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We’d love to hear your thoughts on the all-new Niles Herald-Spectator
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Hello to the hallways

Principal Brett Balduf leads a tour of Carpenter School in Park Ridge for the new-family orientation at on Aug. 16 as part of back-to-school activities. | DAN LUEDERT-Sun-Times Media

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Sideshow Theatre takes on 'Idomeneus' [Page 44]

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Chefs mix it up with melons [Page 71]

Football preview
High school season kicks off this weekend [Insert]

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Weekly Question
We asked local residents, what do you like most about going back to school?

Cover story
District 64 school community shares its hopes, goals for new school year.

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It's time for society to take a hard stance on drinking on the water, Randy Blaser says.

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With Julia Child as inspiration, melons are popping up in sweet and savory dishes.

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Park Ridge studio focuses on families when it comes to fitness.

School
tes teach the teachers how to incorporate latest gadgets.

Neighbors
Krystal Zec goes from classroom mom to District 63 school board member.

Puzzles
Get your weekly fix of our crossword puzzle, Sudoku and horoscopes.

School district's tech coaches teach the teachers how to incorporate latest gadgets.

Weekly question

Neighborhood

Sideshow Theatre takes on Idomeneus'.

Top 5
Here are the top five events to add to your plans this week.

Football Preview
Special section inside today's paper previews the prep football season.

Family Friendly
Juggling and unicycle riding are in store for families at the Flying Fool Show.

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District 64 welcomes new year with changes

BY JENNIFER JOHNSON | jjohnson@pioneerlocal.com

PARK RIDGE — As they return to class this week, more students in Park Ridge-Niles School District 64 will be riding a bus, spending their lunchtime at school and getting to know new faces in the principal’s office.

The new school year kicked off Aug. 21 with important changes for some groups of students and advice from Superintendent Philip Bender that all students “stay happy, healthy and active,” by getting plenty of exercise, sleep, and nutritious foods.

“I think if you do those things you’ll be a happier person, you’ll be a healthier person and you’ll certainly get the most out of school as you can get,” Bender said.

One change instituted over the summer will result in additional seventh- and eighth-graders at Lincoln and Emerson middle schools having the opportunity to ride the school bus free of charge, according to district officials.

The State Board of Education this summer approved the district’s application requesting that Lincoln and Emerson be designated as schools qualifying for state bus reimbursement due to so-called hazardous crossings that students encounter two and from school.

Though roughly 300 students will qualify, not all are
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District 64
Continued from page 5
expected to sign up for the bus service, Bender said.

"The ridership is not going up as much as the total number of kids that have it available," Bender said, though he did not know the exact number of students this would include.

The school district will be reimbursed for "a portion" of the transportation cost by the state, but not the entire amount, the superintendent said.

District spokeswoman Bernadette Tramm said the district believes the state designation will make it safer for students by providing them with transportation to and from school. It could also reduce vehicle congestion at the middle schools, she added.

Another change this school year is the elimination of a lunch supervision fee and a new requirement that all elementary school students remain at school during lunch periods. In past years students had an option to go home for lunch or stay at school and pay for the lunch program.

The change will affect a small number of elementary school students, according to Tramm.

"In the past about 95 percent of the students were staying for lunch," she said.

Students can still go home for lunch, but only if a parent comes to the school office and follows an established "check-out" procedure.

"They need to come to the building and check-out their child, as is the normal process," Tramm said.

New school leaders are also greeting students as they start the year.

Lincoln Middle School, 200 S. Lincoln Ave., introduced Anthony Murray as its new principal; Washington School, 1500 W. Stewart Ave., welcomed both interim Principal Kathy Creely, who retired as Field School's principal in 2011, and new Assistant Principal Kathy Creely, who retired as Field School's principal in 2011, and new Assistant Principal Brett Balduf and Assistant Principal Kelly Tess. Tess will also serve as assistant principal of Franklin School, 2401 Manor Lane.

The new additions at Carpenter prompted a meet-and-greet to be held between families and the new administrators prior to the start of the new school year.

"One of my big goals as a first-year principal is to come in and get to know the community, the staff, the students and parents," Balduf said, explaining that he hopes to "continue the success that Carpenter has had."

Carpenter School's grounds also underway some recent changes due to a million-dollar flood mitigation project that "will be resolving long-standing issues with drainage," Tramm said.

The project resulted in a slight reconfiguration of the playgrounds as well.
More than just a new look

The Niles Herald you hold in your hands today is a re-imagining of what a local newspaper should provide for the community it serves.

For the past six months — through focus groups, hundreds of street interviews and direct contact with our readers — we have been in an open dialogue with our readers in an attempt to create the best possible local news experience for you.

The format and design we unveiled today is born of those conversations, and intended to better reflect the vibrancy of your hometown.

Start your reading experience with the Inside Guide on Page 4 — a deep index that will allow you to easily find the content that you want to read first.

In the Inside Guide, you will see that the newspaper has been created in subject areas, so that you can easily move from topic to topic and quickly find what you are looking for through a color-coded approach to chaptering.

Please make sure that you spend some time with our new Go chapter — your guide to the local and regional events that are happening this weekend and in the weeks ahead. Go takes the best parts of our former Diversions section and offers enhanced features and content.

Packed with ideas and suggestions about where to have fun, Go provides the scoop on the latest movie releases, concerts and plays. It also features a newly conceived approach to the calendar with an age-appropriate key that will help you find an event for everyone in the family.

In the weeks ahead, I’ll be back to point out more of the features. We hope you like what you see. And, as always, we value your feedback.

Sincerely,

Chris Krug, Publisher
ckrug@pioneerlocal.com
847-486-7201

Park Ridge man becomes victim of ruse entry scam

PARK RIDGE - Park Ridge police said a man posing as an employee of a roofing company lured an elderly resident last week outside his home while a second man unlawfully entered the residence.

According to police the "ruse entry" scam occurred the afternoon of Aug. 15 on the 800 block of South Fairview Avenue.

Deputy Police Chief Lou Jogmen said the suspect knocked on an 83-year-old man's door, claiming to be with a company that had replaced the roof on his home. The man reportedly told the resident that he noticed some shingles had fallen off and he wanted to replace them. The man then took the resident into the backyard while a second man entered the home and was seen by the resident's granddaughter, Jogmen said.

When the second man saw the girl he reportedly said he was looking for the homeowner and immediately left the residence.

Nothing was reported missing from the home, according to police.
Your News Producer

If you've got news to report, then you want to talk to Niles Herald-Spectator news producer MATT SCHMITZ. Here's how you can reach Matt:

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Automated checkout system leads off $5.5 library overhaul

BY NATALIE HAYES | Contributor

NILES - An automated system that will simplify the process of checking out and returning library materials is one aspect of a massive yearlong renovation project planned to revamp the Niles Public Library next year.

The $5.5 million renovation project, led by Addison, Ill.-based Frederick Quinn Corporation, is scheduled to begin in January.

The goal of the makeover is to offer a more-welcoming library environment with added features including a simplified checkout-and-return system, more public space and special areas designated for different age groups.

“We are realizing that the purpose of public libraries has changed, and as the needs of the community change we need to change along with them,” said Linda Weiss, director of the Niles Public Library.

Library board trustees approved a bid document for the automated materials handling, or AMH, system at the Aug. 15 library board meeting, and the bid is expected to be awarded at the Sept. 18 meeting.

Once the bid is finalized, librarians will start preparing the 250,000 books, DVDs, CDs and other materials that live in the library for the change-over.

The AMH system will streamline the process of checking out and returning library materials while shortening the wait time to check out books with eight kiosks that will be set up throughout the library. All a patron must do to borrow materials is walk up to the kiosk, scan their library card and the items they want to check out, and they’re on their way.

A radio-frequency identification chip installed in each library item automatically registers the item as checked in. Then when the materials are returned, the system instantly updates the status as checked-in.

Sorting through returned books at the Niles Public Library is actually a huge task. Each day the roughly 3,000 items returned by patrons must be sorted, checked-in manually and then put back on the shelves by library staff.

“Our current system uses tattle tape, or a magnetic strip, to keep track of when books are returned, and each item needs to be desensitized and resensitized when it comes in,” Weiss said. “Now the books will become live right when they’re checked in.”

“It’s kind of like the difference between a ‘dumb phone’ and a smart phone,” she added.

Though the new machines will replace many aspects of a librarian’s job, the library has no plans to reduce staff, and instead plans to offer better customer service with the new system by freeing up employees from sorting returned books for hours a day in the back room and allowing them to help patrons.

The AMH system is already in use in other area libraries, including Skokie, Des Plaines and Lake Zurich.

The comprehensive renovation project aims to create more places to sit and relax, additional study rooms and areas designed to accommodate small-group meetings.

“We want to make the library more logical, so we’re combining collections and moving things from one place to another,” Weiss said.
Trustees, public to question village manager on severance

NILES - A meeting of the Niles Village Board of Trustees' committee of the whole will be held before the board's regular meeting Aug. 28 to question Village Manager George Van Geem about severance packages to retiring employees now under scrutiny.

“We have fiduciary obligation to the village,” Trustee Chris Hanusiak said.

Recently the village turned over records to the U.S. Attorney's Office revealing that bonuses were given to retiring employees without documented board approval.

The bonuses, which in some cases included a village vehicle, were signed by former Mayor Nicholas Blase, who served a year in prison on federal charges pertaining to an insurance kickback scheme.

“The public has the opportunity to ask questions because it's a public forum,” said Hanusiak, who added that residents may ask Van Geem any questions they have in front of the committee of the whole.

Hanusiak requested that Van Geem should also “present all instances in which village property has either given gratis to any employee or sold to any employee without such items being advertised per state law.”

These instances should include all cases up to 1991, Hanusiak said.

The records showed substantial bonuses, such as $112,500, a car and five years of family insurance that was given to former village manager Abe Selman. Mary Kay Morrissey, another former village manager, took a $100,000 bonus and received a car for $10.

A specific time for the committee of the whole meeting has not yet been set, Hanusiak explained.
Document destruction event for residents scheduled

MOUNT PROSPECT — The Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County (SWANCC) will sponsor multiple document-destruction events throughout the seasons to assist residents with recycling outdated or sensitive documents. The next event will take place from 9-11 a.m. Aug. 25 at the Public Works Facility, 1700 W. Central Road, in the village of Mount Prospect. As SWANCC residents drive up in their vehicles, workers will unload the paper documents into large carts. When full, the carts of paper are emptied into the truck's cross-shredding machine. At the end of the event, the shredded documents are transported to Groot's recycling facility in Elk Grove Village and baled before being recycled into new paper.

Typical documents to shred include medical forms, bank statements, personal files and retired tax forms. Staples and paper clips are acceptable, but binders should be removed. Residents will be limited to six grocery-size bags or boxes of documents per event.

"Every consumer is at risk of identity theft and criminals have gotten very astute at going into garbage cans and recycling bins stealing names, addresses and even bank account numbers," said Mary Allen, SWANCC's recycling and education director. "Because of this constant threat, SWANCC wants to assist residents with destroying their personal information, making sure that all shredding is done on-site at the host location before being recycled."

For more information on document-destruction events, or other programs and resources, contact the agency at (847) 724-9205 or go to swancc.org.
THEFT

Michael A. Maniacek, 31, of 1044 Wilson, Des Plaines, was charged with theft after being arrested for stealing a purse at 1:30 p.m. July 30 at a store on the 5600 block of Touhy. A court date was scheduled for 10:30 a.m. Aug. 17.

Roman Surowka, of 9250 Emerson, Niles, was charged with theft Aug. 10 at Tony’s Finer Foods. Security said Surowka tried to leave the store without paying for meat valued at $19.68. A court date was scheduled for 9 a.m. Aug. 24.

Marsean A. Hood, 18, of 3618 N. Salem Walk, Northbrook, was charged with theft at 4 p.m. Aug. 11 after his arrest at Golf Mill Shopping Center. Security said Hood tried to leave the store without purchasing merchandise valued at $120. A court date was scheduled for 9 a.m. Aug. 24.

Leno Manika, 75, of 8819 Wisner, Niles, was charged with theft at 10:52 a.m. Aug. 12 after her arrest at Golf Mill Shopping Center. Security said Manika tried to leave the store with merchandise valued at $72. A court date was scheduled for 9 a.m. Oct. 1.

Andres E. Santana, 24, of 2904 N. Monitor, Chicago, was charged with theft after his arrest at 2:20 p.m. Aug. 12 at a store on the 5600 block of Touhy. Security said Santana tried to leave the store without purchasing an electric toothbrush and razor valued at $198.85. A court date was scheduled for 10:30 a.m. Aug. 21.

Parrish Livingston, 21, of 10014 Holly Lane, Des Plaines, was charged Aug. 12 at Golf Mill Shopping Center. Security said Livingston tried to leave the store without purchasing $79.97 in merchandise. A court date was scheduled for 9 a.m. Aug. 24.

An air-conditioning compressor and copper piping valued at $4,000 was reportedly stolen between 5:30 p.m. July 9 and 3 p.m. July 11 from a business on the 9100 block of Golf. An employee of the business reported that someone removed the items from a unit located on the roof.

ASSAULT

A resident at 10:55 a.m. Aug. 11 in an assisted-living facility on the 7000 block of Newark reported that another resident threatened him. The offender allegedly threatened the victim with a knife while he was on the elevator. During a police interview the offender said he brandished a hairbrush, but denied pulling out a knife.

DUI

Michal Sarkowica, 22, of 3502 Birch, Franklin Park, was arrested at 3:24 a.m. Aug. 12 on the 7000 block of Milwaukee and charged with driving under the influence of alcohol. Sarkowica was stopped when police observed his vehicle traveling at a high rate of speed beyond the posted limit. A court date was scheduled for 9 a.m. Sept. 21.

John E. Savage, 27, of 1330 N. Cleaver, Chicago, was arrested at 12:42 a.m. Aug. 10 on the 7900 block of Milwaukee and charged with driving under the influence of alcohol. A court date was scheduled at 9 a.m. Aug. 28.

BATTERY

Frank A. Silvio, 28, of 7354 W. Lee, Niles, was arrested and charged with domestic battery at 11:35 a.m. Aug. 13 on the 7300 block of Lee. A court date was slated for 10:30 a.m. Aug. 24.

WARRANTS

Robert K. Wilson, 40, of 415 E. 17th, Lombard, was arrested on an outstanding warrant for DUI at 8:24 a.m. Aug. 14 on the 7500 block of Touhy. A court date was slated for 8:30 a.m. Sept. 12.
Whooping cough cases increasing statewide

BY NATASHA WASINSKI | Contributor

Elaine Rosenfeld finds the hospitalization of young children this year due to an increase in whooping cough cases frustrating.

She is the director of pediatric infectious disease at Advocate Lutheran General Hospital in Park Ridge, and although she hasn’t witnessed any recent fatalities due to the respiratory disease, the loss of infant ties due to the respiratory disease characterized by uncontrollable spats of violent coughing.

“'There is absolutely no reason whatsoever that any child should die when we have a readily available vaccine for pertussis,'” Rosenfeld said.

Pertussis, the medical term for whooping cough, is a highly-contagious disease characterized by uncontrollable spats of violent coughing that can last for weeks. It is most common in children under the age of 11, but most adults in the U.S. are also susceptible.

In Illinois, the disease is experiencing a resurgence, with the number of pertussis cases continuing to rise in suburban north Cook County, the suburban north reflects the area's more dense populations.

Across the board, most of the reported ill are older children 10 to 14 years old, followed by 5 through 9 year olds, she said.

Communicable disease specialist Margaret Keeler said the Evanston Health Department often sees a spike in pertussis cases following summer travels and the return to school.

Health officials and medical professionals attribute its rise to a variety of factors — including better awareness and thus increased diagnoses of the disease during the past decade.

The waning effectiveness of the pertussis vaccine, particularly in children who received the shot between the ages of 4 and 6, has also contributed to a spike in reported cases.

According to the IDPH, whooping cough is caused by a germ residing in the mouth, nose and throat that is easily spread from person to person through coughing and sneezing.

Its symptoms initially mimic those of a common cold — a runny nose and slight fever accompanied by an occasional cough — but increase in severity after one to two weeks.

Rough, spasmodic coughing fits, followed by the high-pitched “whoop” sound, may cause the infected person to turn blue, vomit and become exhausted, according to the IDPH.

Although most children and adults are able to recover from pertussis with an antibiotic, it could prove fatal to vulnerable populations that lack immunity, particularly babies under 1.

Martell said the three basic premises for preventing the spread of a respiratory disease like whooping cough are immunization, isolation, and simple hygiene habits like covering a cough and frequent hand-washing.

To further curb the spread of the disease, the state now requires adolescents entering sixth and ninth grades to receive a booster dose for protection.

And while parents may be focused on good attendance when students head back to school this month, Martell said it is more important to keep kids home if they show signs of pertussis.

“Sick children do not learn well,” she said.

Health services coordinator Robin Olson said the Evanston School District 63 had one pertussis report last year.

She said the district is strict about its immunization policy and wellness program in part because of a sizable population of students who travel to or are exposed to people outside from the U.S.

The kindergarten through eighth-grade school district enrolls approximately 3,600 students.

Martell said getting children and adults caught up on pertussis booster shots is a key component to ensuring the disease doesn’t continue to affect vulnerable populations.

“We will always have an unprotected infant population,” Martell said. “We need to cocoon around those who cannot be vaccinated by those who are.”
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Frame of Mind

A snapshot of life in our community

Despite a rainy and cold night, the Maine-Niles Association of Special Recreation (M-NASR) held their annual Summer party for participants under tents at Harrer Park of August 11.

M-NASR serves clients from Morton Grove, Skokie Des Plaines, Golf, Lincolnwood Niles and Park Ridge. The improve the quality of life for special needs children, teens and adults with physical, mental and emotional disabilities by providing therapeutic recreational programs.

Each participant received a t-shirt with this year’s theme, Mighty M-NASR! on it.

The event was underwritten by the Liponi Foundation, which was founded by Sam Liponi’s Estate. Liponi would make sizable donations to M-NASR, so the foundation’s only benefactor is M-NASR. They hold fundraisers through the year to help fund this party and other M-NASR events.

Kelly Damron, senior operation manager, takes the plunge.
Laura Kaczmarek, of Park Ridge, wears some face paint.

8-year-old Erin MacDougal, of Des Plaines, smiles at her face paint.

Face painter Gene Viaz shows off his "handiwork."

Kelly Damron, senior operations manager, is all smiles after getting dunked.

Marioara Leancu and Capri Pattison stay dry while eating cupcakes.

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McLendon, Mrs. Marianna Demaree

Age 86, of Asheville, North Carolina, formerly of Madison, Indiana and Park Ridge, Illinois entered this life October 27, 1925 in Jefferson County, Indiana. She was the loving daughter of the late James Hayes and Mary Agnes Mathews Demaree. She was raised in Jefferson County and was a 1943 graduate of Central High School on Ryker's Ridge. She was a member of the First Baptist Church in downtown Madison, Indiana. Marianna received her Bachelor of Arts degree from Hanover College in 1947 and was a member of the Phi Mu Sorority. She then worked from 1947-1950 as the secretary to Dr. Albert Parker, president of Hanover College.

Marianna was a woman before her time, a leader not a follower, and was known to be fearless and a pioneer woman. With that in mind she moved to Indianapolis in 1950 and began a career at the Diamond Chain Company, serving as the executive secretary to the director of personnel until 1954. Marianna was nominated by her co-workers to participate in the Miss Flame of Indianapolis contest. One of the rules for contestants was that they must be a red head. Marianna won in 1953 and served as Miss Flame of Indianapolis and was honored to participate in the Indy 500 parade.

Marianna and her husband, Holmes Dewitt McLendon, were united in marriage on January 30, 1954 in Madison at her parents' beautiful home on Main Street in downtown Madison. This happy union was blessed with two daughters, Nancy Holmes and Susan Demaree. The happy couple moved to Chicago in 1954, but Holmes' employment soon moved the family to many different cities, including New York and Los Angeles. The family ultimately moved back to the Chicago area and settled in the suburb of Park Ridge. Marianna was a devoted wife, mother, and grandmother. Family was of the utmost importance in her life. Marianna enjoyed volunteering for various women's groups and was known for her philanthropic work in Christian women's organizations. She moved to Asheville, North Carolina to be near her daughters after her health began to fail in 2008. Marianna died Tuesday, August 14, 2012 at 12:09 p.m. at Genesis Estates in Asheville.

