Baker makes it big, again

Local woman in Pillsbury Bake-Off for second year in a row | PAGE 6
The Gold Standard

**BARE "HINMAN HOUSE" CONDO!**
Evanston.. Just Listed! Enjoy the "Heart of Evanston's Downtown" only 2 blocks to Lake, 3 blocks to Metra & "L" + Convenient to Northwestern!!

Fabulous light & bright 6th floor condo with 4 rooms, 1 br & 2 full baths (master bath). Large living rm + dining rm. Updated kitchen with new counter top, sink, faucet, Mosaic glass tile backsplash & ceramic tile floor. $138,500

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Local makes Pillsbury Bake-Off for second year

Morton Grove woman needs online votes to become finalist

BY RICK KAMBIC
rkambic@pioneerlocal.com | @rk_kambic

Arlene Erlbach of Morton Grove created a cranberry dark chocolate flatbread that was recognized as one of the top 60 recipes in a nationwide Pillsbury Bake-Off competition.

Now, as a semi-finalist in the annual competition, Erlbach needs help to get closer to the $1 million prize. Judges sorted through thousands of recipes to find those top 60, and now online voting will decide the final 30.

“I'm a baker, not a politician, but I understand that Pillsbury wants traffic to their website,” Erlbach said jokingly. “What's frustrating and endearing at the same time is when I ask people to vote for me and they repeatedly call back wanting some of the flatbread.”

Erlbach said she's always enjoyed creating new blends of foods and attempting complicated recipes, but she found more time on her hands after retiring from Chicago's William P. Gray Elementary School and decided to put her hobby to work by entering competitions.

Pillsbury's competition has three main categories for its competition: breakfast, appetizers and dinners. The final 30 in each category are flown to Las Vegas to bake side-by-side against each other for the best overall recipes.

First place gets a $1 million prize, second place gets a $10,000 prize and $3,000 worth of kitchenware, and third place gets a $5,000 prize and $2,000 worth of kitchenware. Other sponsors also give prizes of lesser value.

The inventions are judged on creativity, taste, appearance and consumer appeal.

This year is the first time in Pillsbury's 45-year competition that public input will be factored into the results. Last year, judges chose Erlbach as one of the overall 100 finalists and she went to Virginia to square off against her competition.

“I didn't want to go alone, so I was going to ask a friend to accompany me, but my husband Herb and my adult son Matthew asked to go with,” Erlbach said. “That was the million-dollar prize for me. Having my family recognize my interest and go out of their way to cheer me on was the greatest reward I could
The flathread bakes at 400 degrees for 12 to 18 minutes.

Erlbach's interest in blending tastes first started when she was 5 years old. She was playing with her cousin Mark Favermann when his mother, Aunt Evelyn, took them out for lunch. Aunt Evelyn was drinking iced coffee and offered the children a taste. "I immediately fell in love with the taste of coffee," Erlbach said. "Iced coffee wasn't as hip back in the 50s and 60s, so it was a real special order. When I became a teenager, I started drinking iced coffee all the time and began baking with coffee, too."

Erlbach said her mother wasn't much of a cook, and so there was no "baking gene" passed down. The hobby came from her desire to mix favorite foods or mix healthy foods with sweets to justify eating both.

"I know it's not good to associate emotions with food, but there's something to be said about wanting others to feel relaxed and enjoy themselves when visiting or coming home from work," Erlbach said.

Jello malts used to be one of Erlbach's trademarks when hosting social events. Now, friends and family reportedly praise her white cheese lasagna with spinach and her lamb stew with apricots.

In her two years of retirement, Erlbach has submitted custom recipes to about a dozen contests and has been published in magazines, but she said Pillsbury's contest is the "granddaddy" of them all.

"If I won a prize, I'd probably donate some to charity and then take my family on a trip," Erlbach said. "It's a lot of money, but money doesn't change who you are. I love my family and I love to bake."

The final ingredient is a cup of sliced almonds. Arlene Erlbach pats her flathread to mix the cranberries, chocolate chips and dried almonds.
Both Mayor Dan DiMaria and Tracey Anderson of the Morton Grove Park District have said there’s no effort to collaborate on senior services or programming that would rival the North Shore Senior Center, yet Hope Hornstein wanted to hear it for herself.

Hornstein took her questions to the Sept. 10 Commission on Aging meeting, which has representatives from North Shore and the village government.

“As a citizen who enjoys the senior center a lot, I wrote a letter to the Village Board and the Park Board of Commissioners expressing my concern over this potential miscommunication,” said Hornstein, who was reportedly speaking on behalf of friends as well. “If there are new programs, what would those offerings be and how would they be financially supported?”

Anderson, executive director of the park district, was also in attendance and said she alone would like to create “supplementary” programming because she has more than 30 years of experience working with seniors and anticipates a large group of baby boomers retiring soon.

Village Trustee Shel Marcus, who sits on the commission, supported Anderson and said North Shore has a long future in Morton Grove.

“I see nothing at the (village) board level that would change the relationships we have with the North Shore Senior Center,” Marcus said. “What has been provided and continues is better than anything we’ve ever had.”

Mary Staackmann, director of lifelong learning for the North Shore Senior Center and wife of former Mayor Dan Staackmann, gives her business card to concerned patron Hope Hornstein. | RICK KAMBC/SUN-TIMES MEDIA

Mary Staackmann, director of lifelong learning for North Shore, quickly asked Marcus to send that promise in writing to her board of directors — who reportedly got several complaints from patrons.

The miscommunication stems from an Aug. 12 Village Board meeting when an intergovernmental agreement with the park district was up for renewal, something Anderson wanted to do with all such agreements before conflicts arise.

This particular agreement, however, was from 1990 and certain portions were not being acted on anymore, according to Village Attorney Terry Liston.

Most of the agreement revolves around borrowing equipment and corresponding employees with 24-hour notice, among other shared services like grass cutting.

The portion in question says the park district will provide staff expertise for the development of programming titled "leisure services for seniors," provide advertising for that programming, and host senior activities when needed; while the village agrees to host most of the programming at the civic center and coordinate a reservation process for the programs.

Liston said that clause is obsolete and was not changed because the agreement was never updated. Anderson, who was hired in April, was not familiar with the senior center situation when suggesting the "housekeeping" measure, Liston said.

However, a group of residents worried that political tension between DiMaria and former Mayor Dan Staackmann had resurfaced.

The village previously provided a wide array of senior services until a budget crisis in 2009 forced slimmer programming and staff cutbacks, eventually leading to a contract with the North Shore Senior Center instead.

Months after that contract, then-Mayor Dan Staackmann began dating his wife Mary, the director of lifelong learning.

The two eventually married, but another budget cuts in 2012 led to the elimination of the social services director, which cost Morton Grove $116,000.

Mayor Dan Staackmann then asked a committee to investigate potential cheaper ways to provide social services, and the group suggested North Shore after visiting two other providers.

DiMaria, a trustee at the time, expressed a concern over a potential conflict of interest between the mayor and North Shore administrator. An outside attorney was hired to review the case and no conflict was found.

DiMaria, along with two other trustees, still voted against the $78,000 contract.

In August, after the intergovernmental agreement came up for a vote, DiMaria said he has no intension to get rid of North Shore and he supports all their efforts.

The intergovernmental agreement was never approved because of the confusion and the two governments are currently rewriting the document. Assistant Village Administrator Peter Falcone said that portion of the agreement will most likely be eliminated in the final proposal.

As for the park district’s new senior programing, Anderson said she is still drafting possible ideas but she hopes to have classes offered in the winter catalog.
MORTON GROVE

Metra work to close Dempster Street for a week

BY RICK KAMBIC
rkambic@pioneerlocal.com | @rick_kambic

Repairs to the Metra railroad tracks will close all four lanes of Dempster Street in Morton Grove starting Saturday, Oct. 5 and reopening Sunday, Oct. 13.

Metra Spokesman Mike Gillis confirmed the closure and said the whole crossing will be replaced, including new tracks and a smoother crossing for motorists. He said patchwork fixes were done in recent years, but the crossing is due for a “routine overhaul.”

The crossing is just east of Waukegan Road but west of Linne Woods Forest Preserve and the Edens Expressway.

Morton Grove is responsible for creating detours. Village Trustee Shel Marcus said the last traffic study he saw indicated that 65,000 cars per day drive through town on Dempster Street.

“This closure is an inconvenience, no doubt, but it has to be done,” Marcus said. “The track has gotten rough and they need something smoother.”

Vehicles traveling eastbound on Dempster Street will be diverted onto Lehigh Avenue until it dead-ends at the Beckwith Road tracks crossing, according to Marcus.

Beckwith Road is parallel to Dempster Street and has a number of residential streets, including Austin Avenue and Central Avenue, which can return commuters to Dempster.

Cars and trucks driving westbound will be diverted onto Ferrius Avenue, which dead ends at a railroad crossing, Marcus said. Southbound Lehigh Avenue connects to that crossing and will take commuters to Oakton Street.

Marcus and other Morton Grove officials encourage drivers to plan ahead and drive Golf Road or Oakton Street instead of using the Dempster Street detour. Residents living on nearby side streets are also encouraged to be patient.

Commuters with questions about detours or alternate routes through Morton Grove can call Morton Grove Village Hall at (847) 965-4100.

NILES

New nail salon coming to Niles

BY NATASHA WASINSKI
For SunTimes Media | @natwaz

A new nail salon is coming to Niles, despite concerns over a shortage of parking space.

The Village Board on Aug. 27 granted a special-use permit for a manicure business to set up shop at 8206 W. Oakton St. in a multi-tenant building currently occupied by Yogli Mogli and a picture framing store.

The applicant, Cynthia Atuna, of Chicago, anticipates having five workstations in her leased 1,000 square-foot space.

The village’s zoning ordinance requires 15 parking spots for a nail salon of her size. A retail store in the same space, on the other hand, would only need parking for four.

But the commercial shopping center only has 22 off-street stalls, 17 of which are required for the ice cream store.

Though an insufficient amount of on-site parking might result in patrons leaving their cars on nearby residential streets, the Planning Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals recommended the village allow the new business into town.

Atuna observed Yogli Mogli’s peak hours to be in the evening; she anticipates accepting appointments up to 6 p.m.

She said her own third-party parking analysis found there would be a minimal overlap of customers between the businesses.

Trustee Rosemary Palicki disagreed, noting residents are already expressing issues with parking in the area.

She suggested restricting the salon’s closing time to 6 p.m. instead of the proposed 7 p.m.

“I think that one hour would make a difference to the residents there,” Palicki said.

The board split 3-3 on limiting the manicure business’ hours of operation, with Palicki, Joe LoVerde and Danette O’Donovan Matyas voting in favor of the amendment. Mayor Andrew Przybylo broke the tie by voting “no,” allowing the salon to stay open later.

Officials later approved Atuna’s request.

Przybylo called the move a step in the right direction.

“I don’t believe (parking) is going to be that impactful,” he said.
CRIME BRIEFS

PROPERTY DAMAGE

A 39-year-old Niles woman told police that on the morning of Sept. 7 the driver of another vehicle exited his car at a stop light at Waukegan Road and Oakton Street and threw a water bottle at her vehicle, denting the driver's side door. According to police, the woman said the driver had cut her off in traffic earlier.

DISPUTE

Police were called to a home on the 8400 block of Bruce Drive on Sept. 6 after a 54-year-old woman said she got into an argument with her husband because he had contacted a former girlfriend on Facebook. Police said the woman was intoxicated and she was cited for the cost of emergency services.

Police were contacted on the morning of Sept. 3 after a woman reported that, after an argument, her husband left a party intoxicated and threatened to jump into traffic and kill himself. Police located the man near Dempster and Root streets where he reportedly denied saying he wanted to kill himself. The man took a cab to a friend's home, police said.

A 45-year-old woman was accused of harassing her son's girlfriend on Sept. 8 while she was working inside a store at Golf Mill Shopping Center. When the woman's sons arrived to take her home, she reportedly called 911. She was subsequently banned from the property by Golf Mill security, police said.

A gas-powered water pump was stolen overnight between Sept. 8 and Sept. 9 from a garage on the 8400 block of Osceola Avenue. A generator was also moved, but not taken, and a bicycle that did not belong to the homeowner was discovered in the driveway, police said.

Three laptop computers were stolen overnight between Sept. 9 and Sept. 10 from a business on the 6200 block of Howard Street. A window was discovered broken on the west side of the building, police said.

A package containing a dress valued at approximately $640 was reported stolen Sept. 10 from the porch of a home on the 7000 block of Carol Avenue.

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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.

POLICE BLOTTER

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

Alfred Figueroa, 27, of 2535 N. 73rd Ave., Elmwood Park, was charged with driving under the influence, improper lane usage and driving without his license present on Sept. 7. He was taken into custody at Octavia Avenue and Mulford Street at 3 a.m. following a traffic stop after police said he was driving erratically. He has an Oct. 11 court date.

WARRANT

Angkhon Souvongkham, 35, of 1706 N. Kedzie Ave., Chicago, was taken into custody on an Illinois Department of Corrections parole warrant on Sept. 7 after police responded to a complaint on the 6800 block of Oakton Street at 6:20 a.m. According to police, a witness reported seeing a man, later identified as Souvongkham, lunging at cars in the middle of the street. Souvongkham denied lunging at vehicles in the street, police said. He was turned over to the custody of the Illinois Department of Corrections.

RETAIL THEFT

Kristina Grillas, 27, of 9009 Golf Rd., unincorporated Maine Township, was charged with retail theft on Sept. 10 after she allegedly stole two purses and two wallets valued at $148 from a store at Golf Mill Shopping Center. She has an Oct. 9 court date.

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Next Performance: Sunday, September 22nd at 1pm
Cafe opens for dinner and drinks at 4:30pm.
Advance discounted tickets available at www.tempelfarms.com or buy them at the door before the performance.

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<th>2013 Performance Dates and Times</th>
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<tr>
<td>Matinee Performances: 1pm</td>
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Tickets

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- At the Door:
  - Adults/Veteran/Child:
    - Adult: $25/$20/$15
    - Veteran/Child: $30/$20/$20

The program begins with the youngest of the herd, young foals guided by their mothers and progresses through carriage driving, young stallion training and work on the long rein. See incredible flying horse movements in the Arts Above the Ground during which you can picture the partnership between humans and horses on the battlefield hundreds of years ago. The performance finishes with the Quadrille, an elegant choreographed four-horse ballet. All guests may visit the stables after the show.

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The first few weeks of school at Hynes Elementary and Golf Middle School have gone smoothly, especially considering teachers and staff only had four days to rebuild their classrooms before students returned on Sept. 4.

Morton Grove building inspectors granted access to Golf Middle School on Friday, Aug. 30, and to Hynes School on Saturday, Aug. 31. Superintendent Beth Flores said teachers brought family and friends to help carry desks, furniture and boxes.

"Students deserve a warm, organized environment," said Anne Moss, a fifth grade teacher at Golf Middle School. "They like seeing their names on desks and bulletin boards, and knowing they're part of this school. I didn't want them to come into class and find stacks of boxes."

District 67 passed an $8 million capital referendum earlier this year and completed most of the work throughout the summer. Major improvements include new air conditioners, boilers, ductwork, plumbing, sprinklers and secured entrances.

Both schools have new foyers that require visitors to talk with a receptionist through a window before getting buzzed into the main office. The foyers do have doors to the main hallways for student entry when busses arrive, but Flores said the thick doors are mostly locked and impenetrable.

"I've always said that secretaries are our first line of defense," Flores said. "Now they have some help in screening our visitors."

In addition to the new vents, many of the classrooms also got new floors and motion sensors attached to the lights.

The multipurpose room at Golf Middle School, which is used for gym classes and extra curricular activities, got a new $33,564 floor as well. The Morton Grove Park District contributed toward that expense, because after-school programming is allowed in that room.

Golf Middle School's main gym received extensive work, as it's now air conditioned and the ceiling and lighting above the theater stage was replaced.

"We used to have block windows that didn't let much light into the gym and usually leaked when it rained," physical education teacher Kevin Atwood said. "There was also an exhaust fan that was loud. That's gone, and our new windows let natural light bounce off our freshly-painted white walls. It's a much better environment for the kids."

Lockers in the PE locker rooms were also replaced, and the old showers were removed to create a new storage room and renovated bathrooms.

Most noticeably, the new 6,400 square-foot new gymnasium at Hynes School is still under construction and expected to open in January. Approximately 60 percent of the masonry work is completed and the structure should be enclosed soon, according to facilities manager Russ Jensen.

Once finished, Golf Middle School's basketball teams will play their home games in the new gym at Hynes School.

As for the rest of both schools, Jensen said several small tasks remain, but he's mostly reviewing checklists with contractors before sending the final payments.

"We're scrutinizing all the budgets to make sure we've got what we need and at a value we want," Jensen said. "You have to look at it like we're spending money out of our own pockets. We want the taxpayers to get the best bang for their buck, since this referendum was a privilege."

Jensen was hired in early August to oversee construction on behalf of the district, and then learn about all the new equipment and properly train the regular building staff on how to use it. Flores knew Jensen from a previous job and advocated for his hiring to keep construction crews accountable.

"I myself am new, Golf's principal is new and we have a few new board members, and none of us were here when this process started," Flores said. "We're coming in at the 11th hour and obviously want to do a good job. So far, things are looking up."
District 67 families toast new school year

BY BRIDGET O'SHEA
boshea@pioneerlocal.com | @OSheaBridget

Dozens of families in Morton Grove and Niles spent their afternoon at the National Park Field House Sept. 8 to get reacquainted with the routines that come with the beginning of the school year.

After a late start to the year as a result of several construction projects, the District 67 PTA organized an ice cream social for district families complete with a craft table, face painting and a DJ.

“We try to have a welcome back bash every year,” said PTA president Ilana McKittrick. “We try to welcome new parents and give them a sense of our community.”

Golf District 67 includes Hynes Elementary School and Golf Middle School.

As most of the children at the event played outside, several stayed in serving lemonade and taking donations.

“We’re raising money for Alex’s Lemonade Stand,” said Patty Puetz, a member of the PTA. Puetz said it was originally her grade-school daughter who came up with the idea to sell lemonade.

“Our goal is to raise $400,” she said.

Kids served lemonade to raise money for cancer charity Alex’s Lemonade Stand at District 67’s back-to-school bash. [PHOTO COURTESY OF PATTY PUETZ]

Puetz said the ice cream for the event was provided by Culver’s.

“We had vanilla with red sprinkles, because those are our district colors, red and white,” she said.

