Shoppers look at items during the Heartland Creative Art and Craft Show on May 11 at Golf Mill Shopping Center in Niles. | BUZZ ORR-Sun-Times Media

Golf Mill gets crafty

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Golf Mill gets crafty

BY NATASHA WASINSKI | Contributor

Barbara Ricketts of Oak Park made a deal with herself last November.

She had one year to get her new hand-beaded jewelry line up and running. If it didn't take off, she would go back to college.

Ricketts said online selling isn't all it is cracked up to be. Instead she's found more success at local events, like the Heartland Creative Craft Fair at Golf Mill Shopping Center.

Ricketts and other merchants from across the Midwest gathered at the Niles mall over Mother's Day weekend to showcase their creativity. The pop-up booths displayed natural soaps, colorfully wooden roses, photography art and other unique goods.

Monika Kalicki, marketing director for Golf Mill, said the mall hosts two craft fairs a year.

"They offer our shoppers something additional that we do not have on a daily basis," she said. "They are new experiences every time."

Herb Adler, of Lansing, said he is seeing a renewed interest in indoor craft fairs since the 2008 recession.

His business, Heartland Creative, organizes events at shopping centers throughout the Chicago area.

He is arranging a fair at Lincolnwood Town Center for the beginning of June, as well as an outdoor show themed "Made in the U.S.A. at Skokie's Old Orchard Center the weekend before the Fourth of July.

Adler said malls are "very good venues" for merchants since they attract a revolving flock of customers.

Compared to this time last year, Adler has recruited more vendors, who are reporting more sales, he said.

"They offer our shoppers something additional that we do not have on a daily basis," she said. "They are new experiences every time."

"The people really enjoy these shows," Adler said.

"Craft fairs also offer some families the opportunity to make money."

"They don't get rich but they sometimes can make a living if they price (a product) right, display it right, and have good presentation," Adler said.

Ruta and Harold Silver rely on craft fair sales as their primary source of income. The Vernon Hills couple has traveled the country selling processed fabric lapels, button cluster earrings, and other handcrafted accessories for over 25 years.

"You can actually make money doing this," Harold Silver said.

The Silvers' granddaughter also inherited their entrepreneurial spirit. The 11-year-old recently started making and selling hair bows from duct tape in order to save up for a computer, they said.

Some of the colorful bows were on display at their table in Golf Mill.

"The perfect business - she pays no overhead," Ruta Silver joked, before adding, "I hope she keeps that (motivation)."

Faux geese gained popularity in the 1980s and were donning dresses by the 90s. Johnson said patriotic outfits have always been in demand. His best seller is the candy stripe costume he calls the "Betsy Rose."

At the mall on Saturday, he dressed a plastic goose in a red bonnet and gown made from fabric featuring the Bulls logo. A plastic bullhorn completed the look.

The kitschy business is Johnson's full-time job. For the past 15 years he has regularly traveled between his home state and Illinois selling themed clothing for the statues.

Rising gas prices have forced him into skip fairs in Michigan and Wisconsin. But Johnson said he has no desire to move his business to the Internet.

"I enjoy doing the shows and meeting with people," he said.}

Carolyn Nilles (right) of Roselle assists customer Joan DelMedico (left) of Niles during the Heartland Creative Art and Craft Show on May 11 at Golf Mill Shopping Center in Niles. | BUZZ ORR|Sun-Times Media
Veteran Morton Grove, Pioneer Press reporter dies

BY KATHY ROUTLiffe, JENNIFER JOHNsoN AND BOB SEIDENBERG | kroutliffe@pioneerlocal.com

In his youth, Nick Katz motorcycled across Texas and Oklahoma, played blues guitar, and successfully smuggled his pet dog into a Las Vegas casino during a road trip with college buddies.

As a professional suburban Chicago journalist, he garnered three decades of respect and affection from contacts and colleagues alike.

Mr. Katz died last week in his sleep at his Evanston home. He was 62.

He joined Pioneer Press in 1982 and served under at least eight editors, covering at least six communities. He most recently covered the village of Morton Grove, one of his longest-held beats.

Mr. Katz was born in University City, Mo., a suburb of St. Louis. He attended the University of Wisconsin - Oshkosh before transferring to the University of Missouri - Columbia, where he graduated with degrees in sociology and journalism.

Before moving to Chicago, Mr. Katz served as editor of two small Missouri newspapers. His first beat as a Pioneer Press reporter was in Deerfield. He subsequently reported on city politics in Park Ridge, and covered municipal and school beats in Lincolnwood, Morton Grove, Skokie and Northbrook, among others.

"He used to love that job," his mother, Dee Katz of Sarasota, Fla., said Sunday. "He loved working with everyone there."

His professionalism was recognized officially: He shared a Peter Lisagor Award from the Chicago Headline Club in 1987 for community service reporting with a team of Park Ridge reporters and editors who covered flooding in the community.

Morton Grove trustee Sheldon Marcus recalled that when Mr. Katz returned to Morton Grove after serving on other beats, "the word around the office was 'Wow, we've got Nick back, and that should be good for the community.'"

Marcus praised Mr. Katz's deep understanding of Morton Grove's political and social history.

"I think he wrote with that insight. While taking nothing away from young journalists ... there is a true benefit in having somebody who has been around and understands the context of a community," Marcus said. "For those young journalists, if they wanted to be in the field, they could look to him to know how to be a professional."

Former Morton Grove Library Director Ben Schapiro used to marvel at Mr. Katz's talent for reporting.

"I liked him right from the beginning," he recalled, "but the thing that really stuck with me after we chatted a couple of times ... was how he would remember the things we talked.
about and put them into later stories in a way that developed the story more completely."

Former Pioneer Press editor Marc Alberts, who worked with Mr. Katz from 2007 to 2012, agreed.

"He enjoyed and believed in community journalism and, by extension, good local government," Alberts said. "He respected and liked many of the people he covered, but he had no patience for those who were self-important or needlessly combative."

Like so many others, Alberts noted Mr. Katz's sense of humor, one of his defining characteristics.

"People who knew Nick either were irritated by his dry humor or found him really funny," he said. "I only knew him a short time when I mentioned that a band I was in was playing in a tribute concert of Neil Young songs. Immediately, he yelled, 'That guy still owes me money!' like he knew Neil Young."

"As I learned later, Young was a no-show for a concert — in 1970 — and Nick never forgave him. Or, he never missed a chance to use the blow-off for comic effect," Alberts added. "Probably both."

Bill Ranola got to know Mr. Katz while working as an editorial assistant for Pioneer Press.

"Three words that best described Nick Katz: full of surprises," Ranola said, recalling some of the practical jokes Mr. Katz liked to play, like presenting him with a Zorro-themed monkey that let out an ear-piercing shriek, much to the bewilderment of fellow colleagues.

"Nick possessed an unparalleled sense of humor," Ranola said. "You never quite knew what he was going to say or do next. That's what made working with him so much fun."

Pioneer Press reporter Mike Isaacs, with whom Mr. Katz worked for decades, remembered not only his friend's wit — which included barbs about Apple products and hot weather — but the joy he took in his life's interests.

"He loved blues music, hardboiled detective novels — especially Raymond Chandler classics — and 'The Simpsons' and 'Seinfeld.' He loved to read. He had a passion for computers and cooking," Isaacs said. "And he was a damn good reporter and writer."

In addition to his mother, Mr. Katz is survived by a cousin, Gloria (Neal) Chernikoff of Hawthorne Woods, and a cousin Mark (Karen) Tulper of St. Louis.

There will be no service. Donations in his memory can be made to the American Civil Liberties Union or the Chicago Blues Foundation.
'Community' star to speak at Notre Dame graduation

BY LAURA PAVIN
Contributor

"Community" star Danny Pudi will return to his alma mater on May 25 to deliver the Commencement Address for Notre Dame College Prep's Class of 2013.

Pudi, a 1997 alumnus of Notre Dame, currently plays the role of Abed Nadir in the popular NBC comedy series about a group of students at a community college. Though his peers may now include Joel McHale, Ken Jeong and Chevy Chase, Pudi has said that he still talks regularly with his best friends from his days as a Don.

"[Danny] was a much-beloved student here, and he's had great success in his acting career," said Teresa Connelly, Director of Communications at Notre Dame. "We thought he would be very inspiring for the students and we're looking forward to a wonderful commencement speech from him."

Connelly said Notre Dame began inviting alumni to speak at graduations five years ago. Other notable speakers have included Chicago Blackhawks President John McDonough, class of '71, and Chicago Bears Director of Business Development Brian McCaskey, '78.

Last year, winner of CBS's "Amazing Race" Ernie Halvorsen, '00, spoke at the Alumni-Senior Breakfast. Patrick McCaskey, '67, Director of Special Projects for the Bears, and Adam Jahns, '01, sportswriter who covers the Bears for the Chicago Sun-Times, spoke this year.

Head Wrestling Coach and Assistant Athletic Director Augie Genovesi thought it would be both entertaining and eye-opening for students to hear Pudi speak this year.

"I said, 'Let's get a Danny Pudi in here to speak, someone that our kids can relate to,'" Genovesi said.

Genovesi said he got to know Pudi through sports and his son, Anthony, who has been friends with the actor since he was dressing up as a cheerleader to lead the high school's pep rallies.

"He was real comedian, you could see at that time he knew what he wanted to do, and he wasn't scared to do it — drove Father Molinaro nuts," Genovesi laughed. "He's a great person, and he never lost who he was."

Pudi graduated from Marquette University, where he was the recipient of the inaugural Chris Farley Scholarship. He studied improv at Second City Chicago's Conservatory program and is a founding member of Siblings of Doctors, a trio of Indian-American comics that perform improv and sketch shows at festivals around the country.

He has credited Notre Dame for cultivating his comedic muscle by allowing him to be himself and helping him find ways to focus his energy.

Graduation is scheduled for 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, May 25. It will be held at the high school, at 7655 W. Dempster St., Niles, and will be broadcast live at highschoolcube.com.
'Exceptional' basketball rebounds

BY NATALIE HAYES | Contributor

A group of Niles West High School upperclassmen whose rowdy behavior shut down an end-of-the-year pep assembly last month redeemed themselves last week.

Roughly 12 students, mostly seniors, were reprimanded for throwing objects and acting up at the April 19 pep rally. Principal Kaine Osburn shut down the event just 10 minutes after it started, canceling a much-anticipated basketball game for students with special needs and an awards ceremony to recognize the school's top athletes.

The students charged with ruining the pep rally did what they could to make it up to the school community and the Niles West Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) basketball team by planning and running a new game May 9, which brought out hundreds of students to cheer on the special needs team and show positive school spirit.

Many Niles West students hung around after school to cheer for their classmates who performed in dance groups Orchesis and Break Beatz at halftime and to root on the athletes awarded during the athletic ceremony.

"Some parts of the original pep rally experience were included in the event," Osburn said. "Going forward, the most important thing is for the students, faculty and staff to come together and talk about our underlying goal in having these assemblies and how students should conduct themselves at these events."

Senior Delia Arciniega and her prom date Roger Nguy, a junior, stayed after school to watch the game together, and afterward grabbed a slice of pizza from the concession booth being run by some of their classmates assigned to community service for their behavior at the pep rally.

"It was a great event because no one got out of hand, and all the students were cheering on the kids in the game," Arciniega said. "There was a lot of school spirit and everyone was really encouraging."

Senior Robert Marohn was one of the students who admittedly got out of hand at the pep rally. Marohn said things took a turn for the worse when he and his classmates started throwing toilet paper rolls out onto the floor while the gymnastics team was performing.

"When we threw the toilet paper rolls, it was the tipping point, because it could have been dangerous," Marohn said. "It was never our goal to end the assembly, but it got more chaotic than people expected."

Principal Osburn's on-the-spot decision to shut the event down seemed to conjure feelings of guilt among the dozen seniors who started all the ruckus, Marohn said, and students began writing their apologies to the disappointed CEC team on the class of 2013 Niles West Facebook page.

"We said we were sorry and we wanted to make it up to them by having another game," Marohn said. "They'd been practicing all year for this and we owed it to them."

As part of the punishment, the school administration is having prom-goers travel to the May 18 event in chartered coach buses, revoking the privilege of planning their own private transportation.

Parents were also required to attend a meeting with school staff last week before their students were allowed to purchase prom tickets.

"Overall, parents were supportive about it," Osburn said.

Some students, however, weren't happy about having to ride busses to prom, but others like Marohn said he didn't mind.

"The coach buses aren't something to complain about," Marohn said. "They're perfectly fine buses, and the school already set them up for us and everything."
Cops arrest man three times in 24 hours

BY JENNIFER JOHNSON
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A Morton Grove man charged with causing damage to nearly a dozen parked cars went on to be arrested two additional times within a 24-hour period, according to Niles police reports.

Jozef Komosa, 66, of 7710 W. Dempster St., was initially charged with 10 counts of criminal damage to property after Niles Police said he slashed or let the air out of tires on 10 cars parked behind a business on the 8800 block of Milwaukee Avenue on the night of May 4. An employee of the business told police that he saw Komosa letting air out of the tires and that he and another staff member chased Komosa and caught him as he ran toward the 8800 block of Washington Street.

Komosa was booked and released on bond, but four hours later he was taken into Niles police custody a second time, accused of stealing cigarettes from a store on the 8700 block of Dempster Street, police said. He was charged with retail theft and released on bond.

Less than 12 hours later, Niles police arrested Komosa a third time after he allegedly approached an officer conducting a traffic stop at Waukegan Road and Milwaukee Avenue and refused the officer's orders to leave the area. Police said Komosa walked up to the driver's side of the vehicle that had been stopped and again refused to leave, telling the officer, "It's a free country."

When the officer attempted to take Komosa into custody he allegedly struggled with the officer and had to be taken to the ground, police said. Komosa was charged with obstructing and resisting a police officer. While in a holding cell at the police station, Komosa reported not feeling well and was transported to a hospital for treatment, according to police.

He was released on bond for a third time.

Pot found on Niles playground

BY JENNIFER JOHNSON
jjohnson@pioneerlocal.com

A small amount of marijuana was reportedly discovered by a student on the playground of a Niles elementary school recently.

Niles Police said on the morning of May 3 the student at Mark Twain School, 9401 N. Hamlin Ave., found a blue, leopard-print sunglasses bag on the playground and turned it over to the principal's office. Inside the bag was a green, leafy substance that tested positive for marijuana, as well as a pipe commonly used for smoking marijuana, police said.

The suspected marijuana weighed .5 grams, according to police.
Niles detectives working with out-of-state police agencies have arrested a man in connection with the theft and resale of multiple chainsaws.

Police said Ali Ivanov, 34, of 8109 W. Church St., Niles, has been charged with felony theft, accused of stealing chainsaws from several power-equipment stores in Michigan and Wisconsin. Investigators were led to Ivanov based in part on Craigslist postings for the sale of chainsaws in Niles and Des Plaines, police said.

According to Niles Police, the chief of police of Williamston, Mich. reported that two men and two women were involved in some of the thefts in his community, with one of the women concealing a chainsaw under a long dress and holding it between her legs.

Son charged in home arson

Kevin Maguire, 43, of Morton Grove, was charged April 29 with aggravated arson in connection with a fire at his parents' house on the 8900 block of Oriole Avenue. He is to appear in court May 10.

Police said Maguire, who recently was released from jail, was at his parents' house. After getting into an argument with them, he threatened to burn down the house. Police said he poured gasoline on the floor, but his father wrestled the gas can away from him.

Police said Maguire tossed a lighter onto the gas and the gasoline started burning, but his father was able to put it out.

Police said he was charged with aggravated arson because there were people in the house when he started the fire.
New secondhand store heading for Niles

BY NATASHA WASINSKI | Contributor

Shoppers in Niles may soon have a new spot for bargain hunting.

The Niles Plan Commission on May 7 backed a request to open a second-hand shop in a strip mall on Milwaukee Avenue.

Luz Elena Martinez, of Chicago, applied for a special-use permit from the village to operate the clothing resale business at 7752 N. Milwaukee Ave.

The storefront property, which formerly housed a dry-cleaning business and shipping center, has sat vacant since August 2010.

Martinez said the proposed business' inventory would come from wholesale overstock distributors, as well as her own collection of home goods.

Unlike "off-price" stores like T.J. Maxx, the shop would also sell merchandise that was previously used.

