Michelle often packs cold somen noodles and dipping sauce in her kids' school lunches.

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Super H Mart in Niles. | SHANA BITTLE-FOR SUN TIMES MEDIA
fun and prizes in a search engine battle, make a meme, fold challenging paper puzzles, build a website, create a digital bulletin board and invent an unbreakable password. On March 9, teens can challenge their friends to an open gaming tournament at 4 p.m. Fans of the manga series Witch & Wizard will have the opportunity to Skype with the famous graphic artist, Svetlana Chmakova, at 2 p.m. March 10.

For anyone who needs some help downloading eBooks, go to www.nileslibrary.org/contactus and click on eBook Help or click on the Overdrive Download link on the homepage to find step-by-step instruction sheets for different eBook readers as well as how to get started on MyMediaMall. MyMediaMall. Niles are now available for the Amazon Kindle.

Book Buddies — Students entering eighth grade in the fall and adults can become Book Buddies. Buddies read or listen to children read once a week for an hour. The Niles Public Library provides all materials and training.

The Niles Public Library is open on Sundays from 1-5 p.m. all year.

Weekly, counselors from the Chicago Chapter of SCORE, the Service Corps of Retired Executives, will be at the library to help small business owners and anyone considering starting a small business. SCORE counselors are successful executives and business owners who can help with a wide variety of business issues. These experienced businesspeople offer private one-hour sessions of business coaching. SCORE is a nonprofit association of volunteers. Weekly sessions are held on alternating Tuesday evenings or Wednesday mornings. Sessions are free but an appointment is required. To set up an appointment online, visit the counseling page at www.scorechicago.org. If there are questions, call (312) 353-7724 or e-mail info@scorechicago.org.

Youth programs on a drop-in basis — Babylite: 11 a.m. on Mondays, for babies age 2 and under. Continuous year-round drop-in program for children with an adult. Includes stories, songs, fingerplays and extended playtime afterward.

Rise & Shine Storytime: 10 a.m. on Thursdays, ages 2-6 with caregiver; enjoy stories, songs and more.

Maine Township

Maine Township's FISH (Friends Indeed Serve and Help) is in need of volunteer drivers to provide residents free transportation to medical facilities in and near Maine Township. Volunteers may choose how much time they wish to devote. Requirements include a current drivers license and proof of auto insurance. The program requires residents in need be mobile, or be able to use a cane or walker. FISH also asks that appointments be set three or more days in advance. To become a volunteer driver call Ed Koen at (847) 966-0761. To schedule a ride or for information call FISH coordinator Gloria Stepek at (847) 297-2510, Ext. 283.

Niles

Niles Park District New 3's Preschool is offered at Niles Park District for children who turned 3 after Sept. 1, 2011, missing the deadline for the regular 3-year preschool. Classes are held from 12:30-2 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays at Howard Leisure Center. Session runs up to May 17. Call (847) 967-6633 to reserve a spot.

Niles Park District is offering private piano lessons (30-45 minutes) for beginning and intermediate students Wednesdays and Thursdays at Howard Leisure Center, 6676 W. Howard St. Lessons will focus on the fundamentals of technique, music theory and good practice habits. Call (847) 967-6633 to reserve a slot.

Golf Niles

Visit one of the Golf Niles Park District offices, Feldman Recreation Center, 8800 Kathy Lane (one block south of Golf Road on Western Avenue), Niles; or Deep Park, at the corner of Dee and Emerson Roads, Des Plaines; or call (847) 297-3000; www.gmpd.org.

Cricket Classes & Clinics — Begin in April at Dee Park. Learn the basic fundamentals of this very popular sport. Children ages 7-17.

Spring Break Youth Basketball Camp — 9 a.m. to noon Mondays through Thursdays, March 26 to 30 at Feldman. Work on dribbling, shooting, footwork, offensive and defensive techniques.

Youth Spring Soccer League — Games are played at Prairie Lakes Park in Des Plaines, March 5 to May 5; practices at Deep Park. Grades K-8.

L'il Shooters Youth Soccer — Learn basic soccer skills including footwork, dribbling and passing. Ages 5-8 years old. Next session April 10 to May 15 at Dee Park.

The Painting Studio — The Painting Studio meets from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Mondays and Thursdays or 7-9 p.m. Wednesdays at Feldman. First- through third-grade Youth Basketball League — Introductory league for young participants to learn the skills of basketball. At Feldman Recreation Center.

Over the Rainbow — Young children will have fun learning the colors of the rainbow through stories and songs at Dee Park on Fridays. For ages 3-5 years. Before & After School Child Care — Children attending Mark Twain, Apollo or Stevenson schools in Des Plaines can sign up for childcare. Call for details.

Zumba — Fun and easy Latin-inspired workout to get in shape. Ongoing classes at 7:15 p.m. Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays at Feldman. For ages 9 years and adult. Ongoing classes year round. Dee and Feldman Parks.

The Painting Studio classes for adults: 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
**CALENDAR | CONTINUED FROM PAGE 31**

on Mondays and Thursdays and 7-9:30 p.m. on Wednesdays at Feldman.

Tiny Tots Open Gym - Parents may drop in and supervise their 1-5 year-old any Wednesday or Thursday from 9:11 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. for a variety of gym games at Dee Park.

Preschool - There are still spots available for second-semester preschool (4-year-olds). Offered are morning (five days per week) and afternoon classes (Mondays through Thursdays). All classes are at Dee Park.

Tae Kwon Do - Popular martial arts classes for children (ages 7-15) and adults offered Mondays, Wednesdays, and Saturdays all year round.

Various rooms/gyms are available for rental for parties, meetings or ongoing activities. Call (847) 297-3059.