A Loving Family: Marianna is survived by her husband of fifty eight years, Holmes Dewitt McLendon of Asheville, North Carolina; her loving daughters, Nancy and her husband, Colonel Mark Jensen of Asheville, North Carolina; her loving brother, William Louis "Bill" Demaree and his wife, Betty Millican of Madison, Indiana; her loving sisters-in-law, Nancy Wilson Demaree of St. Louis, Missouri and Dorothy "Dottie" Crain Demaree of Madison, Indiana; her adoring grandchildren, Andrew Peery, Michael and Matthew Anderson; numerous nieces, nephews, great-nieces, great-nephews, and other relatives.

She was preceded in death by her father, James Hayes Demaree, died April 21, 1965; her mother, Mary Agnes Mathews Demaree, died January 27, 1999; her sister, Nancy Demaree Stiles died April 3, 1964; her brothers, James Mathews Demaree, died September 13, 1992 and his wife, Betty Mayes "Billie" Demaree, died February 12, 2001, John Robert "Jack" Demaree, died January 2, 2002, Charles Richard "Dick" Demaree, died November 6, 2009.

Visitations: Friends may call on Saturday from 12 Noon until the time of the service at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centre, 325 Demaree Drive in Madison, Indiana. Interment will follow at the Springdale Cemetery in downtown Madison, Indiana.

Memorial Expressions: Memorial contributions may be made to the Asheville Area Chapter of the National Alzheimer's Association. Cards are available at the funeral home.

Sign Guest Book at www.chicagolandobits.com

Express Condolences

Sign the online Guest Book

For local community Death Notices visit pioneerlocal.com
Kaehler, Jeannette

Known in theatre as Jeannette Leahy, passed away on August 18, 2012, at the age of 90. She was born in Eau Claire, WI in 1921. Her father, Kenneth A. Oliver, served as a cavalryman in World War I and married her mother, Berthe Borie, a French Red Cross nurse, whom he met while stationed in France. Jeannette was the first born and lived in France until World War II. Jeannette was a WAC Sgt. and served subsequently in the Army Reserves.

Her career in radio and stage began in South Bend, IN where she wrote and directed her own radio program at WHOT and WSBT in the 1950's. Jeannette conducted a news program at WFMB in Indianapolis and was awarded the honor of First Women on Indiana TV, "Hoosier Homemaker." Topics covered cooking, sewing, decorating and interviewing.

In 1953, she moved to Wilmette, IL where she worked in TV commercials. Jeannette went on to perform in theatre with stars such as Vivian Vance, Ann Miller, Phyllis Diller, Don Ameche, Tom Ewell, Bert Parks, Jackie Coogan and John Forsythe in multiple Chicago area venues. She was a member of the Screen Actors Guild, Actors Equity and AFTRA. She served as director of the Wilmette-Kenilworth Club and a member of the Michigan Shores Club.

Jeannette was married to the late Wallace Kaehler of Wilmette. She was the beloved mother of Denyse (Patrick) Feeney of Park Ridge and the late Thomas Leahy, Jr.; dear grandmother of Alison (Adam) Jeffries of Bloomington, IL and Christopher (Lisa) Karsten of Chicago; proud great-grandmother of Kaylen Leahy Karsten and dear sister of Paul Oliver of Micanopy, FL.

Visitation Wednesday, August 22 from 3 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Donnellan Family Funeral Home, 10045 Skokie Blvd. at Old Orchard Rd., Skokie, IL 60077. Funeral Mass Thursday, August 23 at 10 a.m. at St. Joseph's Church, 1747 Lake Ave., Wilmette, IL 60091. Interment Memorial Park Cemetery.

Contributions may be made to Mercy Home for Boys and Girls, 1140 W. Jackson Blvd., Chicago, IL 60607 or the National Right to Life Organization, Attn: Development, 512 10th St., NW, Washington, D.C. 20004. Info: 847-675-1990 or www.donnellanfuneral.com

Email: deathnotices@pioneerlocal.com
Call: 847-998-3400 (opt 6)

Sign the Guest Book at pioneerlocal.com
What it means to you

TAX DOLLARS AT WORK

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<th>CHICAGO</th>
<th>SPRINGFIELD</th>
<th>WASHINGTON</th>
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Motor Row Entertainment District approved for TIF funds

The Chicago Community Development Commission has approved $628,000 in Tax Increment Financing funds for a planned microbrewery restaurant in the Motor Row Entertainment District, a landmark district trying to rise up on the Near South Side.

The microbrewery project, which will cost a total of $2.5 million, will transform a three-story vacant building at 2337 S. Michigan Ave. into the Broad Shoulders Brewery.

Investors in the brewpub will put $1 million of their own money into the project and plan to use borrowed funds and the TIF money for the rest. Though approved by the CDC, the TIF money must be approved by the City Council before it is paid.

Motor Row, a stretch of now-vacant auto garages and dealerships built in the early part of the last century. The neighborhood's roots are in the late 1880s. Wealthy barons Marshall Field, George Pullman and Philip Armour built mansions on Prairie Avenue. Fancy car dealerships came to the area in the 1930s to cater to the residents. The district now sits blocks from the McCormick Place convention center.

Ald. Bob Fioretti is in talks with members of the band Cheap Trick to build a restaurant and entertainment venue in the district.

- Chicago Sun-Times

House fails on pension reform during special summer session

Gov. Pat Quinn's special legislative session to deal with Illinois' great public-pension crisis wound up not being very special at all. Quinn once raised expectations that the state's pension puzzle could be solved Friday "once and for all," but only one sharply limited bill surfaced — a plan abolishing pensions for state legislators and other state officeholders.

And there weren't even enough votes to pass that.

"We all look like idiots," said Rep. Daniel Biss (D-Evanston), who nonetheless voted for it.

The legislation House Majority Leader Barbara Flynn Currie (D-Chicago) brought to the House floor applied only to the smallest of the state's five retirement systems and would have eaten into Illinois' $83 billion pension debt by a mere $111 million over the next 33 years.

Flynn's plan would have forced retired lawmakers to give up annual 3-percent pension bumps if they wanted to keep their state-subsidized health insurance. After next year, pensions would be abolished for newly elected lawmakers.

That plan emerged only after Quinn and the four legislative leaders failed to agree on a broader solution that would have applied to more of the state's five pension systems.

- Chicago Sun-Times

U.S. general investigated over lavish travel, hotel spending

A four-star Army general who was the first head of the new U.S. Africa Command is under investigation and facing possible demotion for allegedly spending hundreds of thousands of dollars improperly on lavish travel, hotels and other items, The Associated Press has learned.

Gen. William "Kip" Ward has been under investigation for about 17 months, and Defense Secretary Leon Panetta is expected to make a final decision on the matter before the end of the month, according to several defense officials.

The defense officials said Ward is facing numerous allegations that he spent several hundred thousand dollars allowing unauthorized people, including family members, to fly on government planes, and spent excessive amounts of money on hotel rooms, transportation and other expenses when he traveled as head of Africa Command.

A four-star general is the highest rank in the Army.

While the exact amount of alleged misspending was not disclosed, the estimated total raises comparisons with the $823,000 allegedly spent by dozens of employees of the General Services Administration, who were accused of lavish spending during an October 2010 conference at a Las Vegas resort.

- The Associated Press
Should Chicago try for Olympics?

The Olympic party has ended.

Now comes the hangover.

In the months to come, we'll hear an inevitable series of dire post-mortems about the final tab and hidden costs for the London Olympic Games. Meanwhile, in Chicago, sighs of relief could already be heard around town about Chicago and its failed Olympic dream.

Hosting an Olympics can be insanely expensive, and taxpayers are on the hook for any losses. Nor does Chicago need the Olympics to elevate its status.

All reasonable points, but they all miss the point.

London can be the ultimate learning opportunity for Chicago. If it turns out that the post-Olympic hangover is a bone-shaking crippler for London for years to come, then it would give Chicago much pause and much to reconsider. Chicago should look to London's experience as its guide.

Because maybe, just maybe, Chicago still has the ability to dream a bit, battle as an underdog, go for the long shot and come back, before the world, a winner.

Drinking while boating demands attention

Thirty years ago, it wasn't that unusual, even in polite company, to hear someone say, "I'll have one more for the road."

Frank Sinatra even sang about it.

Today, few adults would consider taking a drink and then taking a drive. Most responsible adults know that drinking and driving don't mix. Someone could get killed. Society just doesn't tolerate it.

But there is a place where having a drink and taking a ride seems to be considered just part of summer fun. It's no big deal. It's an acceptable social norm.

Out there - on the water and in a boat - having a drink is akin to relaxing with a beer and sitting on a lawn chair on your deck. That attitude has got to change. It's time we all grew up and realized that drinking and boating don't mix. It's time society takes as hard a stance on drinking on the water as it does with drinking and driving.

Need proof?

Just take a good, hard look at what happened to 10-year-old Tony Borcia of Libertyville, as sweet a boy as 10-year-olds can be. He was tubing on Petite Lake in late July, something people who love the water have been doing on the Chain O' Lakes for ages. Tony fell off the tube, but before his dad could turn the family boat around and pick up Tony, he was hit by a speedboat.

Tony was wearing a bright red life jacket and was frantically waving his arms. Anyone who has fallen while skiing or tubing knows that vulnerable feeling of being in the water and maybe not being seen by a boater.

Apparently, Tony wasn't seen. Turns out the man driving the boat identified as the one that hit Tony has been charged with driving his boat under the influence of alcohol and cocaine.

Tony never had a chance. His dad had to call his mom and tell her their dear boy was dead.

I love the water and boating as much as the next guy. I grew up on the Chain - boating, water skiing, swimming and fishing. I wouldn't go near those lakes on the weekend today. It's time we all grew up. We can no longer tolerate drinking and boating.

What happened to Tony should never happen again.
**Letters to the Editor**

**Helping heroes**

I have a hero, in fact, mine are plural heroes! They are the veterans of the military who fought for that I could have the freedom to write letters to columnists and editors of newspapers. I am 82 years old so I have lived through World War II, the Korean War, the Vietnam War, etc. My uncles, two brothers, two cousins and one son are all veterans.

My latest heroes are the homeless veterans, some 4,600 of them, living on the streets of Chicago. I learned these men and women needed comfort. I learned to take “plastic grocery bags,” cut them into strips and crochet them into bedrolls.

Since 2009 when I lost my job I have made over 200 bedrolls. They are 30 inches wide and 6 feet long. It takes 35 labor hours and 750 bags to make one bedroll. I have kept over 16,000 plastic bags out of the landfills, out of tree branches and out of our rivers/streams.

Additionally I helped the ladies of Immanuel Lutheran Church in Palatine make bedrolls and pillows for the people of Haiti after their tragedy. One 72-year old lady was sleeping on a dirt floor; we made her a double bedroll.

Some stores are using biodegradable bags. I have also written to Gov. Quinn, sharing my story.

Jo-Ellen Claeves
Niles

**A little respect, please**

Look, I'm old, but not so old I can't decide what your fingers are shouting at me. The index finger is saying you're number one. Yeah I get it. And your gnarly third finger is telling me what you think of me. Perfectly clear. The only two I'm bitching about are two and three.

Lately you're flashing them at every camera, cop or crowd you see. This is where I take exception. You see, kiddo, I grew up during the great achievements of the Greatest Generation. Back then, that "V" stood for only one thing... one proud thing... one fierce thing all over the world.

Maybe some of you have forgotten, Back when the world of your grandparents and your parents was threatened with total domination by the Nazi hordes of Hitler, Churchill stood defiantly in the same London that just hosted the Olympics. It was his gutsy way of saying to all the free peoples of the world that the madmen from Berlin would not prevail. Against all odds, victory would be ours.

Churchill helped make that victory possible so that by V-J Day Aug. 14, 1945 every free man and woman on the planet had adopted the "V" sign for the victory of the human race. So please, no more cheapening of it. Those two fingers should be saved for the real thing, for causes that count!

Jack Spatafora
Park Ridge

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**Niles Herald-Spectator Wants to Hear from You**

Please send your Letters to the Editor to News Producer Matt Schmitz at mschmitz@pioneerlocal.com or by mail to Niles Herald-Spectator, 3701 W. Lake Ave., Glenview, IL 60026. Please keep letters to 250 words or fewer. The Herald-Spectator reserves the right to edit letters for length, clarity and content. All letters must be signed to be published.
Question of the Week

At Washington Park in Niles we asked, "What is the best part of going back to school?"

Kelly Martens
Niles

"The best part of going back to school is to meet the new teachers, see my friends and to learn."

Christopher Brzuskievicz
Niles

"It would be having nice teachers and having art, gym, computer lab and library."

Eric Mahoney
Niles

"My favorite part of going back to school is physical education."

Jimmy Mahoney
Niles

"I like going back to school to see my friends."

People Poll

LAST WEEK'S QUESTION
"What is — or was — the best part of going back to school?"

RESPONSES
1) Seeing friends again: 52%
2) Shopping for new clothes: 11%
3) Extracurricular activities: 19%
4) Square cafeteria pizzas: 19%

THIS WEEK'S QUESTION
"What is/was your favorite class in school?"

RESPONSES
1) Math
2) English
3) Science
4) History/Social Studies
5) Gym

To respond to this week's People Poll question, visit niles.suntimes.com.

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District 64 tech coaches teach the teachers

BY JENNIFER JOHNSON | jjohnson@pioneerlocal.com

PARK RIDGE — It’s not always the students who are learning new things in the classroom. As a new school year launches in Park Ridge-Niles School District 64, a team of instructional technology coaches is educating the educators on ways to navigate an ever-changing world of technology.

Each of District 64’s five elementary schools and two middle schools has a tech coach assigned to the building for the purpose of working one-on-one with teachers to help them integrate new technology in the classroom, said District 64 Director of Technology Terri Bresnahan.

“A teacher might say, ‘For this unit of study I have this lesson planned. How can I integrate technology, engage the students and enhance instruction?’” Bresnahan explained.

The coach will then meet with a teacher, receiving instruction in several different areas, whether it involves using a new application on a school iPad, coming up with interactive lessons for classroom SmartBoards, identifying online resources for student projects or setting up a document camera (a modern version of the overhead projector that transmits onto a screen images of a textbook page), a photograph or even a three-dimensional figure that is visible to the entire class.

In other words, technology coaches are like in-person tech support. With an added educational component.

“I think the biggest benefit is they are able to provide individualized support to each teacher within the building,” Bresnahan said.

The coaches can also work right alongside the teachers in the classroom, if necessary.

“The instructors can come in and co-teach until the teacher feels they can independently utilize the technology in their instruction,” Bresnahan explained.

She believes the technology coaches are important because they help classroom teachers and students keep up with the rapidly changing technological landscape.

“The end result of this whole initiative is to really enhance student learning and to provide our students with the opportunities that they need to be successful in a 21st-century world,” Bresnahan said. “I think the coaches, by improving and enhancing what the teachers do, will ultimately have a positive impact on the students.”

A pilot program consisting of three technology coaches was instituted during the previous school year, said District 64 spokeswoman Bernadette Tramm.

“We felt it worked out really well. Their work was very effective,” Tramm said.

Computers and accompanying technology are an important part of District 64 schools.

For instance, each elementary school has 56 iPads that students can check out to use and at the middle-school level there are 60 iPads per building. All were funded through the district’s budget. Some additional iPads, including those used by special-needs classrooms, were purchased through grants, Bresnahan said.

The number of laptop computers that can be checked out for classroom use is also expected to increase, as are the number of SmartBoards, which act as large touch-screens and are interactive, white, wall boards that display a computer image via a projector. In addition Bresnahan said the district is looking to roll out a Google Apps for Education program that will allow students to collaborate, store, and share documents and resources with each other and with their teachers in a secure, online environment.
SCHOOLS NEWS

Students back in class at District 64

About 4,300 students returned to class in Park Ridge-Niles School District 64 when the new school year began Aug. 21.

This year all students learned their teacher and classroom assignments through the mail.

In preparation for the new school year, District 64 provided families with a few tips to ensure a smooth transition:

- Rehearse the day-to-day essentials. Preview the daily school schedule, including early-release Wednesdays.
- Plan a safe route to school. For students who do not ride the bus, establish a carpool or consider walking or biking to and from school with others in the neighborhood. Always follow the school's designated safe walking route that shows crossing guard locations.
- Review the safety guidelines around the school. Learn drop-off, pickup and parking zones, and make sure caregivers and other occasional drivers are aware of them, too.
- Subscribe to the school's email list for newsletters and announcements. Email lists can be found on the individual school websites, which can be accessed through www.d64.org.

Each school will also conduct a Curriculum Night for parents to get an overview of what their children will be learning during the 2012-13 school year. The schedule is:

- Carpenter School, 6 p.m. Aug. 30.
- Roosevelt School, 6 p.m. Aug. 28 for grades 3-5; and Sept. 6 for grades K-2.
- Franklin School, 5 p.m. Aug. 28 for kindergarten and new families; 6 p.m. for grades 1-2; 6:30 p.m. for grades 3-4; and 7 p.m. for grade 5.
- Jefferson School, 7 p.m. Aug. 30.
- Lincoln Middle School, 7 p.m. Aug. 30.
- Lincoln Middle School, 7 p.m. Aug. 30.
- Roosevelt School, 6 p.m. Aug. 28 for grades 3-5; and Sept. 6 for grades K-2.
- Washington School, 6:30 p.m. Sept. 6.
- Emerson Middle School, 6:30 p.m. for grade 6, and 7 p.m. for grades 7-8, on Sept. 5.

In addition, Jefferson School will conduct a parent orientation at 1 p.m. Aug. 23.

Also on tap for the 2012-13 school year will be the first phase in transitioning all students and faculty to using iPads instead of textbooks. Next year the freshmen will use iPads, and the entire student body will follow suit in 2013-14. The initiative will make St. Pat's the first school in the Archdiocese of Chicago to use iPads 24/7 in the classroom.

O'Brien also completed his undergraduate studies at DePaul University. He has spent the last six years as an Assistant Football Coach for the Shamrocks. In 2008 and 2010 he taught summer school, and in 2009 he interned with the Saint Patrick Marketing Department. O'Brien also taught five English classes at in 2012 in addition to moderating The Green and Gold newspaper.
Singing in the shower never sounded so good.

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Church projects goodwill toward community with a 'Divine' image

BY JENNIFER JOHNSON | jjohnson@pioneerlocal.com

PARK RIDGE — A larger-than-life image of Jesus Christ drew the faithful — and, perhaps, the curious — to the grounds of St. Paul of the Cross Catholic Church in Park Ridge.

The 10-foot tall image, suspended in a wooden frame with bouquets of red roses at the base, was displayed through Aug. 17 in front of St. Paul of the Cross Catholic School, 140 S. Northwest Highway. Known as the Image of the Divine Mercy, it is a reproduction of a painting commissioned by Saint Maria Faustina Kowalska of Poland. The image depicts the resurrected Jesus as Saint Faustina said she appeared to her in a 1931 vision.

It was St. Paul parishioner and Park Ridge resident John Koch who arranged to have the image brought to his parish.

From classroom mom to District 63 board member

BY NATASHA WASINSKI

Contributor

MORTON GROVE — For the past two years Krystal Zec has been diligent about staying involved in her young children's schooling. She attended the monthly meetings of the East Maine School District 63 Board of Education on a regular basis. She coordinated the creation of Nelson School's yearbook with the Parent Teacher Organization. And she spent time volunteering in her son's classroom.

Zec aims for her children to value education like she does. "I want to make an impact and personally be out there," she said. "I want my kids to know how important is." She said. "I want my kids to know how important is." Serving on the Board of Education was the next goal of the working mother of three.

The opportunity presented itself this summer, when Zec was sworn into office Aug. 1 to fill a board vacancy. "I want to keep it a good district and continue to make it a district that kids and parents want to go to," Zec said.

Zec said her family moved to Morton Grove seven years ago partly because of the fond memories her husband, Rusmir, a District 63 alumnus, has of Nelson and Gemini schools. The couple will have two children at Nelson this year when their daughter enters kindergarten and their son becomes a second-grader.

Parental involvement is a priority for Zec, whose experience growing up in Springfield was different.