Beth Flores, Superintendent for Golf District 67, said she’s happy to get back to school after a later-than-usual start on Sept. 4.

“We started school late because of the construction on our building, so this is the first weekend of the school year,” said Flores.

“Everyone is happy to be back in school.”

We want Scary stories!

Pioneer Press is accepting entries for the annual Scary Story Contest for children in the third, fourth and fifth grades.

The rules are simple:

• Stories should be no longer than 350 words and must be typed.
• Stories must include: The child’s name, home address and telephone number; the child’s grade level; and the name and address of the child’s school. If any of this information is missing, the entry will be disqualified. The child’s address and telephone number will not be published; they will be used only to notify winners.
• Entries must be original creations. They cannot include characters or plots from movies, television shows or books, or be a dream sequence. Such entries will be disqualified.
• Artwork is welcome, and although no prizes will be awarded, we will publish some of the best artwork.
• Prizes will be given for the winners in first, second and third place in each grade level.
• Judges’ choices for the top three stories in each grade level, as well as some submitted drawings, will be printed in our Oct. 31 editions.

Deadline to submit entries is 5 p.m. Monday, Oct. 14. Entries should be emailed to scarystories@pioneerlocal.com.

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VILLAGE BOARD BRIEFS

The following were some of the items discussed and/or action was taken on at the Village of Niles board of trustees meeting Aug. 27.

Family services director hired

Officials unanimously approved Anthony Hollebeck as the village's new family services director.

Hollebeck is a licensed clinical social worker with over 20 years of management and behavioral health experience. He most recently served as director of the Healing Center of Chicago and an adjunct professor at Dominican University.

He was one of the 35 applicants who applied for the vacant post following the termination of former chief Seth Knobel in February due to "questionable business practices."

Hollebeck assumed the post Aug. 19 with an annual salary of $90,000.

Member appointed to IT committee

Mayor Andrew Przybylo appointed Camer "Cammy" Fortuna to the new general government and information technology committee.

In this volunteer capacity, Fortuna joins trustee George Alpogianis, Village Manager Steven Vinezeano, and IT Director Bill Shaw as voting members.

The panel is one of six standing committees charged with advising government leaders, reviewing village code, and supporting ongoing projects of various departments.

Przybylo credited Fortuna's "vast knowledge of management and computers and service" and "love for Niles" as the reasons for his selection. He also noted Fortuna worked at his family's White Eagle Banquet Hall.

Fortuna, who lives in Glenview, is in the midst of restoring her childhood home in Niles in order to move back to the village, the mayor said.

Discussion deferred on term limit referenda

The village board denied a request by trustee Rosemary Palicki to hold a special session Sept. 10 in order to address the outcome of two conflicting referenda passed in the spring.

Voters responded positively to a question on the April election ballot that would limit service on the village board to a total of 16 years.

A second referendum, put forth by the village and also supported by voters, revised an ordinance to allow trustees to serve a maximum of three full terms, equal to 12 years, and to limit the mayor to two full terms in office, or eight years.

Village Attorney Joe Annunzio noted he had consulted with outside legal counsel about the village's options for remedying the conflicting language.

Officials agreed to pick up the matter at the end of the month during a regularly scheduled meeting.

Chamber of Commerce recognized Sept. 9-13

Niles joined the State of Illinois in designating the second week of September as Chamber of Commerce Week.

"We realize, more than ever, that businesses need a chamber of commerce and its resources, and we continue to strengthen our organization, strengthen our local businesses, and strengthen our local economy," said Katie Schneider, executive director of the Niles Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

The local chamber represents over 400 businesses and organizations in the area.

U.S. Constitution celebrated

Przybylo proclaimed the week of Sept. 17-23 as Constitution Week in recognition of the 226th anniversary of the drafting of the Constitution of the United States. The proclamation, presented to Daughters of the American Revolution member Jeanette Frye, encourages citizens "to reaffirm the ideals of the Constitution by vigilantly protecting and defending the freedoms guaranteed to us through this guardian of our liberties."

Next board meeting scheduled

The next Niles Village Board meeting will be held Sept. 24 at 7 p.m. at Village Hall, 1000 Civic Center Drive.

Go from plane to plane in the fast lane.

Porter's hub, Toronto City Airport, isn't merely new; it's also incredibly compact, so catching flights is always a snap. It means that you'll be in and out an on your way – full speed ahead.

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Join us for our Anniversary OPEN HOUSE
September 19-21*
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- Club access
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HELP SQUAD

Low inventory housing stock could mean quick sale for your home

HELP SQUAD
BY JACKIE PILOSSOPH

Thinking of moving right now? Maybe you feel your family needs more space.
Or the opposite, you just dropped off your last child at college and you're now an empty nester.
Or, you fortuitously spotted a house you adore and there's a “for sale” sign in the yard.
If you're thinking of putting your home on the market, this is the time to do it, according to suburban real estate expert, Missy Jerfita.
"What I’m seeing right now is it's definitely a sellers' market," Jerfita said. "There is very little inventory out there."
According to Realtor.com, the number of homes listed in Chicago and the 'burbs is down almost 8.5 percent from last year at this time, which I interpret as slim pickin's!
If you're a seller, that's great, but if you're buying as well, you could find yourself either in bidding wars, settling for a home out of desperation, or the worst one, ending up with no place to live.
With the help of Jerfita, I composed a list of tips for buyers and sellers:

SELLERS:

1. The first impression of a home is its yard. So, it's got to have curb appeal, which means the landscaping needs to be clean and neat, the lawn mowed and edged, and the bushes trimmed. Jerfita said she's had clients who have pulled up to a home, and because of their dislike of the outside, immediately dismissed it, and wouldn't even go inside.
2. De-clutter and de-personalize the home. It should be "Q-tip clean" and free of any bad smell that includes dogs, smoke or food, with the exception of freshly baked cookies. Put away picture frames and knick-knacks. The potential buyer wants to picture their family there, not yours.
3. Invest a little money in having carpets cleaned and paint touched up.
4. When showing the home, the blinds should be open and all the lights should be turned on.
5. Price the home right. According to Jerfita, this is the most important tip. Look at the comparables, also known as the "comp values" of homes that have sold in your neighborhood in the last three months, and price similarly. If it's priced right, it will sell quickly. If it's priced too high, it will sit.

BUYERS:

1. If you like a house, before you make an offer, make sure you get comp values to find out if it's priced fairly.
2. Before closing on the home, get an inspection. However, beware. Sometimes an inspector can turn out to be an alarmist, meaning he or she will make a big deal of something that isn't a big deal, such as a cracked tile or a slow drain. According to Jerfita, the purpose of inspections is for safety and for structural issues, not for cosmetic things or imperfections.
3. Get a radon gas test during the inspection. Radon testing detects if there is any radon gas coming from the ground below your home. If there is, it's a simple solution to fix, and safer for your family.
4. Buy smart. Think long term. Will I be able to sell this in 5 years or 10 years? In that regard, location is extremely important.
5. If you get into a multiple bid situation, think carefully and pick a final number, meaning figure out the highest you are willing to pay. Then, you have to be OK with losing it. Give it your best shot, and if you're going to kick yourself for not going up a couple thousand dollars, then go up, but no more than that.

Is it better to buy first or to sell first? Even in this market, Jerfita feels it's better to sell first because you have more negotiating power. Then again, if the seller knows you're already sold your home, that gives them an edge.
WALK RIGHT IN
Shop the world's largest collection of premier boutiques for home building and renovation.

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This information is an advertisement. It is provided by the Chicago law firm of Hurley McKenna & Mertz, 33 N. Dearborn St., Suite 1430, Chicago, Illinois 60602, (312) 553-4900, whose attorneys are licensed to practice in Illinois.
Local renters out of control

There appears to be no control over people living in rental homes in Morton Grove. I have observed these renters ignoring laws for things like dog licenses, cutting the grass, and village stickers. Absentee landlords are not monitoring their properties checking on things, like the number of occupants. The police will only intervene if they suspect some crime is taking place. There should be regulations enforced on occupancy and cars clogging up our streets. The police will only intervene if they suspect some crime is taking place. There should be regulations enforced on occupancy and cars clogging up our streets.

Even if permanent residents complain about congestion and violations of village codes, the police are reluctant to intervene. Even if permanent residents complain about congestion and violations of village codes, the police are reluctant to intervene. Residents need more assistance from the village government to control these temporary residents, who don't seem to think it is important to follow village codes.

Sherwin Dubren
Morton Grove

LET US HEAR FROM YOU

Send your letters to the editor to News Producer Ben Meyerson at bmeyerson@pioneerlocal.com or mail to Niles Herald-Spectator, 350 N. Orleans, Chicago, IL 60654.

Keep letters to 250 words or fewer. Niles Herald-Spectator reserves the right to edit letters for length, clarity and content. All letters must be signed to be published.
Give me a roll — hold the pretzel

You only got one?" 

"Yep. Why didn't you get one for yourself?"

Don't like 'em. The subject is pretzel rolls. I bought one for my wife to have with dinner tonight. She likes pretzel rolls. A lot of people like them. I don't.

Food should taste like what it is. Though I love steak and chocolate eclairs, I don't want my steak to taste like an eclair.

Same for pretzels.

When I want a pretzel, I eat a pretzel. When I want a roll, I eat a roll. I don't want a pretzel that simulates a roll, or a roll that simulates a pretzel.

There are more and more such needless pairings and simulations in food these days. The most frequent is the use of bacon in everything. I've been seeing TV commercials lately for bacon-flavored lunchmeats. Why would you want various kinds of cold cuts to taste like bacon? If you want the taste of bacon, why not just eat bacon?

And it's difficult these days to buy a hamburger that doesn't come with bacon plopped on top. Bacon gives a burger a greasy, slick, fatty taste and consistency. I say this as a bacon lover. The BLT is the best sandwich ever invented by the human race. And what's better in the morning than bacon and a couple of fried eggs?

Just don't put the bacon on the burger.

Further, stop stirring bits of candy and cookies into ice cream. Fruit and nuts are the only complementary ice cream ingredients. Oh, for a pint of Ben and Jerry's strawberry ice cream! Hold the Oreo and Heath bars.

Unfortunately, simulation not only is found in food, but in our society at large.

We have politicians who prefer to call themselves public servants, even though it is apparent they do not serve the public. They listen only to special interests and serve only the furtherance of their own careers.

We have corporate owners and managers who claim to be job creators, when it is clear that all they wish to create is more personal wealth.

Yes, it's confusing to be an American consumer and citizen. Things aren't always what they seem to be, or what they ought to be.

The price of American citizenship is vigilance.

And go easy on the bacon.
**Pioneer Press Mortgage Guide**

Check rates daily at [http://suburbanchicagonewspapers.interest.com](http://suburbanchicagonewspapers.interest.com)

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**Free Home Valuations:** Call Bob Betts today.

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**APR:** Adjusted for 20% down.

**Source:** Bankrate.com

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**7856 Waukegan Road, Niles**

**House size:** 1,184 square feet

**Lot size:** 5,904 square feet

**Year built:** 1956

**Bedrooms:** 3

**Bathrooms:** 2

**Garage:** Two-car detached

**Property tax:** $4,249.72 (2012)

**Exterior:** Brick

**School districts:** Niles Central School District 71 and Niles Township Community High School District 219

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**CADA*GUN*SHOW**

The St Charles, IL CADA Gun Show will be held at the DuPage Expo and is hosted by the C&R Sport Show Promotions of Illinois.

**Admission:** $8.00

Saturday September 28th, 9:00am - 5:00pm

Sunday September 29th, 9:00am - 2:00pm

**DUPAGE EXPO CENTER**

4050 E Main St., Saint Charles, IL 60174

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**Pioneer Press CD & Deposit Guide**

**Yields Available to Greater Illinois Area Residents**

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**LENDERS, MAXIMIZE YOUR VISIBILITY! TO ADVERTISE IN THIS FEATURE, CALL 800-509-6043**
PROPERTY TRANSFERS

BY WRAPPORTS NEWS SERVICE

EDITOR'S NOTE: Content appears as it is provided in public records.

Niles
7706 N Neva Ave: Slawomir Szymanski, Monika Szymanska and Tadeusz Wiktora to Charles E Behrens and Cathy A Behrens for $285,000 on July 29
7740 N Davis St: Jack Younkin to Senadin Shaheen Akbar for $155,000 on July 29
6616 Hazel St: Geoff Pandev and Dragana Kocera for $230,000 on Aug. 1
7162 W Greenleaf Ave: Joyce Ferdinand to Xiaomeng Yan and Jian Li for $310,000 on July 31

Morton Grove
6618 Hazel St: Shaheen Akbar to Geoff W Woodhouse and Dianne M Woodhouse for $230,000 on Aug. 1
7408 Davis St: Jack Younkin to Senadin Shaheen Akbar for $230,000 on July 29

Run, Don't Walk
Visit The Lamp Shader This Fall to Experience a New Collection of Shades, Lamps and Accessories

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NILES
THURSDAY, SEPT. 19

Niles Songwriters’ Group
7 p.m.: A group of singer-songwriters who play for fun and feedback, or just for fun. New songwriters and their acoustic instruments are always welcome to join. Niles Public Library District, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles. Call 847-663-664.

SUBMIT YOUR EVENT
To submit an event for consideration in print, visit www.pioneervalocal.com-submit-content and click the "Events" tab on the left side of the screen. Please submit the event no later than 10 days prior to the desired publication date.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 21
Low Vision Fair
10 a.m.: Six north suburban Chicago public libraries are collaborating on the annual Low Vision Fair, which features a speaker on care and treatment of low vision disorders, glaucoma screenings by Glenbrook Hospital Eye and Vision Center, vendors from companies who produce assistive devices and representatives of supportive service agencies serving those with low vision. Dr. Jack Cohen will give a lecture titled "Current Concepts in Dry and Wet Macular Degeneration." 11 a.m. as the centerpiece of the fair. The event’s chief host is the North Suburban Low Vision Consortium. Light refreshments will be served. Flu shots will also be available, provided by Mayor, Niles Senior Center, 599 Civic Center Drive, Niles. Call 847-965-4220. Free.

Anime & Manga Club
2 p.m.: Watch and discuss anime and manga, as well as build fandom-inspired crafts. Niles Public Library District, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles. Call 847-663-664.

SUNDAY, SEPT. 22
Fifth Annual International Celebration
2 p.m.: Enjoy an international extravaganza featuring dance performances from around the world and a complimentary food tasting sponsored by local restaurants. Feldman Recreation Center, 8800 W. Kathy Lane, Niles.

MONDAY, SEPT. 23
Book Discussion
7 p.m.: A group will discuss "Mourning Hours" by Paula Treick DeBoard. Niles Public Library District, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles. Call 847-663-664.

TUESDAY, SEPT. 24
‘Othello’ Lyric Opera Lecture
7 p.m.: Docents of the award-winning Education Corps lecture on Verdi and the performances while sharing recorded excerpts. The opera, which captures the essence of Shakespeare’s tragedy, brings new dimension to the story of Othello, the Moor of Venice, who’s worshipped for his prowess at war, beloved by his gentle wife Desdemona and despised by his supposedly loyal enmies. Niles Public Library District, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles. Call 847-663-1234.

HAPPENING NEARBY
THURSDAY, SEPT. 19
Storytime for 2s
9:30 a.m.: Stories and songs for 2 year olds and an adult. A second session is held at 10 a.m. Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge. Call 847-826-9023.

Book Discussion: ‘House of Stone’
10 a.m.: The late journalist traces the story of his family’s efforts to rebuild an ancestral home in Lebanon amid political strife and how the work enabled a greater understanding of the emotions behind Middle East turbulence. Discussion materials are available on the book display located near the library’s south entrance. Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove. Free.

LITTLE TOTES PLAYGROUP
11 a.m.: Free play for ages 2-4 with a parent or caregiver. Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge. Call 847-825-3123.

Little Tykes Play Group
11 a.m.: A play group for children 2-4 years old. A parent or caregiver must attend. Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge. Call 847-826-9023.

Travel Film: Alabama
2 p.m.: Tour the beautiful attractions of this southern state. Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge. Call 847-826-9023.

Film: ‘The Great Gatsby’

Art Class
4 p.m.: Children grades 2-6 are welcome to drop in for an art class taught by the staff from Brickton Art Center. Registration begins Saturday, September 7. Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge. Call 847-826-9023.

Golf Outing

FRIDAY, SEPT. 20
Baubles, Bangles and Beads Rummage Sale
9 a.m.: The sale features jewelry, purses, scarves and other accessories. Funds raised will benefit local, regional and global mission projects. Runs 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Sept. 20-21. First United Methodist Church, 418 W. Touhy Ave., Park Ridge.

Friday Morning Coffee Club: ‘Mount Rushmore’
10 a.m.: Drink coffee and learn about the creation of the four American Presidents’ faces carved into the side of a cliff, in this documentary. Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge. Call 847-826-9023.

Healing Our Losses
10 a.m.: A support group for adults who have lost a spouse, partner or significant other within the past year. Registration required. American Legion Memorial Civic Center, 6140 W. Dempster St., Morton Grove. Call 847-963-3072.

4th & 5th Grade Back to School Bash
7 p.m.: This party, sponsored by the Skokie Park District, features a guest DJ, games, pizza, juice and more. Plenty of supervision will be offered. Advance registration is required. Park Ridge, 4701 W. Oakton St., Skokie. Call 847-674-4500. $7-$8.

Skokie Chamber Breakfast Club
7:30 a.m.: Moderated by Catherine Johns, these meetings offer each attendee a chance to speak about their business, network with over 40 other professional community members, and interactively learn about monthly business topics. The cost covers breakfast. Hampton Inn & Suites, 3201 Old Orchard Road, Skokie. Call 847-673-0240. $12-$15.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 21
Twice As Nice Moms Fall Resale
8 a.m.: The sale includes gently used and like-new clothing for ages newborn to 8+, shoes and boots, coats, holiday clothing, maternity clothing and items, baby equipment and gear, books, toys and much more. Brings a laundry basket or bag (please no strollers) for easier shopping. Park Ridge Presbyterian Church, 1300 W. Crescent Ave., Park Ridge. $3.

Morton Grove Farmers Market
8 a.m.: All items are home-grown, handmade or vendor-created from locally-owned operations. Market Grounds, 6201 Dempster St., Morton Grove. Call 847-750-6436.