The Golf Maine Park District offers a selection of ENERGY STAR qualified compact fluorescent light bulbs for sale to the public from a Lights for Learning kiosk. Proceeds from the sale of every bulb will directly fund the scholarship program sponsored by the district. The scholarship program allows children the opportunity to attend camp when they may not have the resources to do so on their own. The kiosk will also house the Lights for Learning teacher tool kits, designed for educators and organization leaders, to provide informational materials on the overall Lights for Learning Program. ENERGY STAR Activity Books for children, as well as ENERGY STAR home energy-conservation and electronics information, will also be available. A recycling bin for used CFLs will also be available. CFLs may be purchased at Feldman Park, 8800 Kathy Lane, Niles, 8:30 a.m.-10:30 p.m. Call (847) 297-3000.

The Golf Maine Park District offers the community an opportunity to recycle paper products. A recognizable green-and-yellow container supplied by AbitibiBowater was dropped off in the Feldman Park lot, 8800 Kathy Lane, and on the corner of Western Avenue and Kathy Lane. Products that can be recycled in this container include: newspapers, magazines, office paper (fax and copy), shopping catalogs, mail, old calendars, catalogs, folders, colored paper and shredded paper (bagged); no cardboard or phone books. All money raised will fund the scholarship program, allowing children to attend summer camp and other programs. Call (847) 297-3000 or go to www.paperretriever.com.

**Religion**

St. Isaac Jogues Church, 8149 Golf Road, will hold its Parish Lent Mission: "Where All Roads Lead." The program includes:

- March 4, 3 p.m.: The Rev. Britto Bermans: March 5, 7 p.m.: the Rev. Dennis O'Neill; March 6, 7 p.m.: the Rev. Dominic Grassi; March 7, 7 p.m.: the Rev. Andrew Luczak. Call (847) 966-1180.

St. Isaac Jogues Church, 8149 Golf Road, hosts a St. Joseph Table March 11, beginning with Mass at noon followed by blessing of the table and serving of food from 1:30-4:30 p.m. There is no charge but donations are appreciated to benefit the St. Vincent DePaul Ministry to help those in need. Call (847) 966-1180.

St. Joseph Table March 11, beginning with Mass at noon followed by blessing of the table and serving of food from 1:30-4:30 p.m. There is no charge but donations are appreciated to benefit the St. Vincent DePaul Ministry to help those in need. Call (847) 966-1180.

**Reunions**

Resurrection College Prep High School will celebrate an All-School Reunion on April 21, beginning at 6 p.m. at the school, 7500 W. Talcott Ave., Chicago. Classes that are celebrating a milestone year will be honored in a special way during the evening. Resurrection Alumnae Coordinator Stefanie Thorpe is seeking graduates who are available to reach out to friends and help promote the event to their former classmates. Contact Resurrection Alumnae Coordinator Stefanie Thorpe at sthorpe@reshs.org or (773) 775-6616, Ext. 127.

The St. Columbkille Alumnae Association will sponsor its annual reunion luncheon March 25 at the Fountain Blue, 2300 S. Mannheim Road, Des Plaines. Cocktail service will begin at noon and lunch will be served at 1 p.m. Cost is $35. Proceeds go toward the retirement fund of the Sisters of Providence, St. Mary of the Woods, Ind. Call Charlene Swintek, president of the St. Columbkille Alumnae Board.
The Roosevelt High School Athletic Fund is holding an all-year reunion for May 4 at the school cafeteria, 3466 W. Wilson Ave., Chicago. There will be a buffet dinner and musical entertainment. Cost is $60 per person. Call Arnie Kamem, class of 1950, at (847) 432-2773; visit www.rooseveltsbball.com.

St. John Brebeuf is looking for all St. John Brebeuf School alumni. Alumni should contact Libby Ryder, (847) 823-7500, or go to www.libbyrudyer:sjsbschool.org, and submit their name, year graduated, address, phone number, maiden name (if applicable) and e-mail address, and may share a story or tell how St. John Brebeuf made an impact on their life.

Maine Seniors

The Maine Township MaineStreamers program offers a variety of opportunities for residents 55 and older. Membership includes a free subscription to the MaineStreamers monthly newsletter, which details activities for the upcoming month. Most activities are at Maine Town Hall, 1700 Ballard Road, Park Ridge, unless otherwise noted. Contact the MaineStreamers, (847) 297-2510, or go to www.mainetownship.com.

Maine Township, in cooperation with the Cook County Sheriff's Office, is collecting used cell phones to be converted for emergency 911 use for seniors. Donate phones at Maine Town Hall.

Senior Center

The Niles Senior Center offers membership to Niles residents age 55 and older and their spouses. Drop by for a tour and to learn about the activities for the upcoming year. The center is located at 7252 N. Western Ave., Chicago.

Reservations are available in February. Some restrictions apply. Call the Center Tax Hot Line, (847) 588-8440.

The Niles Senior Center Kitchen Band is looking for new members. Under the direction of ukulele-playing George Button, the popularity of this unique group of musicians has led to a very active performance schedule throughout Niles and the surrounding communities. If you like to sing, play the spoons, or are interested in learning how to play a ukulele, consider joining this fun group.

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 from 11 a.m.-noon monthly. Learn about the latest equipment and devices. Contact Trudi, (847) 588-8441. Registration is required for the following winter program sessions: there is no cost for members of the Niles Senior Center; non-members pay a $12 fee for each group — Social Card Play of Billiards, Mondays to Fridays, 9 a.m.-to 4:30 p.m.; Drop-in Art, Mondays and Fridays, 9 a.m.-noon; Sudoku Club, Mondays, 11 a.m.-noon; Choral Group, Tuesdays, 10-11:30 a.m.; Social Mahjongg, Tuesdays, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.; Social Bridge, Tuesdays, 1-4 p.m.; Line Dance, Tuesdays, 1-2 p.m.; Social Bunco, third Tuesday of the month, 1-3 p.m.; Computer Interest Group, every other Wednesday, 1:30-3 p.m.; All American Thursdays, 9 a.m. to noon; Issues in the News, Thursdays, 9-11:30 a.m.; Social Mahjongg, Thursdays, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.; Drop-in Ceramics, Thursdays, 1-3 p.m.; Drop-in Wood Carving, Thursdays, 1-3 p.m.; Social Scrabble, Fridays, 10 a.m.-noon.