Zec recounted how she and her brother often did homework independently because their mother had to work. She developed on her own an appreciation for the merits of education, earning both bachelor's and master's degrees in accounting as well as CPA certification.

Zec now works for a major banking institution. She's able to juggle family, work and, now, board service, thanks to her husband, she said.

"It's teamwork," she said. "And prioritizing. Of course family comes first."
through the Divine Mercy Project of Chicago.

“The purpose is to show everybody that God is merciful for everyone and we should help each other out, really,” Koch explained.

The Divine Mercy Project was developed by Michael Sullivan, an attorney and former director of evangelization and development for the Sanctuary of The Divine Mercy in Chicago. The idea to share the Divine Mercy with the larger community came to Sullivan while in prayer just over two years ago.

“I was awoken in the middle of the night, I looked at the time and it was 3:33 in the morning,” he shared.

“That's a significant time because the 3 o'clock hour is the hour for divine mercy — it's the hour Jesus died on the cross — and 33 was the age he was when he died.”

Sullivan got up to pray and it was then that the Divine Mercy Project began to take shape in his mind.

Built around the concept of "prayer in the public square," the Image of the Divine Mercy was initially displayed for nine days in Chicago's Daley Plaza during the 2011 Easter season. Twenty-four-hour prayer vigils were conducted around it.

For Sullivan the purpose of the icon was for visitors to focus on God's mercy.

"If we all really understood in our bones how much the Heavenly Father loves us, it would just transform our entire world," Sullivan said.

Since 2011 the image has traveled around the Chicago area and suburbs. At St. Paul of the Cross church members are present around the clock to keep vigil over the image and draw citizens to pray. A recitation of the Divine Mercy Chaplet, which includes a series of prayers, takes place at 3 p.m. each day.

Park Ridge residents Mark and Halina Kuczynski, who attended the 3 p.m. prayer Aug. 13, said it was their faith that drew them to the parish to stand before the Divine Mercy image, even on a rainy afternoon.

"Every time I see it and I look in Jesus' eyes I say, 'I'm nobody without you,' " said Halina Kuczynski, who has seen the original painting in the Sanctuary of Divine Mercy in Krakow, Poland, as well.

Mark Kuczynski came to see the image to express this thankfulness for the gift of life he has been given.

"Jesus Christ performed many, many, many miracles and you can look at me — I'm one of them," he said.

Due to the connection the image has to Poland, the Image of the Divine Mercy has a particularly special meaning for the Polish community in Park Ridge, Koch said.

He added that he would like to see the image bring many citizens together, including those of different faiths.

"We hope people come away with a better sense of community and just a better attitude towards each other," he said. "It's mainly to promote goodwill and mercy toward everybody."
SUPER CROSSWORD

ACROSSES
1 Martin Sheen, to (70 film) 52 The Twelve - (70 film)
2 Shrew, to Marat 58 Hunt or Hives
3 Estevaz 101 Dancing boxer?
4 Photo link 104 Dancing season coach?
5 Pipe part 105 Hailing from
10 TV's "The 111 Tickles of Life" 116 Short story
13 of "Life" 117 Mention briefly
16 Baal or 118 Wimbledon winner
17 Elvis 119 Aussie
20 Bonus manner of walker
21 Soccer superstar 120 Dance
22 Cold sound 121 "Crazy"
23 Dancing 122 Comedic singer
25 Landed 123 Widespread cartoonist?
26 Range rope 124 Dancing set
1 Way that each row across, each column down 125 Comedic instrument
5 Word form for "environment" 126 Dancing cartoonist?
6 It may be better 127 "Dinda" (33 song)
7 "I'm 128 Make a 'Doo' (33 song)
8 We 129 Winner
9 Health resor
11 Happy 130 Singer
12 Range rope 131 Entertain
13 TV's "The Life" 132 Entertain
16 Italian wine 133 Entertain
17 Italian wine 134 Entertain
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SUDOKU

BY LINDA THISTLE

For the week of August 29 to September 4

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) You might not like the sudden setback in your plans. But keep that headstrong Arian temperament in check and wait for explanations. Things will begin to clear up by week's end.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Enjoy the respite from your hectic schedule, but be ready to plunge into a new round of social activities. A new contact holds much potential for the future.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) A trusted colleague has news that could change your perception of a current workplace situation. What had seemed unfair might prove to be highly favorable after all.

CANCER (June 21 to July 21) You still need to watch what you say and how you say it. What you assert as honesty, others might perceive as Crabiness. Be patient. This difficult period clears up by the weekend.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) Your Royliness needs time away from the limelight to catch up on things, from tidying your desk to making those calls you've put off. You're back in the center of things by the weekend.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) Honesty is the best policy, of course. But you'll do better at achieving your goals if you can be less aggressive and more circumspect in how you phrase your comments.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) Your ability to maintain your balance in confusing situations continues to work for you. Stay on the steady course, one step at a time. The weekend shows improvement.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) Your decisiveness could simply be your keen Scorpion sense warning you to be wary of making a commitment. Take this time to do a more thorough investigation.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) Good news: New information comes your way to help you make a more informed decision on how to deal with the opportunity that has opened up for you.

NEED A HINT? FIND THE PUZZLE SOLUTIONS ON PAGE 32
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 mbottari@pioneerlocal.com.

**CENTER OF CONCERN**

**Week's Offerings**

**65+**

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

- Aug. 27: Employment counseling, by appointment.
- Aug. 25: Legal counseling, by appointment.
- Aug. 25: Blood-pressure and blood-sugar testing, 10 a.m. - Noon (no appointment needed).

**CLASSES**

**Animal assisted therapy**

**13+ 18+ 65+**

Rainbow Animal Assisted Therapy Inc. offers "Introduction to Animal Assisted Therapy" dog training classes at various locations, including 6042 W. Oakton St., in Morton Grove. The fee is $60. Contact Dorkia King at dhking4@yahoo.com or call (773) 736-9021, for schedules and locations.

**Niles Chapter Toastmasters**

**10+**

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

**CLUBS**

**Korean War Vets**

**13+ 65+**

Greater Chicago Chapter No. 25 meets 7 p.m. the fourth Wednesday of each month at the Montclare-Leyden VFW Post, 6940 W. Diversey Ave. Call Joe Hennueller, (773) 774-9671.

**Knights of Columbus**

**18+**

North American Martyrs Council Chapter, Niles, provides ways for members to help others in the community while trying to improve their family and spiritual lives.

**COMMUNITY**

**Holocaust Museum**

**65+**

Illinois Holocaust Museum & Education Center: 9603 Woods Drive, Skokie; information: (847) 967-4800; reservations: (847) 967-4889, www.iholocaustmuseum.org. Museum admission prices: General Admission, $12; seniors (65+), $8; students (ages 12-22), $8; children (ages 5-11), $6. Reservations required for programs. To Jan. 6, 2013: Special exhibition, "Spies, Traitors and Saboteurs: Fear and Freedom in America," a creation of the International Spy Museum, explores this vital question through video, film, interactive displays and artifacts, offering an unprecedented perspective into the stories of espionage, treason, and deception that Americans have contended with since the founding days of the republic. Reservations recommended.

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Historical Society

Niles Historical Museum is open to the public 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. Drop in, make arrangements for a tour, drop off artifacts and collections, or just come to visit. Call (847) 390-0160 for information.

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.

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Aug. 29. Get tips to successfully maximize the reduction of your property taxes. Learn the appeals process, how to discover tax refunds and bill errors and uncover qualifying exemptions.

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Family gets piece of the pie with Niles pizzeria

by Tracy Gruen

Niles

Nancy’s Pizza started in 1970 when Italian immigrants Nancy and Rocco Palese opened their first pizza parlor.

“Nancy’s is the originator of the stuffed pizza,” claimed Fred Besch, who has been the owner of Nancy’s Pizza, 8706 W. Golf Road, in Niles, for 35 years. His mother-in-law is the “original Nancy.”

Nancy and Rocco lived most of their adult lives in Turin, Italy, and then immigrated with their three children to the United States in 1969. They opened their first pizzeria, Guy’s Pizza, after 18 months living in Chicago. The pizza place offered the thin-crust pizza, but in 1971, Rocco introduced his own spin modeled after his family’s recipe for an Easter specialty cake, or a “scarciedda.”

The original Nancy’s Pizza was located in Harwood Heights. The couple sold that restaurant to finance their new location in Chicago, which was much larger.

A variety of stuffed, pan and thin-crust pizzas are served at Nancy’s. Some new items on the menu include a Margherita pizza with tomato, fresh basil, mozzarella and olive oil, and a buffalo-wing pizza.

Nancy Palese, the namesake of Nancy’s Pizza in Niles, poses for a photograph at the restaurant Aug. 4. Palese’s late husband started the restaurant chain more than 30 years ago. J.GEIL-FOR SUN-TIMES MEDIA

Mondays are half-priced-pizza days at Nancy’s, while other days pastas go for $6.99.

Nancy’s can be found at 40 locations across the state, including others in Park Ridge, Palatine and Naperville. In addition to its Illinois locations the popular pizza joint is also in Atlanta, Ga.

Chicago Magazine named Nancy’s the “Best Stuffed Pizza” twice, and Entertainment Publications’ city-wide survey revealed it was “Best by far Pizza-Chicago and its Suburbs.” ABC-TV’s People’s Choice Poll chose Nancy’s Pizza as the maker of the “Best Pizza in Chicago.” In 1984, the Chicago Tribune called it the “Best Stuffed Pizza in Chicago.”
Bill Hans has been reading the Pioneer Press’ Northbrook Star “forever.”
So Hans, a longtime Northbrook resident, welcomed the opportunity when his design firm was asked to redesign not only his local community paper, but all 32 print publications in Pioneer Press that cover communities in Cook, DuPage and Lake counties.

“I’ve always said, from the design side, it could be better,” Hans said.
“Having the opportunity to make it better from a design standpoint and communication standpoint was spectacular.”

Chris Krug, publisher for Pioneer Press and a vice president with Sun-Times Media, said the redesigned publications reflect a commitment to provide timely and fresh content in a more elegant way.

“Our design goes beyond aesthetics, and I hope that this design will create a more meaningful relationship with our readers,” Krug said. “Each of our communities deserves a newspaper that reflects the lives of the people we serve.”

The father-daughter team of Bill and Brianne Hans, of the Evanston-based Hans Design Inc., created the new look of the Pioneer Press publications that debuted today.

“Hans Design brought a new perspective that we needed,” Krug said. “Their willingness to step away from conventional newspaper thinking created a bold new look that we think our readers will appreciate.”

After getting an idea of what Pioneer Press was looking for, the Hanses dissected the old newspapers to get an understanding of the elements and graphics.

Then everything was reorganized. Major changes include using more readable fonts for articles and headlines, and sectioning the newspaper by chapters, similar to a magazine’s layout.

The sectioning is communicated in several ways. Besides stating along the top of each page what section a reader is in, each page now has a distinctly colored icon at the top to let the reader know what section he or she is in: The Business pages, for instance, are illustrated by a green dollar sign and School items by a light blue apple.

Similarly, in the Calendar section, each item has color-coordinated icons that help readers quickly identify which events are a match for them by age groups.

“It’s just an easier way for people to get the information they need,” Brianne Hans said. “There are very few people who have the time to read through column after column of events to find what is best suitable for them.”

Krug encouraged readers to provide feedback about the redesigned newspaper. He said the company is hopeful the clean lines and easy navigation of the printed newspaper will help readers “better enjoy our approach to providing the best local news and information in each of our communities.”
Pioneer Press

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Starting 8.24
Family
Friendly
Unicycle riding in store at Flying Fool Show.
[47]

Film Clips
What's opening in theaters and what's still playing.
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Movie Review
'Hit and Run' smash-up of action and romance.
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Top Five
Our picks for the week's best entertainment.
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Stage
Set designer having a banner year.
[42]

What To Do
Your calendar for this week and beyond.
[56]

Cover Story
Myths with a twist in 'Idomeneus.'
[40]
sometimes there are as many versions of a story as there are people telling it.

the divergent myths about what happened when the king of crete returned from a prolonged war are explored in Sideshow Theatre Company's production of "Idomeneus," by Roland Schimmelpfenig, translated by David Tushingham.

Skokie native Joey deBettencourt and Northbrook native Ann James each play multiple roles in the show.

deBettencourt's main role is as Idamantes, the son of Idomeneus, king of Crete. "He's a kid who's been waiting for his dad for 10 years," he said. "He's had a life of privilege yet, at the same time, the whole city of Crete has been gone in the Trojan War the entire time he's been alive."

although he read the myth when he attended Niles North High School, deBettencourt said he was only "vaguely familiar" with the tale before taking the role. He knew it was about "a guy returning home who promises to sacrifice the first thing he sees if he arrives and it turns out to be his son."

whether Idomeneus takes that drastic step or lets his son live — thus angering the gods — is explored through storytelling, monsters and humor by a cast of 15.

only four cast members play specific characters for the majority of the show, so deBettencourt plays a variety of other roles.

The Northwestern University theater graduate has sharpened his acting skills through performances at Steppenwolf Theatre, Lifeline Theatre and Griffin Theatre, where he is a company member. He earned a Best Actor Jeff Award for Griffin's production of "Punk Rock" earlier this year.

James also takes on a variety of parts in the show. She said she was unfamiliar with the playwright before accepting the role because he writes in German — and this is the first time "Idomeneus" has been staged in the United States.

James is convinced that "Idomeneus" will fascinate audiences. "There's stylized movement and interaction with the audience," she said. "It's very theatrical."

Sideshow Theatre

Sideshow Theatre Company presents "Idomeneus"
7:30 p.m. Thursdays-Saturdays, and 3 p.m. Sundays, through Sept. 23
DCA Storefront Theatre, 66 E. Randolph St., Chicago
$25, $15 students and seniors (800) 838-3006; www.sideshowtheatre.org
Folk-rock singer Michael McDermott performs at 8:30 p.m. Aug. 25 at InterContinental Chicago O'Hare Hotel in Rosemont. Visit www.montroseoom.com.

'Man of La Mancha' is being staged by Light Opera Works Aug. 25-26 at Cahn Auditorium in Evanston. Call (847) 920-5360 or visit www.LightOperaWorks.com.

Taste of Armenia Festival takes place noon-6:30 p.m. Aug. 26 at St. James Armenian Church, 816 Clark St., Evanston. Free admission. Visit www.tasteo-farmenia.org.


Jazz Community Big Band plays the music of Count Basie, Duke Ellington and Stan Kenton from 7-10 p.m. Aug. 28 at Mullen’s Bar & Grill, in Norridge. Call (708) 452-3190.
Set designer is having a banner year

BY HEDY WEISS | Sun-Times Media

By all rights, theatrical set designer Kevin Depinet should be lounging on a beach somewhere, recharging after a year of living in creative overdrive. But he is not.

Instead, he was speaking animatedly about one of his many works-in-progress — his collaboration with director Gary Griffin on a revival of "Sunday in the Park With George," the Stephen Sondheim musical that will open the season at the Chicago Shakespeare Theater.

But before we get to that, it's worth considering some of the projects for which Depinet created sets during the past year. The list includes:

- "The Iceman Cometh," with its three dramatic shifts of perspective, at the Goodman Theatre.
- "Timon of Athens," with its chilly, high-tech opening and radically different sandy beach second act, at Chicago Shakespeare Theater.
- "A Little Night Music," the model of simplicity and elegance at Writers' Theatre.
- "Oedipus el Rey," with its prison fencing and blood-stained brick wall, at Victory Gardens Theatre.
- "The Taming of the Shrew," the lovely, relatively bare bones set for Chicago Shakespeare's first season of Shakespeare in the Parks.

Depinet also is business partners in XL Scenic, a museum exhibition design company created with fellow Chicago set designer Todd Rosenthal [they are both big guys, hence the XL or Extra Large logo]. And they worked on "Myth-Busters: The Explosive Exhibition," the hugely successful interactive show that closes Sept. 3 at the Museum of Science and Industry.

"I normally do about 15 or 20 productions a year at theaters of various sizes — from the tiny Writers' Theatre bookstore space to the Goodman," said Depinet. "But this year was pretty crazy, with so many things back-to-back, yet somehow I pulled it off."

Depinet, 31, has been designing since high school. He grew up in Carmel, Ind., where he was involved in wrestling and football. But his high school also had "an amazing theater program, complete with design teachers and a theater tech department."

"I always had an appreciation for the theater and storytelling, and I loved reading," said Depinet. "And I knew about building things because my dad builds custom homes, and I myself made some awesome treehouses."

Kevin Depinet works on a new set for American Players in Wisconsin.

Kevin Depinet designed this contemporary set for "Timon of Athens" at Chicago Shakespeare Theater.
The set for "To Kill a Mockingbird" at Milwaukee Repertory Theater was designed by Kevin Depinet.

At Ball State University in Muncie, Ind., Depinet majored in art, studying both sculpture and furniture design. He then headed off to Yale for graduate study. While there, he asked his professor, designer Michael Yeargan, for contacts in Chicago, because his wife, Amy Jackson (a set designer who works mostly in television, including on the TV series "Boss"), was then headed to graduate school. Yeargan mentioned Todd Rosenthal.

"I wrote and asked him if he needed an assistant," recalled Depinet, who now shares a studio in Evanston with Rosenthal and another top-notch Chicago set designer, Jack McGraw. "Then I built a model for him, and things just clicked — in large part because we have similar attitudes about life and work."

This season, Depinet also will be designing "Singing in the Rain" at Drury Lane (opening in November).

Asked to name a "dream project," Depinet said simply: "Every project I work on turns into that for me. I just become a believer."
De-Jred serves up mouth-watering Jamaican dishes

BY LEE LITAS | Dining Columnist

Don’t let the spelling of its name trip you up. De-Jred, the Skokie locale featuring fine Jamaican cuisine for the past three years, is simply the urban transliteration for “the dread” — as in dreadlocks.

Though not unique to Jamaica, the iconic roped locks popularized by legendary figures like singer Bob Marley are instantly recognizable and often associated with Jamaican culture and Rastafarians. Precisely the reason De-Jred owner and head chef Delroy Powell chose it. “We speak Patois, it’s like our broken English, so I tried to make it sound a little bit Jamaican,” explained Powell.

Originally from the hills of Mandeville, situated between Kingston and Montego Bay in...
Jamaica, Powell has been stateside for 33 years. A designated cook for his friends on the weekends, "I always said when I retire I am going to do a restaurant," said Powell. Leaving corporate life in the dust three years ago, that’s exactly what he did.

Specializing in oxtail and goat, patrons will also likely find staples of other cultures, like plantains on the menu. "We people from third world countries (like) Puerto Rico, Cuba and other Caribbean countries, we all eat basically the same kind of food," he said.

When it comes to Jamaican cuisine, you can’t get more traditional than Jerk chicken. Powell lets his marinade for several days so the Scotch Bonnet chili peppers (similar to habaneros) and allspice really seep in. Then he bakes his chicken for two hours at 350 degrees for a fall-off-the-bone, 3-alarm finish. "This is how they like to cook chicken in Jamaica. This way it’s more juicy and it doesn’t get burned," said Powell. Served with traditional accoutrements of red beans and rice, sautéed cabbage and, of course, fried plantains ($6 small / $9 large/$10 white meat), the dish will stave off nostalgia until your next trip to the island.

Another traditional dish is oxtail and butter beans. Slow cooked to a cotton-like consistency, the meat is seasoned with onion, garlic, ginger, Scotch Bonnet chili pepper then topped with butter beans and dumplings. While not as spicy as the Jerk chicken, it builds up a steady head of steam ($13).

And Powell uses the whole goat for his curried goat dish seasoned with aromatic yellow curry ($13).

"C’mon over - we have a lot of stuff to offer and it’s the best Jamaican food," Powell said.
Piano virtuoso playing at Ravinia

BY KYLE MACMILLAN | Contributor

Today's classical music world probably boasts more top-drawer piano soloists than ever before, but Inon Barnatan does not fear the competition. In fact, he doesn't see it as competition at all.

"As I pianist, I feel we're all so different," said Israeli-born virtuoso Barnatan. "I never believed that if somebody is getting a concert, they're getting a concert that could have been mine. Or vice versa. I feel like if you do what you believe in and if you're good enough, there will be a spot for you."