Run Back to School Fun Run for Kids
8 a.m.: GCCNS will hold its 6th Annual Run Back to School Kids Fun Run, open to children of crawling age up to age 10. The race course will be on Prairie Street between Elm and Spruce streets in Glenview, directly behind the preschool. Distances will range from the Diaper Dash for crawlers up to a quarter mile for 8-10 year olds. The first 150 registered runners ages 2 and up will receive a race T-shirt, race number, goodie bag and medal. Glenview Community Church Nursery School, 1000 8th St., Glenview. Call 847-729-1440. $15 individuals; $40 for a family of three or more.

Fall Arts & Crafts Adventure
9 a.m.: The American Society of Artists is seeking artists to be part of this 23rd annual event. For more information, visit www.americansocietyofartists.org.

SEE CALENDAR, NEXT PAGE »
CALENDAR


Job Hunting on the Internet
10 a.m.: Learn how to use the tools available on the Internet to benefit your job search. Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge. Call 847-825-3123.

Touch-a-Truck
10 a.m.: Toddlers and children can check out some of the Skokie area's coolest trucks. A parent should plan on being present. Oakton Park, 4701 W. Oakton St., Skokie.

ACT Prep Exam
Noon: Take a free ACT practice exam. Scores will be provided before you leave. Calculators are not provided. Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge. For more information, call 847-825-3123.

The Smarty Pants Big Balloon Circus Show
2 p.m.: The Amazing Smarty Pants will craft balloons into astounding sculptures and larger-than-life balloon art. Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove. For more information, call 847-929-5102.

National Gymnastics Day
2:30 p.m.: For more information, contact Cindy Morano at cmorano@mortongroveparks.com or at 847-965-1200. Niles West High School, 5701 Oakton St., Skokie.

SUNDAY, SEPT. 22

Skokie Farmers Market
7:30 a.m.: Vendors from Illinois, Indiana, Wisconsin and Michigan converge upon Skokie for this weekly market, held through October. Closes around 12:45 p.m. Village Green Park, 5201 Oakton St., Skokie. Call 847-933-8223.

'This Unstoppable Secular Student: Changing the Public Discourse on Religion'
10:30 a.m.: August Brunsman, the Executive Director of the Secular Student Alliance, will discuss civic engagement and activism among secular youths. Ethical Humanist Society, 7574 Lincoln Ave., Skokie. Call 847-677-3334.

Lyric Opera Profile: 'Otelto'
2 p.m.: Rochelle Klapman discusses Giuseppe Verdi’s musical interpretation of Shakespeare’s tragedy, the story of Othello, the Moor of Venice, who is admired for his prowess at war but despised by his supposedly loyal ensign, Iago. Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove. Call 847-965-4220.

FLOWER SHOW
Monday, Sept. 23

Teddy Bear Time
9:30 a.m.: Stories, songs and fingerplays for ages 2-4 months with an adult. Siblings welcome. Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge. Call 847-825-3123.

MGPL Kids: Meet Officer Friendly
10:30 a.m.: Officer Patrick Mallaney from the Morton Grove Police Department will demonstrate safety tips. For ages 2-6; registration required. Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove. Call 847-929-5102.

Music and Movement Storytime
1:30 p.m.: Open to all ages for a little bit of music and movement with the stories. Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge. Call 847-825-3123.

Teen Creative Writers Club

Film: 'We Steal Secrets: The Story of Wikileaks'
6:30 p.m.: The film details the creation of Julian Assange's controversial website, which facilitated the largest security breach in U.S. history. Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove. Call 847-965-4220.

TUESDAY, SEPT. 24

Baby Bounce

Storytime for 4s & 5s

Film: 'Becoming Jane'
11:30 a.m.: The young Jane Austen (Anne Hathaway) attempts to begin her literary career as she meets the mischievous Thomas Lefroy, who shows up and turns her world around. 120 minutes. Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove. Call 847-965-4220.

FRIDAY, SEPT. 27

'Phoenix Rising: A Broadway Revue'
9 p.m.: Produced by Phoenix Rising Chicago. Gorilla Tango Skokie, 7924 Lincoln Ave., Skokie. Call 847-677-7781. $15.
Mortenson Construction presents
BLOOD, SWEAT & TEARS
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Highland Park, IL

LOCATION
Highland Park High School
433 Vine Ave, Highland Park

TIME
Registration opens at 6:30 am
Start from 7:00 - 9:00 am
Family fun ride registration/start anytime between 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

DISTANCES
Choose from 5 (family fun ride), 20, 45, 62 or 100 (century) miles. Training program available through The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's Team In Training.

EDITORS NOTE: Content appears as it is provided in public records. To see all Niles building permits, visit niles.suntimes.com.

1 Driveway
Address: 7614 N Nora Ave., Niles
Issue date: June 5
Permit cost: $40
Construction cost: $1,200

2 Patio/flatwork
Address: 7746 N Octavia Ave., Niles
Issue date: June 5
Permit cost: $40
Construction cost: $3,250

3 Flood control
Address: 7617 N Oketo Ave., Niles
Issue date: June 3
Permit cost: $80
Construction cost: $7,676

4 Flood control
Address: 7657 N Oketo Ave., Niles
Issue date: June 7
Permit cost: $120
Construction cost: $6,500

5 Fence
Address: 7928 N Oconto Ave., Niles
Issue date: June 7
Permit cost: $27
Construction cost: $2,400

6 Flood control
Address: 7917 N Nordica Ave., Niles
Issue date: June 3
Permit cost: $25
Construction cost: $1,000

7 Fire Protection
Address: 7424 W Lawler Ave., Niles
Issue date: June 3
Permit cost: $80
Construction cost: $2,766

8 Fence
Address: 7911 N Oak Park Ave., Niles
Issue date: June 5
Permit cost: $45
Construction cost: $2,766

9 Fence
Address: 7971 N Nordica Ave., Niles
Issue date: June 3
Permit cost: $25
Construction cost: $1,000

10 Steps/stoops
Address: 7201 W Keeney St., Niles
Issue date: June 4
Permit cost: $80
Construction cost: $3,500

11 Sewer repair/clean out
Address: 7800 N Oleander Ave., Niles
Issue date: June 3
Permit cost: $40
Construction cost: $2,600
Amling Cycle is no ordinary bike shop. For starters, the bicycles they sell don't look like "regular" bikes. Their seats look more like chairs. The pedals are located at the front, at the top of a long pole. There are no handlebars — instead, the riders steer using the handles on the side of the seats. And, in probably the most jarring difference of all, those bikes don't require riders to lean forward — if anything, the design encourages them to sit back and relax.

They’re called recumbent cycles, and Amling specializes in them. When Joe Reichert took over the long-running Niles bike shop, he decided to specialize in recumbent bicycles and tricycles. This type of bike is primarily geared toward individuals who have trouble using ordinary bikes due to age or disability. A life-long biking enthusiast, Reichert aims to make biking possible for anyone who comes through his door. And as the economy starts to rebound, the store is preparing to broaden its inventory to attract new customers.

Amling Cycle has been around since 1967. The Amling family owned it until 1999, when they decided to sell it off. Reichert became an owner thanks to serendipity. He was looking into buying a campground when he saw Amling's "for sale" ad. As a life-long biking enthusiast, Reichert knew that he couldn't pass that up. He knew from the get-go that he didn't want it to remain an ordinary bike shop.

"When I bought it, it was to bring recumbent bikes to the masses," said Reichert. "Most bike shops don't want to deal with them. They need different tools, different skills.”

Once he took over, Amling slowly transitioned to a recumbent-centric shop. He only sold seven recumbents his first year as an owner, but the number has been climbing ever since.

Because Amling is the only recumbent bike shop in the northwestern suburbs, the store gets clients from all across the Chicago area. Many of them are referred by other bike shops.

Many recumbent buyers are individuals who are either retired or are reaching retirement age. Their medical issues make it harder for them to use conventional "upright" bikes, and they're often looking for something that they can keep moving with. Many of them biked when they were younger and are looking to get back into it, but aren't sure if they can.

"Many [of our customers] thought they'd never bike again," said Reichert. "We get them back on the road."

Amling offers a wide variety of recumbent bicycles and tricycles. If none of the models quite fit, the store mechanics can adjust the features to suit the customers' needs.

"Folks come in, we put them on different bikes, get them what's right for them," said Reichert. "We really try to go above and beyond."

While Amling only sells recumbents, it will repair recumbent and upright models alike. It sells accessories for both types.

Like many businesses, Amling's overall profits took a hit during the economic downturn. But over the past few years, its numbers have recovered, to the point where 2012 had the shop's highest sales in the last two decades.

The numbers were helped by the weather — which can make a huge difference to a bike shop. "Last year, because of the long spring, the sales were fantastic," said Reichert. "This year, we had a lot of rain, and fell a bit behind. But we were still ahead of 2011."

Earlier this year, Reichert joined the Nile Multi-Modal Plan Steering Committee. This all-volunteer committee is charged with developing the village's Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan.

Reichert insisted that he's on the committee to help improve biking for Niles residents. While those improvements could benefit Amling Cycle, he doubts they would have any significant impact on sales.

"If there are more people riding bikes, we might sell a few more recumbents," said Reichert. "But we're not going to sell tons of bikes."
Fighting vasculitis right up the alley for bowlers

BY KARIE ANGELL LOC
For Sun-Times Media

vasculitis is a condition that is not well known. However, awareness and open discussion about vasculitis have helped patients connect with other families facing similar symptoms and challenges.

Supporters of these education efforts gathered for an evening of fun at the first annual Vasculitis Foundation "Rally in the Alley" at the Brunswick Zone in Deerfield on Aug. 15. More than 200 bowlers took part in the cosmic games, and the event raised more than $21,000 for the Foundation.

"The purpose of tonight is really to raise awareness and funds for the Vasculitis Foundation," said Jason Wadler, of Glencoe. He added that this first annual "Rally in the Alley" will become a national program next year with Brunswick's assistance.

Vasculitis is a term for a group of diseases that have in common the inflammation of blood vessels that can affect people of all ages and both genders. Some forms of vasculitis are life threatening, making early detection and treatment critical to avoid long-term damage or death.

Due to the difficulty of diagnosing vasculitis, it is believed to be more common than people realize.

Karen Hirsch, a 25-year Glenview resident, also a foundation board member, also attended. Her son Michael, 21, a Harvard University senior, has been diagnosed with vasculitis.

"It's a set of autoimmune diseases," explained Hirsch. "And what's inflamed — that's what 'itis' means — is any one of the blood vessels in the body, whether they be small blood vessels, medium or large."

The foundation advocates for early diagnosis and funds and partners with researchers worldwide to find the cause and cure for vasculitis.

"Every day brings hope and brings a little bit more information," Wadler said, adding that new drugs help manage the condition.

"If someone had this disease 30 years ago, the story is that 'Remember that person who had vasculitis? They died.' Back then, within five months of diagnosis, it was an 80 percent chance of mortality. A lot of progress has been made."

Visit www.vasculitisfoundation.org.

Bill Feldgreber of Buffalo Grove. (All photos Karie Angell Lucori/Sun-Times Media)

Jason Wadler of Glencoe (from left), Karen Hirsch of Glenview, Jen Grosse of Elmhurst and Cindy Webber of Wheaton, all board members.

Noah Schencker, 5, a Glencoe South School kindergartner, gets ready to bowl backwards.

Rosie Farrell of Deerfield (left) and Helen Simon of Northbrook, formerly a Deerfield resident for 33 years.
On the plus side, fashion shapes up

BY LYNN TAYLOR SCHWAAB
For Sun-Times Media

"When I'm working in the real world with real women and we're shopping, we find that fashion seems to end when you get any larger than a size 12. How ridiculous is that?"

So said Tim Gunn of Project Runway to the Huffington Post. He's right, but times are changing.

One designer bucking that trend is Shavonne Dorsey, a Chicago full-figured clothing designer, at shavonnedorsey.com. She declared, "Amazingly, 75 percent of American women wear a size 14 but less than 20 percent of retailers cater to these women. This is the opportunity that we have accepted and the challenge to provide beautiful garments for such deserving women," she said.

"Clearly, curves are here to stay and we will continue to dress them!"

She also believes that the full-figured women can embrace, love and appreciate their curves. Her designs speak to women who are confident, loving and fashionable — not focused on size. These women choose to be dramatically different and love a fresh approach to their look.

Curvy women look their best when they avoid clothes that are too tight, too loose and have too much volume. Tailored styles and defined waistlines create a classic, elegant look for any woman.

One of the best websites for plus size fashion is GabiFresh.com. Gabi Gregg, who now is also InStyle Magazine's Plus Size Contributor, started this blog in 2008 because of the lack of resources for younger, trendier women of size 14 and up. She felt like she needed to fill a void, she said. Asked what she'd tell plus-size women who are into fashion, she declared: "My biggest advice is to ignore fashion rules and wear what you think best expresses your style."

These days, you can find fashionable plus-size wear at Carson's (carsons.com). It's Ruff Hewn and Laura Ashley offer plus size lines that are exclusive to their stores, and include everything from tops to jeans to dresses to jackets. Other stores with plus size clothing are Macy's, Forever 21, Target, Talbots, Kohl's, Nordstrom and Lane Bryant.

So ladies, embrace your curves and go shopping!
Sparks fly for forever friends
Natalie Levendoski and Gary Bemachi

By RENEE LEE
riee@bouquetcatcher.com

iles native Natalie Levendoski and husband, Gary Bemachi, met 15 years ago while attending Maine South High School in Gary's hometown of Park Ridge. They've known each other just about half their lives.

"We've known each other forever," Natalie said. "He's my best friend."

The couple also car pooled to work every day for the past year. They work in the Kemper Lakes buildings in Lake Zurich — Natalie is a corporate trainer; Gary is an attorney.

They recently celebrated five years of being together on Aug. 15 and will soon celebrate their first wedding anniversary, likely with a stay at the Herrington Inn & Spa in Geneva where they honeymooned.

Though the couple attended high school together, knew each other through theatre and crew and were friends "back in the day," it wasn't until 2008 that something sparked when they reconnected with mutual high school friends. Looking back, Natalie said, it's pretty amazing that the people she called best friends in high school still remained her best friends half a life later.

When deciding where to tie the knot, the bride remembered hearing about Riverside Receptions in Geneva. Natalie managed a jewelry store for several years and recalled a couple talking about the unique venue. She and Gary knew they didn't want just a cookie-cutter banquet hall.

Natalie, a huge fan of red and the "retro '50s" look, made sure to include the color in their Nov. 3, 2012, wedding. She wore red Converse sneakers, a red shawl and eye-catching red lipstick.

The bride opted for a brooch bridal bouquet, including a collection of the jewelry pieces from friends and family. Natalie honored her grandmother who passed away a year earlier by using a cake topper originally from her 1953 wedding and a charm with her photo affixed to the bouquet.

Until recently, it just had been Natalie, Gary, their Labrador mix Molly, calico cat Mocha and long-haired cat Smokey together in their Hoffman Estates home. They recently received news they will be welcoming a baby girl in January.

Every wedding tells a story. Contact Renee Lee at rlee@bouquetcatcher.com or 312-651-6613 to share yours.
Kristi Schluckbier &
Jaron McCracken

Michigan native Kristi Schluckbier and Jaron McCracken, originally from southern Illinois, married at Salvage One in Chicago. The couple added some personal touches to their already unique wedding venue, mostly using Mason jars for added decor. Two weeks before their March 23 wedding, they got matching tattoos of their wedding date in Roman numerals on their forearms. They live in Chicago.

PHOTO PROVIDED BY
JENNIFER SHAFFER PHOTOGRAPHY

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630-978-8371
By Matthew Villanueva

If you are an outdoor cycling enthusiast, then you know the joy of riding on a low-traffic trail far away from the dangerous traffic of an urban center. Ozaukee County, located less than two hours' drive north of Chicago, boasts some of the best bike trails in Wisconsin and the entire Midwest. Starting from scenic Port Washington, you can access more than 30 miles of bike trails.

Lakefront trails
Biking along the shores of Lake Michigan offers a tranquil view of the water and the sandy beaches along the coast. During the summer, the lake breezes are especially refreshing. Start from the bandshell at Port Washington Harbor and you can ride along the shore to Harrington Beach State Park for a round trip of about 20 miles.

Inland trails
For a longer adventure, you can bike all the way from Port Washington to Random Lake, a round trip of more than 40 miles. This trail will take you down scenic country roads and quaint small-town streets. Don't start too early, though—most shops and restaurants in Random Lake don't open until 11 a.m.

The Ozaukee Interurban Trail
Following the historic railroad routes that connected the county to Milwaukee, the Ozaukee Interurban Trail is paved for more than 30 miles of scenic riding. Most of the trail is away from car traffic, making it perfect for beginning cyclists while still fun for experienced riders. The trail is intended for year-round use, and when it's too cold and snowy to bike, you can ride cross-country skis here.

The town of Port Washington is the perfect place to start your Wisconsin adventure. For more information about biking, boating, and fishing in the area, as well as lodging and dining, contact Port Washington Tourism at 800-719-4881.

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The Hiring Process: Five Things Candidates Are Saying Behind your Back

By: Jon Piccutt

"Your brand is what people say about you when you leave the room."

That's how Jeff Bezos, Founder and CEO of Amazon.com, defines company branding. It's the sum of all the impressions that you, or your business, leave on another person. And the real test of the quality of your brand identity is what people say to their friends, family and colleagues.

But there's another, equally important dimension to your brand strategy, and that's the employer component: what are current and prospective employees saying about your company?

Managing your employer brand is important since it influences your ability to attract and acquire talent. However, with job candidates frequently griping about recruiting processes that are devoid of basic professional courtesy and respect, it seems many businesses are neglecting this part of their brand strategy.

Here are five examples of common grievances that job candidates wouldn't dare reveal to you directly — grievances that have the potential to damage your brand strategy, along with tips on how to ensure that your applicants don't utter these same words:

"I still don't have a clue what I'd be doing in this job."

Many job descriptions focus more on what skills and experience the position requires, and less on the actual job responsibilities. Those that do detail job duties often do so in such a generic fashion, that they provide scant guidance as to what a typical day on the job involves.

Quick tip: Write your job description so the content addresses the candidate's (and not just the company's) information needs. Once the candidate pool is narrowed, give your finalists a chance to talk to and shadow an existing employee who is in a comparable position. They'll appreciate your transparency and the opportunity to hear what the job really entails from someone who's currently in the role.

"I can't get a straight answer from them."

Job candidates often feel strung along by prospective employers. One minute the hiring process is moving forward at breakneck speed; the next it comes to a complete standstill — yet the employer continues to reassure the candidate that everything is on track. Internal dynamics are often driving this equivocation: glitches in getting approval to hire, longer-than-anticipated candidate sourcing, an extended interview process, etc. But no matter how legitimate the back story is, the end result is a candidate who feels misled.