The Niles Senior Center offers a wide variety of activities for the upcoming winter.

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 34
All aboard: Amazon account eerily accessed in Atlantic

Dear Fixer:

Someone hacked into my Amazon account. I called Amazon, they found out, but they had already shipped the merchandise. The bank (or credit card company) declined payment, and now Amazon wants me to give them another credit card to cover the charges of $2,800.

The emails from Amazon say the purchases were made on Sept. 10 — when my husband and I were in the middle of the Atlantic Ocean on a 28-day cruise.

The Amazon representative said my account would remain on hold until it could be sorted out (my words, not hers — I could barely understand her). The problem has not been corrected, and I can’t access my account to look at anything. I will not pay for merchandise I did not order. I asked to be transferred to the department that was investigating the fraudulent charge, but was told that was not possible. I asked for a supervisor and was put on hold. I held the line for about 80 minutes each call, over four separate calls, for a total of an hour and a half.

I held the line for about 30 minutes on hold. I called the Amazon PR woman Mary Osako. We later spoke to her colleague, who said they couldn’t discuss specific customer accounts. Meanwhile, you kept digging from your end. The upshot? They restored your account and took off the hanger, put them back on the hanger, which included the salad bar. While waiting for the 400 A.D. to the present.

OK, folks, we’re running just a couple more letters from readers complaining about businesses with bad manners.

From Marcus: I was at a department store a day before their big sale, precisely to avoid the crowds and have an opportunity to shop unhampered. I gathered an armful of suits, slacks and tops and entered the dressing room area. I am 70. The 80-something salesperson (TOLD me to put all the items back on the hang- ers and return all unwanted items to the rack outside. I was shocked by her words, demeanor and attitude. I told her I always follow that procedure. No apology was forthcoming.

So I went into the room, took the slacks off the hanger, put them back on the hanger, walked out of the dressing room and put all the boxes in the cart. I didn’t purchase anything.

By the way, there was no other customer in the dressing room area and no clothes waiting to be put back in stock. The salesperson had nothing to attend to at that moment.

Dear Marcus: You told us you spoke up to a manager, who apologized, offered you a gift card and said he would remove contact you. Let’s hope!

From Shannon: A fellow attorney and I were in a Michigan Avenue restaurant. The woman who seated us tossed the menus on the table and almost ran into me in haste to leave. Despite that inauspicious beginning, we stayed for almost an hour and a half, enjoying our food and drinks.

Then, just as we picked up our purses and were preparing to leave, a waiter, who seemed very embarrassed, told us that the manager wanted us to leave. She said she’d been there too long. He said that’s he had been hesitant to convey the message to us, but had to do so.

It was embarrassing. As we were leaving and having our parking validated, there were some jokes made about the kind of car we must be driving. We couldn’t help but notice that the table next to us had been there for just as long and no one had approached them.

I sent an email immediately after returning home but never received a response. We certainly will never go there again and will not recommend it to our friends, colleagues or clients.

Dear Shannon: At least you didn’t almost get arrested, like the next reader:

From Kathy: A few years ago, my husband and I were at a restaurant with two of our neighbors. Neighbor No. 1 ordered a steak, which included the salad bar. While waiting for the steak he went to the salad bar. When the steak came, it was so tough he couldn’t cut it. He complained to the waitress and asked for another steak.

Big mistake. The waitress returned with the same steak and said the cook wasn’t making another one. Neighbor No. 1 told him to pay for the salad bar, but I’m not paying for that steak.

The waitress went to the phone and called either the manager or owner, and he told him to call the police. I was slowly sinking under the table. I don’t even throw a gum wrapper on the sidewalk. I’m very sorry a police officer showed up and two policemen came over. My heart was pounding out of my chest.

They were very nice and told Neighbor No. 1 to pay a small portion of his bill, which he did, and then we walked out with the police. We have never been back.

Thanks to contributor Mike Nolan.

CALENDAR | CONTINUED FROM PAGE 33

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 Imperfect 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.

Arthritis Foundation Exercise Classes winter term, running to June 25. Level 1: Advanced, meets 9-10 a.m. Mondays; includes gentle stretching, chair exercises. Cost for each session is $10, members; $15, nonmembers. Contact Sue Friedman. 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.

Seniors

Mother’s-3 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 players who want to learn the rules and basic strategies. Sessions are Wednesdays at 1 p.m. Jazercise — Jazercise is a fitness program that combines aerobic 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 $5.50. 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 offered. Try the gentle-moderate exercise class, 11:15 a.m. on Mondays and at 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 one hour each. Classes are held at 10 a.m. each week. Beginners/Handling Manage- ment meets 10 a.m. on Fridays; includes gentle stretching, chair exercises. Cost for each session is $10, members; $15, nonmembers. Contact Sue Friedman. 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.

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Ches...
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, up to March 29, 6:30-8 p.m.; First Light: Spouse/Partner Loss, Wednesdays, up to March 28, 6:30-8 p.m.; Families with Children, Wednesdays, up to 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.

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 $5 monthly to defray the room rental costs and small fines for no-shows. Intake before the first meeting is necessary. Babies are always welcome. Visit www.joyfulagain.org.

Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Chicago invites those who have experienced the loss of a loved one to suicide to participate in its Loving Outreach to Survivors of Suicide (LOSS) meetings at its Northwest office, 1717 Rand Road, Des Plaines. The minimum age for the monthly meetings or eight-session groups is 18-years-old. If possible, call the LOSS office, (312) 655-7283, for an initial intake before the first meeting.
Advocate Lutheran General Hospital, 1775 Dempster St., Room 1063, Park Ridge. The focus is to assist patients with Crohn’s disease or ulcerative colitis, their families, significant others and friends in coping more effectively with the illness. Call (847) 827-5116.