Barnatan, 33, who returns Aug. 26 to Ravinia Festival for a recital and appears Oct. 28 as part of the Symphony Center Presents Chamber Series, believes it is harmful for artists to worry about their counterparts' success.

"I look at my friends and people who are doing well (in the field), and we are friendly with each other," he said. "We feel like we actually get more out of learning from one another and collaborating than from cutting each other's throats."

Competition or not, the fast-rising soloist has little to fret. He has carved out a niche for himself with consistently intelligent, insightful playing and an uncommon appetite for new and unconventional works.

This interplay of the old and new is evident on his latest album, "Darknesse Visible" (Avie Records). It mixes contemporary and classic French and English works that were all inspired by literary or other musical compositions and all display elements of both lightness and darkness.

At Ravinia, the pianist will perform all but one of the works from the album as well as Franz Schubert's Piano Sonata in A Major, D. 959, which contains what Barnatan describes as a "sense of laughing through tears." Particularly standing out in the celebrated work, he said, is a moment in the second movement when the music descends into madness.

"There are desperate cries and crashing chords that I think wouldn't be out of place in anything written in this century," he said.

---

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Juggling, stunts in store at Flying Fool Show

BY MYRNA PETLICKI | Contributor

Young audience members are advised not to come too close to the stage during the Flying Fool Show, 3 to 3:45 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 26 at Skokie Public Library, 5215 Oakton St.

"I'm allergic to kids," jovial, juggling comedian Ken Schultz said. When he's not warning them away, Schultz is doing what he considers one of his unique stunts.

"I'm one of the few jugglers that does kid juggling," he said. He will also juggle bowling balls and rubber chickens, and ride unicycles — a small one and one 6 feet high. Schultz acquired the moniker the Flying Fool when he was in high school, performing with three friends.

"I'm the remaining fool. The other guys have gone on to get real jobs," Schultz declared. Then he added, "Actually they haven't. One's a stilt walker, one's a professional magician and another's an actor."

Schultz has been a full-time Flying Fool since 1983. For details, call (847) 324-3149 or visit www.skokielibrary.info.

DON'T FEED IT

Ignore the hungry look on the face of the literary star during storytime at 7 p.m. Friday, Aug. 24 or 11 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 25 at Village Crossing Shopping Center Barnes & Noble, 5405 Touhy Ave., Skokie. Before he makes his appearance, you and your children will learn what happens, "If You Give a Mouse a Cookie."

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

MYSTERIOUS MODEL

A young journalist and his dog have a series of adventures after buying a model of a sailing ship in "The Adventures of Tintin." The PG-rated film will be shown at 2 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 25 at Niles Public Library, 6960 W. Oakton St. A treat will be served.

For details, call (847) 663-1234 or visit www.nileslibrary.org.

Handicap This!
Friday, August 31, 8 p.m.
Saturday, September 1, 8 p.m.

Handicap This is a provocative look at valuing friendship, breaking down barriers, living with disabilities, and — most of all — meeting your potential. Mike Berkson and Tim Wambach light up the stage with humor, music, and their true story, encouraging everyone to achieve their goals and dreams.

MUSIC IN PERSON SERIES:
Freddie Bryant & Mesut Özgen
Friday, September 21, 8 p.m.; Master Class, 3 p.m.

Berklee College of Music Professor Freddie Bryant and University of California Santa Cruz Professor Mesut Özgen join forces for a day of guitar virtuosity, beginning with a free master class and wrapping up with an evening of classical and international guitar selections.

The Amish Project
By Jessica Dickey
Saturday, September 29, 8 p.m.
Sunday, September 30, 2 p.m.

Inspired by the October 2006 killing of five girls taken hostage at an Amish school in Pennsylvania, this remarkable work recounts the path of forgiveness and compassion forged in the tragedy's wake.

November 29 - December 9
Sixteen years ago, Walter Griffin floated high above the earth in a lawn chair suspended by weather balloons. Now, he tinkers obsessively with failed inventions, trying to recapture his 15 minutes of fame while his disillusioned wife Helen supports the family and his teenage son Mikey languishes. But Walter's dream affects them all — and as Helen's and Mikey's own hopes take wing, this family discovers that chasing a dream can leave you up in the air—where things aren't always what they seem.
Skokie’s film roots celebrated

BY BRUCE INGRAM | Contributor

For the past six years, The Independent Merchants of Downtown Skokie have been hosting the annual Backlot Bash homage to Skokie’s early 20th century history as an outdoor location for silent films being produced in Chicago.

The village was known as Niles Center during the heyday of its cinematic history, from 1910 to 1915 or ’16, according to Skokie Historical Society vice-president Dick Wity, with a rustic look including hitching posts still in use when the residents rode horses instead of driving cars) that made it a perfect setting for Westerns, complete with gun battles and Indian attacks.

Such as the famous series starring Max “Bronco Billy” Anderson, one of the partners (with Highland Park resident George Spoor) in the Essanay Film Manufacturing Company, generally shot in Essanay’s Chicago studio, where Gloria Swanson, Wallace Beery, Ben Turpin, the Keystone Cops and the Our Gang Kids...
IMODS merchants decided to create the Backlot Bash as a salute to those silent-movie days, and as an attempt to revitalize, and even re-brand, Skokie's downtown shopping district. Every year during the annual celebration they have also produced a program of silent films at the Skokie Music Theatre, which has now become the new Gorilla Tango Theatre.

This year's lineup at Gorilla Tango includes "The Mark of Zorro," starring Douglas Fairbanks, "Blood and Sand" with Rudolph Valentino, "The Hunchback of Notre Dame" with Lon Chaney and "Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde," with John Barrymore, plus 10 comedy shorts starring Charlie Chaplin, Charlie Chase, Eddie Boland and Paul Parrot. "The silent films have become kind of a tradition in the community," said Village Inn owner Randy Miles, who produces the annual smorgasbord of silents in association with the independent merchants group he leads. "It's become pretty popular. The theater's usually been full for most of the programs."

"The area around Lincoln and Oakton was one of the most popular locations for shooting westerns," said film historian William Grisham, of Evanston, whose book about Essanay Studios, Those Marvelous Men in their Movie Machines, will soon be published. "Essanay shot a lot of westerns out there, though they also used their studio and an outdoor lot adjacent to the studios whenever they could."

The Skokie Public Library website, skokie.net.org, gives a colorful account of filming in Niles Center in its coverage of Skokie's centennial, including the story of a bank robbery scene (actually using the Niles Center State Bank as a location) that came to a tragic end when one of the fleeing robbers was fatally injured when his horse stumbled and fell on him. Apparently, that film, which was being shot by an unknown production company, was never completed.

That section of the 100-year history also includes A.J. Linderman, who observed silent films being shot in Niles Center as a boy, and later shared his memories. "I remember that old camera being cranked away while furious gun battles were held right at Lincoln and Oakton," he said. "We kids got so used to seeing ambushes and men tied to trees with arrows going right through them, that we considered it a normal part of the scenery."

The biggest excitement he and his friends had during those years was watching a film being shot and then seeing the completed picture when it played the Niles Center Theater. "I remember how much fun we had watching them make the 'The Clutching Hand,'" starring Pauline Frederick," he said, "and then seeing it in serial form that entire winter at the movie house."

He added, "What a thrill we got when we sat in our seats and realized that people all over the country were seeing movies made in our hometown."
Pioneer Press

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Sun time in the city. Relaxing in the sun in the whirlpool is an option year 'round at The Park Monroe. Other amenities on the 49th floor include an indoor lap pool, a state-of-the-art fitness center, a garden deck with barbecue grills, a clubroom and a large-screen theater. The Park Monroe is an ideal option for empty-nesters who want to enjoy the city lifestyle without the hassle of maintaining a home. Prices start in the mid $600,000s for east-facing two-bedrooms. Two-story penthouses are also available for an additional edge — a base price less than $20,000.

VOLKSWAGEN BEETLE (below)

The iconic Volkswagen Beetle is reinvented with a bolder and more dynamic appearance for 2012. The new Beetle is a 170-horsepower dynamo that's federally rated at 22 mpg in the city and 31 mpg highway. The new TDI clean diesel version for North America does even better at 28/40 mpg thanks to a super-efficient turbocharged 1.4-liter engine. The 2012 model includes VW's advanced intelligent response system, which shuts off the fuel pump, unlocks the doors and switches on the hazard lights in some types of car collisions. The starting price is $18,995.

FORD FOCUS

This vehicle has been a top-seller in Europe and the 2012 version for North America retains the sporty Euro-style driving dynamics that make it so popular with European drivers familiar with congested city dwelling. The 2012 Ford Focus has a peppy 2.0-liter 160-horsepower inline four-cylinder engine and is certified at 40 mpg highway and 28 mpg city with the super fuel economy package. The Focus also has a top safety rating from the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety. Starting price is $16,720.

HONDA CIVIC

Starting at $15,805, the Honda Civic enters 2012 as an all-new ninth-generation perennial favorite. Nearly 9 million Civics have been sold in the United States since it launched as a 1973 model. The new design has more interior room, including trunk space. Also new is an eco-assist system to help drivers improve fuel efficiency, which already is an impressive 28/38 mpg with an automatic transmission. An advanced 140-horsepower 1.8-liter engine is standard. Buyers can upgrade to the performance-oriented Skyactiv 2.4-liter engine. The Civic also is available as a hybrid, but that's more than our $20,000 threshold.

MAZDA3

The 2012 Mazda3 includes the first use of the automaker's all-new fuel-efficient performance-oriented Skyactiv technology, which delivers up to 21 percent better fuel economy than other engines. The 155-horsepower 2.0-liter engine produces 28 mpg city, 39 mpg highway with the six-speed automatic transmission and slightly less with the six-speed manual. The Mazda3 is the automaker's best-selling model. The new Mazda3 is available as a sedan or five-door hatchback starting at $15,200.

There are more great city cars that didn't make this list because their base price is more than $20,000. Cars we like for city driving priced more than $20,000 include BMW 1 Series, the Toyota Prius and Nissan Leaf plug-in electric cars, Mercedes-Benz B-Class compact, Audi A3 in gas or diesel versions, and the Lexus CT 200h hybrid sport hatchback.

With gas prices unpredictable, these efficient cars are an affordable choice for today's buyers — even if you don't spend much time downtown.
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Retire, relax

Park Monroe offers true empty-nester lifestyle

After years of putting their families and jobs first, many empty-nesters and retirees reach a time when they can focus on each other and the activities they enjoy. That may dovetail with the desire to simplify life and downsize one's home.

Owning a condominium in downtown Chicago allows for a maintenance-free lifestyle in the center of all the city has to offer in culture and recreation. The Park Monroe is an ideal option. Located at 65 East Monroe, one block from Millennium Park, residents enjoy a desirable, central location.

And The Park Monroe itself contains places to rest, relax and entertain all year ’round.

The Park Monroe has some fine amenities. The terrace on the 49th floor is ideal for summer entertaining. It features barbeque grills, comfortable furniture and a whirlpool spa in a landscaped setting. Adjacent to the terrace are an entertainment suite with catering kitchen, large-screen DVD theater, an indoor lap pool and a fitness center.

A landscape architect maintains the entire outdoor garden on the 49th floor during the summer months. The indoor lap pool and all the other common areas are the responsibility of the full-time maintenance crew.

In addition, the practical items are taken care of for the homeowner. There is a full-time property management staff on-site and 24-hour door staff. And homeowners live a maintenance-free lifestyle. The burden of cutting the grass, plowing the snow, taking out the garbage, cleaning the pool, etc., are gone.

Now, a limited-time opportunity is available at The Park Monroe to create a large, unique custom home with views and space. Up to 10,000 square feet of custom living space on one floor are available to purchase and build out.

Living in a fully customized home of this size less than a block from Millennium Park is a rare opportunity. A buyer can transform the existing ductwork, windows, and concrete floors, ceiling and exterior walls into something spectacular. Pappageorge Haymes, a renowned architectural firm, has developed a suggested floor plan, but a buyer could...
PARK MONROE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The proposed plan, which is slightly less than 8,800 square feet, features living space ideal for entertaining. The majority of windows face south, providing panoramic views of the lake, Grant Park and the Museum Campus, while the east and west exposures showcase Millennium Park and the city lights.

The layout also includes a 1,000-square-foot private terrace, which would be a perfect outdoor entertaining space. Tucked into the side of the building, it allows for fresh breezes but protects from strong winds. Space in the floor plan is also allocated to a lavish home theater and fitness room, plus a luxurious master suite with enormous walk-in closet, three additional bedrooms with private baths and a housekeeping suite.

A buyer desiring more space could add it along the east or west walls, while a buyer desiring less space, could subtract, creating a floor plan of approximately 5,000 square feet. In addition to designing the ideal floor plan, possibilities exist to select unique finishes, fixtures, cabinetry and appliances. Although the space is unfinished, walking through it and seeing the views is an eye-opening experience that awakens the imagination to all possibilities.

The ability to purchase such a large amount of space for customization will only be available through the summer and, come fall, may never be available again in downtown Chicago. Rand Diamond, a partner at development-team member Glenstar Properties, said, “because of the high demand for penthouse homes and large spaces, we decided to offer this opportunity before we begin construction of our second phase.”

The Park Monroe has sold and continues to sell condominiums in the current real estate market and now has less than 20 homes left in the first phase.

Additional residential units are available at The Park Monroe range from two-bedrooms to three-bedrooms to two-story penthouses. Prices start in the mid $600,000s for east-facing two bedrooms. The models and sales center at 69 East Monroe are open seven days a week. Call (312) 888-9090 or visit ParkMonroe.com for more information.
Housing market absorbing vacant homes, prices rising

The nation’s housing market appears to be in rebound mode as more and more favorable news is being reported for various segments. And, after years of stagnation, prices are beginning to rise again, experts say.

That optimistic forecast was reported by Freddie Mac’s U.S. Economic and Housing Market Outlook for August. The outlook said the so-called “shadow” housing inventory—the cloud of foreclosures—might not be as foreboding as many thought and an important reason why is the rate at which excess housing is being bought and absorbed.

The Freddie Mac House Price Index for the U.S. showed a 4.8 percent gain from March to June 2012, the largest quarterly pickup in eight years, and the national index posted a June, 2001 to June, 2012 rise of 1 percent, the largest annual appreciation since November 2006.

“While the shadow inventory persists, there is an important difference in today’s market compared with those of recent years and that’s the substantially reduced amount of excess vacant housing,” noted Frank Nothaft, Freddie Mac’s vice president and chief economist. “The housing recovery may finally be coming out from the shadows.”

Rental vacancy rates have fallen to 8.6 percent, the lowest since the second quarter of 2006, Freddie Mac said. The for-sale vacancy rate has dipped to 2.1 percent, the least since the second quarter of 2006.

Nationally, the for-rent market now appears to be in relatively good balance, with the rental stock close to overall rental demand, resulting in “normal” vacancy levels, Freddie Mac reported.

“This continuing shrinkage in excess vacant housing stock is important because it means that in most markets, the REO (bank owned) homes on the for-sale market are not competing with an oversized vacant housing inventory,” Nothaft said.

Even if national housing indexes dip in the seasonally weak autumn and winter months, the declines probably won’t be big enough to erase the good second-quarter news on home values, he said.

Freddie Mac’s Primary Mortgage Market Survey reported that home-loan rates continued to hold near record lows in early August. Benchmark 30-year fixed-rate loans averaged 3.89 percent, while 15-year fixed mortgages averaged 2.84 percent, still near the historic lows.

The 30-year rate inched up slightly from an average of 3.55 percent a week earlier. Last year at this time, the 30-year mortgage averaged 4.32 percent, and last year the 15-year fixed loan averaged 3.50 percent.

One-year Treasury-indexed adjustable-rate mortgages averaged 2.65 percent in early August, down from an average of 2.70 percent a week earlier. At this time last year, the 1-year ARM averaged 2.89 percent.

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Getting away, close to home

Lake Chapin Shores offers vacation living without long haul

Sales of vacation homes are picking up, but with travel costs rising and consumers still a bit uncertain about the economy, many buyers are snapping up properties close to home, suggests Robbie Whelan in a recent Wall Street Journal article at wsj.com.

"People want to stay within driving distance because they're more able to maintain the homes, they have better networks in place and friends and family nearby to use and sustain the property," said Jon Gray, vice president of HomeAway.com in that article.

A prime example of a community built to accommodate the changing demand for second homes which are nearby but still have all the amenities and activities that families require in a vacation/weekend getaway is located just 90 minutes from Chicago, in southwest Michigan.

Lake Chapin Shores, said homeowners Carole and Gary, "was a family decision to build. Our kids are grown with families of their own, so we asked them if we build it, will they use it. We like the feeling when we come up here that we're going away, like a vacation."

"I like the proximity. It's only an hour and 40 minutes from home, door-to-door," Carole said.

Homeowners create their home-away-from-home with the features that meet their lifestyle and interests. Each of the 12 home models includes options for outside color, customized open floor plans, custom gas or wood-burning fireplace, fine hardwood cabinetry, natural granite countertops and energy efficient appliances. Ranging from 1,300 to 3,200 square feet of contemporary living space on one to three levels (not including decks and porches), the homes at Lake Chapin Shores offer low maintenance living in a secure community. They are surrounded by scenic views of the 600-acre all-sports lake with plenty of options for outdoor activities and social networking. The heated pool, docks, roadways, and common areas are landscaped and well maintained and there is a children's playground as well as a concierge option to help prepare the home and/or boat for each visit.

In addition to the abundant lake and community activities, owners who enjoy an active lifestyle find plenty to keep busy with scenic vineyards, wineries, restaurants, public and country club golf courses, hiking and biking trails, casinos, antique shops and markets. Local towns host a variety of festivals, art shows and celebrations all summer long.

Ken and Barbara selected a hilltop site for their Lake Chapin Shores home.

"We were the first homeowners here and we've loved it more each year since we moved in. The home design, materials and workmanship are top notch. The builder is a certified 'green' professional, which we appreciate, and we liked the close supervision that focused on quality and accountability every step of the way. It's a great place to unwind every weekend, holidays and every chance we get. There's nothing like taking a scenic evening cruise on the lake when the weather is warm or sitting in front of a glowing fire in the fireplace on a chilly evening."

Lake Chapin was created in 1908. A reservoir of the St. Joseph River, it is one of the least congested, most tranquil lakes in Southwestern Michigan. Along with great fishing, owners enjoy a full range of water-sports and boating. For cruising pleasure, owners take advantage of not only the lake itself but also the 8 mile run up the river. The scenery is spectacular along the sparsely populated, forested river.

Visit the Web site at www.LakeChapinShores.com for a look at each of model home options, photos and video of Lake Chapin Shores living and a complete list of materials and specifications. Call 888-TO-MICHIGAN (888-866-4244) for an appointment to tour the community, discuss building and financing options, see lakeside and woodland models and take a boat ride around Lake Chapin.
Freshly produced

Give your kitchen a fresh face this fall

As the season changes, many of us will get the itch to tackle any number of home improvement projects before winter. For some, a complete remodel is in the works. For others, just a few quick fixes are needed to make the home a more enjoyable space during the long winter months or in preparation for holiday entertaining.

With the kitchen at the heart of the home, it's an obvious place to take time for a few updates this season. Here are a few ideas to help give your kitchen a fresh look without spoiling the budget.

Overhaul cabinetry:
Although replacing kitchen cabinetry can be a very costly home improvement project, it usually makes the biggest impact. With unlimited options to choose from and varying price points, it's easy to become overwhelmed and discouraged. Even if your budget is small, don't give up on the idea of updating your kitchen cabinetry because there are plenty of affordable solutions.

Add some personality:
Hardware and faucets are touched every day, and wear and tear are inevitable. Just switching out these pieces can make a dramatic difference by adding a fresh shine, some personality and even greater functionality to the space. If your cabinetry hardware seems a bit dated, opt for one of many modern options for an instant, low-cost update. Replace the kitchen faucets with a sleek, better-functioning style to elevate the kitchen design, but also introduce a newer water-saving solution.

The power of paint:
With color trends constantly changing, and the focus on color in the home becoming more prominent, a fresh coat of paint can change the look and feel of a space almost instantly. With the changing season, opt for colors that add warmth and comfort or choose a bright color to combat the gray of winter. Paint can also help cover up unsightly wall marks and stains and provide the backdrop for new decor and furnishings for a whole new look. To ensure your new look has staying power, make sure to purchase a quality paint specially formulated for the kitchen.