Quick tip: Reserve at least fifteen minutes before each scheduled interview to familiarize yourself with the candidate's background. Make a point of demonstrating to the person that you've reviewed their resume or application in advance.

"My time is as valuable as yours. Don't waste it."

Ever arrive late to interview a job candidate? You apologize and the candidate politely replies, "No problem; I understand you're busy." What candidates won't say to your face is that making them wait 20, 30 or more minutes is a personal affront to them. It sends a signal that you don't think their time is as valuable as yours.

Quick tip: Make a point of keeping scheduled interview times. If you're held up for some reason, have someone contact the candidate to advise of the delay and indicate how long you'll be.

"Here's an outrageous idea: How about reviewing my resume before the interview?"

Employers like candidates who demonstrate that they're organized and prepared — as evidenced during an interview by their knowledge of the company and the job, and the quality of questions they ask. But this expectation cuts both ways. When candidates encounter an interviewer who is obviously unprepared ("What job are you applying for again? Give me a minute to browse your resume..."), it sends a disturbing signal.

Quick tip: Reserve at least fifteen minutes before each scheduled interview to familiarize yourself with the candidate's background. Make a point of demonstrating to the person that you've reviewed their resume or application in advance.

"Thanks for following up with me as promised... NOT!"

It's so easy for those involved in the hiring process to make cavalier commitments ("You'll hear from us in the next two to three weeks"). Then three weeks go by and most candidates are greeted with... deafening silence. Promising to follow-up promptly is a great show of respect to the candidate. It's the follow-through, however, that's really needed to earn goodwill with your candidates.

Quick tip: Even if you don't have any news to share about the status of their candidacy, still follow-up with applicants when you promised. A phone call or e-mail just to say "you're still in the running and you'll hear from me again in [x] weeks" will leave candidates reassured and impressed.

The importance of understanding what candidates are saying behind your back (and addressing their criticisms) can't be overstated.

These days, when candidates do talk behind your back, they're usually shouting from the rooftops, thanks to various social media platforms, some of which were established precisely for the exchange of information about employers. A single, negative impression made by just one job applicant can easily turn into a broader, brand tarnishing incident.

Fortunately, you can put the candidate word-of-mouth dynamic to your advantage. All it requires is shaping a recruiting experience that's distinguished by its professionalism, respect and courtesy.

Do that and you're bound to have people talking behind your back. But this time around, they'll be singing your praises and pointing other candidates in your direction. That's what great branding is all about.
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**Further Information**

- **Contact:** Mr. T. Nauen, 175 North Franklin Street, Morton Grove, Illinois 60053, (708) 825-3000
- **Website:** www.service.pty.com
- **Email:** info@service.pty.com
- **Fax:** (708) 825-3010
- **Office Hours:** Monday to Friday, 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM

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- **Assessments:** $35,194.69
- **Legal Fees:** $1,000 or fraction thereof of the highest bid by certified funds, wire transfer, no checks to be accepted. The balance, in the event of the amount bid, the purchaser of the property will pay the assessments and the legal fees and costs required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). It is advisable that Plainsville's Attorney, Law Offices of T. Nauen, 175 North Franklin Street, Morton Grove, Illinois 60053, (708) 825-3000, call at 12:00 noon on November 27, 2013, to verify all information and to view the property.
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The Village of Skokie Notice to Bidders

The Village of Skokie, having obtained sealed bids for Fire Apparatus Refurbishment Notice No. 33-18433, hereby gives notice that the Village of Skokie will receive BIDS at the Village of Skokie, Illinois 60077 Attention: Michael McNamee, Purchasing Agent, until 10:00 a.m. local time on Wednesday, October 9, 2013. Such bids shall be opened and read aloud at 4:00 p.m. on October 9, 2013, at the Village of Skokie, Illinois 60077.

Public Notice is hereby given, pursuant to an Act in relation to the use of an Assumed Business Name in the conduct or transaction of Business of the owner(s) as specified below, that a certificate was filed by the undersigned with the County Clerk of Cook County, Illinois 60077, on September 9, 2013. Under the Assumed Name of

ASSUMED NAME: Alpha Beta LLC

ASSUMED NAME NOTICE is hereby given, pursuant to an Act in relation to the use of an Assumed Business Name in the conduct or transaction of Business in the State of Illinois, as amended, that a certificate was filed by the undersigned with the County Clerk of Cook County, Illinois 60077, on September 9, 2013. Under the Assumed Name of

ASSUMED NAME: Baby Face Sales Inc.

ASSUMED NAME: Baby Face Sales Inc. is hereby given, pursuant to an Act in relation to the use of an Assumed Business Name in the conduct or transaction of Business in the State of Illinois, as amended, that a certificate was filed by the undersigned with the County Clerk of Cook County, Illinois 60077, on September 9, 2013. Under the Assumed Name of

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ASSUMED NAME: Baby Face Sales Inc.
State of Illinois
In The Circuit Court of Cook County, Illinois

Case No. 13-251112-A

The plaintiff is attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be shared with credit reporting agencies.

If you have previously received a similar notice, you may also be subject to an order for the debt collection.

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GOING ALL IN?
COME PLAY!
THE SUN-TIMES EXCLUSIVE GAMING GUIDE

What's INSIDE:
Slots get hotter
Tales of the table
Odds on for a good time

JUST 20 MINUTES FROM
DOWNTOWN CHICAGO
Hollywood co-stars

Aurora, Joliet Casinos offer players a winning double feature

Two Hollywood stars are right here in Illinois — Hollywood Casino Aurora and Hollywood Casino Joliet. You can experience double the dining, two times the nightlife and even more ways to win than ever before.

**Hollywood Casino Aurora**

Follow the red carpet to a world of blockbuster winning and A-list excitement at Hollywood Casino Aurora.

You'll find an action-packed casino floor with all your favorite slots and table games. For those who like to really turn up the thrills, take the High-Limit Room for a spin with $100 machines and big-time payouts. If you're looking for a real deal go all-in at one of the largest poker rooms in Illinois.

You'll always enjoy a delicious performance at any of our fabulous restaurants. Fairbanks Steakhouse features a selection of the finest steak and the freshest seafood all while in a unique environment featuring Hollywood décor. For even more star power, experience a carving station, special Asian and Italian dishes, and some of the most delicious desserts at the Epic Buffet. If a quick snack is all you need, stop by the Take Two Deli for a fast meal between jackpots.

Hollywood-style entertainment always gets top billing at Center Stage, where the best live performances are right in the middle of the action on the casino floor.

It's time for you to star in an award-winning production at Hollywood Casino Aurora.

**Hollywood Casino Joliet**

For big-time fun without the downtown hassle, come to Hollywood Casino Joliet.

Play on over 1,100 slots, including the most penny slots in Joliet. Enjoy a casino floor that has everything from blackjack and craps to roulette and mini-baccarat. Want to play among the stars? Come to the Celebrity Pit where famous look-alikes deal and perform live.

You can dine like a celebrity at one of the many appetizing restaurants. Final Cut Steakhouse has a lavish menu of prime beef, succulent seafood and an award-winning selection of vintage wines. You can help yourself to many helpings at the Epic Buffet and grab a quick bite at the Take Two Deli.

It's always "game on" at Hollywood Stadium Sports Bar, where you can experience all the action on numerous big-screen TV's.

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You're always the star at Hollywood Casino Joliet.

**Gaming made easy**

All these great experiences can be shared at both locations with one amazing Club Hollywood™ card. Play with your card to earn valuable comp cash, Free SlotPlay®, discounts on dining, entries to special promotions, and so much more. Signing up is easy and FREE. Stop by the Players Club for details.

Take the lead role at Hollywood Casino Aurora and Joliet.

- Hollywood Casino Aurora is located just south of Interstate 88 at 1 W New York Street Bridge in Aurora. Use our free, convenient valet parking or the spacious parking facility. For more information call 1-800-888-7777 or visit hollywoodcasinoaurora.com.

- Hollywood Casino Joliet is located just off Interstates 80 and 55 at 777 Hollywood Blvd. in Joliet. Valet parking is always free or drive right up to the safe and secure parking facility. For more information call 1-888-438-7737 or visit hollywoodcasinojoliet.com.

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Provided by Hollywood Casino
Players in Chicagoland have it made, with two Hollywood Casinos to choose from. You know you’re never far from your favorite slot machine, friendly dealer, unforgettable meal, or incredible night out. It’s the best casino action and live entertainment you can find.

HOLLYWOOD Casino
AURORA & JOLIET

Must be 21. If you or someone you know has a gambling problem, crisis counseling and referral services can be accessed by calling 1-800-GAMBLER (1-800-426-2537).
Better for bettors

Technology, new games, even creature comforts up the odds of a good time

A decade ago, 159 of Illinois’ 258 tables were for blackjack. Only five were for poker, plus 35 for the poker-based games Let It Ride, Caribbean Stud, Three Card Poker and pai-gow poker.

Today, there are 123 blackjack tables, and much of the difference has been made up in poker and poker-based games. In 2013, there are 40 poker tables, along with 43 for Let It Ride, Caribbean Stud, Three Card Poker, Four Card Poker, pai-gow poker, Texas Hold’Em Bonus Poker and Mississippi Stud.

That’s part of a nationwide trend. Casinos want you to be able to sit down and play immediately, with as small a learning curve as possible. Most players are familiar with the rankings of poker hands, and that makes it easy to pick up on newer games such as Mississippi Stud.

Tougher, but fun

But the rules are getting touch for so-called “beatable” games. Meeting the ever-increasing demand for slots and adding plenty of easy-to-play poker-based tables has made casinos more user-friendly for casual players, but the opportunity for serious gamblers to play for a profit has decreased.

A prime opportunity for players seeking an edge — or at least to cut the house edge to the bone — has been blackjack. There have been adaptations to pad the house edge, including a nationwide shift to having dealers hit soft 17 instead of standing on all 17s.

A soft 17 is a hand such as Ace-6 or Ace-2-4 in which the Ace is counted as 11. Such a hand can’t be busted with a one-card hit, because the Ace could always be counted as 1 instead of having the dealer exceed 21. Even five years ago, the most common condition at tables using six or eight decks was to have the dealer stand on all 17s, including the soft totals. Today, nearly all blackjack tables in the United States have the dealer stand only on hard 17s, while hitting soft 17. That adds two-tenths of a percent to the house edge, bigger than it sounds at a game where the entire edge is only half a percent or so against players who know basic strategy.

In the Midwest, we’ve not yet seen a big shift toward casinos paying-only 6-5 on blackjack instead of the traditional 3-2. Such games are common in Nevada, and they’re tough on players.

Easier on you

Remember sitting on backless stools when playing the slots? Remember how your back felt at the end of the day?

There’s been an ergonomics revolution in the 2000s with furniture designed for player comfort. It costs more, but there’s a benefit to casinos in that comfortable players stay in their seats longer.

The old stools have made way for chairs by companies including Gasser and Gary Platt, with contoured foam and lumbar support. They work hand in hand with ergonomically designed slot cabinets with cutouts to enable the player to pull within optimal seating range of the screen, and with button panels placed to ease repetitive stress.

Chicago slotmaker WMS Gaming has been a pioneer there with its Bluebird cabinet, introduced at the beginning of the 2000s, and the next generation Bluebird2 and Bluebird2X.

Many rewards

Most of us use rewards cards whenever we play in a casino, sliding the card into a reader at electronic games or putting it on the table for the dealer or pit supervisor to pick up and log in for table play. Based on our play, the cards bring free play, meal comps, hotel room comps or discounts and other benefits.

One major trend in rewards cards has been to permit use in multiple** rewards cards. If you have a Total Rewards card, you can use it to have your play rated at any Caesars Entertainment property in the United States. Boyd Gaming goes the multiproperty route with its B Connected card, and MGM Resorts does the same with M Life.

Within that trend there’s the beginning of another. Advanced information systems allow casinos not only to reward customers based on how much they play, but on how much they spend on the hotel, restaurants, gift shop, spa and other resort amenities. Analytics are in place to evaluate the player’s total value to the resort, and to forecast future value. When you get a voucher for a return visit by direct mail or online, it could be based on more than how much you put into the slots on your last trip.

Technology itself is one more innovation that’s sparking a trend in the making.

John Grochowski is a nationally syndicated gaming columnist and author. He can be contacted by email at casinoanswerman.com.

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Slots are hot

Casinos, game designers add options, excitement to keep this popular pastime fresh

BY JOHN GROCHOWSKI

For Sun-Times Media

lot design in the 21st Century has become a game of one-upmanship, with each manufacturer trying to outdo the next in creative use of technological tools, and in trying to anticipate players' changing tastes.

That's only natural, with the expansion of slot games being the biggest overall trend in the casino industry. That big trend has sparked a number of trends itself.

Bonusing, progressive jackpots and community-style play are among the tools gamemakers use to keep the games fresh, enticing and exciting. Those tools are constantly evolving as technology allows gamemakers to follow their imaginations.

Here's a look at some of the latest trends taking manufacturers in slot creativity.

Bonusing

Bonuses are expected game features nowadays, but we have to look back only to the mid-1990s to find a time they didn't even exist. That changed with the advent of "Wheel of Gold" by Anchor Gaming, the first megahit bonus event that fixed a tower with a wheel atop it.

Nowadays, the bonuses are getting ever more creative.

- Bally Technologies fills the need for speed with its racing-themed NASCAR. The main is an interactive 3-D feature called U-Race, where the player gets to guide his driver down the track. Racing fans get tons of extras. When you sit down to play, you get to pick a driver. The screen displays a bio, and the driver talks to you, encouraging you for the big race.

- WMS goes the Sensory Immersion route in bonusing on its "Willie Wonka and the Chocolate Factory" slot. A ride down the chocolate river is sometimes bumpy, sometimes smooth with special effects through the WMS' motion chair with 3-D sound. It's an adventure in storyland with Willie, the Oompa Loompas and the whole cast of characters.

Incredible Technologies, based in Vernon Hills, is going the licensed-theme route for the first time with its recently-released "Archie in Riverdale Riches." It features long-popular comic book teen Archie Andrews with his Riverdale High School pals and gals.

There's a "Jughead Free Spins" event, as well as a "Betty vs. Veronica" pick 'em game where the winner captures Archie's heart. There are game-within-a-game bonus triggers, and a lot of variability within the bonuses themselves so that you'll experience something new each time you play.

Progressive jackpots

- Cash Express Gold Class is an update of the Aristocrat Technologies' Cash Express system that remains popular after 11 years in American casinos. Gold Class uses popular base games including "More Hearts," "More Chilli," "Buffalo" and "Pompeii," with "90 Lions" and "Geisha" near regulatory approval. The four-tiered, quick hit Hyperlink jackpots remain from the original, along with the railroad theme of the bonus events, but Gold Class layers on a fifth progressive level, one that starts building from $3,500.

Gold Class means you've had a ticket upgrade for your rail journey through world-famous bullet trains. If you get three train symbols in line with each other, you progress through the sixth rail stages, with the sixth being the Gold Class.

- IGT always has a wide array of progressives. Among the new crop is Wheel of Fortune Triple Wild Spins Duo Wheel. It's a dollar denomination game with a $3 maximum bet. It features the ever-popular Wheel of Fortune brand, multiple progressive levels, the chance to spin up to three giant wheels in the bonus events and a lifestyle-changing jackpot on top.

- Spigo International's volcano-themed "Cash Eruption" gives players a chance to multiply their winnings. It has three progressive levels that are guaranteed to hit by a certain amount and, after a progressive win, players have a chance to double, triple or even multiply the win by five.

Multipliers are in play in a different way in "In Plants vs. Zombies Gargantuan" and "Plants vs. Zombies Backyard Showdown." On most progressive games, the progressive jackpots aren't multiplied by the size of the bet. On the Zombies games, they are. You can choose the size of the jackpot you're playing for.

Community-style gaming

- "The Game of Life" from WMS Gaming is an update of the classic board game. And WMS knows something about transferring board classics to the slots, having had a long run of success with Monopoly.

There are four community bonus features. One of them is "Speed Spins," a quick-spin bonus where everyone moves together along the board, but there's also an individual pursuit element. You pick your car.

Our guide to area casino gaming will up your odds. More online at suntm.es/GTKCasinos
DES PLAINES, ILL. - Rivers Casino is Chicagoland’s most exciting gaming destination, with over 1,000 of the hottest and newest slots and nearly 50 exciting table games. Rivers Casino is just steps from Chicago’s O’Hare International Airport and minutes from downtown Chicago.

Not a Rush Rewards card holder yet? Come out to Rivers Casino in September and sign up for a player’s card to receive a free gift! Just stop by the Rush Rewards desk to sign up; membership is free and easy.

All Rush Rewards guests aged 55 plus can participate in exclusive promotions on Mondays in September. On Monday, September 23rd, guests aged 55 plus can swipe their Rush Rewards card in Club from 9:00am to 11:59am to receive one entry for the Club 55 $5,550 giveaway. The drawing will take place at 12:00pm. Ten names will be drawn and each winner will take home $555! Must be present to win. On Monday, September 30th, guests aged 55 plus can swipe their Rush Rewards card in Club from 9:00am to 12:00pm in Club to receive 1,000 points in the Club 55 Point Giveaway. To activate your 1,000 points, just play your favorite slot or video poker machine. Plus, all Club 55 members can receive complimentary valet parking from 9:00am to 12:00pm on each of the Club 55 promotional dates!

Also, don’t miss your chance to win a share of $50,000 in the $50,000 Mega Mondays Giveaway on Mondays, September 23 & 30. Rush Rewards

3000 S. River Road | Des Plaines, IL 60018 888.307.0777

Just minutes from O’Hare International Airport and downtown Chicago, at the corner of Devon Ave. and River Rd.

Must be 21. If you or someone you know has a gambling problem, crisis counseling and referral services can be accessed by calling 1-800-GAMBLER (1-800-426-2537), 0940.077.2013
card holders can receive one free entry between 12:00pm and 9:45pm in Lotus. Drawings are hourly from 1:00pm to 10:00pm. At each drawing, one winner will be selected to win $1,250. If a drawing winner is not present, the prize money will roll over into the next drawing!