Resurrection Medical Center sponsors a variety of free cancer-support groups for both patients and their family members. All support groups are free and meet in the Cancer Conference Room (ground floor, Entrance C). Contact Carol Flanagan, (773) 792-5022.

- The Cancer Support Group for cancer patients, families and friends meets monthly 7-8:30 p.m. every last Wednesday.
- The Leukemia & Lymphoma Family Support Group for people with leukemia, lymphoma, myelodysplastic syndrome, multiple myeloma, Hodgkin’s Disease and their families meets every first Wednesday of the month.
- The Butterfly Club is a support group for children ages 6 to 13 whose parent or caretaker has been diagnosed with cancer. The group meets every first Wednesday of the month. Registration and parental consent are required.
- The Us Tool Prostate Cancer Support Group meets every second Wednesday of the month.
- The Teen Cancer Support Group is for teens ages 13 to 18 whose parent or caretaker has been diagnosed with cancer. The group meets every third Wednesday of the month. Registration and parental consent are required.
- Multiple Sclerosis Support Group meets the last Saturday of each month in the Resurrection Rehabilitation Center of Chicago, first floor, Professional Building, Entrance C. Call (773) 594-7856.
- Alzheimer’s Support Group meets the second Tuesday of the month in the Health Management Classroom. The session is free. Call Health Management, (773) 792-5022.

Afterglow Support Group for stroke survivors and their family and friends meets the second Wednesday of the month in the Resurrection Rehabilitation Center of Chicago, first floor, Professional Building, Entrance C.

- Parkinson’s Support Group meets the third Wednesday of the month 5-7 p.m. at Resurrection Rehabilitation Center of Chicago, first floor, Professional Building, Entrance C. Call (773) 594-7866.
- Advocate Lutheran General Hospital is forming a support network for women living with breast cancer. The Breast Cancer Networking Group will meet 2-3 p.m. the third Tuesday of each month. The support group provides breast-cancer survivors the opportunity to share information and experiences with other women. The group will be at Lutheran General’s Center for Advanced Care, 1700 Luther Lane, Park Ridge, in the ground-floor conference room G104. Call (847) 723-8130.
- Northwest Suburban Interstitial Cystitis/Painful Bladder Syndrome Support Group of Illinois meets at 7 p.m. the second Wednesday of each month in Advocate Lutheran General Hospital, 1775 Dempster St., Park Ridge, Conference Room 1064. E-mail bzarnikow@aol.com to be added to the e-mail list for meeting announcements.
- An area Alzheimer’s Support Group for caregivers and family members of people with Alzheimer’s Disease meets at 10:30 a.m. every second Saturday at Central Baptist Village, the Commons Theater Lounge, 4747 N. Canfield Ave., Norridge. New members are always welcome. Call Jessi Lenth, group facilitator, (708) 583-8509.
- Queen of All Saints hosts a weekly meeting for female survivors of sexual abuse. The meetings are 7-8:30 p.m. Mondays in the Benedict Center Chapel, 6275 N. Jona. To participate in the confidential, 12-step program, call Queen of All Saints Rectory, (773) 736-6060. Additional meetings are 7-8:30 p.m. Fridays at St. Juliana Parish Center, 7200 Ochreola Ave. Call Linda, (773) 271-2281.

Teen Center

The Niles Teen Center is a group of teens from sixth through 12th grade who provide support and advice on Teen Center programming, develop leadership skills and work to serve the Niles com-
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
7800 Niles Ave., Skokie 847-675-3146
www.devaremset.org
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that Yeshua (Jesus) is the Promised Jewish Messiah”

St. Timothy Lutheran Church
9000 Kildare Ave., Skokie
847-676-1300
www.StTimothySkokie.org
Worship: Sundays at 10 AM

Congregation Bene Shalom
4435 Oakton, Skokie (847) 677-3330
www.beneshalom.org
Interfaith Families Welcome
Rabbi Dr. Douglas Goldhamer
Asst. Rabbi Shan Chen, Soloist Chadene Brooks
All services voice and sign language
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Tuesday Evenings 7:15-8:45 pm
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Monthly 7:30-9:30 pm - CW Café with
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Weekly Shabbat Services –
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Sat & Sun 6PM
Monthly Shabbat dinners at 6:30PM
Religious School Wed & Sat;
Cantor Benjamin Warschawski
Rabbi Neil Brief, Emeritus

Beth Hillel Congregation Bnai Emunah
3220 Big Tree Lane, 847-256-1213
www.bhce.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 Kemsky
Cantor Pavel Royzman
Rabbi Michael Cohen, Ed. Dir.

To showcase your House of Worship here call
630-978-8277 or
worship@PioneerLocal.com
CALENDAR  CONTINUED FROM PAGE 37

Volunteers are needed to serve as Court Watchers for Domestic Violence at the Skokie Courthouse. Being a Court Watcher is easy, convenient and rewarding. To volunteer for this important program, contact Joanne Liberman at (847) 412-1577 or email Joanne at NonnyL@aol.com.

Individuals who have a few hours to spare are urged to join the Avenues to Independence Thrift Shoppe Team of Volunteers. Avenues is looking for friendly, hard-working men and women to help staff at the Thrift Shoppe, 7710 W. Touhy Ave. in Chicago. Volunteers are needed on a regular basis 10 a.m.-5 p.m. on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays, or 1-8 p.m. on Thursdays. Volunteers receive a discount. No experience is needed. All proceeds from the Thrift Shoppe help Avenues continue valuable programs for adults with developmental disabilities. Contact the store manager, Michael Frustini, (847) 292-0870, Ext. 771.