Senior Planner Bruce Sylvester said the store might not operate as a second-hand retailer in the traditional sense, but qualified enough to be considered a special-use business.

"I would describe this as a gray area," he said.

Commissioners recommended granting the permit on three conditions, as recommended by the Niles Police Department: Walk-in consignment would not be allowed; police would be granted access to records of sales, if requested; and the types of items available for resale would be limited.

Merchandise such as jewelry, precious metals, and electronics would not be allowed to be sold without separate approval, reported Sylvester.

Last month, the Niles Village Board approved placing the same restrictions on a furniture resale store at 7639 N. Milwaukee Ave.

Karen Dimond, vice chairman of the commission, inquired whether there are plans to modify the code to include standards for businesses selling used goods.

Community Development Director Charles Ostman advised the zoning code, which is currently being overhauled, might include such information.

The Village Board is tentatively scheduled to consider the resale shop request at its May 28 meeting.

New District 64 president picked

BY JENNIFER JOHNSON | jjohnson@pioneerlocal.com

Park Ridge-Niles School District 64 Board of Education member Anthony Borrelli will serve as the new president of the board through May 2015.

Board members chose Borrelli for the position during a meeting on May 6. He will take over the president duties from John Heyde who had been board president since 2009.

Borrelli was elected in 2011.

Also during a May 6 meeting school members reelected Scott Zimmerman as vice president and chose newly-elected board member Terry Cameron as secretary.

Cameron and Zimmerman, as well as Vicki Lee and Dathan Paterno, also took the oath of office during the meeting.
Every 90 minutes someone is diagnosed with ALS (Lou Gehrig's disease). This progressive degenerative disease causes muscle weakness, difficulty speaking and swallowing, and generally complete paralysis. In most cases, while the body continues to deteriorate, the mind remains unaffected. There is no known cure for ALS.

Contribute to medical research by making a donation to the Les Turner ALS Foundation. Your donation will help support two world-class research laboratories at Northwestern Medicine.
The following incidents were listed in the official bulletin of the Niles Police Department. Readers are reminded that an arrest does not constitute a finding of guilt. Only a court of law can make that determination.

**DUI**

Jerome Dinetli, 51, of 1226 Wagner, Glenview, was charged with driving under the influence and failure to reduce speed to avoid an accident on the morning of May 4. He was taken into custody at 11:50 p.m. after police said his vehicle crossed over lane markings multiple times on the 9400 block of Milwaukee Avenue. He has a May 21 court date.

**PROPERTY DAMAGE**

Aleksandra Brown, 21, of 6300 W. Touhy Ave., Niles, was charged with criminal damage to property on May 4. Police said Brown threw a cell phone and broke a sixth floor window at the YMCA where she resides. She has a June 13 court date.

**CRIME BRIEFS**

**BATTERY**

A 24-year-old Chicago man told police he was punched in the face by a man he did not know outside a bar on the 7300 block of Harlem Avenue shortly before 3 a.m., May 4. Police said the man claimed he was smoking a cigarette in the parking lot and speaking to an unknown woman about the Blackhawks when the suspect approached, waved a set of keys in his face and punched him. The suspect, the woman and several other individuals reportedly fled the area in a white vehicle.

A 20-year-old Chicago man told police that on May 8 he was approached by four men while walking inside the north end of Golf Mill Shopping Center. Police said the victim reported that the men began pushing and slapping him before they ran out of the mall.

**BURGLARY**

A washer and dryer were stolen between April 23 and May 2 from a vacant home on the 8300 block of Newland Avenue. Police said there were no signs of forced entry.

**BURGLARY TO VEHICLE**

A diamond necklace and a pair of diamond earrings, valued at $425, were stolen overnight between May 6 and May 7 from a vehicle parked on the 9200 block of Woodland Drive.

An I-Pass transponder was also stolen.

A wallet was reported stolen on the morning of May 6 from a vehicle parked on the 9000 block of Clifton Avenue. Credit cards were used at three locations before they were reported stolen.

**THEFT**

On the night of May 4 a man allegedly grabbed two bottles of cognac from a display inside a liquor store on the 8100 block of Milwaukee Avenue and ran out without paying for them.

A credit card and $200 in cash were reported stolen May 6 from a locker at the YMCA, 6300 W. Touhy Ave.
The last two budgets saw Village of Niles raise sales and property taxes in shore up revenues in the face of struggling economy. For the 2014 budget, the village plans something smaller: it'll hike the tax on one specific type of business.

Under the village's proposed 2014 budget, the village will increase its hotel tax from 2 percent to 6 percent. The tax, which is charged every time someone books a room, won't effect most Niles residents. But hotel owners worry that the increase would make it harder for them to attract customers.

Whenever a person books a room in any hotel or hotel in Illinois, they're charged a 6 percent state hotel tax. Most municipalities charge an additional, local hotel tax. In Niles, the Hotel Tax revenue goes into the General Fund, which covers most of the village's regular spending.

After the shutdown of America's Midwest Hotel in February of this year, the village was left with only two hotels: the Traveler's Inn, which is located at 7247 N. Waukegan Road, and the Village Hotel, which is located at 6871 N. Milwaukee Ave.

The proposed 2014 budget estimates that the tax would bring in $19,080 - a sizable increase from $9,585 it brought in during 2012, but just a fraction of the cash Niles' budget is short.

According to Scot Neukirch, Niles' Finance Director, the increase wasn't just about increasing revenue - it's part of the village's long-term development strategy.

"Part of our [2030 Comprehensive Plan] is to bring our fees more in line with other towns," he said. "[The hotel tax] was one of the areas where we were lower."

"Indeed, Niles currently has the lowest tax rates of nearby suburbs. After the increase, the rate will be higher than Park Ridge (which charges 4 percent) and Morton Grove (5 percent), but lower than Lincolnwood and Des Plaines (7 percent). It would match Glenview's current rate.

The Skokie's rate is also 6 percent, but only for hotels with 350 or more rooms. For hotels and hotels with 349 or less rooms, the tax is 3.5 percent. Both Niles hotels fall in the latter category.

Marshal Janikowski, owner of the Village Hotel, feels that the tax increase is no trivial matter.

"It won't help our business," he said. "The expenses keep going up - higher energy bills, TV, garbage bills. With the Illinois hotel tax, and this, the total tax will be 12 percent."

Janikowski said that Village Hotel currently charges between $50 and 65 a night, depending on size and amenities. Under the current hotel tax rates, customers pay between $55-70 a night. With the increase, they would pay between $56-72 per night.

While that may not seem like much, Janikowski is worried that it would be enough to drive customers away.

Janikowski said that he understood the village's position - he just wished they would have handled the increase differently.

"I understand [Niles] needs more revenue," he said. "But going from 2 percent to 6 percent - it's too much.

Janikowski isn't optimistic about the future.

"We'll try to survive, but it will be hard," he said.
Persistent flooding at Gemini Junior High School is forcing East Maine School District 63 to address the problem head-on. Flood abatement is part of a $3 million capital improvement plan slated for this summer. The district expects to spend $769,250 to expand a detention pond and improve storm water drainage around the school.

The project's cost recently caught the attention of Niles Park District's executive director and a village trustee, said Joseph LoVerde, the Niles Park District's executive director and a village trustee, said similar concerns about the pond near the school had been raised at a recent park board meeting. He said part of the confusion might lie in residents mistaking the school pond for the park district's pond.

DeBartolo, who said his background is in engineering, agreed with the assessment but also suggested the park district may partially be at fault. He said he had been in contact with village representatives in the past about the need for more retention ponds to manage storm water runoff. The area behind the Gemini, for example, was converted primarily into park, though DeBartolo insisted they use it as a pond.

Barrie would not comment on DeBartolo's claims other than to note that the school works with its own engineer independent of the park district.

He added that he expects to present a final plan for storm water management at Gemini to the school board in July.

Joseph LoVerde, the Niles Park District's executive director and a village trustee, said similar concerns about the pond near the school had been raised at a recent park board meeting. He said part of the confusion might lie in residents mistaking a defunct volleyball court for a storm water basin.

LoVerde confirmed the park district has a detention pond located east of Gemini but on the outside of the fenced-off court. During the April storm, the pond filled to capacity, he said. "Even in that short period of time it couldn't handle the amount of water," said LoVerde, who also chairs the village's Stormwater Commission. "It was at the highest level I've seen in 16 years."

Flooding near the junior high, however, wasn't an isolated event last month, LoVerde said. Several businesses, homes and roads in Niles were also submerged. "We were underwater just about everywhere," he said. "It's a sad situation."

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By Natasha Wasinski | Contributor

Look to Gemini's neighbors to the east, the Niles Park District. DeBartolo claimed that, after the heavy rains of April 19, there was no water in the park district's pond.

Yet Gemini's pond was overflowing, he said. Classes at the junior high had been canceled for two days due to school flooding and washed-out roads. About an inch of standing water from the spring storm filled the cafeteria, reported Director of Operations Dan Barrie.

"It wasn't as bad as it had been in the past, even though the storm was worse," he said. "We sandbag the weak areas to hold back the water and deal with it."

Major flooding and the subsequent discovery of asbestos from record rainfall in September 2008 shuttered the school for eight weeks.

Since then, Gemini has flooded a handful of times. District administrators said the current drainage system hasn't adequately handled excess water since an addition was built 12 years ago.

DeBartolo, who said his background is in engineering, agreed with the assessment but also suggested the park district may partially be at fault.

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Village eyes new rules for title loan shops

BY NATASHA WASINSKI | Contributor

Numerous inquiries about bringing vehicle title loan businesses to Niles have prompted the village's community development department to revisit its regulations.

Under the current zoning ordinance, loan offices fall under the category of permitted use. Banks, financial institutions, currency exchanges and payday loan centers are conditionally allowed.

Companies that offer title loans are not specifically addressed, but that's not to say such businesses haven't set up shop in Niles.

Midwest Title Loans has a location at 8337 W. Golf Road, and another company, Express Car Title Loans, occupies the space at 7506 N. Milwaukee Ave.

In July, TitleMax also expects to open up a lending office locally, according to Community Development Director Charles Ostman.

Recognizing a need to better curb loan businesses, senior Planner Bruce Sylvester presented the Planning Commission and Zoning Board with text amendments to the zoning code May 7.

The commission approved the recommendation for the Village Board to require special-use permitting for title loan companies in the same manner as payday loan centers.

Banks and financial institutions without drive-up facilities would also be reclassified under the proposal as permitted uses in order to make it easier for a bank's branch to move into the village.

"The intent is to treat as permitted uses those types of businesses that we believe are less problematic, or less likely to cause problems for neighbors," Sylvester explained.

He said special-use permits should be limited to businesses with "unique circumstances that need to be scrutinized a little more."

Commissioner Robert Schulter asked if the village controlled for extreme interest rates set by some loan centers.

"Some of these people charge like 20-or-something percent interest," he said.

Ostman said monitoring falls on the shoulders of the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation and that the village has no say-so in rates.

The only comment from the public came from Susanne Atanus, who challenged the plan commission's recommendation despite saying she didn't want title loan businesses in her hometown.

"These are now desperate businesses to help desperate people and it's really scary," she said. "I don't think we should do this."

The Village Board is expected to consider the amendments to the zoning ordinance May 28.

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How Illinois lawmakers voted in Congress for the week ending May 10, 2013

Major roll call votes in the Senate

ONLINE SALES TAXES
Senators voted, 69-27, to require online retailers to collect state and local sales taxes and send the revenue to the taxing jurisdiction where the customer lives. A "yes" vote was to send the House a bill to facilitate collection of some $23 billion yearly in sales taxes that now goes unpaid. (S 743). Sen. Richard Durbin: YES; Sen. Mark Kirk: NO

GUNS AT WATER PROJECTS
Senators voted, 56-43, failing to reach 60 votes for advancing a plan to allow visitors to carry concealed handguns at Army Corps of Engineers projects, just as they can legally do in federal parks and forests but not in most other federal properties. A "yes" vote was to add the gun right to a water-resources bill still in debate. (S 608). Sen. Richard Durbin: NO; Sen. Mark Kirk: NO

Major roll call votes in the House

1. U.S. DEBT PAYMENTS
Members voted, 221-207, to give priority to bondholders and Social Security if the U.S. ever were to default on its debt. Republican sponsors said the bill is needed to instill confidence in investors, while Democrats called it a needlessly alarmist ideological statement. A "yes" vote was to pass HR 807.

2. DEMOCRATS' PAYMENT PLAN
Members voted, 200-207, to reject a Democratic bid to put veterans' benefits, deposit Insurance, Social Security, Medicare and disaster aid ahead of foreign creditors such as China if the U.S. ever were to go into default. A "yes" vote backed the motion to HR 807 (above).

3. 'COMP TIME' FOR OVERTIME
Members voted, 223-204, to allow private-sector employers to offer "compensatory time off" in place of "time and a half" wages for working more than 40 hours per week. A "yes" vote was to pass a bill adding flexibility to overtime-wage rules in the 1938 Fair Labor Standards Act. (HR 1406)

4. 'COMP TIME' CONTROL
Members voted, 200-207, to defeat a bid by Democrats to give employees control over scheduling "comp time" for purposes such as doctor visits, family care or, if they are veterans, making appointments related to combat injuries. A "yes" vote backed the motion to HR 1406 (above).

Key votes ahead

In the week of May 13, the House is scheduled to take up higher hurdles for financial regulations and a repeal of the 2010 health law, while the Senate is set to resume work on a water-projects bill.

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TAX DOLLARS AT WORK

CHICAGO

24 aldermen back mayor on parking meters; just two shy

Two dozen Chicago aldermen on May 9 declared their support for Mayor Rahm Emanuel’s plan to trade a longer paid parking day for free neighborhood parking on Sundays, two votes shy of the “silent majority” needed for City Council passage.

The announcement — described as a “team effort” between the mayor’s office and Budget Committee Chairman Carrie Austin (34th) — was aimed at building momentum for a revised parking meter deal that forces aldermen to relive a political nightmare.

Downtown Ald. Brendan Reilly (42nd) is leading the charge to drop the swap and simply pay Chicago Parking Meters LLC $63.8 million in disputed claims. He’s concerned that extending the parking day by one hour for 25,818 meters and three hours for 3,217 other meters would create a hardship for his River North constituents.

Ald. Howard Brookins (21st), chairman of the City Council’s Black Caucus, said he’s fairly convinced the mayor’s financial team is correct that Chicago taxpayers will come out $1 million ahead.

“I see a significant benefit to those folks who can now go to have breakfast on the North Side or even in Beverly and not have to feed the meters on Sunday,” Brookins said.

— Chicago Sun-Times

SPRINGFIELD

Schools worry about covering the cost of teacher pensions

Public school administrators told lawmakers May 9 that some local districts would have to raise property taxes if legislators vote to have them cover the cost of teacher pensions.

House Speaker Michael Madigan has said suburban and downstate districts get a “free lunch” because the state pays their teacher pension costs. The Chicago Democrat called for a special hearing to receive input from school districts’ leaders, as well as university and community college representatives.

“On the merits, the state of Illinois should not be paying for the pension costs of employees of local governments or other governments,” Madigan said.

Yet, public school administrators testifying at the hearing said local districts would have to raise property taxes in order to pay for the added financial burden, which they said would follow a fourth year in a row of cuts to education funding by the General Assembly.

“I think one of the biggest concerns we have with this issue is where the money would come from ... to pick up any costs,” said Ben Schwarm, deputy executive director of the Illinois Association of School Boards.

— The Associated Press

WASHINGTON

Obama wades back into the debate on health care program

President Barack Obama launched a new effort to rally the public around his hotly disputed health care law, a strategy aimed at shoring up key components of the sweeping federal overhaul and staving off yet another challenge from Republicans.

The president specifically targeted women and young people, groups that backed him overwhelmingly during his presidential campaigns. During a Mother’s Day-themed event at the White House on May 10, Obama promoted the benefits of the law for women, including free cancer screenings and contraceptives, and asked moms to urge their uninsured adult children to sign up for the health insurance “exchanges” that open this fall.

The exchanges are the centerpiece of the landmark overhaul of the nation’s health insurance system.

Three years after it became law, the measure widely known as “Obamacare” remains controversial, with GOP lawmakers resolving anew to overturn it and many Americans unsure how they’ll be affected.