This September, we've got an enormous amount of special food and beverage options for you. If you're looking for a great place for lunch, we've got you covered! Rush Rewards card holders receive 20% off lunch at Hugo's Frog Bar and Chop House, any day of the week! Canopy features an extensive wine list that offers something for everyone at a great value, including $6 featured wines by the glass and $22 bottles. On Wednesday nights, Canopy proudly hosts Crab Grab, an all-you-can-eat buffet from 5:00pm to 10:00pm. In addition, guests with a Rush Rewards card can receive 15% off their lunch or dinner buffet every day and on Mondays & Tuesdays guests aged 50 and older can enjoy 25% off their lunch or dinner buffet in Canopy. Looking for great nightlife options? Keep up to date on Cube’s live bands, DJs and more by liking our Facebook page at facebook.com/CubeRiversCasino or by checking the entertainment schedule at riverscasino.com. Plus, Cube is the best place to catch all of the football action, all season long. You won't miss a minute of the action since Cube offers 27 LCD televisions and a 185” big screen. Stick around after the games on Sundays for Live Band Karaoke from 10:00pm until 1:00am. NEW for September, stop by Cube for Trivia Tuesdays beginning at 7:00pm every Tuesday. Guests can enjoy 50% off appetizers and $4 Sapporo Drafts. Stop by Lotus in September to Wine Down with our Jazz Trio on Thursdays and Fridays from 5:00pm to 9:00pm and enjoy $6 wine specials.

Planning to come out to Rivers Casino? Be sure to catch the complimentary shuttle from the Rosemont Blue Line to the casino 24 hours a day, seven days a week, running approximately every 15 minutes. Must be 21. If you or someone you know has a gambling problem, crisis counseling and referral services can be accessed by calling 1-800-GAMBLER (1-800-426-2537).
Year 'round fun

Blue Chip is Northwest Indiana's premier destination

For year 'round fun, visit Blue Chip Casino, Hotel & Spa, Northwest Indiana's premier entertainment destination for the best in gaming excitement, entertainment, dining and relaxation.

Located in Michigan City, Ind., just an hour’s drive from Chicago, Blue Chip features a 65,000-square-foot, one-level full service casino, five restaurants, an entertainment lounge, a spa with full-service salon and fitness center, two gift shops, two hotel towers with a total of 486 rooms and the Stardust Event Center for conventions, meetings and special events.

The 22-story Spa Blu Tower, which has 272 guest rooms and 30 suites, offers the latest in luxury décor, with floor-to-ceiling windows, high millwork and bold contemporary styling with soft cream and white organic textures and finishes. Guests can also stay at the Blue Chip Tower, which offers 12 special suites among its 184 spacious and tastefully appointed rooms, including 4 grand suites and 8 luxury suites.

Dining options

Blue Chip’s five restaurants provide guests with virtually unlimited dining choices, and include a deli, an extensive buffet, a fine dining restaurant for steaks and seafood and Vegas and sports-themed eateries.

The restaurants include:
- Options Buffet, a 333-seat restaurant featuring more than 180 items, and stations for made-to-order salads and soups, Asian, Italian and homestyle American sides, entrees and desserts.
- William B's Steakhouse, a sophisticated, upscale restaurant serving Midwest favorites, such as prime steaks, fresh seafood and seasonal specialties.
- Nelson's Deli, a casual diner serving breakfast, piled-high sandwiches and salads. Nelson's is open 24 hours a-day.
- It's Vegas Baby!, a lively, Vegas-themed restaurant offering American classics and an extensive specialty drink selection.
- The Game, for delicious game-day meals and snacks, an unrivaled array of sports viewing options and weekly drink specials.

Music, gaming special events

At Rocks Lounge Friday through Sunday, and It’s Vegas Baby! on Friday and Saturday, guests can hear the best local and regional bands, with musical genres ranging from pop to rock to oldies to country.

At Blue Chip’s 1,300-seat Stardust Event Center, guests can listen to top national performers, such as recent headliners Montgomery Gentry, Wilson Phillips and Louie Anderson. The Stardust Event Center is also available for special events, exhibitions, trade shows and weddings.

Gaming excitement abounds at Blue Chip, with a spacious casino floor and a bright, welcoming atmosphere. The casino features more than 1,900 slot machines with denominations from one penny to $100, 48 table games, and an eight-table live poker room. Weekly poker events, Texas Hold’em Poker tournaments and slot tournaments round out the fun.

Relax, rejuvenate at spa blu

At the spectacular 10,000-square-foot spa blu — the only casino-based spa in the greater Chicago area — guests can enjoy custom health and beauty treatments designed to enliven the senses and the spirit.

Located on the second floor of Spa Blu Tower, spa blu features nine spa treatment rooms, a salon and a fitness room. Before and after spa services, guests can relax in individual men’s and women’s lounges with steam rooms, experiential showers and whirlpools highlighted by water walls.

For more information on dining, lodging, entertainment, special events and special offers, visit bluechipcasino.com.

— Provided by
Blue Chip Casino, Hotel & Spa
ILLINOIS

1. Hollywood Casino/Aurora
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2. Hollywood Casino/Joliet
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3. Rivers Casino
   300 S. River Road
   Des Plaines, IL, 60018
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INDIANA

4. Blue Chip Casino, Hotel & Spa
   777 Blue Chip Drive
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   1-888-879-7711
   www.bluechipcasino.com

5. Horseshoe Casino Hammond
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After the non-stop excitement of the casino, recharge in one of our 486 luxurious rooms and suites. Whether you stay in our 22-story Spa Blu Tower or the original 8-story Blue Chip Tower, you'll enjoy comfortable accommodations and breathtaking views!
Blackjack gamers tell tales of winning, almost winning and just having fun

BY JOHN GROCHOWSKI For Sun-Times Media

Amid the cheers and high fives of the craps players when the shooter’s on a roll, and the music, TV/movie dialog and sound effects of the slot machines, blackjack players live a quieter casino life. Not everyone wins together, so the craps-like cheers are rare.

But there is time for a little discussion and storytelling. Here are a few tales gathered during time taken for a little table talk.

Ben, dealt a 10 and a 2, while the dealer had a 3 face up: “None of you hit my 12, and this guy yelled to the players’ left, and the last to hit was lucky enough to have great-grandpa until I was 19.”

“I had several second cousins, and they’d learned to play blackjack. They taught me and my brother at the party. I’ve been playing ever since. It wasn’t for money, just for fun. I didn’t have any money at that age anyway, but I had a good time and I taught friends at home to play.”

“My husband didn’t have any card-playing background. He’d done a little betting on sports. He likes the NCAA pools and he has fantasy baseball and football teams ... you know those things. But there’s no sports in the casinos here, so he gravitated to the slots, and a little video poker.”

Jackson, same table, next shuffle: “Talk about playing outside the casinos, I used to be in a poker game where one guy liked to deal blackjack. They were dealer’s choice games. When it was your turn to deal, you got to choose. We finally limited him to calling blackjack once a night, two times through a single deck.”

“I didn’t know much about blackjack then. I’d never been to a casino. All I knew is I lost money pretty much every time he called it. If we had known then what I know now, that he was dealing a game that didn’t give us an even chance with him, we probably would have thrown him out.”

Raul, different table, different night, during a shuffle: “You guys ever play any craps? I was at a table early this morning where it was just me and two other guys, and the one guy had his girlfriend watching. The guy was telling his girlfriend that the way to win was to play don’t pass, betting the shooter won’t make his point.”

“He was taunting us about it, getting all in our faces. ‘You know why these casinos make so much money,’ he told his girlfriend. ‘It’s losers like that. All those losers bet with the shooter. Not me. I’m gonna take their money, just like the house.’”

“It was the other guy’s turn to shoot, and he just kept knocking down point after point. He and I were both on pass and come, and we both kept winning. The trash talker kept going to his wallet for more money. I don’t know how much he lost, but you could tell his girlfriend was getting madder and madder. She finally dragged him away, and you know what he said? He said, ‘Keep shooting, losers. I’ll be back for your money later.’”

Mike, same table, during a deal: “I’m no craps player. When I’m not playing blackjack, I’m playing video poker. I was playing this morning, and I drew a royal flush. I held a Queen and 10 of clubs, and up popped the Ace, King and Jack.”

“Apropos of nothing, I suppose, ‘Apropos of nothing, I suppose, the craps player was telling his girlfriend about the wins and losses, the good and bad.”

And that’s what the talk of the table is all about.
Reach for the top

Horseshoe touts highest limits, most slots, big-name Venue

Welcome to Horseshoe Casino Hammond, where you get the best of lakeside beauty with the lively Chicago city center close by.

Just 20 minutes from downtown Chicago, a magnificent destination awaits. It's a destination like no other, a gambling and entertainment experience that rivals the greatest casinos in the country.

Boasting more than 108,000 square feet, the gambling floor is nothing short of awe-inspiring.

Picture more than 100 action-packed tables and nearly 3,000 big-hitting slots that go off in every direction for as far as the eye can see. Everything from blackjack to baccarat, pai gow, roulette, craps and so much more awaits the serious gambler.

Hot slots, top tables

When you step into Horseshoe, you'll have your pick of nearly 3,000 slot machines, the most in Chicagoland. With more than 700 new games, Horseshoe offers the perfect mix of the classic slots you love and the newest slots you crave.

If you love the excitement of poker but prefer to play at a faster pace and in your own space, then video poker is the game for you. Video poker at Horseshoe includes more than 300 machines, including bar top games. Double Bonus, Jacks or Better, Deuces Wild ... they're all here.

The Midwest's top gambling destination features more than 100 tables including "Le Cheng," Chicagoland's premier Asian gaming experience. Inside Le Cheng, you will find games like Pai Gow Tiles, Baccarat, Mini Baccarat Dragon Bonus and EZ Baccarat in an atmosphere of exquisite detail and appropriate feng shui. Spacious and elegant, it features an oversized display of a water cascade on the beautiful etched glass artwork within classic rosewood stained cabinets.

Getting serious

If you are into more serious table game action, gamblers know that nobody does high-limit gambling better than Horseshoe. From our spacious gambling floor to the luxurious high-limit rooms, and our exclusive VIP gambling salons, this is the real thing.

In the High Limit Table Room, you'll discover action that's bigger than anything you'll find in Las Vegas. We're talking serious blackjack and baccarat, all in a plush atmosphere that features exceptional service and highly-skilled dealers. The newly-remodeled High Limit Slot Room offers similar luxury, with big-hitting machines in denominations all the way up to $1,000. It just doesn't get any bigger than this.

Just around the corner from the Poker Room is Horseshoe Casino's newest tavern, Sixth Street. This "beer bar" features an abundant selection of locally-crafted beers, as well as 24 rotating taps for different seasonal offerings. This authentic-in-character "watering hole" offers a relaxing bar scene featuring local favorites and unique bar top foods such as gourmet bacon, served out of beer bottles. Live entertainment is featured on Fridays and Saturdays, with local artists and well-known performers, such as Howie Day. Named after the Fifth Street card in Texas Hold'em, Sixth Street is the perfect place to toast another win at Horseshoe Casino.

Really special Venue

The Venue at Horseshoe Casino is one of Chicagoland's premier entertainment centers. This impressive theater regularly showcases the hottest entertainment acts in the country, such as Judas Priest, Godsmack, Weezer, Kelly Clarkson, Miranda Lambert, John Legend, Gladys Knight and top comedians like Jay Leno and Jeff Dunham.

The Venue can host up to 3,300 attendees, and also transform into a smaller, more intimate setting. Featuring eight luxury suites and offering a spectacular bird's-eye view of the stage along with outstanding VIP amenities, The Venue provides the best views of your favorite performers. For the most recent lineup, visit Horseshoe Casino's Website, Ticketmaster or the Horseshoe Casino Gift Shop to purchase tickets.

A gourmet's legend

Whether you are looking for a quick bite or an elegant evening out, we've got the food outlet to suit your needs. JB's features Starbucks coffee creations as well as gourmet sandwiches and salads. Or check out Benny's for a mouth-watering burger and one of our specialty alcoholic milkshakes.

Featuring internationally inspired food stations and your favorite dishes are prepared with attention to authenticity, Village Square Buffet is truly legendary dining.

Fantastic food has always been an important part of the Horseshoe experience, and no restaurant can top our legendary steak house. Jack Binion's is the quintessential American steak house. It continues to be one of Chicago's favorite dining destinations. The reason for the enduring popularity of this Chicago steakhouse is simple: magnificent cuts of beef and house specialties, impeccably presented. Each piece is hand-selected and trimmed to exacting artisan standards. More than just great steaks, Jack Binion's restaurant is a winner of Wine Spectator's coveted "Best Restaurant for Wine" award.

Horseshoe is home to the best odds, highest limits and biggest jackpots and getting here is easy. Complimentary shuttles are available daily throughout Chicago. Visit our Website at www.chicagohorseshoe.com and follow us on Twitter for exclusive offers to Chicagoland's number one gambling destination.
BEST ODDS. HIGHEST LIMITS.
BIGGEST JACKPOTS

Horseshoe Casino is the premier gambling destination offering the biggest & best of everything with 120 tables, nearly 3,000 slots and the Midwest’s largest poker room. With incredible nightlife and headlining entertainment at The Venue, there is simply no better place to indulge your senses.

HORSESHOE
NEW IMPALA IS WAY AHEAD OF ITS ANCESTORS

BY JEFF TAYLOR
For Sun-Times Media

Over the past decade, the Impala nameplate has been looked upon as a basic, no-frills "fleet special" due to its ho-hum styling, performance and ride. For 2014 Chevrolet is looking to put that Impala in the rear view mirror with the all-new tenth generation model.

According to Chevrolet, August sales of Impala were up 76 percent over prior year. The new Impala has increased its retail share of the large car segment by about 3 percent over the previous generation, according to J.D. Power PIN data.

So consumers have taken notice. And with an all-new model visual "pop" as one of the key elements and in this category the 2014 Impala scores big. This Impala has long, low proportions with a sharp nose, active grille shutters, HID headlamps and LED daytime running lamps (LTZ models). A "power dome" hood projects forward motion. Sculpted side body coves recall earlier Chevrolets, as does the new, sweeping shoulder line in the rear fenders.

Under the slick body is GM'S 3.6-liter V-6, with 264 lb-ft. of torque. A 2.5-liter four-cylinder is available and a 35-mpg 2.4-liter Ecotec with eAssist will be around at the end of the year. All engines are coupled to a six-speed automatic.

In the interior, "Fleet" is out and "premium" is in. The overall look and quality of materials is a cross between Buick and Cadillac. My test car featured power/heated front seats. Reduced dash intrusion means more passenger room. The instrument cluster has multidimensional gauges and a configurable driver information center with a standard 4.2-inch screen. In LTZ models the two-tone dash and trim quality really validate the premium experience.

The center stack is cleanly integrated into the instrument panel and displays the climate controls and Chevrolet MyLink for navigation and Bluetooth audio-controlled via a touch screen on an optional eight-inch display screen. The cluster's ice-blue lighting is another nice touch. The seats are comfortable and, with a one-inch increase in wheelbase, rear passengers have more foot room. In fact, I was easily able to relax in back. Rear seat space hasn't been this plentiful since the 1980's.

As for storage, the trunk has a cargo-friendly opening and lifter height to access a huge 18.8 cubic feet of storage space.

With the V-6 the Impala's acceleration is strong. Handling is now more in line with the car's namesake.

Body roll has been significantly reduced, and cornering takes another leap courtesy of new 18-, 19- (my tester), or 20-inch wheels.
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MSRP '26,990
$20,990
$20,390

New 2013 Dodge
CHARGER SE
MSRP '126,990
$21,990
$21,990

New 2013 Dodge
SXT
MSRP '31,090
$28,990
$28,390

New 2013 Dodge
DURANGO SXT
Rear Back Camera, Power Everything, DVD, Wireless Headphones, Bluetooth Streaming, AC w/ Zone Temp Control, Touch Screen Display, Satellite Radio, Power Sliding Doors, Power Liftgate & More! #135761
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$29,990
$29,390

New 2013 Chrysler
JOURNEY
Power Everything, Folding 2nd & 3rd Row Seats, Outside Temp. 12v Outlet, Aux Input, On-Wheel Audio Control, Bluetooth Streaming, AC w/ Zone Temp Control, Touch Screen Display, Satellite Radio, Power Sliding Doors, Power Liftgate & More! #135532
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$19,990

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300
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$28,990
$28,390

At Sherman Dodge Chrysler Jeep, you can find a wide selection of vehicles on sale, including new models like the 2014 Jeep Patriot Sport and the 2013 Dodge Charger SE. Each vehicle comes with a variety of features, such as power windows, door locks, and keyless entry. The prices listed are subject to tax, title, license, and a $164.30 documentation fee. All applicable factory rebates and incentives are applied, and savings are taken from the Manufacturer Suggested Retail Price (MSRP). The actual selling price may vary within the trade area. Time and availability of vehicles are subject to prior sale, and some offers may expire soon. Visit Sherman Dodge Chrysler Jeep for more details and to see the showroom in person. The dealership is conveniently located on the corner of Cicero & Howard in Skokie, Illinois. Contact them at 800-411-1001 or visit ShermanTimes.com. They offer service and parts Monday to Friday from 7:30 am to 6 pm, and sales hours are from 9 am to 9 pm. Sherman Dodge Chrysler Jeep is the #1 Dealer in the Midwest. Sherman Dodge Chrysler Jeep takes pride in offering top-notch customer service and a wide range of vehicles to choose from. Visit them today for a great deal on your next car!
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Sources: Chrysler

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*Add tax, title license, and $164.30 doc fee. **Finance on approved credit score Subject to vehicle insurance and availability. *Lease on approved credit score. Lease, 10k miles per year, 15 cents after, Lessee responsible for excess wear and early termination of lease. Option to purchase; Imp.$11,385, For. $14,833. Legacy $11,599, Outback $14,604 * Gas mileage is EPA estimates All offers end in 3 days, unless noted.
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Buy for $28,990 or Lease for $249

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Stock #13258 demonstrator
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Lease For $99 per mo for 36 mos.

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Luxury anew

Open house showcases new Meadow Ridge plan

The new three-bedroom, 2½-bath G luxury home floor plan was recently unveiled at the sales office at Meadow Ridge, an upscale community in Northbrook on the North Shore.

A special event open to the public will be held Saturday, Sept. 21, from noon to 4 p.m.

Joe Giampa of Gibson, of Giampa & Partners, Inc., the exclusive marketing agent for the KZF Development at Meadow Ridge, said this new duplex-style home features a first-floor master suite, a large great room with vaulted ceiling, dining room, breakfast area and generous “backwards-basement” storage on the second floor.