The Men's and Women's Association of Advocate Lutheran General Hospital is looking for new members. The community-based philanthropic and social organization raises funds for the hospital through a variety of events, including an annual golf outing, gala, wine and concert. The organization's donations have assisted the hospital in expanding programs, purchasing state-of-the-art medical equipment, and pursuing research and educational initiatives. Yearly dues are $35. Call (847) 723-6105.

Many individuals have found themselves laid off or unable to find employment. Rainbow Hospice and Palliative Care would like to respond by helping professionals stay current with their job skills (or gain experience if recently graduated) by offering professional volunteer opportunities. Possible opportunities include positions in medical records, human resources administration, community outreach, finance, marketing and admissions/customer service. Volunteers must have a willingness to make use of their professional skills and a positive attitude allowing them to take on a great deal of responsibility. Training and seminars for professional and personal development will be provided. Contact the Volunteer Coordinator at (847) 685-9900, Ext. 3126, or rparrrow@rainbowhospice.org. Visit www.rainbowhospice.org.
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Sectional Champions
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Cort Ro, Glenbrook North
Tom Williams, Niles West

Loyola senior Michael Paloian (right) enjoyed an impressive postseason, collecting Catholic League and regional championships, before becoming the first Rambler to medal at the state meet. | ROB DICKER-SUN-TIMES MEDIA

PIONEER PRESS NORTH STARS WRESTLER OF THE YEAR

Paloian hesitant to turn his back on wrestling

BY MATT HARNESS
mharness@pioneerval.com

Michael Paloian is in love with whatever sport he's playing during a particular season.
And that's why the Loyola senior winces when thinking about a future without wrestling.

Before completing his sensational season on the mats, Paloian accepted early admission to Tufts University, where he will play football. While he carries no regrets about his decision, he does wish the Division III school offered wrestling, too.

"After the football season, that's all I wanted to do," the Park Ridge resident said. "Then, I got my mind set on wrestling. It was such a good experience this year that I want to stick with it."

Paloian added his name to the Loyola history books this winter by becoming the first Rambler to earn a medal at the state tournament. He placed sixth at 182 pounds at Assembly Hall in Champaign, and finished 32-9 overall.

Among his accomplishments, Paloian captured a Catholic League championship, as well as a regional title.

"This season was a lot of fun," he said. "To be able to go to the state meet, and place, topped it off. I'd love to see those kids I lost to again in some other tournament."

Paloian might get the chance. He plans to compete this offseason for the Park Ridge-based NEXT Level club.

"Wrestling is going to be hard to give up," he said.

Paloian is looking forward to playing football for the Jumbos, who will be guided by first-year coach Jay Civetti. A former assistant at North Carolina State and Boston College, Civetti has energized the program, similar to what sixth-year Loyola football coach John Holecek has done at Loyola.

"I compare it to how I chose to go to Loyola," said Paloian, an outside linebacker who started for Class 8A runner-up Ramblers. "Because I live in Park Ridge, I would have gone to Maine South, which obviously has a great football team. I didn't know much about Loyola, but we heard about Holecek and how he was going to bring change. People bought into it. I see the same thing with this new coach at Tufts."
Dons’ success paves path

BY MIKE CAMERON
Contributor

After Notre Dame head coach Angie Genovesi was inducted into the National Wrestling Hall of Fame last fall, his 34th squad at ND reinforced the wisdom of that selection by producing 10 all-conference wrestlers, a second straight regional title, nine regional champs, the maximum of 14 sectional qualifiers and eight participants at the state meet.

“I am extremely proud of our student-athletes,” said Genovesi. “They accomplished a lot despite more injuries than we have ever had, and they conducted themselves with class. We had a very successful season with great senior leadership, but we are also positioned very well for next year.”

A change in the IHSA’s enrollment multiplier dropped Notre Dame from IHSA Class 3A to 2A, a move that ultimately had little impact on its season. The Dons’ schedule was as busy as ever, but Notre Dame earned a top-three ranking in Class 2A by finishing 16-4 in dual meets, including 6-1 in the ESCC to place behind only powerhouse Marist. Following a rather soft home regional, the Dons’ postseason competition proved as formidable as any it would have faced in Class 3A.

Senior Scott Smith won two of four matches in the individual state meet at Champaign, but the Dons’ seven other qualifiers went a combined 0-9. Notre Dame’s goal to make it Downstate as a team fell one step short after a 33-28 defeat to Crystal Lake Central in the Class 2A dual-team sectional at Woodstock on Feb. 21.

Each team won seven matches, but the Tigers had three pins to the Dons’ two. Genovesi shuffled his lineup to try to cover for four injuries and work around the Crystal Lake Central’s senior superstar trio of Gage Harrah, Clayton Lutzow and Jason Puglisi, as well as sophomore Kyle Puglisi. The quartet accounted for a default win, two pins and a regular decision.

Notre Dame roared out of the gate with falls by Jimmy Gallardo and Smith. Junior Roark Whittington’s 8-0 victory over Michael Zelaske was his second over the Tigers’ ranked 145-pounder.

Ryan Walsh won 1-0, Jimmy Biancofiori prevailed 7-6, and Colton Kelly scored a major decision. Moving up two classes, junior Joe Cortese won 6-3 at 170. Sean Henshaw returned after missing nearly the entire season with an injury, but couldn’t quite shed the rust. Bumped up to 162, the junior veteran lost 6-4 after leading 4-1.

Kevin Stahmer could only watch from the sideline after tearing an ankle ligament with one second left in his last individual-sectional match. The senior co-captain, a two-time state qualifier, ended this season with a 32-8 record at 182.

Injuries plagued senior Conner Gavin (15-3 at 170), one of the Dons’ nine regional champs, could not compete after tearing a hip injury by 49.

Kevin Stahmer could only watch from the sideline after tearing an ankle ligament with one second left in his last individual-sectional match. The senior co-captain, a two-time state qualifier, ended this season with a 32-8 record at 182. Injury-plagued senior Conner Gavin (15-3 at 170), one of the Dons’ nine regional champs, could not compete after tearing a hip injury.