White House advisers acknowledge they struggled in explaining the complex law to the public when it passed in 2010. Now, Obama allies see a fresh opportunity to sell the American people on the merits of measures that will be central to the president’s legacy.

— The Associated Press
Tap your inner doggie

We can learn a lot from our pets.

How to play without holding back, how to thoroughly enjoy a good meal, how to love unconditionally.

Dogs and cats live blissfully in the moment while we humans stress about the evils in the world around us, about global warming, about saving for retirement, the rent or the next meal.

Owning a dog, it turns out, can protect you from heart disease.

A statement released by the American Heart Association last week said that owning a dog was "probably associated" with a lower risk of heart disease and increased survival among patients.

Dogs force you to get outside and walk, and a purring cat or loving dog in your lap lowers your heart rate and blood pressure.

Pet owners, especially those with dogs, tended to be healthier than non-pet owners, and people who had pets were more likely to live after a heart attack, researchers found.

Get a pet, if you are in position to take good care of it, and try every day to tap your inner doggie.

Low on bullets, but still plenty of blame

It's all their fault.

If your son comes home from summer camp without his shooting merit badge, blame President Obama, who will immediately blame Bush.

In case you haven't heard, there is a debate raging across the nation about the shortage of ammunition. The right-wing nuts claim the Obama administration is buying up ammo to keep it out of the hands of citizens and force the gun control he can't get passed in Congress.

The left-wing zealots claim survivalists are stockpiling all the ammo in paranoid fear of the federal government.

So I'm only half-kidding about blaming Obama and Bush. But no matter which true believers you believe, the little guy ends up getting hurt.

Here's how. One of the most popular activities at Boy Scout summer camp is called shooting sports. That's where the boys learn how to handle a gun or a bow and arrow safely. Naturally, it is the first thing boys gravitate to when they leave mom and dad's sight. It's only natural to desire that which you have been denied all your life, So the little tykes leave home never playing with toy guns and return with a shooting merit badge.

Anyway, at the last Scout meeting one of the dads mentioned there is a concern about the bullet supply at summer camp. It looks like they might cancel the end-of-the-week adult shooting competition to make sure the boys have enough ammo.

Like I said, it is always the little guy who gets hurt, a guy like me who has nothing to live for at summer camp except the adult shooting competition. So I called one of the Scout leaders I know and he assured me that shooting sports will continue. But this so-called ammo shortage is forcing them to go a bit farther afield to buy enough bullets for this summer. And, yes, the adult competition may be canceled.

Ever the reporter, I had to find out for myself if this ammo shortage was true or not. I may not be able to go to Hawaii to get Obama's forged birth certificate, but I can surely drive over to Bass Pro Shop and pick up a couple thousand boxes of .22 shells at a time, he said. Do that a couple times a week over five weeks and soon you have 10,000 rounds in your basement. The government is just buying 1.6 billion rounds.

So I went home, fired up my search engine and learned that in Lincoln, Neb., the Boy Scouts are asking the public to donate bullets for summer camp. Yes, it's that bad.

"Haven't you seen the news?" he replied. "The government bought it all."

Well, not quite. A lot of individuals have also been coming in and buying 500 rounds of .22 shells at a time, he said. Do that a couple times a week over five weeks and soon you have 10,000 rounds in your basement. The government is just buying 1.6 billion rounds.

So I went home, fired up my search engine and learned that in Lincoln, Neb., the Boy Scouts are asking the public to donate bullets for summer camp.

Get a pet, if you are in position to take good care of it, and try every day to tap your inner doggie.
Why such a rush to raise speed limit?

It doesn't matter.

That would be a normal first reaction to the news that Illinois may raise the speed limit on highways to 70 mph.

Now, it is 65 mph in most of the state, and 55 in urban areas, including Chicagoland.

Few drivers do 55 on the highways around here, anyway. Yesterday on the Eisenhower I was doing my usual 60 and everyone was warping by me as if I were idling at a railroad crossing.

So, why not raise the speed limit? In 1995 Congress gave the states the power to do so. And now, 35 states have speed limits at 75 mph or higher.

In Illinois, a bill introduced by Sen. Jim Oberweis (R-Sugar Grove) to raise the Illinois speed limit to 70 mph sailed through by a whopping margin of 41 to 6. It still must be approved by the House and signed by the governor, who has not committed either way.

In addition to just wanting to get where they're going faster, proponents of higher speed limits contend driving faster might actually be safer. No one does 55 anyway. And if everyone would do 85 percent of what traffic actually is moving at, traffic would be homogenized and thus safer.

Senator Oberweis assures us drivers would not use the new speed limit as a minimum and drive even faster.

The other side includes the Illinois Department of Transportation, American Automobile Association, The Governors Highway Safety Association and the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety.

Their message? Speed kills. The more speed, the more killing. For example:

Speeding was the cause of more than half of Illinois' 900 fatalities last year.

From 2008 to 2011, Illinois highway fatalities were down 12 percent, but those due to speeding were up 14 percent.

In 2010 and 2011 when truck speeds were raised to 65 mph in Illinois, fatalities with large trucks were up 39 percent.

Forty-three states have higher fatality rates than Illinois. Of these states, 70 percent have speed limits of 70 mph or higher.

I know which side of the argument makes the most sense to me.

If the House and governor are foolish enough to go for higher speed limits, there is a provision in the bill that allows the counties of Cook, Lake, DuPage, Will, Kane and McHenry to opt out and set their own highway speed limits.

I hope that doesn't become necessary.

But it's good to know.
A letter to high school parents

A huge percent of students from Maine Township do not approve of adults providing alcohol to teens. We believe parents should be the role model for teenagers and take action by not providing alcohol. A role model is a person who exhibits positive behavior and sets a good example. If you do provide alcohol, there could be serious health, safety and legal consequences that you may not have considered.

Teens notice their parents' actions and are influenced by the decisions their parents make. For example, if parents set a good example for their teens to follow and make their stance on alcohol clear, teens are more likely to be positively influenced by the example their parents set. The actions of parents can affect the actions of teens.

As we know, prom and graduation are right around the corner. Now, more than ever, it is important that parents set clear guidelines on the acceptable ways to celebrate. We believe parents should set certain rules for what their teens can and cannot do. If parents host a party, there can be activities that are fun but don't involve alcohol.

Parents should have a clear line of communication with other parents as well, to ensure that all of the parents are setting a good example, and not hosting parties with alcohol. We would like to thank parents who do not provide alcohol to teenagers and set a good example for them to follow.

Danielle Kavanaugh, Neha Patel and Aasumi Shah
MCYAF Youth & Change Movement Students

Harry O'Brien Dash-Walk a success

Thank you for your articles supporting the Harry O'Brien Spring Dash-Walk. It was a successful event with 145 participants and a wonderful cause. The Park Ridge Community Fund which supports 23 social service agencies including Avenues, The Center of Concern and Maine Center will benefit from this event.

I thank everyone who participated, volunteered or donated.

Millie O'Brien
Park Ridge
Before entering Niles North High School, Farhan Noormohammed tinkered with computer game codes, switching zeros and ones to throw off his remote online opponents.

He may not have understood the ins and outs of programming back then, but one thing was certain: he kept winning.

“I modified the code to mess with their servers for my benefit,” said the 18-year-old gamer. “I had no idea exactly what I was doing.”

These days Noormohammed, of Morton Grove, is more fluent in computer programming, especially after creating with his peers one of today’s most popular technology tools: a mobile phone application.

Released last month, the North Star News App makes the student-published newspaper widely accessible from smartphones.

Noormohammed, along with Skokie residents An Nguyen and Michio Tsukamoto, developed the mobile app as a community service project in an advanced video game programming class.

David Ruth, who teaches math, computer science and video game programming at Niles North, said the three seniors aced his Advanced Placement computer science class as freshmen.

For the past three years, they enrolled in his programming class. When students from the North Star News requested a mobile app to accompany the news website, Noormohammed, Nguyen and Tsukamoto split off from 12 other students in the class to pursue the project.
“They rose to the challenge,” Ruth said. The tech trio used the software platform MoSync to create an app that runs on both Android and Apple iOS devices. To populate the app with information, they built a tool that grabs content from the NorthStarNews.org and re-organizes articles into a bare-bones, mobile-phone-readable format.

The app contains breaking news, features and sports stories and editorials, along with a puzzle game starring the Viking mascot.

Newspaper students don’t have to fiddle with any of the technology components, except for clicking a button to publish their work to the online application.

A mobile app, Ruth said, is "uncharted ground for us.”

In conversations with professionals at technology start-ups, he learned the student app would cost between $4,000 and $6,000 to develop in the private sector.

Not only did the programming students gain practical skills, but they created a product with real-world application.

"Ever since we went online, we have been thinking about making an app,” said English teacher Ivan Silverberg, a North Star News advisor.

"It seemed very tangible,” Ruth added.

Though avid app users themselves, the programming students bumped into a few issues along the way, causing the four-month project to take longer than expected.

Tsukamoto, 18, recalled how at one point, the app kept reverting to archived webpages instead of loading new content.

Ruth said the students persevered and fixed the bug in the system.

Not having to program separate apps for the two mobile operating systems saved time, but it did require the students to learn new scripting languages for web development, including PHP and JavaScript.

"We were pretty much starting off as toddlers,” Noormohammed said. "We never had experiences with those different languages. ... We had to learn that from the ground up.”

Noormohammed said programming requires a lot of personal drive. Students in the video game programming class are constantly challenged to be their own experts.

"When you have a problem, there’s no one that can really help you on that,” he explained. "Mr. Ruth can guide you, but he has so many games to work with that he doesn’t know every game inside and out.”

Starting from scratch and learning through trial and error are not uncommon in constantly evolving fields involving technology. That’s no problem for Noormohammed, who expects there’s plenty more work to be had since cell phones are no longer limited to taking calls.

"Everybody is moving to their phones for everything,” he said. "Technology is moving in a way where you have information at your fingertips.”
High schools float mandatory AP testing

BY IGOR STUDENKOV | Contributor

Maine Township High Schools officials want more students to take Advanced Placement classes — and they’re thinking about making it mandatory.

Dr. Barbara Dill, the District’s Assistant Superintendent for Instruction at District 207, says they’ve been pushing kids to take more classes and tests for the past few years. The more AP classes they take, the better students’ chances of getting into colleges of their choice and the cheaper college expenses will be in the long run.

On May 6, the District Board of Education’s Education Committee met with the principals of the district’s high schools to talk about the progress that has already been made and what could be done to improve participation. Each school took different approaches and faced its own unique challenges. And while the possibility of making AP testing mandatory was discussed, nothing was decided one way or another.

The meeting opened with Dill outlining the benefits of getting more students to take AP classes. Using University of Illinois at Champaign and Oakton Community College as examples, she argued that students could save as much as $13,000 if they take AP classes instead of equivalent general education college courses.

The problem, Dill argued, was that students and parents didn’t understand those benefits. She suggested that the district should make a greater effort to get that information out there.

Maine East principal Michael Presser said enrollment in AP classes has been increasing. This was at least partially due to the school’s relaxed “gatekeeping” policies.

“We don’t keep students out of AP classes, but we direct them to specific classes that fit their strengths,” he said.

Participation in AP tests, on the other hand, has been lower than in other schools. Presser said that Maine East would be conducting a survey later this month to get a better sense of why this happens.

Maine East is making plans to create an AP tutoring support center. The school is also looking for a way to help immigrant students who are academically gifted but who struggle with tests because of difficulties with the English language.

Maine South has the strictest gatekeeping of the three high schools, but it also has the highest rate of participation in the district. However, Shawn Messmer, the school’s principal, is worried that this is eroding as more and more parents wonder if the AP tests are really beneficial.

“I think we’re going to need to do a bit more salesmanship to keep the numbers as high as they are,” said Messmer.

Throughout the meeting, Dill and the committee members touched on the possibility of making AP tests mandatory. Committee chair Donna Feller expressed reservations about it, but she didn’t rule it out altogether.

Carl Brownell, Maine East’s Social Science Department chair, argued that while mandatory AP testing might be good for sophomores and juniors, it should be optional for seniors, since they would’ve already gotten into colleges and have other, more pressing priorities.

Ultimately, the committee chose to continue discussing the issue during the next meeting, which will take place May 20.
SUPER CROSSWORD

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BY LINDA THISTLE

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Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 3-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: !!!

(※: Moderate; **: Challenging; ***: HO! BOY!)

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NEED A HINT? FIND THE PUZZLE SOLUTIONS ON PAGE 29
Get up and go

Looking for fun? Check out our Top Five picks for the weekend’s best bets.

Every Thursday
Submissions for Community Calendar are required two weeks preceding the date of publication. Send to: Darlene Huston, Pioneer Press, 350 N. Orleans, Chicago, IL 60654; dhuston@pioneerlocal.com. Information may be faxed to (847) 486-7495.

**CENTER OF CONCERN**

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

- The Center will be closed May 25-27 for Memorial Day weekend.
- Saturday, May 18: Free blood pressure and blood sugar testing from 10 a.m. to noon. No appointment needed. No fee charged, but donations welcome. Legal counseling, by appointment.
- Tuesday, May 21: Medicare counseling, by appointment.
- Wednesday, May 22: Grief and loss support group, (call first).

Preparation of simple wills and durable powers of attorney for health care and property also is available by appointment. Homeowners desiring additional income, companionship, or the ability to remain in their homes may wish to consider The Center of Concern's shared housing program. Residents are matched with screened applicants who possess a temperament suitable to shared accommodations.

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

**CLASSES**

**Citizenship Workshop**

18+ 65+

Free assistance with citizenship applications including legal screenings and referrals to ESL and Citizenship classes hosted by HIAS Chicago will be held from 9 a.m. to noon May 18 at Church of the Holy Spirit, 1451 Bode Road, Schaumburg. Call Kathryn Dudik at (312) 673-3240 or email kathryndudzik@jcfs.org.

**FUNDRAISERS**

**Children's Hospital**

13+ 18+ 65+

Walk 4 Children's Walk-a-Thon and Family Fun Day from 9-11:30 a.m. June 2 at Tamarrak Day Camp, 23970 Elm Road, Lincolnshire. Benefiting Pediatric Brain Tumor Research at Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago. Supported by the North Suburban Medical Research Junior Board. Tickets may be purchased at the door. All tickets will be held at the event for pick-up. To purchase event tickets, raffle tickets or make a donation visit http://foundation.luriechildrens.org/site/PageServer?pagename=walk_a_thon_2013_home.

**WEIGHT LOSS SEMINAR**

18+ 65+

Advocate Lutheran General Hospital, 1775 Dempster St., Park Ridge, provides a variety of options for weight loss, including medically supervised very low and low calorie diets, nutrition exchange and long-term maintenance programs to help keep weight from returning. Team approach includes exercise training, nutrition education and behavior modification plus information relating to metabolic/bariatric surgical options including gastric bypass, sleeve gastrectomy, Lap-BAND placement and revision surgery. Sessions continue from 7-8 p.m., June 13, July 11, Aug. 8, Sept. 12, Oct. 10, Nov. 14, Dec. 12. Call to register for this free program at (800) 323-8622 and refer to class code: 8G52.

**HEALTH**

**HealthBeat Lecture Series**

18+

Takes place from 7-8 p.m., Tuesday, May 21: "What You Need to Know About Your Thyroid and How It May Effect Your Life" with Philip Werner, Endocrinologist, and May 28: "Dealing with Menopause: Is it Hot in Here or is it Just Me?" by Therese O'Connor, obstetrician/gynecologist. To register call (800) 323-8622 and mention the class code: 8G52 or go to advocatehealth.com/luth click on "I need a class or support group" and type the class code in the keyword box.

**KIDS PROGRAMS**

**Korean Storytime**

Share stories and songs in Korean (with a bit of English) at 10:30 a.m. May 17. Craft and snack included. For kids ages 3 and up with grown-up.

**Family Science Saturday**

Families and their children in kindergarten through fifth grades are welcome to join in an afternoon of science experiments with the Rockford Discover Center's Family Fun Program: Air Power! Experiment and play with the amazing properties of air.

**STRETCH, BEND, BREATHE: YOGA FOR KIDS**

Learn yoga poses and breathing techniques and feel relaxed and energized afterward at 4 p.m. May 20. For kindergarten through eighth grades.