Lighten up:
Kitchen lighting is easy to overlook. If there are outdated lighting fixtures in your kitchen, or simply not enough light, consider adding new whimsical pendant lights or splurge on a stunning chandelier to create a focal point. Simply adding lighting under the wall cabinets and dimmer switches can introduce a new ambiance to the space. A visit to your local home center or lighting showroom will give you plenty of ideas.

Kitchen uplift: New paint, new cabinetry and a host of other changes have turned this "old" kitchen into a fresh-faced milieu for the family chef and friends. (ARAContent photo)
EAGLE RIVER, WISCONSIN
This full log home, on 187 acres, has a wrap around deck and screened porch overlooking a private stocked pond and apple orchard. The home is meticulously maintained with high end finishes throughout. There are groomed trails and frontage on a small, secluded lake so you can enjoy many sports and activities on your own property. Just minutes from both downtown Eagle River and the chain of 28 lakes. $1,495,000

VIOLA, WISCONSIN
Incredible opportunity for gentleman farmer/car aficionado to acquire a magnificent estate located in the beautiful rolling terrain of the Kickapoo Valley in Southwestern WI. This pristine setting consists of 238+ acres with a totally renovated 4BR/3BA Victorian home (1898); a charming 3BR/2BA guest house; storage/stable with tack room; & a separate 8,000 sf shop/garage with showroom for 30+ cars. Offered furnished. $2,750,000. Residence, guest quarters and 2 barns with 100 acres and river frontage offered at $1,295,000.

CASSVILLE, WISCONSIN
Exceptional construction is evident throughout this newly constructed 4,900 square foot full log home with numerous custom log interior treatments. With a 1,500 square foot living room, 28 foot cathedral ceiling, 80 foot viewing deck and oversized custom windows, magnificent panoramic views of the Mississippi River are offered throughout. A deck with a screened in hot tub is off the first floor master suite. $950,000

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Your Credit Score*</th>
<th>Rates as low as</th>
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<tr>
<td>720+</td>
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<tr>
<td>580+</td>
<td>4.5%-9.5%</td>
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<tr>
<td>520+</td>
<td>7.5%-12.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>450+</td>
<td>10%-18%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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 Prices are good 2 days from date of publication. Pictures are for illustration purposes only. See dealer for details.
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<table>
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<th>Model</th>
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<th>Lease Per Month For</th>
<th>Total Due at Lease Inception</th>
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<tr>
<td>2012 HONDA CIVIC LX SEDAN</td>
<td>$149</td>
<td>36mos.</td>
<td>$999</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012 HONDA ACCORD LX SEDAN</td>
<td>$165</td>
<td>36mos.</td>
<td>$999</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012 HONDA ODYSSEY EX</td>
<td>$229</td>
<td>36mos.</td>
<td>$1,999</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012 HONDA PILOT EX 4WD</td>
<td>$269</td>
<td>36mos.</td>
<td>$1,999</td>
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**Based on approved credit for 36 months.**

**See dealer for details.**

**Based on $17.02 per month per $1,000 financed.**

**See dealer for details.**

**Based on closed end leases.**

**To qualified buyers with approved credit.**

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**Additional options extra.**

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9701 Bryn Mawr Ave., Rosemont
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445 Central Ave.
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The theater is currently closed for maintenance.

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OPENING FRIDAY:

THE APPARITION
Rated PG-13 for terror/frightening images and some sensuality
Stars Ashley Greene, Tom Felton, Sebastian Stan
A young couple (Greene and Stan) discover their apartment is being haunted by an evil presence conjured during a college parapsychology experiment. Todd Lincoln makes his writing/directing feature debut with the horror thriller.

HIT AND RUN

***
Rated R for some violence, intense action sequences and language
Stars Dax Shepard, Kristen Bell, Bradley Cooper, Tom Arnold
A former getaway driver (Shepard), now a changed man after falling in love with a woman (Bell) during his years hiding in a Witness Protection program, decides to risk a return to the scene of his crimes when she's offered a dream job in LA — leading to unpleasant encounters with his former gang. Shepard (“Brother's Justice”) co-wrote and directed the action/romantic-comedy hybrid.

STILL PLAYING:

2 DAYS IN NEW YORK

***
Rated R for language, sexual content, some drug use and brief nudity
Stars Chris Rock, Julie Delpy, Albert Delpy, Alexia Landeau
Okay, we've all heard of ugly Americans. Isn't it about time the world got a look at the ugly French? That's primarily what's on display, comedy-wise, in writer/director/composer and star Julie Delpy's sometimes funny, sometimes just

Joseph Gordon-Levitt plays a Manhattan bicycle messenger who picks up a package that a dirty cop wants to intercept in “Premium Rush.”

Let a man with a baseball bat handle this: Ashley Greene and Sebastian Stan in “The Apparition.”

THE REVENANT
Rated R for strong, bloody violence, pervasive language, some drug use, sexual content and graphic nudity
Stars David Anders, Chris Wylde, Annie Abbott
A horror/buddy comedy about Joey (Wylde) and his best friend Bart (Anders) — who has come back to life as a rapidly deteriorating blood-drinking zombie. D. Kerry Prior ("Roadkill") directed.
'Hit and Run' a crashing success

BY BRUCE INGRAM | Film Critic

'Hit and Run'

One thing you definitely don't want when you're driving your girlfriend cross-country to interview for a dream job is a high-speed pursuit by a well-intentioned but dangerous gang of hitmen. That's basically what you're likely to find in the new film 'Hit and Run.'

For one thing, it places an emphasis on intelligent dialogue; for another, it's a remarkably gay-friendly action film. The set-up is fairly simple. After misspending most of his early life as a getaway driver for a bank-robbing gang, including former best friend Alexandre (Bradley Cooper), Charlie Bronson (Shepard) has spent four years in witness protection in a small-town purgatory, and fallen in love with smart and funny Annie (Kristen Bell), a teacher at the local community college. When Annie is offered the chance of a lifetime to head a new department teaching nonviolent conflict resolution at a university in Los Angeles, she offers to turn it down for Charlie's sake. But he refuses to let her go and decides to leave witness protection and drive straight for the town where he knows his old gang is still looking for him — after Charlie testified against them to protect an old girlfriend.

That move upsets Randy (Tom Arnold), the accident-prone federal marshal who has also become Charlie's friend. Also Gil (Michael Rosenbaum), Annie's old boyfriend. They both set out to keep track of Charlie, Gil having called Charlie's old pals to alert them he's headed their way.

Soon, Charlie's driving 127 mph in his souped-up vintage Lincoln Continental, trying to stay ahead of the three-way pursuit by Randy, Gil and Alexandre (a friendly, soft-spoken, extremely violent sort of guy), who wants Charlie's buried share of a bank robbery gone wrong — and possibly to kill him as well. Annie, meanwhile, begins to grow increasingly suspicious of Charlie's story that he simply witnessed a murder in the bank.

'Hit and Run' also features a remarkable cast, including former best friend Alexandre (Bradley Cooper), who beats up other guys for afee's relationship with Annie. There are some logical gaps here and there that might torment you after you leave the theater but, overall, 'Hit and Run' satisfies by working in almost all the genres it interpolates, while most genre efforts have a hard time meeting expectations in just one.
**The Hunger Games** on DVD, Blu-ray

*BY BRUCE INGRAM | Film Critic*

**NEW THIS WEEK**

**A MAN APART**: BLU-RAY DEBUT

**3½**

**Rated**

PG-13 for intense, violent, thematic material and disturbing images — all involving teens.

**Stars**

Jennifer Lawrence, Josh Hutcherson, Liam Hemsworth

The much-anticipated movie version of "The Hunger Games" does little more than faithfully replicate the mega-selling novel, yet, this proficient and generally satisfying adaptation gets the job done reasonably well. Primarily because of the perfect casting of Lawrence as the bow-hunting heroine of a dystopian-future televised competition in which only one of 24 teenaged participants can survive. As likely to do to get some payback. What's more, they managed to do their macho stuff. When undercover DEA agent Sean Vetter (Diesel, continuing to establish himself as a tough guy who can emote) loses his wife when a drug lord called — what else? — El Dia Blobero attacks his home, he does what a man's gotta do to get some payback. Familiar stuff. Yet, Gray's fresh approach to action and emotion does deliver a stylish vehicle to be (them) fueled by Diesel. Extras include deleted scenes.

**ALSO NEW THIS WEEK**

**BERNIE**

**RATED**

**Rated**

PG-13 for some violent images and brief strong language

**Stars**

Jack Black, Matthew McConaughey, Shirley MacLaine

A small town goes into shock when a well-liked mortician (Jack Black) is charged with murdering the wealthy widow (Shirley MacLaine) he had befriended and whose affairs he managed. Richard Linklater ("Before Sunset") wrote and directed the dark comedy. Rated PG-13 for some violent images and brief strong language.

**CHIMPANZEE**

A three-year-old chimp separated from his troop is adopted by a full-grown male in this Disney Nature documentary. Former sitcom star Tim Allen narrates. Rated G.

**THE DICTATOR**: BANNED AND UNRATED

The benevolently oppressive ruler of the nation of Wadiya (Sacha Baron Cohen) travels to America to address the United Nations about his nuclear weapons policy. Larry Charles ("Borat," "Bruno") directed the satirical comedy. Rated R for strong crude and sexual content, brief male nudity, language and some violent images. Extras include deleted and extended scenes, and a Larry King interview.

**THE RAID: REDEMPTION**

**3½**

**Rated**

R for strong, bloody violence, throughout, and for language

**Stars**

Iko Uwais, Ananda George, Ray Sahetapy, Insane, hyper-kinetic, brutal and bloody, "The Raid: Redemption" trumps every other action film in recent memory for pure, non-stop, main-line cinematic mayhem. Writer/director Gareth Evans somehow manages to up the adrenaline ante floor-by-floor as a new recruit fights his way up a 15-story Jakarta apartment building after his invading SWAT team has been wiped out, to capture a drug lord — his only means of escape. The fact that it also has a little bit of plot thrown in can be seen as a bonus or a bore, depending on your predilection.

**THE ROYAL TENENBAUMS**

**3½**

**Rated**

R for some language, sexuality/nudity and drug content

**Stars**

Gene Hackman, Ben Stiller, Gwyneth Paltrow, Luke Wilson

Probably the most amusing painful-family-drama you'll ever see. Former child prodigies — are you wincing yet? — Stiller, Paltrow and Luke Wilson grudgingly reunite in their family home after years of disappointment and failure when their outrageous scoundrel of a dad (Gene Hackman in a wonderful role) announces he's going to die at long last. The quirky, deadpan humor isn't for everyone but this is still an impressive follow-up to writer/director Wes Anderson's cult hit "Rushmore." Anjelica Huston, Bill Murray, Owen Wilson and Danny Glover also are featured. Extras include commentary by Anderson, behind-the-scenes footage, outtakes and deleted scenes, and a making-of featurette by veteran documentarian Albert Maysles.

**AVAILABLE NEXT WEEK**

Prohibition-era gangsters walk the walk and talk the talk in "Boardwalk Empire" while "The Walking Dead" just basically shuffle along — both shows represented by second-season collections. And Looney Tunes director Chuck Jones makes the most of mice in "The Chuck Jones Collection: Mouse Chronicles."
**Fridays on the Green**

Concert series held at 6 p.m. the first and third Fridays of each month on the Village Green in front of Mount Prospect Village Hall, 50 S. Emerson St. Sept. 7: Jack Straw. Sept. 21: The Committee Band. Visit www.experiencemountprospect.org.

**Chicago Botanic Garden**

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1000 Lake Cook Road, Glencoe. Admission is free; parking is $20 per car. Call (847) 835-8215 or visit www.chicagobotanic.org. Music on the Esplanade, 6-8 p.m. Tuesdays — Aug. 28: Swing Gitan plays gypsy jazz. Hot Summer Nights, 6-8 p.m. Thursdays — Aug. 30: Morry Sochat & the Special 20's with Nicolle Wood present blues and swing dancing.

**Deerfield Plaza Pleasures**

18+65

Concerts held at 10 a.m. Saturdays in the Farmers Market in the commuter parking lot at Deerfield Road and Robert York Avenue, Deerfield. Call (847) 945-5000 or visit www.deerfield.il.us. Aug. 25: L.J. Slavin (folk). Sept. 1: Joey Edwin Duo (acoustic guitar).

**Ridgeville Park District**

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**Starlight Theatre**

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Concerts are held at the Wallace Bowl performances in Gillion Park, Lake Avenue and Lake Michigan, Wilmette. In the event of inclement weather, concert will be at the Community Recreation Center, 3000 Glenview Road. Call (847) 256-9787 after 6 p.m. the day of the concert for weather update. Aug. 25: 8 p.m.: U.S. Air Force Military Command Band.

**Summer Sounds at the Glen**

11

The live weekly music series is held from 5:9 p.m. Tuesdays at The Glen Town Center's Navy Park, 2671 Navy Blvd., Glenview. Outdoor tented food booths will feature fare from The Glen's resident restaurants, and there will be crafts and interactive activities for children. Free admission. Visit www.theglen-towncenter.com. Aug. 28: The Ragtops (hits of the '50s).

**“Hamlet”**

13+18+65

Presented by Light Opera Works at 8 p.m. Aug. 25 and 2 p.m. Aug. 26 at Cahn Auditorium. 600 Emerson St., Evanston. $48, $68, $77, $92 for main floor; $32, $48, $68, $77 for balcony; half-price for ages 21 and younger. Call (847) 920-5360 or visit www.LightOperaWorks.com.

**“The Monument”**

18+65

Presented by Idle Muse Theatre Company at 8 p.m. Aug. 23-25 and 3 p.m. Aug. 26 at the Side Project Theater, 1439 W. Jarvis Ave., Chicago. Caught up in the political interests of a war he never understood, a young soldier stands convicted of war crimes. Now his only chance for survival is an enigmatic woman from the enemy side with an agenda he doesn't understand. $20; $15 for students and seniors. Visit www.idlemuse.org or call (773) 340-9438.

**The Shakespeare Project of Chicago**

13-18+65

Presents a free performance of “50-Minute Romeo and Juliet” at 7 p.m. Aug. 23 at the Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge. A discussion with the actors will follow the performance. Pre-registration is required by calling (847) 825-3123.
“Tusk Tusk”

Sept. 8-Oct. 7 at Piven Theatre Workshop, 927 Noyes St., Evanston.
British newcomer Polly Stenham’s play tells the story of London siblings left to fend for themselves after their bipolar mother goes missing. Performances at 7:30 p.m. Thursdays and Fridays; 2:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Saturdays; and 2:30 p.m. Sundays. No 2:30 p.m. show on Sept. 15. $25; $15 for senior citizens and under 16. Tickets are available at www.piventheatre.org.

“Summertime, Livin’ Easy”

Oil Lamp Theater, 1723 Glenview Road, Glenview, presents a series of short plays with the themes “All The World’s A Stage” and “Crazy Little Thing Called Love” at 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays through Sept. 1. Tickets are $25, available through www.brownpapertickets.com. Visit www.oillamptheater.org.

“Woody Sez — The Life and Music of Woody Guthrie”

Sept. 14-Oct. 21 at Northlight Theatre, 9501 Skokie Blvd., Skokie. Featuring more than 30 of Guthrie’s ballads and anthems, the production celebrates the colorful life and rich musical legacy of America’s great folk troubadour. Curtain times are Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m. (except Sept. 25 and Oct. 2 and 16); Wednesdays at 1 p.m. (except Sept. 26) and 7:30 p.m. (except Oct. 10); Thursdays at 7:30 p.m.; Fridays at 8 p.m. (except opening on Sept. 21 at 7:30 p.m.); Saturdays at 2:30 p.m. (except Sept. 15) and 8 p.m.; Sundays at 2:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. (except Sept. 23, Oct. 7 and 21). $25-$72; $25-$54 for previews. Discounted student tickets are $15, any performance, subject to availability. Call (847) 673-6300 to reserve. Backstage with BJ, a discussion with artistic director BJ Jones, offering behind-the-scenes insight, is at noon Sept. 14. Reservations are required; call (847) 679-9501, ext. 3555. Hootenannies, informal post-show “jam sessions” with the artists from the production, will be held following the performances Sept. 30 (after 7 p.m.), Oct. 7 (after 2:30 p.m.) and Oct. 14 (after 7 p.m.). Audience members are invited to bring their own instruments and join the artists onstage to play for approximately one hour after the performance.

Lincolnwood Chamber Orchestra

Performs Jewish and Muslim music, “Celebrating 500 Years of Friendship in Bosnia and Herzegovina,” at 7 p.m. Sept. 2 at the American Islamic College, 640 W. Irving Park Road, Chicago. Tickets are $25, available at www.americanmusicfestivals.com.

Organ recital

Organist Nathan Laube, who will be featured this summer at the American Guild of Organists convention in Nashville, will present a concert at 4 p.m. Aug. 26 at St. James Lutheran Church, 1380 N. Waukegan Road, Lake Forest. Free-will offerings will benefit Lutheran Social Services of Illinois.

“Glenbrook Pops”

Performing at the College of Lake County’s James Lumber Center for the Performing Arts, 19351 W. Washington St., Grayslake. All concerts begin at 8 p.m.; pre-concert talks by musicologist Jim Kendros at 7 p.m. Tickets are $32-$54, with discounts for senior citizens and students. Call (847) 295-2135 or visit www.lakeforestsymphony.org. Sept. 7-8: All-Dvorak concert featuring Ilya Kaler as violin soloist.

American Guild of Organists Convention

Performs Jewish and Muslim music, “Celebrating 500 Years of Friendship in Bosnia and Herzegovina,” at 7 p.m. Sept. 2 at the American Islamic College, 640 W. Irving Park Road, Chicago. Tickets are $25, available at www.americanmusicfestivals.com.

Music Institute of Chicago

Nichols Concert Hall, 1490 Chicago Ave., Evanston. (847) 905-1500. www.musicinstor.org. Sept. 23, 3 p.m.: The Lincoln Trio performs Brahms’ Trio in C Major; Turina’s Piano Trio No. 1 in D Major, Op. 35; and other works. $30; $20 seniors; $10 students.

Lake Forest Symphony

Performing at the College of Lake County’s James Lumber Center for the Performing Arts, 19351 W. Washington St., Grayslake. All concerts begin at 8 p.m.; pre-concert talks by musicologist Jim Kendros at 7 p.m. Tickets are $32-$54, with discounts for senior citizens and students. Call (847) 295-2135 or visit www.lakeforestsymphony.org. Sept. 7-8: All-Dvorak concert featuring Ilya Kaler as violin soloist.

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Bluegrass Legends Concerts


Gorilla Tango’s Skokie Theatre


Allstate Arena

6920 N. Mannheim Road, Rosemont. Tickets available at www.ticketmaster.com or (800) 745-3000. For information about the theater, visit www.rosemont-theatre.com. Oct. 21, 7 p.m.: Celtic Thunder. $32.50, $49.50, $65, $75. Nov. 17, 8 p.m.: Australian Pink Floyd. $80.50, $129.50.

InterContinental Chicago O’Hare Hotel

5300 N. River Road, Rosemont. (847) 544-5300. www.montrosearena.com. Oct. 21, 7 p.m.: Celtic Thunder. $32.50, $49.50, $65, $75. Nov. 17, 8 p.m.: Australian Pink Floyd. $80.50, $129.50.

Bash Concert in the Montrose Room. The Chicago-based folk rock singer will perform songs from his new album, “Hit Me Back.” $12-$32.

Mullen’s Bar & Grill

8313 W. Lawrence Ave., Norridge. (708) 452-3190. Aug. 28, 7-10 p.m.: Jazz Community Big Band, an 18-piece big band, plays the music of Count Basie, Duke Ellington, Stan Kenton and others. No cover.

S.P.A.C.E.

1245 Chicago Ave.,

What to do (Page 58)

Viper Alley
18+

ART GALLERIES

Art Museo

DoubleTree Hotel

Oakton Community College
NSAL members' show presented by "Sibling Revelry," a cabaret act that includes show tunes, jazz, and pop. $20-$50.