Bumped up to 162, the junior veteran lost 6-4 after leading 4-1.

Steady, diligent and durable, Whittington (35-8 at 145) led the team in victories, won an ESCC crown and qualified for state. As a freshman, Gallardo, Walsh (30-10 at 106) pulled off quite a trifecta by winning conference, advancing to state and reaching the 30-win mark. With Cortese, Whittington and Gallardo, the Dons will come right back with three incumbent state qualifiers next season.

Biancofiori also collected an ESCC championship. Senior Jack Fracek (170) boosted the Dons by placing a strong third in the conference meet.

In the regional at Notre Dame, seniors Rocca Feggiano (285) and Anthony McDermott (128), as well as sophomore Robert Hill (160) and freshman Mike Perri (120), placed among the top three. Time and time again, Genovesi called up reinforcements who then filled in admirably for injured regulars. "We used 84 kids on the varsity level. Many of them will benefit from the experience in the future," said Genovesi, who was ably assisted by veterans Jim Cartwright, Phil Chiolski and Bill Scully, along with Mike Ruggs and Matt Boggs, six underclass coaches and volunteer coaches of Notre Dame’s indispensable feeder programs.

Notre Dame’s future looks bright after its JV squad won conference by a whopping 150 points, and the freshman team took the title by 49.

The Dons have a deep group of current juniors, including Cortese, Whittington, Henshaw, Josh Bogges (126), Kevin Brand (126), Johnny Doyle (126), Brendan Moore (126), Chris Sommers (106), Gino Orlandi (285) and Jack Norwood (160). Prospect transfer Bogges was never granted eligibility clearance from his former school, but he will be good to go as a senior.
Next jump for divers will be state medals

BY DAN SHALIN
Contributor

Before Friday, it had been 20 years since a Maine East diver competed at the IHSA state meet.

Brian Samson was the last Blue Demon to do so back in 1992. But this year, Maine East seniors Danny Sieghart and Jeremy Rohrman both qualified for the event, which was held at Evanston.

Officials at the Park Ridge school felt the accomplishment was notable enough that, Friday afternoon, just after the duo had finished competing, the results were announced over the PA at Maine East.

“Our athletic director was at the meet and he relayed the message. The assistant principal made the announcement to the whole school. It’s nice for the boys to be recognized and nice for the school,” said Maine East diving coach Mike Fosco, also the head coach of the overall aquatics program.

What the students heard was that Sieghart had compiled an eight-dive score of 245.4, which was good for 16th in the state. Rohrman came in 39th with a five-dive score of 148.10.

Sieghart had stood in 13th place after five dives when the 48-person competition was reduced to 16.

Entering his fifth dive, Sieghart needed to score 92 to advance to the next round. He hit a back 1 1/2 pike and earned 35 points. Sieghart’s best dive of the opening round was a forward 2 1/2 tuck, which he completed second turn.

Fosco said Sieghart’s performance had been particularly impressive because it was his first appearance at state.

“Judging at the state meet is very tight and it’s very different than you would have in the regular season,” the coach said. “Danny did well and came through on his most inconsistent dive, the back 1 1/2, and did that extremely well.”

Fosco said the experience was invaluable for both Sieghart and Rohrman, who was solid except for missing his front 2 1/2.

The coach said most divers who succeed at state struggle the first time around.

“The week before (state) we talked about really going for the experience and that everything else would be icing on the cake,” Fosco said.

“In diving, it’s tremendously helpful to get to state) for a year or two before you have a big breakout year.”

The coach said he believed both Sieghart and Rohrman could finish in the top 12 as seniors.

Construction project continues at Niles West

BY DAN SHALIN
Contributor

Niles West boys water polo coach John Przekota said his program is building right on schedule as it enters Year Three.

Przekota started the program in 2010, running it as a club team. Last spring, the Wolves took the jump up to varsity, going 9-20 and finishing eighth in the then-nine-team CSL.

This season, numbers appear to be good, athletes understand their roles better and expectations are higher.

Przekota said one of the major adjustments last season was his players experiencing varsity responsibilities for the first time.

“I changed the expectations in practice,” he said.

“(As a club team) we just had a JV practice schedule, once a day and not much on Saturday. We went from that, to practicing twice a day and then on Saturday.”

Another concept has been teamwork, especially for many of the players who swim competitively.

The Wolves played their best polo late last season, defeating a Northside Prep team they had tied earlier in the campaign. Even in the sectional defeat to New Trier, Niles West hung with the Trevians for a quarter and a half.

Though Niles West lost leading scorer Elliot Kerbel to graduation, second-leading scorer Ryan Miller has returned to play the two-meter position.

“Miller is like the center on a basketball team. He sets up with his back to the goal and everybody is looking for him. The whole offense runs to him and the defense has to make adjustments designed to stopping him,” Przekota said.

Sophomore Steven Renko and senior Filip Zivkovic are expected to handle the ball and get it to Miller. Renko’s soccer experience has been a plus.

Senior Nick Giffen is a top defender, while senior Stephen Groden is likely the first player off the bench.

Maz Romanelli served as the team’s goal tender last season, but will transition to outfield player this spring. The junior possesses one of the hardest shots on the team.

Replacing Romanelli in goal will be sophomore Nick Opfer, who was between the posts for the frosh/sophomore team last season.

Sophomore Kyle Patt and freshmen Max Yusim, Kohler Mohr and Miguel Paloma are all expected to start the campaign with the frosh/soph team.

Another intriguing prospect is sophomore Edan Romanelli, the only girl in the program. Scott finished fifth in the state in the 50 freestyle at last fall’s IHSA state meet and is the fastest swimmer on the frosh/soph team.
Loyd now heads East after going West

By Mike Cameron
Contributor

In July of 2008, Jewell Loyd was set to enroll at Loyola when Ramblers head coach Tony Konsewicz, now at Zion-Benton, was about to leave and told the younger to feel free to reconsider her choice.