**SMARTY PANTS BUILDS a CAR**

Watch between noon-6 p.m. May 21. Photo
opportunities available between 5 and 6 p.m.

**Frog & Toad Day**

Celebrate the beloved author Arnold Lobel's birthday with a drop-in day of activities and stories featuring Frog and Toad. Stories will be read on the hour beginning at 10 a.m.

**Adult Programs:**

**Closed Captioned New Release**

'Trouble with the Curve' film will be screened from 2-4 p.m. May 16. Gus has been one of the best baseball scouts for decades, but age is starting to catch up with him. Gus refuses to be benched, and the only person who can help is his daughter.

**Parks**

Niles Park District, 6676 W. Howard St., (847) 967-6633.

**Summer Camp Registration**

Niles Park District offers a wide variety of summer camp programs for preschool age through incoming eighth-grade kids. Full-day and half-day camps, sports camp, hockey and ice-skating camps. Stop by the Howard Leisure Center, 6676 W. Howard Street to register. Campers will enjoy swimming, weekly field trips, arts & crafts, sports, and tons of fun. Most camps begin June 10. Call (847) 967-6633, for questions.

**Pioneer Park Open**

Niles Park District Pioneer Park, 7135 N. Harlem Ave., has reopened for the 2013 season. This facility has an 18 hole mini-golf course for $5 per person and batting cages, 15 balls for $1. The popular "Family Fun Nights" will continue every Friday night. The $7 per person fee includes one round of mini-golf, one batting cage token and dinner for each family member. Spring Hours are 5-10 p.m. Monday through Friday; 10:30 a.m.-10:30 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Summer hours begin June 2. Call (847) 583-2746.

**Golf Maine Parks**

offices are located at Fieldman Recreation Center, 8800 Kathy Lane (one block south of Golf Road on Western Avenue), in Niles or at Dee Park, at the corner of Dee and Emerson roads, Des Plaines. Call (847) 297-3000.

**Facility Rentals**

Various rooms, gymnasiums, fields and a cricket field for rental for parties, meetings or ongoing activities. For room facility rates call (847) 297-3059.

**Spring Basketball League**

Games are played on Fridays and Saturdays at Fieldman; clinic, 6-7 p.m. - for sixth- to eighth-graders.

**Religion**

St. Paul of the Cross Catechesis

Registration for fall 2013-14 classes has begun. Classes are for preschool through eighth grades. There are many class types, times and day options to choose from - a place for everyone.

Visit www.spc-catechesis.net and click on the registration link for information and forms. Call or email the church with questions at (847) 692-2758 or spccatechesis@yahoo.com.

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

**Women's Club Meeting**

Enjoy a BLT sandwich, coleslaw and cake, then get ready to shake, rattle, & roll, with Herb Lick, an Elvis impersonator, performs 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. May 20. $5 members, $7.50 non-members.

**Hocus Focus**

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

**PUZZLE ANSWERS**

See page 26 for this week's Super Crossword and Sudoku puzzles.
Local mom has finger on pulse of kid-friendly activities

If you have kids, you're probably no stranger to museums, zoos, water parks, farms, family theatre and hundreds of other kids' activities happening in and around Chicago.

But sometimes it can be difficult to discover the best places to go, or to find out about cool special events.

Sue Zeiler has you covered. Zeiler, a Northbrook mom is the creator and owner of ChicagoKids.com, a place for parents to go to find endless activities all over town, a huge directory of just about anything having to do with kids, and daily deals.

"If you're looking for something to do, come to my website," said Zeiler, who started ChicagoKids.com in 2001 after a long career in marketing and internet marketing. "I don't have a great deal of editorial content on the site, I'm just focused on things to do."

Zeiler said she's always had an interest in kids' activities and events, going back to when she was 12 years old. She started a day camp for kids in her neighborhood, charging a dollar per hour for each kid.

She went on to work in a kids' reading program and was then a student teacher in college. However, Zeiler said it was her experience in the Brookfield Zoo's marketing department that gave her the idea to start her business.

"When I was working there, I thought, 'Wouldn't it be nice if parents could find out about all the events going on?'" said Zeiler, who holds a journalism degree and a masters degree in advertising. "At the time, there was no internet, so there was no access to this kind of information."

Years later, when the internet exploded, Zeiler got on board quickly. She said she bought a book on how to learn HTML in 14 days, built her own website, and learned graphic design, marketing and programming. She said those experiences gave her a great foundation.
for running a website. ChicagoKids.com has a complete listing of resources, with everything from bookstores, kid-friendly restaurants, birthday party venues and camp guides to education and childcare. The site also lists hundreds of places to go, current theater productions, and special deals and promotions. Users can also look up events on a calendar that shows everything going on during a particular day.

Every business gets a free listing on the site, but Zeiler makes her money from the advertisers. "It's been a challenge to make this successful, and now it's exciting to see it turn into something so viable," Zeiler said. "I still get excited when I see the traffic continually going up. The success of the site is what motivates me every day."

Adam Stone is the owner of The Little Gym in Lincoln Park, and has been advertising on ChicagoKids.com for years. "Sue Zeiler, in my opinion, has built the best site for parents to get information about what is happening and to find out about different offerings in the Chicagoland area," he said. "She was one of the first people to get into the business, and so she's been able to build up an amazing following."

Stone said he feels the site is easy to navigate and provides an abundant amount of information. Users also have the option of becoming a member of ChicagoKids.com. Membership is free, and includes an interactive planning page, an e-newsletter, and other perks. There are currently 16,000 members.

"There's always so much to do, and it's sometimes hard to find everything, and her website is one site that makes it easy," Stone said. "Sue has her finger right on it. She really built up this great business."
Joliet – a city of celebrations

Summer is a season to celebrate and J-Town is doing just that. So join in the celebrations with a Joliet Summer Getaway!

Harrah's Casino is celebrating 20 winning years kicking off May 26 with special promotions, live bands, and more. Try your luck in downtown Joliet and go home a winner.

Merichka's Restaurant, a Joliet establishment since 1933, also is celebrating—80 years of fine dining. Famous for their garlic butter-soaked poorboys, Merichka's is the place to bring your family for a night out.

Let the force be with you at the 4th Annual Star Wars Days with family activities, "Star Wars" characters from the 501st Regency, "Star Wars" games, displays, art work, entertainment and many eating options. This year's festivities will take place at the Joliet Public Library and the Joliet Area Historical Museum.

What's summer without a farmer's market? Every Friday come downtown and shop the different stands for fresh produce, baked goods, flowers and more! Take in a Joliet Slammers baseball game while here and see the City of Champions at work. The Slammers offers plenty of excitement and entertainment at an affordable price for the whole family.

Summer also brings car shows and there's nothing more iconic than a Route 66 Classic Car Show on Route 66. Held once a month in downtown Joliet, each show will have a special theme and will include musical entertainment, vendors and food booths.

Kidzfest is held on the first Saturday of August and will certainly bring a smile to the faces of kids of all ages. Interactive, educational and fun activities are sponsored by a variety of local community organizations.

You will feel the need for speed after attending Joliet's annual Race Fan Rally, which is held before the NASCAR weekend at Chicagoland Speedway.

The event includes plenty of entertainment, food, beer tents, NASCAR drivers, simulators, classic cars, and prize and raffle drawings.

While in Joliet, plan on taking in a few tours of six different sites in Joliet—from the behind the scenes look at the Rialto Square Theatre and the Joliet Slammers baseball stadium to the outdoor history of the Iron Works Historic site or the Bluff Street walking tours to the grandeur of the Jacob Henry Mansion and the Joliet Area Historical Museum. There's a perfect tour for you. Go to heritagecorridorcvb.com and plan your trip to J-Town today!

Friday, May 17
Joliet Slammers baseball home season
815-722-2284, jolietslammers.com
Take the family to the ballpark this summer and enjoy an affordable good time at the game with activities for the kids, firework days as well as promotional giveaways. Visit jolietslammers.com for game and promotion days.

Sunday, May 26; 10 A.M.
Harrah's Casino Joliet 20th Anniversary Celebration
815-740-7800, harrahsjoliet.com
Come join the fun with special promotions, giveaways, entertainment, live bands and more during the kickoff celebration.

Saturday, June 1; 10 A.M. To 3 P.M.
Joliet Public Library annual Star Wars Day at the library and Joliet Area Historical Museum
815-740-2660, facebook.com/JPLStarWarsDay
A fun filled day for the whole family! Games and activities for kids including Jedi Trivia and multiple raffle prizes. Costumes are encouraged. Guests include: artists, Dave Dorman; Michael Babinski; Steve Palenica; as well as Legoland, the 501st Legion and Rebel Legion. All participants receive a free program book and lanyard.

Thursdays, June 6 - August; 6:30 P.M.
Concerts on the Hill
815-724-3760, bicentennialpark.org
Relax on a big grassy hill while enjoying a variety of free family entertainment. Enjoy tasty, affordable concessions such as $2 hot dogs in a scenic setting along the waterway. Picnic baskets welcome. Bring blankets and chairs. Free parking. Visit bicentennialpark.org for the week's line-up.

Mondays in the Summer; 11:30 A.M.
Summer luncheons at The Jacob Henry Mansion
815-722-1111, jacobhennymansion.com
Start off your week with an award winning lunch in one of the opulent 40 rooms that feature old world fixtures and Victorian charm of Jacob Henry's home. Each entree is prepared in the mansion. Reservations are required. Dates subject to availability because of private events.

Rialto Square Theatre
102 N. Chicago St. | 815-726-7171 | rialtosquare.com
The Rialto Theatre is a spectacular entertainment venue, a historical treasure and a magnet for the country's best performers. Get behind-the-scenes tours to see the architecture, listen to an organ concert, walk across the stage and visit the green room whose walls are adorned with hundreds of artists' signatures: The Rialto also is a perfect location for weddings, receptions or other private affairs.
Red carpets stretch on as far as the fun will take you. From action-packed tables, the newest slots and video poker to live music, delicious dining, exceptional service and our well-appointed on-site hotel, here you'll find it all. And then some.

EXPLORE ROUTE 66
204 N. Ottawa St.
815-722-2267
jolietkicks.com
Route 66 still captures the imaginations of all who seek adventure. Come see all the famous highway attractions in downtown Joliet: Old Joliet Prison Park (1125 Collins St.), the Route 66 Park, I&M Canal and Joliet Iron Works Park. Walking, driving and Gas Pump tours take you along the old path of the Route 66 highway.

HARRAH'S JOLIET CASINO & HOTEL
151 N. Joliet St.
815-740-7000
harrahsjoliet.com
Nestled along the Des Plaines River, Harrah's Joliet Casino & Hotel is the finest in Chicagoland. Experience world-class amenities, exceptional dining with restaurants such as Paula Dean's Kitchen and The Reserve steakhouse, entertainment and gaming action with more than 1,200 slot machines. It's the perfect place to stay and play!

CHICAGOLAND SPEEDWAY
500 Speedway Blvd.
888-629-RACE
chicagolspeedway.com
Visit Chicagoland Speedway, the largest sports complex in the state, which hosts two major NASCAR events in the summer. From stars such as Dale Earnhardt Jr. to the ever popular Danica Patrick (a Roscoe, Ill., native), Chicagoland Speedway is nothing but nonstop fun.

JOLIET PARK DISTRICT
300 W. Jefferson St.
815-741-1215
jolietpark.org
Taste of Joliet is June 28-30 at AI Field at Joliet Memorial Stadium. TasteofJoliet.com
The three-day festival features live music, carnival, food vendors and kids zone. The 2013 headliners include REO Speedwagon, Hunter Hayes, Easton Corbin, Dustin Lynch and Maggie Rose. Brought to you by the Joliet Park District, D'arcy Olds/Hyundai and Hollywood Casino Joliet.

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$412,000

AGENT Sam Valadez, Koenig & Strey Real Living, 847-557-1657

HOUSE FOR SALE? For details to get a home listed on the Featured Home page, email homes@wrapports.com or call 312-300-7974

8125 W. Lyons St., Niles
House size: 1,403 square feet
Lot size: 8,034 square feet
Year built: 1969
Bedrooms: 4
Bathrooms: 2.5
Garage: Two-car attached
Property tax: $6,790.10 (2011)
Exterior: Brick
School districts: East Maine School District 63 and Maine Township High School District 207

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PROPERTY TRANSFERS

BY WRAPPORTS NEWS SERVICE

Niles
8219 N Newland Ave: Lucy Alice Fleming, Trust, Francis R Nowicki Trust and Lucy A Nowicki Trust to Adbyl Mehmet for $110,000 on March 26.

Morton Grove
6843 Mayfair Ave #12: Alexander Kleyman and Regina Zamalieva to Yoon Hyun Kwak and Eunjoo Kwak for $215,000 on March 29.

Park Ridge
114 N Chester Ave: Joanna Mazurz, formerly known as Joanna Rentiera, to Janina Przepiorkowski Trust and Tadeusz Przepiorkowski Trust for $150,000 on March 25.

Glenview
2200 Thistle Road: Mark A Lindner and Deborah L Lindner to N P Dodge Jr Trust and National Equity Inc for $999,000 on March 29.

3270 W Lake Ave: Tamara J Hartweg to Mehri Korthari and Farah Korthari for $426,000 on March 29.

3442 Vantage Lane: Michael H Zaransky and Barbara Zarsky to Allison P Tempier for $647,500 on March 27.

Skokie
5657 Fairview Lane: Norgu Marchemi to Danny Cook and Santina Rubino for $200,000 on March 27.

520 S Galitz St #204: Serge G Kulakeff and Liana Kulakova to Samara Bajic for $156,000 on March 26.

5425 Lincoln Ave: Judicial Sales Corp and Roksana A Hama to Rashed Cizabela Tyminska for $525,000 on March 25.

5020 S Scoli St: Dan R Bigelow and Al Remon Moshi for $148,000 on March 29.

9415 Sumac Road: Edmond Moshe to Janea Kehder for $119,000 on March 28.

Skokie
8814 Briar Court #20: Anna Maj, Des Plaines to Rajeshkumar R Patel and Ashaben R Patel for $1,000,000 on March 27.

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Useful tips, easy tricks for home repair

Become your own handyman (or handywoman) with these do-it-yourself tips for common household problems.

**Broken Light Bulb**

How many times have you tried to change a light bulb only to have the bulb break before you get it out of the socket? Portman has a trick for this problem that involves a potato and a pair of safety glasses.

"First, make sure the light switch is off," he cautions. "Potatoes contain water, so this step is imperative."

Not sure if your light has more than one switch? Play it safe by turning the power off using the circuit breaker.

Once you're sure the power is off, you're ready to begin with the potato. First cut off the narrow tip of the potato, about a quarter of the way from the top. Put on your safety goggles and slowly push the potato into the broken bulb, turning it counter-clockwise. Keep turning the potato until the broken bulb is safely removed from the socket, then throw both the potato and bulb away.

**Uninspired Bathroom**

Need a little pick-me-up in the bathroom? Tipjunkie.com founder Laurie Turk has several ideas for turning your bathroom into a modern-day oasis. My favorite tip is to add an affirmation to one of your bathroom walls. It's a great way to decorate on the cheap and add a bit of inspiration. You can find affirmation decals online or at many home décor and big box stores. For more tips on fixing up your bathroom, check out Laurie's blog post at www.tipjunkie.com/all-crafts/bathroom-oasis.

"Avoid splatters by pouring the water close to the ground," Riggs said. "The boiling water will kill most weeds right down to the root."

**Pesky Weeds**

Have pesky weeds peeking through your sidewalk or gravel path? Take a tip from gardening aficionado Jenna Riggs.

"Pour boiling water over the weeds," Riggs said. "It's a natural and inexpensive way to get rid of weeds that are hard to pull."

To become your own personal weed-whacker, boil a few cups of water in a teakettle. Then when the water is at full boil, quickly and carefully head outside and pour the water over the weeds.

**Spotty Stainless Steel**

If your stainless steel sink never seems quite clean, try this at-home recipe from blogger Valerie Peterson at http://thestyle-files.com.

**You need:**
- Vinegar (in a spray bottle)
- Baking soda
- Boiling water (in a large pot)
- Goo Gone
- Olive oil
- Sponge
- Paper towels or rag

**Directions:**

Spray sink with vinegar and sprinkle with baking soda; let sit for 10 minutes. Rinse sink with boiling water, then spray more vinegar as you scrub away the dirt and grime. Wipe sink dry and then use Goo Gone to remove any sticky residue. Buff your sink with a soft rag and olive oil to give it a brand new shine.