“The G luxury home floor plan is a direct result of all the best design ideas, suggestions and personal feedback from prospective buyers,” said Giampa. “We already have taken five reservations for this new plan and anticipate more at our special event Saturday at the sales center.”

Residence G features 2,457 to 2,860 square feet of living space. The home showcases more than 1,640 square feet of living space on the first floor alone. Residence G is preconstruction-priced from $625,000.

In addition to the new floor plan, visitors can also tour the popular Residence A model, which is available for immediate occupancy. It features 2,380 square feet of living area that can be expanded to 2,767 square feet. The home includes three bedrooms and 2½ baths, a first-floor private den/study, dining room, family room and kitchen with breakfast area. Priced base priced at $595,000. Residence A is available for delivery in October 2013.

Potential buyers should plan to come out and view these impressive luxury residences.

Meadow Ridge is a gated 164-unit community of attached townhomes and duplexes sequestered on 40 quiet acres. Base prices range from $495,000 to $895,000. Unique features include lavish landscaping, two man-made lakes and active waterways, and a 1.2-mile running/biking path around the community.

The Meadow Ridge sales center is located at Waukegan and Founders roads and is open Wednesday through Friday 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturday, Sunday from noon to 6 p.m., or by appointment. For more information, call (847) 569-9800, or visit www.meadowridgenorthbrook.net.

SHOWCASE STORIES ONLINE | http://tinyurl.com/GTKBuilders
Make A New Plan...We did!

Come see us Saturday, September 21st and discover our exciting new G floor plan.

Meadow Ridge, the best living life has to offer. From $495,000.

When you are ready to live the way you've always wanted, only the most exquisite home features will do. Meadow Ridge homes are built for the beauty and function of day-to-day living and the lasting value of a forward-thinking investment.

To be a part of the Builder Showcase Directory or to advertise in Today's Homes, please contact Rita Walker at 630-939-0055 or rwalker@suntimes.com.
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**2013 Honda Civic LX 4 Door**

Automatic, Model # FB2F5DEW, Stk # H31052

**$99**

Lease Per Month For 36 mos.

Total due at lease inception $2,998. Plus 1st payment, tax, title, license and doc fee.

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**2013 Honda Accord LX 4 Door**

Automatic, Model # CR2F3DEW, Stk # H30745

**$174**

Lease Per Month For 36 mos.

Total due at lease inception $2,550. Plus 1st payment, tax, title, license and doc fee.

---

**2013 Honda CR-V LX All Wheel Drive**

Model # RM4H3EEW, Stk # H30444

**$199**

Lease Per Month For 36 mos.

Total due at lease inception $2,398. Plus 1st payment, tax, title, license and doc fee.

---

**2013 Honda Pilot EX-L All Wheel Drive**

Model # YF4H5DJNW, Stk # H31128

**$289**

Lease Per Month For 36 mos.

Total due at lease inception $2,550. Plus 1st payment, tax, title, license and doc fee.

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Nearby fall festivals

Check out these and other hot spots on WeekAway.com, where you can browse photo galleries, read reviews, and mark your favorite places!

St. Joseph County Grange Fair
Centreville, Mich. * Sept. 15-21

The St. Joseph County Grange Fair is ranked among the top five fairs in Michigan, bringing in an average of 150,000 people every year. Known to locals as the Centreville Grange Fair, the fair has been a favorite tradition since it started back in 1851.

The week-long fair has carnival rides, farm truck pulls, motorcross, a demolition derby, 4-H shows and more. You can enjoy live music at the Grandstand, with performances by Blackjack Billy, Josh Turner and Kix Brooks. Be sure to explore the various food vendors and commercial exhibitors on the fairgrounds.

Vintage Illinois Wine Festival
Mathiessen State Park
North Utica, Ill. * Sept. 21-22

The annual Vintage Illinois Wine Festival is held on the grounds of beautiful Mathiessen State Park, nearly the famous Starved Rock State Park, just an hour-and-a-half drive from Chicago. This is the state’s largest festival devoted to exclusively Illinois wine, featuring a variety of state wineries and vineyards: Fox Valley Winery, Galena Cellars, Kickapoo Creek, and Owl Creek, to name a few.

There also will be musical entertainment from Wally Mulso, Midnite Shade, The Steve Sharp Band, Lynne Jordan and the Shivers, Hands Luchs and Paul & Jay. The festival does not provide chairs or tables, so it's best to bring blankets or lawn chairs to guarantee your seat.

Harvest & Wine Festival
Cedarburg, Wis. * Sept. 21-22

During most of the year, Cedar Creek Winery does business in a restored woolen mill from the 1860s, and the building's limestone basement is a prime place for fermenting winemaker Philippe Coquard's oak-barrel products.

Some grapes come from Washington and New York. Others grow near Prairie du Sac, not far from the Wisconsin River, and they are harvested in September. Cedarburg turns this bounty, and those of other locally grown fruits and vegetables, into an annual reason to celebrate.

The Wine and Harvest Festival is an end-of-summer serenade. It is a time for families to enjoy grilled sweet corn, caramel apples, specialty foods and traditional Wisconsin fare, such as grilled pork chop sandwiches. The local Piggy Wiggly produces its Harvest Apple Brat for the occasion.

What distinguishes the look of this festival from others? Dozens of scarecrows are created for contest prizes and propped up throughout Cedarburg's downtown.

Looking for a little road trip on this weekend? Check out one of these events within driving distance from Chicago.

St. Joseph County Grange Fair
Sept. 15-21
centrevillefair.info

Benton Harbor, Mich.
Artoberfest
Sept. 21
newterritoryarts.org/calendar

Bloomington, Minn.
Bloomington Heritage Days
Sept. 21
bloomingtonheritagethesdays.com

Hardin County, Ill.
Cave-in-Rock Frontier Days
Sept. 21-22
hardincountyil.org

North Utica, Ill.
Vintage Illinois Wine Festival
Sept. 21-22
vintagellinois.com

Cedarburg, Wis.
Wine and Harvest Festival
Sept. 21-22
cedarburgfestivals.org

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TOP 5
Managing Editor Jennifer Thomas' picks for this week.

1. The annual Fall Arts & Crafts Adventure takes place 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sept. 21 at Hodges Park, 1991 S. Courtland, Park Ridge. See AmericanSocietyofArtists.org.

2. The Music Institute of Chicago hosts a concert with performances from more than 30 faculty members at 7:30 p.m. Sept. 21 at Nichols Concert Hall, 1490 Chicago Ave., Evanston. Call (847) 905-1500, Ext. 108 or see Musicinst.org.

3. Enjoy the amazing musical talent of Billy McLaughlin — who learned to play guitar left-handed after being diagnosed with an incurable neuromuscular disorder — at 8 p.m. Sept. 21, at Studio One, 1600 E. Golf Road, Des Plaines. Call (847) 635-1900.

4. Ars Viva Symphony Orchestra performs at 3 p.m. Sept. 29 at the North Shore Center for the Performing Arts, 9501 Skokie Blvd., Skokie. Visit Arsviva.org.


BY BRUCE DURHAM
For Sun-Times Media

Movie fans will have the chance to see some of Hollywood's most venerable vintage films back up on the big screen with a new monthly series at the Pickwick Theatre.

The Pickwick Classic Film Series will debut Sept. 26 with a screening of the 1954 Disney classic "20,000 Leagues Under the Sea." Not exactly first-run fare? That's the point.

"There are so many great films people haven't had the chance to see in a theater," said series programmer Matthew Hoffman, a film historian who has presented classic films at the Park Ridge Public Library for the past five years — in addition to programming classics for the much-missed LaSalle Bank Theatre film series. "My goal is always to show that going to these films can be a lot more fun than taking your family to see 'Smurfs 2.'"

Management at the Pickwick asked Hoffman to book classic films for them after noticing that more than 300 people attended screenings he held there this spring as part of the library's "Crossed Swords" series of swashbucklers, including Errol Flynn in "The Adventures of Robin Hood."

Hoffman said he decided to open with "20,000 Leagues," with Kirk Douglas and James Mason starring in the Jules Verne adventure, partially because it was one of his TV-viewing favorites as a kid and partially because "it's just great film making."

"It was the most expensive film Disney had made up to that time and it features all the elements of film making in their top form," he explained. "It has a fantastic cast, a great score, Technicolor, Cinemascope, excellent special effects and it's just wonderfully entertaining. My hope is that people will bring their kids and grandkids and give them the chance to discover it."

Before the film, Hoffman will show the 1954 Donald Duck cartoon "Grand Canyonscope" and he has also arranged for Jay Warren of Chicago's Silent Film Society to play prelude music on the organ.

Hoffman's Halloween selection is the 1958 drive-in classic "The Blob," starring Steve McQueen, followed by the silent 1924 Douglas Fairbanks adventure "The Thief of Baghdad" in November, and wrapping up the year with Laurel and Hardy's 1934 "March of the Wooden Soldiers" as a Christmas presentation.

Beginning in January, Hoffman will complete the series' first year with a selection of some of the greatest films of one of Hollywood's greatest years — 1939 — including "Gone with the Wind," "The Wizard of Oz," "Gunga Din," "Wuthering Heights," and "Mr. Smith Goes to Washington."

"Smith" star Claude Rains will be honored with a guest appearance by his daughter Jessica Rains, co-author of the book Claude Rains: An Actor's Voice — one of several guest appearances Hoffman plans to present.

Though, of course, the movies are the main attraction.

"What better way to see them than on the big screen, the way it was meant to be," Hoffman said.
Our Lady of the Angels tragedy inspires play

BY MYRNA PETLICKI
Contributor

Charles Grippo was a third-grader at Chicago's Resurrection School in 1958 when fire took the lives of 92 children and three nuns at Our Lady of the Angels School on the West Side. The memory of that tragedy has stayed on the mind of the Park Ridge playwright.

It forms a backdrop for Grippo's new play, "When Angels Wept," which is being produced by his New Lincoln Theatre at the City Lit Theater performance space.

"I always thought it would be an interesting topic for a play," Grippo said.

Prior to writing the script, Grippo read the transcripts from the inquest, newspaper articles, and police and fire department reports. "I deliberately did not want to talk to any of the survivors or anyone who had lost someone in the fire because I did not want to invade anybody's privacy," he explained.

"And I did not want to be exploiting anybody's grief." He did speak with some of the firefighters who were there and a policeman who was at the funeral procession.

Grippo's play is set at a fictional Chicago parish, Our Holy Mother of All the Saints. "It centers on a family who loses a child in a fire at a school like Our Lady of Angels," he related. The work focuses on how the Donahue family deals with the tragedy, particularly son Joseph, who was very close to his sister, who died in the fire.

"They are very strict Irish Catholics," Grippo said. "Then they lose their daughter in the fire and it tears them apart. They have to try to reconcile their faith with how they could lose a child when they are so faithful to God."

The beginning of the play focuses on the fire itself. Then it covers the next 10 or more years while Joseph attempts to discover the cause of the fire, "trying to find some closure," Grippo said.

Grippo, who is also an entertainment lawyer, began writing plays when he was 12 years old. "I sent plays off to Broadway producers," he said. "I ended up writing books, too, and sent them off. Most of the time they came back unopened but there were a few producers who looked at them and they were very encouraging."

Fifteen years ago, Grippo's play, "Sex Marks the Spot," was produced at a theater in Chicago. It was later produced in New York and Chicago.

Grippo has curtailed most of his law practice in favor of writing and producing shows. His plays include "Outrageous Misfortune," "The Tooth of the Matter," "Bedroom Follies," "A Wife's Tale," and "Santa's Children."
Oktoberfest: Pick a place to say ‘Prosit!’

BY VERONICA HINKE
For Sun-Times Media

Glenview House Oktoberfest. Around this time every year, Jeff Podjasik, proprietor of Glenview House in Glenview, 1848 Glenview Road, puts on a pair of lederhosen — just for one day. They belonged to his grandfather, the late Richard Meiers of Arlington Heights. “Oktoberfest is really near and dear to my heart, because I am half German,” Podjasik says.

So dear, in fact, that he and his staff will host the second annual fest on Sept. 21. Activities all day, including a free jump house for kids open from 11 a.m. until 5:30 p.m. Entertainment will include live music performed by Die Musikmeisters. See TheGlenviewHouse.com.

Oktoberfest in Niles. Our Lady ofansom Church, 8646 N. Greenwood Ave., Niles, will host its annual Oktoberfest in Paluch Hall at 6 p.m. Sept. 20. Festivities will include a raffle, food and music.

Oktoberfest at Edelweiss Restaurant, Norridge. From Liver Dumpling Soup to the ever-popular Bayerische Schweinshaxe — or baked pork shanks — Oktoberfest favorites will be on a special menu through Oct. 3 at Edelweiss, 7650 W. Irving Park Road, where they recently opened a new patio. Beer will include some Oktoberfest brews, as well as 16 imported draft beers. Edelweiss also offers a selection of German Schnapps. For live music from the Paloma Band, the Johnny wer Band and others, plus dancing, come Thursday through Sunday nights. For full music schedule, see www.Edelweiss-Dining.com or call (708) 452-6040.

Oktoberfest for Center of Concern. The Park Ridge-based agency providing support services to Maine Township seniors holds a festive fundraiser at the Ridgemoor Country Club, 6601 W. Gunnison, Harwood Heights, Sept. 28. The event starts at 6 p.m. with a cocktail hour, then a traditional German dinner is followed by dancing to authentic German band music. Tickets are $50 per person in advance, $55 at the door; proceeds support Center activities. Deadline for ticket sales is Sept. 23. There is a 10 percent discount for groups of eight or more. For tickets, see: www.centerofconcern.org/OKTFEST or (847) 823-0453.

Oktoberfest at Hofbrühauss, Rosemont. Bratwurst is a given during Oktoberfest, and so are the seasonal beers that go with it. “We love when Oktoberfest time rolls around and we have the chance to brew our favorite ‘Oktoberfestbier’ using the same method used for centuries at the original Hofbräuhaus in Munich. All of the beers at Hofbräuhaus Chicago are brewed on-site at our micro-brewery using 400-year-old recipes and techniques,” said Mike Matuschka, co-owner of Hofbräuhaus, 5500 Park Place. It will be available during the eatery’s fest through Oct. 31. See HofbrauhausChicago.com.

St. Peter Catholic School, Skokie, Oktoberfest. Family fun and plenty of German-style food will be part of the annual Oktoberfest on the St. Peter School grounds. Fest runs 5-11 p.m. Sept. 20, noon-11 p.m. Sept. 21, and 1-7 p.m. Sept. 22. Call (847) 673-1492.

St. Joseph Oktoberfest, Wilmette. The fest, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Sept. 21, is a Family Festival and Market on the grounds of St. Joseph Catholic School at the intersection of Lake Street and Ridge Avenue. The event includes shopping for antiques and handcrafts, family games, crafts, food and entertainment. Adults can enjoy an evening complete with an oompah band, German dinner and live music from Chicago’s very own Sugar High under a tent in the St. Joseph’s Biergarten. Information at stjosephwilmette.com or (847) 256-7870.
Goldilocks gets day in court at Gorilla Tango

BY MYRNA PETLICKI
For Sun-Times Media

Goldilocks is not as innocent as she looks. Maurice D. Proffit has decided that it's time for "The Trial of Goldilocks."

The director's original play will be performed by Gorilla Tango Skokie Young Artists, 4 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays, Sept. 28-Oct. 5, at Gorilla Tango's Skokie Theatre, 7924 Lincoln Ave., Skokie.

Proffit reported that his tale "encompasses all the characters in the Enchanted Forest — Rapunzel, the Three Little Pigs, the Three Bears, Little Red Riding Hood. They're all part of this one community. The word gets around about what Goldilocks did."

Soon everyone is gathering at the "must-see trial," Proffit related. "There's testimonies from all the characters, like Old McDonald and Humpty Dumpty. They give their take on how they know her and the situation."

A cast of 20, ages 10-18, play Goldilocks and all the other characters. "This is something that the entire family can come out for and enjoy," Proffit said.

Tickets are $12.

For details, call (847) 677-7761 or go to www.gorillatango.com.

RIDE A RIG

A wide variety of vehicles will be parked in the lot of the Oakton Community Center, 4701 Oakton St., Skokie, for Touch-A-Truck, 10-11:30 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 21. Kids can climb aboard, honk horns and pretend they are on the highway at this free event.

For details, call (847) 674-1500 or go to www.skokieparks.org.

HOT DOG! LAURA'S COMING

Popular Chicago family entertainer Laura Doherty will sing her "Chicago Hot Dog" song and rock out on other favorite numbers, 10:30 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 21 at 27 Live, 1012-14 Church St., Evanston. Doherty is a longtime teacher in the Wiggleworms program at the Old Town School of Folk Music.

Tickets are $12.

For details, call (855) 927-5483 or go to www.27live.com.

THAR HE BLOWS!

Come one, come all, to the "Smarty Pants Big Balloon Circus Show," 2-3 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 21 at the Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave. Smarty, who has performed on WGN-TV, will create larger-than-life structures and creatures with balloons during his hilarious show.

For details, call (847) 965-4220 or go to www.mgpil.org.
Mommy On a Shoestring
By Beth Engelman

My 7-year-old loves to make videos. Whether it's sharing his favorite recipe or talking about the latest "Wimpy Kid" book, there is no subject that's too small for him to review. I love this about him. He's creative, thoughtful and has a strong point of view, but until recently, his desire to share his content was less than appealing.

The Children's Online Privacy Protection Act prevents kids under the age of 13 from having their own YouTube, Facebook or Instagram accounts. And even if the act wasn't in place, I'm not comfortable letting my young son share his content in an online forum that is often riddled with inappropriate content and "unkind" comments.

Enter KidzVuz, a unique online community for kids, by kids that allows children to create, post and watch homemade videos in a safe, secure and monitored environment.

"Our goal is to encourage self-expression but also teach kids about boundaries and help them understand the difference between appropriate content and things that really ought to be left unsaid or offline," says Friedman.

KidzVuz encourages its users to share their passions. The result is a diverse website with a wide variety of reviews from toys and games to TV shows, movies and travel destinations. Consequently, kids from all over the country can go to KidzVuz to "meet" other friends who share their hobbies and interests. For many kids, this can be a great outlet as they are able to connect with other kids who share their views while also having the opportunity to pontificate about things they really love.

KidzVuz is free and open to kids ages 7-12. Kids need their parents' permission to register but then posting a video is as easy as choosing a username and pressing "record." Although the site's main goal is to be a safe place where kids can share their views and opinions, they do host contests, giveaways and other programs that offer extra incentives and exciting experiences. As our kids become more tech savvy and feel more empowered to express their thoughts and opinions, I'm thrilled there is a safe place that encourages creative thought, higher order thinking and plenty of fun.