Loyd decided to enroll at her local public school, where brother Jarred had starred. Niles West’s talent-barren team had gone 9-19 the previous winter under rookie head coach Tony Konsewicz and his new assistant, Mike Parker.

The rest is in the record books. Jewell Loyd became the pride of Niles West and last week closed her career with a typically brilliant performance. She scored 16 of her 31 points in the last quarter of the Wolves’ 48-46 loss to Glenbrook South in a Class 4A sectional semifinal at New Trier on Feb. 21.

Mike and I told each other our jobs were to not mess this up, Konsewicz recalled. "We had known about Jewell since she was in sixth grade."

Loyd led Wolves teams to records of 19-11, 23-5, 22-9 and 22-9. This season brought a third straight regional title and an outright CSL South championship. In her favorite season as a sophomore, Niles West shared the league crown and advanced to the super-sectional.

"It’s been an awesome experience," said Loyd. "I love Niles West, and I love all my teammates. Our two coaches have been like our other dads away from home."

For her career, Loyd averaged 35.2 points and finished with 3,077 — seventh in state history — despite smothering defensive pressure and increasingly tough schedules. Her scoring averages by year were: 19.5, 22.9, 30.3 and 27.0.

"Twelfth In rebounds in state history is mind-blowing," said Parker. "Jewell is a guard expected to score 30 a night, but she’s also going in for rebounds and getting them over 6-3 girls. That’s Dennis Rodman and Michael Jordan in one player. Someone should check the positions and heights of those other 11 girls because you would see a bunch of 6-8 post players."

"Her defense is just as underrated. Most of her rebounds are on the defensive end, and she adds all those blocks and steals. If we wanted her to shut down another team’s star one-on-one, she was great at that, too."

Loyd is a lock to be a first-team, all-state selection for the third straight year before she heads off to Notre Dame, where she will play in the same backcourt with southpaw star Skylar Diggins next season.

"I want to help Notre Dame win a national title, and the people at Notre Dame and I have already talked about wanting me to get Freshman Player of the Year," Loyd said.

After scoring 46 points against St. Francis, she was passing to her teammates in the final minutes when she could have gone for 50.

Jackie Cardenas, the Wolves’ sturdy 5-10 senior point, joined Loyd on the all-CSL team. Cardenas neutralized taller opponents in the paint all season long. Three-point bomber Liz Troyk filled in well as a starter when Molly Kleppin missed eight midseason games with an upper-body injury.

Senior forwards Lexi Loftakes and Janet Iqal contributed off the bench. Iqal made it to the fourth round of the IHSA's Three-Point Showdown.

Opponents will be licking their chops for payback after taking Loyd lumps for so long. They may not get it. Kleppin’s stellar defense and reliable floor game point to an ideal leader next season. She has an accurate shot and should blossom into a consistent double-digit scorer.

The athletic Shumate will join Kleppin as a third-year regular. Experience should smooth out those rough edges. Shumate went bonkers with 23 points in an early-season rout of then-ranked Zion-Benton, came through with the winning runner against Maine South, and laid an easy 20 on Lincoln Park in West’s 67-37 regional clincher.

Sophomore Alex Galanopoulos is a skilled defender with a fundamentally good shot who should flourish in her second season as a starter. Jasmine Townsend, 5-11 junior backup post, is entirely capable of replicating what Cardenas furnished this season. Freshman Katherine De Lara is a fearless 5-1 sparkplug with sufficient ability on both ends to take over as the starting point guard. Junior guard Michelle Karp brings a bit of toughness and play and mental smarts. Jessie Simkins, another junior guard, should see increased minutes.

With 30 of her 42 points in the last 17 minutes, she catapulted her team to a conference-clinching overtime triumph against GBS.

"What stands out for me about Jewell is her will to win. She is so driven," said Konsewicz. "She puts in the time and is very dedicated to the game. And she was always about making the team better. In that game against St. Francis, she was passing to her teammates in the final minutes when she could have gone for 50."

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Dolins, Younan light the spark late

BY DAN SHALIN
Contributor

After struggling from the field most of the game, Niles West got hot for stretch in the fourth quarter and put away Amundsen 54-40 in Monday night's Class 4A Niles West Regional opener.

The 16th-seeded Wolves (17-18) led 35-33 entering the fourth quarter, but scored eight of the first 10 points in the frame. Back-to-back three-pointers by senior Cory Dolins (5 points) and junior Joe Younan (7 points) gave the home team a 45-36 lead with 6:16 remaining in the contest.

Niles West hit 7-of-13 shots in the fourth and outscored the 17th-seeded Vikings 19-6. "You could feel us get our rhythm a little bit (in the fourth). It was frustrating that it took us so long to do that," Wolves head coach Bob Williams said. "We came out ready and we ended it the right way. The middle portion (of the game), who knows? We'll keep working to get that mentality to play 32 minutes."

Dolins said the Wolves weren't doing anything differently in the fourth, just executing everything better. "We just knew we had to keep playing our game. We did that at the end," he said. "We were relaxed and not trying to force things (in the fourth)."

Niles West advanced to Tuesday's scheduled regional semifinal against No. 1 seed New Trier.

On Monday, West senior forward Alex Darville and sophomore guard Ahmad Gib-son led the Wolves' balanced attack with 11 points apiece. Junior David McCoy had nine points and five rebounds and senior Alec Bisier had five points and 11 rebounds.

Niles West led 16-11 after one quarter, but was outscored 18-6 by the Vikings in the second quarter. The Wolves hit just 1-of-9 shots in the second.

Amundsen junior Nicholas Flowers hit a three-pointer at the halftime buzzer to give the Vikings (19-9) a 24-22 advantage.