**Clean the Ceiling?**

Finally, there is the home-improvement advice my grandmother gave me years ago — "The best time to clean the ceiling is when the kids turn it upside down."

Do you have a household tip, trick or question you'd like to share? Visit us on Facebook and let us know at www.facebook.com/pioneerpressgo.
The National Marine Fisheries Service estimates that one-fifth of the fish caught in U.S. waters are discarded.

Lately, sustainability groups like Chefs Collaborative are bringing less celebrated fish like smelt, speckled trout or carp — sometimes called trash fish — into the mainstream.

Executive Chef Paul Fehribach will host a Trash Fish Dinner at Big Jones restaurant in Chicago on May 20. The dinner, an initiative of the Chefs Collaborative sustainability group, will feature nine other chefs and their recipes for unlikely fish. Dogfish, Spanish mackerel and Asian carp are among the fish species that will be showcased.

"They're the closest thing to grouper that I've ever eaten but they're one of the fish that fishermen just toss aside rather than take to market where they won't get the same price as more popular fish," he said.

"We're calling it a trash fish dinner because these fish are historically discarded as by-catch. We'll show that not only are they not trash, but they make great eating. If we're successful in turning diners and chefs onto lesser-known seafood, it will take some pressure off of popular and overfished species," Fehribach explained.

He will make Asian carp fish cakes in a crock according to "an old Colonial recipe" that was developed to preserve cod. He will fry the cakes in vegetable oil and serve them with gumbo as a sauce and accent the dish with radish pickles. "For a little acidity to keep it fresh," Fehribach said.

Paul Virant, chef/owner of Vie Restaurant in Western Springs and Perennial Virant in Chicago, will be among participating chefs. Sarah Stegner and George Bumbaris, co-chefs/owners of Prairie Grass Café in Northbrook, will make speckled trout.

"It's very similar to a regular sweet water trout," Bumbaris said.

He and Stegner offer trash fish menus at Prairie Grass Café on Mondays or Tuesdays. They will make blue fish, speckled trout, king fish and other types of less utilized fish.

"When I went down a list of available fish, I wanted to try all of them and have been offering different varieties each week, depending on what is available," Stegner said.

She makes a blue fish coated with a multigrain breading made from crumbs of baguettes baked in the Bennison's Bakery ovens in Evanston.

"I love the texture and flavor that the multigrain baguette breadcrumbs give the fish," Stegner said. "It takes a very common style of breading for a fish and dresses it up giving it a rich, nutty, sophisticated flavor."

The fish pairs well with a mushroom duxelle Stegner makes with mushrooms from River Valley Ranch in Burlington, Wis. She serves it with a side of sautéed spring greens of wild watercress, pea shoots, ramps and a colorful pea shoots sauce. The side complements the sweetness of the fish. "Blue fish has a sweetness to it that is very appealing," Stegner says. "I also like that the fish is so rich and moist it is very forgiving to cook with especially for the home cook."
“This machine can store almost as many resumes as a filing cabinet.”

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Through our partnership with Monster, we've combined the local reach you've always depended on with Monster's innovative online tools for employers. Power Resume Search matches qualified job seekers with job opportunities by finding and suggesting related job titles, industries and skills based on your needs. It uses 6Sense search technology to deliver precise results ranked and compared side-by-side. Together we deliver a comprehensive recruitment solution, so you'll find just what you're looking for in an ideal candidate. Monster. Find Better.

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I turned to the Best Minds in Medicine for my lung cancer treatment.

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Tony
Lung Cancer Survivor
Orland Park, IL

More at uchospitals.edu/tonystory
Pictured is Millennium Park in the foreground and Lake Michigan just beyond. It is less than one block west of Michigan Avenue and Millennium Park. Lake Michigan, with its lakefront views on the planet, with a location at 65 East Monroe St. In addition, many residents are able to walk to work path for jogging, walking and biking, is a few short blocks away. Lake Michigan, with its lakefront views on the planet, with a location at 65 East Monroe St. In addition, many residents are able to walk to work path for jogging, walking and biking, is a few short blocks away.
New 2013 Jeep PATRIOT Power Everything, Cruise Control, Outside Temp. 12V Outlet, Aux Stereo Input, CD Player/MP3, Phone Integration, Traction Control, Tire Pressure Monitor with Warning Lamp, Daytime Running Headlights, Windshield Wipers, Heated Mirrors & More #125044


New 2013 Dodge DURANGO SXT Power Everything, Folding 2nd & 3rd Row Seats, Outside Temp. 12V Outlets, On-Board Audio Control, Aux Input, CD Player, Satellite Radio, Power Heated Mirrors, Dual Zone Temperature Control, Rear 60/40 Folding Seats & More #134423

New 2013 Chrysler 300 Power Everything, Outside Temp, Remote Proximity Keyless Entry, On-Board Audio Control, Aux Input, CD/DVD Stereo, Satellite Radio, Power Heated Mirrors, Dual Zone Temp Control, Rear 60/40 Folding Seats & More #134823


New 2013 Dodge GRAND CHEROKEE 4X4 Power Everything, CD Head Airbag, iPod/MP3 Input, Flex Fuel Rear Spoiler, Keyless Entry, Electronic Stability Control, Brake Assist, 4-wheel ABS, Tire Pressure Monitor with Warning Lamp, Electronic Vehicle Information Center, Power Heated Exterior Mirrors & More #133731


New 2013 Dodge GRAND CARAVAN Power Everything, Heated Mirrors, CD, Phone Integration, 3rd Row Seat, Captain's Chairs, Flex Fuel Capability, Advanced Multistage Front Airbags, Tire Pressure Monitoring, Keyless Entry with Immobilizer & More #134636

New 2013 Dodge JOURNEY Power Everything, American Value Pkg, Multi Zone A/C, iPod/MP3 Player, Steering Wheel Audio Controls, Child Safety Locks, Stability Control, Remote- Proximity Keyless Entry, Tire Pressure Monitoring Display & More #135069


New 2013 Dodge GRAND VOYAGER Power Everything, CD Head Airbag, iPod/MP3 Input, Stability Control, Traction Control, Keyless Start, Aluminum Wheels, Tire Pressure Monitor with Warning Lamp, Electronic Vehicle Information Center, Power Heated Exterior Mirrors & More #133625


New 2013 Dodge AVENGER Power Everything, Aux Input, CD Player, Satellite Radio, Tinted Glass & More #134153

New 2013 Dodge DURANGO Power Everything, Folding 2nd & 3rd Row Seats, Outside Temp, 12V Outlets, On-Board Audio Control, Aux Input, CD Player, Satellite Radio, Phone Integration, Advanced Multistage Front Airbags, SiriusXM Satellite Radio & More #134153

New 2013 Dodge GRAND VOYAGER Power Everything, Heated Mirrors, CD, Phone Integration, 3rd Row Seat, Captain's Chairs, Flex Fuel Capability, Advanced Multistage Front Airbags, Tire Pressure Monitoring, Keyless Entry with Immobilizer & More #134636

New 2013 Dodge DURANGO Power Everything, Head Airbag, Stability Control, Traction Control, Keyless Start, Aluminum Wheels, Tire Pressure Monitor with Warning Lamp, Electronic Vehicle Information Center, Power Heated Exterior Mirrors & More #133587


New 2013 Dodge DURANGO SXT Power Everything, Folding 2nd & 3rd Row Seats, Outside Temp, 12V Outlets, On-Board Audio Control, Aux Input, CD Player, Satellite Radio, Phone Integration, Advanced Multistage Front Airbags, Keyless Entry, Security Alarm, Advanced Multistage Front Airbags & More #134065

New 2013 Dodge JOURNEY Power Everything, American Value Pkg, Multi Zone A/C, iPod/MP3 Player, Steering Wheel Audio Controls, Child Safety Locks, Stability Control, Remote- Proximity Keyless Entry, Tire Pressure Monitoring Display & More #135069

MSRP 20,490

995*

285


New 2013 Dodge DURANGO SXT Power Everything, Folding 2nd & 3rd Row Seats, Outside Temp, 12V Outlets, On-Board Audio Control, Aux Input, CD Player, Satellite Radio, Phone Integration, Advanced Multistage Front Airbags, Keyless Entry, Security Alarm, Advanced Multistage Front Airbags & More #134065

New 2013 Dodge JOURNEY Power Everything, American Value Pkg, Multi Zone A/C, iPod/MP3 Player, Steering Wheel Audio Controls, Child Safety Locks, Stability Control, Remote- Proximity Keyless Entry, Tire Pressure Monitoring Display & More #135069

MSRP 20,585

$11,995

$13,590

$26,420

$13,995

$15,990

$16,490

$26,490

$21,490

$16,490

$23,840

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<table>
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- **Pre-Owned STK# XP17260**
- **$100 down**
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Many suburbanites hesitate to relocate to downtown Chicago, despite the proximity to all the cultural attractions they frequent and their jobs, because they do not want to give up the space in their homes.

Residence 21 at Park Monroe 2.0, the second phase of The Park Monroe, alleviates that concern. With three bedrooms and a library in 3,563 square feet on a single level, plus five walk-in closets, this vast residence is larger than many single-family homes.

The Park Monroe is at 65 East Monroe St., less than one block west of Michigan Avenue and Millennium Park. Lake Michigan, with its lakefront path for jogging, walking and biking, is a few short blocks away. Museums, theaters, fine dining and shopping surround the building. In addition, many residents are able to walk to work downtown.

Located on the building's 40th or 41st floor, Residence 21 features one of the best urban views on the planet, with Millennium Park in the foreground and Lake Michigan just beyond. Ten-foot ceilings and floor-to-ceiling windows make homes light and airy.

The large, open living area is ideal for entertaining with the two-sided ribbon fireplace as focal point. It can be seen from living room, family room, kitchen and dining room. The kitchen features contemporary, custom Italian cabinetry, solid-surface countertops and Viking Professional Series appliances. Additional high-end finishes and fixtures, plus high-tech details, add to the exceptional attributes of the residence.

The baths in Residence 21 are appointed with stone or tile. Two of the three bedrooms feature spacious en-suite bathrooms, featuring spacious tub and separate, oversized showers. Custom Italian cabinets and extremely efficient fixtures are found in all baths.

Park Monroe 2.0 homes also include some of the latest technology. All residences feature individually controlled cooling and heating on demand, and each one is wired for the newest television innovation — 4K, ultra-high-definition screens that offer a level of detail never previously seen outside a movie theatre. Residence 21 is also wired for surround sound, HDMI electronic shades, as well as built-in, mobile device docking stations, which allow a homeowner to set up many of the latest “smart” home functions.

The building offers residents such amenities as an indoor pool, entertainment suite with catering kitchen, three-season sun terrace with garden and year-round spa, Blue Ray theater room, sophisticated fitness center, and indoor dog run and grooming spa area.

Living at The Park Monroe means having the best of the city just outside the front door. Residents can take in exhibits at the Art Institute, or a performance at Symphony Center, the Harris Theater or Millennium Park's Pritzker Pavilion. Additional museums and performance venues, and a variety of dining and shopping options, are in walking or cab distance.

Over 70 percent of the new condominiums are already under contract, with the first homes scheduled for delivery this summer. Remaining Park Monroe 2.0 residences are priced from $829,500. The model and sales center at 65 East Monroe are open seven days a week. Call (312) 855-0550 or visit ParkMonroe.com for more information.
I Thursday, May 16, 2013 | ToDrive (N) Todays Homes | Produced by Custom Media Solutions

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$179 Lease Per Month For 36 mos.
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$189 Lease Per Month For 36 mos.
Total due at lease inception $1,449. Includes 1st payment. Plus tax, title, license and doc fee.

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*Plus tax, title, license and doc fee. All rebates and incentives applied. **Based on closed end leases. To qualified buyers with approved credit. 12,000 allowable miles per year, 15¢ for each additional mile. '13 Civic: Residual: $12,248, '13 Accord: Residual $13,992, '13 CR-V: Residual $15,920, '13 Odyssey: Residual $18,287. Additional options extra. Lessee is responsible for excess wear/tear, maintenance and insurance. Subject to early termination penalty. Valid three days from publication. Dealer will not honor errors in this advertisement. Not available with any previous offers. *0.9% APR Financing to qualified buyers with approved credit.

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- Family and friends may visit our website and sign a guest book at Pioneerlocal.com.

Partridge, Evelyn Margaret Weeks
Age 90, died May 3, 2013 in Rochester, Minnesota, where she had lived the past two years. Evelyn was born March 26, 1923, in Minneapolis, Minnesota to Frank and Effie Weeks. In early adulthood, Evelyn moved to Chicago, Illinois where she met her husband, John Francis Partridge. They were married on December 19, 1949 and settled in Wilmette, Illinois where they raised their family. Evelyn was active in many volunteer activities in the community, but especially loved gardening. She was a member of the Wilmette Garden Club, the Illinois Garden Club, and the American Horticultural Society. She was a lifetime garden show judge and member of Avant Garde, a judges' group. She studied and enjoyed Ikebana Sogetsu flower arranging.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, and siblings, Vivian Weeks, Marie Sowers, Marian Harrington, and Lawrence Weeks.

She is survived by her son, Lawrence Scott Partridge (Andrea) of Hampshire, IL, and her daughter, Jacquelyn Mary James (Med) of Rochester, MN. Services are private.

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Richard Guiborat's 1939 Oldsmobile
Content written by Richard Guiborat

My car is Lucille a 1939 Oldsmobile F60 4-door sedan. I bought it with my inheritance from my mother. When she died my wife said you always wanted to build a car so take the money and build a car. My dad was a singer in the '30s and used to sing "come Along with me Lucille in my merry Oldsmobile" to my mother whose name was Marie Lucille.

I found the Olds on line in Clear Lake Minnesota in 2000 and knew it was the car for me. I installed a Mustang II front suspension, a 1976 Olds 350 v8 engine, a turbo 350 trans, a Camaro positraction rear end with disk brakes, air conditioning and power steering. The seats are out of a Olds minivan and one of the members of the club did the door panels, headliner and carpet. The throw for the seats was made by my sister.

Since it became driveable in 2006, I have driven it to two Good Guys shows in Madison, Wisc. and Indianapolis. Our club "Midwest Street Rod Association of Illinois" was the host club for the Good Guys Chicago Land shows so of course it was there. I have also taken it to the NSRA Nationals North in Kalamazoo, Mich.

It is one of the two t-shirt cars for the 86th Gears and Ears car show at the Kendall County Fairgrounds on June 30.

Mel Marwitz's 180A Model A Ford Deluxe Phaeton
Content written by Mel Marwitz

In 1931 Henry Ford manufactured 6,175 180A Ford Model A Deluxe Phaetons. Upon seeing an ad in Hemmings Motor News, I suggested a Florida vacation to my wife and of course the answer was yes. We traveled to West Palm Beach Florida and it looked fair but needed some TLC. We did drive it a little but had trouble with rust in the gas tank. On one trip we were towed home by another Model A.

I started looking for original parts that I needed in 2008. I found out that the engine is a fire. The rear sub frame, which is wood, and some ribs in the tub were burnt off. The previous owner patched the sub frame with tar for a filler. I made a new sub frame and new wood ribs for the tub. I did the brakes and undercarriage myself. I also did some body work. While the body was being worked on I bought a rebuilt engine and installed it along with the transmission and the rear end in the chassis. I put it together over the next two years. I finished the car in time for the Fine Point Judging at the Model A National Convention in Dallas. I received a Mark of Excellence with 447 points. In June of 2009 at the Model A Convention in Merrillville, Ind. I received a Master Restoration award with 414 points.
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See a show, do a good deed at NU

BY CATEY SULLIVAN | Contributor

Quick: When was the last time a theater gave you $1,000 just for showing up at a performance?

Odds are the answer to that is a resounding never. The transactional model most theaters subscribe to is a one-way street. Pony up the price of a ticket and you get to watch a show.

But with the provocatively titled "How to End Poverty in 90 Minutes," professor/theater artist/social activist Michael Rohd is upending that model, paying out $1,000 at every performance and letting the audience decide how to spend it.

The catch? All the money has to be donated to a not-for-profit organization, collectively selected by the audience during a 90-minute piece that's an intriguing combination of traditionally scripted performance and audience interaction. The piece runs through May 25 at Northwestern University's Ethel M. Barber Theatre.