North Shore Art League Members' Show
Featuring Art-in-Bloom, floral interpretations of artwork by local garden club arrangers and florists, Sept. 7-15 at the Winnetka Community House, 620 Lincoln Ave., Winnetka. Hours are 10 a.m.-3 p.m. daily; noon-3 p.m. weekends; with special extended hours from 6-8 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 13. The exhibit showcases the work of NSAL members and faculty and includes the Youth Members' Show, a display of artwork by NSAL.
students ages 5-17. The exhibition will launch with the Members’ Show Artists’ Opening Reception and Benefit Party from 6:30-9:30 p.m. Sept. 7. Cost is $60 in advance; $70 at the door. The evening includes a light supper and open bar, silent auction, and classical music by The Feinberg Trio. Call (847) 446-2870 or e-mail nsal@sbcglobal.net.

**Perspective Group and Gallery**


**Six Piano Ensemble**

The group, which performs classical, jazz, and contemporary music arranged for six pianos, will hold auditions from 7-9 p.m. Sept. 10 and 12 in Room 1360 at Oakton Community College’s Des Plaines campus, 1600 E. Golf Road. Music is provided, and candidates also may play a prepared selection. For more information, contact Glenna Sprague at (847) 635-1905 or gsprague@oakt.on.edu.

**Oakton String Ensemble**

Seeking violin, viola, cello, and double bass players with prior experience for the 2012-13 season. The ensemble performs several times a year on campus with occasional off-campus appearances. Recent performances have included everything from Vivaldi, Corelli, and Schubert to Bartok, Joplin, New Orleans jazz, and Bollywood music. Rehearsals are held from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Mondays at Oakton Community College’s Des Plaines campus, 1600 E. Golf Road. To schedule an audition, contact Daniel Golden at dgolden@oakton.edu.

**Performing Arts at Oakton**

Holding auditions for a staged reading of “The Amish Project” from 6-9 p.m. Sept. 4-5 at Oakton Community College’s Studio One, 1600 E. Golf Road. Rehearsals are held from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Mondays at Oakton Community College’s Des Plaines campus, 1600 E. Golf Road. To schedule an audition, contact Daniel Golden at dgolden@oakton.edu.

**Canzonetta Youth Orchestra**

Seeking musicians to audition for the 2012-13 music season. Directed by Hilel Kagan, Canzonetta is a chamber orchestra that offers specialized instruction for children interested in developing their orchestral skills.

**Martin Luther Church**

6850 W. Addison, Chicago, seeks crafters for its annual Holiday Fair, to be held from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Oct. 20. Table rental fee and sample for raffle. Call (773) 777-8821 for information.

**Resurrection College Prep High School**

Seeks crafters for its Arts & Craft Fair, to be held Nov. 10 at 7500 W. Talcott Ave., Chicago. Applications are available at www.reshs.org or by contacting Carol Marchetti at (773) 775-6616, ext. 112.

**Norwood Park Historical Society**

Accepting applications from crafters, artists, and high-quality chefs/bakers to fill positions at the 25th annual Victoria’s Holiday Boutique, a fund-raiser for the nonprofit organization, to be held Nov. 28-Dec. 2 at 5624 N. Newark Ave., Chicago. Fee is $35-$65 per space, and each seller must donate 15% commission on sales. During the event, crafters must commit to a minimum of five hours to working the sale. Handmade or homemade items only. Call (773) 631-4633 or e-mail info@norwoodparkhistoricalsociety.org.

**Mitchell Museum of the American Indian**

3001 Central St., Evanston. (847) 475-1030. www.mitchellmuseum.org. Admission is $5; event to be held from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Dec. 7-8 at Park Ridge Presbyterian Church, Crescent and Delphia. Space rental $20-$80, plus 10% of sales. Call (847) 823-0920. Application deadline is Dec. 1.
What to Do
Continued from page 59
$3 for senior citizens, students and children.

Kids Craft Mornings are informal workshops where children learn to construct simple versions of traditional Native American objects. Workshops are included with museum admission. Participants must be accompanied by an adult. Saturday workshops are at 11 a.m.; Sunday workshops at 12:30 p.m.

The Laughing Chameleon

Walking On Water Films
Presenting the Chicago premiere of "Promised Land: Israel Through the Eyes of Surfers" at 4 p.m. Sept. 9 at the North Shore Center for the Performing Arts, 9501 Skokie Blvd., Skokie. The screening will be followed by a meet-and-greet with director and co-producer Todd Morehead. The film is appropriate for all ages. Free. Call (312) 560-5680.

Tours & Outings
Evanston History Center
Walking tour series conducted by Kris Hartzell, EHC's director of Visitor Services and Facilities. The 90-minute tours begin at 11 a.m. at the Dawes House, 225 Greenwood St., Evanston, and will take place rain or shine. Admission for each tour is $20; $15 for EHC members. Reservations are not
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CB CY FREDRICS JEWELERS ENÁZ FRANCES HEFFERNAN GIGI NEIMAN MARCUS NORTHBROOK COURT SALONSPA VIBRATO

Friday
8:30 PM: Tributosaurus becomes Tom Petty & The Heartbreakers
6:30 PM: We Killed The Lion

Saturday
8:30 PM: The Fixx
6:30 PM: The Handcuffs
4:30 PM: Certain Stars
Many more - music begins at 11:15

Sunday
6 PM: Local H
4 PM: The Steepwater Band
2 PM: Rivals of the Peacemaker
12 PM: Tristen

Full event schedule at: www.BacklotBash.com
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FOR CONSISTENTLY UPDATED INFORMATION ABOUT THE EVENT!
PROPERTY TRANSFERS

NILES
9213 Nagle Ave Unit 76: G Tanner Girard to Stacy P Zeidman Fund for $345,000 on June 21
8113 N Osceola Ave: Michael R Fries to Henry Ma for $307,500 on June 27
7735 N Northica Ave: Young Suk Lee to Sun Hee Ji for $120,000 on June 25

MORTON GROVE
8936 Linder Ave: Deiphia Uc to Brian D Jacobs for 233 N Linder Ave: Tadeusz Krzyzek to Vishal Amin for $282,500 on June 27
8936 Linder Ave: Maher Fakhoury to Thomas M Heneghan for $282,500 on June 27
9411 Osceola Ave: Debra L Barteil for $155,500 on June 12

PARK RIDGE
233 N Delphia Ave: Robert A Ind Adin Dimeo to Cospodin Stefanov for $585,000 on June 7
817 N Lincoln Ave: Bogus Lawa Wieriemiejuk to Sean M Wilhelm for $355,000 on June 9
1019 Bonnie Ave: Robert Hlohens to Mark Renz for $490,000 on May 31
746 Ottawa Ave: Susan S Knight to Jason A Toffelsland for $485,000 on May 30
1304 N Western Ave: Victor A Baabal to Jonathan J Szychalski for $473,000 on May 29
618 Florence Dr: Restratopon Remedies Llc to Michael J Oconnor for $405,000 on June 27
2012 Garden St: Souza Stan D to David A Halpert for $340,000 on June 13

DES PLAINES
2210 Ash St: Michael D Becker to Trung Nguyen for $200,000 on June 12
2332 S Scott St: Roy J Clements to Debra L Barteil for $155,500 on June 6
229 Thacker St: Ermelinde A Douglas to Victoria Nikolaou for $133,000 on May 30
315 N 4th Ave: Hitsh Patel to Pragay P Patel for $122,000 on June 5
9124 Hollyberry Ave: Joseph Mathew to Sargoon Keso for $122,000 on June 6
1566 Campbell Ave: Robert K Luebke to Mark J Carinato for $120,000 on April 13
9355 Landings Ln Unit A02: Zuhayra H渲染er to Krzysztof Biela for $48,000 on June 16
8999 Kennedy St Unit 203C: Djordje Hrandaric to Mihajlo P. Djordjevic for $35,000 on June 28
1111 Milwaukee Ave: Glenview Redemptorists to Pk Dist Remedies Uc for $565,000 on June 9

GLENVIEW
1111 Milwaukee Ave: Glenview Redemptorists to Pk Dist Remedies Uc for $565,000 on June 9
2550 Fielding Dr: James B Burke to Karl M Schuenzel for $816,500 on April 21
1544 Tulip Tree Ct: Nanci K Coogan to Gregory Worthing for $740,000 on June 8
1323 Bonnie Glen Ln: John V Leonardi to Brian K Mckeough for $630,000 on June 20
600 Raleigh Rd: Thomas A Welsh to Christopher S Lentz for $547,000 on June 13
1100 Indian Rd: Joseph V Marincola to Nicolas Pujol for $540,000 on June 26
1154 Raleigh Rd: Rosemary Vans to Kurt W Zimerman for $365,000 on June 22
452 Elm St: Louis J Cioce to Jeffrey L Thompson for $365,000 on June 22
1048 Terrace Ln: Daniel A Badita to Benjamin A Liman for $340,000 on May 17
2020 Chestnut Ave Unit: Kathryn L Bieberg to Elizabeth M Sweeney for $445,000 on June 1
3925 Karlov Ave: Steven L Bush to Kathryn T Fiete for $285,000 on June 16
9438 Keeler Ave: Anave Boekela to Elaine S Friedman for $310,000 on June 22
3353 Grain St: Emil Marincas to Harvey Kohr for $320,000 on April 14
8727 Avens Ave: Jerome Slocok to Avner Avidov for $197,000 on September 8
7558 N Crawford Ave Unit 4: Michael W Dibble to Mohammed Acha for $191,000 on June 20
WHAT'S IN MY PRICE RANGE?

What can I get for $350K-$400K?

Suburban Chicago is a desirable place to live. The region is a network of communities that offers access to a world-class city. However, choosing a community from the dozens of towns and villages that surround the city can be challenging for homebuyers.

When it comes to real estate, there is no limit to the choices in the suburbs. Each week, What's In My Price Range? will feature six homes from throughout the area that fall within a certain price range. You can see just how much your money gets you throughout some of the most dynamic communities in the suburbs.

- John Puterbaugh, jputerbaugh@suntimes.com

### BARRINGTON
$359,721
406 Park Barrington Drive
House Size: 1,615 square feet
Lot size: 6,809 square feet
Year built: 1988
Bedrooms: 2
Baths: 2.5
Garage: 2-car attached
Most recent available tax: $3,789.46 (2011)

### WESTERN SPRINGS
$389,900
5701 Ridgewood Drive
House Size: 1,333 square feet
Lot size: 12,240 square feet
Year built: 1960
Bedrooms: 3
Baths: 2
Garage: 2-car attached
Most recent available tax: $7,915.50 (2011)

### MORTON GROVE
$400,000
9508 Normandy Ave.
House Size: 2,690 square feet
Lot size: 12,081 square feet
Year built: 1954
Bedrooms: 4
Baths: 4
Garage: 2-car detached
Most recent available tax: $9,798.95 (2011)

### ELMWOOD PARK
$379,000
1630 77th Court
House Size: 1,816 square feet
Lot size: 6,250 square feet
Year built: 1944
Bedrooms: 3
Baths: 2
Garage: 2-car detached
Most recent available tax: $7,256.54 (2011)

### WILMETTE
$399,999
2940 Lake Ave.
House Size: 1,933 square feet
Lot size: 11,625 square feet
Year built: 1956
Bedrooms: 3
Baths: 2.5
Garage: 2-car attached
Most recent available tax: $12,266.67 (2011)
For many Americans, as they look out the window of their homes, they see what is becoming a nightmare for many people - a foreclosed house on the block. Its yard is overgrown and littered with branches and trash. It has become a lifeless shell, a magnet for trouble and a source of worry as neighbors wonder how the property will affect the value of their homes.

As the nation’s foreclosure epidemic continues to rattle the U.S. housing market, neighborhoods across the country are feeling the effects of having a foreclosed home on their block.

“A foreclosure that falls into disrepair can lower the value of other homes on a block,” said George Vogl, of Ledford & Wu, a Chicago-based law firm with expertise in bankruptcy and foreclosures. “But don’t rush over and start fixing it up. There could be safety issues, and you could be held liable for any repairs you make.”

So what should you do if you have a foreclosed home on your block? According to FindLaw.com, the nation’s leading source of free online legal information, you and your neighbors can take a number of steps to prevent the property from becoming an eyesore and ruining your community’s financial health.

Here are six tips from FindLaw.com on what you and your neighbors can do:

1. Be a good neighbor
   If you learn that a neighborhood home is headed for foreclosure, ask what you can do to help the owners maintain their property. Foreclosure may not be the only problem your neighbor is facing, and as a result, he or she may be unaware or in denial that the home is falling into disrepair.

2. Maintain your own homes
   If a house goes into foreclosure on your block, talk to your neighbors and encourage each other to keep up the maintenance on your own homes. A future home purchaser who sees that the block’s other houses are being kept up will be motivated to purchase a foreclosed home and fix it up to meet the neighborhood’s standards.

3. Ask permission
   Many people want to just take action - start mowing the lawn or picking up trash in a foreclosed property’s yard. Contact your city’s building code department to see if you can get permission to do so. Taking action on your own may actually make you liable in the event that something should go wrong, and you could be charged with trespassing.

4. Form a neighborhood watch group
   Foreclosed homes can attract all sorts of trouble, such as graffiti, teen drinking, theft and vagrants. Neighbors should watch a foreclosed home carefully, day and night, and immediately report suspicious activity to local police.

5. Report code violations
   Homeowners can do little to pressure a bank to maintain a vacant, foreclosed property. But a city can do more. When you see code violations such as an out-of-control yard, broken windows, or garbage and junk on the lawn, report them to city hall - quickly. The more calls that you and your neighbors place to city hall and your elected officials, the greater the chances that your city will take action sooner, rather than later.

6. Help find a buyer
   Instead of waiting for someone to buy the foreclosed property, look at it as an opportunity to encourage a friend or family member to move into your neighborhood. If you believe your neighborhood is a great place to live, take the initiative to attract a new neighbor to your block.
Easy DIY projects look like you spent a bundle

BY ARA CONTENT

See those TV shows where a home improvement show team transforms a drab room into something spectacular using a shoestring budget and less time than it takes you to clean out your closet?

Ever wonder how they did it?
Here's the secret: They cheat. And you can too.

You might never consider taking shortcuts in other aspects of your life, from car maintenance to paying your taxes. But when it comes to do-it-yourself home improvement and decorating projects, there's no shame in "cheating"... and a lot to be gained by doing it.

Here are four DIY "cheats" that will save you time and money and yield professional results.

CROWN MOLDING

Traditionally, crown molding has been a job best left to professionals or DIYers with a lot more time and ambition than most.

Fortunately, there's an easy alternative. Some products like Moulding Mates do not require specialized tools or skills. You don't even need to miter-cut corners. Simply pre-finish the polyurethane molding, selected from among several styles, attach the patented Quick Clips to the wall where you want to place the molding, and pop the lengths into place on the clips. Corner pieces and connector blocks cover ends and seams, eliminating the need to miter ends and patch or touch up the long pieces. You can easily install the entire system using a screw drill and a saw. You can learn more and browse products at www.focalpointproducts.com.

CARPET TILES

As anyone who's ever bought carpet can tell you, the cost of installation can be prohibitive, yet properly installing wall-to-wall carpet requires specialized skills and tools that most DIYers don't have. Carpet tiles can be a great alternative.

Installing carpet tiles is well within the abilities of most homeowners. Because they're a smaller, more manageable size, carpet tiles are easier to install. They require fewer cuts and no stretching. They also deliver enhanced design capabilities; it's easy to create a unique pattern using different colored tiles.

MIRROR FRAMING SYSTEMS

A frame around a bathroom mirror can give the entire room a more luxurious, upscale feel. Yet conventional framing requires knowledge of mitering. Fortunately, a simple online search will yield plenty of easier options, including framing systems that provide a custom look with pre-cut (and mitered) frame pieces.

The systems require no more expertise to install than being able to follow measuring directions and apply adhesive. Available in a wide array of designs and colors, these systems make it possible to frame a mirror to match virtually any design theme.

NEW SEW WINDOW TREATMENTS

Custom window treatments look great but can cost a bundle. Sewing them yourself requires more expertise than you likely gleaned in your high school home-ec class, and you would need a decent (read: "expensive") sewing machine to do the job right.

Creating no-sew curtains requires nothing more than a tape measure, some scissors, iron-on adhesive, an iron and several yards of the fabric of your choice. Simply measure the windows to find your desired fabric length, cut the fabric into appropriately sized panels, and use the adhesive and iron to finish the edges, no sewing required.
Having a ball with melons

BY VERONICA HINKE | Contributor

Julia Child is known for raising the bar on mingling unexpected flavors with summer's most glorious bounty. One example, the Thai Melon Salad she introduced through her "Cooking with Master Chefs" TV series, launched a melon revolution.

The recipe combines watermelon, honeydew and cantaloupe with kaffir lime leaves, cilantro, peanuts — even fish sauce. "Whether they acknowledge it or not, all chefs, within the past 50 years, were influenced by her in one way or another," said Michael Lachowicz, chef/owner of Restaurant Michael in Winnetka.

Child's impact on Lachowicz is well-known, and he is lifting a glass to the culinary icon as part of Julia Child Restaurant Week, a festival organized by the Chicago Originals group.

Lachowicz and other participating chefs are offering Julia Child-themed menus through Aug. 25. The festival began on Aug. 15, which would have been Child's 100th birthday. Nieto's in Highland Park and Oceanique in Evanston are two other participating suburban restaurants.

For his Julia birthday dinner, Lachowicz is incorporating an intermezzo of melon soup served around a scoop of melon sorbet. The melon course breaks up the flavors between the appetizer (scallops) and entree (coq au vin) courses.

In the sorbet, melons are accented with mint and honey. Cilantro, more mint, sea salt and serrano chili peppers flavor the melon soup.

That combination is explosive; it kind of confuses and soothes your palate at the same time," Lachowicz said.

Meanwhile, Evanston resident Mary Rose Gearon has developed a watermelon salad this summer that is flavored with salted ricotta cheese, basil and fennel. She calls it Insalata Tricolore.

The salad is accented with the type of Mediterranean flavors she and her husband, Jens Bauerle, encounter with the tour groups they escort on culinary visits to Italy with their company, Gourmet Destinations.

"Watermelon evokes a beautiful summer day," Gearon said. "The fennel and the nice, nutty flavor of the ricotta cheese work well with watermelon."

Gearon emphasized that the salad should be eaten fresh. "Chill the salad for no more than 15 minutes," she said. "If you are going to keep it in the refrigerator, you don't want the ingredients to soak up all of the oil and dressing. Put the basil and dressing on right before serving it."

On Sept. 30, Gourmet Destinations will launch a new tour to the birthplace of the slow food movement — Piedmont, Italy. For information, visit www.GourmetDestinations.com. To learn more about Julia Child Restaurant Week, visit www.chicagooriginals.com/juliahchild.php.
Don’t get hung up on what’s authentic

BY DAVID HAMMOND

Our favorite salad is the classic Caesar. For years, we made Caesar salad using Craig Claiborne’s authoritative The New York Times Cook Book. We’ve always used romaine, as specified, and always, unquestionably, anchovies.

Anchovies were critical. Though we try not to be food snobs, our noses lifted slightly when served versions of that salad didn’t contain this flavorful little fish. Anchovy-free Caesar salads, we firmly believed, were both less tasty and, alas, less “authentic.”

Caesar salad was invented by Caesar Cardini, who worked in San Diego and Tijuana during the early 20th century. Alarmingly, in an interview conducted after Cardini’s death, his daughter, Rosa, revealed that her father never put anchovies in the salad that bore his name. For many years, we’d thought we knew the authentic version of the Caesar salad when in fact we simply knew some new-fangled New York variation.

When people judge a food to be authentic, they may be basing that assumption upon the version they know best, which they may sincerely believe is “the real thing,” for better or worse... and sometimes definitely for worse.

Mexican is my food of choice, but I’ve always avoided ordering gorditas because, at some level, I associated them with my earliest introduction to this food, which happened to occur at a major Mexican-type fast food chain (the one with the Chihuahua mascot). Last June, however, in Mexico, we sat in a roadside tent where a husband and wife were frying gorditas, buns made of roughly ground cornmeal, fried and stuffed with pork and lettuce. Crunchy outside, moist and juicy inside, these south of the border sandwiches changed my way of thinking about gorditas.

Defining authenticity probably doesn’t matter unless you’re a food historian. We still put anchovies in our Caesar salad. It’s not authentic. It’s the way we like it.