But the shots stopped falling for Amundsen in the second half. The Vikings nailed just six field goals after the break. "I've seen (Amundsen) play, and they've shot the ball pretty well when I've seen them. So, I was pretty happy with us defensively, overall," Williams said.

Flowers and junior guard Humberto Valentin had 10 points apiece to lead Amundsen.

Senior guard Charles Carter banked in a three-pointer to bring the Vikings within two points entering the fourth. But buckets were few and far between for Amundsen in the second half.

"We couldn't buy a basket. We got some good shots, especially in the middle of the third quarter, and we just didn't knock them down. This is a tough game if you don't make some shots," Vikings head coach John Barnes said. "That's really the story. There are just so many (defensive stops) you can get. You can't shut (Niles West) out."

Maine East disappears in second half vs. Lane

BY DAN SHALIN
Contributor

Maine East head coach Dave Genis said his team's defensive performance Monday against Lane was its best of the season, and likely the best since he took over the program two years ago.

But despite 21 turnovers, the 19th-seeded Blue Demons were unable to convert regularly at the other end of the floor.

So, instead of celebrating passage into the Class 4A St. Patrick Regional semifinal, the Blue Demons (4-20) head home for the season after a 58-41 loss to No. 14 Lane in a play-in game.

"I thought we were the better team on the floor. We controlled the defensive end of the floor as well as I've seen us control it during the course of a game," Genis said. "If the scoreboard would have gone out and somebody walked into the gym and watched for a few minutes, they would have thought we were winning by 10 points. Yet, we were down 15 or 16." With senior Jordan Jones and sophomore Justin Brooks at the top of the its zone, Maine East caused a ton of turnovers, 30 by one count.

The Blue Demons trailed just 21-19 at halftime, but then struggled out of the gate in the second half, falling behind by nine, and then by 18. Maine East did make a small run to pull back to within 12.

"At the beginning of the third, several of our players just disappeared," Genis said. "We just continue to make decisions where we shoot ourselves in the foot. We were not opportunistic as a team. It was the best defensive game we've played all year. We did what we needed to do (on defense), but I just couldn't come up with the baskets.

Senior Aaron Shannon led Maine East with 18 points, while freshman Ezeike Omeke had 12 rebounds.

In addition to the defensive play of Jones and Brooks, Genis praised junior Evan Nazzal, who functioned as a defensive captain, calling out when to trap Lane's guards.

Genis said after the contest he thanked his four seniors Shannon, Jones, Adam Bloniarz and Adnan Kamenec, who all were solid in their final contest in Blue-and-White.

The focus now turns to the offseason and the 2012-13 campaign, though Genis said he and the players all need a few weeks to recover from this season.

In the summer, the coach said the team will spend plenty of time on skill and strength training. Genis hopes players hook up with an AAU team to help improve their basketball instincts.

With Nazzal, Omeke and Brooks all scheduled to return next year, the Blue Demons do have a foundation on which to build. 昧}
Mlynarski makes amends with a pair of top-10s

BY DAN SHALIN
Contributor

After being out-touched for the 12th, and final, consolation spot in the 200-yard freestyle during last year's state meet, Niles North's Karol Mlynarski decided to he needed to pay more attention to detail this time around.

"(Not making the finals) motivated me to work on all the little things that I missed throughout the season, like the flip turns," Mlynarski said.

That focus on the smaller, but no less important aspects, of racing coupled with hard work in and out of the pool, clearly paid off for Mlynarski at last weekend's state meet. The junior finished fifth in the 200 free (1:41.22) and eighth in the 100 free (46.62), becoming the first Niles North swimmer to score at state since Will Ikedia in 2008. Arsen Sarkisian took third in diving two years ago.

The 15 points earned by Mlynarski helped the Vikings finish 20th overall.

The junior finished fifth in the 200 free (1:40.83), earning a spot in Saturday's finals, and finished seventh in the 100 free (46.48).

Niles North head coach Seth Orlove said Mlynarski came through despite dealing with pressure all season.

"After just missing the consolation round in the 200 free, he kind of knew the expectations going into this season," the coach said. "He accepted the challenge. It's hard when you have those expectations placed upon you, but he handled it very well. He was able to deliver, step up and have those great swims."

Orlove said that in addition to Mlynarski's physical strength, the swimmer also is becoming a better student of the sport.

"He is someone who trains year-round, goes the extra mile in workouts and always is pushing himself to his limits in the weight room," Orlove said. "He's finally getting to the point in his career where he's assessing every race, treating it as a learning experience. That way, he makes further progress and is able to walk away from races with better strategy."

The coach said he hopes the junior's state-meet performance will serve as a catalyst for further success - not only for Mlynarski, but also for other members of the Vikings program.

"Hopefully, this will continue to fuel his fire to do bigger and better things," he said. "Also, (how it) reverberates with the rest of the team and the program to continue to elevate their athleticism and their commitment to our program, and we can continue to do the things we've done over the last few years."

What the Vikings did this year was win its second straight CSL North title and qualify six swimmers and three relays for the state meet.

Two of those relays just missed making the finals. In the 200 free relay, the quartet of Mlynarski, junior Javed Avdic, junior Aaron Brown and senior Ammar Shah finished 13th (1:27.09). The same foursome placed 15th in the 400 free relay (3:12.92).

"I thought the 200 and 400 free relays were really good, with the 200 just missing the consolation round. That was a really good swim," Orlove said. "The boys were a little disappointed and didn't realize how close they really were. A lot of them thought if they had another crack at it, that it would have mattered. They'll get another crack at it next year at the state meet. Hopefully, they'll be able to bring it in (and make finals)."

Also at state, Shah, junior Earl Kim, senior Richard Gomez and Brown finished 36th in the 200 medley relay (1:40.58), while Avdic was 28th in the 100 butterfly (52.83) and 30th in the 50 free (22.85). Gomez placed 26th in the 500 free (4:48.06), and junior Max Wall was 43rd in the 100 backstroke (1:01.35).
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