"We've got $1,000 on stage and the plot is, 'how are we going to spend the money?'" Rohd says of the show he's been working on for close to a year with a cast of 16 Northwestern students. "Everyone in the room has the opportunity to speak up and decide how that plot should develop. If you just want to watch, you should stay home. We're not going to make the audience get up and act, but we need people who will get involved," Rohd said.

Rohd is no newcomer to the concept of theater as social activism. The NU assistant professor has spent the better part of the past 20 years crisscrossing the country, devising performances that are equal parts entertainment and instigation.

Like the other pieces he's helmed, "How to End Poverty in 90 Minutes" defies easy categorization. It's not a play, or a lecture or a dance concert or an evening of improv. It is a rather a unique hybrid of all of the above, with a porous fourth wall that makes everyone in the room — audience and actors alike — complicit in the action.

Theater artists, Rohd fervently believes, are uniquely suited to building bridges, problem-solving and fostering all-important discussion on society's most complex problems be they sexual violence or poverty reduction. So with this play, he challenges common assumptions about poverty and also provides concrete assistance — that $1,000 per performance — toward alleviating it locally by donating to groups such as the Hillside Pantry, the Youth Job Center of Evanston, and the Heartland Alliance.

"Obviously we're not going to end poverty in 90 minutes," said cast member Brandon Powers, a junior theater major from New York City. "The show acts as a symbol in some respects. It gets people thinking and it shows what's possible when people collaborate."

As they rehearsed, students found their notions of poverty challenged and expanded. "Growing up, I equated poverty with homelessness," said Ella Pennington, a junior musical theater major from the San Francisco Bay area. "I had the concept of poverty meaning you didn't have a job. But there's a whole spectrum. You can be working two jobs and experience poverty."

So Pennington and Powers agree that the show can have a profound impact both on its audiences and on the groups that collect the cash.

"A lot of us came in asking, 'Poverty is such a huge, complex problem; what good is $1,000 going to do?'" said Pennington. "But that's $1,000 an organization didn't have before. We are not debating whether the money will actually matter. We trust that it does. And it's so important just to get people talking."

"My hope," said Powers, "is that people will gain a new perspective, an understanding that maybe they didn't have before. The word 'poverty' is big and broad and scary. But it's something that affects all of us whether we come from place or privilege or not."
A planned 1978 Neo-Nazi march through Skokie is at the heart of "The Invasion of Skokie."

But the play, which debuted in 2010 at Chicago Dramatists, also addresses some very personal issues of family and culture.

ShPIel—Performing Identity is staging Steven Peterson's play, under Rachel Edwards Harvith's direction, at the May-
er Kaplan Jewish Community Center in the heart of Skokie.

"I helped Steve Peterson develop the play at Chicago Dramatists a number of years ago as part of their Saturday series," said Harvith, who is an associate artist at Chicago Dramatists. "I've had a love affair with the play ever since then. I love the characters, I love the heart in the play and I think that the issues in the play are still very relevant today about interfaith marriage."

Harvith noted that she has a personal connection to the work. "I'm Jewish but it wasn't a huge part of my upbringing," she said. "We weren't members of a synagogue. We didn't go to temple every week. So I never saw it as a huge deal when I started dating a non-Jew." She was surprised to discover that it was an issue for her father, with whom she was very close. "For that reason, the play really strikes home for me," she said.

Neal Grofman plays Morry Kaplan. "He's a Jewish man who's proud of his heritage and driven to take action when things get out of hand," Grofman said. "He's normally a pretty mild-mannered man, who would keep to himself and family. But he's passionate when the need arises."

Morry's relationship with his daughter has been "tense," Grofman noted. "She's a little bit more progressive than he is — more liberal minded. He's trying to hang on to what his concept of family is and tradition."

Morry's daughter Debbie is played by Sarah Hecht. "Debbie is very fiery," Hecht said. "She has very strong opinions and is passionate about her opinions. They're grounded in a lot of well-researched thought."

Debbie and her father "have a contentious relationship for sure," Hecht reported. "In a lot of ways they're a lot alike. With parents and children that can create a difficult relationship. They fight a lot but there's still a lot of love between them."

Hecht said that she wanted this role as soon as she read the script. "I identify with Debbie in a lot of ways," she explained. "She's a vegetarian as am I. I also would consider myself a pretty fiery person. And I tend to get away with a lot in my family. I can be very opinionated and say some sort of crazy things and know that I could still be loved."

Josh Nordmark, who plays Debbie's gentile boyfriend Charlie, described the character as being "like a golden lab. He's very loyal, he's very helpful, he's a very benevolent character. He wants what's best for everybody."

That isn't easy to achieve, though, in this charged environment. "As battle lines are drawn in the story, he's got to choose one over the other. In terms of the father-daughter relationship, it makes his 'I want what's best for everyone' a little bit more complicated," Nordmark said.

Harvith believes that staging the show in Skokie will have a powerful effect. "Because of the very personal connection the audience is going to have to the subject matter we're presenting," she said, "it's going to make it a really significant event for whoever comes to see it."

---

(From left) Neal Grofman, Josh Nordmark and Sarah Hecht in "The Invasion of Skokie."
Managing Editor Jennifer Thomas' entertainment picks for this week

[1] International Taste of OLMC takes place 1-4 p.m. May 19 at Our Lady of the Mother Church, 8747 W. Lawrence, Chicago. Call (773) 625-3369 for more information.

[2] Young Evanston Artists Festival takes place 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. May 18 at Dempster Street and Chicago Avenue in Evanston. Visit yeaevaston.org.

[3] Comedy, Cuisine & Cocktails fundraiser with writer and comic Carol Leifer (above) is 5 p.m. May 19 at North Shore Congregational Israel in Glencoe. Nsci.org or (847) 835-0724.


[5] 'Opera in Pop Culture,' lecture by Bob Levi on works of Rossini and Donizetti, is 1:30 p.m. May 23 at Summit of Uptown in Park Ridge. Register at (847) 825-1161, Ext. 129.
Belgian artist probes 'Faces' of America

Art has no geographic boundaries.

So Oakton Community College's Koehnline Museum of Art is proud to present work of Charles Szymkowicz in his American debut in which the painter, a Belgian of Polish ancestry, reflects on American political personalities and cultural icons.

"Faces Behind the Truth: The Mirrors of Charles Szymkowicz," runs free through July 19. The 40-piece exhibit showcases large acrylic paintings of key figures who have shaped U.S. history.

Szymkowicz, a painter in the European Neo-expressionist style, homes in on the most mysterious part of the human body — the face. And Szymkowicz's portraits, with their dramatic shadows, strong, active brush strokes and vivid, sometimes harsh colors, are not necessarily pretty. He said his bold portraits sometimes spark "problems" with people because they are too intense.

And when the canvases are presented side by side, reinforcing their relationships to each other, said Koehnline curator Nathan Harpaz, the result is a "powerful, dramatic and overwhelming effect on the viewers."

Szymkowicz includes 23 Americans in his Des Plaines exhibit, among them Martin Luther King, Jr., Marilyn Monroe and presidents Barack Obama and Abraham Lincoln.

Acclaimed as a pioneer of the renewal of European style of New Figuration and Expressionism, Szymkowicz has exhibited in Berlin, Paris, Venice, Warsaw, Jerusalem, and Milan. He has long been drawn to portraiture.

"If you ask 100 people, or 1,000 people, what they prefer to see in paintings, everybody will answer a landscape," Szymkowicz said. "It's a marvelous subject of painting. I have also in my life made some landscapes. It's because people want to escape, and go away from the reality of a human being."

But here, Szymkowicz's art is meant to pull viewers back to contemplating humanity by taking an unconventional look at familiar visages. The distorted forms he draws make people look deeper into the human conscience. In particular with the "Faces" exhibit, Szymkowicz evokes, through animated brushwork and sharp colors, the compassion these leading figures feel for humanity.

Over the 45 years of his career, Szymkowicz has expanded his media from tempera to pigments, oils, and finally, acrylics. Now he uses brushes thick with paint to create textured surfaces, while other times smoothing images out by applying paint directly with his fingers.

Szymkowicz feels strongly that art must always make a statement, stressing to aspiring artists the concept of painting as language.

"I say to my students, 'First you must learn the language of painting, the language of color. There is much to learn,' Szymkowicz said, "about the property of each color. It takes much time to understand it and to use it."

Like music and books, he explained, it's important for art to communicate with the public. He doesn't claim to have a pre-determined message for each of his works, but says there is always one within.

"The message it gives is in you, in the artist," he said. "The real artist has something to say. The real artist has it in his mind, in his heart, but he doesn't know exactly what. The action of the painting is directly connected with the artist's body and soul."

For the last two decades, Szymkowicz feels, painting has been overshadowed by conceptual art and installation. Now, he hopes, painting is making a comeback, and he welcomes the chance to reach a new audience.

"For a long time I was hoping to have an exhibition one day in the U.S.," he said. "But today it happened and I am very, very happy with it."
Spotlight:
People to watch

BY MYRNA PETLICKI | Contributor

Concert's key person: Skokie resident Stephanie Larenas will accompany Artemis Singers when they present "Amazon Women Rise," a Pride concert and dance, Saturday, June 1 at the Broadway United Methodist Church. Artemis Singers is a Chicago-based lesbian feminist chorus. For tickets, call (773) 764-4465.

Clear choice: Maggie Cain of Glenview is reprising her role as Amanda, a faded Southern belle clinging to the past, in Mary-Arrchie Theatre Co's re-staging of its acclaimed production of "The Glass Menagerie." Cain's long list of credits include performances with Griffin, City Lit, Raven, Lincoln Square and Footsteps theater companies locally, as well as a number of regional theaters. "Menagerie" runs May 23-June 30 at Theater Wit. For tickets, call (773) 975-8150.

Berry interesting: Landscapes influenced by nature and man inspire photographer Henry Berry. Examples of his stunning black and white photographs are on display at the Oak Park Public Library Art Gallery through May 30. Berry cites his influences as Walker Evans, Ansel Adams, Alfred Stiltz and Clarence John Laughlin, but he has developed his own unique style.

Worth noting: Former Evanston resident Richard Oldberg will receive the Note of Excellence Award for Outstanding Achievement by a CYSO Alumnus at Orchestra Hall on May 19. Oldberg, who played first French horn with the Chicago Youth Symphony Orchestra (then known as the Youth Orchestra of Greater Chicago), played third horn for over 30 years with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra and has continued to perform and conduct extensively since moving to Colorado after retiring from the CSO.

Cardinal rules: Former North Shore resident and New Trier grad Scott Jaeck plays Cardinal Wolsey and Wilmette-raised actor Kate Buddeke plays the Old Lady, confidant of Anne Boleyn, in "Henry VIII," by William Shakespeare and probably others, which premiered 400 years ago at London's original Globe Theater, the last play there before the Globe burned to the ground. "Henry VIII" is at Chicago Shakespeare Theater through June 16 on Navy Pier.
Listen

CYSO to perform 'Space Odyssey'

BY KYLE MACMILLAN | Contributor

Mention a youth orchestra concert, and what likely comes to mind is a nice, safe program of easy-listening favorites by Mozart or Gershwin.

But the truth, at least when it comes to the Chicago Youth Symphony Orchestra, is often exactly the opposite.

Sure, the ensemble of 121 top young musicians plays the standards by Tchaikovsky and Beethoven, but music director Allen Tinkham likes to mix in lesser-known works past and present as a way to challenge his aspiring players and expand their notions about what music can be.

In that spirit, the youth symphony's May 19 program (which will be repeated June 16 in Millennium Park) centers on the music from director Stanley Kubrick's celebrated 1968 film, "2001: A Space Odyssey."

Almost everyone knows the movie's famed revelatory opening music, the first 30 seconds or so from Richard Strauss' expansive tone poem "Also sprach Zarathustra." The program will include not only that tiny segment but also the entire work and two other pieces from the film — Aram Khachaturian's "Gayane's Adagio" and Gyorgy Ligeti's "Atmospheres." The latter consists of dense, subtly changing clusters of sound. The groundbreaking, and in many ways still radical, 1961 work remains a rarity even on professional orchestra programs.

The idea for a "2001"-themed program sprang from the work the winner of the orchestra's 2012 concerto competition — principal second violinist Claire Bourg — selected as her solo vehicle: Khachaturian's Violin Concerto in D minor. That choice led Tinkham to begin thinking about the Armenian composer and his Adagio as well as the rest of the music featured in "2001."

Bourg is one of 430 musicians ages 7-18 from the Chicago metropolitan area and beyond who take part each year in the five core ensembles of the 67-year-old Chicago Youth Symphony Orchestras, as the larger organization is known.

Beyond the musical training it provides, the youth symphony serves as "great microcosm of society," Tinkham said, teaching students how to function within a diverse group and what it takes to both lead and follow.

"Orchestra," he said, "combines all the fantastic team-building exercises of any athletic team with the mental dexterity required to process this kind of repertoire — Ligeti, Khachaturian and Strauss — with the physical discipline of keeping these little, tiny muscles in perfect shape."

The conductor was undeterred. He pointed out that some of the players had already nailed down their parts before rehearsals even began.

The goal of the youth symphony, Tinkham said, is not just to teach budding musicians how to play in an ensemble and help them improve on their instruments.

"It's also to expand their minds and to introduce them to a lot of music that high-school students wouldn't discover a lot of other ways," he said.

The Chicago Youth Symphony Orchestra will present a concert of music from "2001: A Space Odyssey" on May 19 and June 16.

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You and your children can explore scientific principles together during Family Science Saturday, 2 to 3:30 p.m., May 18 at the Niles Public Library, 6960 W. Oakton St.

"We're bringing our Air Power Family Fun Station," said Corinne Sosso, director of education at Rockford's Discovery Center Museum, which is presenting the program.

"People are going to be able to shoot up rockets and make their own mini vortex," Sosso said. "We'll be making pocket kites and straw rockets. They'll be able to feel how strong air pressure is doing stuff that looks like magic. It's not magic, it's all using air pressure."

Other activities will include testing a wind turbine, putting objects in miniature wind columns to see how they move around and making twirly copters and flutter crafts to see how air makes things spin, in addition to other projects.

"It's going to be great fun for the whole family," Sosso said.

Registration is required.

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

Infants through preschoolers will learn social skills and early literacy, as well as develop their imagination, at Friday Fun Time, 10 to 11 a.m., May 17 at Lincolnwood Public Library, 4000 W. Pratt Ave. The parent-child class includes stories, music and free play.

For details, call (847) 677-5277 or go to www.lincolnwoodlibrary.org.

Young dance students will perform to numbers ranging from "Animal Crackers" to "Jungle Boogie" at Welcome to the Jungle, the Morton Grove Park District's annual Dance Recital, noon and 3:30 p.m., Sunday, May 19 at Niles West High School, 5701 Oakton St., Skokie. Tickets are $8.

For details, call (847) 965-1200 or go to www.mortongroveparks.org.

Craft projects, music and traditional folktales will teach families about children's celebrations in Japan during the free Malott Japanese Garden Children's Festival, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., May 18 and May 19 at the Chicago Botanic Garden, 1000 Lake Cook Road, Glencoe. Kids can create a miniature carp kite, an origami samurai helmet and a kimono paper doll.

For details, call (847) 835-5440 or go to www.chicagobotanic.org/forfamilies.

"Grow Caterpillar Grow!" is the name of the Lego Duplo Read and Build book kids will hear during Hands-On Learning with Legos, 11 a.m. Saturday, May 18 at the Village Crossing Shopping Center Barnes & Noble, 5405 Touhy Ave., Skokie. Registration is recommended.

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

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A concert of classical lullabies

BY DOROTHY ANDRIES | Contributor

A pair of successful Music Institute of Chicago alumni will give a recital Saturday from their new CD, "Violin Lullabies," which has been getting national attention for its unusual focus and beautiful sound.

The program, which includes music by Beethoven, Strauss and Liszt, is part of the 10th anniversary celebration of Nichols Concert Hall.

"There are so many great lullabies written for the violin by classical composers," said violinist Rachel Barton Pine, who will give the recital with pianist Matthew Hagle. "The lullabies were intended for the stage and I was surprised to find that as far as I could determine no one had put together a recording of them."