David Hammond is an Oak Park writer and contributor to WBEZ (91.5 FM) and LTHForum.com.
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Having a ball with melons

BY VERONICA HINKE | Contributor

Julia Child is known for raising the bar on mingling unexpected flavors with summer's most glorious bounty. One example, the Thai Melon Salad she introduced through her "Cooking with Master Chefs" TV series, launched a melon revolution.

The recipe combines watermelon, honeydew and cantaloupe with kaffir lime leaves, cilantro, peanuts — even fish sauce. "Whether they acknowledge it or not, all chefs, within the past 50 years, were influenced by her in one way or another," said Michael Lachowicz, chef/owner of Restaurant Michael in Winnetka.

Child's impact on Lachowicz is well-known, and he is lifting a glass to the culinary icon as part of Julia Child Restaurant Week, a festival organized by the Chicago Originals group.

Lachowicz and other participating chefs are offering Julia Child-themed menus through Aug. 25. The festival began on Aug. 15, which would have been Child's 100th birthday. Nieto's in Highland Park and Oceanique in Evanston are two other participating suburban restaurants.

For his Julia birthday dinner, Lachowicz is incorporating an intermezzo of melon soup served around a scoop of melon sorbet. The melon course breaks up the flavors between the appetizer (scallops) and entrée (coq au vin) courses.

In the sorbet, melons are accented with mint and honey. Cilantro, more mint, sea salt and serrano chili peppers flavor the melon soup.

"That combination is explosive; it kind of confuses and soothes your palate at the same time," Lachowicz said.

Meanwhile, Evanston resident Mary Rose Gearon has developed a watermelon salad this summer that is flavored with salted ricotta cheese, basil and fennel. She calls it Insalata Tricolore.

The salad is accented with the type of Mediterranean flavors she and her husband, Jens Bauerle, encounter with the tour groups they escort on culinary visits to Italy with their company, Gourmet Destinations.

**Insalata Tricolore**

> From Mary Rose Gearon
> 4 medium-sized fresh fennel bulbs
> ¾ pound salted ricotta
> ¼ of one medium-sized watermelon
> Fresh basil, to taste
> 1 tablespoon balsamic vinegar
> 1 tablespoon extra virgin olive oil
> Salt, to taste

Wash fennel heads and remove excess greens, slice finely into rounds. Slice watermelon into small cubes, removing any seeds. Cube salted ricotta, same size as watermelon.

Put all ingredients into shallow bowl, sprinkle with plenty of fresh basil, a pinch of salt, balsamic vinegar and a tablespoon of extra virgin olive oil.

Chill slightly and serve.

"Watermelon evokes a beautiful summer day," Gearon said. "The fennel and the nice, nutty flavor of the ricotta cheese work well with watermelon."

Gearon emphasized that the salad should be eaten fresh. "Chill the salad for no more than 15 minutes," she said. "If you are going to keep it in the refrigerator, you don't want the ingredients to soak up all of the oil and dressing. Put the basil and dressing on right before serving it."

On Sept. 30, Gourmet Destinations will launch a new tour to the birthplace of the slow food movement — Piedmont, Italy. For information, visit www.GourmetDestinations.com. To learn more about Julia Child Restaurant Week, visit www.chicagooriginals.com/juliachild.php.
Discover the sublime scenery of Indiana

With the heat of summer subsiding and the bitterness of winter right around the corner, fall provides the perfect time to get outside and enjoy the beautiful outdoors of Northwest Indiana.

Just a 30-minute drive from downtown Chicago, the South Shore region of Indiana offers a chance to get away from it all. Charming covered bridges, miles of scenic shoreline and hundreds of acres of arboreal retreats provide a serene backdrop.

In some instances though, you need to head indoors to appreciate the region's outdoor beauty. Such is the case with the Horizons Photo Exhibit Aug. 2 to Sept. 30 at the Indiana Welcome Center in Hammond.

"Forty-two local photographers took pictures that are all about the great outdoors of the South Shore," said Speros Batistatos, president and CEO of the South Shore Convention and Visitors Authority. "People can look at the photos and then maybe go out and explore themselves."

There is no shortage of exploration opportunities as there are numerous special events planned for fall. The 34th annual Popcorn Festival, which honors Valparaiso native Orville Redenbacher, will be held in downtown Valparaiso on Sept. 8. The festival includes a parade, a variety of arts and crafts booths, and two stages of entertainment.

Batistatos said the Popcorn Festival is one of his favorite fall events. "It has a traditional, downtown, homey kind of feel," Batistatos said. "And there's more popcorn than you could ever consume."

Take in a Broadway favorite when the Theatre at the Center in Munster presents "42nd Street." Sept. 13 to Oct. 21. Experience
Visitors can celebrate the splendor of the season during a trio of upcoming fall-themed festivals.

“the biggest, brightest, boldest, most sparkling dance musical ever” presented on Theatre at the Center’s stage.

Be sure to check out Downtown Hammond Council’s 7th Annual Bizarre Bazaar on Sept. 15 that will live up to its name with a mix of activities including food vendors, a car show, a chess competition, a 5K, a guitar hero contest and a pie baking contest.

Visitors can celebrate the splendor of the season during a trio of upcoming fall-themed festivals.

Covered Bridge Harvest Fest takes place in Crown Point Sept. 28-30 and will feature food, crafts, pumpkin games, trolley rides, hayrides. Oktoberfest on Oct. 6 in Crown Point will offer a pie-eating contest, chili cook-off, beanbag tournament and live music. Also on Oct. 6, in Munster, is Pumpkins, Witches and Hayrides, featuring hayrides, a pumpkin patch, costume contest and trick-or-treating.

In addition to the plethora of seasonal events, Northwest Indiana boasts a collection of unique points of interest that are open year-round including the Albanese Candy Factory Outlet in Merrillville, the Community Veterans Memorial in Munster, the Shrine of Christ’s Passion in St. John, and Taltree Arboretum & Gardens in Valparaiso.

Some people mistakenly think of Northwest Indiana as just an industrial hub, but Batistatos urges people to experience the full spectrum of the region’s offerings.

“Truly a myth and misconception that [Northwest Indiana] lacks aesthetic or natural beauty,” Batistatos said. “The beauty might just be mixed in with a steel mill or two.”

For more information, visit www.alongthesouthshore.com.
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After the Interview: Four Ways to Follow Up

By Margaret Steen, for Yahoo! HotJobs

You had your interview, and the way it ended left you hopeful. Now comes what is often the most agonizing part of the job hunt: waiting for the hiring manager to call. But you still have some control over the process. Experts offer the following advice on maximizing your chances for success:

Send Thank-You Notes

Don't stress too much over whether your interview thank-you letter is emailed or handwritten. The most important thing is to send it. "Even if you think you've got it in the bag, there are people who expect that letter," says Laura DeCarlo, president of Career Directors International, a global professional association of resume writers and career coaches.

The kind of note to send depends on the situation. Peggy Mckee, founder of Career Confidential, prefers thank-you emails sent within a day of the interview. "A quick follow-up indicates interest," Mckee says.

But consider the company culture when following up. Sometimes a mailed letter will be more appropriate — for instance, if the company is an old-fashioned, traditional one. But if you're applying for something like a social media marketing position, then email your follow-up note.

Your post-interview thank-you letter should be "a typical sales letter" with three parts, DeCano says: Thank the interviewer. Reiterate why you're a good fit. Close by saying you're looking forward to the next step. Even if you send the note by mail, you may prefer to type it so you have room to make your case.

Break Through the Silence

The interviewer said she'd let you know by Tuesday if you made it to the next round of interviews. It's now Thursday, and you haven't heard anything. What's going on? It's possible you didn't make the cut. But it's equally likely that the interviewer just got busy.

What should you do next? Call or email. If you don't get a reply in a few days, try again. Yes, you might occasionally annoy a frazzled hiring manager. But as long as your messages are polite and brief, most interviewers are more likely to be impressed by your perseverance, communication skills and interest in the job.

"Candidates need to quit worrying about how they're perceived and be more worried about making people see how they can contribute to the organization," Mckee says.

The key is to keep your messages positive. Don't sound accusatory — just remind the interviewer of your conversation, say you enjoyed it and ask where they are in the process. It may help to prepare a script ahead of time.

Go Into Recovery Mode

Perhaps you feel that you didn't make the best impression in the interview. The follow-up is your chance to recover. "Tell them you're going to provide them with additional resources," Mckee says. If you can send documentation of your abilities — or even get references to send notes on your behalf — do so.

But if your reason for thinking you blew the interview is something minor, like spilling your coffee, ignore it. "If you draw attention to your embarrassment about little things, it might lead the person to think you're too insecure," DeCarlo explains.

Bounce Back from Rejection

When you hear from an interviewer but the news is bad, what should you do? First, "thank the person for letting you know," DeCarlo says. Then ask if the interviewer would be willing to give you any feedback that you could use for future interviews. The answer will likely be no, but it shows you're interested in improving.

Then keep networking with the interviewer, perhaps by forwarding occasional, well-chosen articles related to your industry, for example, or by joining a group on LinkedIn.
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2. **Property Listing:**
   - The residential real estate is subject to the terms and conditions of the mortgage, any recorded restrictions, and any liens or encumbrances.

3. **Inspection:**
   - Prospective bidders are strongly encouraged to inspect the property at their own risk. The seller and the auctioneer make no representations or warranties regarding the condition of the property. No guarantees are made as to the presence of any defects or damages.

4. **Ownership:**
   - The ownership of the property is subject to the terms of any recorded security interest, including any mortgage or deed of trust.

5. **Closing:**
   - The closing shall take place within 30 days from the date of sale. The buyer shall be responsible for all taxes and assessments due after the date of sale.

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   - The commission for the auction company is 10% of the successful bid amount, which will be paid by the seller.

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   - All closing costs, including title insurance, recording fees, and any other applicable fees, are the responsibility of the buyer.

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     - **Assessor:** 1864631
     - **County:** Cook
     - **State:** Illinois
     - **Zip Code:** 60629

10. **Effective Date:**
    - This notice is effective on July 12, 2012.

11. **Additional Information:**
    - Upon request, the auction company will provide a certificate of sale to the successful bidder, which will be required for the transfer of ownership.

12. **Contact Information:**
    - For further information, contact the auction company at (312) 476-2555.
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The property is subject to open inspection by the public for 3 days prior to the sale. If the property is a condominium, the purchaser must be a member of the condominium association. If the property is a residential property, the purchaser must be a resident of the state of Illinois. If the property is a commercial property, the purchaser must be a business located in the state of Illinois.

The sale is subject to the condition that the property is sold "as is, where is." The purchaser assumes all risks associated with the property and has no recourse against the mortgagee or any other party. The purchaser is responsible for all fees and expenses associated with the purchase of the property.

The property is subject to any liens, judgments, or other encumbrances. The purchaser is responsible for the payment of any taxes due on the property. The purchaser is responsible for any repairs or maintenance required by the local government or other authorities.

The sale is subject to the condition that the property is sold "subject to all existing leases, tenancies, and rights of use." The purchaser assumes all risks associated with the existing leases, tenancies, and rights of use.

If the sale is not confirmed by the court, the purchaser may rescind the sale within 30 days and receive a refund of their deposit. If the sale is confirmed by the court, the purchaser is responsible for all fees and expenses associated with the purchase of the property.

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Mount Prospect, IL 60056

On or before the date of publication of this notice, any person
interested may file objections in the above matters with the
Deputy Liquor Control
Commissioner, in writing, by the 10th day of the month following
the date of the publication of this notice, stating specifically
the grounds on which the objection is based.

Any objections should be filed at 111 S. Clark St., Room
1140 Chicago, Illinois 60602.

Deputy Liquor Control
Commissioner
303-906, ext. 913 379447

ADVERTISMENT FOR BID
The Board of Education, Community
Consolidated School District 65, 1000 McKendree Avenue,
Evaston, Illinois, will receive bids on or before the 10th day of
February, 2013, for the following project:
Renovate and reconstruct the roof of the building at
1001 Feenmel Drive, Mount Prospect, Illinois.

The Bid Opening will be on
Wednesday, September 5th at 10:30 A.M., at the Board of
Education, 1001 Feenmel Drive, Mount Prospect, Illinois.

The Bidder reserves the right to reject any or all bids, to waive
irregularities in the bidding procedures or accept or reject any
tender that will be in the best interest of the Bidder.

Any questions should be directed to
Nicholas & Associates, Inc.
1001 Feenmel Drive
Mount Prospect, Illinois 60056

1-847-894-2605

LEAGUE OF COMMUNITY SERVICES
For Services
Thursday, September 20, 2012,
Village of Gale, 5227 Clinton Street,
Sicklerville, New Jersey 08077,
7:30 P.M., to consider the following:
NEW ADMINISTRATION
Stillwater, 3401 Main Street
Albion, Illinois 60503

NILES PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT
ORDINANCE 12-5
ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS
BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Trustees of the NILES PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT, County of Cook and State of Illinois,
SECTION 1: That the following summary of income, as much time as may be necessary, and the remaining 
appropriations for general corporate purposes and in detail and for the payment of all expenses and liabilities of the Niles Public Library District for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2011 and ending June 30, 2013
WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees of the Niles Public Library District, Cook County, Illinois, has been prepared and tentatively form a Budget, and the Secretary of the Board will make said summary available to the public inspection for at least 30 days prior to final action thereon, and
WHEREAS, as a public service and to aid in the full public service, the Board shall hold a meeting to consider the following:

NILES PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT
ORDINANCE 12-5
ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS
BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Trustees of the NILES PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT, County of Cook and State of Illinois,
SECTION 2: That the items budgeted as appropriated and the objects and purposes of the same are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Appropriation</th>
<th>Operating Budget</th>
<th>General Appropriation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Administration</td>
<td>200,000</td>
<td>107,004</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department Managers</td>
<td>500,000</td>
<td>251,225</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Directors</td>
<td>600,000</td>
<td>741,936</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library I</td>
<td>1,050,000</td>
<td>1,022,957</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library Grade V Revs</td>
<td>150,000</td>
<td>129,177</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library Grade V Pos</td>
<td>600,000</td>
<td>202,602</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library Pgs</td>
<td>300,000</td>
<td>145,983</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sundays 100s</td>
<td>74,000</td>
<td>32,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salaries/Probable Temporary Hours</td>
<td>100,000</td>
<td>100,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Salaries</td>
<td>4,300,000</td>
<td>3,377,630</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library MATERIALS</td>
<td>Books and Periodicals</td>
<td>500,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Drawdowns</td>
<td>100,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Audio/Browsable</td>
<td>300,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Online</td>
<td>300,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total Materials</td>
<td>1,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OPERATING EXPENSE</td>
<td>Processing and Services</td>
<td>100,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Charges</td>
<td>100,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Processing &amp; Supplies</td>
<td>80,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Internet Charges</td>
<td>30,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Software, Licenses</td>
<td>60,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Printing</td>
<td>10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Library Supplies</td>
<td>30,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Programming</td>
<td>120,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>OCLC</td>
<td>350,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Miscellaneous</td>
<td>2,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Per Cap Grant Expenditures</td>
<td>45,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Grant-Other Expenditures</td>
<td>50,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administration and General Office</td>
<td>Journals</td>
<td>60,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Professional Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Directors</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Library Supplies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Consulting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Promotional Expenses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Audio/Video Programs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Total Operating Costs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Utilities</td>
<td>Gas</td>
<td>45,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Electric</td>
<td>245,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Water</td>
<td>5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total OPERATING EXPENSE</td>
<td>1,469,200</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


Any such decision shall be in writing, and the Owner's opinion, does not constitute a public notice.

The Board of Education, through the Director, reserves the right to set aside a contract, if in their opinion, the proposal is the best for the purpose intended.

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The Board of Education, through the Director, reserves the right to set aside a contract, if in their opinion, the proposal is the best for the purpose intended.

Any decision shall be in writing, and the Owner's opinion, does not constitute a public notice.
ORINDANCE #12-4
NORWOOD PARK FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
BUDGET AND APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE FOR 2012-2013

Of the NORWOOD PARK FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT in the County of Cook, State of Illinois, for the Fiscal Year Beginning July 1, 2012 and Ending June 30, 2013.

WHEREAS, all legal requirements have been complied with:

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED BY THE PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE NORWOOD PARK FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT, COUNTY OF COOK, STATE OF ILLINOIS, IN MEETING ASSEMBLED, AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1: That the fiscal year of NORWOOD PARK FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT is hereby fixed and declared to be from July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2013.

SECTION 2: That the following Budget containing an estimate of the revenues available and expenditures and the appropriations contained therein by the same is hereby adopted as the budget and appropriations for this Fire Protection District for this fiscal year, and the following sums of money, or as much thereof as may be authorized by law, is hereby appropriated to defray the necessary expenses and liabilities of the Norwood Park Fire Protection District, for its fiscal year beginning July 1, 2012 and ending June 30, 2013 for the respect objects and purposes, as hereinbefore set forth namely:

ARTICLE I-CORPORATE FUND

Estimated cash on hand at beginning of the fiscal year: July 1, 2012 $655,979

Total Estimated Corporate Fund Revenue $3,287,260

Estimated Corporate Fund Expenditures and Appropriations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AMOUNT</th>
<th>APPROPRIATED</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Administrative Salaries $200,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Fire Prevention Bureau Salaries $100,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Firemen's Salaries $1,503,136</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Overtime $70,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Clerical Salaries $54,400</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Trustee's Salaries $16,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Fire Truck Operating Expenses $80,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Purchase of New Equipment $60,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. ASCBA $4,640</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Radio Equipment and Services $25,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. Board of Fire Commissioners Expenses $10,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. Fire Protection Act $50,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13. Insurance (A) Cancer Insurance $8,600</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14. Campaign Contributions $50,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15. Trustee's Salaries $1,200</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16. Professional Services (A) Legal $25,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17. (B) Internal Auditor $12,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18. (C) Technology Services (Web) $20,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19. (D) Grant Writer $5,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20. (E) Board of Fire Commissioners Expenses $1,200</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21. (F) Association of Illinois Fire chiefs $4,600</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22. (G) Fire Prevention Bureau Salaries $3,500</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23. (H) Transportation $2,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24. (A) Overtime $70,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25. (B) Legal $12,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26. (C) Audit $25,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27. (D) Technology Services (Web) $20,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28. (E) Grant Writer $5,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29. (F) Board of Fire Commissioners Expenses $1,200</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30. (G) Association of Illinois Fire chiefs $4,600</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31. (H) Fire Prevention Bureau Salaries $3,500</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The foregoing appropriations are appropriated from the above revenue sources including the general property tax for ambulance purposes.

Estimated Ambulance Fund Revenue $2,915,436

Estimated Ambulance Fund Expenditures and Appropriations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AMOUNT</th>
<th>APPROPRIATED</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Ambulance Salaries $1,200,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Paramedic CPR class and special assignment $10,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Firemen's Salaries $1,200,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Overtime $20,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Clerical Salaries $13,600</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Trustee's Salaries $16,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Ambulance Operating Expenses $40,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Purchase of New Equipment $25,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Radio Equipment and Services $75,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Insurance (A) Group Hospital, Medical, Dental $105,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. Life Insurance $1,500</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. Cancer Insurance $2,400</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13. Association Dues and Subscriptions $12,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14. Building Additions and Improvements $30,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15. Building Maintenance and Supplies $10,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16. Utilities $75,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17. Overtime: $12,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18. Overtime: $10,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19. (A) Magnetic Vehicle Exhaust System (AFG Grant) $21,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Estimated Ambulance Fund Expenditures $2,170,384

The foregoing appropriations are appropriated from the above revenue sources including the general property tax for ambulance purposes.

ARTICLE III-PENSION FUND

Estimated cash on hand at beginning of fiscal year: July 1, 2012 $1,205,436

Total Estimated Pensions Fund Revenue $3,287,260

Estimated Pensions Fund Expenditures and Appropriations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AMOUNT</th>
<th>APPROPRIATED</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Firemen's Pension Fund $1,503,136</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund $500,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund $1,000,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Retirement Benefits $1,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund $500,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund $1,000,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund $500,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund $1,000,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund $500,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund $1,000,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund $500,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund $1,000,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13. Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund $500,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14. Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund $1,000,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15. Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund $500,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16. Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund $1,000,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17. Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund $500,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18. Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund $1,000,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19. Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund $500,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20. Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund $1,000,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21. Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund $500,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The foregoing appropriations are appropriated from the proceeds of a special tax for pensions fund purposes and are in addition to all other fire protection district taxes as provided by law.