For more information about KidzVuz, visit www.kidzvuz.com.
Friday Morning Coffee Club: 'Mount Rushmore'
10 a.m.: Drink coffee and learn about the creation of the four American Presidents' faces carved into the side of a cliff in this documentary. Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge. Call 847-825-3123.

Friday Fun Time
10 a.m.: Infant through school-age children and their caregivers are invited for an hour of stories, music and play. Lincolnwood Public Library, 4000 W. Pratt Ave., Lincolnwood. Call 847-677-5277.

Film: 'Oblivion'
1 p.m.: In this 2013 sci-fi thriller, a man assigned to look after Earth's remaining resources begins to question his mission. Starring Tom Cruise, Morgan Freeman and Olga Kurylenko. 124 minutes. Lincolnwood Public Library, 4000 W. Pratt Ave., Lincolnwood. Call 847-677-5277.

VA Minecraft Tournament
3:30 p.m.: Pop into the library for a Minecraft creative competition. The winner receives a Minecraft prize. Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge. For more information, call 847-825-3123.

Four Wheels & Fall Fun!
11 a.m.: Climb on and explore your favorite vehicles including fire engines, police cars, tractors, and more. Enjoy fall games and crafts, fall food and many other activities. Sponsored by the Park Ridge Park District Maine Park Leisure Center, 2701 W. Sibley St., Park Ridge. $6-$16.

Friday Evening at the Library: 'The Avengers'
8 p.m.: The movie tells the story of a group of super humans coming together to save the Earth from disaster and villains. Robert Downey Jr., Scarlett Johansson, Mark Ruffalo and Chris Hemsworth star. 140 minutes. Bring a blanket, pillow or lawn chair. Timber Park, 3013 Hawthorne St., Franklin Park.

SUBMIT YOUR EVENT
To submit an event for consideration in print, visit www.pioneerlocal.com/submitcontent and click the "Events" tab on the left side of the screen. Please submit the event no later than 10 days prior to the desired publication date.

Saturday Family Films at CAMS: 'James and the Giant Peach'
2 p.m.: This 1996 film, based on the Roald Dahl book, tells the story of a boy who journeys to New York City inside a giant peach with bugs as travel companions. Featuring the voices of Paul Terry, Joanna Lumley and Pete Postlethwaite. 79 minutes. There are two screenings of the film at the same time, one at the Evanston Public Library - Chicago Avenue Branch, 900 Chicago Ave., Evanston, and one at the library's Main Branch, 1703 Orrington Ave., Evanston. For more information, call 847-448-8610.

Paul Taylor
7 p.m.: For VIP tickets, call 312-725-0740. Regular ticket information available at www.smoothchicago.com. InterContinental O'Hare Hotel and Gallery, 5300 N. River Road, Rosemont. $49-$59.

Family Star Gazing
7:30 p.m.: For ViP tickets, call 312-725-0740. Regular ticket information available at www.smoothchicago.com. InterContinental O'Hare Hotel and Gallery, 5300 N. River Road, Rosemont. $49-$59.

Music Institute of Chicago Starcases Stellar Faculty in Concert
7:30 p.m.: The program includes several Chopin nocturnes as well as Rachmaninoff's Suite No. 1. Music Institute of Chicago - Nichols Concert Hall, 1490 Chicago Ave., Evanston. Call 847-905-1500, ext. 108. $30 for adults, $20 for seniors, $10 for students.

Kashmir: A Tribute to Led Zeppelin
9 p.m.: The band recreates the Led Zeppelin experience with authentic stage gear, costumes and special effects in a family-oriented show. 27 Live, 101 Church St., Evanston. Call 847-927-5483. $10-$25.

WWE Raw TV
6:30 p.m.: Parking is $20, cash only. For more information and ticketing at www.allstatearena.com. Allstate Arena, 6000 Mannheim Road, Rosemont. $20-$95.

Film: 'We Steal Secrets: The Story of WikiLeaks'
8:30 p.m.: The film details the creation of Julian Assange's controversial website, which facilitated the largest security breach in U.S. history. 120 minutes. Morton Grove Public Library, 6400 W. Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove. Call 847-965-4220.

Music Institute of Chicago
Showcases Stellar Faculty in Concert
7:30 p.m.: The program includes several Chopin nocturnes as well as Rachmaninoff's Suite No. 1. Music Institute of Chicago - Nichols Concert Hall, 1490 Chicago Ave., Evanston. Call 847-905-1500, ext. 108. $30 for adults, $20 for seniors, $10 for students.

Foreign Film: 'Amour'
7 p.m.: Watch this movie about a retired music teacher in the final months of her
Northwest Chicago Film Society: ‘Casque D’or’
7:30 p.m.: A 1952 French film with English subtitles directed by Jacques Becker. 94 minutes. Patio Theatre, 6008 W. Irving Park Road, Chicago.

Vienna Teng With Barnaby Bright
7:30 p.m.: The Ann Arbor based pianist and singer-songwriter performs a mixture of folk, pop and classical piano. Evanston SPACE, 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston. For more information, call 847-492-8860 or visit www.evanstonspace.com. $15-$35.

Bright Vienna Teng With Barnaby Bright
7:30 p.m.: A 1952 French film with English subtitles directed by Jacques Becker. 94 minutes. Patio Theatre, 6008 W. Irving Park Road, Chicago.

Mucca Pazza Sitting In Chairs
8 p.m.: The rock-styled marching band performs restless, ramshackle live shows. Evanston SPACE, 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston. For more information, call 847-492-9860 or visit www.evanstonspace.com. $15-$27.

MGPL Kids Flicks: ‘Epic’
4 p.m.: A teenager finds herself transported to a deep forest setting where a battle between the forces of good and the forces of evil is taking place. 102 minutes. Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove. Call 847-965-4220.

MGPL After Dark: Echoes of Spain Concert
7 p.m.: Celebrate the end of the week with a musical performance at the library. Norman Ruiz and Jeffrey Warren, two virtuoso guitar players, are Echoes of Spain and will present a concert of classical guitar. Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove. Call 847-965-4220.

Saturday, Sept. 28
Oktoberfest to Benefit Center of Concern
6 p.m.: A $50 ticket includes a traditional German dinner, complimentary wine and one beer or mixed drink (cash bar available throughout the evening), entertainment provided by German band and slap dancers, raffles and more. Ridgemoor Country Club, 6601 W. Gunnison St., Harwood Heights. Call 847-823-3699.

Sunday, Sept. 29
Film: ‘Three Worlds’
2 p.m.: A hit-and-run accident results in the death of an illegal foreigner. Three men, including a young executive, are aboard the vehicle and decide to keep silence about the whole thing, but a young woman is witness to it and succeeds in finding the driver. French, Moldovan with English subtitles; 100 minutes. Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove. For more information, please call 847-965-4220.

Saturday, Oct. 5
Film: ‘Psycho’
2 p.m.: An unsuspecting victim (Janet Leigh) visits the Bates Motel and falls prey to one of cinema’s most notorious psychopaths, Norman Bates. 110 minutes. Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove. For more information, please call 847-965-4220.

Sunday, Oct. 6
Family Scarecrow Making
Noon: Bring some old clothes and the park will bring straw so that you can make your very own scarecrow. Norridge Park, 4631 N. Overhill Ave., Norridge. Call 708-457-1244. $9-$15 per family.

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Sunday, November 17, 2013
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Morally complicated thriller takes no 'Prisoners'

By Bruce D Ingram
Film Critic

After his teenage son completes a rite of passage by shooting his first deer in the opening scene of this grim, morally complicated thriller, Keller Dover passes on the watchword he learned from his father: Be ready.

Meaning that the boy is becoming a man and one of the things a man has to do is prepare himself to handle anything — especially when he has a family to protect. Hence the survivalist gear and rations Keller (Hugh Jackman in a career-best performance) has stashed in the basement of their home. Even when something so unthinkable he couldn't prepare for it happens, there's nothing — nothing — Keller won't do to keep his family safe.

Of course, that's the sort of attitude we admire in a movie hero, right? Or is it? What if that nothing he won't do includes kidnapping and torture? One of the most effective, and most disturbing, things about "Prisoners" is that it doesn't provide an easy answer to that question.

The English-language debut of Quebec director Denis Villeneuve, who was Oscar-nominated for the 2010 war drama "Incendies," "Prisoners" wastes no time establishing that central moral dilemma. Keller and his family are enjoying Thanksgiving dinner with their neighbors, the Birches (Terrence Howard and Viola Davis), when the youngest daughters in each family go outside to play together and never return. The two girls simply disappear without a trace, the only clue being that they had been seen earlier climbing on an unfamiliar recreational vehicle parked on the street.

Police, led by a local ace detective named Loki (Jake Gyllenhaal, also turning in one of his best performances), locate the RV and arrest the driver, a young man named Alex (Paul Dano), whose matted hair, vacant expression and creepy demeanor practically shriek child abductor. It turns out that Alex, who is cared for by his aunt (Melissa Leo), has the IQ of a 10-year-old, so the police let him go when they find no physical evidence in the vehicle.

That doesn't sit well with Keller, however, whose typically suppressed anger has erupted into barely controllable rage. After attacking Alex at the police station and hearing him say something Keller interprets as an admission of guilt, the tormented father decides to take the matter into his own hands. Soon he has abducted Alex at gunpoint and taken him to an isolated building where he subjects the dazed and confused young man to brutal beatings and interrogation techniques straight out of Abu Ghraib.

From that point, "Prisoners" develops along two complementary and equally effective lines. First, as a character study of Keller (who becomes increasingly conflicted about what he's doing as days pass) and Detective Loki (whose mild, soft-spoken manner conceals rage of his own). And second, as a complex and well-executed mystery with several major surprises in store, including one that manages to sustain suspense until the very last frame.

Most of all, though, "Prisoners" raises questions about whether or not extreme means are justified by a crucially important end, making it very much a drama of and about these times.
**SHOWTIMES**

Movie times are effective Friday, Sept. 20, through Thursday, Sept. 26. Please note that theater schedules are subject to change.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Theater Name</th>
<th>Address</th>
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<tr>
<td>AMC SHOWPLACE NILES 12</td>
<td>301 Golf Mill Center</td>
<td><strong>Prisoners</strong> (R) Fri-Sun 1-4:30-7:30; Mon-Thu 4:30-7:30</td>
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<td><strong>The Family</strong> (R) Fri, Sat 1-5-6:30-9:15; Sun 1-5-7:15; Mon-Thu 5-7:15</td>
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<td><strong>The Butler</strong> (PG-13) Fri, Sat 1-5-8:15; Sun-Thu 7-9:30</td>
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<td><strong>20,000 Leagues Under the Sea</strong> (G) Thu 7:30</td>
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<td>ROSEMONT IB</td>
<td>9701 Bryn Maw Ave.</td>
<td><strong>Prisoners</strong> (R) Fri-Sun 11-12:15-2:30-3:45-6:30-7:15-9:30-10:45; Thu 2:30-2:45-6-8:15-9:30</td>
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<td><strong>Instructions Not Included</strong> (PG-13) Fri 1-4:20-12:15; Sat 1-4:20-12:15; Sun 11-4:20-12:15; Mon-Thu 1-4:20-12:15</td>
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<td><strong>The Mortal Instruments: City of Bones</strong> (PG-13) Fri 1-2:30-3:30-4:30-6:30-9:30</td>
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<td><strong>Lee Daniels' The Butler</strong> (PG-13) Fri 1-2:30-3:30-4:30-6:30-9:30</td>
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<td><strong>Planes</strong> (PG) Fri-Thu 11:55-2:20</td>
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<td><strong>We're the Millers</strong> (R) Fri 1-2:30-3:30-4:30-6:30-9:30</td>
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*Contact theater for showtimes.*

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Worship and Education 10:15
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Sunday Worship:
Traditional Worship: 9:00 AM,
Sunday School: 9:00 AM,
Nursery: 8:45 AM
Contemporary Worship: 10:30 AM

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Garfield at 55th Street
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Times: 8:30 AM, 10:30 AM
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(nee Kiss) August 2, 1943 - July 4, 2013. Betsy was born in Chicago to Karl and Lorene Kiss, and spent her childhood in Morton Grove, IL, moved to Palatine, IL in 1967 and moved to Spring Grove, IL in 1998. Betsy was a talented American Decorative Painting teacher and also a lifetime needlepoint artist. She had an eye for beauty - the beauty in a flower, a smile, a baby, in having and being a friend, of both hardship and joy in life, and in the love for family and feeling loved by her family. Important lessons Betsy left us with: do your best, don't take it personally, be impeccable with your word, don't make assumptions, and in parting - "Dry your tears dear, there will never be enough time".
Betsy is survived by her husband Phil, Spring Grove, IL; her children, Mark Thomas (Iwona), Arlington, TX; Brian Thomas (Diano), Salem, WI; Marcia Chellman (Robert), Kenosha, WI; Karen Kohn (Jim), Middleton, WI; step-children, Kacey Troyer (Karen), Mechanicsburg, PA; and Kamela Harrison (Neil), Itasca, IL; Betsy is also survived by eleven grandchildren: Christopher and Samantha (Thomas); Tyler (Thomas); Jarrod, Joel, Caleb, and Dana (Chellman); Kyle and Kimberlyn (Troyer); and Louise and Jay (Harrison).
A memorial service will be held at a future time. Memorials may be made to the charity of your choice or to your local library as Betsy was an avid reader and user of the local public library.

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Dennis Roberts' 1950 Ford Customline
By Kevin Griffin - kevin.griffin@wrapports.com

Dennis Roberts 1950 Ford Customline Convertible used to look like a banana; and a dirty banana at that. But that was before Roberts was able to get his hands on it. Roberts purchased the Ford in 1998 from an owner in Pennsylvania. That's when his restoration project began.

First it was all the engine restoration, which Roberts did on his own. That included the installation of a brand-new chrome plated flathead V8, an engine similar to the ones seen in custom-made hot rods. The extensive body work and upholstery, was done by others who specialize in the trade. Roberts officially laid to rest the car's "Yellow Banana" nickname when he topped it off with a black cherry metallic paint job. The color, which often comes off as a dark maroon, was first seen on Cadillacs.

These days, Roberts's souped-up Ford is collection of transplanted parts. It sports Plymouth bumpers, a Pontiac grill and Oldsmobile Fiesta hubcaps. Thus far, Roberts says it hasn't been on many long distance adventures. The Customline spends most of its time being shown off at car shows.

The restoration project, in its entirety, took five years for Roberts, but now, when he sits behind the wheel, he says it was well worth it.

Marco Kubil's 1997 Volvo 850R
By Joshua Beckman - joshua.beckman@wrapports.com

"One of the things my dad always told me was never fall in love with a car, and I took his advice on a lot of things, but not on this," says Marco Kubil of Lagrange. "I love this car."

Kubil's 1997 850R Volvo is his "real baby," he says. "It only comes out when it's warm out - only when it's nice out." The R designation on the model is a high performance designation, but the car has been out of commission quite a few times. "My wife, Rhonda, got into a crash with this car - someone else crashed into her - my employee once crashed it, my daughter and son have put dents and scratches into it - it's bad luck! Maybe that's why I don't drive it too much - I'm afraid a jet engine would fall on me or something."

Still, Kubil values this battered and rebuilt car more than many things. Coming from an automotive background, Kubil performs all the maintenance on the car himself - keeping the body and engine in top shape at all times of the year.

The license plate on the bright red Volvo reads "RCRASH 1." That stands for "Rhonda crash 1, Marco crash 0," Kubil says, with a grin.
Mercedes-Benz is top luxury brand

In June, Niles residents opted to purchase Mercedes-Benz vehicles more often than any other luxury car brand. Mercedes-Benz topped the luxury sales chart with eight sales of the 34 total sales of luxury cars to Niles residents. A total of two new Mercedes-Benz vehicles and six used Mercedes-Benz vehicles made up the eight overall Mercedes-Benz sales in the month.

Lexus, which accounted for seven sales, was the second most popular luxury brand sold to Niles residents in June. BMW ranked third on the June list of most popular car brands sold to Niles residents, totaling five sales. Overall, Lexus was the most popular luxury auto brand bought new (three purchases), while Mercedes-Benz was the most popular luxury brand bought used (six purchases).

In June, 65 percent of luxury car purchases by Niles residents came through a local dealer, while 35 percent came via private party transactions. Private party transactions accounted for 12 of the 34 total luxury car sales to Niles residents in June, while local dealer transactions accounted for 22 luxury auto sales. Bredemann Lexus in Glenview was the top dealer of luxury cars to Niles residents in June with four overall sales.

Other popular dealerships selling luxury vehicles to Niles residents in the month included McGrath Imports (three sales) and Loeber Motors (two).