She describes the pieces as "short, simple, quiet, and calm," most of them barely three to four minutes each. The first track is the well-known Brahms' "Wiegenlied" or "Cradle Song." "I sang that to my daughter Sylvia when she was an infant," she said. "My mother sang it to me, as her mother sang it to her and her mother before that."

Also on the recital will be Ysaye's "Rêve d'Enfant" or "Child's Dream," Clarke's "Lullaby," written in 1918, and William Grant Still's "Mother and Child," No. 2, written in 1943. At more than six minutes, Still's song is the longest track on the disc.

Gershwin's "Summertime," the first song Barton Pine ever sang to her daughter Sylvia, is on the recording and the program. "It's surprising but a lot of people don't know that is a lullaby," she said, noting that the song from the opera "Porgy and Bess" includes the words "hush little baby, don't you cry."

The program will open with Beethoven's Sonata No. 3 in E flat and include Strauss's Sonata in E Flat. "We looked for pieces with very special significant piano parts," said Barton Pine.

The recitals of Barton Pine and Hagle, her piano accompanist, have taken them throughout the country. "We gave a recital at the National Gallery of Art in D.C.," Hagle said. "Plus the Supreme Court holds one concert a year, which is then broadcast on NPR's 'Performance Today.' We played in the most beautiful room."

Last summer the two gave a sold-out recital at the Ravinia Festival.

The inspiration for the album of lullabies was Barton Pine's daughter Sylvia who was born in 2011. On
Lullabies
Continued from page 59

the cover of the CD, Sylvia is pictured when only weeks old, firmly in place on her father Greg Pine’s arm. Now the little lady is 19 months old and travels the world with her parents.

“We are always together,” Barton Pine said. “We have a nanny from a special agency just for nannies who travel with musicians and take care of their children. Sylvia probably thinks that everyone goes to the airport every week!”

Barton Pine will be at the Ravinia Festival this summer playing Paganini’s Complete Caprices Aug. 17 and 18 in Bennett Gordon Hall. “All 24 each night,” she said, obviously relishing the prospect.

The violinist is a life trustee of the Music Institute of Chicago. “I’m glad to see Rachel getting attention for her CD,” said Mark George, president and CEO of MIC. “She has grown and developed at every stage of her career. She is one of our most distinguished alums.”

At the May 18 concert the Music Institute will honor clarinet/saxophone instructor Stanley Davis of Glenview for 50 years on the faculty, making him the longest-serving Music Institute faculty member. The institute’s Distinguished Alumni in Music award goes to Ralph Neiweem, co-founder and co-director of the Chicago Duo Piano Festival, which celebrates its 25th year this summer. Elizabeth Olsen Geraghty, executive director of the Elizabeth F. Cheney Foundation, will receive the Distinguished Alumni in a Field other than Music award.

Barton Pine and Hagle will give a children’s concert at 11 a.m. Sunday May 19 at the Old Town School of Folk Music.

“I collected more than 150 classical lullabies,” Barton Pine said. “I picked 25 of them for our CD, but there are so many others that are beautiful, too.”
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THE ICIEMAN

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Michael Shannon, Winona Ryder, Ray Liotta, David Schwimmer

When Richard Kuklinski (Shannon), a Mafia hit man/devoted husband and father responsible for more than 100 murders, is finally arrested, his wife (Ryder) and daughters have no clue about his true profession. Ariel Vromen ("Danika") co-wrote and directed the based-on-fact crime drama.

STAR TREK INTO DARKNESS

Rated
PG-13 for intense sequences of sci-fi action and violence

Stars
Chris Pine, Benedict Cumberbatch, Zoe Saldana, Zachary Quinto

After an act of terror from within Star Fleet, Captain Kirk (Pine) leads the crew of the Enterprise to a war-zone planet for a showdown with a one-man weapon of mass destruction (Cumberbatch). J.J. Abrams returns as director after his hit 2009 reboot of the sci-fi adventure series.

STILL PLAYING

THE GREAT GATSBY

★★★★
Rated
PG-13 for some violent images, sexual content, smoking, partying and brief nudity

Stars
Leonardo DiCaprio, Joel Edgerton, Tobey Maguire, Carey Mulligan

Nobody's going to accuse director Baz Luhrmann ("Moulin Rouge!") of being over-respectful or under-ambitious in his ultra-flamboyant approach to F. Scott Fitzgerald's great American novel. Complaints about eyestrain and/or migraine, however, could be another matter. It's no surprise that Luhrmann would go hog wild given the opportunity to pump up the Jazz Age excesses chronicled in "The Great Gatsby" and there's no shortage of interesting detail in the master of eye candy's feverish vision of 1920s decadence. Unfortunately, all the orgiastic hyperbole tends to overwhelm the main event: F. Scott Fitzgerald's tragic saga of self invention, unattainable love and the American Dream gone crazy. Despite the odds, the story manages to assert itself sometime around the halfway mark, thanks in large part to DiCaprio's spot-on portrayal of Gatsby. It's just a shame there's so much flapper-era folderole to wade through along the way.

LOVE IS ALL YOU NEED

★★★
Rated
R for brief sexuality, nudity and some language

Stars
Pierce Brosnan, Trine Dyhrholm, Molly Blixt Egelind, Sebastian Jessen

An unapologetic charmer from the typically intense and tragically inclined Danish director Susanne Bier. "Love Is All You Need" doesn't entirely go the light and frothy route, yet it's still, at heart, a fairy-tale romance devoted to true love as a cure-all for creeping unhappiness. Brosnan and Dyhrholm click nicely as Phillip (a misanthropic businessman who's never gotten over the death of his first wife) and Ida (a serene yet long-suffering Danish hairdresser recovering from chemotherapy and the news that her husband has left her for a younger woman). The two first annoy then intrigue each other during the wedding of his son and her daughter at his sun-dappled Italian villa. There's never a doubt about where the story is headed but, to its credit, it doesn't get there in entirely connect-the-dots fashion — and there are some surprisingly rich emotional moments along the way.

PEARL JAM: OPEN TO THE SUN

Rated
PG-13 for sequences of intense sci-fi action and violence throughout, and brief suggestive content

Stars
Robert Downey Jr., Gwyneth Paltrow, Robert Stephens, Ray Liotta, David Schwimmer

Despite the odds, the story manages to assert itself sometime around the halfway mark, thanks in large part to DiCaprio's spot-on portrayal of Gatsby. It's just a shame there's so much flapper-era folderole to wade through along the way.

IRON MAN 3

★★★★
Rated
PG-13 for sequences of intense sci-fi action and violence throughout, and brief suggestive content

Stars
Robert Downey Jr., Gwyneth Paltrow, Robert Stephens, Ray Liotta, David Schwimmer

The smartest guy in the room. Well, almost. That's not so much the case in co-writer/director Shane Black's "Iron Man 3," which has all the eye-popping CGI action anyone could want, but little of the emotional or cerebral appeal. Though Stark suffers from panic attacks here after his traumatic experience in "The Avengers," that doesn't make him more vulnerable — only more obnoxiously arrogant. He's also monumentally stupid on at least one occasion. It's kind of fun that Black has upped the ante on "Iron Man" coolness by inventing a suit that flies to Stark at the wave of his hand — and a remote-control suit that works just as well with or without him inside. That last bit might not have been such a great idea, though, because flashy on the outside, empty on the inside isn't a bad way to describe this movie as a whole.

THE RELUCTANT FUNDAMENTALIST

Rated
R for language, sexual content and brief nudity

Stars
Kate Hudson, Liev Schreiber, Kiefer Sutherland, Om Puri

A young Pakistani man's attempt to achieve the American dream on Wall Street is complicated by the 2001 attack on the Twin Towers.

HAVA NAGILA: THE MOVIE

Rated
No MPAA rating

Stars
Leonard Nimoy, Harry Belafonte, Connie Francis, Glen Campbell

Love it or hate it, there's no denying that "Hava Nagila" has become, in the words of one interviewed expert, "the unofficial theme song of Jewish Americans." Yet, few who rush to the dance floor at celebrations to dance the hora as soon as its first notes are played understand its origins and history — a state of affairs this thoroughly enjoyable documentary has set out to correct. Light, witty, entertaining and occasionally profound, "Hava Nagila: The Movie" traces the song's emergence as a wordless Hassidic prayer melody in the shtetls of 19th-century Ukraine, to its acquisition of lyrics in turn-of-the-century Palestine (perhaps), to its match with the hora during the birth of Israel, to its all-purpose acceptance by post-World War II suburban Jews — and to its often absurd cross-over to American pop culture.
NEW THIS WEEK

CLOUD ATLAS

★★★★
Rated
R for violence, language, sexuality/nudity and some drug use
Stars
Tom Hanks, Halle Berry, Jim Broadbent

Epic in scope yet superficial in emotional impact, well-acted and gorgeous to behold, yet oddly uninvolving, full of grand philosophical themes yet frequently incoherent, the star-studded "Cloud Atlas" may be the most impressively frustrating film you see this year. Still, if you're a fan of the Wachowski brothers or wildly ambitious creative efforts in general, this time-twisting mega-saga is well worth a look. Be prepared to leave the theater with more questions than you had coming in.

A big-name cast plays multiple roles in six loosely connected, simultaneously unfolding stories spanning 500 years, from a slave-trading drama in 1859 to a post-apocalyptic adventure in the 24th century — interesting individually but confusing as a package. It helps that each of the stories looks great and that many of the performances are compelling. Unfortunately, with all the jumping back and forth between tales and time zones, it's hard to stay emotionally involved.

CRIMEWAVE

★★★★
Rated
PG-13
Stars
Louise Lasser, Reed Birney, Bruce Campbell, Brion James, Paul L. Smith

Director Sam Raimi's earliest ambition was to be a comedy director a la "The Three Stooges." Hence his decision to follow his commercially savvy horror-movie debut with this 1985 film-noir-spoofing dark comedy he co-wrote with the Coen Brothers. "Crimewave," which details the comic mayhem perpetrated by a couple of insect exterminators turned hit men, is generally considered a botched job; even Raimi has disowned it, citing a disastrous studio re-cut. Even so, it has its moments, including a final chase scene that shows off the young director's visual flair — and it certainly has curiosity value for Raimi fans who have waited all these years for it to make its DVD debut.

ALSO NEW THIS WEEK

BACK TO 1942

Adrien Brody and Tim Robbins are featured in this Chinese drama about the 1942 Henan province disaster, in which three million people died of starvation as a result of drought, windstorms, government corruption and the war with Japan.

FACE 2 FACE

After struggling for years with addiction, depression and suppressed trauma, filmmaker Katherine Brooks ("Loving Annabelle") filmed her quest to drive cross-country and meet the first 50 of her 5,000 Facebook friends who agree to meet her in person. Extras include extended/deleted interviews and a slide show from her journey.
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CHICAGO TRIBUNE
This Bard gets Bawdy!

CHICAGO SUNDAY TIMES
Leonardo DiCaprio and Carey Mulligan star in "The Great Gatsby."
THIS WEEKEND & BEYOND

A list of regional events for you to go out and enjoy

Call for summer fun
Pioneer Press will publish its annual suburban outdoor concert and summer festival round-ups May 30 and June 6, respectively. To be considered for inclusion, submit information by May 20 to sparker@pioneerlocal.com.

STAGE

Gorilla Tango's Skokie Theatre


"Stella & Lou"

Presented by Northlight Theatre through June 9 at the North Shore Center for the Performing Arts, 9501 Skokie Blvd, Skokie. $25-$72; $15 students. Call (847) 673-6300 or visit www.northlight.org.

Heidelberg Concert Choir

"You're The Jury: The State vs. Max Cooper"

Presented by James Downing Theatre at 7:30 p.m. May 17-18 and 1:30 p.m. May 19 in the John Waldron Arts Center at Edison Park United Methodist Church, 6740 Oliphant Ave., Chicago. $20; $15 students and seniors. Visit www.jamesdowningtheatre.typepad.com.

CLASSICAL

Chicago Choral Artists


Chicago Philharmonic Orchestra

"Bernstein and Schubert," 7:30 p.m. May 24 at Northwestern University's Pick-Staiger Concert Hall, 50 Arts Circle Drive, Evanston. $25-$75. Call (866) 811-4111 or visit www.chicagophilharmonic.org.

Heidelberg University's School of Music performs at 7 p.m. May 18 at First Congregational Church of Evanston, 1445 Hinman Ave. Free-will offering.

Irvng Park Fine Arts Committee


Music of the Baroque

Performing J. S. Bach's "Passion According to St. John," 7:30 p.m. May 19 at Pick-Staiger Concert Hall, 50 Arts Circle Drive, Evanston. The program includes works by Copland, Ives and Barber in collaboration with wind and brass ensembles and soloists. $25; $20 seniors; $10 students. www.renovostings.org.

Renovo String Orchestra

"Windy Americana," 7:30 p.m. May 24 at the Music Institute of Chicago, 1490 Chicago Ave., Evanston. The program presents Turn Balalaika performing Russian, Yiddish, klezmer, Romanian and gypsy music.

Music Institute of Chicago

Symphonic Band

Overture to "Phedre" and Walton's Symphony No. 1 in B-flat Minor. $8; $5 students. May 19, 3 p.m.: Concert Band performs band standards. $6; $4 students. May 20, 7:30 p.m.: University Singers present "Britten and Bernstein." $6; $4 students.

POPK//JAZZ

Jazz Community Big Band

The 18-piece big band, based in Norridge, plays the music of Count Basie, Duke Ellington and others, 7-10 p.m. May 28 at Hanging Gardens Banquets, 8301 W. Belmont Ave., River Grove. $10; $5 ages 17 and under.

Lincolnwood Public Library

4000 W. Pratt Ave. www.lincolnwoodlibrary.org. May 19, 2 p.m.: Live@Lincolnwood presents Tum Balalaika performing Russian, Yiddish, klezmer, Romanian and gypsy music.

Special activities will be held noon-5 p.m. May 18, including artists' receptions at display locations, roaming musicians, and artists painting outdoors near the gazebo in the Memorial Park at Krier Plaza. Also, from noon-2 p.m. children ages 3-16 can enjoy "make and take" art workshops at Bughouse Studio, 4845 Oakton, and Lincoln Terrace Art Studio & Gallery, 5027 Warren St. Visit www.skokieartwalk.org.

AUDITIONS & OPPORTUNITIES

Open auditions

Amazing Sammo Productions will hold auditions for "An Adult Evening of Shel Silverstein," 5-8 p.m. May 17 and 11 a.m.-2 p.m. May 18 at Gorilla Tango's Skokie Theatre, 7924 Lincoln Ave., Skokie. Also seeking a stage manager; previous experience preferred. Prepare a two-minute comedic monologue and a short joke ("R-rated" preferred, but also tasteful.

SUBMISSIONS

You Want In? Here's How:

Submit GO events one week prior to the date of publication

Entries must be typed. GO listings are free. Include brief descriptions of the event, date, address, price and phone number.

Email: Send submissions to gol@pioneerlocal.com

What to Do [Page 66]
Nothing racist, sexist, etc.; headshot and resume. Email auditions@amazingsammo.com.

Park Ridge Chorale

Holding a summer concert rehearsal 7:30-9:30 p.m. May 20 at the Park Ridge Non-Profit Center, 720 Garden St., Park Ridge. Auditions for new members are required and will be held at the conclusion of rehearsal. Call (847) 650-2876 or visit www.parkridgechorale.com.

Young Artists auditions

Auditions for “Fantastic Folktales,” open to children in grades 4-8, will be held 11 a.m.-1 p.m. May 26 and 4-6 p.m. May 27 at Gorilla Tango Theatre, 7924 Lincoln Ave., Skokie. If available, send a resume and recent picture to Cathy Crocco, crctheatricals@gmail.com.

Call for artists

Seeking artists for the Skokie Art Guild’s 52nd annual Art Fair, to be held July 13-14 on the downtown Skokie Village Green. Prizes and awards. Visit www.skokieartguild.org or call (847) 677-8163.

Books & Poetry

Barnes & Noble

55 Old Orchard Center, Skokie. (847) 676-2230. May 24, 7 p.m.: Phil Jackson signs Eleven Rings: The Soul of Success. Special event rules apply; call for details.