Estimated Pensions Fund Balance as of June 30, 2013 $2,164,664

ARTICLE VIII-SOCIAL SECURITY FUND

Estimated cash on hand at beginning of fiscal year: July 1, 2012 $1,205,436

Total Estimated Social Security Fund Revenue $3,287,260

Estimated Social Security Fund Expenditures and Appropriations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AMOUNT</th>
<th>APPROPRIATED</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Tax on Social Security Wages and Medicare Taxes $20,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Tax on Hospital Insurance Wages $20,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The foregoing appropriations are appropriated from the proceeds of a special tax for Social Security fund purposes and are in addition to all other fire protection district taxes as provided by law.

Estimated Social Security Fund Balance as of June 30, 2013 ($20,817)

SUMMARY OF EXPENDITURES

ARTICLE I-CORPORATE FUND

Estimated cash on hand at beginning of fiscal year: July 1, 2012 $655,979

Estimated corporate fund balance as of June 30, 2013 $1,007,733

Estimated Ambulance Fund Revenues $874,600

Estimated cash on hand at beginning of fiscal year: July 1, 2012 $3,211,865

Estimated Ambulance Fund Revenues $874,600

Estimated Liability Insurance Fund Revenues $15,950

Estimated Liabilities Fund Revenues $15,950

Articled II-LIABILITY FUND

Estimated cash on hand at beginning of fiscal year: July 1, 2012 $2,985,536

Estimated Liabilities Fund Revenues $15,955

Estimated Liability Insurance Fund Revenues $15,955

TOTAL ESTIMATED EXPENDITURES AND APPROPRIATION $13,250,048

SECTION 3: That all unexpected balances of any item or items of any general purpose of any like appropriation made by this ordinance.

SECTION 4: That the invalidity of any item or Section of this Ordinance shall not affect the validity of the whole or any other part hereof.

SECTION 5: That this Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after passage, approval and publication as provided by law.

ADOPTED this 14th day of August, 2012 pursuant to a roll call vote as follows:

AYES: Styba, Martell, Chmura, Jarosz, Szczurek, Strempel, Lymporopulos

NAYS: 0

ABSTENT 0

APPROVED by me this 14th day of August, 2012.

James Chmura
President

ATTACH: Douglass Strempel

AD#377781, Pub.8/23/12
The goods to be sold are generally described as household goods. The terms of the sale will be at the location, 1700 N Meade day by day until all units are sold. The sale will be conducted by public auction. The goods to be sold are generally described as household goods. The terms of the sale will be at the location, 1700 N Meade day by day until all units are sold. The sale will be conducted by public auction. The goods to be sold are generally described as household goods. The terms of the sale will be at the location, 1700 N Meade day by day until all units are sold. The sale will be conducted by public auction. The goods to be sold are generally described as household goods. The terms of the sale will be at the location, 1700 N Meade day by day until all units are sold. The sale will be conducted by public auction. The goods to be sold are generally described as household goods. The terms of the sale will be at the location, 1700 N Meade day by day until all units are sold. 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STORAGE AUCTION 2012 NOTICE OF SALE UNDER THE SELF STORAGE FACILITY ACT, ILLINOIS REVISE STATUTES, CHAPTER 114, PARAGRAPH 301, ET SEQ. September 6, 2012, U-HAUL Storage Auctioneer, Executive Administrator, Storage Clerk for U-Haul Co. North Shore Chicago reserves the right to refuse any and all bids. The sales will be at the following location, 4055 N Broadway, Chicago, IL 60659 and will be at 11:00 am and continue day by day until all units are sold.

The goods to be sold are generally described as household goods. The terms of the sale will be cash only. U-Haull Co. North Shore Chicago reserves the right to refuse any and all bids. The sales will be at the following location, 4100 W. Fullerton Ave., Chicago, IL 60614 and will be at 11:00 am and continue day by day until all units are sold. Notice is hereby given that on September 6, 2012, U-HAUL Storage Auctioneer, Executive Administrator, Storage Clerk for U-Haul Co. North Shore Chicago reserves the right to refuse any and all bids. The sales will be at the following location, 4055 N Broadway, Chicago, IL 60659 and will be at 11:00 am and continue day by day until all units are sold.

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Village will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, September 11, 2012, at 7:00 p.m. at the Morton Grove Village Hall, 9555 N. Waukegan Road, Morton Grove, Illinois. The purpose of the hearing is to consider the adoption of the Redevelopment Plan and Project for the area more fully described below: The Hyde Park Area, a portion of the South area of the Village.

The Village invites all interested persons to attend the hearing and to present their views on the Redevelopment Plan and Project. All persons wishing to be heard at the hearing shall file a request for notice of such hearing at the Village Hall, 9555 N. Waukegan Road, Morton Grove, Illinois, no later than 5:00 p.m. of the day of the hearing. Notice of the hearing will be mailed to all persons who have filed a request for notice within the required time.

Any person desiring to present his views at the hearing should file a request for notice of such hearing at the Village Hall, 9555 N. Waukegan Road, Morton Grove, Illinois, no later than 5:00 p.m. of the day of the hearing. Notice of the hearing will be mailed to all persons who have filed a request for notice within the required time.

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Go head to head with other fans and pick the local prep teams you think will win each week!

THIS WEEK'S FEATURED GAMES

| Chicago Simeon vs. Loyola Academy | Maine South vs. Warren |
| Wilmot (Wis.) vs. Notre Dame      | New Trier vs. Schaumburg |
| Lincoln Park vs. Evanston         | Chicago Westinghouse vs. Niles West |
| Glenbrook North vs. Hersey        | Oak Lawn vs. Niles North |
| Glenbrook South vs. Prospect      | Rockford Christian Life vs. North Shore |
| Maine East vs. Chicago Schurz     | Country Day |

Top scorer featured in next week's paper!

PICK'EM PRIZES

- $100 weekly winner
- $1,000 grand prize winner

(Winners randomly selected from all eligible entries)

To play, scan this QR code or visit pioneerlocal.com/centralfootball

PICK'EM CHALLENGE

ROUND UP YOUR PICKS FOR THE WEEK AND ENTER FOR A CHANCE TO WIN GREAT PRIZES!
**Names and Faces**

**NATE LEE**
Noteworthy efforts: The junior was the first-place medalist at the Maine/Niles Shootout, held at Chick Evans, in Morton Grove, on Aug. 14. Lee shot a 1-under-par 70, helping the Wolves (306) post a second-place finish. Lee shot a 75 in Niles West’s 315-335 win over Addison Trail on Friday.

**SKYLER LEVINE**
Noteworthy efforts: The freshman shot a 78 to win the Maine South Hawk Frosh-Soph Invite at Oak Meadows Golf Club in Addison on Aug. 13.

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**Big Numbers**
6 | The number of strokes by which the CSL South lost to the CSL North in the CSL Classic, held at Bonnie Brook, in Waukegan, on Aug. 15. The South shot a collective 1,405, while the North finished at 1,399 in a stroke play/low ball tournament.

**Sound Bites**

“This is the third year the (Maine South Hawk Frosh-Soph Invite) has been in existence and Nate (Lee) won the first two. We told Skylar that he had no pressure, but that we had won it every year. Sure enough, he came back with the title.”

— Niles West golf coach Mitch Stern on freshman Skylar Levine.

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**Quick Hits**

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**Niles West seeking strong start**

**BY DAN SHALIN | Contributor**

Niles West is hoping for a better start, and a similar finish, on the football field against Westinghouse this season.

In 2011, the Wolves led the same Chicago Public League team 14-12 at halftime before a big second half, which included six interceptions.

During head coach Scott Bauml’s first two seasons at Niles West, the Wolves dropped consecutive season openers to Vernon Hills by scores of 45-12 and 45-0.

Year No. 3 began with what appeared to be a much more manageable opponent: Westinghouse. But by halftime last season, things were not going according to plan, as Niles West merely led the visitors 14-12.

Everything changed after the break, as the Wolves picked off the pass-happy Warriors six times, and returned two for touchdowns in a 49-20 victory.

Westinghouse returns to Basrak Field on Friday, and Baum knows his team must get off to a better start this time around.

“We know Westinghouse is an athletic team that likes to spread it out,” Baum said.

“They were young last year. We really liked the way we came on in the second half (in 2011), and wish we had started better. We’ve been harping on that. We can’t wait until the second half — we need to start from the opening kick.”

Niles West, which finished 2-7 overall last season, has experience on both sides of the ball. On offense, senior quarterback Mike McGivern leads an attack that features playmaking senior receiver Jeremiah Jordan, a fine kickoff and punt returner as well.

Senior Anthony Underwood will play tailback after spending much of last season on the other side of the ball.

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**This Week Niles West**

**FOOTBALL**
Friday
Hosts Westinghouse, 7 p.m.

**BOYS GOLF**
Today
Hosts Glenbrook North, Willow Hill, 4 p.m.
At Notre Dame, Mission Hill, 4:15 p.m.
Tuesday
At Glenbrook South, Glenview Pk. Dist., 4 p.m.
8/30 Thursday
At Evanston, Wilmette/Peter Janz, 4 p.m.
At Evanston, Wilmette G.C., 4 p.m.

**BOYS SOCCER**
Today
At Downers Grove North, Lake Park Tourn., 5 p.m.
Saturday
At Lake Park Tourn., 1 p.m.
Tuesday
At Lake Park Tourn. at Conant vs. Buffalo Grove, 5 p.m.
8/30 Thursday
At Lake Park Tourn. at Conant, 5 p.m.

**GIRLS SWIMMING/DIVING**
8/30 Thursday
At Northside College Prep, 5:30 p.m.

**GIRLS TENNIS**
Today
Hosts Niles North, 4:30 p.m.
Wednesday
Hosts Niles West Invite vs. TBA, 9 a.m.
8/31 Friday
At Buffalo Grove Quad, vs. TBA, 4:30 p.m.

**GIRLS VOLLEYBALL**
Today
Hosts Maine West, 6 p.m.
Tuesday
Hosts Lane Tech, 6 p.m.
8/30 Thursday
Hosts Maine East, 6 p.m.
8/31 Friday
At New Trier Tourn. vs. TBA, 5 p.m.
Dons looking to kick off 2012 season in style

BY ROB VALENTIN | Contributor

NI LES

Notre Dame opens the 2012 season by hosting non-conference foe Wilmot (Wis.) in Niles Friday night.

Playing in the East Suburban Catholic Conference, one of the toughest in the state, means that the Dons are hoping to start the campaign with a win.

Dan Nagode takes over the reins at quarterback, and his athleticism — coupled with a strong arm — should suit the Dons quite well. Nagode saw time at cornerback and wide receiver last year, and was the backup QB for a team that finished 5-5 after making the playoffs but losing in the first round.

Chris James returns at the running back spot for ND. He’s known as one of the quickest backs in the area.

On the defensive side of the ball, Notre Dame is led by linebackers Tom Sora and Dan Proano. Both players started as sophomores last season.
Smoliga set to ‘go out with a bang’

BY MATT LE CRENI Contributor

GlENVIEW

One sign of Olivia Smoliga’s growing celebrity came on June 16, when her hometown of Glenview hosted a send-off party before she left to compete in the Olympic Trials, in Omaha.

The Glenbrook South girls swimming star figured only a few people would attend, but over 150 showed up, including a woman who asked to take a picture with the, “future Olympian.”

Smoliga narrowly missed making the U.S. Olympic team this year, finishing fourth in the 100-meter backstroke. She swam a personal-best 59.82 in the 50-yard freestyle at the 2011 IHSA Swimming State Finals. (on the cusp of making the 2016 Team USA)

Smoliga is being ranked with former Rosary star and U.S. swimming champ Mary DeScenza as the best prep swimmer in the state history.

Regardless, Smoliga knows the spotlight will be trained upon her — and she’s ready.

“The state meet is a huge deal,” said Smoliga, who can equal DeScenza’s six individual titles if she wins two this season. “People feed off the excitement of the state meet, so I want to put on a show.”

Glenbrook South coach Kelly Tinsman, whose team expects to contend for its first state trophy, sees Smoliga on the same path as former Lake Forest star Matt Grevers, who as a senior set state records in the backstroke and 50 free, in 2003, before carving out an outstanding career at Northwestern University, as well as winning Olympic gold medals in Beijing and London.

That makes for a lofty comparison, but Smoliga — who plans to visit collegiate programs such as Texas, Arizona, Georgia and USC in September — wouldn’t have it any other way.

“I definitely set my expectations high, because if I didn’t I couldn’t do my best,” said Smoliga, who represented the U.S. at the Junior Pan Pacific Championships in Hawaii last week. “I’m right there (on the cusp of making the Olympics).”
Names and Faces

DAN AMMER

Noteworthy efforts: The senior tied for a team-low 84, and the Vikings finished fourth at the five-team Maine-Niles Shootout, held at Chick Evans on Aug. 14. Two days later, at the same course, Ammer shot a team-low 43 in a 173-179 loss to Wheeling.

ROSS DRUCKER

Noteworthy efforts: Drucker tied Ammer with an 84 in the Maine-Niles Shootout. He then shot a 46 against Wheeling. Drucker and Ammer also were part of the CSL North team that defeated the CSL South in the CSL Showcase on Aug. 15.

Quick Hits

Big Numbers
44 The number of strokes by which the Niles North golf team finished closer to Wheeling this season. The Wildcats defeated the Vikings by 50 shots last year, but won 173-179 this year.

Sound Bites
"The defense is very strong, and should be our strength. They were good last year, but we have to stop the good teams. We stopped the teams we were supposed to take care of."
— First-year Niles North head coach Mark Egofske

Don't Miss

Friday Football: Oak Lawn at Niles North, 7 p.m.

The Vikings open the season against opposition from the South Suburban Conference.

Niles North to start season with chip on its shoulder

BY DAN SHALIN | Contributor

SKOKIE

Niles North will be looking for revenge on the football field against Oak Lawn.

The Vikings' defense turned in a solid effort in the teams' 2011 meeting, but North was done in by mistakes and big plays.

Normally, surrendering just three points on defense is the recipe for victory in football. But that was not the case last August, when the Niles North 'D' allowed just a field goal in falling to Oak Lawn 21-17 in Week 1.

The teams meet again Friday night, and first-year Vikings head coach Mark Egofske said his team must avoid the miscues that ruined its opening-night performance a year ago.

"I remember we snapped two punts over the punter's head, and it led to two safeties," Egofske said. "We gave up a kickoff return for 99 yards, and we had an interception returned for a touchdown. We fell short on those types of things. That was our Achilles heel. Those are the things that need to be addressed, and we hope our kids understand how important those plays are."

Defense once again appears to be the Vikings' strength.

The Edmond brothers, senior Eugene (6-foot-1, 250 pounds) and junior James (5-10, 284) will look to stop the Spartans' running attack at the line. Senior Dan Fricano is a versatile defender, while senior Kris Achim is the top defensive back.

Senior Billy Voltik is back at quarterback after missing the second half of last season with a concussion. Though previous running back OShayne Brown and former receiver Mychael Henley graduated, Voltik has some solid weapons in receivers Colin Hancock, Tony Granato and Johnny Clanton, as well as running backs Fricano, Achim and Julian Barrett.
Park Ridge Jr. Hawks conducting tryouts

The Park Ridge Jr. Hawks Baseball Club will hold tryouts for their 9U, 10U, 11U and 12U traveling teams for the 2013 season on Aug. 25 and 26. Players are expected to attend both days. Tryouts will be held at Jaycee Park, 1515 S. Washington St., Park Ridge.

Tryout times are as follows: 9U, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.; 10U, 12:30-2 p.m.; 11U, 2-3:30 p.m.; 12U, 3:30-5 p.m. Players are asked to report 30 minutes prior to the starting time to register.

Players can't exceed their age group limit before May 1, 2013, to be eligible. Contact prjrhawks@gmail.com or Dan Sullivan at 312-493-6372 for an application or more information.
Blue Demons seeks to reverse their fortunes

BY ROB VALENTIN | Contributor

PARK RIDGE
Maine East is hoping to turn things around this season after going 1-8 last year.

The Blue Demons, coached by Gabe Corey, have their first chance to equal last year's win total when they head into the city to take on Schurz at Lane Stadium at noon Saturday.

The Bulldogs were 5-4 last season and beat Maine East 20-14 to open the 2011 campaign.

The Blue Demons' lone win last year came in Week 8 with a 27-7 victory over arch-rival Maine West.

It will be a family affair for Maine East this season as Corey has four sons playing on varsity: senior Gabe, junior Alex, sophomore George and freshman Woody.

Maine East's Gabe Corey looks for running room during a game on Oct. 6, 2011, at Deerfield. Corey will have three siblings as teammates this season and they'll all be playing for their dad, Maine East coach Gabe Corey. | BRIAN O'MAHONEY - for Sun-Times Media
Setting up for a bright future

BY ERIC VAN DRIL | Contributer

WINNETKA

Dressed in USA Volleyball apparel, Taylor Tashima and her teammates on the United States' Youth National Team were approached by several people in the San Diego International Airport and asked a similar question as they waited to leave for Mexico.

"We had a good 15 people come up to us and say, 'Are you going to London?'" said Tashima, a junior at New Trier. "A lot of them asked to get pictures with us." Flattered, Tashima and her teammates responded by explaining they were bound for Tijuana for the NORCECA Girls' Youth Continental Championship.

The attention brought by representing the United States didn't wane in Tashima's time in Mexico, but it was never again a case of mistaken identity. The United States dominated the NORCECA Youth Continental Championship, dropping only two sets in five matches en route to the gold medal.

Tashima, a 15-year-old Wilmette resident, bonded with the team's hitters and was the maestro of the United States' powerful attack. Tashima was named the tournament's best setter after the gold medal match. Both during the tournament and after its conclusion, Tashima was approached and asked for her autograph.

Beyond just increased attention and a higher level of play, Tashima's experience in Mexico and playing for the United States in the European Global Challenge in Croatia earlier this summer was something she believes will positively effect her in the upcoming high school season.

"It was definitely a once-in-a-lifetime experience, to be able to put on the jersey and represent our country," Tashima said. "It brought a new level of focus because when you're representing your country, you're representing all of the players who play volleyball and you're showing the other countries how you play. Coming
Lee vies to contribute to Spartans

BY MATT HARNESS | mharness@pioneerlocal.com

NORTHBROOK

If Jae Lee lived almost anywhere else in the state, he would be a team's top player.

As it stands, the Glenbrook North senior shoots in the 70s and has trouble counting his score.

At Sportman's Country Club on Aug. 16, Lee's 76 was sixth-best on the Spartans, who totaled a 4-under 276 to beat Maine South and Niles West.

But Lee doesn't want it any other way.

"Competing with these guys to make my score lower helps me play better," the third-year varsity player said. "I also think there is less pressure on me, which also helps. I know there's always going to be a lot of players shooting around par."

Lee is one of six players returning for the Spartans with significant varsity experience. Senior Nick Jan, senior Jon Goldstein, senior Harrison Marick, junior Nick Hardy and junior Brian Ohr are the others who played at last season's sectional tournament.

"I've learned a lot from these players, especially the two Nicks," Lee said. "They have shown me a lot of things that have helped me get better."

Jan, who recently committed to Ohio State, was the medalist at Sportman's with a 5-under 65.

Unlike most players, Lee didn't spend his summer playing many tournaments. Instead, he worked as a caddie at The Glen Club in Glenview and took advantage of the course's top-notch practice facilities.

One of Lee's stated goals is to stay away from the big number, something he didn't do at Sportman's, where he carded two double bogeys and one triple bogey on the back nine.

"I still need to cut down on silly mistakes," said Lee, who works with private instructor Brett Packee. "It's definitely correctable. Bogeys never hurt too much, but the doubles and triples do."

The Spartans, one of the favorites to win the state title, started the season last week with a victory at the Rolling Green Invitational in Arlington Heights. Jan and Goldstein each shot 72. Lee opened the year with a 78.
Back in the swing
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Niles West's Nate Lee watches his putt on Aug. 16 in Northbrook. | JON DURR • Sun-Times Media

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