Taking all auto sales into account (not just luxury sales), Niles residents bought 220 vehicles in June. Of the 220 total auto purchases, 147 were used vehicles and 82 were new vehicles. In other words, used cars and trucks accounted for 64 percent of total sales in the month.
### Car Listings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Make/Sale</th>
<th>Model</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Features</th>
<th>Condition</th>
<th>Price</th>
<th>Contact</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HONDA</td>
<td>CR-V EX-L 4WD</td>
<td>2007</td>
<td>40k Miles, Moonroof, Heated Leather</td>
<td>WOW! Only 40K Miles!</td>
<td>$19,955 888-638-5096</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VOLVO</td>
<td>S80 3.2L Turbo</td>
<td>2008</td>
<td>Low Miles, Sunroof, Navigation, Heated Leather, Perfect!</td>
<td>Amazing! Only 23K Miles!</td>
<td>$17,995 888-638-5096</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHEVROLET</td>
<td>Corvette Convertible</td>
<td>2003</td>
<td>Low Miles, Sunroof, Navigation, Heated Leather, Perfect!</td>
<td>Low Power, Drop Top Fun!</td>
<td>$15,527x 864-963-7808</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FORD</td>
<td>Fiesta SE Hatchback</td>
<td>2011</td>
<td>Great Gas Mileage!</td>
<td>CD/Media, Spoiler, A Fun Ride!</td>
<td>$11,995 888-663-7800</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHEVROLET</td>
<td>Malibu Hybrid</td>
<td>2008</td>
<td>Take Advantage Of Excellent Gas Mileage!</td>
<td>WOW!</td>
<td>$10,995 888-638-5096</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOYOTA</td>
<td>Sienna XLE</td>
<td>2004</td>
<td>Low Miles, 3rd Row, Heated Mirrors, Ready For The Family</td>
<td>Perfect!</td>
<td>#3157A 855-653-5275</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NISSAN</td>
<td>Altima EX-L</td>
<td>2010</td>
<td>Low Miles, Sunroof, Heated Leather, The Right One!</td>
<td>The Right One!</td>
<td>#35069 888-638-5096</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>NISSAN</td>
<td>Versa 1.8S</td>
<td>2009</td>
<td>Low Miles, Sunroof, Heated Leather</td>
<td>The Perfect Errand Runner!</td>
<td>#35069 888-638-5096</td>
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<tr>
<td>HYUNDAI</td>
<td>Elantra GT</td>
<td>2006</td>
<td>Low Miles, Power Options, Great Gas Saver!</td>
<td>The Perfect Fit!</td>
<td>#35069 888-638-5096</td>
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<tr>
<td>MERCURY</td>
<td>Mariner</td>
<td>2006</td>
<td>Low Miles, CD/MP3, A Solid Vehicle Ready For Anything!</td>
<td>Beautiful!</td>
<td>#35069 888-638-5096</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BUICK</td>
<td>LaCrosse CXL</td>
<td>2006</td>
<td>HEMI Powered! Heated Leather, Premium Sound &amp; More!</td>
<td>Unique!</td>
<td>#35069 888-638-5096</td>
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<tr>
<td>CHRYSLER</td>
<td>300C</td>
<td>2006</td>
<td>HEMI Powered! Heated Leather, Premium Sound &amp; More!</td>
<td>Beautiful!</td>
<td>#35069 888-638-5096</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>SUBARU</td>
<td>Outback 3.6R Limited</td>
<td>2011</td>
<td>Low Miles, Bluetooth &amp; More! All You Could Want!</td>
<td>WOW!</td>
<td>$16,995 888-638-5096</td>
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<tr>
<td>NISSAN</td>
<td>Altima Sedan</td>
<td>2003</td>
<td>Low, Low Miled! Good On Gas &amp; Looks Great!</td>
<td>WOW!</td>
<td>$10,690 888-638-5096</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HONDA</td>
<td>Civic Hybrid</td>
<td>2006</td>
<td>Low Miles, Rear Spoiler, Superb MPG's &amp; More!</td>
<td>Don't Pass This Up!</td>
<td>$12,992 888-638-5096</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GMC</td>
<td>Sierra 1500 SLE2</td>
<td>2005</td>
<td>Low Miles, 4WD, Extended Cab &amp; More! A Great Find!</td>
<td>Only One!</td>
<td>#35069 888-638-5096</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JEEP</td>
<td>Grand Cherokee Laredo 4WD</td>
<td>2008</td>
<td>Sunroof, Heated Mirrors, Satellite Ready.</td>
<td>Nice!</td>
<td>#35069 888-638-5096</td>
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Get up and go

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Every Thursday
NOTRE DAME

Taking the reins

BY JONAH ROSENBLUM
For Sun-Times Media, @HScNewsNorth

NILS - As a freshman, Nate Adams may have come on a little strong.
"Coming in, when I played club and stuff before high school, I was always the leader, so the first couple of days, I sort of had that mentality and I was just barking orders and I got a few glares from people wondering who's this freshman telling me what to do," Adams said.

So the defender on Notre Dame's soccer team stepped back.
"Playing with a bunch of juniors and seniors I didn't really feel that I had the right person to really step up," Adams said.

As a sophomore, Adams is now suddenly expected to play a leadership role for the Dons.
"We always knew he was a good player and as a freshman he was kind of quiet and played a role and just kind of kept his mouth quiet," coach Reggie Lara said. "But now we're expecting him as one of the better players on the team to kind of step up and he's been doing that, especially in terms of his communication."

Adams is an unusual candidate to lead. Not only is he the only underclassman playing defense for the Dons, but Steven Nowotarski and Mitch Wernet - both senior captains - stand directly to Adams' right. But Adams is the only returning defensive starter, and so he has a special role to play for Notre Dame.
"Even though they're captains, they're really open to learning and stuff. It's much easier this year because I do have a much stronger foothold with the team," Adams said. "It's been nerve-wracking but I have confidence in myself and in my back line."

That confidence is key - given that surrendering eight goals to Maine East on Sept. 4 could have easily shattered it.
"We had arrogance," Adams said. "We didn't think we could be beaten by anyone and that slapped a little humility in us."

The Dons bounced back, particularly in their first victory, a crisply played 2-1 win over St. Rita on Sept. 10.

Goalie Robert Hill - another senior captain - barely touched the ball.
"We knew we'd have growing pains," Lara said. "I think we got most of them out of the way in the Maine East Tournament, especially with that Maine East loss. Today (against St. Rita) was definitely a big step forward."

Adams was a key part of that step. Early on, St. Rita junior forward Bailey Marth took big touches as he dribbled upfield, booting the ball several feet ahead of him. Unfortunately for Marth, Adams was a little quicker and caught up to the ball.

"He's a great defender, very aggressive and a real hard worker," Dons senior midfielder Lucas Carlsson said. "He's a real tough defender, tough to get past, a tough-nosed player.

Such grit and skills were helped by a hard working summer in which Adams attended college soccer camps at Notre Dame, Indiana and Northwestern. Adams said that going against bigger and older players was a helpful experience, the fruits of which were noted by his coach.
"His speed is definitely what helps him be a great outside defender," Lara said. "Part of that is also his experience. He's able to read things very, very early and that's from his experience."

The Notre Dame defense, which is pictured in action against Prairie Ridge on Aug. 31 in Niles, has surrendered a total of 13 points in the last two games. 1 J. G. FOR SUN-TIMES MEDIA

NOTRE DAME

Hennessey says ability to adjust bodes well

BY KATE HESLIN
For Sun-Times Media, @SportsLoisLane

The Notre Dame football team put up some impressive offensive numbers in its first two games, scoring 44 and 47 points in wins over Prairie Ridge and Bartlett, respectively.

But the Dons are showing they are equally capable on the defensive side, a fact that is not too surprising given their experience.

Notre Dame is coming off consecutive strong defensive efforts. Following the 47-6 win over Bartlett on Sept. 7, the Dons defeated Normal Community on Sept. 1 on the road, limiting the Ironmen to 108 yards of total offense.

"The defense has been outstanding," Dons senior quarterback Ryan Greene said. "Their preparation last week in practice was great and they made the big plays (Friday). It really bailed out the offense because we had trouble getting it going. They won the game for us."

The preparation included focusing on stopping a no-huddle offense after allowing a Bartlett score on a similar scheme the previous week. Normal Community implemented a no-huddle throughout the game Friday, but the Dons were ready for it, holding firm most of the way.

"We knew that's what teams would target us with and sure enough, Normal came out and ran no-huddle," senior linebacker Tom Sora said. "To get a stop on the first drive, that's a great way to start the game. With that style, it's important everyone knows their responsibility and takes their spot seriously."

Notre Dame coach Mike Hennessey, whose team opens Suburban Catholic Conference play against Marian Catholic on Friday in Niles, was pleased to see the Dons make adjustments and follow through against Normal Community, saying it's a good sign for a tougher competition in the future.

"The defensive coaches put together a good game plan and the kids bought it," Hennessey said. "It's good to see because as we go through the season, the kids are going to be in different situations and see different things. To see the kids make adjustments and still come through in a strong fashion, it says a lot."

Given the experience of the unit, it's not difficult to see why the Dons have been so strong defensively and so apt at making adjustments.
Sora and senior Dan Prano anchor the linebacking corps, while senior linemen Chris Bargione, Quatre Coats and Matt Kuszynski provide a big presence up front.

"The guys up front are doing a tremendous job keeping our linebackers free, and that's what our defense is predicated on," Hennessey said.

In addition, senior defensive back Tom Gonzales returned an interception 11 yards for a touchdown Friday.
Niles West's George Tripkos blocks Maine East's Scott Johnson as Wolves quarterback Tommy Galanopoulos looks for a receiver following a 10-day trip to Thailand. Tripkos is playing at both right guard and left tackle for the Wolves' short-handed offensive line.

**NILES WEST**

Dearth of offensive linemen doesn't slow down Wolves

Team working on plays, technique in practice to reduce the chance of more injuries

By Eric Van Dril
For Sun-Times Media, @VanDrilSports

PARK RIDGE — The Niles West football team has nine spots to fill on its offensive and defensive lines, and just 16 linemen listed on its roster.

Wolves coach Scott Baum said he was able to fill those nine spots with nine different players a year ago. This year, because Niles West has fewer linemen and a pair of starters on its offensive line are sidelined with injuries, the Wolves have put a premium on keeping their players healthy in practice and versatility.

"We can't avoid all injuries, but we're trying to do the best we can," senior defensive end Denis Gargovic said. "This year we're more focusing on our plays and we're focusing on our technique more than our intensity (in practice). ... I think everyone's getting technically better. We don't have the biggest line, but technique's a big part."

Junior left tackle Daniel Studer (finger surgery) and junior left guard Tahir Meeks (hip flexor) were both starters at the beginning of the season, but Baum said they will both miss about two or three more weeks. Their injuries have forced the Wolves to use junior George Tripkos at both right guard and left tackle and insert junior middle linebacker Adam Pignato at left guard.

Tripkos and Pignato have been mainstays on the offensive line the last two weeks, and so too has senior Louis Reinemann. All three were joined by junior Andy Loathaveerungsawad in Niles West's 44-8 victory over Maine East on Sept. 12. Loathaveerungsawad's return to the lineup following a 10-day trip to Thailand to attend a family funeral allowed Reinemann to move from center to right tackle against Maine East.

Juniors Brian Stranz and Kaleb Siemieniewski also saw action against the Blue Demons.

The Wolves' offense has remained explosive, despite so little stability on its offensive line. Niles West, which is 3-0 and plays host Friday to Glenbrook North, is currently averaging 45.6 points per game and Baum is hopeful the return of Loathaveerungsawad, Studer and Meeks will make the team even stronger.

"We're looking to get more guys every week to come in and step (up)," Baum said.

"Andy has come back. He was out of town and now he's back, so now we've at least got a group of guys to rotate in and spell them (the linemen) a little bit. (The line) is a tough position to play both sides of the ball. Adam will be a kid that benefits — Denis will be (too). So hopefully that will help our defense out."

SKOKIE — Niles West notched its best win of the season last week against its biggest rival.

Freshman Eleni Balourdos was right in the middle of it all.

The rookie setter passed out 26 assists in the 20-25, 25-20, 25-17 win over Niles North on Sept. 11.

Balourdos connected with senior outside hitter Olivia Rusek for two kills in the final four points.

"I was almost crying," Balourdos said after the victory, which avenged an earlier loss to the Vikings at New Trier's tournament.

"This is such a good experience. I feel like I am getting better with every game."

Balourdos is one of several new starters for the Wolves. Rusek, who is verbally committed to Miami (Ohio), is the only returning starter.

"We've grown up quickly," said Niles West coach Stacy Metoyer, whose team improved to 5-4 over game and Baum is hopeful the return of Loathaveerungsawad, Studer and Meeks will make the team even stronger.

"I thought we would experience more growing pains."

Along with Balourdos, first-year starters Keiann Williams, a junior, and Dominique Kraison, a sophomore, also contributed to the win. Kraison totaled eight kills, while Williams finished with four blocks.

But Metoyer said Rusek remains the backbone of the team. She had 19 kills, 12 digs and three blocks.

Balourdos said she's lucky to have such a talented player on her side. It makes her job that much easier.

"It's awesome," she said. "I will
Green developing into a force at new position for Vikings

In just her third season playing volleyball, junior making an impact at outside hitter

BY MATT HARNESS
mharness@pioneerlocal.com, @harnesspreps

SKOKIE — In many ways, Amanda Green is auditioning for the job of go-to player for Niles North next season.

The junior is one of two outside hitters for the Vikings, but she’s the second option to 6-foot-2 senior Taylor Louis, who has verbally committed to Marquette.

“She’s very talented and a dynamic hitter,” he said. “But she needs to improve her focus, her mentality on being out on the court for every play.”

“I’m excited to see her improve and get more consistent. She just needs to be more disciplined in all aspects.”

In the Vikings’ 20-25, 25-20, 25-17 home loss to Niles West on Sept. 11, Green finished with eight kills, which was second only to Louis among Niles North players. Green, a club teammate of Louis on the Evanston-based Wildcat Juniors, put down two consecutive kills in the third set that sparked a Vikings rally.

“I like the position change,” said Green, one of 10 players on the roster either in a new position from last season or new to the varsity.

“You get more sets, and the team relies on you more. But I know I have to be a good all-around player, and that is something I continue to work on.”

Green said it’s her defense that needs the most attention, but she believes it will come along the more experience she gets on the court.

Like Louis, Green wants to play volleyball in college. She said she’s drawing interest from Division I programs, and she hopes to make a decision this fall. Green didn’t reveal any of her college options.

Karen Sonders, the club director and recruiting coordinator at Wildcat Juniors, said Green can star at the next level. From a three-step takeoff, Green can reach 10 feet, a height that is rare among high school players.

“College coaches like to see that, and that’s one of the first things they notice when they see her play,” Sonders said. “That and her blocking.”

Trevians blank Vikes

The Niles North football team scored three touchdowns in the fourth quarter of a Week 2 loss to Niles West, but the Vikings were not able to carry any of that momentum over into their game against New Trier.

The Trevians defeated the Vikings 52-0 in Skokie on Sept. 12. It was New Trier’s first win of the season.

Niles North, which was coming off a 41-35 loss to the Wolves, dropped to 1-2. The Vikings play Friday at Glenbrook South.
Blue Demons beset by injuries

**Pavlovic, Lukovic latest contributors to get hurt**

**BY ERIC VAN DRIL**

For Sun-Times Media, @VanDrilSports

PARK RIDGE — Injuries have been an inescapable constant for the Maine East football team this season.

Yet, the Blue Demons’ healthy fullback and healthy offensive linemen allowed their team to hang with high-powered Niles West for the first two-and-a-half quarters of their Sept. 12 game. Maine East held the vast majority of possession against the Wolves in the first half — the Blue Demons (2-1) ran 39 plays to Niles West’s 10, and only trailed 16-8 at halftime — because of its power running game.

Then, suddenly, the team’s two greatest strengths were on the sideline, injured. Left tackle Nick Pavlovic, a junior, went down holding his left knee with a little less than three minutes remaining in the third quarter. Senior fullback Javed Lukovic had to be helped off the field just two plays later due to an injury to his right ankle.

“Pavlovic brings us down in the third quarter,” said junior George Corey, who started at left guard against Glenbrook North on Sept. 27. Lukovic’s status was not known at press time.

“It’s like a season from hell right now with injuries,” said Gabe Corey, who’s also George’s father. “I’ve never had this (this bad), in all 54 years of coaching. I’ve never, in Week 1, (lost) 10 positions — five guys, (all) two-way starters. I’ve never had that. That, (against Amundsen), we came out unscathed. We didn’t have any injuries last week, and then (against Niles West) five or six guys (go) down. ... We’re thin, but we’re battling.”

**MAINE EAST**

Coronado heavily influenced by Dajani

**BY DAN SHALIN**

For Sun-Times Media, @DanShalin

PARK RIDGE — Maine East boys soccer coach Vic DiPrizio is not saying sophomore Matt Coronado is another Rami Dajani.

Athletes like Dajani, the former Blue Demons star and current freshman at Alabama-Birmingham, usually don’t come around often.

Yet, DiPrizio has said since Coronado’s all-conference freshman season that the striker was better than Dajani at that age.

“As a freshman, I thought he was a little above where Rami was as a freshman,” DiPrizio said. “And then, Rami got better and better. It will be interesting to see how Matt develops this season.”

Playing forward last season alongside Dajani in Maine East’s 4-4-2 formation, Coronado found the net 10 times on a team that went 12-8-2. Coronado finished second on the team in goals scored to Dajani, who had 31.

But Coronado said he wasn’t going to let any comparisons to a young Dajani lead to complacency.

“Even though the coach said I’m better at this age (than Dajani), I want to work hard and push to get better, to be (a) good forward,” Coronado said.

Through the first five games this season, Coronado had scored twice for a team that started 3-1-1.

These days, Coronado mostly is deployed in the center of a three-man frontline that also includes seniors Marco Marin and Dino Tijanić and has sophomore Mumen Hussein coming off the bench.

Coronado said all the Blue Demons will have to do their parts on the field to replace Dajani’s offensive production.

“I don’t expect to replace Rami (alone),” Coronado said. “He was such a magnificent player. The things he did on the field were brilliant. I want to focus on teamwork. We’re not a one-man team, it’s all 11 players. If someone scores, it’s the whole team.”

Though he does not necessarily consider himself the heir apparent to Dajani, who is the program’s all-time leading scorer with 88 goals and 42 assists, Coronado said his work ethic and determination have been heavily influenced by his former teammate.

“The main thing that I learned from Rami is that the moment he stepped onto the field, he never quit and never gave up. That was him, all day,” Coronado said. “In practice and games, he was going 100 percent no matter what the score, pushing himself to the limit. That made him a great role model. That, and his great technique and skill and just his ability play to the game.”

**Dajani Update**

Dajani scored the game-winning goal with his head with 17 seconds remaining in the first sudden-death overtime to give UAB a 2-1 home victory over defending national champion Indiana on Sept. 6.

“Honestly, out of all my years playing soccer, it was, for sure, the best moment I’ve ever been a part of,” Coronado said.

Yet, DiPrizio has said since Coronado’s all-conference freshman season that the striker was better than Dajani at that age.

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Dajani also played a key role in the Blazers’ dramatic equalizer that night when he drew a penalty kick in the final minute of regulation. Junior Diego Navarrete scored from the spot to force overtime, sending the West Campus Field-record crowd of 3,205 into a frenzy.

With the victory, UAB moved up 10 spots to No. 5 in the National Soccer Coaches Association of America national poll.

However, the Blazers dropped to 2-1-1 with a 1-0 loss to East Tennessee State on Sunday.

Through five games, Dajani had two goals and an assist.
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Jumping for joy
The Niles West girls volleyball team rallies to edge Niles North
PAGE 50-51

Niles West's Dominique Krason (16) celebrates with her teammates at the conclusion of the Sept. 11 win over Niles North. Niles West won 20-25, 25-20, 25-17 at Niles North. | BRIAN O'MAHONEY FOR SUN-TIMES MEDIA
Get up and go

Your guide to the weekend and beyond

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