Zanies Comedy Club


Dance

Northwestern University

Marjorie Ward Marshall

When Everything Changes — An Arts4ALS Event

Held at 7 p.m. May 16 at Flourish Studios, 3020 N. Lincoln, Chicago. The evening will include an art exhibit, presentations, music, food and a raffle. Entrance fee is $25, with proceeds to benefit the Skokie-based Les Turner ALS Foundation. Visit www.LesTurnerALS.org.

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Friday, May 24, 7:30 p.m. @ Pick-Stalger Hall

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Franz Schubert Symphony No. 9 "The Great"

Tickets $25-$75. Pick-Stalger Hall, 50 Arts Circle Dr., Evanston.

(866) 811-4111 www.chicagophilharmonic.org
be May 18. For information, contact Enid Silverman at (847) 291-0508 or enidartist@aol.com.

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What to Do
Continued from page 67

ORGANIZATIONS

Skokie Photographic Society
18+
Slide presentation by Richard Cahan, author of Vivian Maier: Out of the Shadows, 7 p.m. May 16 at the Skokie Public Library, 5215 Oakton St. Register at (847) 673-3733.

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TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE

MAY 16TH EVENTS
4:30 P Oak Park & River Forest vs. St. Rita
4:30 P Peoria Notre Dame vs. Marian Catholic
4:30 P St. Laurence vs. Lincoln-Way North
7:00 P Peoria Notre Dame vs. Mount Carmel
7:00 P Providence vs. Lemont
7:00 P St. Laurence vs. Brother Rice

MAY 17TH EVENTS
4:30 P Game 9
4:30 P Game 11
7:00 P Game 7
7:00 P Game 8
7:00 P Game 10
7:00 P Game 12

MAY 18TH EVENTS
10:00 A Game 13
10:00 A Game 14
12:30 P Game 15 (7th place game)
12:30 P Game 16 (5th place game)
4:00 P Game 17 (3rd place game)
7:00 P Game 18 (Championship Game)

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Demons feature strong midfield core

BY MARK PERLMAN | Contributor | @markdavidperlima

Although it was a struggle this season on the soccer pitch for the Maine East girls, optimism abounds amongst players and coaches when looking to the future.

Only four of the 19 players on this year’s roster are slated to graduate so a bevvy of experienced players are scheduled to return.

“It’s exciting. It shows that the program continues to build and grow,” Maine East coach Julie Dickinson said. “The girls have definitely improved during the year.”

Maine East (3-12-1) received the No. 15 seed in the Class 3A New Trier Sectional and was to return. Dickinson (two goals) and junior midfielder Gina Mando (three goals) and junior midfielder Gina Mando (two goals).

“Rachel has good skills,” Dickinson said. “She is able to hold onto the ball and distribute and she has a really good shot.”

Dickinson added: “Gina is very fast. Quick with the ball and a nice shot from the outside. Having Rachel and Gina in the midfield allows us to transition to offense.”

As the year progressed, Maurer and Mando developed a good soccer rapport with one another. “Rachel and I push each other on the field for the better,” Mando said. “She is aggressive and understands how I play. That’s what I enjoy about having her side by side with me.”

Junior Kathy Janik, another starter in the midfield, also is expected back.

Dickinson pointed out that it will take a lot more than experience to boost the Blue Demons’ chances next year.

“To be successful, everyone is going to have to work real hard during the offseason,” Dickinson said.

Dickinson has been working closely with feeder programs, along with the area club team Olympiacos, which uses Maine East as its home field. A number of the Blue Demons have played for the club.

I’LL BET YOU DIDN’T KNOW...

Plenty of baseball pundits predicted that the Orioles would contend in 2013 after a 2012 campaign in which Baltimore posted its first winning season in 15 years and made the playoffs.

But one statistic indicates otherwise. The O’s were an amazing 29-9 in one-run games, the highest one-run winning percentage (.753) in major league history. But get this – of the 12 teams that led the majors in that category each year from 2000 through 2011, only four finished above .500 in one-run games the next year. What’s more, only one of those teams – the 2010 Phillies – had an improved overall record.

Here’s one reason why betting on spoiler teams can send a message to players. Iona meets Manhattan in the 2012-13 MAAC title game, Iona favored by four points. They win by five, and the players rush the court. But wait – the refs rule that 0.1 seconds still remained on the clock, and the Iona bench is assessed a two-shot technical foul. You guessed it – Manhattan converts the two meaningless free throws, so the final margin is only three points. Iona beat them out of the tourney; Manhattan backers go bankers.

In the 67-year history of the NBA, Canada has produced only three All-NBA team selections and just two MVPs. Can you name them? Here’s a hint: It’s a tricky question, because they’re all named Steve. Nash. Fact is, Canada is basketball-challenged, even though the games inventor, James Naismith, was born there. It wasn’t until 1983 that a Canadian native was drafted in the NBA’s first round (Leo Rautins, out of Syracuse), and Canada hasn’t won an Olympic medal of any kind in basketball since 1936.
Epifanio named to all-region team

BY NICK BULLOCK | Contributor | @Pioneer_Press

Maine South alumna Emily Epifanio, a senior catcher on the Wisconsin-Whitewater softball team, was named to the National Fastpitch Coaches Association All-Great Lakes Region first team.

Epifanio started 37 of the team's 39 games and hit .382 with a .488 on-base percentage and a .588 slugging percentage. She finished her career with 27 home runs, the third most in program history.

She also received Whitewater's Position Player of the Week honor on April 29 after an impressive six-game stretch: The Park Ridge native hit .467 (7-for-15) and helped the Warhawks to a 5-1 record.

Trinity alumnas Mimi Ramirez and Laura Eichenold also started for the Warhawks, whose season came to an end Saturday in the NCAA Division III regional tournament.

Ramirez, a junior outfielder from Chicago, batted .322 and was not caught stealing in six attempts. She was a third-team all-region honoree.

Eichenold posted a .228 batting average, but the junior shortstop from Elmwood Park was near flawless in the field. She finished with 77 putouts, 65 assists, just one error and a .993 fielding percentage.

Stevenson alumnus Mike Wilner, a sophomore gymnast for Illinois, secured All-American status for the first time in his career with a fifth-place finish on the rings at the 2013 NCAA Event Finals on April 21 in University Park, Pa. The Buffalo Grove native also helped the Illini reach the NCAA Team Finals for the 11th straight season. Illinois took sixth.

Deerfield alumnus Jason Cohen, a senior infielder for the DePauw (Ind.) baseball team, was named North Coast Athletic Conference Player of the Week on April 15. The Deerfield native led his team to a 3-3 record for the week while he hit .619 with a home run and 10 RBI. With that performance, Cohen moved into fifth place in school history in career hits (192), second in RBI (130) and third in total bases (284).

The same week, Cohen also was named to the D1llbaseball.com Team of the Week.

Several other area athletes also turned in solid seasons for the DePauw baseball team. New Trier alumnus JB McCallum hit .267 and drove in 27 runs. Lake Zurich alumnus Wyatt Spector appeared in 11 games, pitching 15 1/3 innings and recording 10 strikeouts.

Clarendon Hills native Matt Dorsett, Western Springs native Jack Forde, Clarendon Hills native Sean Brennan and Buffalo Grove native Stephen Galanopoulos also are on the team.

Have a suggestion for the College Roundup? Email Nick Bullock at bullockpioneerpress@gmail.com.
Don't Miss

Notre Dame's Dion Ursino hustles to first on a dropped third strike during the May 9 home game against Benet. 

Today
Boys track & field: Notre Dame at Niles West Sectional, 2 p.m.

Dons junior Pat Cravens won the ESCC titles in the long jump (21 feet, 3.5 inches) and triple jump (43-3.5) and also was on the Dons' victorious 4x100-meter relay (43.80 seconds) on May 8. That relay also featured junior Chris James, senior Patrick McDonough and junior Shawn Marcone. Junior Tim O'Hara (11.31) won the 100.

Walk-off win

BY JONAH ROSENBLEUM | Contributor | @Pioneer_PrepsJR

NILES
Dion Ursino provided the big blast and Danny Hyde put the finishing touches on Notre Dame's 4-3 comeback victory over Benet.

Hyde's walk-off sacrifice fly on May 9 was another poignant moment in the senior's trek back from Hodgkin's lymphoma.

"Right guy, right spot," Dons coach Nelson Gord said. "I know by his standards he hasn't had the type of season that he would like, but anything he does is a bonus. Him just being out here, I couldn't ask for a more storybook ending in that ballgame."

Hyde was diagnosed with lymphoma in September and is now in remission after undergoing chemotherapy.

The Dons trailed by a run entering the bottom of the seventh, but sophomore Michael Ferri hit a leadoff single. Junior Joe Kukla followed with a sacrifice bunt and that's when Ursino, a senior, sent a deep drive off the highest portion of the left-field fence to knot the score at three.

Boys tennis: Notre Dame at Niles West Sectional, 2 p.m.
The Dons will compete in one of the most difficult sectionals in the state this weekend, one which includes New Trier, Evanston and Loyola. All three of those teams feature high-quality singles players and talented doubles teams.

This Week Notre Dame
Don't Miss

If you've never heard of the ring exercise in gymnastics, you're not alone. Many parents of young boys may not have either.

FRANKFORT

Many boys gymnasts enter the state meet armed with routines they've done throughout the season.

Dalai Jamiiyankhuu didn't have that luxury on pommel horse. The Niles West freshman said he has had four different pommel horse routines this year because he was searching for one which both satisfied all of the IHSA's element groups and was a proper length.

"I didn't have to change a lot, but I had to do some extra skills to make up some requirements," Jamiiyankhuu said. "But (I also had to) take out some stuff that I wasn't required to do. ... Some of the routines were too long. I'd get tired easily. And some of the routines didn't cover all of the element groups."

Jamiiyankhuu and Niles West coach Adrian Batista worked together to shorten his routine, and Batista said they changed his dismount to a bailley down.

Jamiiyankhuu was one of just two freshmen to advance to the state individual championships on Saturday — the top-10 scores in each event advanced — and he
finished with a score of 9.45 on pommel horse. Jamieyankhuu was fourth in the state on pommel horse, one-tenth of a point short of sharing a state title with the three state champions.

"I'm happy with what I did," Jamieyankhuu said. "I'm happy that I made it. Next year, I'm going to try to come back and (qualify in) all six events."

In finishing fourth, Jamieyankhuu became the Wolves’ first all-state performer on pommel horse since Matt Samuelson won a state title in 1982.

PLAYING TO HIS STRENGTH

Antonio Cacho’s state-qualifying routine on still rings emphasized his upper body strength in order to limit his back pain.

Cacho has an extremely weak back. It’s something which Niles North coach Rick Meyer said often leaves him in considerable pain, but Cacho qualified for state on rings.

The senior hit his best set of the year at state preliminaries, earning a 7.95 Saturday to finish in a tie for 27th.

"He’s a ring man, so when you swing on rings that puts a lot of pressure on your back," Meyer said. "We were very careful with him. Most of his routine was predicated on strength. He’s a very strong individual with a lot of upper body strength. He didn’t do a lot of swinging in his routine, so it was a different style routine for rings."

Niles North’s Scotty Wong finished 43rd on pommel horse at state.

THIS AND THAT

Senior Dhwal Gheewala and junior Scotty Wong also represented Niles North at state. Gheewala (7.6) finished 36th on pommel horse and Wong (7.15) was 43rd.

Northridge junior Henry Clark had a 7.9 on still rings to finish 29th.

Dave Bacalla was Niles North’s lone state qualifier in each of the last three seasons, but the senior has been sidelined with a knee injury all year. Junior Zach Oppenheimer has played No. 1 singles during Bacalla’s absence. He and freshman Russell Reyes are scheduled to play singles at sectionals.
GIRLS TRACK & FIELD STATE TOURNAMENT PREVIEW

Simon sisters both going downstate

BY DAN SHALIN | Contributor | @danshalin

WILMETTE
One of the indelible images from the Class 3A Loyola girls track and field sectional was the embrace between twins Sunshine and Sunbright Simon on the infield after the 300-meter hurdles.

The seniors had just finished first and second in the race on May 9, qualifying for this weekend's state meet in Charleston. Sunshine Simon, who qualified in three other events, will be competing at her second straight state meet. However, her sister was injured last year, and will be making her first trip, which was one of the reasons for the emotional celebration.

"I'm so proud of my sister getting second," Sunshine Simon said. "I wanted her to qualify. I didn't care if I didn't make it. I just wanted her to make it because of last year."

The pair moved to Florida from Haiti in middle school and then came to Skokie for high school. Their younger sister Louise is currently a freshman on the Wolves squad.

Niles West coach Mark Medland said he's not surprised by the sisters' success on the track.

"They just love track and field," Medland said. "They come out (and train) every summer. Over spring break, we have some mandatory practices and some that are volunteer, where I say, 'I'm going to be at the school if you want to come over.'

Sunshine Simon crosses the finish line first in the 300-meter hurdles on May 9, edging her twin sister Sunbright (at far left) during the Class 3A sectional track and field meet at Loyola in Wilmette. The sisters both advanced to state. Visit skokie.suntimes.com/sports to view a photo gallery from the meet.

The second performer in program history to qualify for state in four events. The first was Alisa Kusolvisitkul in 2003 (100 hurdles, 300 hurdles, 4x200 relay, 4x400 relay). Incidentally, Sunshine Simon broke Kusolvisitkul's school record in the 300 hurdles, which had been 45.7, at the sectional.

Joining the Simon sisters in the 4x400 relay are sophomore Katherine De Lara and freshman Jasmine Williams.

NILES WEST THROWERS EXCEL

Another first-time qualifier for the Wolves was sophomore Fiona Kanam, who won the shot put (38-9). The track and field rookie started the year both running and throwing.

"She's very fast. But then she popped off a 38-0 (in the shot) indoors and we said 'OK, Fiona, we're stopping running and we're going after the shot now,' " Medland said.

Niles West senior Jasmine Townsend also qualified in shot (second, 37-2) and will compete at her third state meet. Senior Vishna Patel was second in the discus (103-3) and is going to state as well.

STRIVING FOR PR

Maine South junior Emily Leonard will run the 3,200 at state after finishing second (11:18.34) at the sectional. It was a season-best time for Leonard, but the runner said...
poor weather and niggling injuries have hampered her training this spring.

"I haven't been hitting the times I have wanted to hit," she said. "I'd love to PR at state. My PR is 10:58, but I don't know how realistic that is right now."

Leonard continued: "The weather has been crazy and my workout schedule has been all messed up. But everyone has this, so it's not really an excuse. I did something to my hamstring in indoor. With the crazy weather, getting it loose is hard."

This will be Leonard's third state track meet. She has made a name for herself in cross country, coming in sixth in the state last fall.

Other Maine South state qualifiers were the team of senior Megan Lemersal, freshman Olivia Ryan, freshmen Julia Sirvinskas and senior Emma Ropski in the 4x800 relay (third, 9:38.19); junior Olivia Cattau in the 100 hurdles (second, 15.94) and Lemersal in the 1,600 (third, 5:12.38).

ELANTA SLOWEK

Elanta Slowek is Maine East's lone state qualifier for the second consecutive season.

At the sectional, the junior won the high jump (4-11) and the discus (117-5), the latter just two weeks after competing in discus for the first time.

Slowek high jumped at state last year and estimated she will need a career-high 5-3 in order to advance to the finals on Saturday.

"I know I'm capable," Slowek said. "I've done 5-2 before and cleared it at like 5-4. So, you never know."

Blue Demons coach Nancy Lirette said she believes Slowek can reach the high jump finals.

"(Slowek) was (at state) last year, and she's much better at it (now)," Lirette said. "High jump is a head-case-type event. The smallest thing can make a difference. Her approach and timing are a little inconsistent. If she can get that down, she could go 5-3, 5-4 or 5-5."

BRIGHT FUTURE

For the first time in coach Andy Swedberg's eight years in charge, Niles North did not have a state qualifier. Swedberg acknowledged this was a bit of a rebuilding season.

There were some encouraging performances turned in by freshman jumper Madee McIntosh, who came in fourth in the long jump (15-10.75) and fifth in the triple jump (32-10). Both marks were personal records.

"She had a really good meet, medaling in both those events," Swedberg said. "She's one of those bright spots for the future. She just seems to have natural ability, like she has springs in her legs."
Dalal Jamiyankhuu of Niles West competes on the pommel horse at state Saturday. | JUDY FIDKOWSKI—for Sun-Times Media